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IMMIGRATION

Texas law cleared for prosecution of illegals

Supreme Court lifts injunction

By Stephen Dinan
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The immigration debate entered uncharted territory Tuesday after the Supreme Court allowed Texas' enforcement law to take effect, giving the state the power to arrest and prosecute illegal immigrants under its own laws.

The justices placed a hold on the law but lifted that blockade in a 6-3 decision that instantly drew new battle lines in the fight over the border.

Texas' supporters said the state now has serious tools to plug the gaps created by President Biden's lax approach to border security, which has invited unprecedented chaos.

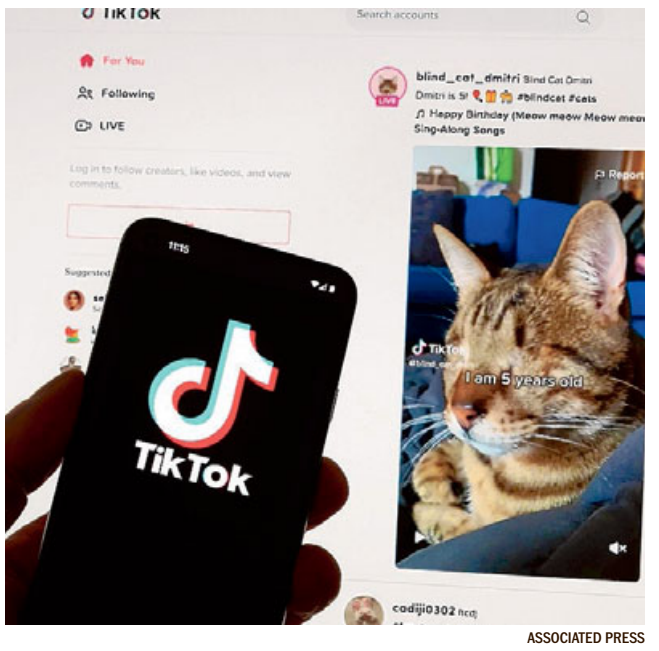
"This is clearly a positive development," Gov. Greg Abbott said on social media.

"Our immigration law, SB4, is now in effect," said Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton.

Opponents called the law "an invitation to cruelty and chaos."

"SB4 will empower vigilantes and turbocharge the relentless anti-immigrant scapegoating that has been central to the political strategy of Texas Republicans," said Vanessa Cardenas, executive

» see TEXAS | A7



ASSOCIATED PRESS

NOT SO FRIENDLY: TikTok is uniquely harmful to children because its algorithm is designed to push users "down a rabbit hole" by feeding more extreme content not based on preferences, sharing or "likes," child psychologists warn.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Children's deaths blamed on TikTok algorithms

Disturbing images appear with more frequency

By Susan Ferrechio
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Chase Nasca, 16, took his life two years ago by stepping in front of a moving train. His parents and many others suspect TikTok drove him to suicide by bombarding him with more than 1,000 unsolicited, psychologically disturbing videos.

As Congress weighs legislation that could lead to a nationwide TikTok ban, opponents of the social media app say China's access and control over the platform is just one of its problems. Critics say the app is uniquely harmful to children and deadly in some cases.

"It would be unwise to fail to acknowledge that what we're dealing with is the potential exploitation of our children on a mass scale, with the interests of a geopolitical adversary in mind," said Michael Toscano, executive director of the conservative-leaning Institute for Family Studies.

Many children see disturbing images on TikTok the second they open the app.

The "For You" page on the Chinese-affiliated social media platform runs videos on autoplay, often with shocking algorithms that, in the case of Chase, were centered on violence and suicide.

The Institute for Family

» see TIKTOK | A7

ACCOUNTABILITY

Generals fault State in Afghanistan



ASSOCIATED PRESS

AS CIVILIANS: Retired Gen. Mark A. Milley (foreground) and retired Gen. Kenneth F. McKenzie told the House Foreign Affairs Committee that a complex tangle of political and military decisions led to the tragic end of the 20-year mission in Afghanistan.

Witnesses say mix of factors led to deadly chaos in troop withdrawal

By Mike Glenn
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A delayed State Department decision on withdrawing U.S. citizens was a key factor in the chaotic and bloody final days of the U.S. combat mission in Afghanistan, former Joint Chiefs of Staff head Gen. Mark A. Milley said Tuesday, contributing to the vulnerability that left 13 U.S. service personnel and some 170 Afghans dead after a terrorist bombing at Kabul's international airport in August 2021.

Gen. Milley, now retired and testifying for the first time as a civilian on the Biden administration's handling of the closing days of the war, told the House Foreign Affairs Committee that a complex tangle of political and military decisions led to the tragic end of the 20-year mission in Afghanistan.

"The fundamental mistake, the fundamental flaw, was the timing of the State Department. It was too slow and too late," Gen. Milley said.

"The outcome of Afghanistan was the result of many decisions from many years of war," he said. "Like any complex phenomena, there was no single causal factor that determined the outcome."

Gen. Milley and retired Marine Corps Gen. Kenneth F. McKenzie, who commanded U.S. Central Command from 2019 to 2022, said political considerations overrode their recommendation that a small U.S. military contingent stay in the country while the Taliban movement was toppling the U.S.-backed government in Kabul. They said President Biden operated within his authority as commander in chief in making the decision to pull out.

Gen. McKenzie did not dodge his own responsibility regarding the suicide bombing that stamped a grim endpoint on the U.S. mission.

"I was the overall commander, and I and I alone bear full military responsibility for what happened at Abbey Gate," Gen. McKenzie said. "Responsibility does not lie with the troops on the ground, who performed magnificently," he said. "The simple fact is this: On the

» see AFGHANISTAN | A5

ABORTION

Abortion pill access defies laws, safety issues

Pro-life doctors to go to high court

By Valerie Richardson
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Nearly two-thirds of American women are using abortion pills rather than surgical procedures to end their pregnancies, a stunning increase amid conservative state restrictions and a Supreme Court challenge to the drugs' safety.

Figures released Tuesday by the pro-choice Guttmacher Institute found that about 642,700 pregnancies recorded in the health care system were terminated last year using the abortion pill process. That represented 63% of all abortions, up from 53% in 2020.

That percentage has increased steadily since the Food and Drug Administration approved mifepristone for pregnancy termination in 2000, but the latest jump suggests that the Biden administration's looser restrictions have made an impact.

In December 2021, the Food and Drug Administration made permanent a pandemic-era rule eliminating the

» see ABORTION | A5



ASSOCIATED PRESS

'TRAGEDY' The abortion pill process terminated about 642,700 pregnancies recorded in the health care system last year, representing 63% of all abortions.

DEFENSE

Innovation falls short at crucial time for security

By Ben Wolfgang
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

"Major warning signs" in the national security sector could hold back America's ability to innovate at a crucial moment in the intensifying global competition with adversaries such as Russia and China, according to a report made public Tuesday.

The National Security Innovation Base (NSIB) Report Card, released by the Ronald Reagan Institute's Center for Peace Through Strength, offers a deep dive into the overall health of American defense innovation. The Reagan foundation's National Security Innovation Base Program said the report card examines "national security agencies and organizations, various research centers and laboratories, universities and academia, traditional defense 'primes,' commercial sector disruptors, venture capital

» see SECURITY | A5

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Membership eligibility required. Federally insured by NCUA.



ONE FOR AMERICAN FARMERS

Those proverbial amber waves of grain from sea to shining sea have drawn some intense attention. Here's some news about the nation's often heroic farmers — and a new effort to applaud their efforts and ensure that consumers have access to what they produce.

American Farmland Trust — a national nonprofit that helps to keep American farmers on their land — has launched a new "U.S. Farmed" certification and packaging seal for products that derive at least 95% of their agricultural ingredients from farms in the U.S.

The certification idea has a powerful ally, meanwhile. Anheuser-Busch, the nation's leading brewer, announced Tuesday that it is the first in line to adopt the U.S. Farmed certification and seal for several of its industry-leading beer brands.

The company's motto for the new campaign is "Choose Beer Grown Here."

"American farmers are the backbone of this country, and Anheuser-Busch has been deeply connected to the U.S. agricultural community and committed to sourcing high-quality ingredients from U.S. farmers for more than 165 years — that's who we are," said Anheuser-Busch CEO Brendan Whitworth in a written statement shared with Inside the Beltway.

"We source nearly all the ingredients in our iconic American beers from hard-working U.S. farmers — many of whom we have worked with for generations. The U.S. Farmed certification takes our commitment to the next level, and we are proud to lead the industry in rallying behind American farmers to ensure the future of U.S. agriculture, which is crucial to our country's economy" Mr. Whitworth said.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

The nonprofit American Farmland Trust has launched a "U.S. Farmed" certification and packaging seal for products that derive at least 95% of their agricultural ingredients from U.S. farms.

"Aimed at transforming the way consumers identify and shop for domestically sourced products, the seal will first appear on Anheuser-Busch's Busch Light beer this May, and Budweiser, Bud Light and Michelob Ultra beers have also obtained U.S. Farmed certification," the company said in a statement.

American Farmland Trust, in the meantime, will use funds raised through those certifications to expand programs and provide U.S. farmers in all 50 states with free resources and advisory services to help them access, protect, and maintain American farmland.

Find more information at farmland.org.

THREE WORDS

One lawmaker is still pondering the U.S. Military Academy's recent decision to replace the academy's traditional "Duty, Honor, Country" motto — which had been in place since 1898 — with the phrase "Army Values."

Rep. Jim Banks has penned a letter to Lt. Gen. Steven W. Gilland, the academy's superintendent, asking that he answer five questions by March 29. They are not easy inquiries.

The lawmaker wondered, for example, if West Point seeks to "instill patriotism in its cadets."

The Indiana Republican also asked: "Does West Point teach cadets that America is the greatest country in the history of the world?"

Mr. Banks has been concerned about this matter for quite a while.

"This is bigger than just a few words in a mission statement. This time last year I wrote the West Point Superintendent because cadets were being forced to role play skits about using 'preferred pronouns.' Our military academies are the finest in the world and cannot fall victim to the woke virus infecting every level of government under the Biden administration," Mr. Banks said in a written statement shared with Inside the Beltway.

ON THE RADAR

Author Craig Shirley — who has penned half a dozen remarkable biographies about Ronald Reagan — has another president in mind at the moment.

"I am now hard at work on a book about the Trump 2024 campaign, having just finished my sixth book on Ronald Reagan," Mr. Shirley said in an email to Inside the Beltway.

"The tentative title is 'Comeback.' It will be a fair and honest book about Donald Trump and his campaign staff, unlike that which is already being reported by the leftwing media. A corrective," the author said.

"I will interview all the senior staff extensively as well as key members of Congress and supporting organizations," Mr. Shirley said. Indeed. There will likely be an eager audience for this book, and one likely focused on the results of the Nov. 5 presidential election. Expect an update in the near future.

And one more thing. Mr. Shirley's aforementioned sixth book on the 40th president is "The Search for Reagan: The Appealing Intellectual Conservatism of Ronald Reagan." It was published by Post Hill Press in February.

FOXIFIED

In the week of March 11-17, Fox News remained the most watched network in the entire cable realm, according to Nielsen Media Research.

This marks 10 consecutive weeks as No. 1 throughout the day and nine weeks as top dog in prime time. And some numbers: Fox News Channel drew a daily average of 2.1 million prime-time viewers, compared with MSNBC with 1.2 million and CNN with 563,000.

In the daytime, Fox News averaged 1.3 million viewers, compared with MSNBC with 789,000 and CNN with 432,000. This marked the 161st consecutive week that Fox News has finished first in cable news with daytime viewers. In addition, the network also aired 78 of the top 100 cable news telecasts for the week.

The champion shows for the week were "The Five" with an average of 2.9 million daily viewers and "Jesse Watters Primetime" with an audience of 2.7 million. "Hannity" followed with 2.4 million viewers, while smart and funny nighttime host Greg Gutfeld drew an audience of 2.2 million with his show "Gutfeld!" And yes, the show's title includes an exclamation point.

POLL DU JOUR

• 40% of U.S. adults have feelings of dread when they think about the 2024 presidential election.

• 31% have feelings of optimism when they think about the election.

• 29% have feelings of exhaustion about the election

• 21% have feelings of depression about the election.

• 19% have feelings of excitement.

• 15% have feelings of indifference.

• 8% have feelings of delight.

• 12% have none of these feelings.

SOURCE: A YAHOO NEWS/YOUGOV SURVEY OF 1,482 U.S. ADULTS CONDUCTED MARCH 8-11. RESPONDENTS COULD CHOOSE MORE THAN ONE FEELING.

• *Follow Jennifer Harper on X @HarperBulletin, on Facebook @HarperUniverse.*

CONGRESS

Lawmakers put final touches on spending bill ahead of deadline

By Ramsey Touchberry and Alex Miller
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Lawmakers were anxiously awaiting the details of the final spending package for fiscal 2024 to be revealed on Wednesday after the White House and Congress leaders hammered out an eleventh-hour deal.

The package includes the troublesome Department of Homeland Security funding that delayed the deal, and lawmakers will now have little time to comb through its contents before the shutdown deadline.

Congress must pass the six-bill package, which is expected to top $1 trillion, by midnight Friday to avert a partial shutdown.

The package's other five components are finished, which would fund Defense, Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, Financial Services, Legislative Branch and State Department-Foreign Operations. The package covers about two-thirds of federal spending.

Six months into the fiscal year, Congress is about halfway finished with spending measures expected to total about $1.65 trillion. Lawmakers approved the first half of the spending bills in early March.

President Biden said that he would immediately sign the final funding package once Congress passes it.

Rep. Kevin Hern, Oklahoma Republican, said that House Speaker Mike Johnson planned to hit the deadline.

"The speaker wants to vote on it Friday," Mr. Hern told reporters.

Most of the "no" votes are expected to come from Republicans opposed to the overall spending levels and lack of policy riders such as stopping the Pentagon's paying for service members' transportation to get abortions and ending diversity and inclusion programs inside federal agencies.

The bill is already facing pushback from 40 members of the House Freedom Caucus who sent Mr. Johnson a letter urging him not to cut a deal giving in to Democrats on Homeland Security funding.

The bill also could lose support from Republicans if Mr. Johnson waives the House rule requiring lawmakers to get 72 hours rule to review legislation before voting on it. If the bill is unveiled Wednesday, Congress wouldn't be able to pass it until Saturday under the 72-hour rule.

"It's fair to say that most of us who have an issue with the 72-hour rule weren't going to vote for the bill anyways," said Rep. Bob Good of Virginia, chair of the Freedom Caucus.

The bill could also be stalled in the Senate because any one senator can block legislation.

Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer, New York Democrat, stressed on the Senate floor on Tuesday that Congress needs to move quickly to avoid a partial shutdown or lapse in funding.

"If both parties proceed in the same manner we did two weeks ago, quickly, constructively and without unnecessary partisan dithering, then I'm hopeful we can finish the appropriations process without causing a lapse in services," Mr. Schumer said.



HOUSE

Bill would ban DEI at medical schools

GOP lawmakers proposed legislation Tuesday banning race-based mandates at medical schools and accrediting institutions.

"American medical schools are the best in the world and no place for discrimination," said North Carolina Rep. Greg Murphy, a Republican sponsor and the only actively practicing physician in Congress.

The Embracing anti-Discrimination, Unbiased Curricula, and Advancing Truth in Education (EDUCATE) Act compels medical schools and accrediting agencies to uphold color-blind admissions processes and prohibits the coercion of students who hold certain political opinions.

The act would cut off federal funding to medical schools that compel students or faculty to adopt specific beliefs, discriminate based on race or ethnicity, or have diversity, equity and inclusion offices or any functional equivalent.

— Kerry Picket

SUPREME COURT

Trump files brief arguing for immunity

Lawyers for Donald Trump urged the Supreme Court on Tuesday to dismiss an indictment charging the former president with conspiring to overturn the results of the 2020 election, renewing their arguments that he is immune from prosecution for official acts as president.

The Supreme Court's decision to consider the matter on April 25 has left the criminal case on hold, making it unclear whether special counsel Jack Smith can try Mr. Trump before the election.

In a brief filed Tuesday, Mr. Trump's lawyers said denying "criminal immunity would incapacitate every future President with de facto blackmail and extortion while in office" and with "post-office trauma at the hands of political opponents."

— Associated Press

TRUMP LEGAL CASES

Trump sues ABC host over rape claim

Former President Donald Trump is suing ABC News and George Stephanopoulos for defamation after the host mentioned Mr. Trump being found "liable for rape" during a heated interview with Rep. Nancy Mace.

In the March 10 interview, Mr. Stephanopoulos asked Ms. Mace, a rape survivor, how she could endorse Mr. Trump after he was found liable for sexual abuse in the defamation lawsuit brought by magazine columnist E. Jean Carroll.

The lawsuit takes issue with Mr. Stephanopoulos saying the former president is "liable for rape." In the Carroll case, a federal jury found Mr. Trump liable for sexual abuse and defamation, but not rape.

—Mallory Wilson

TIKTOK OWNERSHIP

Wyden: Mnuchin no better than Chinese

Sen. Ron Wyden said former Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin's plan to avoid a ban on TikTok by leading a purchase of the Chinese-owned social media platform is no improvement.

The Oregon Democrat said Mr. Mnuchin is a tainted ally of both former President Donald Trump and the government of Saudi Arabia.

"I don't see how America will be any more secure if the next owner of TikTok is a MAGA Trump crony backed by Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund," Mr. Wyden told Semafor in a Tuesday article.

"Every concern that has been voiced about Chinese influence is equally valid when it comes to the Saudi government," he said.

— Mallory Wilson



ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Biden suggested major international cities were American during a speech on prescription drug costs on Tuesday. It was not the first time Mr. Biden flubbed the line.

TRAVEL

Biden says Rome, Berlin, Toronto, London are 'in America'

President Biden on Tuesday again flubbed what was supposed to be an applause line in a speech about his efforts to lower prescription drug costs.

It was the second time this month Mr. Biden botched the same line while decrying the cost of drug prices for Americans. The president attempted to argue that if Americans traveled to international cities, they could buy the same drugs cheaper.

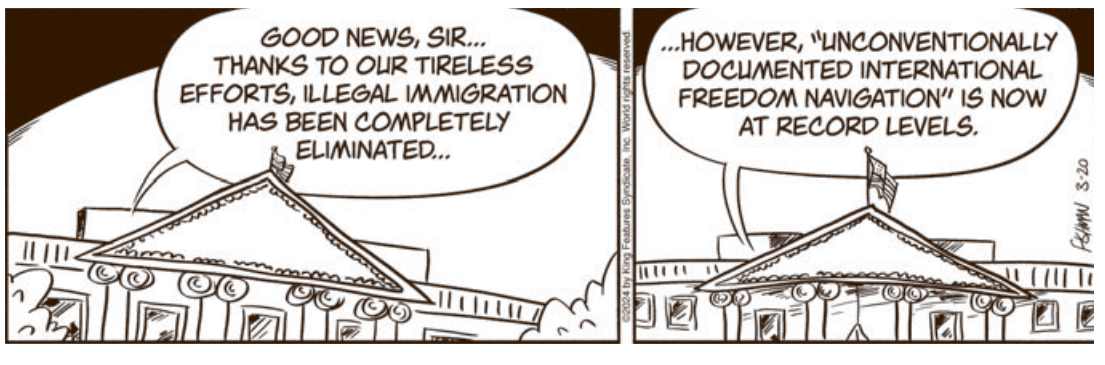
If "you had a prescription you needed to fill, and it was an American company that made it, I'd say, 'OK. Let's fly to Toronto or Berlin or to London or to Rome or any other major city in America," Mr. Biden said in a speech from Las Vegas.

Mr. Biden bungled the line earlier this month during his State of the Union remarks by mistakenly including Moscow as among the cities with cheaper prescription drugs. The president tried to correct himself, but it is unclear which city he meant.

"Folks, I am going to get in trouble for saying this, but maybe you want to get into Air Force One with me and fly to Toronto, Berlin, Moscow — I mean, excuse me — well even in Moscow, probably," he said.

— Jeff Mordock

MALLARD FILLMORE / Bruce Tinsley



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Politics

SUPREME COURT

Supreme Court allows man to challenge No Fly List

Justices reject FBI's attempts to shield it from scrutiny

By Stephen Dinan
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The Supreme Court cleared the way Tuesday for a man to pursue a lawsuit against the FBI over its secret No Fly List, rejecting the bureau's attempts to shield the list from scrutiny.

The FBI argued the case was moot since it dropped Yonas Fikre's name from the list years back.

But the justices said the bureau has played coy over whether it might list once more. Unless the FBI can give Mr. Fikre better assurances about its decisions, he can sue.

"Put simply, the government's sparse declaration falls short of demonstrating that it cannot reasonably be expected to do again in the future what it is alleged to have done in the past," Justice Neil M. Gorsuch wrote for a unanimous court.

Civil rights groups had seen the case as a major test of the FBI's secrecy surrounding the operations of the No Fly List and hope that as the case proceeds it will expose some of the sketchy rules the government uses to keep people from boarding commercial aircraft.

Mr. Fikre, a Muslim U.S. citizen, says he was added to the list as retaliation after he refused the FBI's entreaties to become an informant on fellow attendees at a Portland, Oregon, mosque.

The justices said they took no position on those allegations and said the case is too undeveloped to know what's true. But they said the FBI can't shut down the legal challenge merely by deleting Mr. Fikre's name.

That's just what the civil rights groups claim happens whenever someone brings a court challenge: The FBI drops the name to derail the case and prevent information about the list's workings from reaching the public.

"The FBI cannot play whack-a-mole with the rights of Muslims," said Gadeir Abbas, the lawyer who argued the case on behalf of Mr. Fikre. "The FBI cannot place innocent Muslims on the No Fly List, only to then block that unconstitutional list from scrutiny by removing those Muslims whenever they file a lawsuit."

During oral arguments, the Biden administration insisted it did all it could.

"He's not on the list, he hasn't been on the list in eight years. There's simply no case or controversy," said Sopan Joshi, the assistant solicitor general. "In the unlikely event he's put back on the list in the future, he can bring a challenge at that time."

But the justices said the FBI is hiding the ball.

"How can someone tell you they're not going to engage in a terrorist activity if they don't know what terrorist activity it is?" Justice Sonia Sotomayor wondered.

In Tuesday's ruling, Justice Gorsuch said the high court is aware of touchy national security issues surrounding the lawsuit, but said the FBI can't duck the constitutional questions Mr. Fikre is raising.

Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr., though agreeing with the ruling, filed a separate opinion saying that while the challenge can proceed, the government can still keep some No Fly operations secret.

"I do not understand the court's opinion to require the government to disclose classified information as a matter of course," he said.

The No Fly List is the government's high-level terrorism watchlist.

The list has been shrouded in secrecy from its start after 9/11, and Muslim advocates in particular have been eager to pierce the veil, saying they believe the government has used unfair criteria to decide who gets on it.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations, using a leaked version of the list, estimates that 98% of the people listed are Muslim.

Until a 2014 court ruling, people weren't even told they were on the list when they were denied boarding. Now the government must reveal their listing, and the Justice Department says they can also be told nonclassified information about why they ended up there.

U.S. citizens are rarely listed, but when they are, it can be a nightmare for them. Mr. Fikre says he was stranded overseas for years, which is why he wants assurances about how to avoid ending up back on the list.

There is a process for getting off the list, but it usually fails. From 2018 to 2022, 710 citizens or legal residents applied to get off the watchlist. Of those, five were removed from the No Fly List and 99 were erased from the broader terrorist watchlist, according to a Senate report.

Mr. Fikre argues even that doesn't work if the FBI is allowed to delete a name and try to shut down all legal challenges.

He said he ended up on the list after he rebuffed the feds' entreaty to spy on the Portland mosque. When he refused, he says the FBI put him on the No Fly List and told him he could get off it if he cooperated.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Navarro enters federal prison for contempt of Congress

Found guilty of refusing to provide documents

By Mallory Wilson
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Former Trump White House official Peter Navarro reported to federal prison in Miami on Tuesday to serve his sentence for contempt of Congress, making him the first of the Trump administration to face jail time for a crime related to the Jan. 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol.

He also is the only former senior presidential adviser jailed for contempt of Congress.

Navarro was sentenced to four months in prison after being found guilty of refusing to provide documents and cooperate with the Democrat-led House Jan. 6 committee. He was subpoenaed by the committee.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Peter Navarro, a former Trump White House official, entered federal prison in Miami on Tuesday.

"When I walk in that prison today, the justice system — such as it is — will have done a crippling blow to the constitutional separation of powers and executive privilege," Navarro, 74, told reporters outside the prison.

"I will walk proudly in there to do my time," he said, adding that he would "gather strength from this: Donald John Trump is the nominee."

A federal judge last month denied his request to stay out of prison while he appeals his conviction. U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta said none of the issues Navarro will say about the appeal are "substantial questions of law."

Navarro, who advised Mr. Trump on trade issues, requested a stay again in court papers earlier this month.

The select committee subpoenaed Navarro in February 2022, but he said he wouldn't comply due to Mr. Trump using his executive privilege and calling on him not to testify. Courts have rejected that argument, saying Navarro couldn't prove that Mr. Trump had invoked the privilege.

His lawyers made a last-ditch effort last week to keep him out of jail, filing an emergency application to Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.

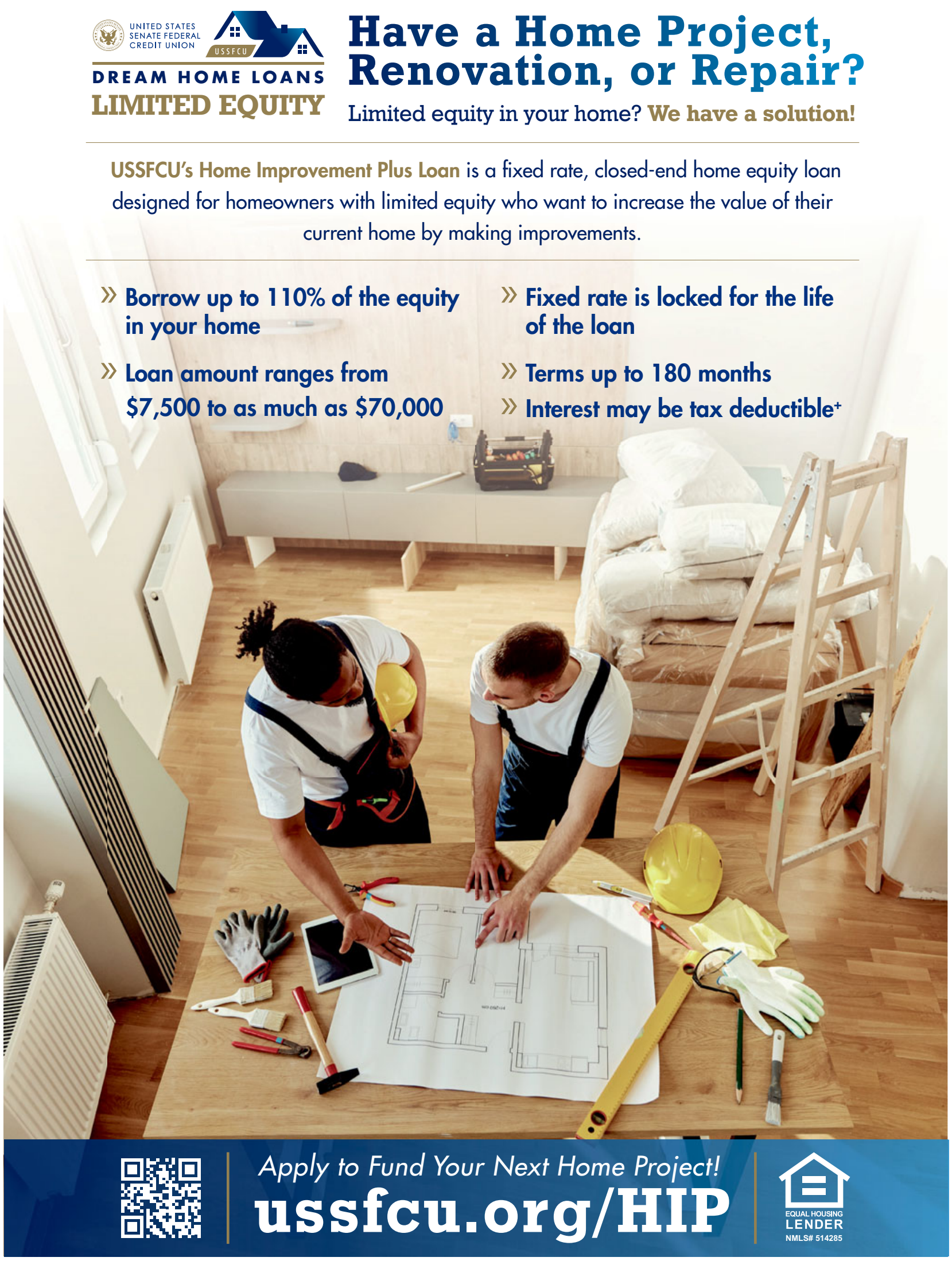
"Not once before Dr. Navarro's prosecution has the Department of Justice concluded a senior presidential advisor may be prosecuted for contempt of Congress following an assertion of executive privilege," his lawyer wrote.

Chief Justice Roberts refused to step in. He said he had "no basis to disagree" with the appeals court, and that his finding doesn't affect the eventual outcome of Navarro's appeal.

Navarro is the second Trump aide convicted of contempt of Congress. Former White House adviser Steve Bannon is free pending his appeal.

The select committee spent a year and a half investigating the Capitol attack, interviewing over a thousand people and reviewing over a million documents. At the end of 2022, it released an 845-page report that said Mr. Trump engaged in a "multi-part conspiracy" to overturn the 2020 election results and did not act to stop his supporters from storming the Capitol.

• *The article includes wire service reports.*



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NEW YORK

Trump says bond will force him to 'fire sale' properties

Former president blasts N.Y. attorney general, judge

By Tom Howell Jr. and Mallory Wilson
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Former President Donald Trump said Tuesday the high-dollar bond he needs to stiff-arm a business fraud judgment against him could force him to offload his properties at "fire sale" prices.

Mr. Trump raised the prospect in a furious rant against New York Attorney General Letitia James and Judge Arthur Engoron as he stares at a Monday deadline to cobble together the $464 million bond he needs to avoid collection on the judgment during his appeal.

"Nobody has ever heard of anything like this before. I would be forced to mortgage or sell Great Assets, perhaps at Fire Sale prices, and if and when I win the Appeal, they would be gone. Does that make sense?" Mr. Trump wrote on Truth Social.

Ms. James, a Democrat, successfully argued in court that Mr. Trump and his real estate company submitted fraudulent documents to get better business loan terms and insurance.

Judge Engoron ordered the former president to pay nearly $355 million. The amount gains interest while it goes unpaid.

On Monday, Mr. Trump's lawyers asked the courts to stay with the judgment while they appealed. Attorneys said they approached 30 surety companies through four brokers and found that obtaining the money was "a practical impossibility."

"A bond requirement of this enormous magnitude — effectively requiring cash reserves approaching $1 billion is unprecedented for a private company," the attorneys wrote. "Even when it comes to publicly traded companies, courts routinely waive or reduce the bond amount."

Ms. James isn't inclined to show mercy. She is expected to ask the courts for permission to seize assets to secure the judgment, including Mr. Trump's bank accounts or real estate.

"If he does not have funds to pay off the judgment, then we will seek judgment enforcement mechanisms in court, and we will ask the judge to seize his assets," Ms. James said in a Feb. 20 interview with ABC News. "We are prepared to make sure that the judgment is paid to New Yorkers. And yes, I look at [Trump-owned] 40 Wall Street every day."

Mr. Trump is the presumptive GOP nominee for president. He says the civil case is part of a Democratic plot to thwart his campaign.

"A bond of the size set by the Democrat Club-controlled Judge, in Corrupt, Racist Letitia James' unlawful Witch Hunt, is unConstitutional, un-American, unprecedented, and practically impossible for ANY Company, including one as successful as mine," Mr. Trump wrote on social media. "The Bonding Companies have never heard of such a bond, of this size, before, nor do they have the ability to post such a bond, even if they wanted to."



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former President Donald Trump ranted against New York Attorney General and Judge Arthur Engoron on social media about the $464 million bond he needs to avoid collection on the judgment he lost.

Mr. Trump's lawyer-turned-accuser, Michael Cohen, says his old boss is "really angry" about the situation.

"There is a situation that is completely out of control, and we know that it is out of his control," Mr. Cohen told CNN. "Thirty different lenders said, 'Hey, thank you, but no thank, we just can't do it.' And he's not wrong about that, to post a $500 million bond is not easy to do no matter who you do."

Mr. Cohen said other billionaires could probably write the check, and said Mr. Trump in the past suggested he had stores of cash that could approach the amount.

Mr. Cohen weighed in on Mr. Trump's psyche after serving for years as the ex-president's fixer. He turned on Mr. Trump in 2018 and testified to Congress that Mr. Trump would routinely manipulate the values of his properties to gain favorable terms.

The testimony fueled Ms. James's investigation into the Trump Organization.

Mr. Trump says Mr. Cohen has been known to lie and cannot be trusted. The lawyer spent over a year in prison after pleading guilty to campaign finance violations, tax fraud and bank fraud.

CAMPAIGN 2024

Trump plans new short list of 20 potential Supreme Court picks

By Alex Swoyer and Charles Hurt
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Former President Donald Trump is working on a new list of 20 potential picks for the Supreme Court should he be reelected in November, The Washington Times has learned.

The move revives a strategy he used to help win over conservatives in the 2016 election, which led to his reshaping the high court and the federal judiciary more broadly.

Mr. Trump, the presumptive GOP nominee, also suggested President Biden release his own list, giving voters a chance to compare.

Exclusive

"I'm going to be putting together a list of judges — great judges — a list of about 20. I think it's important to reveal who your Supreme Court justices will be," Mr. Trump told The Times on Tuesday. "There are people who say the list helped me win the election last time.

"Frankly, I think Biden should be doing the same thing," he said.

The former president said he won't rush the list, but will make it public before the election. He declined to say with whom he was consulting to formulate the roster.

In 2016 he worked closely with Leonard Leo, longtime vice president of the Federalist Society, a right-of-center group on legal and judiciary issues.

Mr. Leo had previously helped President George W. Bush win confirmations of Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr.

In 2016, Mr. Leo helped craft the first list of Supreme Court picks Mr. Trump announced that May, then helped revamp the list in September, just ahead of the election.

The issue had heightened significance in February 2016 because of Justice Antonin Scalia's death.

Then-President Obama moved to fill the seat but Senate Republicans, led by then-Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, refused to give his nominee a hearing, saying the seat should be decided by voters and their choice of president.

Mr. Trump's list of nominees helped assuage conservative apprehension about voting for someone who had no track record in office and who had in his past been an abortion-rights supporter.

Exit polling in 2016 showed 21% of voters rated the Supreme Court as the most important factor in their voting decision, and 56% of them backed Mr. Trump. And the Washington Post calculated that 26% of Trump voters said the Supreme Court was the core of their decision.

Justice Neil M. Gorsuch wasn't on Mr. Trump's first list in May 2016 but he was on the September list.

He would go on to be confirmed on a 55-45 vote in the Senate.

After the Gorsuch confirmation, Mr. Trump publicly released additional names for his Supreme Court shortlist in late 2017. Among them was then-Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh, who in 2018 would become Mr. Trump's second pick. He was confirmed on a 50-48 vote, taking the seat of retiring Justice Anthony Kennedy.

Mr. Trump released yet another list in September 2020, amid the campaign. Just days later Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg died and Mr. Trump named Judge Amy Coney Barrett as his nominee. She was confirmed on a 52-48 vote just days before the election.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nearly two-thirds of Pennsylvania voters said rising energy costs were among their top energy and environment issues, a survey said.

ENERGY

Voters rattled by Biden's energy costs

Pennsylvanians' attitudes toward environment present obstacles

By Ramsey Touchberry
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Pennsylvania voters' attitude toward high energy costs and the environment presents obstacles for President Biden and down-ballot Democrats this November, according to a poll released Tuesday.

The survey found that most voters across party lines prefer candidates and policies they feel could lower household energy prices rather than combat climate change, suggesting Mr. Biden's clean energy agenda is an unpopular selling point in the fossil-fuel-rich state.

Nearly two-thirds of Pennsylvania voters said rising energy costs were among their top two energy and environment issues, and 81% said energy affordability will be very/somewhat important in choosing candidates this election.

Respondents gave a slight edge to presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, 37% of whom said he would better handle energy issues compared with 34% for Mr. Biden. A significant margin, 15%, were unsure.

The poll was conducted by the Republican polling firm Public Opinion Strategies for the conservative Pennsylvania-based think tank Commonwealth Foundation.

"Concerns about rising energy costs are the top energy and environmental issue for Pennsylvania voters," said Christian Stellakis, director of media relations at the Commonwealth Foundation. "Policies promoting energy, affordability and reliability rank the highest among Pennsylvanians over climate action policies."

Pennsylvania is the third-largest electricity producer in the nation and the second-largest net supplier of energy, according to the Energy Information Administration. It's also the No. 2 natural gas-producing state and third in producing coal.

Mr. Biden won the state by just 1.2 points over Mr. Trump in 2020, despite the president's longtime ties to Pennsylvania. Democratic Sen. Bob Casey is also up for reelection in Pennsylvania in a race that could determine control of the Senate. Democrats hold a one-seat majority.

Other key findings among Pennsylvania voters from the poll included:

• Roughly 80% are concerned about future availability and affordability of energy in Pennsylvania and the country.

• The majority of voters, 59%, said lowering energy costs was more important than preserving the environment, 41%.

• Most are willing to make minor lifestyle changes to help the environment like turning off lights and appliances, using reusable shopping bags, recycling more and lowering the thermostat in the winter.

• Few voters are willing to make significant lifestyle changes to help the environment; 22% would replace home appliances with energy-efficient models, 17% would reduce meat/dairy consumption, 9% would buy an electric vehicle, 8% would install solar panels and 6% would pay more for clean energy.

• Two-thirds of voters were unwilling to pay any additional money per year to combat climate change. Ten percent were willing to pay $1-$99 extra and 23% were willing to pay $100+.

• The majority, 67%, want the federal government to focus on energy affordability over 33% who said combat climate change.

• The majority, 54%, opposed Mr. Biden's recent pause on new liquefied natural gas exports to other countries pending an environmental review compared with 24% who supported it.

The survey was conducted Feb. 28-March 6 among 800 registered Pennsylvania voters. The political party breakdown included 40% Republicans, 15% independents and 45% Democrats. The margin of error was plus or minus 3.95 percentage points.

CAMPAIGN 2024

Moreno clinches Republican primary in Ohio Senate race

Win reaffirms Trump's 2024 clout

By Seth McLaughlin
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Bernie Moreno won the caustic GOP Senate primary in Ohio — putting him on a crash course with Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown in the November election and giving former President Donald Trump some bragging rights.

The race was the first test of Mr. Trump's political clout in this election cycle and was called a little over an hour after polls closed.

Mr. Trump endorsed Mr. Moreno, a businessman who made his fortune as a luxury car dealer, early on in the race and made a late-in-the-game visit to Dayton to strengthen his hand against state Sen. Matt Dolan and Secretary of State Frank LaRose.

With 50% off the vote counted, Mr. Moreno had received 48% to Mr. Dolan's 33% and Mr. LaRose's 19%.

"We have an opportunity now to retire the old commie and send him to a retirement home and change this country," Mr. Moreno said of Mr. Brown at his election night party.

"I want to thank President Trump for all he did for me, for this campaign, for his unwavering support, for his love of this country because I don't think I have ever seen someone love this country the way he does," he added.

Preliminary exit polls showed the GOP primary electorate was pro-Trump. Two-thirds approved of the job he did as president and more than 6 in 10 said they did not believe President Biden won the 2020 election.

Mr. Brown has been a staple of Ohio politics since he entered the state legislature in 1975. He has held his Senate seat since 2007.

His gravelly voice, ruffled look, and focus on the working class have proved popular in Ohio, which is seen as a political barometer for blue-collar workers in the Rust Belt.

"The choice ahead of Ohio is clear: Bernie Moreno has spent his career and campaign putting himself first, and would do the same if elected," Mr. Brown said on social media. "I'll always work for Ohio."

Mr. Brown starts the general election campaign against Mr. Moreno with a cash advantage and a slight polling edge.

But he also knows he has a massive target on his back in Ohio and that this could be his toughest race. The state has been trending red over the last decade.

Mr. Trump carried the state in back-to-back presidential races, defeating President Biden and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton by 8 points.

Sen. J.D. Vance notched a six-point victory in Ohio in 2022 after receiving Mr. Trump's highly coveted endorsement.

The results underscored how the former presidential battleground is ripe territory for Republicans to send reinforcements to Washington.

Many political analysts consider the 71-year-old Mr. Brown the most vulnerable Democrat up for reelection this fall.

If Mr. Moreno knocks Mr. Brown off, Democrats' hope of defending their slim majority Senate will likely be dashed.

Republicans are defending few seats, most of them considered safe, while at least one Democratic-held state — West Virginia — is likely to be a Republican pickup.

The stakes of the race were laid bare over the weekend after Mr. Trump parachuted into Ohio to rally support behind Mr. Moreno, whom he endorsed late last year.

"You gotta win, Bernie," Mr. Trump said during Saturday's rally. "Don't leave me alone. Don't leave me alone, Bernie."

ABORTION

From page A1

requirement for patients to pick up abortion pills in person and allowing them to be delivered via mail.

"Increased access to and use of medication abortion is likely one reason why the overall number of abortions in the formal health care system increased 10% nationally between 2020 and 2023," the Guttmacher Institute said in its report.

The two-pill regimen's safety has been questioned. The Supreme Court is considering a 2022 lawsuit from pro-life doctors accusing the FDA of placing women at risk by rushing to approve mifepristone and then lowering the gestational age from 10 to seven weeks without proper study.

Oral arguments in Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA are scheduled for March 26.

Abortion pills have become more popular since the Supreme Court's 2022 ruling overturning Roe v. Wade. About two dozen states have used that decision to tighten limits on abortion access.

Fifteen states now require a physician to prescribe the two-drug regimen. Five states — Arizona, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina and Wisconsin — require the patient to meet with the doctor in person, according to Guttmacher.

Arizona and North Carolina prohibit mail delivery of abortion pills to patients.

"Medication abortion has proven to be a game changer in expanding abortion care in the United States," the institute said. "Unfortunately, legal attacks and restrictive policies continue to challenge access."

Tessa Longbons Cox, senior research associate at the pro-life Charlotte Lozier Institute, called the latest figures "nothing short of a tragedy."

"While Guttmacher's report doesn't count abortion drugs illegally mailed into pro-life states from other states with so-called 'shield laws,' other research suggests these account for a large share of mail-order abortions," Ms. Cox said. "These numbers are unfortunately not surprising given abortion advocates post-Dobbs, including Guttmacher, have not only pushed unlimited abortion, for any reason, at any point in pregnancy, but supported the removal of safeguards on abortion drugs at the expense of women's safety."

Representing the pro-life doctors is the Alliance Defending Freedom, which said the FDA "betrayed women and girls when it removed the necessary in-person doctor visits that protected women's health and well-being."

"The FDA's own label for abortion drugs says that roughly one in 25 women who take them will end up in the emergency room," ADF senior counsel Erin Hawley said in a March 15 statement . "Yet the government continues to defend its reckless actions that jeopardize women's health and safety."

The two-pill protocol begins with mifepristone, which blocks the hormone progesterone and stops fetal growth, followed by misoprostol, which induces "cramping and bleeding that empties your uterus," said Planned Parenthood, a major abortion pill prescriber.

Guttmacher said the number of known facilities prescribing abortion pills via telemedicine and delivering the prescriptions via mail increased from 7% in 2020 to 31% in 2022.

"Medication abortion provided via telemedicine is as safe and effective as provision in a health care facility," the institute said.

The data was taken from Guttmacher's Monthly Abortion Provision Study, which collects information from abortion clinics and online-only providers.

"These estimates do not include abortions obtained outside of the formal health care sector or any abortions — whether self-managed or provided by out-of-state clinicians — involving medication mailed to states with total abortion bans," Guttmacher said.

No state has a total abortion ban. Every state includes an exception to save the life of the mother.

Most states with tight abortion laws allow abortions for other reasons, such as to prevent serious risks to the women's health or to end pregnancies that result from rape or incest or when the baby is not expected to survive the pregnancy.

In 2001, just 6% of abortions were accomplished via abortion pills. By 2017, the share was 39%. In 2020, abortion pill procedures surpassed the number of surgical abortions.

AFGHANISTAN

From page A1

battlefield, even with good planning and tremendous execution by great people on the ground, the enemy sometimes has success. To ignore this fact is to ignore the fundamental reality of the battlefield."

Family members of service members killed in the Abbey Gate attack attended the hearing. Their loved ones were manning the entryway at Kabul's Hamid Karzai International Airport to help control the crowds of Afghans attempting to flee the country.

The final months of the U.S. mission in Afghanistan and Mr. Biden's decision to pull out all American troops have been continuing sources of partisan clashes on Capitol Hill. Mr. Biden's personal popularity ratings took a sharp hit in the aftermath of the Taliban victory and have never fully recovered.

As they have testified before, the generals said they recommended keeping a residual force of about 2,500 U.S. troops in Afghanistan, in part to maintain control of the vast U.S. military air base at Bagram. Mr. Biden opted for a smaller force tasked with protecting the U.S. Embassy and personnel, leading to the Taliban's quick seizure of Bagram and forcing the evacuation to go through the overwhelmed, less-secure Kabul civilian airport.

Republican critics say the precipitous and total withdrawal led to the airport tragedy and a geopolitical defeat that damaged U.S. interests around the world. Democrats counter that Mr. Biden's hands were largely tied by an agreement with the Taliban made under President Trump that would bring home the U.S. troops.

Republicans say congressional Democrats failed to press the White House and Pentagon hard enough when they held the majority in the House. When



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retired Gen. Kenneth F. McKenzie explained to lawmakers that "on the battlefield, even with good planning and tremendous execution by great people on the ground, the enemy sometimes has success."

Republicans took control after the 2022 midterm elections, the Afghanistan withdrawal became a prime focus for oversight.

"As the withdrawal date neared, the situation in Afghanistan deteriorated as the Taliban gained significant ground across the country," said House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Michael McCaul, Texas Republican.

"Yet the Biden administration failed to plan for their withdrawal, threatening the safety and security of U.S. personnel still in the country ...," Mr. McCaul said. "The State Department did not even request an emergency evacuation until after Kabul was surrounded by the Taliban."

Rep. Gregory Meeks of New York, the top Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said Mr. Biden made the right call to pull American troops out of Afghanistan despite the short-term consequences. "If we're taking a serious look at this, you just can't take a peek at one little segment of it and say, 'This is the reason everything happened,'" he said.

Botching the evacuation

Much of the hearing focused on the rushed and confusing process to evacuate thousands of U.S. personnel and Afghans who assisted the international military and aid effort. The debate deepened as Taliban forces made stunning gains in the summer of 2021 and rapidly approached the outskirts of Kabul.

The retired generals said the State Department failed to pull the trigger on a pullout of U.S. citizens in Afghanistan until it was too late. It was the most pointed public criticism to date from former Defense Department officials who were tasked with carrying out the noncombatant evacuation operation, or NEO.

The U.S. Embassy in Kabul had a list of all the registered Americans living in Afghanistan, but military officials weren't granted access when it could have helped. U.S. officials were also balancing the need to get people out with the fear that signs of a hasty withdrawal would undermine the Afghan government even more.

"We struggled to gain access to that plan and work with them over the month of July until we finally got a decision to execute the NEO," Gen. McKenzie said. "We worked with the embassy before then, but we didn't have authority to move out and do the things you have to do to make a NEO happen until the 14th of August. We were in extremis at that point."

Gen. Milley said the consensus among U.S. military officials, including Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, was that U.S. Embassy personnel and the remaining military troops should leave Afghanistan.

"After the decision was made to keep a diplomatic presence there, as the situation deteriorated through the summer and the fall in the provincial capitals, we were clearly pressing for early calls to execute a NEO," Gen. Milley said.

The State Department, in its own postmortem "action review" of the crisis issued last summer, said a lack of clear lines of responsibility for the evacuation and the need to be seen publicly backing the elected government played roles.

"Crisis preparation and planning were inhibited to a degree by concerns about the signals that might be sent, especially anything that might suggest the United States had lost confidence in the Afghan government," the report said.

The two retired generals confirmed that they recommended keeping a small but significant military footprint in Afghanistan of about 2,500 troops until the conditions on the ground allowed for further drawdowns in personnel. Gen. McKenzie said he warned that going below that number could trigger a collapse of the Afghan military and government.

Mr. Biden, long a skeptic of the Afghan mission launched in the days after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in 2001, announced on April 14, 2021, that the U.S. would unilaterally withdraw all military troops from Afghanistan. He moved ahead despite warnings from senior military officials, the intelligence community and Congress about the dire consequences of such a pullout, Republican lawmakers said.

Mr. McCaul, addressing the relatives of the victims of the suicide bombing, said the investigation was not over.

"I will not rest until I get to the bottom of this tragedy," he said at one point. "You deserve answers. The American people deserve answers, and I intend to deliver."

SECURITY

From page A1

and the innovative systems of American allies and partners" around the world, providing a comprehensive snapshot of the national security sector.

The results aren't encouraging in many instances, the report's authors said.

The U.S. defense sector remains a global technology leader, but the breakthroughs do not always translate into greater security. The government's broken budgeting process is a prime culprit.

"Maintaining America's edge over our pacing competitor, the People's Republic of China, depends on our ability to integrate new technologies into our national security ecosystem," Roger Zakheim, director of the Reagan Institute, said in a statement Tuesday. "While the American private sector still leads in global innovation, and the U.S. government has made some progress over the last year, we are at an inflection point when it comes to translating innovation priorities into capabilities.

"The defense budget — both the top line ... and its allocation within the president's budget request — is stifling the health of the NSIB."

The report card was released just days after the Biden administration submitted its $850 billion Pentagon budget request for the next fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1. The figure amounts to a 4.2% increase over its base level request in the 2023 fiscal year — $815.9 billion — and a 4.2% increase in the $817.3 provided by the fiscal 2024 continuing resolution, a stopgap measure that freezes spending at the previous year's level and prevents Pentagon officials from initiating new programs.

The Reagan study faulted the federal government for failing to provide "sufficient and stable funding" for national security innovation vital to "acquire and scale critical technology" in the sector. As a result, the U.S. government received an F- for its inability to provide sufficient and stable funding needed to fund cutting-edge technology. That is the lowest mark in the sweeping Reagan study.

Other defense industry subsectors also received less-than-stellar assessments.

Defense modernization, generally defined as the ability to modernize U.S. armed forces and national security capabilities for the 21st century, received a D, down from a C in the inaugural report card last year.

"Maintaining America's edge over our pacing competitor, the People's Republic of China, depends on our ability to integrate new technologies into our national security ecosystem."

Roger Zakheim, Reagan Institute

"Failure to act on innovation priorities and pull through technologies at scale is materially affecting overall readiness levels and the ability to fight and win against a pacing competitor," the report reads in part.

More specifically, the report says the U.S. "failure to act on innovation priorities and pull through technologies at scale is materially affecting overall readiness levels and ability to fight and win against a pacing competitor."

The U.S. did receive an A for its innovation leadership, citing the country's global leadership in patent filings and other key indicators. It received a B in the innovation capital category, reflecting a widening pool of available money from venture capital firms and other avenues. Such funding streams have especially benefited high-tech initiatives, such as those in the artificial intelligence realm.

Systemic challenges

The NSIB report card was created at a crucial moment for the U.S. defense industry. Major production and logistical challenges stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic have continued to dog the sector.

Concerns are growing in national security circles about inadequate investment to stay ahead of U.S. rivals, particularly communist China. Stockpile shortages appear to be rising as weapons are shipped to allies such as Ukraine.

Specialists say the proposed $850 billion Pentagon budget request is not as impressive as it appears.

"It's a little smaller than I would prefer ... because it does not really provide any real growth. People who say that's a huge amount of money are correct, but relative to the size of our economy, it's only 3.1% of GDP," Michael O'Hanlon, senior fellow and director of research in foreign policy at the Brookings Institution, told The Washington Times' "Threat Status Podcast."

"As long as we hold flat in nominal terms, that means we're going down relative to inflation," he said. "Meanwhile, the economy is still growing, so we're going down even faster relative to the size of GDP."

The federal government's inability to provide long-term funding stability for the Defense Department and private-sector defense companies and Congress' reliance on short-term funding resolutions are major concerns, the Reagan Institute report said. Even in areas with substantial progress on defense funding, uncertainty has plagued modernization.

The report card gave a D to "customer clarity." It warned that progress at the Pentagon, CIA and other key arms of the national security infrastructure has been largely "negated by congressional failure to pass a budget, which is limiting progress and the strength of the demand signal to industry and investors."

The national security talent base also received a D. The report warned that "the industry continues to face a graying talent pool and demographic trends that foreshadow persistent talent pipeline challenges like inefficient skills matching and manual, burdensome vetting processes."

The struggle to attract talent and quickly get applicants through the necessary security checks to work in the defense industry has become a leading concern for the sector.

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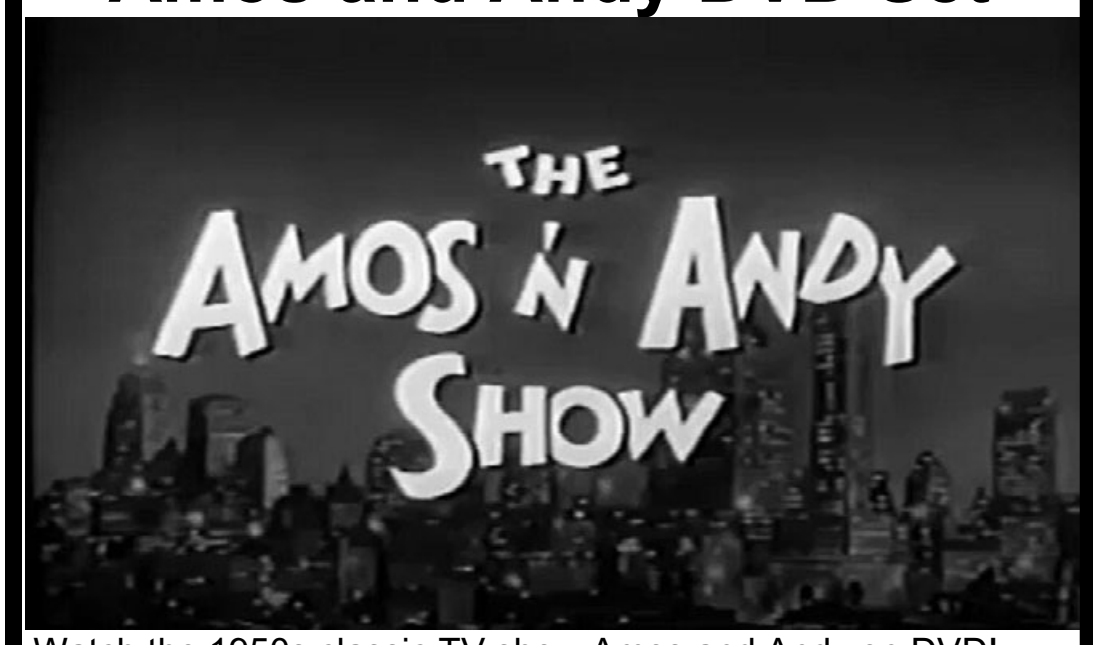

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Nation

CALIFORNIA

Court rules firearm restrictions on defendants constitutional

Judges say previous prohibitions on men were justified

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO | Court orders that prohibited two criminal defendants from possessing firearms while they awaited trial were constitutional because they were in line with past restrictions on firearms, a federal court ruled Monday.

Judge Gabriel P. Sanchez, writing for a unanimous three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, found that U.S. laws have historically sought to disarm dangerous criminal defendants, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Judge Sanchez said those previous prohibitions justified the restrictions placed on John Thomas Fencl and Jesus Perez-Garcia, defendants in California whose challenges to the law were consolidated in Monday's order.

"Here, the historical evidence, when considered as a whole, shows a long and broad history of legislatures exercising authority to disarm people whose possession of firearms would pose an unusual danger, beyond the ordinary citizen, to themselves or others," Judge Sanchez wrote. "The temporary disarmament of Fencl and Perez-Garcia as a means reasonably necessary to protect public safety falls within that historical tradition."

Katie Hurrelbrink, an attorney for both men, told the Times she intended to "continue litigating this" by asking for a review by a larger, en banc appellate panel and, if necessary, the Supreme Court.

U.S. Attorney Tara McGrath said in a statement that the ruling "recognized the long history of keeping firearms out of the hands of those who refuse to abide by the law."

The Times cited court records that show Mr. Fencl was arrested and charged with various crimes after law enforcement officials discovered more than 100 guns in his home near San Diego. Mr. Perez-Garcia was arrested at the U.S.-Mexico border when a customs inspection of a vehicle in which he was a passenger uncovered about 11 kilograms of methamphetamine and half a kilogram of fentanyl, court records show.

Both Mr. Fencl and Mr. Perez-Garcia argued that while detained defendants had historically had firearms taken away from them, there was no historical record of detainees who had been released from detention being precluded from possessing firearms.

Judge Sanchez wrote that the decision to take their guns was "consistent with our nation's long history of temporarily disarming criminal defendants facing serious charges and those deemed dangerous or unwilling to follow the law."

Both men were released from custody pending trial and subsequently challenged the terms of their release under a "history and tradition" test the U.S. Supreme Court established in 2022 for assessing the constitutionality of gun laws nationwide. In New York State Rifle & Pistol Assn. v. Bruen, the high court said that gun laws are legitimate only if they are rooted in U.S. history and tradition or are sufficiently analogous to some historic law.

The Bruen decision led to a surge in challenges to gun laws.



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Michael Corey Jenkins (left) and Eddie Terrell Parker (right) stand with lead attorney Malik Shabazz, who called for harsh penalties against the six former officers who tortured the two men. Two former sheriff's deputies were sentenced for their part in the torture.

MISSISSIPPI

Two 'Goon Squad' deputies get years in jail in racist assault

Judge due to sentence four other former officers

By Michael Goldberg

ASSOCIATED PRESS



Hunter Elward (top left) and Jeffrey Middleton (bottom left) were sentenced to long prison terms Tuesday. The other ex-officers who tortured two Black men will be sentenced later this week.

JACKSON, MISS. | Michael Corey Jenkins and Eddie Terrell Parker sat on the front row of a packed courtroom Tuesday and watched as a federal judge handed down yearslong sentences to two of the White former Mississippi law enforcement officers who tortured the two Black men last year in a brutal attack that began on the basis of race.

After a neighbor complained about them staying in a White woman's home, the Black men were tortured by people who had sworn an oath to serve and protect them.

Hunter Elward, 31, was sentenced to about 20 years in prison, while Jeffrey Middleton, the 46-year-old leader of the so-called "Goon Squad" that abused the men, was given a 17.5-year prison sentence. Four other former law enforcement officers who admitted to torturing Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Parker are set to be sentenced later this week — two on Wednesday and two on Thursday.

Before sentencing Elward and Middleton separately, U.S. District Judge Tom Lee called the former deputies' actions "egregious and despicable," and said a "sentence at the top of the guidelines range is justified — is more than justified."

In January 2023, the group of six burst into a Rankin County home without a warrant and assaulted Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Parker with stun guns, a sex toy and other objects. Elward admitted to shoving a gun into Mr. Jenkins' mouth and firing in a "mock execution" that went awry.

The terror began on Jan. 24, 2023, with a racist call for extrajudicial violence when a White person phoned Rankin County Deputy Brett McAlpin and complained that two Black men were staying with a White woman at a house in Braxton. McAlpin told Deputy Christian Dedmon, who texted a group of White deputies so willing to use excessive force they called themselves "The Goon Squad."

Once inside, they handcuffed Mr. Jenkins and his friend, Mr. Parker, and poured milk, alcohol and chocolate syrup over their faces. They forced them to strip naked and shower together to conceal the mess. They mocked the victims with racial slurs and shocked them with stun guns.

After Elward shot Mr. Jenkins in the mouth, they devised a coverup that included planting drugs and a gun. False charges stood against Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Parker for months. Mr. Jenkins suffered a lacerated tongue and broken jaw.

Last March, months before federal prosecutors announced charges in August, an investigation by The Associated Press linked some of the deputies to at least four violent encounters with Black men since 2019 that left two dead and another with lasting injuries.

Both victims had called for the "stiffest of sentences." Their attorney, Malik Shabazz, said they were too traumatized to speak in court, and he read statements on their behalf.

"They did some unimaginable things to me," Mr. Jenkins wrote in his statement.

EDUCATION

Study finds authorizer input can help predict charter school success

By Sean Salai

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Recommendations from government-sponsored authorizers can help predict whether charter schools flourish or flounder, a study has found.

In the findings released Wednesday, the conservative Thomas B. Fordham Institute analyzed 179 charter school applications filed in North Carolina between 2013 and 2017. (In 2011, the state lifted a cap on the model of independently managed public schooling, which operates under laws that vary from state to state.)

The study found that members of the North Carolina Charter School Advisory Board, appointed by the state Board of Education and General Assembly, recommended 32 of the applications. The Board of Education went further, approving 58.

Fordham reported that 21 charter schools opened on time between 2015 and 2018, 11 opened late and 10 never opened.

Detailed data analyses in the study found that schools endorsed by more reviewers for their educational and financial plans proved likelier to open their doors on time and made better annual progress in four years of standardized math scores. On the other hand, the endorsements had no effect on enrollment numbers or reading scores.

The Ohio-based education think tank said it focused on North Carolina because its statewide application process has produced "one of the largest charter school portfolios in the land" since 2011, as officials opened more than 100 charters and closed more than 25 others that struggled.

Authorizers evaluate applications for recommendation to education officials in the 46 states that allow charter schools. They include a diverse web of state and local education boards, independent state-appointed boards, public university boards and education nonprofits.

"We (Fordham) are actually an authorizer in Ohio, for example," Michael J. Petrilli, president of the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, told The Washington Times. The study comes as charter schools nationwide have struggled to meet surging demand amid pandemic-era staff shortages, inadequate facilities, the end of COVID-19 relief funds, tepid support from the Biden administration and cooling fervor from conservatives eager to cut federal education funds.

In the nation's capital, the nonpartisan D.C. Policy Center reported that Washington's public charter schools will experience a 15% funding gap after pandemic stimulus money dries up on Sept. 30, the end of fiscal year 2024.

"With [pandemic] funds going away, many schools and districts across the country will be facing a similar situation as the schools in D.C.," said Betty Chang of Education Resource Strategies, a school systems consulting firm.

President Biden has asked Congress to cut federal funding for charter schools in his proposed budget for fiscal 2025, which begins Oct. 1.

The White House plan calls for a 9% or $40 million reduction to the Charter Schools Program — the only source of federal grants to help start new charters, fund facilities and expand successful charter models. At the same time, the plan asks Congress to increase the federal education budget by $3.1 billion to $82.4 billion, a 4% surge from fiscal 2024.

In a statement emailed to The Times, a Department of Education spokesperson pointed to a drop in qualified grant applicants.

"Over the past five fiscal years, demand has softened in applications for CSP funds, and some grantees have voluntarily reduced or terminated their grants early after not being able to open as many new charter schools as anticipated," the spokesperson said.

The National Alliance for Public Charter Schools has pushed back on that narrative. The Washington, D.C.-based advocacy group notes that funding for charter schools is less than 1% of the U.S. education budget.

"The president's proposed budget cut ... is problematic for many reasons, notably because it is proposing to cut funding for the only kinds of public schools that are growing in enrollment," Debbie Veney, a spokesperson for the alliance, told The Times.

CALIFORNIA

Woman sentenced to 20 years in federal prison for scamming nearly $4 million

By Stephen Dinan

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A California woman was sentenced to 20 years in federal prison for scamming nearly $4 million from wealthy people, including one man whose body she crushed and dropped piece by piece in a bay to hide her theft of his estate.

Authorities described a scam in which Caroline Joanne Herrling, 44, used Google Earth images to scout for wealthy homes that had algae in the pools, which she figured meant the owners weren't able to care for the properties and were good marks for her scam.

She was right.

Herrling and her accomplices broke into one home in Sherman Oaks in 2020 and took over the property from the elderly victim, who died at some point. His corpse rotted while she looted his estate. Herrling first tried to dissolve the body, then crushed his bones and teeth and scattered the pieces in San Francisco Bay.

She posted selfies to Instagram of herself on the sailboat as she was scattering the body parts.

"It takes an exceptionally ruthless person to turn the disposal of a victim of identity theft into a celebration," Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew Brown wrote in a sentencing memo to the judge asking for the maximum 20-year sentence.

Authorities still don't know if Herrling or others murdered the victim, and they said she took methodical steps in "eradicating" him. That included removing the floorboards in the bedroom where he likely died.

She faked a will purporting to be the executor of the dead man's estate. She also faked another will that made the dead man executor and beneficiary of another estate, giving her control of both.

Prosecutors said Herrling, who went by the alias Carrie Phenix, is also to blame for the suicide of another man who killed himself after she and her accomplices used an imposter to gain power of attorney and sell his home out from under him.

When authorities moved in on Herrling, they found stolen and fake police badges, a fake FBI identification card and 16 guns, including a loaded pistol she kept in her purse and a homemade silencer made out of an oil filter. Prosecutors said they fear she used the badges to coerce information from people to help her scams.

They also said they traced $3,887,051 in stolen money. Authorities said that, given the fake IDs and other scams in progress they detected in a search of Herrling's phone, there may be other victims they don't know about.

The judge in the case said Herrling treated her victims "like a cash register."

Prosecutors said that given good behavior credits and other programs, Herrling could end up in prison for less than 11 years of her two-decade sentence.

An accomplice, Matthew Jason Kroth, 50, has pleaded guilty to wire fraud and is scheduled to be sentenced in June.

BUSINESS

Loyalty programs aim to make good customers feel special — for a price

By Anne D'Innocenzio and Dee-Ann Durbin
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK | How much does it cost to feel special?

At Chuck E. Cheese, the family entertainment and pizza chain, the price is $7.99, $11.99 or $29.99 per month. At the other end of the spectrum, the founder of a shopping app called Long Story Short wants to charge members $1,000 monthly for anonymous access to such hard-to-get goods as a rare Keith Haring artwork.

Paid loyalty programs are all the rage in the restaurant and retail worlds. Looking for reliable sales in an unpredictable spending environment, more companies have extended their points-based loyalty tiers to making their most dependable customers feel valued for an upfront fee.

Consumers bombarded with membership offers are promised perks such as free deliveries and dibs on new launches, but also in some cases the right to jump ahead of nonmembers on reservation lists and in customer service queues.

It's a method rooted in both the business case for treating big spenders well — it's cheaper to keep a customer than to find a new one — and in the fundamental human need for belonging, said Valerie Folkes, a consumer psychologist and marketing professor emerita at the University of Southern California's Marshall School of Business.

"If they're seated earlier than other people or there's a special line for them at the registers, then they feel they're special," Ms. Folkes said. "It makes them feel that there's a stronger link or a bond between themselves and the company."

In retailing, Target Corp. is taking on the Amazon Prime juggernaut with a paid loyalty program that will cost $49 a year between April 7 and May 18, and $99 annually thereafter. Members of Target Circle 360 can expect free two-day shipping and free deliveries of orders over $35 in as little as an hour, the company announced last week.

Target executives said the 100 million-plus customers enrolled in the company's free Target Circle loyalty plan already spend five times what nonmembers do.

CEO Brian Cornell told The Associated Press the hope is the new paid membership "builds more relevance, more stickiness."

Chuck E. Cheese piloted a paid program with bronze, silver and gold tiers in Santee, California, in December and launched it in the rest of the San Diego area in February. The program offers discounts on food and drinks and freebies such as cotton candy.

Members also receive "play points," which allow customers to play arcade games and get snacks, and e-tickets, which are typically accrued by playing arcade games and redeemed for prizes. The tickets and points are automatically loaded on the customer's card.

BRIEFLY
THE NATION

CALIFORNIA

Indian tribe to get land at Redwood parks entry

California's Yurok Tribe, which had 90% of its territory taken from it during the Gold Rush of the mid-1800s, will get a slice of its land back to serve as a new gateway to Redwood National and State Parks visited by 1 million people a year.

The Yurok will be the first Indian tribe to manage tribal land with the National Park Service under a historic memorandum of understanding signed Tuesday by the tribe, Redwood National and State Parks and the nonprofit Save the Redwoods League.

The agreement "starts the process of changing the narrative about how, by whom and for whom we steward natural lands," Sam Hodder, president and CEO of Save the Redwoods League, said in a statement.

The tribe will take ownership in 2026 of 125 acres near Orick in Humboldt County after restoration of a local tributary is complete.

— *Associated Press*

WISCONSIN

Court prepares response on recall election query

MADISON | A divided state Supreme Court on Tuesday asked for arguments within two days related to a question over what legislative boundaries should be in place for a potential recall election organized by supporters of former President Donald Trump.

The recall targets the state's top Republican, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, because he refused to impeach the state's top elections official or proceed with attempting to decertify President Biden's 2020 victory.

The bipartisan Wisconsin Elections Commission asked the state Supreme Court to decide which maps should be used for any recall or special election before November.

Recall organizers submitted petitions last week, but an initial review by the Wisconsin Elections Commission determined they did not have enough valid signatures from the district Mr. Vos was elected to serve in 2022.

Numerous people have said their signatures were forged, leading to a probe by the Racine County district attorney.

— *Associated Press*

WASHINGTON

4 killed, 3 badly injured in multivehicle collision

RENTON | Four people were killed and four others were hurt in a multiple vehicle crash Tuesday afternoon in suburban Seattle, fire officials said.

Firefighters were sent to a crash involving four vehicles in Renton at about 12:45 p.m., said Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority spokesperson Pat Pawlak.

Four people died at the scene and three others with life-threatening injuries were taken to a hospital. Another person with lesser injuries was also transported, he said.

Mr. Pawlak didn't have any information about the victims or how the crash happened. The King County Sheriff's Office is investigating.

— *Associated Press*

INDIANA

Refinery restarts weeks after power outage

WHITING | BP's sprawling oil refinery in northwest Indiana has resumed normal operations more than six weeks after a power outage prompted the energy giant to temporarily shut down the complex and evacuate workers.

A BP spokesperson said Tuesday that "the Whiting Refinery is back to normal operations" at the site along Lake Michigan some 15 miles southeast of Chicago.

The refinery is the largest in the Midwest and sixth-largest nationally, processing 440,000 barrels of oil daily.

—*Associated Press*

MAINE

Police sergeant faulted in shooting runs for sheriff

PORTLAND | A police sergeant who has been criticized by an investigatory panel for his handling of a report about a man who later carried out a mass shooting is running for sheriff, state records show.

Sgt. Aaron Skolfield of the Sagadahoc County Sheriff's Office is running as a Republican against his boss, Sheriff Joel Merry, who is a Democrat.

Sgt. Skolfield was criticized in a report last week from a commission that looked into events preceding the deadliest mass shooting in Maine history, in which Robert Card killed 18 people in a bowling alley and a restaurant in Lewiston.

Five weeks before the Oct. 25 shooting, Sgt. Skolfield responded to a call that Card was suffering from a mental health crisis.

A commission convened by the governor and attorney general to review the facts of the shooting found that Sgt. Skolfield should have realized he had probable cause to start the state's "yellow flag" process, which can be used to remove guns from a potentially dangerous person.

— *Associated Press*

TEXAS

From page A1

director of America's Voice.

Mexico's foreign ministry said it will refuse to take back any migrants Texas tries to deport at the state level.

"Mexico categorically rejects any measure that allows state or local authorities to exercise immigration control, and to arrest and return nationals or foreigners to Mexican territory," the ministry said.

The issue before the justices was a legal question about whether a lower appeals court had the authority to issue an "administrative stay" on a lower court injunction, but the implications of that question are huge.

"The Court gives a green light to a law that will upend the longstanding federal-state balance of power and sow chaos, when the only court to consider the law concluded that it is likely unconstitutional," wrote Justice Sonia Sotomayor, one of the three justices who dissented.

The Texas law creates a misdemeanor state penalty for those who sneak across the border and a felony penalty for those who sneak back after being deported. Both those provisions mirror federal law.

The law also created a type of state-run deportation system.

Mr. Abbott has argued that the state has an independent power to protect its citizens, particularly in light of the "invasion" he says the flow of migrants represents. He said the Constitution's invasion language provides a state with authority.

A U.S. district judge initially ruled against Texas and issued an injunction blocking the law from taking effect. The judge ruled that Texas trampled on federal prerogatives and unconstitutionally interfered with how the Biden administration wanted to manage the border.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals issued a stay of that injunction and is speeding the case through its docket. It has scheduled oral arguments for early next month.

It was that stay that was the issue before the justices. They issued their own stay of the stay earlier this month.

The ruling Tuesday lifted the justices' stay.

Justice Amy Coney Barrett, explaining her part in the ruling, said the Supreme Court has never been in the business of policing administrative stays but the issue may soon come back to the justices.

"The time may come, in this case or another, when this Court is forced to conclude that an administrative stay has effectively become a stay pending appeal and review it accordingly. But at this juncture, in this case, that conclusion would be premature," Justice Barrett wrote.

Late Tuesday, the 5th Circuit appeals court scheduled a snap hearing for Wednesday on the question of a stay pending appeal.

The dissenting justices said too much is riding on Texas' law to allow it to take effect, even for a short time.

"This law will disrupt sensitive foreign relations, frustrate the protection of individuals fleeing persecution, hamper active federal enforcement efforts, undermine federal agencies' ability to detect and monitor imminent security threats, and deter noncitizens from reporting abuse or trafficking," Justice Sotomayor wrote in a dissent joined by Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson.

Justice Elena Kagan wrote a separate dissent saying the 5th Circuit's administrative stay was "unreasoned" and deserved a blockage by the high court.

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre lashed out at the decision and called the Texas law "harmful and unconstitutional."

"SB4 is just another example of Republican officials politicizing the border while blocking real solutions," she said. "We remained focused on delivering the significant policy changes and resources we need to secure the border."

Rep. Tony Gonzalez, Texas Republican, said the state had to act.

"I represent over 800 miles of the southern border. We are tired of the chaos, destruction and death this border crisis has caused," he said. "SB4 will give Texas the ability to enforce against illegal immigration and do what President Biden refuses to do."

The law imposes a maximum six-month jail sentence on anyone caught illegally entering the country. Repeat offenders could get a two-year sentence. Both of those track with the federal penalties. A judge could drop the charges if the migrant agrees to be sent back to Mexico.

TIKTOK

From page A1

Studies filed an amicus brief in the case of TikTok Inc. v. Knudsen. It sided with Montana's legally contested legislation that would ban the app unless it separates from its parent company, Beijing-based ByteDance.

Montana is the only state that has moved to ban TikTok, but the law is mirrored in federal legislation that the House has passed and President Biden has pledged to sign. It could lead to a nationwide ban by requiring TikTok to be sold to a non-Chinese entity.

The House bill centers on cutting off China's access to TikTok and its user data.

Mr. Toscano and other opponents of the app say the content is dangerous, particularly to children.

Chase was one of many children who TikTok critics say fell victim to harmful content on the site.

Lalani Erika Walton, 8, and Arriani Jaileen Arroyo, 9, died in 2021 by accidental self-strangulation.

In separate incidents, the two were attempting the "blackout challenge," a trend that went viral on TikTok. Users posted videos of self-strangulation until they lost consciousness. The videos were featured on Lalani's and Arriani's "For You" pages.

Both were on the social media platform despite TikTok's requirement that users be at least 13.

Arroyo was found hanging by her dog's leash in her room. Walton was strangled after tying a rope to her bed, where her bathing suit had been laid out in anticipation of swimming later in the day.

"As child advocates, we don't care who owns TikTok if they keep sending suicidal content, harmful content and addictive materials to young people. It doesn't matter who owns it," said Matthew P. Bergman, who represents the families of Chase, Lalani and Arriani in lawsuits against TikTok. "Separate and apart from appropriate national security concerns is a public safety concern that is omnipresent."

More than 1,200 families are involved in lawsuits against TikTok and other social media companies, and child psychologists are warning parents against allowing children younger than 16 and even 18 to access social media apps.

TikTok, they say, is uniquely harmful to children because, unlike YouTube, Instagram and other social media apps, the site uses an algorithm that is designed to aggressively push increasingly more harmful content. Rather than basing a user's video feed solely on preferences, sharing and "likes," it pushes users "down a rabbit hole" by feeding more extreme content based in part on how long a video is viewed.

A user's feed can quickly be overwhelmed with videos about eating disorders, suicide and other harmful content that could foster damaging addiction in children.

"The algorithm is watching you, to see what you watch to the end and to see what you watch again. And it starts to customize its offerings," Dr. Leonard Sax, a pediatrician and psychologist who lectures parents on the online habits of children, told The Washington Times.

Dr. Sax said children believe the app can practically read their minds based on customized video feeds, and not necessarily in a positive way.

The app appears to recognize and exploit users' vulnerabilities and can accelerate dark and disturbing algorithms that encourage dangerous behavior.

"It's leading kids down a rabbit hole, and girls especially are being sucked into these threads about anorexia, valorizing self-harm and suicide," Dr. Sax said.

TikTok has more than 170 million users in the United States. Company representatives did not respond to requests for data on age breakdown, but a 2023 Pew Research Center report that polled nearly 1,500 children ages 13-17 found that 63% used TikTok and nearly half used the app almost constantly or several times a day.

Many users may be younger children.

In 2020, The New York Times revealed internal TikTok data that classified more than one-third of its daily American users as 14 or younger.

In a recent examination of the app's impact on children, the Center for Countering Digital Hate set up several TikTok accounts based on profiles of 13-year-olds.

The accounts were paused briefly on videos about body image and mental health, and videos were "liked."

In less than three minutes, TikTok recommended "suicide content." Within eight minutes, TikTok served content related to eating disorders. Every 39 seconds, TikTok recommended videos about body image and mental health to teens.

"The results are every parent's nightmare. Young people's feeds are bombarded with harmful, harrowing content that can have a significant cumulative impact on their understanding of the world around them and their physical and mental health," said Imran Ahmed, CEO of the Center for Countering Digital Hate.

Last year, TikTok set up 60-minute daily time limits for users younger than 18, but the restriction is reportedly easy to bypass.

China imposes much stricter limits on the app. Teenagers in China can use TikTok for only 40 minutes daily, and the content is limited to child-friendly videos.

Researchers say the U.S. version of the app is not all harmful content and has helped those with mental health issues find support and information.

A 2023 University of Minnesota study found that TikTok's algorithm could start with helpful videos for those seeking mental health support but then evolve into a harmful spiral of negative content. Study participants said clicking the app's "Not interested" button did not stop disturbing videos from appearing in their feeds.

TikTok's U.S. fate now lies in the Senate, where the House-passed bill requiring the app to be sold to a non-Chinese company has stalled but appears to have bipartisan support.

TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew told users last week that the legislation "will lead to a ban on TikTok in the United States" if it becomes law and urged users to call the Senate and "make your voices heard."

Though the bill passed by an overwhelming bipartisan vote in the House, dozens of lawmakers voted against banning the app. The bill's opponents argued that the platform is critical for small businesses and provides social connections and support for users that would otherwise be difficult to find.

Rep. Robert Garcia, California Democrat, said TikTok is a place for gathering information about the world, politics, entertainment and pop culture.

"We know that TikTok is also a space for representation, and banning TikTok also means taking away a voice and a platform for communities of color and queer creators that have made TikTok their home," Mr. Garcia said.

Child advocates said forcing new ownership would not save children from TikTok's harmful content.

"This whole debate about what's going to happen in the Senate is irrelevant to the topic I discuss with parents, which is whether TikTok is safe," Dr. Sax said. "The answer is no, which means your kid should not be on it."

DEATH NOTICE

Kidd, Jr., Will

October 8, 1938 - January 17, 2024

Will Kidd, Jr. unexpectedly passed away in Washington, DC, after a long battle with multiple health challenges. Will Kidd, Jr. was born in Washington, DC to the late Will Kidd, Sr. and Helen Bartley Kidd. He married twice and was recently widowed.

Will Kidd, Jr. attended Phelps Vocational High School in Washington, DC in 1956, where he received his electrical construction and maintenance certificate. He then enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1956 and was honorably discharged in 1964.

Kidd was widely known as a licensed master electrician in the District of Columbia, since 1969, Prince George's County since 1979 and the State of Maryland since 1987. He was also well known as a licensed electrical contractor in the District of Columbia since 1969.

He is survived by his children, grandson, great-grandchildren; stepchildren, step-grandchildren; three sisters, and a host of nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by wife, Dora Oldes Kidd; grandson, Jesse Will Kidd; and sisters, Joanne Kidd Rice, Olether Kidd Turner and Mary Ann Kidd.

The memory of Will Kidd, Jr. will live on in the hearts of all those who loved and admired him.

A memorial service was held to honor his life at:



Fort Lincoln Funeral Home
3401 Bladensburg Road
Brentwood, MD 20722
On Saturday, February 24, 2024
Please sign the Guestbook at
www.legacy.com/washingtontimes

World

DIPLOMACY

Blinken reaffirms U.S. ties with Philippines

Tensions with China rising higher

By Andrew Salmon
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA | Secretary of State Antony Blinken on a visit to the Philippines on Tuesday reaffirmed Washington's "ironclad" commitment to Manila's defense in the face of rising friction with China and talked up an upcoming trilateral summit with Japan.

The first-ever joint meeting between the leaders of Japan, the Philippines and the U.S. will take place on April 11. Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. will travel to Washington to meet with President Biden, U.S. and Filipino officials said.

"These are three countries that have a shared vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific," Mr. Blinken told a press conference in Manila Tuesday, "and I think a recognition that when we work together, when we collaborate, when we pool our resources — including in terms of economic cooperation, building critical infrastructure, humanitarian assistance — we are stronger when we do it together and bring together all the complementarities that we have."

In the background of Mr. Blinken's discussions with Mr. Marcos and top officials are a series of basing agreements that the Biden administration has negotiated with the Marcos government granting U.S. forces access to strategic posts in the region, notably for any future defense of Taiwan.

Also looming over Mr. Blinken's trip Tuesday were a series of recent clashes in contested waters west of the Philippines between Philippine and Chinese vessels. Though Mr. Blinken made clear that the U.S. remains committed by treaty to the Philippines' defense against armed attack, he did not address how Washington will respond to what military analysts call Beijing's recent "gray-zone" tactics, conducted below the threshold of "armed attack."

While the Philippines contends with Chinese maneuvers off Second Thomas Shoal in the South China Sea, Japan faces similar issues with Chinese hybrid tactics around the disputed Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea, which China calls the Diaoyu Islands.

Some expect the upcoming trilateral summit to include measures to build up the domestic capacities of Philippine forces — a country with tiny defense expenditures and maritime assets compared to China.

However, both Mr. Blinken and his Philippine counterpart, Enrique Manalo, alluded to a far more ambitious, longer-term project, helping increase the overall economic muscle of the Philippines, a country that ranks behind fellow ASEAN nations such as Singapore, Brunei, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam in economic growth rates and per capita income.

Iron-clad alliance – with holes

Noting that its alliance with the Philippines is America's oldest in the region, Mr. Blinken made clear that Washington has Manila's back.

"We stand with the Philippines and stand by our ironclad defense commitments, including under our Mutual Defense Treaty," he told reporters. The U.S. commitment "extends to armed attacks on the Philippine armed forces, public vessels, aircraft — including those of its Coast Guard — anywhere in the South China Sea."

But China so far had adopted tactics — including blocking Philippine ships from contested areas, rammings, water cannons, even an alleged laser — that fall below the threshold of "armed attack." Notably, the Chinese vessels engaged in recent incidents are not from the People's Liberation Army Navy but from China's Coast Guard, "maritime militia" or from centrally directed fishing fleets.

As a result, U.S. warships have not intervened. Asked by a journalist whether the defense treaty could be expanded to include such hybrid attacks, neither Mr. Blinken nor Mr. Manalo could clarify.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lin Jin told a press briefing later in the day that "military cooperation between the United States and the Philippines should not harm China's sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea, let alone be used to prop up the Philippines' illegal position," Reuters reported.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Secretary of State Antony Blinken (second left) met with Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. at Malacanang Palace in Manila on Tuesday. Mr. Blinken reaffirmed Washington's commitment to Manila's defense.

Beijing claims most of the South China Sea in the face of competing claims for islands and shoals from countries such as Brunei, Malaysia, Vietnam and the Philippines. In 2016, an international tribunal ruled in favor of Manila on competing sovereignty claims in the sea, but China has refused to recognize the decision, calling Manila's claims to waters off the western Philippines "illegal." The U.S., Mr. Lin said Tuesday, "is not a party to the South China Sea issue and has no right to interfere in the maritime issues between China and the Philippines."

Mr. Manalo said discussions Tuesday's talks with Mr. Blinken focused on "many issues including defense and security engagement, ... always anchored on the rule of law."

Building bases, building alliances

As Washington seeks to upgrade security ties between Indo-Pacific democracies, the April trilateral summit follows a path forged last year. In August 2023, Mr. Biden hosted the leaders of Japan and South Korea in a three-way meeting at Camp David.

Mr. Biden, Mr. Marcos and Mr. Kishida "will discuss trilateral cooperation to promote inclusive economic growth and emerging technologies, advance clean-energy supply chains and climate cooperation, and further peace and security in the Indo-Pacific and around the world," the White House said in a statement Tuesday.

Warming Washington-Manila ties, which Mr. Manalo said are now on "hyper-drive," contrast sharply with the pro-China tilt of Mr. Marcos' predecessor, Rodrigo Duterte. The U.S. and the Marcos administration reached a deal last year expanding U.S. rotational basing rights in the country from five to nine bases, including two new sites in the strategic northern Luzon region. North Luzon oversees the strategic Bashi Channel between the Philippines and Taiwan and a U.S. military presence there could make the waterway unpassable for Chinese naval assets seeking to either blockade or surround Taiwan prior to attacking.

Last November, U.S. and Philippines forces began conducting joint naval patrols in the area, and Defense News reported last month that the U.S. has also committed to upgrade the Philippine bases, including an air base in northern Luzon.

Neither Mr. Blinken nor Mr. Manalo addressed speculation that the Pentagon may also help build a port facility on the Philippine islands chain of Batanes, which lies in the Bashi Strait just 125 miles from Taiwan. In February, Philippine Defense Secretary Gilberto Teodoro called for more troops on the islands, which he called the "spearhead of the Philippines."

DEFENSE

Senator: U.S. not prepared for election cyberthreats

Warner says nation was better prepared under Trump than Biden

By Ryan Lovelace
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Chair Mark Warner is urgently warning that America's readiness to deal with cyber chaos targeting the country's upcoming elections is worse under President Biden than it was under former President Donald Trump.

The extraordinary criticism from the Virginia Democrat has provoked pushback from the White House but the threat is too serious to ignore, Mr. Warner said at the CrowdStrike Gov Threat Summit on Tuesday.

Mr. Warner has sounded the same alarm at gatherings of cybersecurity professionals hosted by companies CrowdStrike and Trellix in Washington in recent weeks.

"I think we're not as prepared in March of 2024 as we were in March of [2020], which is hard for me to say since I'm a Democrat and we're under a Democratic president, than we were under President Trump then," Mr. Warner said at Tuesday's summit.

As the leader of the Senate's committee with oversight of the intelligence community, Mr. Warner is regularly briefed on what U.S. officials know about foreign threats to elections.

Unfortunately, he said, he does not have complete clarity, in contrast to four years ago.

He said America's cyber posture worsened because foreign countries have discovered that meddling is inexpensive and easy, voters are more distrustful than four years ago, and the federal government's information-sharing with various social media platforms has dramatically slowed down.

"Countries have learned — our adversaries and frankly even some that are quasi-allies, because there are other countries that we've got evidence we can't talk about, of wanting to interfere — that this is remarkably effective and really cheap," Mr. Warner said.

Mr. Warner did not identify the countries he thinks are trying to interfere in the November elections. His dire warning to cybersecurity professionals in government and the private sector closely mirrors the alarm he sounded in front of a similar audience assembled in Washington last month.

He said at the Trellix Cybersecurity Summit in February that he worried U.S. officials are less prepared for foreign intervention in elections this year than in 2020, particularly threats involving artificial intelligence.

"The kind of manipulation that was going to take place in 2016 looks like child's play at this point," Mr. Warner said at the February gathering. "AI can do this at a scale and speed that's unprecedented."

Mr. Warner said in February he wanted American officials to do a better job of "re-alerting the American public."

He pledged before both CrowdStrike and Trellix's audiences to hold public hearings to better explain the threat to America's elections that he fears.

Mr. Warner made clear on Tuesday he is not as worried about cyberthreats to voting machines as he is about foreign influence efforts.

HONG KONG

Legislature passes law letting government to squash dissent

By Kanis Leung
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONG KONG | Hong Kong lawmakers, closely tied to the Communist regime in Beijing, unanimously approved a new national security law Tuesday that grants the government more power to quash dissent, widely seen as the latest step in a sweeping political crackdown triggered by pro-democracy protests in 2019.

The legislature passed the Safeguarding National Security Bill during a special session. The law will expand authorities' ability to prosecute citizens for offenses including "colluding with external forces" to commit illegal acts as well as charge them with treason, insurrection, espionage and disclosing state secrets, among others.

It comes on top of a similar security law Beijing imposed in 2020, which has already largely silenced opposition voices in the financial hub. Critics worry the new law will further erode civil liberties that Beijing promised to preserve for 50 years when the former British colony returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

Hong Kong's Legislative Council, packed with Beijing loyalists following an electoral overhaul, rushed the law through to approval. Since the bill was unveiled on March 8, a committee held daily meetings for a week, following an appeal by Hong Kong leader John Lee to push the law through "at full speed." After the vote, Mr. Lee said that the law would take effect Saturday, calling it a "historic moment."

The newly approved law threatens stringent penalties for a wide range of actions authorities call threats to national security, with the most severe — including treason and insurrection — punishable by life imprisonment. Lesser offenses, including the possession of seditious publications, could also lead to several years in jail. Some provisions allow criminal prosecutions for acts committed anywhere in the world.

Legislative Council President Andrew Leung cast his ballot to mark the occasion, although by custom the council chief does not vote on legislation.

John Burns, an honorary professor of politics and public administration at the University of Hong Kong, said the process reflected the city's "disabled accountability system, weakened by design."

He said lawmakers did examine the bill in detail and the government adopted some amendments proposed by legislators. However, Mr. Burns said that during the debate many lawmakers focused on ways to expand the state's reach over national security issues and increase penalties for related crimes. He added executive authorities were happy to oblige them.

"For those who care about accountable government, the process is disappointing, but not surprising, given the centrally imposed changes since 2020," Mr. Burns said.

The central government's liaison office in Hong Kong said Tuesday the legislation signaled a strong "firewall" has been built for the city's stability and prosperity, allowing it to focus on promoting economic development and improving people's livelihood. Mr. Lee also said other countries had passed laws to address risks when needed.

Hong Kong's political scene has changed dramatically since the massive 2019 street protests that challenged China's rule over the semi-autonomous territory and the imposition of Beijing's National Security Law.

BRIEFLY
THE WORLD

UKRAINE

Austin meets with allies, pledges Ukraine support

Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin on Tuesday vowed that the U.S. would not let Ukraine fail in its goal to drive out Russian invaders, despite the standoff in Congress over approving critical new funding for military weapons and ammunition for Kyiv.

Speaking ahead of a meeting of allies and partners of the Ukraine Defense Contract Group at Ramstein Air Base in Germany, Mr. Austin said Ukraine's troops have battled against often overwhelming odds "with defiance and skill" for more than two years. At a time when military analysts say Moscow has taken the initiative on the battlefields of eastern Ukraine, he said Russia has paid a staggering cost for President Vladimir Putin's "imperial dreams."

"At least 315,000 Russian troops have been killed or wounded since Putin's all-out invasion in February 2022. Russia has squandered up to $211 billion to equip, deploy, maintain and sustain its imperial aggression against Ukraine," he said.

Mr. Putin's "war of choice" will ultimately cost his country $1.3 trillion in previously anticipated economic growth through 2026, the Pentagon chief said.

Last week, the Pentagon announced a $300 million security assistance package for Ukraine made possible by "some unanticipated contract savings" that will be used for its air defense, artillery, and anti-tank needs. But a $60 billion-plus package of military aid for Kyiv remains hung up in Congress as Ukrainian frontline troops complain about weapons and equipment shortages.

— *Mike Glenn*

BRAZIL

First indictment filed against Bolsonaro

SAO PAULO | Former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro was formally accused Tuesday of falsifying his COVID-19 vaccination status, marking the first indictment for the embattled far-right leader, with more allegations potentially in store.

The federal police indictment released by the Supreme Court alleged that Mr. Bolsonaro and 16 others inserted false information into a public health database to make it appear as though the then-president, his 12-year-old daughter and several others in his circle had received the COVID-19 vaccine.

Police detective Fabio Alvarez Shor, who signed the indictment, said in his report that Mr. Bolsonaro and his aides changed their vaccination records in order to "issue their respective [vaccination] certificates and use them to cheat current health restrictions."

The detective said in the indictment that Mr. Bolsonaro's aide-de-camp, Mauro Cid, told investigators the former president asked him to insert the false data into the system for both himself and his adolescent daughter. Mr. Cid also said he delivered the vaccination certificates to Mr. Bolsonaro personally.

During the pandemic, the maverick conservative president was one of the few world leaders who railed against the vaccine. He openly flouted health restrictions and encouraged other Brazilians to follow his example.

— *Associated Press*

MIDDLE EAST

Israelis, Hamas fighters battle at key health site

RAFAH | Explosions and shootings shook the Gaza Strip's biggest hospital and surrounding neighborhoods as Israeli forces stormed through the facility for a second day Tuesday. The military said it had killed 50 Hamas militants in the hospital, but it could not be independently confirmed that the dead were combatants.

The raid was a new blow to the Shifa medical complex, which had only partially resumed operations after a destructive Israeli raid in November. Thousands of Palestinian patients, medical staff and displaced people were trapped inside the sprawling complex Tuesday, as heavy fighting between troops and Hamas fighters raged in nearby districts. Details were scarce, with communications from inside the hospital nearly impossible.

The Israeli military said it raided Shifa early Monday because Hamas fighters had grouped in the hospital and were directing attacks from inside.

— *Associated Press*

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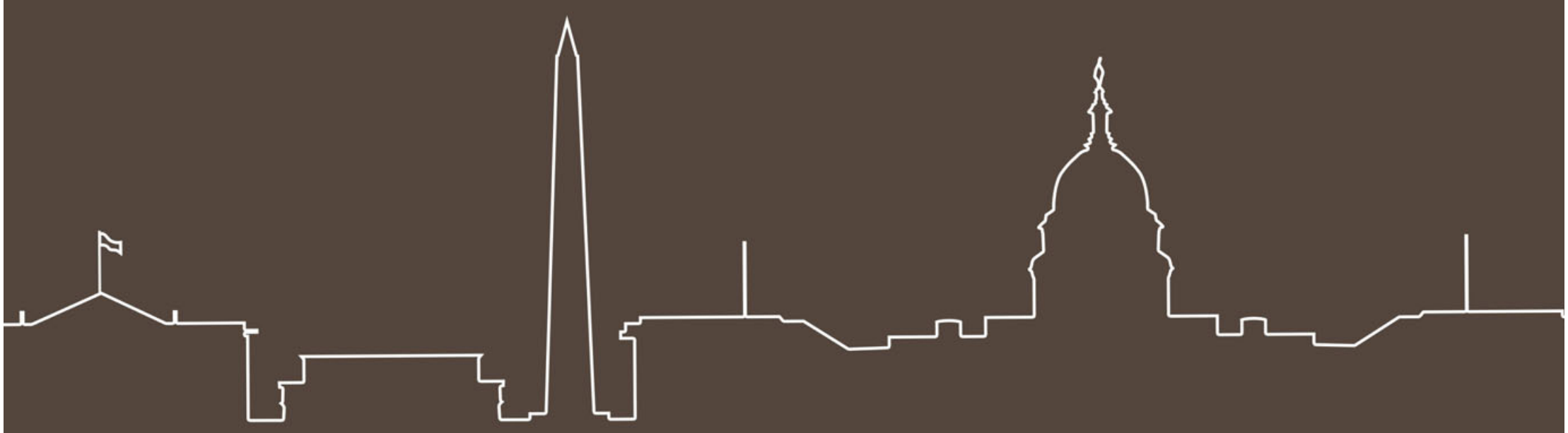

America's Newspaper

The Washington Times

washingtontimes.com

Region

VIRGINIA

ADF: Religious groups can require workers to align with faith

Charities, schools in state allowed to have requirement

By Mark A. Kellner
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The state of Virginia will allow religious organizations to hire only workers who adhere to the groups' beliefs as part of a settlement of a 2020 lawsuit, according to a Christian legal advocacy group.

Alliance Defending Freedom said religious groups in Virginia also are exempt from paying for or facilitating gender transition treatments that violate their teachings.

ADF represented two churches, three Christian schools and a network of pregnancy centers that sued the commonwealth and then-Attorney General Mark Herring in September 2020 after the Virginia Values Act was enacted.

The law directed religious institutions to hire employees who did not share their beliefs or face fines of up to $100,000 per violation, according to the lawsuit. A companion measure required ministries to include gender-affirming surgeries and sex reassignment care in their employee health plans.

Mr. Herring left office in 2022, but the lawsuit continued using the name of the current attorney general, Jason Miyares — Calvary Road Baptist Church v. Miyares.

The Supreme Court of Virginia last year changed the dynamics of the case, ADF attorneys said. The court ruled that the state "may not substantially burden the exercise of religion" in the case of a high school teacher who was fired for refusing to use the preferred pronouns of a transgender student, citing religious freedom.

That decision paved the way for a settlement, the attorneys said.

"Religious organizations are free to operate their ministries without fear of government punishment, and Virginia's law protects that foundational right," ADF senior counsel Kevin Theriot said in a statement. "Our clients are motivated by their faith to offer spiritual guidance, education, pregnancy support, and athletic opportunities to their communities. The commonwealth must respect their right — just like anyone else's — to continue operating by their own internal policies and codes of conduct about life, marriage, and sexuality."

Through a spokeswoman, Mr. Theriot said "the settlement reflects the [attorney general's] interpretation of the statutes as applied to all ministries that are similar to the plaintiffs" and he believes the broad language in the settlement would apply to similar religious organizations.

Miyares spokeswoman Victoria LaCivita told The Washington Times via email: "The Attorney General is pleased that we were able to reach a settlement agreement that preserves the constitutional enforcement authority of the Attorney General and provides justice for the plaintiffs."

DISTRICT

Bowser delays District budget proposal amid budget crisis

By Sean Salai
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser has delayed presenting her proposed budget for fiscal 2025 to the D.C. Council as the nation's capital faces an unprecedented funding crisis.

Council Chairman Phil Mendelson, at-large Democrat, announced Ms. Bowser would miss the March 20 deadline to unveil her proposal in an email sent to lawmakers and staff shortly before noon Monday.

He also confirmed the cancellation of a Friday committee hearing to discuss the budget and a Wednesday breakfast the council had expected to hold with the Democratic mayor.

Mr. Mendelson noted the budget had not yet been given to Chief Financial Officer Glen Lee, "despite the CFO having stated months ago" that his office needed 10 days to review it before submission to the council.

"Therefore the budget will not be submitted to the Council by this Wednesday, March 20th, the required date," the chairman wrote in the email, which a council member's office shared with The Washington Times.

Mr. Mendelson said he would announce the new date for the budget proposal after the CFO receives the budget.

Reached Monday afternoon for comment, some sources close to the council said they did not expect to see a proposal from Ms. Bowser before late next week or early the following week.

They chalked up the delay to a dispute between the mayor's office and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, who has a mandate under federal law to oversee the District's financial stability.

"I'm hearing that part of the Mayor's #DCbudget release delay is due to a disagreement b/t the OCFO & lawmakers on how quickly the law requires DC to replenish its reserves," Tazra Mitchell of the D.C. Fiscal Policy Institute, an antiracist advocacy group, posted on X.

The Times has reached out for comment to the office of Ms. Bowser, a third-term Democrat reelected in 2022.

Mr. Mendelson told reporters last week that he estimated a $600 million to $800 million deficit in the next fiscal year, which starts Oct. 1.

He said council members would consider program cuts as well as possible increases to local sales, property and income taxes to cope.

City officials have chalked up the funding crisis to fewer people shopping, dining or working downtown on weekdays since the outbreak of COVID-19.

Other problems include pandemic relief funding drying up this year, crime-plagued retailers pulling out of depopulated streets, mass transit ridership declining and struggling restaurants closing.

The District used $4.7 billion in federal pandemic relief to gradually expand its budget from $15.1 billion in fiscal 2020 to $19.8 billion in fiscal 2024. That money runs out on Sept. 30, the end of fiscal 2024.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser has delayed presenting her proposed budget for fiscal 2025. She will miss a March 20 deadline.

In a recent interview with The Times, Mr. Lee said occupancy in downtown offices has flatlined at 50% of pre-pandemic levels for the past 18 months as many employees continue to work remotely from Maryland and Virginia for part of the week.

The CFO said the resulting drop in commercial real estate values will create a projected loss of $260 million to $300 million in annual tax revenue through 2028, with the problem worsening after that as more employers reduce their commercial footprints or let leases expire.

MARYLAND

DHS: Montgomery County's help with 'detainers' welcome

By Stephen Dinan
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Montgomery County has honored two deportation "detainer" requests turning over illegal immigrants accused of sex abuse crimes, the Department of Homeland Security said Tuesday.

The county has a sanctuary policy that limits its cooperation with deportation officials, but after a spate of high-profile crimes blamed on illegal immigrants, county officials said they would strive to do more to help U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

In a statement, ICE said the county is being "newly cooperative."

The agency didn't name either of the deportation targets but said one is a 44-year-old Honduran who was charged in November with sex abuse of a minor and two counts of rape, among other charges. The county released him to ICE on March 11.

The other target is a 33-year-old Salvadoran who was convicted in November of sex abuse of a minor and sentenced to 10 years in prison, but almost all of the sentence was suspended. The Montgomery County Detention Center transferred him to ICE on March 11.

"We are extremely happy to be working with our law enforcement partners in Montgomery County toward safer neighborhoods," said Darius Reeves, director of ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations division in Baltimore, which oversees Maryland.

The Washington Times contacted the county for comment.

County officials have come under severe criticism in recent weeks after a series of high-profile crimes, including an illegal immigrant charged with killing a 2-year-old. The man had twice been arrested and released by the county in defiance of ICE detainer requests.

The county said the man's criminal record wasn't serious enough to trigger cooperation with ICE at the time he was in custody.

After that killing and the slaying of Laken Riley, a 22-year-old nursing student in Georgia, drew national attention to sanctuary policies, county officials said they were rethinking their stance. County Executive Marc Elrich said he would add new crimes to the list that triggers cooperation with ICE, and he also said his office would do a review in each case where a detainer would be declined and decide if the policy should be overridden.

He also said the county would try to give ICE 48 hours' notice so someone could be ready to pick up a target before release.

It's not clear if the two new cases fell under the new practices, though ICE had previously said the county had been declining every detainer.

WEST VIRGINIA

High court to rule on opioids as public nuisance

Distributors had role in drug crisis, suit says

By John Raby
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLESTON, W.VA. | A federal appeals court asked West Virginia's highest court Monday whether opioid distributions can cause a public nuisance as it reviews a landmark lawsuit against three major U.S. drug distributors accused of causing a health crisis in one of the state's counties.

In July 2022, a federal judge in Charleston ruled in favor of AmerisourceBergen Drug Co., Cardinal Health Inc. and McKesson Corp. The lawsuit accused them of distributing 81 million pills over eight years in Cabell County, which has been ravaged by opioid addiction.

The verdict came nearly a year after closing arguments in a bench trial in the lawsuit filed by Cabell County and the city of Huntington.

The lawsuit alleged that the distributors created a public nuisance and ignored the signs that the area was being devastated by addiction.

But U.S. District Judge David Faber said West Virginia's Supreme Court has applied public nuisance law only in the context of conduct that interferes with public property or resources. He said to extend the law to cover the marketing and sale of opioids "is inconsistent with the history and traditional notions of nuisance."



ASSOCIATED PRESS

West Virginia's Supreme Court has been asked by a federal appeals court to determine what constitutes a public nuisance as it reviews a lawsuit against three major U.S. drug distributors.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia, sent a certified question to the West Virginia Supreme Court, which states: "Under West Virginia's common law, can conditions caused by the distribution of a controlled substance constitute a public nuisance and, if so, what are the elements of such a public nuisance claim?"

If the state Supreme Court answers no, that means the current appeal is over, according to the 4th Circuit.

The federal appeals court noted that the West Virginia Mass Litigation Panel, which works to resolve complex cases in state court, has concluded in several instances that opioid distribution "can form the basis of a public nuisance claim under West Virginia common law."

Carl Tobias, a University of Richmond law professor, said the West Virginia Supreme Court is the authoritative source on interpreting state substantive law and has not ruled on the public nuisance question as it relates to the distribution, sale and use of opioids.

In his decision, Judge Faber also noted that the plaintiffs offered no evidence that the defendants distributed controlled substances to any entity that didn't hold a proper registration from the Drug Enforcement Administration or the state Board of Pharmacy. The defendants also had suspicious monitoring systems in place as required by the Controlled Substances Act, he said.

In 2021 in Cabell County, an Ohio River county of 93,000 residents, there were 1,067 emergency responses to suspected overdoses — significantly higher than each of the previous three years — with at least 162 deaths. In the first two months of this year, suspected overdoses prompted at least 115 emergency room visits, according to preliminary data from the state Department of Human Services' Office of Drug Control Policy.

MARYLAND

House OKs $750M shift to transportation fund

By Brian Witte
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANNAPOLIS | The Maryland House on Monday passed a measure aimed at transferring $750 million over a decade for a transportation fund, part of the push by Democrats who control the House to raise revenue for transportation and education.

With three weeks to go, lawmakers have reached the point in the legislative session when measures they hope to pass this year are generally expected to be approved by at least one chamber.

It's more of a guideline than a binding rule. Measures can still make it to the governor's desk, even if they have not been passed by one chamber at this point.

The House voted 91-42 for the Maryland Toll Rate Reform Act of 2024, sending the measure to the Senate, which hasn't expressed support for much of the House's $1.3 billion package. The bill would require the Maryland Transportation Authority to transfer $75 million each year starting July 1, 2025, into a fund for transportation.

Delegate Marc Korman, the Montgomery County Democrat who chairs the House Environment and Transportation Committee, said the measure seeks to repay the $750 million that was used from the state's Transportation Trust Fund to pay for the Intercounty Connector in the suburbs of the nation's capital.

Mr. Korman said it was one part of the House's plan, which delegates unveiled last week, to raise about $1.3 billion for transportation and education.

"So this is one piece of the puzzle," he said. "You'll hear about more pieces this week, if you haven't read the papers, of what the House wants to try to do to address this broader challenge."

Republicans who voted against the bill said it will lead to toll increases around the state.

"It will directly lead to monies accumulated in funds used for toll maintenance, toll financing and toll financing construction to in fact be diverted, most likely to be diverted into mass transit," said Delegate Jason Buckel, a western Maryland Republican who is the House minority leader.

Maryland's transportation finances are under considerable strain. In December, Gov. Wes Moore's administration proposed a $3.3 billion cut to the state's six-year spending plan for transportation.

Editorial: Fani Willis follies / B2

LEGAL ADS INSIDE B5

COMMENTARY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024 The Washington Times ☆ SECTION B

Americans deserve to know the truth about Jan. 6

Many factors tragically converged that day at the Capitol

By Rep. Barry Loudermilk

The American people deserve the entire truth about what caused the violent breach of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. Three years have passed, yet there are still numerous questions about what happened and why.

For nearly two years, the January 6th Select Committee, organized by then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, promoted hearsay testimony and cherry-picked information that fit its predetermined narrative — a narrative set before the Select Committee was even established. The Select Committee spent two years attempting to legislatively prosecute former President Donald Trump.

It was no surprise that the Select Committee's final report focused primarily on Mr. Trump and his supporters, not the security failures and reforms needed to ensure that the U.S. Capitol is safer today than it was in 2021.

As chairman of the House Administration Committee's Oversight Subcommittee, I am committed to doing the work the former Select Committee did not — exhaustively investigating the security failures before and on Jan. 6. My subcommittee is unique in that it is both the successor committee to the January 6th Select Committee and the subcommittee with jurisdiction over Capitol security and legislative branch operations. For the past year, we have been working diligently on uncovering the truth of Jan. 6. Last week, my subcommittee released a report of our preliminary findings.

Jan. 6 was not caused by one person or by one decision. It was a tragic combination of many factors that occurred at the same time.

There were preventable leadership, intelligence and security failures across numerous law enforcement agencies. There was also a lack of planning and preparedness at the Capitol. Avoidable delays in requesting further resources and in the deployment of the National Guard resulted in the Capitol building being overrun and the tragic loss of life.

The Select Committee failed to answer these important questions. Chairs Bennie Thompson and Liz Cheney failed in their roles to shed light on the truth of Jan. 6. Rather than addressing the leadership and security failures in its investigation and final report, the Select Committee focused on politicized hearings and gathering select facts and testimonies, and reported a narrative supported by cherry-picked facts in order to convince America of their preconceived partisan narrative — that Mr. Trump was primarily responsible for the events of Jan. 6.

It is unfortunate the Select Committee succumbed to its political inclinations and chased false narratives instead of providing the important work of a genuine investigation. There are still many unanswered questions from that day.

In addition, the Select Committee did not operate in good faith, as it failed to archive numerous records, including transcripts of witness testimony. They deleted some files days before House Republicans took the majority and deleted the video recordings from hundreds of transcribed witness interviews.

It is unfortunate the Select Committee succumbed to its political inclinations and chased false narratives instead of providing the important work of a genuine investigation. There are still many unanswered questions from that day. In my committee's investigation, it is my objective to uncover the facts about Jan. 6 without political bias or spin.

As we progress through the remainder of our investigation, we will continue to diligently seek the truth and work to provide complete transparency for the American people. And when we are done exposing the truth, I trust that Americans are best suited to reach their own conclusions about Jan. 6.

Rep. Barry Loudermilk is a constitutional conservative who represents northwest Georgia's 11th Congressional District. A Georgia native and Air Force veteran, he serves as chairman of the House Administration Committee's Oversight Subcommittee and is a member of the House Financial Services Committee.



ILLUSTRATION BY **LINAS GARSYS**

Hunter Biden was 'deterring Putin' for $1M salary from Ukraine firm

Or at least that's his story

By Rowan Scarborough

Hunter Biden's motive for taking a $1 million-a-year board seat at the Ukrainian energy company Burisma was to help in the fight against Russian dictator Vladimir Putin, who had seized Crimea.

That disclosure comes from the president's son himself in a Feb. 28 closed-door deposition before the House Oversight and Judiciary committees' impeachment inquiry.

Republicans have accused Hunter of capitalizing on then-Vice President Joe Biden's name and power in a family influence-peddling operation. For Ukraine in 2014, the White House made the vice president the diplomatic point man. Soon, Hunter popped up on the Burisma board of directors, as did his business partner Devon Archer.

At $1 million each annually, the two quickly began discussing where to invest the cash through one of their LLCs, laptop emails show. And soon, Vadym Pozharsky, an emissary for Burisma owner Mykola Zlochevsky, pressed Hunter to use his influence to stop Ukraine's state investigation of oligarch Zlochevsky, an email showed.

That hefty salary and chronology may smell like influence peddling, but Hunter says that is not the case. Aleksander Kwasniewski, the former president of Poland and also a Burisma board member in 2014, convinced Hunter that he, Hunter, is a freedom fighter, or at least a symbol of freedom.

According to Hunter Biden's testimony: "I can say to you this: "I know why President Kwasniewski of Poland wanted me to be on the board. He is the one who convinced me, ultimately, to be on the board. He called me up and he told me this. He said, if people in the West do not stand up against Vladimir Putin and Vladimir Putin's aggression and they allow for companies like Burisma — whatever you think about Burisma, it was a bulwark against Russian aggression [because of its non-state independent ownership]."

Hunter further explained: "And President Kwasniewski said to me, if that ends up being the result, if it shows that me, President Kwasniewski, who is literally the symbol of democracy in Eastern Europe, and you, Hunter Biden, whose name is also a symbol of freedom and democracy, and standing up for the Ukrainians' desire for a democratic state against Vladimir Putin — then I was comfortable with that. I was completely comfortable with that."

How do we reconcile Hunter's assertion that he and Burisma stood as beacons of freedom against Mr. Putin and Russia with Mr. Zlochevsky's history of allegiances to Russia?

Mr. Zlochevsky served in the Cabinet of Viktor Yanukovych, who fled the country in 2014 — for Russia. He and Mr. Yanukovych were members of the pro-Russian Party of Regions. Some of its former members backed Mr. Putin's 2022 invasion of Ukraine. A court banned the party last year.

Also, State Department officials did not share Hunter's view that he, coupled with his dad's influence, was standing up to Mr. Putin by sitting on the Burisma board. Then-Vice President Biden was sent to Ukraine, in part, to urge the most corrupt country in Europe to clean up its act. The Biden family then promptly showed them how to practice good old American cronyism and influence peddling.

George Kent, acting chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, wrote a 2016 email to fellow diplomats that said, "The presence of Hunter Biden on the Burisma board was very awkward for all U.S. officials pushing an anti-corruption agenda in Ukraine."

Mr. Kent once referred to Mr. Zlochevsky as an "odious oligarch."

State Department official Amos Hochstein directly told Joe and Hunter Biden that Russia was exploiting the Burisma $1 million-a-year hire with disinformation.

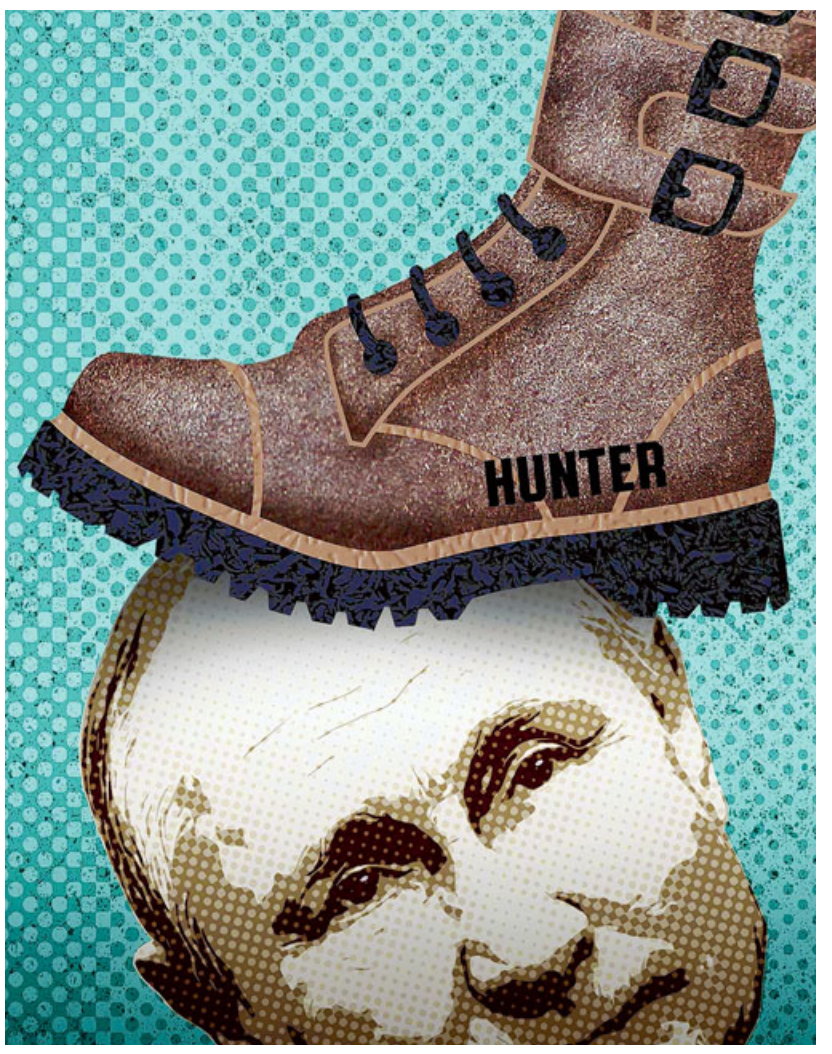

ILLUSTRATION BY **GREG GROESCH**

In 2020, a joint Senate Finance and Homeland Security Republican report referred to Mr. Zlochevsky as a "corrupt Ukrainian oligarch."

The Hunter Biden deposition also illustrated how he moved his foreign proceeds in what some might call money laundering.

For example, Kazakh oligarch Kenes Rakishev and that well-reported $142,300 sports car that ended up in Hunter's garage.

Mr. Rakishev was looking to score an energy deal with Burisma and CEFC China Energy, which would eventually become another foreign cash cow for Hunter. Mr. Rakishev wired the dough to Rosemont Seneca Bohai, an LCC owned jointly by Hunter and Mr. Archer, his business partner. Mr. Archer controlled the bank account and wired $142,300, the exact purchase price, to a New Jersey car dealership.

Hunter testified that as far as he knew, the car had come from Mr. Archer.

"Devon Archer sent the money for the car from this account," he said of the convicted former business partner who has already testified at these impeachment depositions. Hunter stung his family by saying that his father was the "brand" for the money hunt.

Asked if the money, exactly $142,300, ultimately came from Mr. Rakishev, Hunter said: "If you're asking me, does this money come from Kenes Rakishev, I can't answer directly because I don't have any full knowledge. All I know is that the money for the car came from Devon Archer from Rosemont Seneca Bohai."

Hunter was then asked: "Did you obtain custody of the car that was purchased for $142,300?"

Hunter replied: "I did, yes."

He then was asked: "So you did get this car?"

Hunter admitted: "I got a car, yes."

Hunter Biden, who is under federal indictment on counts of tax fraud, was not sure any of his foreign contacts paid him.

"I can't say today whether they came from anybody other than Devon Archer," he testified.

Mr. Rakishev was among an elite cast of rich foreigners who gave money to Hunter and were graced by the presence of the vice president, Hunter's father, at dinners in 2014 and 2015 at Georgetown's Cafe Milano.

Though not at trendy Milano, Mr. Biden also met with Hunter's largest Chinese donor, CEFC tycoon Ye Jianming, and Chinese banker Jonathan Li. The elder Biden also communicated with Mr. Archer and Eric Schwerin, Hunter's business partners.

Mr. Biden was obviously selling access to himself through his son to bring the family millions of dollars.

Despite the clear evidence, President Biden says today he wasn't involved in his son's overseas deals. He calls assertions he interacted with Hunter's business associates "a bunch of lies."

Rowan Scarborough is a columnist with The Washington Times.



Navarro's message from federal prison

Democrats have turned lawfare into a coarse art

By Peter Navarro

As you read this, I have entered a federal prison. I am the first senior White House adviser ever to go to jail for a "crime" never before considered to be a crime, yet there are really two bigger stories for the American people to ponder.

The first story is about the death of the constitutional separation of powers and the demise of executive privilege that, since the days of George Washington, has helped facilitate effective presidential decision-making. The second is about the alarming success of lawfare and the partisan weaponization of our now dual system of justice.

Regarding story one, during a dispute over the Jay Treaty, President George Washington stood before Congress and said that to preserve the constitutional separation of powers, he could not command congressmen to come to the White House. Nor could Congress compel him to go before Congress. Thus, the doctrine of executive privilege was born.

Over the decades, through legal decisions and opinions, both the Supreme Court and the Department of Justice would zealously defend

» see NAVARRO | B4

COMMENT & ANALYSIS

Fani Willis follies

Georgia district attorney targeting Trump is exposed as a fibber

Those seeking to deploy the legal system against former President Donald Trump have once more been exposed as the actual lawbreakers. The Georgia "election interference" case against Mr. Trump has gone off the rails thanks to the mendacity of Fani Willis, Fulton County's district attorney.

Judge Scott McAfee last week concluded that "the established record now highlights a significant appearance of impropriety that infects the current structure of the prosecution team." Nonetheless, he overlooked the potential perjury committed in his courtroom to allow Ms. Willis to remain on the case.

On Monday, Mr. Trump's attorneys sought permission to allow a higher court to review this curious outcome. Nearly three days of testimony involving witnesses, travel receipts and GPS records showed Ms. Willis and special prosecutor Nathan Wade, the lead attorney on this case, had an affair, which has since ended. More significantly, they lied to the court about it.

This matters because Ms. Willis appointed Mr. Wade, a relatively inexperienced prosecutor, to handle the high-profile case, likely with the intention of providing a big career boost to her lover.

The prosecuting couple traveled to exotic locales like Belize and Aruba at Mr. Wade's expense, but to avoid the accusation that she was benefiting from some of the $700,000 in taxpayer cash she sent Mr. Wade's way, Ms. Willis claimed that she always reimbursed her paramour in cash.

There are no receipts to confirm these alleged repayments. The DA says she used a "best guestimate" to reconcile the amounts. One could imagine what would happen to a criminal defendant offering such a preposterous excuse in any other proceeding.

But this is no ordinary case. Judge McAfee acknowledged the flimsy pretense was "understandably concerning," but he accepted it anyway.

Ms. Willis wasn't alone in telling whoppers.

"Wade's patently unpersuasive explanation for the inaccurate interrogatories he submitted in his pending divorce indicates a willingness on his part to wrongly conceal his relationship with the District Attorney," the judge wrote.

Rather than disqualifying the lot of liars, Judge McAfee decided that either Ms. Willis or Mr. Wade had to go — but not both of them. He deferred to the state Ethics Commission, the state bar or ultimately the voters of Fulton County to sanction Ms. Willis for any misconduct, adding, "This finding is by no means an indication that the Court condones this tremendous lapse in judgment or the unprofessional manner of the District Attorney's testimony during the evidentiary hearing."

The survival of Ms. Willis on the case — Mr. Wade resigned — will benefit Mr. Trump.

As the judge acknowledged, "an odor of mendacity remains," and whatever happens going forward will carry the stench of the third-rate, grifting public servants who brought the indictment in the first place.

Mr. Trump's strategy all along has been to undermine the left's abuse of the courts to interfere with the upcoming election by pushing the trial date beyond November. That mission appears to have been accomplished.

The Georgia Court of Appeals should do what Judge McAfee should have done and put an end to this clownish prosecution for good.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rising crime erodes trust

If you're in the customer service business, as I am, trust between you and your clients is vital. Trust is the result of a sense of safety and comfort. So it should be obvious to all that when there is rampant crime, trust — whether real or imagined — will be compromised, drying up revenue streams ("D.C. braces for funding crisis as the downtown area struggles financially," web, March 15).

Amazingly, many people, including city officials, are surprised by this turn of events. But they need to wake up. A fiscal crisis is a warning that our city services are facing a decline. If "White flight" occurs in real estate, "economic flight" is starting to emerge in D.C.'s business district. Trust has a price.

There have been three years of defunding the police, and business traffic and customer attendance still have not returned. Continued work-from-home policies for government employees have not helped. And our City Council hides behind crime statistics so it won't have to use more police enforcement.

As a downtown resident, I have even cut back on nighttime dining, and my friends only want to come to the city during the day.

When we fail to prosecute criminals due to "the optics" (because most of those arrested would be African American males), trust is eroded. Although the city is now reversing the laws that resulted in the current economic conditions, taking residents' trust for granted can be very costly, which is what businesses are experiencing. Residents have changed their living and dining habits, and less time and money spent in downtown D.C. has resulted in lost tax revenue.

D.C. officials have a false sense of entitlement if they thought larger businesses would continue to pay property and other taxes while simply tolerating rising crime levels, or if they thought these companies would be deceived by an ever-changing interpretation of crime statistics. Unfortunately, with the new fiscal crisis facing the city, D.C. must rebalance its priorities. Trust must be earned.

GREG RALEIGH
Washington

U.N. is a Trojan horse

Ancient mythology tells the story of a Trojan horse, built by the Greeks and allowed into the city of Troy as a gift. Once inside, Greek warriors poured out of the wooden structure to invade the city.

In the United States, we helped build our own the Trojan horse, one that ultimately seeks the dismantling of capitalism and Western culture: the United Nations.

With socialists — many of whom despise our Judeo-Christian values — making up over half its membership, the U.N. has been allowed on American soil to foster policies in direct conflict with our own.

Recent reports from authors Bret Weinstein and Darlene McCormick Sanchez indicate the U.N. is actively supporting illegal immigration efforts to the U.S. from South and Central America. Essentially, the plan is to bankrupt America and destroy our national sovereignty. According to the Federation of American Immigration Reform, illegal immigration cost American taxpayers $182 billion in 2023.

President Biden is more than happy to appease the globalists of the U.N., the Council on Foreign Relations and the World Economic Forum as these organizations attempt to implement the one-world utopia John Lennon visualized in his musical communist manifesto "Imagine."

This May, Mr. Biden will seek to usurp the voice of Congress by signing the Pandemic Preparedness Treaty with U.N. offshoot the World Health Organization. Not only would signing this document this cede our medical sovereignty to the U.N., but it would give it jurisdiction to override our First Amendment rights by creating a disinformation bureau to stamp out any dissenting medical opinions. We must not let this happen.

The No WHO Pandemic Preparedness Treaty Without Senate Approval Act and the WHO Withdrawal Act will, according to the nonprofit Liberty Counsel, get us out of the WHO, defund the WHO, and require any agreement to be ratified by two-thirds of the Senate.

China, Iran and Russia all pose a substantial threat to America, but our real enemies are already here. We must act now, through our legislative process, to fight the invaders within our walls, whether they be at United Nations Plaza or Pennsylvania Avenue.

ED MULVANEY JR.
Anniston, Alabama

Biden overdue for eviction

At what point will patriotic and law-abiding American citizens banish the crooked Biden administration?

On New Year's Day, I dropped my cellphone and wasn't fast enough to chase down the scumbag who picked it up and dropped it into one of the many criminally run, instant-cash phone-exchange machines that became common not long after President Biden took office.

Last night, I was almost killed by marauding, homeless drug addicts hanging out by the post office.

Recently, a young girl was raped and murdered in Georgia by an illegal immigrant with a criminal record.

America's streets, neighborhoods and homes are no longer safe, and our parks, universities, schools and public libraries are no safer.

Our own former President Donald Trump was railroaded and persecuted by our own Congress, FBI, multiple intelligence agencies and the Department of Justice.

The U.S. is neck-deep in debt, graft, war and crime.

The Democrats and RINOs seem to love this because they think Mr. Biden is doing just fine.

Please, let's stop this crime and the criminal Mr. Biden in November.

DAN WHITTMAN
Tempe, Arizona

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'Bidenomics' is a disaster for American agriculture

Prices of farm machinery, pesticides and animal feed are up 28%

By Carla Sands and Kip Tom

At home and abroad, President Biden's "America Last" policies have brought security crises right to our borders. Here in the U.S., the president's misguided economic policies erode a pillar of our domestic security: the nation's agricultural industries.

Every nation needs secure and reliable food sources for its people. Without them, economies grind to a halt, and communities collapse. America is blessed with abundant fertile land, which, with the help of cutting-edge technology, has made our nation one of the world's largest food producers.

The strength of the agricultural industry has also spread prosperity across America's breadbasket, bringing jobs and opportunity to rural communities in Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and other states.

Unfortunately, this historical strength has lulled the Biden administration into a false sense of security. What progressives in the White House fail to admit is that their poorly designed economic policies are taking a toll on agricultural industries and the communities that keep food on our tables.

Driving up costs across the agricultural heartland whittles away at the profitability and prosperity of rural communities. But it also punishes Americans across the country.

Out-of-control spending by the federal government has supercharged inflation, and Mr. Biden's war on domestic energy has made even the most basic agricultural inputs more expensive. For example, poor policy from the Biden administration, coupled with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, sharply doubled the cost of many fertilizers between January 2021 and April 2022. Fertilizer prices remain significantly higher than when Mr. Biden took office.

When American fertilizers are uncompetitive, China and Russia seize a greater share of the market for these critical building blocks. The prices of farm machinery, pesticide and animal feed are up 28%, or $87 billion, from January 2021. And that is before 23-year-high borrowing costs that further make running a farm prohibitively expensive.

Soaring energy prices have also taken their toll on our nation's vital agricultural industry. Since taking office, Mr. Biden has declared an all-out regulatory war on U.S. energy production. Drilling for oil and natural gas has been throttled; pipeline development has been all but killed, and bureaucratic red tape has added years to the average permitting time for some new projects.

It's no surprise that gasoline prices have risen 38% under the Biden administration. Diesel prices remain high at $4 a gallon, 33% higher than their average during the Trump administration.

Because fuel is used in 75% of American farm equipment, high energy prices drive up expenses for farmers and ultimately consumers.

Driving up costs across the agricultural heartland whittles away at the profitability and prosperity of rural communities. But it also punishes Americans across the country. Since Mr. Biden took office, Americans have had to spend the most disposable income on food since 1991.

This price increase hurts low-income Americans the most because they already spend a larger share of their income on food.

Under "Bidenomics," however, there is no escaping the sticker shock. Higher prices across the economy have made eating in restaurants more expensive, but the cost of buying food to make at home is still up 20% since January 2021.

Instead of addressing what is causing these higher prices, Mr. Biden has tried to pin the blame on grocery stores. Scapegoating American businesses is becoming a tired routine of the Biden administration. In September 2022, he similarly tried to blame filling stations for the high gasoline prices that his policies caused. Eventually, the buck must stop at the president's desk.

It's time for the Biden administration to recognize that food and energy security are fundamental to our national security. The high food prices caused by unrestrained spending, overregulation, and the war on domestic energy should be a clear sign that these policies have taken America in the wrong direction. Selling the farm for progressive policies will only continue to trade prosperity and hope for poverty and despair.

Carla Sands is the former U.S. ambassador to Denmark. She serves as vice chair of the Center for Energy & Environment at the America First Policy Institute. Kip Tom served as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture in Rome. He is a seventh-generation Hoosier farmer.

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Schumer's call for 'regime change' in Israel is Biden policy move

What are Japan, India, Korea and the Philippines to think as China pressures them?

By Ariel Cohen and Rena Cohen

"You know, there are moments in this life — and I mean this literally — when the pure, unadulterated evil is unleashed on the world. The people of Israel lived through one such moment this weekend. The bloody hands of the terrorist organization Hamas — a group whose stated purpose for being is to kill Jews. This was an act of sheer evil."

That was President Biden last Oct. 10, speaking about Hamas' Oct. 7 attack on Israel. Today those words sound like they were spoken a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away. By March 14, afraid that Mr. Biden's election prospects would sink in swing states, Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer took the unprecedented step of calling for "regime change" in Israel, a major non-NATO ally and the only democracy in the Middle East.

Mr. Schumer, New York Democrat, wants to tell Israelis when to have elections and whom to boot out. Likely planned by the administration, this speech could backfire. Badly. Imagine if, shortly after 9/11, a foreign leader called on Americans to impeach President George W. Bush.

We are not Benjamin Netanyahu supporters. The man presided over the worst security catastrophe in Israel's history. In time, Israeli voters will send him packing. But Mr. Schumer used the Senate floor to make the case for removing the prime minister amid the worst war Israel has fought since 1948.

Mr. Schumer's choice of time and target is telling. Israel. Not Iran, where the ayatollahs' battle cry is "Death to Israel! Death to America!" Tehran's fingers are deep in the Gaza Strip through its proxy Hamas. Its proxy Hezbollah is shooting hundreds of missiles at Israel, and its Houthi proxies in Yemen are engaged in piracy and terror on the high seas, with the Biden administration failing to stop them.

Mr. Schumer did not call for regime change in Russia, with its bloody two-year invasion and destruction of Ukraine, murders of opposition leaders Boris Nemtsov and more recently Alexei Navalny, and threats of nuclear war.

Nor Turkey, with its strident support of Hamas, hungry to restore its former hegemony in the Middle East.

Nor Qatar, home to billionaire Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh, with its tentacles of influence reaching out worldwide through Al Jazeera and funding for U.S. universities and think tanks.

No, the administration has decided the problem is Israel.

This switch didn't flip overnight. It appears that the Biden administration is shifting to the Rashida Tlaib-Ilhan Omar position, painstakingly preparing the grounds for sanctions and U.N. pressure on Israel, and essentially doing Hamas' bidding. Never mind whom Hamas raped and killed on Oct. 7. Never mind that the terrorists still hold hostages in the tunnels of Rafah. Never mind Hamas' weaponization of food aid and its use of the Gaza population as human shields. This is an election year. Every vote counts.

The nosedive in U.S.-Israeli relations tracks to Hamas supporters threatening Mr. Biden with the prospect of retaliation come November. Early in February, with his standing in the polls flagging, he traveled to Michigan to pick up an endorsement from the United Auto Workers. He was met with a loud demonstration featuring signs reading "Genocide Joe."

Administration big guns were shipped to Michigan on Feb. 8 to appease Arab American and Muslim leaders. The New York Times reported that Josh Finer, deputy national security adviser, "offered some of the administration's clearest notes of contrition for its response to the Gaza war, a sign of rising Democratic pressure on President Biden."

Later that day brought a hastily organized and poorly orchestrated presidential news conference after then-Justice Department special prosecutor Robert Hur declined to prosecute Mr. Biden over alleged mishandling of classified documents. He released a report describing the president as a "sympathetic, elderly man with a poor memory." In the Q&A, Mr. Biden said, "I'm of the view, as you know, that the conduct of the response in Gaza, in the Gaza Strip, has been over the top."

By mid-February, the U.S. was pushing for U.N. support of a temporary cease-fire in Gaza that would oppose an assault on Rafah, the last Hamas stronghold in Gaza, thus basically seeking to hinder Israel from actually winning its defensive war.

On Feb. 23, the administration reversed a U.S. policy, in place since 2019, that did not regard Israeli towns and villages in Judea and Samaria as illegal. On March 8, Mr. Biden said that he would have a "come to Jesus conversation" with Mr. Netanyahu over Rafah.



ILLUSTRATION BY LINAS GARSYS

Surrendering to the far left is the worst thing the Biden campaign can do to the perception of America's reliability as an ally and our deterrence as a foe. If this is how the U.S. treats its ally Israel, what are others in the Middle East — Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates — to think? What should our friends in Europe think as they face Russian aggression?

What are leaders in Japan, India, Korea and the Philippines to think as China applies pressure against their countries? The self-destruction of America's deterrence has already led to disasters in Afghanistan, Ukraine, and now the Middle East. It is time to stop pandering to terrorism supporters, restore relations with Israel, and rebuild America's global standing.

Ariel Cohen is a nonresident senior fellow at the Atlantic Council, managing director of the Energy, Growth and Security Program at the International Tax and Investment Center, and a member of the Council of Foreign Relations. Rena Cohen founded the Books for Israel Project, a volunteer effort that provides English-language books for low-income Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Druze schools in Israel. She was born in Kibbutz Nachshon, Israel.

Foreign Desk

Attack TikTok

Cut its Chinese Communist Party ties

By Clifford D. May

In the 1920s, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union pioneered the art of disinformation. A hundred years later, the Chinese Communist Party has developed disinformation into a high-tech science.

You probably know how the Kremlin did propaganda: Thousands of KGB operatives would feed false information to journalists in dozens of countries to advance Moscow's goals. Increasing anti-Americanism and anti-Israelism were high on the list.

Some of those journalists were fellow travelers. Others were what the Soviets called "useful idiots."

Among the bogus stories the Kremlin pushed into both the Western and international press: that the CIA assassinated President John F. Kennedy, that the U.S. created AIDS, and that rich Americans were adopting Latin American children to harvest their organs.

But not in their wildest dreams could the Soviets have imagined what Chinese Communist Party leader Xi Jinping would achieve with TikTok, the video-hosting service that has become the dominant media platform in the United States with 170 million subscribers.

TikTok has spread disinformation on COVID-19, Russia's war on Ukraine, and Hamas' war on Israel. It has pushed Osama bin Laden's worldview to ill-educated Gen Z "influencers" and proliferated videos on how to cross the U.S. border illegally.

Meanwhile, news about Beijing's persecution of Uyghurs and Tibetans, its elimination of rights that had been guaranteed to Hong Kong, and its threats to Taiwan are suppressed. Divisions and discord in the United States — of which we have no shortage — are exacerbated by TikTok algorithms.

TikTok also collects an unprecedented amount of data on Americans — from search histories to keystroke patterns — that can be crunched for nefarious purposes.

The House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party has been working on this clear and present danger. Last week, a strong and exceedingly rare bipartisan majority in the House of Representatives passed the Protecting Americans From Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act.

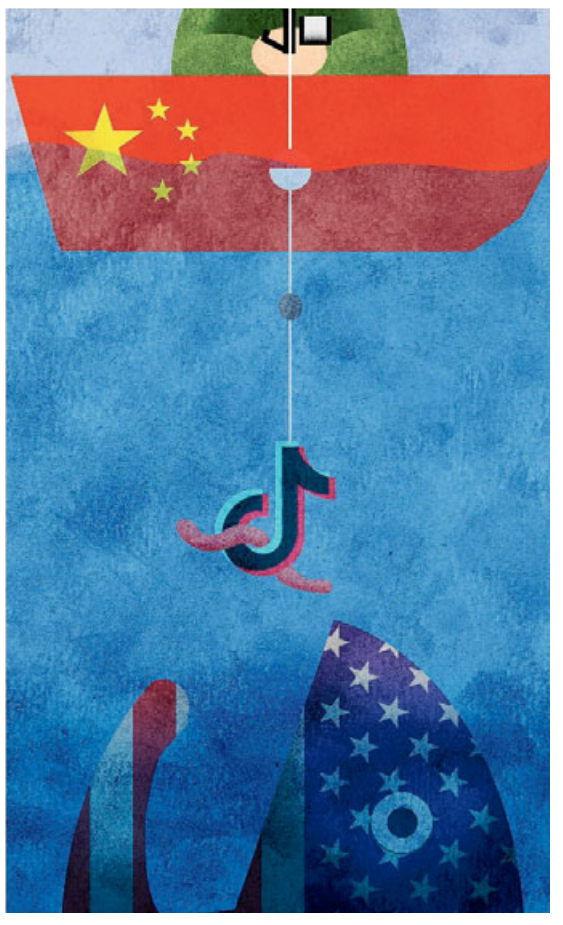

ILLUSTRATION BY HUNTER

The legislation would force ByteDance, TikTok's owner, to divest within six months.

TikTok's estimated value is more than $100 million, even though it is not believed to have ever turned a profit.

ByteDance has signaled that it may refuse to sell TikTok, which tells you that the issue here is control, which is vital to the Chinese government, not profit, which is the primary concern of independent corporations.

If TikTok is not sold, it would be banned in the U.S. But if it is bought by a company, not under the thumb of a hostile government, it would operate freely. No dance videos would be endangered.

The 352 House members who voted for the bill (65 voted against it) deserve credit, not least because ByteDance spent millions of dollars on dozens of lobbyists from the most powerful K Street firms to derail the legislation. TikTok also urged subscribers to flood Capitol Hill with angry phone calls. Thousands did.

"This is my message to TikTok: break up with the Chinese Communist Party or lose access to your American users," said Wisconsin Republican Mike Gallagher, the committee chairman. "America's foremost adversary has no business controlling a dominant media platform in the United States."

"Whether it's Russia or the CCP, this bill ensures the President has the tools he needs to press dangerous apps to divest and defend Americans' security and privacy against our adversaries," said Illinois Democrat Raja Krishnamoorthi, the committee's ranking member.

A broader issue, identified by my colleague Craig Singleton, senior director of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies' China program: "This legislation marks a pivotal moment in the ongoing battle for control over emerging public opinion spaces, deepening the geopolitical contest between China and the U.S."

An FDD report on TikTok notes that ByteDance is "not just a tech company; it is a cog in China's vast military machinery," and "Chinese law requires ByteDance to adhere to CCP ideology."

The report adds: "ByteDance is enmeshed with Chinese entities like iFLYTEK and SenseTime, which are complicit in Beijing's surveillance and repression of ethnic minorities — actions that landed both firms on U.S. blacklists. ByteDance's close collaboration with Sugon, a company contributing to China's nuclear weapons program, underscores the alarming symbiosis between ByteDance and the state's defense and surveillance sectors."

That should make clear why TikTok is not a First Amendment issue. U.S. law already restricts foreign ownership of broadcast stations. Moreover, during the Cold War, would Washington have allowed Moscow to buy The Associated Press?

President Biden has said he will sign the divestment bill if it passes in the Senate. But that's no slam-dunk.

"ByteDance's lobbying juggernaut has plenty of fight left in it, fueled by a nearly bottomless budget," Mr. Singleton said.

In 2020, then-President Donald Trump attempted to use an executive order to force ByteDance to divest from TikTok, correctly warning that the Chinese Communist Party could use the platform to "track the locations of Federal employees and contractors, build dossiers of personal information for blackmail, and conduct corporate espionage." His executive order was blocked in court.

But now, it appears Mr. Trump has changed his mind. He's been saying that Facebook — which banned him after the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol — would gain if TikTok isn't purchased by an American firm and then shuts down. And he wouldn't want that.

Steve Mnuchin, who loyally served as Mr. Trump's treasury secretary, is organizing a consortium to try to buy TikTok. Might that change Mr. Trump's mind?

Final thought: Russian disinformation never became as sophisticated as the Chinese version. But the current version still operates through such media outlets as RT.

Russia's just reelected president (aka dictator) Vladimir Putin has also imprisoned reporters Evan Gershkovich of The Wall Street Journal and Alsu Kurmasheva of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

That propagates a message to other journalists: "You can be a fellow traveler or a useful idiot. Or you can be an inmate. Your choice."

Clifford D. May is founder and president of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD) and a columnist for The Washington Times.

Voters' message to leaders must be backed by action

Americans are revolting against ineffective 'woke' public safety policies

By S.T. Karnick

Americans have been sending lawmakers at all levels an unmistakable message that they are losing patience with an entrenched political class that looks increasingly like overlords instead of public servants.

Although some politicians seem to be responding to the rising public clamor for change, there will be no serious attempts at reform until the voters back it up with consequences.

Unlike our amazingly out-of-touch elites, many Americans are worried about crime, the astounding and unprecedented increase in illegal immigration under President Biden, the explosive increase in homelessness in major cities, the cracks in the supposedly fabulous economy, an observed decline in moral values, and other issues.

Among the most vivid examples of this collapse into chaos are, of course, big cities such as New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Seattle and Portland, Oregon, which have become hellscapes.

Crime is rampant in these places; homelessness is endemic; mentally disturbed people are living in appalling conditions on the streets and leaving unsightly, horrific-smelling detritus everywhere; drug abusers are self-medicating into oblivion on the streets and sidewalks and in doorways, alleys and parks, and increasingly on private property; commuters and pedestrians are regularly subjected to random, sometimes fatal attacks; the streets are in disrepair and traffic is a nightmare; abandoned buildings are left standing to attract drug users and others that occupy them illegally and spread crime; children are not taught the three R's or anything else that might help prepare them to thrive in adulthood.

The people who voted for the geniuses behind these policies are deciding that they have suffered enough.

And so much more is wrong in communities across the nation.

There are now signs that things have gotten so bad that the people who voted for the geniuses behind these policies are deciding that they have suffered enough.

Voters in San Francisco last week engaged in a "revolt against wokeness on public safety and other issues," as the New York Post put it, passing "four ballot proposals restoring common sense in policing, welfare-type benefits, government ethics and education."

The new rules include a floor for the number of police officers the department can have; expanded permission for police to pursue suspects; allowing the use of drones and facial recognition technology in public cameras; and drug screenings for those receiving public assistance.

Dismayed by crime, high taxes, sanctuary cities, indoctrination in schools and other ills, 11 counties in Oregon have passed ballot measures seeking to secede from the state and become part of Idaho. Political and social pathologies in California and several other states have sparked similar secession movements. Colorado voters rejected a ballot proposition, supported by Gov. Jared Polis, that would have undermined the state's limit on tax increases.

Politicians are starting to listen.

Hard-left New York Gov. Kathy Hochul called out more than 1,000 National Guard and state police personnel last week to patrol the New York City subways after crime in the city rose by a startling 45% in January and numerous high-profile incidents on the subways spread terror among commuters. Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass says she has been "investing in a comprehensive strategy to keep Angelenos safe" through measures such as the formation of a Retail Theft Task Force.

These politicians, however, are unlikely to improve things and will probably make them even worse. Ms. Hochul's response to rising crime, for example, could mark "the dawning of a genuine police state in the United States," as the economist and columnist Jeffrey Tucker astutely observes in The Epoch Times.

Politicians who showed nothing but disdain for people's concerns about safety and pandered to race hustlers just a few weeks ago cannot be trusted to deploy soldiers, police drones, facial recognition cameras, and the like with either fairness or competence.

Other supposed solutions will just dress up the same old social programs as efforts to restore order. Most of Ms. Bass' so-called crime prevention initiatives, for example, are old-fashioned vote-buying efforts, such as her spending on "recreation activities, art and cultural programming, and free meals."

The countless pathologies brought on by government prove the truism that personnel is policy. In addition to changing policies directly through referendums, voters must discard the partisan habits of a lifetime and cast these arrogant, bullying fools out of office. The cities and states where politicians have manufactured the worst conditions are ruled by Democrats and commonly have been so for decades. Real, positive change will not arrive until one-party states and cities are finally subjected to voter discipline and the rise of plausible political opposition.

Voters are sending a strong message to the political class across the country that the snake oil they've been selling has been killing instead of curing. Now the public must make the tough choice to reject partisan loyalty and get rid of the corrupt ruling class that has made conditions unbearable for so many people.

S.T. Karnick (https://stkarnick.substack.com/) is a senior fellow and director of publications for the Heartland Institute, where he edits the Heartland Daily News and writes the Life, Liberty, Property e-newsletter.

A window into what schools are doing

Indiana creates online portal to protect families from secretive policies

By Jonathan Butcher

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita has become the latest policymaker shining sunlight on school district actions, and with good reason. Nationwide, school administrators are discovering they might be responsible for eye-popping court settlements if they hide certain K-12 activities from parents.

Consider what happened last summer in California. The Spreckels Union School District settled with a mother who filed suit because educators "socially transitioned" her daughter, who wanted to assume a different so-called gender. District personnel allowed the girl to use the boys' bathroom and addressed the student by masculine pronouns, all without the parent's knowledge.

District officials settled with the mother for $100,000. Parents have filed similar suits in Michigan, Colorado and Texas over gender-related instruction or activities and parental involvement.

Mr. Rokita's office has created an online portal that should protect families and taxpayers from school districts' secretive policies. Families can submit examples to this site of educational material that other parents may not know children are being presented with in their classrooms.

The portal already has a link to one district's "gender support plan," which instructs educators not to inform parents when their child wants to assume a different gender. A parent has posted an email explaining that her daughters do not want to change clothes with a boy present in the girls' locker room. According to the email, the school principal told the students the boy only had to say he was a girl in order to gain access to the facilities.

Other submissions are worthy of healthy debate between parents and teachers about the age-appropriateness of materials. One report objected to John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men," Eli Wiesel's Holocaust chronicle "Night," and "1984" by George Orwell. While these books have mature themes, educators and parents are responsible for deciding if, how and when to ask students to read books with heavy subjects.

They could very well choose other materials, but students will be worse off if topics such as poverty and the American dream, the Holocaust, and the threats from totalitarianism are left out (or replaced with books on gender identity or critical race theory). Mr. Rokita's project is appropriately elevating conversations about the importance of school content.

Mr. Rokita's office says the new website, called Eyes on Education, is meant to be a "transparency portal to empower parents to further engage in their children's education by providing a platform to submit and view potentially inappropriate materials in their schools." The attorney general said in a news release, "Our kids need to focus on fundamental educational building blocks, NOT ideology that divides kids from their parents and normal society."

In North Carolina, Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson created a similar online reporting site for parents, and a task force he assembled released a report on the submissions in 2021.

The task force not only found that parents were frustrated by classroom content based on "gender" and with racial bias, and so were teachers.

One educator near retirement said they can no longer "trust the values being taught" in classrooms. Another said she was afraid to speak out about the political slant of course content for fear of being fired.

Eyes on Education is not Mr. Rokita's first effort to protect parental rights. As the pandemic got underway, his office released a document that lawmakers could use to draft a parents' bill of rights for the state. The model bill is a welcome review of citizens' and parents' fundamental rights. If Mr. Rokita has to remind lawmakers that individuals have a right to speak at school board meetings and parents have a right to make decisions about medical care for a school-age child, then clearly public school officials have assumed outsized roles in public policy.

Indiana legislators have not used Mr. Rokita's model to full effect yet, though the reports showcased on Eyes on Education and litigation around the country should prompt lawmakers to move. If public school personnel resent public peering into school curricula, that attitude is evidence there are things to be found.

Educators in Indiana and beyond should thank him. School personnel are better off if parents know and can comment on what students are being taught before a court forces educators to be more transparent. And as the Spreckels Union School District can attest, it's certainly less costly.

Jonathan Butcher is the Will Skillman Fellow in Education at The Heritage Foundation.

Soft landing for the economy is anything but certain

Fed chairman's confidence in imminent inflation rate cut sets us up for calamity

By Peter Morici

Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell is poised for a soft landing. Recently, he testified that the central bank may soon be able to cut interest rates.

This optimism reflects the consensus among economic forecasters — the most recent Wall Street Journal survey has growth in gross domestic product slowing to about 1% in the first three quarters of this year and inflation to less than 2% by 2025.

The financial press is lionizing Fed Gov. Christopher Waller, who has long believed that a soft landing is likely, as well as proselytizing bank economists that enjoy privileged access to Mr. Powell.

Slow growth but no recession and inflation below 2% — that's a soft landing. But not so fast: This column isn't convinced that the trade-off between growth and inflation has become so benign or the economy so predictable.

As we entered 2023, the majority of forecasters were screaming that the economy was at risk of recession, GDP growth scored 2.5% and unemployment stayed below 4%.

Just weeks before the fourth-quarter 2023 GDP figures were published — and most of the data needed to compute that figure was in hand — the Journal panel of forecasters predicted growth at 1.8%.

It came in at 3.2% — a 78% error!

How did all those Ph.D.s get it so wrong? And can Mr. Powell's Team Transitory recast as Team Soft Landing be trusted?

The answer is we don't know what growth and inflation will do next, and Mr. Powell's confidence about an imminent rate cut sets the economy up for a calamity.

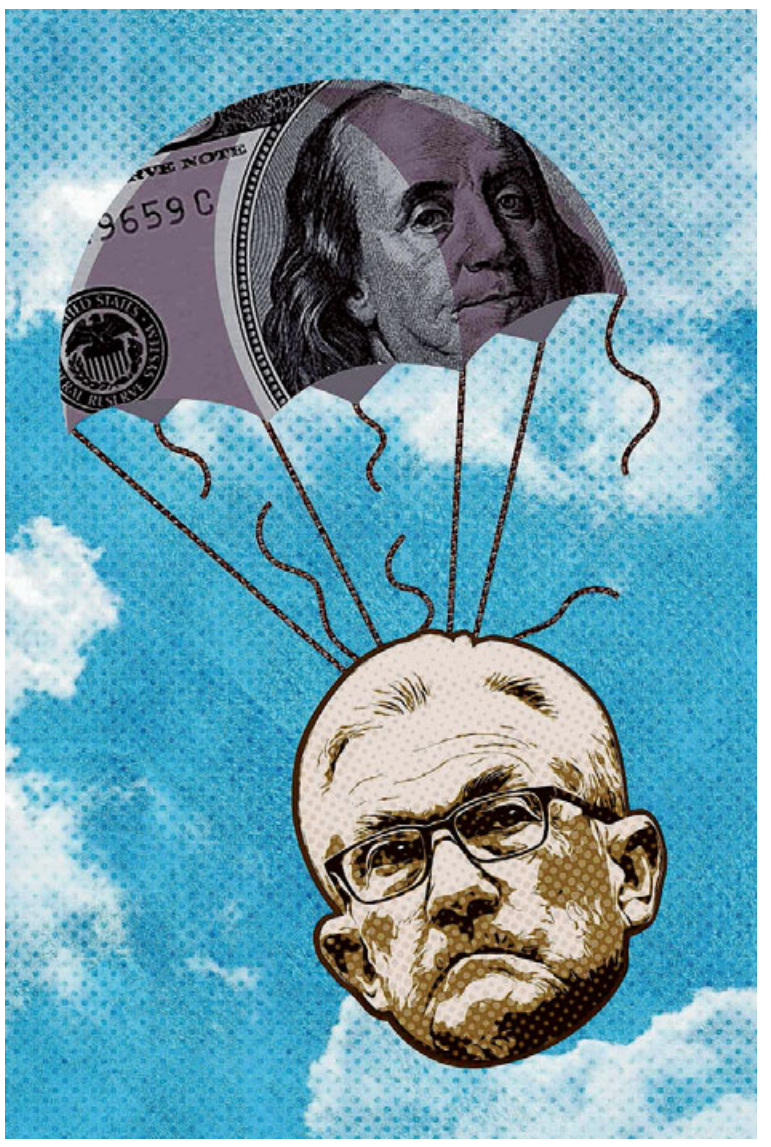

ILLUSTRATION BY **GREG GROESCH**

On his words, markets are anticipating a rate cut in June. If events force him to walk back those words, as he did when inflation proved anything but transitory, stocks could tank and pull a weakening economy into a downward spiral.

The problem is the recent recession was like no other. Like COVID, it escaped from a lab.

This was the only time in modern history that the U.S. and foreign governments put their economies to sleep and borrowed to offer massive relief payments to tide over businesses and workers.

Households had few places to spend that money, and much of it was saved. For many, that extra purchasing power has only recently run out.

Consumer spending is the primary driver of growth, but after those extra savings were gone, households could turn to credit cards that were underused during the shutdown.

Interest payments on consumer debt are now as large as mortgage payments, but overall household debt is still low by historical standards. Loan delinquencies, though ticking up, are still below pre-COVID levels.

If they are so disposed, households can keep on spending, but they still don't have enough places to spend their money. That drives prices up.

For example, Americans are spending more than ever in restaurants and on fast food, but last year, about 4,600 more independent restaurants closed than opened.

Restaurants are turning away groups larger than four. Menu prices are up 4.6% in the last year and 31% since 2019.

Amid spendthrift governments and minimum wage campaigns, local prosecutors going easy on nonviolent crime have taxed the bottom lines of restaurants since the murder of George Floyd.

In Denver, Chef Zorba's restaurant has had to cope with a 60% increase in real estate taxes, annual increases in entry wages, and thieves taking its propane tanks, outdoor heaters, a storage shed and racks chained together outside.

Across the economy, labor remains tight and progressive governors and mayors are finally acknowledging they have a problem even if the liberal media are in denial.

Crimes show up in statistics only if they get reported. But when businesses and individuals see no results, they don't bother to call.

The Fed most closely monitors the personal consumption price index.

For the most recent month available, January, the annualized pace of price increases was 4.2%, but that's being pulled down by manufactured imports from China, where deflation reigns in a sick economy.

For core services, which strips out the volatile energy sector, prices were up 7.1%.

With 1.4 jobs advertised for every unemployed job-seeker, the labor market remains tight, and the posture of monetary policy is far from restrictive.

The Fed is operating on the assumption that the inflation-adjusted rate of interest that would not encourage accelerated growth or increase inflation is about 0.5%. But we have good reason to believe it has risen to about 2%.

Mortgages, corporate bonds and other long-term credit tend to price off the 10-year Treasury rate, and that's running just a bit above 4% — making the real rate of interest about zero and the posture of monetary policy quite lax.

With inflation raging in the services sector, Mr. Powell is irresponsible or at least terribly misinformed to be talking about rate cuts anytime soon.

A soft landing is anything but certain.

Peter Morici is an economist and emeritus business professor at the University of Maryland, and a national columnist.

Navarro

From page **B1**

executive privilege as a bulwark of effective presidential decision-making. Without the insurance of confidentiality among and between the president and his advisers, he would not receive the best advice possible.

With my imprisonment, the constitutional separation of powers has been severely damaged while the doctrine of executive privilege lies smoldering on the ground. The only hope for a resurrection will be success on my appeal, which is now traveling through the Federal Appeals Court in the District of Columbia and then, inevitably, to the Supreme Court.

To be clear, U.S. v. Peter K. Navarro is a landmark case in constitutional law that raises significant "open questions" of "first impression" that cry out for the settling of good law by the higher courts.

• Can Congress compel a senior White House adviser and "alter ego" of the president to testify?

• Is executive privilege presumptive, and if not, what rules might govern a "proper invocation"?

• Should a defendant be stripped of any defense based on a president's invocation of executive privilege prior to the case going to a jury on the basis of an antiquated, ill-fitting lower court precedent?

• Does the "rule of lenity" apply in a case that, for more than 50 years, the Justice Department said what I did in refusing to testify before Congress was not a crime in which I acted "above the law" but rather my duty to the Constitution and the obeying of the law?

These, among others raised by my case, are important open questions of great significance to our republic, which, thus far, our justice system has chosen to ignore in the fog of what has become a dangerous political war. This leads us to our second story.

Lawfare is partisan politics through the abuse of our legal system, and the Democrats, since Joe Biden's 2020 election campaign, have turned lawfare into a coarse art. In my case, consider that every individual involved in my road to prison has been a Democrat.

• Then-House Speaker Nancy Pelosi formed the illegal Jan. 6 Committee with the not-so-hidden agenda of putting former President Donald Trump in prison. She said so.

• All seven Democrats and the two Republicans who issued my subpoena on the Jan. 6 Committee were Trump haters who played critical roles in Mr. Trump's attempted impeachment.



ILLUSTRATION BY **HUNTER**

• The congressional vote to hold me in contempt was on strict partisan lines — a beatdown by Democrats.

• The Justice Department prosecutors who would repeatedly play fast and loose with the facts were both Democrats. One would crow to the jury that I was "above the law" while maneuvering to ensure I was unable to explain to said jury that I was simply obeying the Justice Department's own policy and the law of our land.

• My District Court judge, who would strip me of all possible defenses prior to my jury trial, was first a "bundler" of campaign contributions for candidate Barack Obama and then was appointed to the bench by President Obama.

• The jury I faced was drawn from voting roles that delivered an astonishing 95% of the vote for President Biden in 2020. A number expressed anti-Trump sentiments but were still seated.

• The three-judge panel that would hear my appeal for release pending my main appeal were all Democrats. There was only a 20% chance of that possibility based on a random draw, yet there it was, and here I am.

While it is true that Chief Justice John Roberts had the last word in denying my appeal, my search engines say that he votes with the liberal judges about 40% of the time and in recent years, he has moved further left.

The one lesson I've learned from his coup de grace is that it is dangerous for one man alone to be allowed to decide another man's fate, particularly when the stench of politics is in the air. Justice here would have been far better served if the chief justice had referred this issue to the whole court, which was clearly in his power to do.

Ultimately, Democrats need to understand that what they have done will eventually come back to haunt them as my imprisonment unleashes the dogs of congressional subpoenas on the executive branch.

During my four months in prison, the only good news is that my new book, "The New MAGA Deal," will go to the printers and be ready for distribution on the eve of the Republican National Convention.

The book is a comprehensive unofficial guide to the Trump policy platform. It provides a road map to the 100 different policy reforms Trump 47 will initiate in his first 100 days, and you can preorder "The New MAGA Deal" at newmagadeal.com.

I'll see you on the other side. Don't cry for me, Argentina. Fight for Mr. Trump's reelection.

Peter Navarro served in the Trump White House as manufacturing czar and chief China hawk. This piece originally appeared at www.peternavarro.substack.com.

Employment Opportunities

MicroStrategy Inc. has the following jobs available in Tysons Corner, VA. **Telecommuting an option**:

- Business Intelligence Developer (Req.# 19-2842): Dvlp biz intelligence ETL apps to improve performance for data loading processes. **Some travel to MicroStrategy offices may be required.** Req's: BS(or equiv.)+2 yrs. exp.
- Front-End Web Developer (Req.# 22-17144): Works daily on sftwr engineering projects pertaining to web app dvlpmnt. **May be assigned to various, unanticipated worksites throughout U.S. Some travel to MicroStrategy, Inc.'s Tysons Corner, VA office required.** Req's: BS(or equiv.)+1 yr. exp.

Submit resume w/ ref. to: (include Req. No.) at: ATTN: Jennifer Frias, MicroStrategy, Inc., 1850 Towers Crescent Plaza, Tysons Corner, VA 22182 or at: onlinejobpostings@microstrategy.com. MicroStrategy is an Equal Opportunity & Affirmative Action Employer. Education, experience & criminal background checks will be conducted.

Employment Opportunities

Wal-Mart is seeking a Manager II, Systems Engineering in Reston, VA. Job duties incl but not limited to bld'g tech roadmaps which are incorporated into syst platforms by wrkng w/ subjct matter experts. Bachelor's or equiv in CS, IT, Eng'g or rel. fld + 4 yrs of systs eng'g exp or rel. exp OR Master's or equiv in CS, IT, Eng'g or rel. fld + 2 yrs of systs eng'g exp or rel. exp OR 6 yrs of systs eng'g exp or rel. exp. Skills req'd incl but not limited to exp w/: Dsgn'g & dvlp'g CLIs using Go & Python; Dsgn'g & dvlp'g REST APIs using Go & Python; Dsgn'g & dvlp'g CICD pipelines using Git, Sonar, Checkmarx, Jenkins, Nexus, Job DSLs & Groovy; Mng'g secrets using Hashicorp Vault & Akeyless. Employer will accept any amount of exp w/ req'd skills. For detailed job req'mts & to apply, visit **http://careers.walmart.com**, & apply to the following Job ID # R-1812433. EOE, AAE.

Employment Opportunities

Manager, External Audit Generalist (Mult Pos), PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Washington, DC. Prvd clnts bus advice of technncl accntng & financl reprtng stndrds, proactvly idntfyng & articultng emrgng technncl issues. Req. Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Bus Admin, Acct, Economics, Tax, or rel + 4 yrs rel wrk exp. Cert(s) req: US CPA lic or foreign equiv. 80% telecommtng prmttd. Mst be able to commute to designated local office. Domestic &/or int. trvl up to 60% req. Please apply by sending your resume to **US_PwC_Career_Recruitment@pwc.com**, specifying Job Code DC4039 in the subject line.

Employment Opportunities

Director of Research and Scientific Affairs (Reports to Alexandria, VA): Provide leadership for research & education prgms to advance treatments, estab best practices & improve outcomes for people w/ schizophrenia, psychosis & rltd conditions. Telecommuting permissible from home office anywhere in U.S. Up to 20% domestic travel to visit partner organizations & scientific/medical conferences. $110,635 - $140,000/yr. Benefits summary: Health/dental/vision/life/disability insurance, employee assistance prgm, vacation & holiday time off, retirement plan. Resumes to Schizophrenia & Psychosis Action Alliance at marissa.shepherd@SCZaction.org, Ref #: 594144.

Kelly Services, Inc., seeks a Bioinformatics Scientist in Bethesda, MD. Qualified applicants must have a Master's Degree and one (1) year of experience. Teleworking is permitted 50% of the time. Qualified applicants email resumes to work4kellyservices@gmail.com and reference "Bioinformatics Scientist".

GAP Solutions, Inc., seeks a Software Developer in Bethesda, MD. Qualified applicants must have a Master's degree plus 2 years of experience. Teleworking is permitted 60% of the time. Qualified applicants send resumes to recruiting@gapsi.com and reference Software Developer and reference ID 20137.

GreenBrilliance LLC has mult. permanent F/T openings for Mechanical Design Engineer position. Req. Mstr/equiv. in Mech/Industrial/Energy Engg + relevant coursework in Adv Fluid Dynamics, Adv Transport Phenomenon & Numerical Modeling. Job Loc'n: Herndon, VA. Mail Resumes to President & CEO, 13655 Dulles Technology Dr., Suite 130, Herndon, VA 20171, Email: **contact@greenbrilliance.com**.

Compass Lexecon LLC: Economist – Washington, DC. Assist w formulation of case strategy by contributing to litigation support prjcts by reviewing, synthesizing, & analyzing private docs & published research. Job req a Master's. in Econometrics or rltd & 2 yrs of exp in any job title in litigation support environment involving econometric analysis & data organization/mngmnt. Up to 3 days of tlwrk allowed. Slry $145,000-$185,000/yr. Send cover letter/resume identifying job code WH to GMJobs@FTIConsulting.com. No calls.

Employment Opportunities

Accompany Health, Inc (Bethesda, MD) seeks Principal Software Engineer. Arch/Dsgn/Dvlp/Tst/Mntn sftwr sys; Set tech fndtn for microsrvcs; Stnd up RESTful endpts; Exp w/ sec coding/PCI/HIPAA; Accel code velcty/imprv engg prcss. REQ: MS in Comp Sci/rel/equiv + 5 yrs exp as sftwr engr/rel & exp w/ AWS or GCP (Cloud arch), Kubrnts, Dckr, Scla, Go, Java, Dtbse Dsgn (Schema Dsgn, SQL Tning, mntring), Dstrbtd sys & Microsrvcs arch. Resumes to **alison.schueckler@accompany.health**. May telcmmte frm any loc in US.

Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, Inc. Project Manager. Washington, DC. Develop and execute project specific and client driven goals, schedules, budgets, strategy, and detailed assumptions with methodology for accomplishing and managing goals and objectives May telecommute. Please email resume to **JLLAmericasResumes@jll.com** and reference job code SE1028.

Computer/IT: CGI Technologies & Solutions Inc. seeks Software Developer in Fairfax, VA (& various unanticipated locations throughout US) to research, design, devel, &/or modify enterprise-wide systs &/or apps s/w. Job req Bach deg in Comp Sci, Engg, Info Systems, IT, or a rel field & 3 yrs of exp in any job title involving C#, ASP.NET MVC, .NET Framework, & Entity Framework. Up to 60% telework permitted. Must be willing to relocate to various unanticipated work locations throughout US. All offers of emp are contingent upon successful comp of a background check, which may incl drug screen depending on work assignment. Email resume to recruiting@cgifederal.com & ref job code 1269.

TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS - Multiple openings available in Reston, VA. Wal-Mart is seeking candidates for the following positions: Data Engineer III; Senior Software Engineer. Job duties incl but not limited to dsgn'g, dvlp'g, implementing, testing & supporting systs & bus. apps. For job req'mts & to apply, visit **http://careers.walmart.com**, & apply to any of the following Job ID #'s R-1812218, R-1812248, R-1812360, R-1812257. EOE, AAE.

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Announcement

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Legal Notices

Fairfax County Notice

Planning Commission

April 3, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

Public hearing before the Planning Commission of Fairfax County, Virginia, to be held at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035, on a proposed amendment to Appendix Q (Land Development Fee Schedule) of The Code of the County of Fairfax, Virginia, (County Code). The Staff Report and proposed amendment are available for viewing online at: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/landdevelopment/public-facilities-manual-and-code-amendments.

Pursuant to authority granted by Code of Virginia §§ 15.2-107, 15.2-961.1, 15.2-2204, 15.2-2241(A)(9), 15.2-2286(A)(6), 36-98.3, 36-105, 62.1-44.15:28(A), 62.1-44.15:29, 62.1-44.15:54(J), the amendments propose new fees and amendments to fees charged by Land Development Services (LDS), under Chapter 2, Art. 1, Sec. 2-1-4 (Property Under County Control), Chapter 61, Art. 1, Sec. 61-1-3 (Building Provisions), Chapter 101, Art. 2, Sec. 101-2-9 (Subdivision Provisions), Chapter 104, Art. 1, Sec. 104-1-3 (Erosion and Sedimentation Control), Chapter 112.1, Art. 8, Sec. 8101.1.D (Zoning Ordinance), and Chapter 124, Article 3 (Stormwater Management Ordinance) of the County Code, for plan review, processing of permits, and performing testing and inspection services.

The Building Development Fees charged under Appendix Q, Part I, Section A (Standard Fees) are being changed as follows: 1) Increase all fees by approximately 25%, 2) Eliminate the existing $0 fee related to radiation, fallout or blast shelter; and 3) Add a Code Academy levy of 2.0% – collected for all building development fees in Section I-A, B, C, D, E, F, G, I, J.

The Building Development Fees charged under Appendix Q, Part I, Section B (Building Permit and Other Fees) are being changed as follows: 1) Increase all fees by approximately 25%, 2) Eliminate the Home Improvements line item; 3) Eliminate the line item referring to Roof Repairs, New Roof Structures, Re-siding; and 4) Add fees for pedestrian bridges as follows: flat fee of $4200 for projects where there is no approved masterfile, fees based on the type of construction listed in Table 1 will apply to projects with approved master files.

The Building Development Fees charged under Appendix Q, Part I, Sections C (Mechanical Permit Fees), D (Electrical Permit Fees), E (Plumbing Permit Fees), F (Household Appliance Permit Fees) and J (Building and Fire Prevention Code Modifications and Local Board of Building Code Appeals Fees) are being increased by approximately 25%.

The Site Development Fees charged under Appendix Q, Part II, Section A (Plan and Document Review Fees) are being modified as follows: 1) Increase all fees by approximately 10%; 2) Eliminate minor site plans from the Gateway Review Fee and remove language excluding minor site plans from the Minimum Submission Review (MSR) Fee. 3) Add a subsequent MSR Submission Fee of Previous MSR Review Fee + 10%; 4) Add a signature set review cycle fee for Subdivision Plans, Site Plans, and Site Plans for Public Improvements Only, Minor Site Plans, Grading Plans, Subdivision Lot Grading Plans, Site Plan Lot Grading Plans, Infill Lot Grading Plans, and Rough Grading Plans, when the submission consists of 6-20 modified plan sheets to be charged $135 + $80 per modified sheet, 5) Add minor revision fee of $159 for Subdivision Plans, Site Plans, Site Plans for Public Improvements Only, Minor Site Plans, Grading Plans, Subdivision Lot Grading Plans, Site Plan Lot Grading Plans, Infill Lot Grading Plans, Rough Grading Plans; 6) Update parking study and parking adjustment fees and terminology to align with Zoning Ordinance section 6100; 7) Eliminate the $0 fee related to recycling studies; and 7) Add a $0 fee for floodplain use determinations.

The Site Development Fees charged under Appendix Q, Part II, Section B (Bonding and Agreement Fees) are being increased fees by approximately 10%.

The Site Development Fees charged under Appendix Q, Part II, Section C (Site Inspection Fees) are being increased by approximately 10%.

The Site Development Fees charged under Appendix Q, Part II, Section E (Site Permit Fees) are being modified as follows: 1) Increase all fees by approximately 10%; 2) Add a removal/demolition fee of $407.00 for both overhead and underground installations.

The Site Development Fees charged under Appendix Q, Part II, Section F (Waiver, Exception, Modification and Exemption Fees) are being increased by approximately 10%. No change is proposed to items without a fee; these will remain at $0.

The Site Development Fees charged under Appendix Q, Part II, Section G (Permits for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activity Fees) are being increased by approximately 10%.

The Fees charged under Appendix Q, Part III: Miscellaneous Fees are being modified as follows: 1) Eliminate Digitization Fee; 2) Increase Technology surcharge from 4% to 10%; 3) Eliminate Sheet Substitution fee.

Some site and building fees are also being increased or decreased up to an additional 1% for rounding. Miscellaneous text edits and editorial changes are also being proposed.

The meeting is available to view live on Channel 16 and stream live online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cableconsumer/channel-16/live-video-stream. Live audio of the meeting may be accessed via telephone as noted on the website. At the public hearing, interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their view regarding the application. All persons wishing to present their views on these subjects may call the Planning Commission at 703-324-2865, or register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planningcommission/speaker to be placed on the Speakers List and may appear in-person, or be heard via telephone or pre-recorded video. Deadlines by type of testimony are on the website. In addition, written testimony and other submissions will be received at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 552, Fairfax, Virginia 22035 and plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Copies of the full text of proposed ordinances, plans and amendments, as applicable, as well as other documents relating to the aforementioned subjects, are on file and available for review at the office of the Department of Clerk Services and on the County's website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov. To make arrangements to view the documents, please contact the Office of the Planning Commission at 703-324-2865.

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities and supports the Americans with Disabilities Act by making reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. All televised government meetings are closed captioned in English and Spanish (los subtítulos en español). Reasonable accommodation is available upon 48 hours advance notice by calling 703-324-3151 or TTY 711.

Run dates: March 20th, 2024
March 27th, 2024

AD#81623

There is now pending before the District of Columbia Superior Court a civil action, Case Number 2023-CAB-004898 seeking to affect title to the property now or formerly owned by Alexandre J. Dumortier, located at 2125 14th Street NW, Unit 601, Parking Space G3-26, Washington, DC 20009. **A copy of this action is available in the Clerk's office of the court. A written answer, including any claims or defenses must be filed** with the District of Columbia Superior Court Civil Branch, 500 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, on or before the 26th day of April 2024.

Run Dates: March 6th, 2024
March 13th, 2024
March 20th, 2024

AD#81563

Invitation to Comment on a Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facility

Interested persons are invited to comment on the wireless telecommunications project proposed at 2500 Benning Road NE, Washington, DC 20002 with respect to impacts on, and specifically, the potential effects to, historic properties located at or near this facility, if any. The project will consist of the modification of an existing 108-foot smoke stack on an existing rooftop telecommunications site. Specifically, the replacement of 10 existing antennas with 12 new antennas, and associate support mounts onto the existing building. Ground equipment will be relocated from the lower roof equipment platform to an interior equipment room. Comments regarding potential effects to historic properties should be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to Mr. Andrew Fleming at 8610 Washington Boulevard, Suite 217, Jessup, MD 20794, (301) 776-0500, or **afleming@aec-env.com**. This notice is provided in accordance with regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, 47 C.F.R. Part 1, Subpart I and Appendices B.

March 20, 2024 Ad#82039

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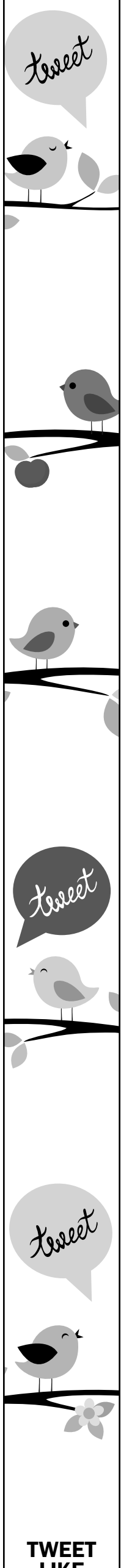

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Legal Notices

FAIRFAX COUNTY

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

APRIL 3, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Sect. 18-110 of the Zoning Ordinance, that at a meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) of said County, on **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2024, at 9:00 A.M.** at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax VA 22035, the BZA will hold public hearings on the following applications at the time indicated. If you have questions, please contact the Special Permit and Variance Branch of the Zoning Evaluation Division, Department of Planning and Development, at (703) 324-1280 or BZAClerkMail@FairfaxCounty.gov, or review on-line at https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development/board-zoning-appeals at least one week prior to the meeting for additional information on the status of the meeting. The meeting will be available to view live on Channel 16 and stream live online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cableconsumer/channel-16/live-video-stream. Live audio of the meeting may be accessed via telephone as noted on the website. All persons wishing to present their views on these subjects may call the Clerk to the Board of Zoning Appeals at 703-324-1280 or register online at https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development/board-zoning-appeals to be placed on the Speakers List, and may appear to be heard in person, unless the meeting is electronic, or pre-recorded video. Deadlines by type of testimony are on the website. In addition, written testimony and other submissions will be received at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 801, Fairfax, 22035 and BZAClerkMail@FairfaxCounty.gov. The following is a descriptive summary only of the application and may not include every detail. Interested parties may review the application in detail on-line https://plus.fairfaxcounty.gov/CitizenAccess/Welcome.aspx (to search enter the Zoning Case number in the "search box" in the upper right hand corner using dashes where needed) or, may be made available at 12055 Government Center Parkway with advance notice by contacting the Clerk to the Board of Zoning Appeals as listed above. ADA: Reasonable accommodation is available upon 48-hour advance notice. For additional information on ADA call (703) 324-1334 (TTY 711 Virginia Relay Center).

9:00 A.M. - Linda K. Remick, SP 2023-MV-00103 to permit a reduction in setback requirements to permit an open deck (front porch and steps) 16.7 ft. from the front lot line and a reduction in setback requirements based on an error in building location to allow an accessory structure (shed) to remain 5.4 ft. from the rear lot line. Located at 6418 13th St., Alexandria 22307 on approx. 10,500 ac. of land zoned R-3. Mount Vernon District. Tax Map 93-2 ((8)) (26) 21. ***This hearing is in addition to one previously held on February 14, 2024; anyone who testified in that previous hearing is on record and need not testify again at this new hearing.***

9:00 A.M. - Board of Trustees of Rajdhani Mandir, SP 2022-SU-00161 to permit construction of a religious assembly. Located at 4612 Pleasant Valley Rd., Chantilly, 20151 on approx. 9.70 ac. of land zoned R-C and WS. Sully District. Tax Map 33-3 ((1)) 13. (Concurrent with SPA 87-S-012-04).

9:00 A.M. - Board of Trustees of Rajdhani Mandir, SPA 87-S-012-04, to amend SP 87-S-012 previously approved for a religious assembly to allow modifications to site and development conditions. Located at 4525 Pleasant Valley Rd., Chantilly, 20151, on approx. 7.68 ac. of land zoned R-C and WS. Sully District. Tax Map 33-3 ((1)) 5A. (Concurrent with SP 2022-SU-00161).

9:00 A.M. - Geoffrey C. Lorenz and Alison H. Lorenz, SP 2022-MV-00150 to permit a reduction in setback requirements to permit an addition 6.0 ft. from the northwest side lot line and a reduction in setback requirements based on an error in building location to permit an open deck to remain 6.9 ft. from the northwest side lot line. Located at 8018 Wellington Rd., Alexandria, 22308 on approx. 7,150 sq. ft. of land zoned R-3. Mount Vernon District. Tax Map 102-2 ((3)) 135A.

9:00 A.M. - Jeremy D. Barnes, SP 2023-MV-00020 to permit an increase in fence height in the front yard adjacent to Catskill Rd. and a reduction of setback requirements based on errors in building location to permit an open deck to remain 8.0 ft. from the side lot line, accessory structure (shed) to remain 2.9 ft. from the side lot line and an arbor to remain 0.4 ft. from the side lot line. Located at 8210 Higham Rd., Lorton, 22079 on approx. 25,209 sq. ft. of land zoned R-1. Mount Vernon District. Tax Map 99-4 ((3)) 33.

9:00 A.M. - Andrea Arias, SP 2023-PR-00182 to permit a reduction of setback requirements to permit an addition 9.3 ft. from the east side lot line. Located at 9309 Coronado Ter., Fairfax, 22031 on approx. 20,154 sq. ft. of land zoned R-2. Providence District. Tax Map 58-2 ((12)) 37.

March 20th, 2024
March 27th, 2024

AD#81694

Fairfax County Notice

PLANNING COMMISSION

APRIL 3, 2024, AT 7:30 P.M.

Public hearing before the Planning Commission of Fairfax County, Virginia, to be held at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

SEA 91-D-016-02 - VIRGINIA RESTAURANTS, LLC, SEA Appl. to amend SEA 91-D-016 previously approved for an increase in height and FAR in the C-8 District for a hotel, a restaurant and two restaurants with drive throughs to allow site modifications, and an increase in the number of drive through lanes at an overall FAR of 0.58. Located at 2170 Centreville Rd., Herndon, 20170 on approx. 7.86 ac. of land zoned C-8. Dranesville District. Tax Maps 16-1 ((1)) 8 and 9.

FDPA 82-P-069-01-20 (RZPA 2023-SP-00091) - CHICK-FIL-A, INC., FDPA Appl. to amend the final development plans for RZ 82-P-069 previously approved for a fast food restaurant with a drive through to permit modifications to site design and development conditions. Located on the W. side of Fair Knoll Dr. and N. side of Fair Lakes Pkwy. on approx. 1.75 ac. of land zoned PDC and WS. Springfield District. Tax Map 45-4 ((11))1C.

PCA 2011-PR-023-04/CDPA 2011-PR-023-03/FDP 2011-PR-023-06 (RZPA 2022-PR-00115) - CITYLINE PARTNERS LLC, PCA, CDPA and FDP Appl(s). to amend the proffers and conceptual development plan and approval of a final development plan for RZ 2011-PR-023 for Block C2, previously approved for office and retail uses, to permit residential and retail uses and associated modifications to proffers and site design at a 2.18 Floor Area Ratio (FAR). Located on the S. side of Westpark Dr., E. of its intersection with Westbranch Dr., and W. of its intersection with Jones Branch Dr. on approx. 2.92 ac. of land zoned PTC. Comp. Plan Rec: Transit Station Mixed Use. Providence District. Tax Map 29-4 ((7)) 3A1.

The meeting is available to view live on Channel 16 and stream live online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cableconsumer/channel-16/live-video-stream. Live audio of the meeting may be accessed via telephone as noted on the website. At the public hearing, interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their view regarding the application. All persons wishing to present their views on these subjects may call the Planning Commission at 703-324-2865, or register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planningcommission/speaker to be placed on the Speakers List and may appear in-person, or be heard via telephone or pre-recorded video. Deadlines by type of testimony are on the website. In addition, written testimony and other submissions will be received at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 552, Fairfax, Virginia 22035 and plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Copies of the full text of proposed ordinances, plans and amendments, as applicable, as well as other documents relating to the aforementioned subjects, are on file and available for review at the office of the Department of Clerk Services and on the County's website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov. To make arrangements to view the documents, please contact the Office of the Planning Commission at 703-324-2865.

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities and supports the Americans with Disabilities Act by making reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. All televised government meetings are closed captioned in English and Spanish (los subtítulos en español). Reasonable accommodation is available upon 48 hours advance notice by calling 703-324-3151 or TTY 711.

March 20th, 2024
March 27th, 2024

AD#81692

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Legal Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSED REVENUE BOND FINANCING BY THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

10:00 A.M., March 27, 2024

+1 213-279-1455; Access Code: 529 717 374#
or
Teams app at **https://www.microsoft.com/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting**
Meeting ID: 223 583 860 44; Passcode: Rn3iEf

Notice is hereby given that the District of Columbia (the "District") will hold a public hearing available to the public by video and teleconference using the videoconference link and toll-free dial in information provided below with respect to the proposed issuance by the District of its tax-exempt revenue bonds, in one or more series, pursuant to a plan of finance in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed $3,250,000 (the "Bonds"). The hearing is being held pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Proceeds of the sale of the Bonds, which will be issued as qualified 501(c)(3) bonds pursuant to Section 145 of the Code, will be loaned by the District to Jubilee Housing, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the District of Columbia (the "Borrower"). The proceeds of the Bonds, together with certain funds on hand, will be used to finance, refinance or reimburse the Borrower for certain costs of: (i) the refinancing of certain indebtedness, the proceeds of which were used to acquire, finance or refinance the costs of improvements including leasehold improvements of the Applicant's facility located at 1474 Columbia Road, N.W., Units C-1, C-2 and C-3, Washington, D.C. (A&T Lots 2110, 2111 and 2112 in Square 2669) (the "Facility"); (ii) the purchase of certain equipment and furnishings for the Facility, together with other property, real and personal, functionally related and subordinate thereto; (iii) funding any credit enhancement costs, liquidity costs or debt service reserve fund relating to the Bonds; and (v) paying cost of issuance and other related costs to the extent permissible relating to the Bonds. The Borrower is the legal and beneficial owner and operator of the Facility.

The Bonds will not be a general obligation of the District and will not be a pledge, or involve the faith and credit or the taxing power, of the District.

The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, will be held on March 27, 2024 at 10:00 AM by teleconference open to all members of the public. The call in information is at the top of this notice.

Residents of the District of Columbia and persons interested in the proposed issuance of the Bonds, or the location or nature of the proposed project, may present up to 3 minutes of oral testimony at the public hearing by providing their names, addresses, telephone numbers, and organization represented (if any) to William A. Liggins at (202) 727-6365 or **william.liggins@dc.gov** by the close of business on March 26, 2024. Witnesses should submit a written copy of their oral testimony from the hearing. Additional written statements, which will be made part of the official record, may also be submitted by email to Mr. Liggins at **william.liggins@dc.gov** by March 30, 2024.

March 20, 2024 Ad#82041

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSED REVENUE BOND FINANCING BY THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

10:00 A.M., March 27, 2024

+1 213-279-1455; Access Code: 529 717 374#
or
Teams app at **https://www.microsoft.com/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting**
Meeting ID: 223 583 860 44;
Passcode: 529 717 374#

Notice is hereby given that the District of Columbia (the "District") will hold a public hearing available to the public by video and teleconference using the videoconference link and toll-free dial in information provided below with respect to the proposed issuance by the District of its tax-exempt revenue bonds, in one or more series, pursuant to a plan of finance in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed $12,000,000 (the "Bonds"). The hearing is being held pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Proceeds of the sale of the Bonds, which will be issued as qualified 501(c)(3) bonds pursuant to Section 145 of the Code, will be loaned by the District to the American Association of Colleges and Universities, a non-profit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the District of Columbia (the "Borrower"). The proceeds of the Bonds, together with certain funds on hand, will be used to finance, refinance or reimburse the Borrower for certain costs of: (i) the costs of the acquisition, renovation, expansion, and construction of the Borrower's headquarters facility located at 1816 and 1818 R Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Square 0134, Lot 0169) (the "Facility"); (ii) the purchase of certain equipment and furnishings for the Facility, together with other property, real and personal, functionally related and subordinate thereto; (iii) financing the costs of re-locating the Borrower from temporary administrative space; (iv) funding any credit enhancement costs, liquidity costs or debt service reserve fund relating to the Bonds; and (v) paying cost of issuance and other related costs to the extent permissible relating to the Bonds. The Borrower is the legal and beneficial owner and operator of the Facility.

The Bonds will not be a general obligation of the District and will not be a pledge, or involve the faith and credit or the taxing power, of the District.

The public hearing, which may be continued or adjourned, will be held on March 27, 2024 at 10:00 AM by teleconference open to all members of the public. The call in information is at the top of this notice.

Residents of the District of Columbia and persons interested in the proposed issuance of the Bonds, or the location or nature of the proposed project, may present up to 3 minutes of oral testimony at the public hearing by providing their names, addresses, telephone numbers, and organization represented (if any) to William A. Liggins at (202) 727-6365 or **william.liggins@dc.gov** by the close of business on March 26, 2024. Witnesses should submit a written copy of their oral testimony from the hearing. Additional written statements, which will be made part of the official record, may also be submitted by email to Mr. Liggins at **william.liggins@dc.gov** by March 30, 2024.

March 20, 2024 Ad#82043

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of Contracting and Procurement

PROCUREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Government of the District of Columbia is soliciting electronic proposals for the following:

CAPTION: Securities Registration and Licensing Database System

The District of Columbia Office of Contracting and Procurement, on behalf of the Department of Insurance, Securities & Banking (the "District") is seeking a contractor to replace DISB's Securities Bureau Securities Registration and Licensing database system and host the replacement application in a secured cloud environment and perform maintenance support in accordance with the scope of work specified herein.

MARKET TYPE: Open

ADVERTISING DATE: March 20, 2024
ISSUANCE DATE: March 20, 2024

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION:

RFP NUMBER: Doc687250
CLOSING DATE: April 23, 2024
CLOSING TIME: 2:00 PM (EST)

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION (RFQ) DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

OCP WEBSITE ADDRESS: www.ocp.dc.gov

March 20, 2024 Ad#82044

Legal Notices

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
301-563-3400

WEDNESDAY
April 3, 2024

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
WHEATON HEADQUARTERS AUDITORIUM
2425 REEDIE DRIVE
WHEATON, MARYLAND 20902

ALL HPC HEARINGS ARE BEING CONDUCTED IN PERSON

The HPC will conduct the Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 3rd. The Public Hearing will begin with a Worksession at 6:30 pm, followed by the hearing at 7:00pm. See the agenda below for item details.

GENERAL PUBLIC WISHING TO OBSERVE MAY ATTEND IN PERSON OR FOLLOW THE MEETINGS VIA THIS AUDIO LINK: https://montgomeryplanningboard.org/meetings/watch-online/

SIGN UP TO TESTIFY ONLINE
If you wish to testify on an item, **you must** sign up to testify online in advance of the hearing. **https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/historic/historic-preservation-commission/historic-preservation-commission-sign-up-to-testify/**

Final Deadline to Sign up to testify:
• 9 am on April 2nd (for April 3rd meeting)

Speakers must identify themselves for the record and wait to be acknowledged by the Meeting Clerk and Chair.

WRITTEN COMMENTS:
Members of the public or applicants may submit exhibits, via this email: **mcp-historic@mncppc-mc.org**.

Comments received after the deadline will be included for the record, but not distributed for the HPC.

Final deadlines for comments to be distributed:
• 10 am on April 2nd (for April 3rd meeting)

The HPC agenda is subject to change any time after printing or during the commission meeting. Please contact the Historic Preservation Commission staff at the email above to obtain current information.

MEETING ACCESSIBILITY POLICY:
Sign language interpreter services and other auxiliary aids or services will be provided upon request with as much advance notice as possible, preferably at least five (5) full business days before the meeting. To request any reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact The Office of Historic Preservation in advance at **MCP-Historic@mncppc-mc.org** or please call (301) 563-3400. In all situations, a good faith effort will be made to provide accommodations. For any additional questions or concerns, please contact **MCP-Historic@mncppc-mc.org** or please call (301) 563-3400, or MD Relay 711.

HPC WORKSESSION – 6:30 p.m. in WHQ Second Floor Auditorium
HPC MEETING – 7:00 p.m. in WHQ Second Floor Auditorium

I. HISTORIC AREA WORK PERMITS (Staff assignments shown in parentheses below.)
A. 3807 Bradley Lane, Chevy Chase (HAWP #1060929) (Master Plan Site #35/66, **Gherardi House**); Nicolle Rippeon for new fence installation and shed construction. (Dan Bruechert)
B. 4700 Waverly Avenue, Garrett Park (HAWP #1061249) (Garrett Park Historic District); David Rodriguez for new fence installation. (Dan Bruechert)
C. 16 Montgomery Avenue, Takoma Park (HAWP #1061206) (Takoma Park Historic District); John Salmen for solar panel installation. (Dan Bruechert)
D. 5812 Warwick Place, Chevy Chase (HAWP #1061900) (Somerset Historic District); Ben Schneider for front stair reconstruction. (Dan Bruechert)
E. 4011 Prospect Street, Kensington (HAWP #1061798) (Kensington Historic District); James Purse for shed installation. (Chris Berger)
F. 3717 Bradley Lane, Chevy Chase (HAWP #1061611) (Master Plan Site #35/68, **Mills House**); Abigail Barnes (Chris Scango,Agent) for driveway removal. (Chris Berger)
G. 518 Philadelphia Avenue, Takoma Park (HAWP #1059042) (Takoma Park Historic District); Bradley DeGregorio (Richard Vitullo, Architect) for partial demolition, building addition, fenestration alteration, deck construction. (Chris Berger)

II. PRELIMINARY CONSULTATIONS
A. 19820 White Ground Road, Boyds (HAWP #1055979) (Boyds Historic District); Danilza Garcia for construction of new single family house. (Chris Berger)

III. MINUTES
A. March 20, 2024 (if available)

IV. OTHER BUSINESS
A. Commission Items
B. Staff Items

V. ADJOURNMENT

March 20, 2024 Ad#81995

Invitation to Comment on a Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facility

Interested persons are invited to comment on the wireless telecommunications project proposed at 7709 Flower Ave, (Wilkinson Hall), Takoma Park, Maryland 20912 with respect to impacts on, and specifically, the potential effects to, historic properties located at or near this facility, if any. The project will consist of the installation of nine new antennas and associated radios and equipment on a 74'-1" foot rooftop site. Comments regarding potential effects to historic properties should be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to Mr. Andrew Fleming at 8610 Washington Boulevard, Suite 217, Jessup, MD 20794, (301) 776-0500, or **afleming@aec-env.com**. This notice is provided in accordance with regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, 47 C.F.R. Part 1, Subpart I and Appendices B.

March 20, 2024 Ad#81999

VA ABC
VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL AUTHORITY
www.abc.virginia.gov/licenses
804.213.4400
7450 Freight Way, Mechanicsville, VA 23116
PO Box 3250, Mechanicsville, VA 23116

POSTING AND PUBLISHING
PUBLISHING NOTICE

Full name(s) of owner(s):
Modan Restaurant LLC

Trading as:
Modan Restaurant
1800 Chain Bridge Road
McLean (City/Town)
Fairfax County, Virginia 22102

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a **Mixed Beverage Restaurant** license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Joon Yang
Manager

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or (800) 552-3200.

Run Dates: March 13th, 2024
March 20th, 2024

AD#81808

Legal Notices

Fairfax County Notice

PLANNING COMMISSION

APRIL 3, 2024, AT 7:30 P.M.

A public hearing before the Planning Commission of Fairfax County, Virginia, will be held at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035. The Commission will hold a public hearing on the matter of an amendment to Chapter 112.2 (the Zoning Ordinance) of the 1976 Code of the County of Fairfax, as follows with advertised options in bold. The following is a descriptive summary only and does not include every detail:

(1) Increase zoning application and appeal fees set out in Zoning Ordinance Table 8102.1 by **up to 35 percent and rounded to nearest $5**, as authorized by Virginia Code § 15.2 2286(A)(6).

(2) Increase the required Planned District recreation minimum expenditure from **$1,900 to up to $2,400** per dwelling unit for residential development in the PDH, PDC, PRM, and PTC Districts, as required by Zoning Ordinance subsections 2105.2.B(4)(b), 2105.4.B(4)(b), 2105.5.B(4)(b), and 2105.6.B(3)(b), as authorized by Virginia Code §§ 15.2 1200, -2200, -2280(1), -2283, -2284, and 2286(A)(7) and (9).

The meeting is available to view live on Channel 16 and stream live online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cableconsumer/channel-16/live-video-stream. Live audio of the meeting may be accessed via telephone as noted on the website. At the public hearing any and all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their view regarding the application. All persons wishing to present their views on these subjects may call the Planning Commission at 703-324-2865, or register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planningcommission/speaker to be placed on the Speakers List and may appear in-person, unless the meeting is held electronically, or be heard via telephone or pre-recorded video. Deadlines by type of testimony are on the website. In addition, written testimony and other submissions will be received at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 552, Fairfax, Virginia 22035 and plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov.

A copy of the staff report and the full text of the proposed ordinance is available on-line at https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development/zoning-ordinance/amendments and can be made available for review at the Zoning Administration Division, Department of Planning and Development, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035. If you have questions regarding the details of this amendment or to make arrangements to view the documents, please contact the Zoning Administration Division at 703-324-1314. Copies of the full text of proposed ordinances, plans and amendments, as applicable, as well as other documents relating to the aforementioned subjects, are on file and available for review at the Office of the Clerk for the Board of Supervisors and on the County's website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov. To make arrangements to view the documents, please contact the Office of the Clerk for the Board of Supervisors at 703-324-3151.

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities and supports the Americans with Disabilities Act by making reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. All televised government meetings are closed captioned. Reasonable accommodations can be made upon 48 hours advance notice by calling 703-324-3151 or TTY 711.

March 20th, 2024
March 27th, 2024

AD#81693

PUBLIC HEARING FOR

REPLACEMENT OF THE DENNIS AVENUE BRIDGE NO. M-0194 OVER SLIGO CREEK TRIBUTARY (WHEATON BRANCH) in SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND

Pursuant to Section 49-53 of the Montgomery County Code (2004) as amended, a ***virtual*** public hearing shall be held on **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.** The hearing will be held over the internet via Zoom. Residents may pre-register to testify; the link to join the public hearing virtually will be provided upon registration.

Please register to attend the hearing:
Visit the "Participate" tab of the project webpage via the below link.
https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/dennisave/index.html

The existing Dennis Avenue Bridge is in need of replacement to enhance the safety of the traveling public. Together with the Wheaton Branch Flood Mitigation project, a sister project by the Department of Environmental Protection (MCDEP), the frequent flooding of five residential properties and local streets upstream of the bridge will be mitigated as well as the occasional roadway flooding on Dennis Avenue that causes significant traffic delays.

Audio and video of the hearing will be recorded, and a link to which will be posted on the project webpage on the MCDOT website as linked above.

The sole purpose of a public hearing is to allow residents an opportunity to present oral and/or written testimony concerning the project. The information presented may influence the final design of the project. The hearing will begin at 7:00 p.m. and run continuously until all information is presented and the hearing has concluded.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY CARRIES THE SAME WEIGHT AS ORAL TESTIMONY. Written testimony for consideration and questions may be submitted via the online comment form on the project webpage under the "Participate" tab or via email to the project manager at greg.hwang@montgomerycountymd.gov. Please visit the above-linked project webpage to access digital copies of the project files.

Interpreter services will be provided upon request. Please allow (5) business days advance notice when requesting interpreter services.

Run Dates: March 20th and 27th, 2024 AD#81452



THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOUSING AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
SOLICITATION NO.: 0028-2024

HQS and NSPIRE INSPECTION SERVICES

The District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) requires highly qualified and insured Contractors to provide immediate HQS and NSPIRE Inspection Services on an as needed basis.

SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS will be available beginning **Monday, March 18, 2024, on DCHA's website at www.dchousing.org** under "Business" and "Solicitations".

SEALED PROPOSAL RESPONSES ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE Monday, April 8, 2024, at 12:00 NOON.

Email LaShawn Mizzell-McLeod, Contract Specialist at **LMMCLEOD@dchousing.org** with copy to **business@dchousing.org** for additional information.

March 20, 2024 Ad#82005

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

IN RE: Myzell Asad Heggs a/k/a Myzell A. Heggs a/k/a Myzell Heggs, a minor, NO. AP-010-2024 in the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

TO: Teema Marie Heggs a/k/a Teema M. Heggs a/k/a Teema Heggs, Michael McKoy a/k/a Michael Jonathan McKoy a/k/a Michael McCoy a/k/a Micheal McCloy a/k/a Michael McCloy and Unknown Father, parents of Myzell Asad Heggs a/k/a Myzell A. Heggs a/k/a Myzell Heggs, a male minor, born on October 2, 2008 in Alexandria, Virginia.

A petition has been filed asking the court to put an end to all rights you have to your child, Myzell Asad Heggs a/k/a Myzell A. Heggs a/k/a Myzell Heggs. The court has set a hearing to consider ending your rights to your child. That hearing will be held at the Family Court Building, 550 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on **April 17, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.** (Prevailing Eastern Time), before the Honorable Lisa Middleman. You are warned that even if you fail to appear at the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to your child may be ended by the court without your being present. You have a right to be represented at the hearing by a lawyer. You should take this paper to your lawyer at once. If you do not have a lawyer or cannot afford one, go to or telephone the office set forth below to find out where you can get legal help.

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE
THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
400 Koppers Building, 436 Seventh Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219
Telephone: 412-261-5555

ROSALYN GUY MC-CORKLE
County Solicitor
ALYSSA BURRELL COWAN
Assistant County Solicitor
CONTACT:
DIANN R. MCKAY, Esq.
Adoption Legal Services Project
Fort Pitt Commons, Ste 101
445 Fort Pitt Boulevard
Pittsburgh PA 15219
(412) 350-5283
diann.mckay@alleghenycounty.us
ATTORNEYS FOR PETITIONER

March 20, 2024 Ad# 80939

LEGAL NOTICE

DC Charter Schools seeking meal vendor(s) for upcoming school year. Email **foodservice@cpa.coop** for bid materials. Responses due by 12 PM on May 3, 2024.

March 18th thru 22nd, 2024
Ad#81591

Legal Notices
DC & Maryland 202-636-4953
Virginia 703-425-0903
The Washington Times

washingtontimes.com

Trustee Sales: DC

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000

COURT APPOINTED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES
FORECLOSURE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

1602 Isherwood St., NE, Unit #2
Washington, DC 20002

All that certain lot or parcel of land situate in the District of Columbia and being more particularly described as follows: Part of Lot 145 in Square 4545 in the subdivision made by Elmer B. Young, as per plat recorded in the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia in Liber 96 at folio 180. The part of land conveyed being more particularly described as Unit No. 2 in the "Romanian Condominium", according to the Condominium Declaration recorded November 16, 2005 as Instrument No. 2005165174, as re-recorded on September 28, 2006 as Instrument No. 2006132441, and the By-Laws relating thereto recorded November 16, 2005 as Instrument No. 2005165175, and re-recorded on September 28, 2006 as Instrument No. 2006132442, among the Land Records of the Disctrict of Columbia, and as per Plat of Condominium Subdivision recorded in the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia in Condominium Book 56 at page 4. Together with an undivided interest in the common elements and all of the appurtenances incident to said Unit, all as set forth in said Condominium Declaration. Subject, however, to all of the provisions, restrictions, easements, conditions and assessments as set forth in said Condominium Declaration and By-Laws. NOTE: At the date hereof, the above described land is now known for assessment and taxation purposes as Lot 2010 in Square 4545. Property address: 1602 Isherwood Street NE, Unit #2, Washington DC 20002.

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's ("Court") Order/Decree in Case #2021-CA-001033 R(RP) U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR VELOCITY COMMERCIAL CAPITAL LOAN TRUST VCC 2020-01 v. INTEGRITY L.L.C. the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024 AT 10:10 AM

THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Washington, DC and more fully described in a Deed of Trust dated December 13, 2019 recorded as Instrument No. 2019138802 among the D.C. Land Records.

The property will be sold by Trustee's Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in Fee Simple, subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above, and subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of at least $30,000 or ten percent (10%) of the winning bid amount, whichever is lower, will be required at time of sale, in the form of certified check or cashier's check, or other form as Substitute Trustees may determine. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Substitute Trustees which shall be announced at sale. The Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds within 60 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid 60 days of the ratification, the purchaser agrees to pay the Substitute Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court, plus all costs incurred, if the Substitute Trustees have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed with the Court in connection with such motion and any Show Cause Order issued by the Court and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper or Order by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser and as recorded on the documents executed by the purchaser at the time of the sale. Service shall be deemed effective upon the purchaser 3 days after postmarked by the United States Post Office. It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that actual receipt of the certified mail is not required for service to be effective. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the Mortgage holder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Substitute Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. File #23-000272-DC-F-1

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3
(Serial #519205) Ad#81669



Trustee Sales: DC

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

COURT APPOINTED TRUSTEE
JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

4705 Sargent Rd., NE
Washington, DC 20017

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's Order/Decree in Case #2018-CA-007570 R(RP) the Trustees will offer for sale at public auction the real property located at 4705 Sargent Rd., NE, Washington, DC, 20017, designated as being Square 3977, Lot 0074, and as more fully described in the Deed of Trust dated March 9, 2016, which is recorded as Instrument #2016025686 in the Land Records of the District of Columbia. The sale will occur within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 AT 1:16 PM

The property, in fee simple, together with all improvements thereon, will be sold by Trustee's deed, in "as is" condition, subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The sale will be subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $45,000, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee, which shall be announced at sale. The sale is subject to ratification by the Court. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, to be paid in certified funds within 30 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. There will be no abatement of interest for the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement, or in the event settlement is delayed for any reason whatsoever. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. If purchaser fails or refuses to settle within the aforesaid time frame, the deposit will be forfeited and the Trustees may apply the deposit toward costs, fees, and their compensation associated with the initial auction and the resale process, with any remaining amount credited to the underlying debt. Additionally, if the purchaser fails to timely settle, the Trustees may file a motion to resell the property, and the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court in connection with said motion. The purchaser also waives personal service of any paper and Show Cause Order in connection with a motion to resell, expressly agrees to accept service by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser on the documents executed at the time of the sale, and agrees that such service is complete upon mailing and that actual receipt of said mailings is not required. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Real estate taxes are adjusted for the fiscal year in which the property is sold through the date of the sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Court Appointed Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Superior Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. BWW#: 332460-1

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Court Appointed Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3
(Serial #518944) Ad#81687

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

COURT APPOINTED TRUSTEE
JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

1303 Euclid St., NW
Washington, DC 20009

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's Order/Decree in Case #2015-CA-004074 R(RP) the Trustees will offer for sale at public auction the real property located at 1303 Euclid St., NW, Washington, DC, 20009, designated as being Square 2861, Lot 0020, and as more fully described in the Deed of Trust dated November 5, 2004, which is recorded as Instrument #2004164546 in the Land Records of the District of Columbia. The sale will occur within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024 AT 10:20 AM

The property, in fee simple, together with all improvements thereon, will be sold by Trustee's deed, in "as is" condition, subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The sale will be subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $55,000, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee, which shall be announced at sale. The sale is subject to ratification by the Court. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, to be paid in certified funds within 30 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. There will be no abatement of interest for the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement, or in the event settlement is delayed for any reason whatsoever. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. If purchaser fails or refuses to settle within the aforesaid time frame, the deposit will be forfeited and the Trustees may apply the deposit toward costs, fees, and their compensation associated with the initial auction and the resale process, with any remaining amount credited to the underlying debt. Additionally, if the purchaser fails to timely settle, the Trustees may file a motion to resell the property, and the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court in connection with said motion. The purchaser also waives personal service of any paper and Show Cause Order in connection with a motion to resell, expressly agrees to accept service by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser on the documents executed at the time of the sale, and agrees that such service is complete upon mailing and that actual receipt of said mailings is not required. Real estate taxes are adjusted for the fiscal year in which the property is sold through the date of the sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. BWW#: 188480-1

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Court Appointed Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Feb 28, Mar 6, Mar 13, Mar 20
(Serial #519030) Ad#81197

Trustee Sales: DC

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

COURT APPOINTED TRUSTEE
JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

4810 Quarles St., NE, Unit #103
Washington, DC 20019

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's Order/Decree in Case #2019-CA-007037 R(RP) the Trustees will offer for sale at public auction the real property located at 4810 Quarles St., NE, Unit #103, Washington, DC, 20019, designated as being Square 5171, Lot 2002, and as more fully described in the Deed of Trust dated April 20, 2007, which is recorded as Instrument #2007057516 in the Land Records of the District of Columbia. The sale will occur within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 AT 1:10 PM

The property, in fee simple, together with all improvements thereon, will be sold by Trustee's deed, in "as is" condition, subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The sale will be subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee, which shall be announced at sale. The sale is subject to ratification by the Court. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, to be paid in certified funds within 60 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. There will be no abatement of interest for the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement, or in the event settlement is delayed for any reason whatsoever. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. If purchaser fails or refuses to settle within the aforesaid time frame, the deposit will be forfeited and the Trustees may apply the deposit toward costs, fees, and their compensation associated with the initial auction and the resale process, with any remaining amount credited to the underlying debt. Additionally, if the purchaser fails to timely settle, the Trustees may file a motion to resell the property, and the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court in connection with said motion. The purchaser also waives personal service of any paper and Show Cause Order in connection with a motion to resell, expressly agrees to accept service by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser on the documents executed at the time of the sale, and agrees that such service is complete upon mailing and that actual receipt of said mailings is not required. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Real estate taxes are adjusted for the fiscal year in which the property is sold through the date of the sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Court Appointed Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Superior Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. BWW#: 338807-1

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Court Appointed Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3
(Serial #519113) Ad#81684

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

COURT APPOINTED TRUSTEE
JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

1801 16th St., NW, Unit #305
Washington, DC 20009

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's Order/Decree in Case #2023-CAB-004566 R(RP) the Trustees will offer for sale at public auction the real property located at 1801 16th St., NW, Unit #305, Washington, DC, 20009, designated as being Square 0191, Lot 2112, and as more fully described in the Deed of Trust dated October 7, 2019, which is recorded as Instrument #2019109800 in the Land Records of the District of Columbia. The sale will occur within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024 AT 10:22 AM

The property, in fee simple, together with all improvements thereon, will be sold by Trustee's deed, in "as is" condition, subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The sale will be subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $55,000, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee, which shall be announced at sale. The sale is subject to ratification by the Court. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, to be paid in certified funds within 60 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. There will be no abatement of interest for the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement, or in the event settlement is delayed for any reason whatsoever. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. If purchaser fails or refuses to settle within the aforesaid time frame, the deposit will be forfeited and the Trustees may apply the deposit toward costs, fees, and their compensation associated with the initial auction and the resale process, with any remaining amount credited to the underlying debt. Additionally, if the purchaser fails to timely settle, the Trustees may file a motion to resell the property, and the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court in connection with said motion. The purchaser also waives personal service of any paper and Show Cause Order in connection with a motion to resell, expressly agrees to accept service by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser on the documents executed at the time of the sale, and agrees that such service is complete upon mailing and that actual receipt of said mailings is not required. Real estate taxes are adjusted for the fiscal year in which the property is sold through the date of the sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. BWW#: 349995-2

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Court Appointed Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Feb 28, Mar 6, Mar 13, Mar 20
(Serial #519063) Ad#81200

Trustee Sales: DC

McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, LLC
312 Marshall Avenue, Suite 800
Laurel, MD 20707
www.mwc-law.com

COURT APPOINTED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES
FORECLOSURE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

3213 E St., SE
Washington, DC 20019

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's ("Court") Order Granting Judgment in Case #2019-CA-004415 R(RP) FINANCE OF AMERICA REVERSE LLC v. RICHARD M. ALLEN the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024 AT 10:31 AM

THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Washington, DC and more fully designated as Lot 0804 in Square 5451 in a Deed of Trust dated March 14, 2017 recorded as Instrument No. 2017038942 among the D.C. Land Records.

The property will be sold by Trustees' Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in Fee Simple, subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above, and subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of at least $15,000 or ten percent (10%) of the winning bid amount will be required at time of sale, in the form of cashier's or certified check, or other form as Substitute Trustees may determine. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Substitute Trustees which shall be announced at sale. The Balance of the purchase price to be paid in certified funds within thirty (30) days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If Purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid thirty (30) days of the ratification, the Purchaser agrees to pay the Substitute Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court, plus all costs incurred, if the Substitute Trustees have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed with the Court in connection with such motion and any Show Cause Order issued by the Court and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper or Order by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the Purchaser and as recorded on the documents executed by the Purchaser at the time of the sale. Service shall be deemed effective upon the Purchaser 3 days after postmarked by the United States Post Office. It is expressly agreed by the Purchaser that actual receipt of the certified mail is not required for service to be effective. If the Purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale the defaulting Purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 4.081% per annum from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the Purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the deposit to the Purchaser. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the noteholder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Substitute Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. (Matter #19-801254).

Laura H. G. O'Sullivan, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Feb 28, Mar 6, Mar 13, Mar 20
(Serial #519073) Ad#81202

Trustee Sales: Arlington Co.

TRUSTEE'S SALE - Real property at **2632 S TROY STREET ARLINGTON, VA 22206**

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $107,200.00 dated June 30, 1998 and recorded in the land records of Arlington County, Virginia in recorded in the Land Records of Arlington County at Book 2908, Page 1108, Instrument 98189011 on July 8, 1998, default having been made in the indebtedness secured thereby, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the Front Entrance of the Circuit Court for Arlington County, located at 1425 North Courthouse Road Arlington, VA 22201, the above referenced property and fixtures or improvements thereon briefly described as "Lot 46, Subdivision of Long Branch Park" on

April 3, 2024 AT 1:00 PM

TERMS OF SALE: 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 $11,000.00 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 #461150. Cohn Goldberg Deutsch is a debt collector; any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

BLUE RIDGE TRUSTEES LLC

Run Dates: March 20th & March 27, 2024 Ad#81793

Legal Notices
DC & Maryland
202-636-4953
Virginia
703-425-0903
The Washington Times

Trustee Sales: DC

McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, LLC
312 Marshall Avenue, Suite 800
Laurel, MD 20707
www.mwc-law.com

COURT APPOINTED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES
FORECLOSURE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

1913 P St., SE
Washington, DC 20020

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's ("Court") Order Granting Judgment in Case #2023-CAB-001410 R(RP) PLANET HOME LENDING, LLC v. RICHARD ORNDORFF, II A/K/A RICHARD ORNDORFF the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 AT 11:50 AM

THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Washington, DC and more fully designated as Lot 0028 in Square 5573 in a Deed of Trust dated October 25, 2019 recorded as Instrument No. 2019118364 among the D.C. Land Records.

The property will be sold by Trustees' Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in Fee Simple, subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above, and subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of at least $25,000 or ten percent (10%) of the winning bid amount will be required at time of sale, in the form of cashier's or certified check, or other form as Substitute Trustees may determine. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Substitute Trustees which shall be announced at sale. The Balance of the purchase price to be paid in certified funds within 15 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If Purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid 15 days of the ratification, the Purchaser agrees to pay the Substitute Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court, plus all costs incurred, if the Substitute Trustees have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed with the Court in connection with such motion and any Show Cause Order issued by the Court and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper or Order by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the Purchaser and as recorded on the documents executed by the Purchaser at the time of the sale. Service shall be deemed effective upon the Purchaser 3 days after postmarked by the United States Post Office. It is expressly agreed by the Purchaser that actual receipt of the certified mail is not required for service to be effective. If the Purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale the defaulting Purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 3.375% per annum from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the Purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the deposit to the Purchaser. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the noteholder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Substitute Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. (Matter #22-801462).

Laura H. G. O'Sullivan, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3
(Serial #519031) Ad#81670

Trustee Sales: Prince William Co.

Trustee's Sale
12526 Oakwood Drive,
Woodbridge, Virginia 22192
(Parcel ID: 8293-53-5526)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated December 1, 2000, in the original principal amount of $25,000.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Prince William, Virginia in Instrument No. 200012190009345, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on **April 18, 2024, at 10:00 AM** in front of the building housing the **Prince William County Circuit Court**, 9311 Lee Avenue, Manassas, VA 20110, the property designated as Lot No. 1046, Section 10, Lake Ridge, as the same is duly dedicated, platted and recorded in deed book 589 at page 295, 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 $2,500.00 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 NFPDS-VA LLC, Substitute Trustees, Crown Center Building, Suite 600, 580 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510, File No. 233140-01, Tel: (757) 321-6465, between 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon only.

Run Dates: March 19, 20 & 21, 2024

AD#81062

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The Washington Times

Trustee Sales: DC

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

COURT APPOINTED TRUSTEE
JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

4810 Quarles St., NE, Unit #103
Washington, DC 20019

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's Order/Decree in Case #2019-CA-007037 R(RP) the Trustees will offer for sale at public auction the real property located at 4810 Quarles St., NE, Unit #103, Washington, DC, 20019, designated as being Square 5171, Lot 2002, and as more fully described in the Deed of Trust dated April 20, 2007, which is recorded as Instrument #2007057516 in the Land Records of the District of Columbia. The sale will occur within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 AT 1:10 PM

The property, in fee simple, together with all improvements thereon, will be sold by Trustee's deed, in "as is" condition, subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The sale will be subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee, which shall be announced at sale. The sale is subject to ratification by the Court. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, to be paid in certified funds within 60 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. There will be no abatement of interest for the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement, or in the event settlement is delayed for any reason whatsoever. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. If purchaser fails or refuses to settle within the aforesaid time frame, the deposit will be forfeited and the Trustees may apply the deposit toward costs, fees, and their compensation associated with the initial auction and the resale process, with any remaining amount credited to the underlying debt. Additionally, if the purchaser fails to timely settle, the Trustees may file a motion to resell the property, and the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court in connection with said motion. The purchaser also waives personal service of any paper and Show Cause Order in connection with a motion to resell, expressly agrees to accept service by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser on the documents executed at the time of the sale, and agrees that such service is complete upon mailing and that actual receipt of said mailings is not required. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Real estate taxes are adjusted for the fiscal year in which the property is sold through the date of the sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Court Appointed Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Superior Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest. BWW#: 338807-1

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Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3
(Serial #519113) Ad#8

Trustee Sales: Virginia

Trustee's Sale
21875 Railway Terrace #202, Sterling, VA 20166
(Parcel ID: 031-25-8128-006)

Default having been made in the terms of a certain Deed of Trust dated June 30, 2016, in the original principal amount of $231,023.00 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Loudoun, Virginia on July 1, 2016, as Instrument Number 20160701-0040954, and modified by a Loan Modification Agreement recorded on March 24, 2021, as Instrument Number 20210324-0035351, the undersigned Substitute Trustees will sell at public auction on April 17, 2024 at 11:30 AM, in front of the building housing the County of Loudoun Circuit Court, 18 East Market Street, Leesburg, VA 20178, the property designated as Unit 146, Phase 8, Dominion Station Condominium, together with an undivided interest in the Common Elements as created by that certain Declaration of Condominium, recorded in Deed Book 1465, at Page 1165, as amended in Deed Book 1888, at Page 1966, and any and all subsequent amendments thereto, along the Land Records of Loudoun County, Virginia. An undivided percentage interest appurtenant to the Unit in all Common Elements of said Project, as described in said Declaration and subsequent amendments. Together with the right of ingress to an egress from said property and the right to use, fo! r all proper purposes in common with Declarant, its successors and assigns, and all other occupants from time to time any and all purposes of the Condominium designated by statute and the Declarant as General Common Elements. 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 $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 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. This is a communication from a debt collector. Tromberg, Morris & Poulin, PLLC on behalf of Southeast Equity Trustees, LLC, Substitute Trustee(s), 413 Stuart Circle, Suite 314, Richmond, VA 23220, File No. 23-001600, Tel: 804-525-1570.

Run Dates: March 13th, 2024
March 20th, 2024

AD#80944

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instagram.com/WashTimes
The Washington Times

Trustee Sales: DC

Rosenberg & Associates, LLC
4340 East West Highway, Suite 600
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 907-8000

COURT APPOINTED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES
FORECLOSURE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

69 Bryant St., NW
Washington, DC 20001

Lot 82 in Square 3127 in a subdivision made by Joseph Paul of Square 17, "Dobbins addition to the City of Washington", as per plat recorded in Liber County 19 at folio 79 among the Records of the Office of the Surveyor for the District of Columbia.

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's ("Court") Order/Decree in Case #2018-CA-007676 R(RP) U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN IT'S INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST v. JAMES J. FOURNIER the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024 AT 10:15 AM

THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Washington, DC and more fully described in a Deed of Trust dated August 16, 2007 recorded as Instrument No. 2007113341 among the D.C. Land Records.

The property will be sold by Trustee's Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in Fee Simple, subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above, and subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of at least $60,000 or ten percent (10%) of the winning bid amount, whichever is lower, will be required at time of sale, in the form of certified check or cashier's check, or other form as Substitute Trustees may determine. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Substitute Trustees which shall be announced at sale. The Balance of the purchase price to be paid in cash or certified funds within 60 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid 60 days of the ratification, the purchaser agrees to pay the Substitute Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court, plus all costs incurred, if the Substitute Trustees have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed with the Court in connection with such motion and any Show Cause Order issued by the Court and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper or Order by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser and as recorded on the documents executed by the purchaser at the time of the sale. Service shall be deemed effective upon the purchaser 3 days after postmarked by the United States Post Office. It is expressly agreed by the purchaser that actual receipt of the certified mail is not required for service to be effective. If the purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale the defaulting purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the Mortgage holder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Substitute Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. File #22-002660-DC-F-1

Diane S. Rosenberg, Mark D. Meyer, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Feb 28, Mar 6, Mar 13, Mar 20
(Serial #519046) Ad#81201

Trustee Sales: Virginia

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF
1409 PINNACLE DRIVE,
STAFFORD, VA 22554

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $252,000.00, with an annual interest rate of 3.125000% dated September 16, 2005, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the County of Stafford as Deed Instrument Number 050038137, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the County of Stafford, **on the courthouse steps of the Circuit Court building for the County of Stafford located at 1300 Courthouse Road, Stafford, Virginia on May 15, 2024 at 1:15 PM**, the property with improvements to wit:

LOT 66 2960 SQFT
HIGHPOINTE SUBDIVISION

Tax Map No. 20V-66

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 18-277675.

PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION
OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees,
C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP,
Mailing Address:
10130 Perimeter Parkway, Suite 400,
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216
(703) 449-5800.

Publishing Dates: March 20th, 2024
April 10th, 2024
April 17th, 2024

AD#81593

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Trustee Sales: DC

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

COURT APPOINTED TRUSTEE
JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

414 57th St., NE
Washington, DC 20019

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's Order/Decree in Case #2023-CAB-003251 R(RP) the Trustees will offer for sale at public auction the real property located at 414 57th St., NE, Washington, DC, 20019, designated as being Square 5229, Lot 0053, and as more fully described in the Deed of Trust dated December 11, 2007, which is recorded as Instrument #2008007880 in the Land Records of the District of Columbia. The sale will occur within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 AT 1:14 PM

The property, in fee simple, together with all improvements thereon, will be sold by Trustee's deed, in "as is" condition, subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The sale will be subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $5,000, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee, which shall be announced at sale. The sale is subject to ratification by the Court. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, to be paid in certified funds within 60 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. There will be no abatement of interest for the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement, or in the event settlement is delayed for any reason whatsoever. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. If purchaser fails or refuses to settle within the aforesaid time frame, the deposit will be forfeited and the Trustees may apply the deposit toward costs, fees, and their compensation associated with the initial auction and the resale process, with any remaining amount credited to the underlying debt. Additionally, if the purchaser fails to timely settle, the Trustees may file a motion to resell the property, and the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court in connection with said motion. The purchaser also waives personal service of any paper and Show Cause Order in connection with a motion to resell, expressly agrees to accept service by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser on the documents executed at the time of the sale, and agrees that such service is complete upon mailing and that actual receipt of said mailings is not required. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Real estate taxes are adjusted for the fiscal year in which the property is sold through the date of the sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Court Appointed Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Superior Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest.
BWW#: 360642-1

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Court Appointed Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3
(Serial #519206) Ad#81686

Trustee Sales: DC

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

COURT APPOINTED TRUSTEE
JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

3004 Perry St., NE
Washington, DC 20018

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's Order/Decree in Case #2023-CAB-002539 R(RP) the Trustees will offer for sale at public auction the real property located at 3004 Perry St., NE, Washington, DC, 20018, designated as being Square PAR-0167, Lot 0032, 0042 & 0044, and as more fully described in the Deed of Trust dated October 24, 2019, which is recorded as Instrument #2019120828 in the Land Records of the District of Columbia. The sale will occur within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 AT 1:18 PM

The property, in fee simple, together with all improvements thereon, will be sold by Trustee's deed, in "as is" condition, subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The sale will be subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $55,000, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee, which shall be announced at sale. The sale is subject to ratification by the Court. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, to be paid in certified funds within 60 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. There will be no abatement of interest for the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement, or in the event settlement is delayed for any reason whatsoever. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. If purchaser fails or refuses to settle within the aforesaid time frame, the deposit will be forfeited and the Trustees may apply the deposit toward costs, fees, and their compensation associated with the initial auction and the resale process, with any remaining amount credited to the underlying debt. Additionally, if the purchaser fails to timely settle, the Trustees may file a motion to resell the property, and the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court in connection with said motion. The purchaser also waives personal service of any paper and Show Cause Order in connection with a motion to resell, expressly agrees to accept service by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser on the documents executed at the time of the sale, and agrees that such service is complete upon mailing and that actual receipt of said mailings is not required. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Real estate taxes are adjusted for the fiscal year in which the property is sold through the date of the sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Court Appointed Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Superior Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest.
BWW#: 355064-1

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Court Appointed Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
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Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3
(Serial #519106) Ad#81688

Trustee Sales: DC

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

COURT APPOINTED TRUSTEE
JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

1317 Rhode Island Ave., NW #202
Washington, DC 20005

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's Order/Decree in Case #2018 CA 007920 R(RP) the Trustees will offer for sale at public auction the real property located at 1317 Rhode Island Ave., NW #202, Washington, DC, 20005, designated as being Square 0242N, Lot 2009, and as more fully described in the Deed of Trust dated December 15, 2003, which is recorded as Instrument #2004007026 in the Land Records of the District of Columbia. The sale will occur within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 AT 1:20 PM

The property, in fee simple, together with all improvements thereon, will be sold by Trustee's deed, in "as is" condition, subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The sale will be subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $50,000, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee, which shall be announced at sale. The sale is subject to ratification by the Court. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, to be paid in certified funds within 30 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. There will be no abatement of interest for the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement, or in the event settlement is delayed for any reason whatsoever. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. If purchaser fails or refuses to settle within the aforesaid time frame, the deposit will be forfeited and the Trustees may apply the deposit toward costs, fees, and their compensation associated with the initial auction and the resale process, with any remaining amount credited to the underlying debt. Additionally, if the purchaser fails to timely settle, the Trustees may file a motion to resell the property, and the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court in connection with said motion. The purchaser also waives personal service of any paper and Show Cause Order in connection with a motion to resell, expressly agrees to accept service by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser on the documents executed at the time of the sale, and agrees that such service is complete upon mailing and that actual receipt of said mailings is not required. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Real estate taxes are adjusted for the fiscal year in which the property is sold through the date of the sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Court Appointed Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Superior Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest.
BWW#: 317556-1

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Court Appointed Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3
(Serial #519126) Ad#81689

Trustee Sales: DC

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

COURT APPOINTED TRUSTEE
JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

121 49th St., SE
Washington, DC 20019

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's Order/Decree in Case #2023-CAB-001933 R(RP) the Trustees will offer for sale at public auction the real property located at 121 49th St., SE, Washington, DC, 20019, designated as being Square 5349-S, Lot 0009, and as more fully described in the Deed of Trust dated July 2, 2007, which is recorded as Instrument #2007093035 in the Land Records of the District of Columbia. The sale will occur within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 AT 1:12 PM

The property, in fee simple, together with all improvements thereon, will be sold by Trustee's deed, in "as is" condition, subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The sale will be subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $20,000, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee, which shall be announced at sale. The sale is subject to ratification by the Court. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, to be paid in certified funds within 60 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. There will be no abatement of interest for the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement, or in the event settlement is delayed for any reason whatsoever. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. If purchaser fails or refuses to settle within the aforesaid time frame, the deposit will be forfeited and the Trustees may apply the deposit toward costs, fees, and their compensation associated with the initial auction and the resale process, with any remaining amount credited to the underlying debt. Additionally, if the purchaser fails to timely settle, the Trustees may file a motion to resell the property, and the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court in connection with said motion. The purchaser also waives personal service of any paper and Show Cause Order in connection with a motion to resell, expressly agrees to accept service by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser on the documents executed at the time of the sale, and agrees that such service is complete upon mailing and that actual receipt of said mailings is not required. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Real estate taxes are adjusted for the fiscal year in which the property is sold through the date of the sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Court Appointed Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Superior Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest.
BWW#: 358881-1

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Court Appointed Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
4910 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Suite 100
Washington, DC 20016 • 202.364.0306
www.alexcooper.com

Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3
(Serial #519127) Ad#81685

Trustee Sales: DC

BWW Law Group, LLC
6003 Executive Blvd., Suite 101
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 961-6555

COURT APPOINTED TRUSTEE
JUDICIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

1133 14th St., NW, Unit #609
Washington, DC 20005

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's Order/Decree in Case #2023-CAB-002506 the Trustees will offer for sale at public auction the real property located at 1133 14th St., NW, Unit #609, Washington, DC, 20005, designated as being Square 0247, Lot 2272, and as more fully described in the Deed of Trust dated October 5, 2006, which is recorded as Instrument #2006140302 in the Land Records of the District of Columbia. The sale will occur within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 AT 1:22 PM

The property, in fee simple, together with all improvements thereon, will be sold by Trustee's deed, in "as is" condition, subject to conditions, restrictions, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any, and with no warranty of any kind. The sale will be subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of $35,000, in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order, will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Trustee, which shall be announced at sale. The sale is subject to ratification by the Court. The balance of the purchase price, together with interest on the unpaid purchase money at the current rate contained in the Deed of Trust Note from the date of sale to the date funds are received by the Trustees, to be paid in certified funds within 60 days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. There will be no abatement of interest for the purchaser in the event additional funds are tendered before settlement, or in the event settlement is delayed for any reason whatsoever. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE FOR THE PURCHASER. If purchaser fails or refuses to settle within the aforesaid time frame, the deposit will be forfeited and the Trustees may apply the deposit toward costs, fees, and their compensation associated with the initial auction and the resale process, with any remaining amount credited to the underlying debt. Additionally, if the purchaser fails to timely settle, the Trustees may file a motion to resell the property, and the purchaser agrees to pay the Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court in connection with said motion. The purchaser also waives personal service of any paper and Show Cause Order in connection with a motion to resell, expressly agrees to accept service by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the purchaser on the documents executed at the time of the sale, and agrees that such service is complete upon mailing and that actual receipt of said mailings is not required. The defaulted purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds resulting from said resale even if such surplus results from improvements to the property by said defaulted purchaser. Real estate taxes are adjusted for the fiscal year in which the property is sold through the date of the sale, and thereafter assumed by the purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for any recapture of homestead tax credit. All other public and/or private charges or assessments, to the extent such amounts survive foreclosure sale, including water/sewer charges, whether incurred prior to or after the sale to be paid by the purchaser. All transfer taxes and recordation taxes shall be paid by purchaser. Purchaser is responsible for obtaining physical possession of the property, and assumes risk of loss or damage to property from the date of sale. The sale is subject to post-sale audit of the status of the loan with the loan servicer including, but not limited to, determination of whether the borrower entered into any repayment agreement, reinstated, or paid off the loan prior to the sale. In any such event, this sale shall be null and void, and the purchaser's sole remedy, in law or equity, shall be the return of the deposit without interest. Court Appointed Trustees will convey either marketable or insurable title. If they cannot deliver one or the other, or if ratification of the sale is denied by the Superior Court for any reason, the Purchaser's sole remedy, at law or equity, is return of the deposit without interest.
BWW#: 339898-2

Howard N. Bierman, Carrie M. Ward, et. al.,
Court Appointed Trustees

ALEX COOPER auctioneers
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www.alexcooper.com

Mar 13, Mar 20, Mar 27, Apr 3
(Serial #519104) Ad#81691

Trustee Sales: Virginia

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF
2231 GARRISONVILLE RD,
STAFFORD, VA 22556

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $870,000.00, with an annual interest rate of 0.079130% dated April 25, 2013, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the Stafford as Deed Instrument Number 130012716, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the Stafford, **on the courthouse steps of the Circuit Court building for the County of Stafford located at 1300 Courthouse Road, Stafford, Virginia on May 22, 2024 at 1:15 PM**, the property with improvements to wit:

RUBY 9.06 AC

Tax Map No. 9-3A

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price, will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: FHA. Reference Number 23-294743.

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: March 20th, 2024
April 17th, 2024
April 24th, 2024

AD#81926

Trustee Sales: Virginia

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF
1019 ISABELLA DRIVE,
STAFFORD, VA 22554

In execution of a Deed of Trust in the original principal amount of $298,493.00, with an annual interest rate of 4.375000% dated March 30, 2009, recorded among the land records of the Circuit Court for the County of Stafford as Deed Instrument Number LR090004847, the undersigned appointed Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at public auction all that property located in the County of Stafford, **on the courthouse steps of the Circuit Court building for the County of Stafford located at 1300 Courthouse Road, Stafford, Virginia on April 17, 2024 at 1:15 PM,** the property with improvements to wit:

LOT 327 14849 SQFT SEC 3 AQUIA HARBOUR SUB

Tax Map No. 21B-37

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

TERMS OF SALE: ALL CASH. A bidder's deposit of 10% of the sale price, will be required in cash, certified or cashier's check. Settlement within fifteen (15) days of sale, otherwise Trustees may forfeit deposit. Additional terms to be announced at sale. Loan type: FHA. Reference Number 23-292603.

PROFESSIONAL FORECLOSURE CORPORATION OF VIRGINIA, Substitute Trustees,
C/O LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP,
Mailing Address:
10130 Perimeter Parkway, Suite 400,
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216
(703) 449-5800.

Run Dates: February 21st, 2024
March 13th, 2024
March 20th, 2024

AD#80924

Order Of Pub - Domestic: Arlington Co.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA. CODE § 8.01-316

ARLINGTON COUNTY
JUVENILE AND
DOMESTIC RELATIONS
DISTRICT COURT

Case No.: JJ043881-01-02

Commonwealth of Virginia, in re
THOMPSON, ADRIAN JIRAIYA

The object of this suit is to:
MOTION TO AMEND CUSTODY

It is ORDERED that **MARLON DAVID THOMPSON JR** appear at the above-named court and protect his or her interests on or before **March 26, 2024 10:00 AM.**
DATE:February 27, 2024

Jennifer Castro
DEPUTY CLERK

March 6,13,20 & 27, 2024
AD#81597

Order Of Pub - Domestic

ORDER OF PUBLICATION
Commonwealth of Virginia
VA. CODE. § 8.01-316

STAFFORD JUVENILE
AND
DOMESTIC RELATIONS
COURT

Case No. JJ057095-07-00, 08-00, 09-00, 10-00

Commonwealth of Virginia, in re
HHILARY BO CAAL
STAFFORD DSS
v.
MARIANO BO CAAL,
ADELA CAAL CA
and all persons
claiming percentage

The object of this suit is to:
TERMINATE THE RESIDUAL PARENTAL RIGHTS OF THE PUTATIVE MOTHER, ADELA BO CAAL, FATHER, MARIANO BO CAAL, AND ANOTHER PERSON CLAIMING PERCENTAGE OF JHILARY BO CAAL.

It is ORDERED that **MARIANO BO CAAL, ADELA BO CAAL, and any other person claiming percentage of JHILARY BO CAAL** appear at the above-named Court and protect his/her interests on or before **May 13, 2024 1:00 PM.**
Date:March 13, 2024

Megan Mayott
DEPUTY CLERK

March 20 & 27, 2024
April 3 & 10, 2024
AD#81859

Show Cause Notice

VIRGINIA:
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF LOUDOUN COUNTY

In Re: ESTATE OF
TECLAIRE SEFEKME,
DECEASED

Probate File No.19286

SHOW CAUSE ORDER

THIS CAUSE COMES BEFORE THE COURT upon the Motion of the Curator, Keith C. Troxell, Esquire, Curator, for Entry and Publication of a Show Cause Order;

IT APPEARING TO THE COURT that a report of the accounts of Keith C. Troxell, Esquire, Curator of the Estate of Teclaire Sefekme, deceased, and of the debts and demands against the Estate have been filed in the Clerk's Office; that six months have elapsed since the appointment of Keith C. Troxell; and that this Order is a proper one, it is hereby

ORDERED that the creditors of, and all others interested in, the Estate do show cause, if any they can, on the **19th day of April, 2024, at 9:00 AM**, before this Court, against the payment and delivery of the Estate of Teclaire Sefekme, deceased, to the legatees, with or without refunding bonds as the Court prescribes. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall be published in the **Washington Times** once a week for two successive weeks pursuant to §64.2-556 of the Code of Virginia, as amended.
Entered this 11h day of March, 2024

James E. Plowman,Jr.
JUDGE

Marissa Bagasra
Esquire (VSB No. 88985)
Cassandra L. Kincaid, Esquire, VSB #38153
Gareth A. Bowen, Esquire, VSB #98108
50 Catoctin Circle, NE, Suite 325
Leesburg, VA 20176
(703) 749-0937
(703) 777-4001 (facsimile)
mbagasra@tllawpc.com
ckincaid@tllawpc.com
gbowen@tllawpc.com
Counsel for Keith C. Troxell
Curator for Estate of Teclaire Sefekme

March 20 & 27, 2024
AD#81927

Show Cause Notice

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF LOUDOUN COUNTY

IN RE: DORIS I. WILLIAMS, deceased (Probate File No. 19563)

Case No. 19563

SHOW CAUSE ORDER

IT APPEARING that a report of the accounts of Julie Lazar, SVP of Truist Bank, Juanita Flanagan, Hampton Williams, IV and Kimberly Myers, Co-Executors of the Estate of Doris I. Williams, deceased, and of the debts and demands against her Estate have been filed in the Clerk's Office, and that six months have elapsed since the qualification, on motion of the Co-Executors;

IT IS ORDERED that the creditors of, and all other persons interested in, the Estate do show cause, if any they can, on the **19th day of April, 2024**, before this Court, at its courtroom at 9:00 a.m., against payment and delivery of the Estate of Doris I. Williams, deceased, to the beneficiaries, without requiring refunding bonds.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, prior to the hearing, this Order to Show Cause shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in **The Washington Times** a newspaper of general circulation in Norther Virginia.
ENTERED this 6th day of March, 2024.

Douglas L. Fleming
JUDGE,
Loudoun County
Circuit Court

I Ask For This:

Christopher T. Leighton
Esq.(VSB No. 96360)
Hughes Legacy Law, PLLC
916 Prince St., Suite 200
Alexandria , VA 22314
703-977-1139 (phone)
571-307-2012 (fax)
cleighton@hugheslegacylaw.com
Counsel for Co-Executors

March 13 and 20, 2024
AD#81826

Legal Notices

DC & Maryland
202-636-3109
Virginia
703-425-0903



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Trustee Sales: DC

McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, LLC
312 Marshall Avenue, Suite 800
Laurel, MD 20707
www.mwc-law.com

COURT APPOINTED SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEES FORECLOSURE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

5315 Connecticut Ave., NW, Unit #406
Washington, DC 20015

In execution of the Superior Court for District of Columbia's ("Court") Order Granting Judgment in Case #2023-CAB-000119 R(RP) NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, LLC v. NEERAJ K. BAJAJ the undersigned Substitute Trustees will offer for sale at public auction within the offices of Alex Cooper Aucts., Inc., 4910 Massachusetts Ave., NW #100, Washington, DC 20016, 202-364-0306 on

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024 AT 10:33 AM

THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON situated in Washington, DC and more fully designated as Lot 2032 in Square 1873 in a Deed of Trust dated September 28, 2015 recorded as Instrument No. 2015101277 among the D.C. Land Records.

The property will be sold by Trustees' Deed "as is" without any covenant, expressed or implied, in Fee Simple, subject to conditions, restrictions, easements, and all other recorded instruments superior to the Deed of Trust referenced above, and subject to ratification by the Court.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of at least $20,000 or ten percent (10%) of the winning bid amount will be required at time of sale, in the form of cashier's or certified check, or other form as Substitute Trustees may determine. The deposit required to bid at the auction is waived for the Noteholder and any of its successors or assigns. The Noteholder may bid up to the amount owed on the Note plus all costs and expenses of sale on credit and may submit a written bid to the Substitute Trustees which shall be announced at sale. The Balance of the purchase price to be paid in certified funds within sixty (60) days of final ratification of the sale by the Court. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. If Purchaser fails to settle within the aforesaid sixty (60) days of the ratification, the Purchaser agrees to pay the Substitute Trustees' reasonable attorney fees as ordered by the Court, plus all costs incurred, if the Substitute Trustees have filed the appropriate motion with the Court to resell the property. Purchaser waives personal service of any paper filed with the Court in connection with such motion and any Show Cause Order issued by the Court and expressly agrees to accept service of any such paper or Order by certified mail and regular mail sent to the address provided by the Purchaser and as recorded on the documents executed by the Purchaser at the time of the sale. Service shall be deemed effective upon the Purchaser 3 days after postmarked by the United States Post Office. It is expressly agreed by the Purchaser that actual receipt of the certified mail is not required for service to be effective. If the Purchaser fails to go to settlement the deposit shall be forfeited to the Substitute Trustees and all expenses of this sale (including attorney fees and full commission on the gross sales price of the sale) shall be charged against and paid from the forfeited deposit. In the event of resale the defaulting Purchaser shall not be entitled to any surplus proceeds or profits resulting from any resale of the property regardless of any improvements made to the real property. Interest is to be paid on the unpaid purchase money at the rate of 4.375% per annum from the date of sale to the date the funds are received in the office of the Substitute Trustees. In the event that the settlement is delayed for ANY REASON WHATSOEVER, there shall be no abatement of interest. Taxes, water rent, condominium fees and/or homeowner association dues, all public charges/assessments payable on an annual basis, including sanitary and/or metropolitan district charges, if applicable, to be adjusted for the current year to date of sale and assumed thereafter by the Purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for the costs of all transfer taxes, documentary stamps and all other costs incident to settlement. Purchaser shall be responsible for physical possession of the property. Purchaser assumes the risk of loss from the date of sale forward. If the Substitute Trustees are unable to convey good and marketable title, the Purchaser's sole remedy in law or equity shall be limited to the refund of the deposit to the Purchaser. The sale is subject to post sale audit by the noteholder to determine whether the borrower filed bankruptcy, entered into any repayment/forbearance agreement, reinstated or paid off prior to the sale. In any such event the Purchaser agrees that upon notification by the Substitute Trustees of such event the sale is null and void and of no legal effect and the deposit returned without interest. (Matter #22-801529).

Laura H. G. O'Sullivan, et al.,
Substitute Trustees

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Feb 28, Mar 6, Mar 13, Mar 20
(Serial #519074) Ad#81203

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 4 Research Place and 44 Research Place, Rockville, Md. 20850 to satisfy a lien for rental on **04-02-2024 at approx. 3:00PM** at www.storagetreasures.com

Run Date: March 20th, 2024

AD#81974

Auctions: DC

STORAGE TREASURES AUCTION

Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, will hold a public auction at the location indicated: **1250 Taylor St NW Washington, DC 20011, 202.769.1420 on March 26, 2024 at 1:30 PM.** Unit Number: 2190a, 2126B, C13 The auction will be listed and advertised on **www.storagetreasures.com**. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

March 20, 2024 Ad#82008



Auctions: DC

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-Storage Cube contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart Asset Management, LLC as Agent for the Owner to satisfy a lien for rental on **04-03-2024 at approx. 3:00PM** at www.storagetreasures.com for the following customers storing at the following locations:

"The contents of approximately (12) Cubes will be sold."

Location:

1401 22nd Street SE, Washington, DC 20020

Run Date: March 20th, 2024

AD#81965

Auctions: Multi Locations

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents will be sold for cash by CubeSmart Management, LLC to satisfy a lien for rental on **04-03-2024 at approx. 3:00PM** at www.storagetreasures.com.

Locations:

402 - 1850 New York AVE NE, Washington, DC 20002
583 - 1501 Ritchie Station Ct, Capitol Heights, MD 20743
593 - 3750 Donnell Dr, District Heights, MD 20746
585 - 645 Taylor Street NE, Washington, DC 20017
598 - 1200 Upshur Street NW, Washington, DC 20011

Run Date: March 20th, 2024

AD#81964

Auctions: Multi Locations

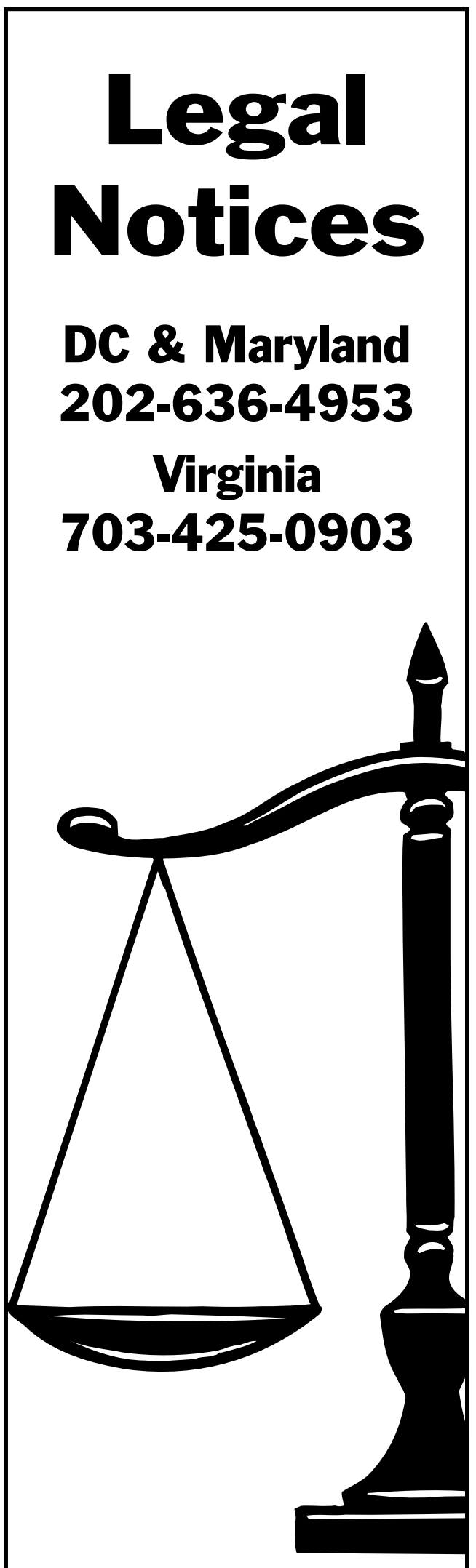
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Self-storage Cube contents will be sold for cash by CubeSmart Management, LLC to satisfy a lien for rental on **04-02-2024** at approx. **3:00PM** at www.storagetreasures.com.

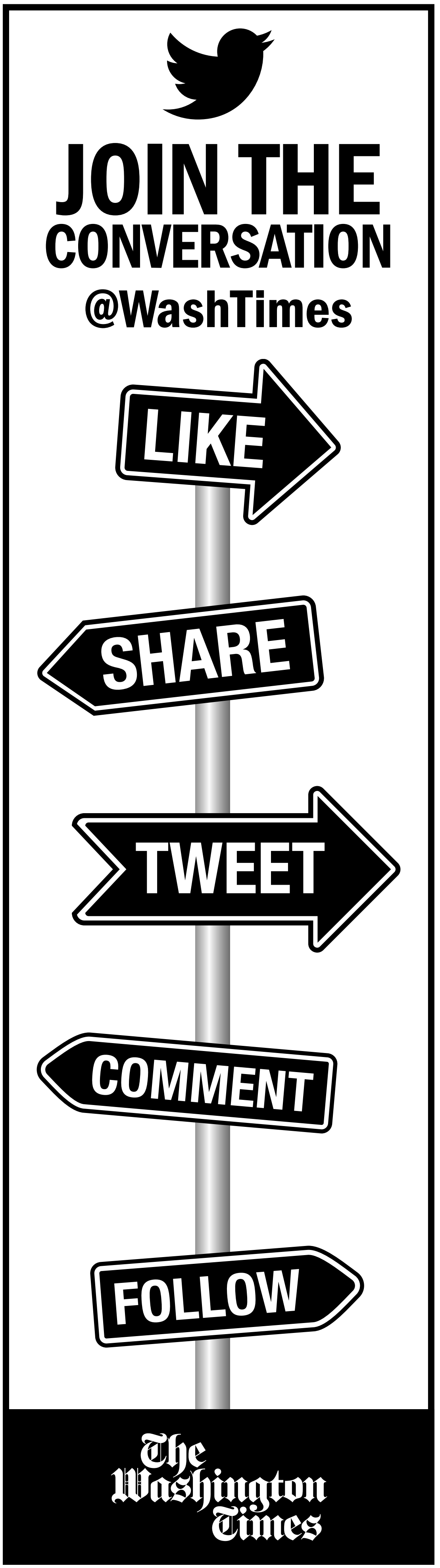
Locations:

106 - 1701 Florida AVE NW Washington, DC 20009
378 - 2121 Brooks Dr Capitol Heights, MD 20747
571 - 8001 Snouffer School Rd, Gaithersburg, Md. 20879
582 - 5335 Beech Rd, Temple Hills, MD 20748
584 - 300 Old Game Preserve Rd Gaithersburg, MD 20879
594 - 175 R Street NE, Washington, DC 20002

Run Date: March 20th, 2024

AD#81972





JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

Rating: Gold

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).

1		6			2			5
	4			9		1		7
		5			8		2	
						7		6
	9		8		7		5	
7		3						
	8		7			6		
3		1		2			7	
2			1			3		4

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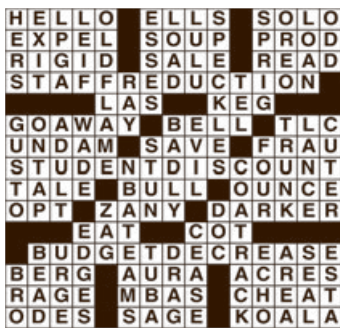
ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS PUZZLES:

8	1	5	7	3	6	4	2	9
7	6	2	1	4	9	3	8	5
4	9	3	8	2	5	6	7	1
2	3	6	5	7	1	9	4	8
9	5	7	6	8	4	1	3	2
1	4	8	2	9	3	5	6	7
6	7	9	4	1	8	2	5	3
5	2	1	3	6	7	8	9	4
3	8	4	9	5	2	7	1	6



JUMBLE/David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

WCAHK

DBYUD

LFAMEE

SUWINE



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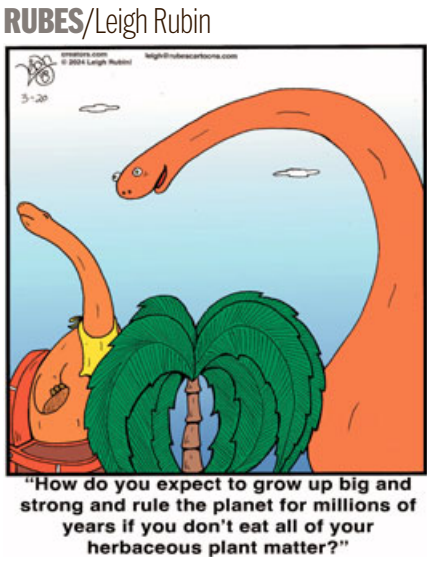
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here: ( ) " ( ) "

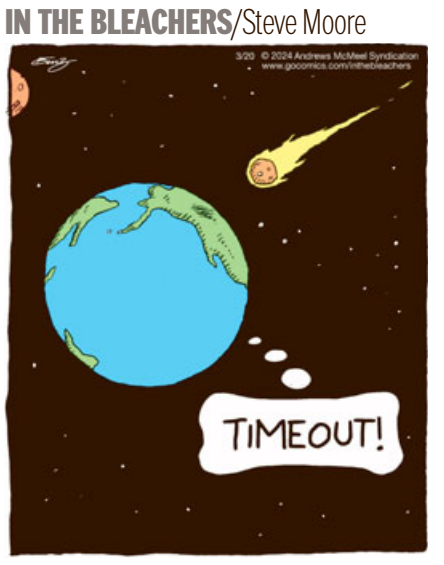
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: IMPEL SNIFF PROVEN GROWTH
Answer: After a cold winter, the nursery had flowers, and they hoped people would — SPRING FOR THEM

RUBES/Leigh Rubin



IN THE BLEACHERS/Steve Moore



NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

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Rating People

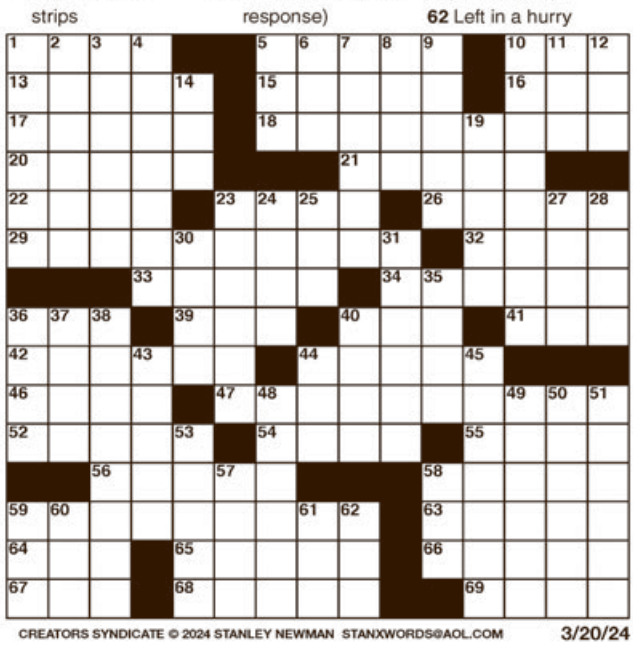
By Mark McClain, Edited by Stanley Newman

ACROSS

1 Just slightly
5 Minor ailments
10 That guy's
13 Connection points
15 Common computer font
16 Hooting bird
17 San Antonio shrine
18 Guy's performance Oscar
20 Within the rules
21 Soak in the tub
22 Father of Thor
23 Furry red Muppet
26 Store transactions
29 Faithful pal
32 Shaving mishap
33 Fire truck sound
34 Casual restaurant
36 Neighbor of OH and KY
39 Young boy
40 __-CIO
41 Regret doing
42 Football headgear
44 Attach with a rope
46 Norwegian capital
47 Ordinary guy
52 Sunflower stem
54 Sunrise direction
55 Chinese disk instrument
56 Animal dens
58 Aviator
59 Person not noted for sportsmanship
63 Thick, as fog
64 Bird in a coop
65 Last Greek letter
66 Score great on a test
67 Angry state
68 Stylist's workplace
69 Three, in Spain

DOWN

1 Not digital, as watches
2 Ohio city
3 Slow tempo
4 Insists upon
5 Car with a meter
6 Mine output
7 Portuguese capital
8 Statistics
9 Window blind strips
10 Mr. Hilton or Mr. Marriott
11 Battle of __ Jima
12 Professional's camera: Abbr.
14 Note after fa
19 Gregorian music
23 List of misprints
24 Told a whopper
25 Fellows
27 Light beige
28 __ terrier (Scottish dog)
30 Manicure tool
31 Sports team's loss
35 Like a bump on __
36 "__ there?" (knock response)
37 Three-piece suit part
38 Without assistance
40 Broadcasts
43 Grinding tooth
44 Breakfast brew
45 Pay no attention to
48 Yacht or pot
49 Person in many clubs
50 Infant's bodysuit
51 White marsh birds
53 Metric weights
57 Capital of Italia
58 Vitamin regulator: Abbr.
59 __ Beta Kappa
60 "__ the ramparts. . ."
61 Sense of self
62 Left in a hurry



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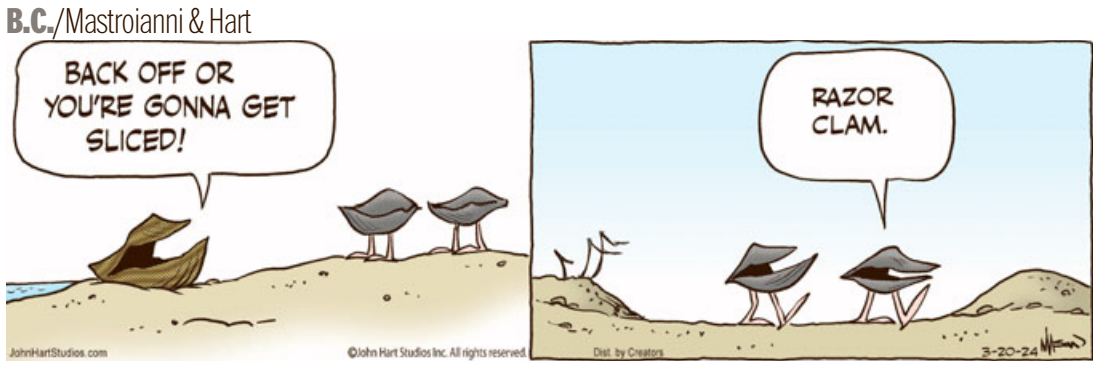
MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

B.C./Mastroianni & Hart



LOLA/Todd Clark



BOUND & GAGGED/Dana Summers



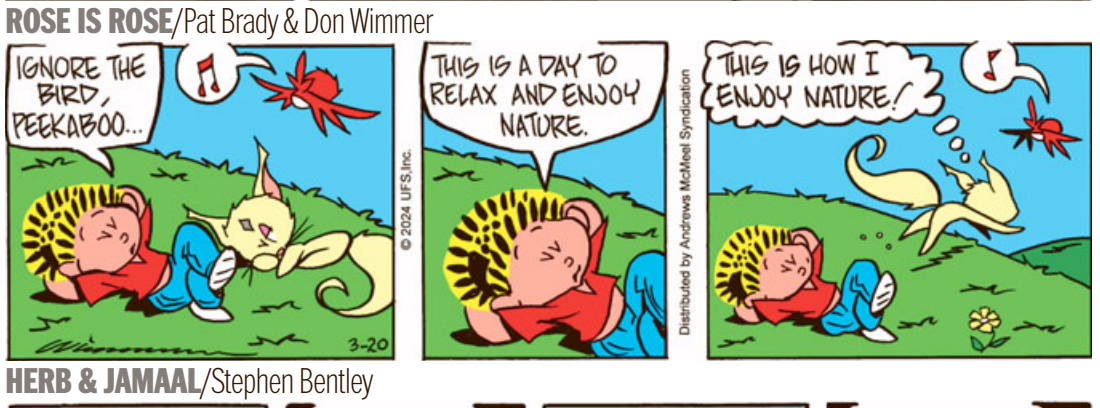
ADAM @ HOME/Rob Harrell



THE BUCKETS/Greg Cravens



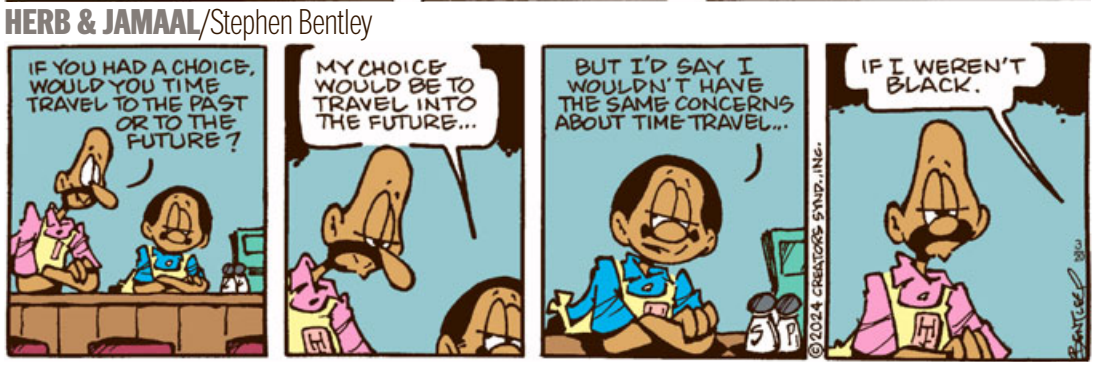
ROSE IS ROSE/Pat Brady & Don Wimmer



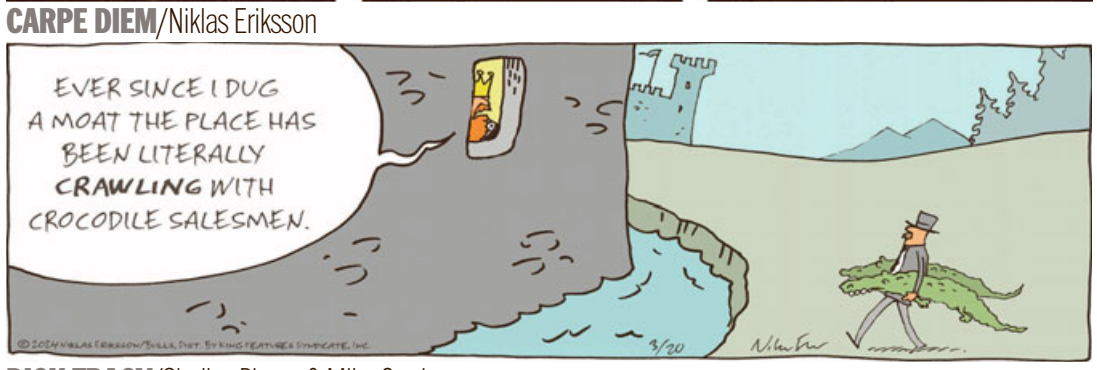
DOGS OF C-KENNEL/Mick & Mason Mastroianni



HERB & JAMAAL/Stephen Bentley



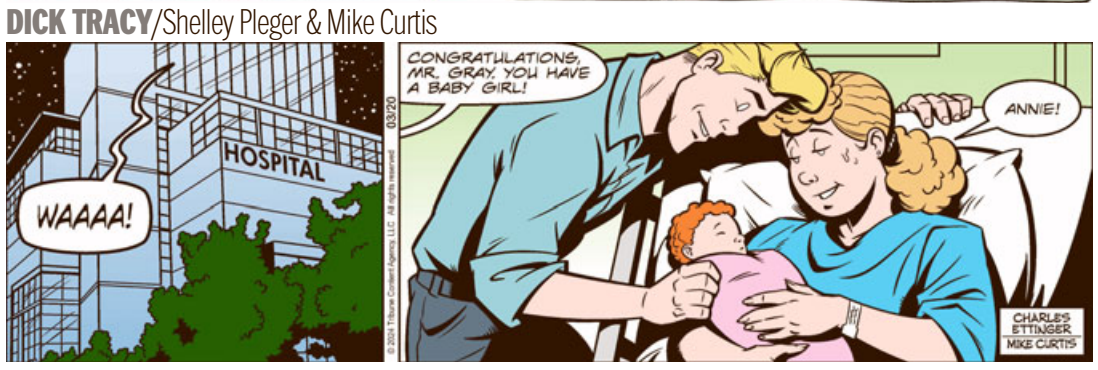
CARPE DIEM/Niklas Eriksson



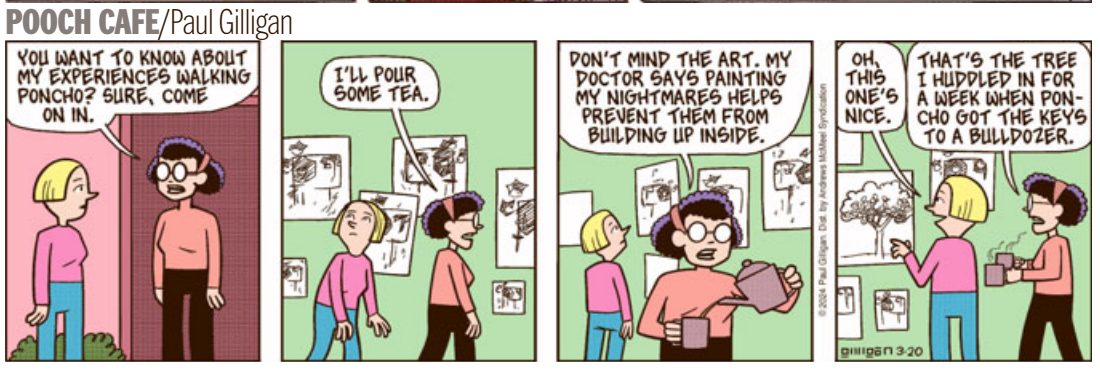
BROOM-HILDA/Russell Myers



DICK TRACY/Shelley Pleger & Mike Curtis



POOCH CAFE/Paul Gilligan



STRANGE BREW/John Deering



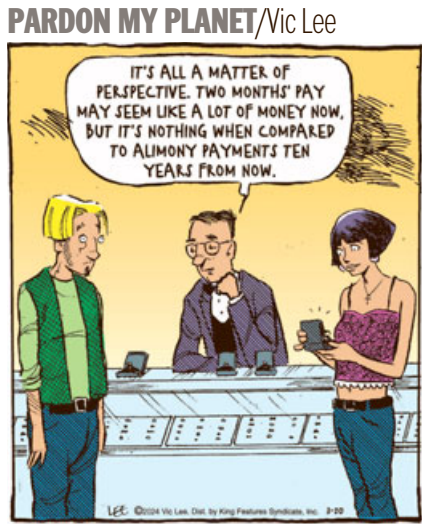
BOTTOM LINERS/Eric & Bill Teitelbaum



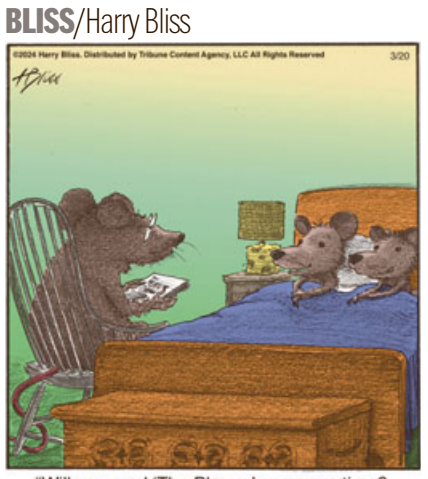
THE FLYING McCOYS/Glenn & Gary McCoy



PARDON MY PLANET/Vic Lee



BLISS/Harry Bliss



"Will you read 'The Plague' one more time? Pretty please?!"

TELEVISION

Family shaken far from the tree

Matriarch goes missing in 'Apples Never Fall'

By Alicia Rancilio
ASSOCIATED PRESS



PEACOCK VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jake Lacy (second left), Essie Randles, Alison Brie and Conor Merrigan-Turner co-star with Annette Bening, who plays matriarch Joy Delaney, and Sam Neill, who plays her husband, Stan, in "Apples Never Fall."

There's a scene in the new Peacock drama "Apples Never Fall " in which Annette Bening's character weeps after having too much to drink at a family party. "Nobody can break your heart like your own children," she laments.

Ms. Bening, a mother of four with husband Warren Beatty, understands something about parent-child relationships. She emphasizes her character's emotions with a line from Shakespeare.

"'Sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child,'" she said in an interview. "We are so vulnerable to our children for sure. Our children also have their own fate. And as a parent, you want to protect your kids."

In the show, Ms. Bening plays Joy Delaney, a wife and mother with four adult children. She and her husband, Stan, played by Sam Neill, are the retired owners of a tennis academy and are now trying to fill their days with purpose. Chaos ensues when Joy vanishes and the Delaney children become suspicious of their father. Long-kept secrets are revealed.

The show is told in two timelines: present day, and the past that led up to Joy's disappearance. Ms. Bening said that's when we really see the Delaneys as an authentic family.

"You know how just the look from one person to another can be enough to either signal a problem, piss you off, or make you really want to die of laughter? I mean, I'm one of four, and I still do," she said.

"My mom is 95. I can still make my siblings laugh imitating my mother. We all have these unspoken things that go on in a family. And that's really what this is about. What's unspoken, what's unearthed and what lies are revealed."

Mr. Neill found the complications of his character compelling. "I've seldom played a character as complex as this," he said.

"I found him wonderful to play with, although he's dangerous. He's capable of anything. He has these rather alarming alpha male tendencies, but he's also vulnerable and ridiculous. He's very reactive to what's going on. I wouldn't want to be married to him," he joked.

Allison Brie plays Amy, one of Sam and Joy's daughters. Just because the children immediately question their father's behavior after their mother's disappearance, she said, doesn't mean it's an open and shut case.

"I think the audience will find, as I found reading episode to episode and reading the book, that minute to minute, episode to episode, you think it's one person, then you maybe think it's another person," Ms. Brie said.

"Apples Never Fall" is based on a novel of the same name by Australian author Liane Moriarty, who also wrote "Big Little Lies" and "Nine Perfect Strangers."

If you've read the book, don't assume you know how the story will end, said Essie Randles, who plays daughter Brooke Delaney.

"I don't think it's a secret that our series is slightly different from the book," Ms. Randles stated.

"When we first received episode six and seven, I went down to the beach where we were staying and read them, and I burst into tears and cried and cried because I was struck by how much hurt there is in this family, without giving anything away. I found it really, really touching." she said.

Despite the Delaneys' onscreen dysfunction, the cast — who filmed the series in Queensland, Australia — says they truly bonded on the set.

"If you're all stuck in a foreign land together, that's what you do," Mr. Neill explained. "In this case, there were some of the funniest people I've ever worked with or met. It was a kind of riot. I find actors — for all this ridiculousness — to be the warmest, smartest, funniest people around. They're my people."

Ms. Brie added: "Sometimes you meet people and you have true, immediate chemistry. We all felt that as a family. I'm sure it really does start with Sam and Annette."

Mr. Neill arranged movie nights for the actors, including an Annette Bening Film Festival where they would screen her films.

"He took it very seriously," recalled Jake Lacy, who plays the oldest child, Troy.

"He made it as serious as a wedding invitation," added Conor Merrigan Turner, who plays Logan, the youngest.

Mr. Lacy said Ms. Bening attended those movie nights with an ease about her that made everyone in the room more comfortable.

"She wasn't self-conscious about it. It was fun to get together and kind of go like, 'Hey, you're amazing at this,' and then she felt free to go, 'When we shot that scene, this thing was happening,' or any other little tidbit that's so cool to hear about."

MOVIES

'Kind of fun and sweaty and violent'

By Lindsey Bahr
ASSOCIATED PRESS



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rose Glass (center) is director/co-writer of the new film "Love Lies Bleeding," which stars Kristen Stewart (left) and Katy O'Brian.

'Love Lies Bleeding' crew collaborated for daring film

LOS ANGELES | Kristen Stewart knows that not everyone should make movies. She also knows that Rose Glass should.

The 34-year-old English director and screenwriter is one of those rare original storytellers with daring things to say and the vision to do them justice. In other words, definitely not "everybody." Ms. Glass' first film "Saint Maud," was a chilling picture of faith and madness. Her second, "Love Lies Bleeding " (expanding in theaters this weekend) is also kind of about madness but of different sorts — that of love, of power and of strength (the literal kind).

"I wanted to make something kind of fun and sweaty and violent," Ms. Glass said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Moviemaking may be a risk-averse business, but Ms. Glass and her collaborators are not. Set in the American West in the 1980s, Ms. Stewart plays Lou, an introverted gym manager and daughter of a local conman (Ed Harris) who gets swept up in the fever dream of new love with an aspiring bodybuilder, Jackie (Katy O'Brian), who's passing through town.

"I loved that it felt a bit like mythology, like a comic booky, throwback '80s," said Ms. Stewart. "I can't finish any of these sentences but the movie is good."

"(Rose) made this audacious and singular, unique experience personal for us and let us be our own individuals and just, like, traipse all over her thing," Ms. Stewart added. "It's so fun to work with people who are like cuckoo birds but also really concerted."

Ms. Glass, Ms. Stewart and Ms. O'Brian spoke to The Associated Press in an expletive-filled and slightly R-rated conversation about the twist on the idea of "strong female characters," their aversion to a certain overused shorthand and "Showgirls."

Remarks have been edited for clarity and brevity.

Question: What were some of the things that really excited you about "Love Lies Bleeding"?

Ms. Stewart: I guess, like, in your dreams, you don't always do the right thing. And in movies, somehow girls are kind of expected to make everyone feel really comfortable. I think that's a very default setting for women in general. And in this case, it was like, yeah, but what if I'm [expletive] and my rage is boiling out and bubbling over? And it also really turns me on to share that with another person?

Ms. O'Brian: It wasn't like just about resilience or just about one thing. There's so much that you can read into it if you want to, which I think is cool. Or you can just watch it and have fun.

Q: Why do you think it's subversive to make a movie about female power that's also literally about bodybuilding?

Ms. Glass: Maybe it's just something you haven't seen. I don't know many films which have female bodybuilders in it.

Ms. Stewart: You said something recently about looking at a female body like that, like there's something kind of punk about it. Because when you think of feminine qualities, unfortunately, we defer to like demure, or soft or elegant or sort of like something languid. And you're like, well, she's a woman, so she's inherently feminine. That's just not the shape that you're used to. But it is definitely female strength.

I think also just playing with toys that we're not usually allowed to play with in a petulant way. I'm like looking at Rose and going, "because you're a brat and you're [expletive] hilarious that's why you wanted to do this."

The idea of the strength, it must have come from annoying conversations that you were having in rooms with people who fund movies. And I could be wrong, but that's my take.

Ms. Glass: Like, "Oh do something with a strong female character"? I'll make her really muscley.

Q: It sort of makes me think about women being described as "kick [expletive]" which always makes me wince.

Ms. Stewart: Like "bad [expletive]."

Ms. O'Brian: The words "bad [expletive]" together.

Ms. Stewart: We've had it a lot today. And I don't mean to diminish anyone who used it, because it was really nice for them to say and it came with good intention. But it makes my toes curl so far into my body that I no longer have an [expletive].

Q: We'll put a demure "expletive" in there. Katy, how did Jackie come alive for you?

Ms. O'Brian: What really helped me was everything else around: The wardrobes and the hair and makeup. Then getting to see Jackie next to Lou and see Jackie in the gym. I was trying to tell the costumers, I was like well people wouldn't really work out in this. And she's like, "Katy, people also don't grow to be 35 feet ... We're going for the magazine vibe, the sexy vibe." And it's 100% what Jackie needed.

Even the workout equipment that you got from the '80s, it's made for men because women didn't work out [that way]. They did aerobics, Jane Fonda. You had to adjust your own height to try to figure out how to get the right muscle because it's bigger equipment.

Bride-to-be walks a fine line for her bridesmaids

ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: I recently started planning my wedding. Half the friends I want as bridesmaids are very conservative. They think sex is sacred and should be talked about only discreetly, not joked about, mentioned on TV, etc. I used to hold similar views, but I no longer do. Neither do the other half of the girls I want as bridesmaids.

My dream bachelorette party is the kind you see in movies, a group of girls going out on the town getting tipsy — maybe being a little stupid — nothing dangerous, with sexy games/favors and casually swapping sex tips and double entendres. That may not be possible with my straight-laced friends, whom I really like and would like to include.

I pick up on others' feelings easily, so I can't ignore when someone around me is unhappy. I want all my girlfriends to enjoy the party, but two or three of them won't appreciate the humor of drinking from a phallus-shaped straw. Should I split the guest list and have one prudish party and one sexy one? — GOOD/BAD GIRL IN THE EAST

DEAR GIRL: That's an excellent idea! And we all know which one you are going to enjoy.

DEAR ABBY: I just found out my husband has been texting with his high school sweetheart for the last three years. He contacted her and shares all day-to-day activities, like our vacations, new dog, etc. She lives 2,500 miles away. She's divorced, retired like us and has children and grandchildren. I snooped and read his email. I can tell by her responses that she is being polite.

I don't understand why he contacted her after so many years and why he shares everything with her, as we have a close relationship and share everything. He did mention a year ago that he was in touch with her. I didn't think much about it then, but now that I know how long this has been going on, I'm wondering why. Should I be concerned about this? — PUZZLED IN MAINE

DEAR PUZZLED: What is happening could be innocent, or it could be crossing a line. You will never know until you discuss this with your husband. You MAY not have to disclose that you read the texts if you say you recalled him mentioning that they were in touch "a while back" and let the conversation evolve from there.

DEAR ABBY: I recently received an Evite to a surrogate baby shower. I was happy to attend. Each guest was asked to bring a box of diapers, our favorite children's book and a donation to help cover the surrogate expenses. A written explanation of how expensive the surrogate process is was also included.

In my opinion, when the couple started the surrogacy process, they were aware of how expensive it would be, and to ask the shower attendees to contribute to it is a little nervy. Was this proper etiquette? — WONDERING IN NEVADA

DEAR WONDERING: No. Soliciting the donation was over the top. I can't help but wonder how many invitees declined the invitation because of it. To ask for money was tacky.

ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION

HOLIDAY MATHIS
HOROSCOPE

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 20). You're talented, hardworking and, in the season ahead, also super lucky. You'll stay in a state of readiness and make good on a succession of opportunities. More highlights: New connections enrich your personal life, open professional doors and pay you, too. You'll upgrade aspects of your lifestyle that activate your most vital self. Libra and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 16, 2, 20 and 11.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your every move is one of gratitude. In a sense, even your ambition will be an acknowledgement, as you are building on what you already have. The appreciation you feel will compound and attract more of the good stuff.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When you were younger, you imagined your adult self doing what you now do daily. And though it's now commonplace, the childhood wonder is still in there somewhere. Let that child be impressed by you. You're impressive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Love changes things. The love for one person makes you more loving to all. Every bit of love flowing from your heart improves relationships and ripples out to the population at large.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Cultural exploration leads to spiritual connection. Whether celebrating traditions from distant lands or convening in a serene gathering at a sacred place, you'll be drawn to the exotic and unfamiliar.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). What's the least you could do? It's not a question for the lazy today, rather it's for the wise souls who realize that trying too hard often has an effect opposite of what's intended. Do enough to be effective and no more.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You don't know someone until you see how they are under different circumstances. In the spirit of inclusion, you extend your trust anyway and, over time, learn what you can expect from a person.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've told your story many times and in different ways, too, because you're learning to cater to your audience. The ability to read a room and give them what you think they need and want will make you money.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You may disagree, but you don't disrespect. You're open to hearing other points of view, even ones you'll probably never agree with, because compassion doesn't require agreement; it requires empathy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your mind is working on all cylinders to solve a complex problem. While the thought process is layered, ultimately, the solution will be simple, elegant, inexpensive and effective.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You know yourself from the inside out, but you know other people from the outside in. This is just one more reason not to make comparisons. Unless you're comparing reversible jackets, the logic falls apart.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Responsibility gives structure to your time. It seems like this would limit your freedom, but it actually works in the opposite way, helping you feel a sense of urgency to prioritize the things that make you feel most vital.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Follow the instructions and you'll get the expected result. Add a twist or break a rule and you'll get a unique result, and the immense satisfaction of knowing it's all yours.

CREATORS.COM

COMMANDERS

Offensive tackle Lucas agrees to new 1-year, $4M deal

The Washington Commanders are keeping offensive tackle Cornelius Lucas, who has agreed to a one-year contract. Tuesday's reported deal will be worth up to $4 million.

SPORTS BRIEFS

The 32-year-old has spent four seasons with the Commanders, mostly filling in for injured offensive linemen. He started four games in 2023.

New general manager Adam Peters has focused on the offensive line in free agency. Last season, the offense allowed a league-leading 65 sacks. The team released starting left tackle Charles Leno Jr. but added center Tyler Biadasz and guard Nick Allegretti.

With Leno's departure, Lucas has a path toward joining the starting lineup in 2024. The Kansas State product has appeared in 115 career games, accumulating 47 starts across 10 seasons.

NFL

Netflix series 'Reciever' follows footsteps of hit 'Quarterback'

The NFL is collaborating with Netflix on a documentary series that highlights top pass catchers from the 2023 season. The show, "Receiver," comes after the popular "Quarterback" series the streamer released last year.

The program zeroes in Davante Adams of the Las Vegas Raiders, Justin Jefferson of the Minnesota Vikings, George Kittle and Deebo Samuel of the San Francisco 49ers and Amon-Ra St. Brown of the Detroit Lions.

The NFL said the eight-episode series will premiere this summer.

"Receiver" is Netflix's latest foray into athletic content. The streamer documented sports figures and teams in releases such as "Formula 1: Drive to Survive," "Full Swing" and "Under Pressure: The U.S. Women's World Cup Team."

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Clemson joins Florida State in lawsuit fight to leave ACC

Clemson sued the Atlantic Coast Conference in a South Carolina court on Tuesday, joining Florida State in challenging the league's right to charge schools hundreds of millions of dollars to leave.

The complaint filed in Pickens County says the ACC's "exorbitant $140 million" exit penalty and the grant of rights used to bind schools to a conference through their media rights should be struck down.

"Each of these erroneous assertions separately hinders Clemson's ability to meaningfully explore its options regarding conference membership, to negotiate alternative revenue-sharing proposals among ACC members and to obtain full value for its future media rights," the school said in the lawsuit.

Clemson said it has not given notice that it is exiting the ACC and remains a member of the conference.

"The ACC remains confident that its agreements with all its members will be affirmed by the courts," ACC Commissioner and Virginia President Jim Ryan, chairman of the conference board, said in a statement. "Clemson, along with all ACC members, voluntarily signed and re-signed the 2013 and 2016 Grant of Rights, which is binding through 2036. In addition, Clemson agreed to the process and procedures for withdrawal."

In December, Florida State's board of trustees sued the ACC in Florida, making similar claims. The ACC preemptively filed a lawsuit against Florida State in North Carolina, where the conference offices are located.

Florida State claims exiting the ACC before the grant of rights and current media rights deal with ESPN runs out in 2036 would cost $572 million.

Clemson is a charter member of the ACC, dating back to its founding in 1953.

NHL

Former Penguins player Koltsov apparent suicide victim

MIAMI | Former Belarusian hockey player Konstantin Koltsov, who was coaching in the KHL, has died in Florida, police said Tuesday. He was 42.

Police said the death was an apparent suicide and no foul play was suspected.

He served as an assistant coach for Salavat Yulaev Ufa the past two seasons. He also was an assistant on staff for the Belarusian men's national team.

Koltsov played in 144 NHL games for the Pittsburgh Penguins from 2003-06 after being selected in the first round of the 1999 draft, putting up 12 goals and 26 assists.

The Penguins in a statement extended condolences to Koltsov's family and friends.

From wire dispatches and staff reports.

AUTO RACING

Hamlin doesn't mind 'villain' label as long as he's winning

By Mark Long
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Denny Hamlin was booed in celebration again.

The Joe Gibbs Racing superstar, a driver whose 52 wins in the Cup Series rank as the 13th most in NASCAR history, heard another heaping of disapproval and contempt when he climbed from his No. 11 Toyota at Bristol Motor Speedway on Sunday.

Victor and villain.

Hamlin stopped short of egging the hostile crowd on this time, though. After winning his second consecutive victory at the famed short track — his fourth overall inside the concrete coliseum — Hamlin skipped his catchphrase "I just beat your favorite driver" and simply flashed his index finger in every direction to remind everyone who finished No. 1.

Surely some of his detractors responded with a different finger.

It's become the surreal norm for Hamlin and shows no signs of quieting even as he continues to rise NASCAR's all-time win chart. Hamlin has Hall of Famers Lee Petty (54) and Rusty Wallace (55) within reach this season and has closed the gap on Kyle Busch (63) for the most wins by an active driver.

He may already have surpassed Busch as the most hated driver in the garage.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Denny Hamlin was booed after winning at the Bristol Motor Speedway. "I don't mind it. I really don't because it's just noise." he said. He has accrued 52 wins in the Cup series.

"I don't mind it. I really don't because it's just noise," Hamlin said before the race. "There were many moments mid-career where there was just claps; that's just not a needle mover one way or the other. A lot of it comes with success as well. If you are a contender each and every week, you are going to get more noise typically."

The "noise" seems to be getting louder, and Hamlin knows why. He's had altercations with two of NASCAR's most popular drivers, the first coming in 2017 with Chase Elliott and the latest coming last year with Kyle Larson.

Hamlin first drew a strong negative reaction seven years ago at his hometown track in Martinsville, Virgina, after he wrecked Elliott in a playoff race. It knocked Elliott out of contention for the championship the following week.

Hamlin seemed to reignite those memories last May when he publicly and loudly called for Elliott to be suspended after Elliott intentionally wrecked him in the Coca-Cola 600. NASCAR did, and fans blamed Hamlin even though the punishment was in line with similar altercations.

Back in the public crosshairs, Hamlin forced Larson up the track and into the wall at Pocono Raceway last July while they battled for the lead with less than 10 laps to go. Hamlin went on to win and was loudly booed after exiting his car on the front stretch.

"I have had so many altercations with so many popular drivers, and that just kind of fuels it as well," Hamlin said. "I've checked all of the boxes of the things that fans despise. We've seen a previous driver (Busch) at Joe Gibbs Racing, he just changes teams and he's more liked.

"When you've got all the things that I've got in that box in the negativity checked, you are just going to have to live that life."

NCAA

From page B14

left that sent North Carolina to the Final Four and eventually the championship a year later.

Butler owns his own corner of history with that off-dribble 17-footer over the left arm of an FAU defender — coincidentally, Boyd — from the right side. He's the first to hit a Final Four winner with his team trailing and no time left.

They are all life-altering events and being part of a select club starts with recognition.

"I didn't understand how many people really watched and how many people that I knew really watched," said Boyd, who scored with 2.5 seconds left to beat Memphis. I was able to get back in touch with third-grade teachers, principals from my middle school, people I haven't talked to in 10 years."

College Basketball Reference accounted for 130 winning baskets or free throws in the final 2 seconds back to the 1944 tournament. Some times are estimates, coming before the clock stopped after made baskets or included tenths-of-second breakdowns.

Two players appear twice: Duke's Christian Laettner and Butler's Matt Howard. Laettner stands alone for hitting both with his team down and no time remaining: a double-pump jumper against Connecticut in the 1990 Elite Eight, then the famed catch-and-turnaround against Kentucky in the 1992 Elite Eight en route to a second straight championship.

Countless others have come oh-so-close to joining the list. Max Abmas is one; he missed a buzzer 3-pointer to beat Arkansas in the 2021 Indianapolis bubble, ending 15th-seeded Oral Roberts' unexpected Sweet 16 run.

"It was a tough one," said Abmas, now with seventh-seeded Texas in the Midwest. "That's one, of course, that I wanted back."

Few understand the challenge better than Keith Smart.

Indiana trailed by one against Syracuse in the 1987 final when the 6-foot-1 junior took a feed on the left side, dribbled once to his left and swished a jumper with 4 seconds left in the Superdome. The shot secured Bob Knight's third title and made Smart the Final Four's most outstanding player.

A three-time NBA head coach and current Arkansas assistant, Smart points to college and pro players shooting all kinds of shots after practices or shootarounds: falling out of bounds, leaners, halfcourt shots, among them.

It's more than just messing around.

"Most of the time, the guys who take those shots have all kind of got a good feel about themselves," Smart said. "Mentally they're strong, and they can probably deal with the consequences.

"I've seen over my coaching career, guys who won't take that shot, don't take it," he added. "I can even see it sometimes when guys are practicing after the shootaround in different places, who's actually up there shooting. And nine times out of 10, in that situation, here comes the guy taking that shot that's practiced shooting from all angles of the floor. You never know when that moment is going to come."

As for focus, Smart was consumed with mechanics after front-rimming a jumper moments earlier against Syracuse.

"I've got to 'jump up, shoot up,'" Smart said, citing assistant coach Ron Felling. "I knew if I get that moment again, I would do that and that would put lift on my shot."

Forward to 2023, and Coles mirrored Smart's mindset before his tiebreaker against Arizona State.

Feeling his shot had been "kind of flat," he took a pass and dribbled into the paint to shoot a left-foot floater with Desmond Cambridge Jr. contesting and 7-footer Warren Washington lurking nearby.

"I just remember when I drove that, 'I just need to get this ball a little higher than I have been throughout the game,'" Coles said.

The ball swished through with 1.5 seconds left for the 72-70 win.

Butler's biggest memory is seeing family members celebrating in seats near where he took his winning shot last year.

"I feel like that was one of the best moments, to be able to see them and they were all lit up," Butler said. "And to be bombarded by my teammates like that. Everybody was so happy ... It's definitely a moment I'll never forget."

That illustrates why Smart views those moments as about more than just one shotmaker.

"We're all connected by the ring. By the moment. By the shot," Smart said.

OLYMPICS

From page B14

In another source of tension between Olympic leaders and Russian sport, the IOC decided Tuesday that the International Boxing Association led by Kremlin-backed Umar Kremlev will not be involved in organizing bouts for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

The IOC also threatened to remove boxing from the Los Angeles program in what seemed like a challenge to national federations worldwide to distance themselves from the IBA and Kremlev.

The IOC withdrew its recognition of the IBA last year and the body was not allowed to take part in organizing boxing at the previous Tokyo Olympics or in Paris. But Kremlev has further riled the IOC with confrontational comments and support for the rival Friendship Games scheduled in Russia in September.

"If we do not have a new boxing body to work in partnership with the IOC, we will not be in a position to have boxing at the program of (Los Angeles)," the Olympic body said.

WOMEN

From page B14

It helps that the women's players stick around for three, four or even five years without the chance to leave early for the pros so fans get to know them and watch them grow. Three years ago, Clark said she thought women's players should be allowed to turn pro after their freshman year, like the men can.

Instead, she stuck around and had a record-setting year that grabbed the nation's attention.

"It's really, really evident that there's stars out there in this game," UConn coach Geno Auriemma said. "Whereas before I think they were there, but nobody wanted to acknowledge it and appreciate it as much. ... They're just really good. Everybody is going around telling everybody how good they are. They're all visible."

ESPN said it just saw the most watched women's college basketball regular season in more than 15 years, with viewership up 37% on its platforms from last season. That doesn't really even include the Clark effect as Iowa's star wasn't on the network much this season. Iowa's ratings on Fox Sports were the highest in a generation.

ESPN plans to show all of Iowa's games, including a few on ABC, as far as the No. 1 seed advances in the tourney.

"It's not just UConn and Tennessee on TV," Auriemma said. "Those kids are on TV a lot. They're in the limelight a lot. They know how to handle it because they're used to it now."

Clark, who broke the NCAA all-time scoring record this season, has helped six different networks reach all-time viewership marks for women's basketball over the past year, starting with last season's NCAA championship game that drew nearly 10 million viewers.

"I kind of get to be in the spotlight and I get to change people's viewpoint of how they see women's basketball," Clark said before the season. "The amount of people that have come up to me and said, 'I've never watched women's basketball before you and your team ...' Some people could take that as a negative. But to me that's a positive. We're finally getting them to turn on the TV and watch it, but not only watch it once. They're coming back for more."

People aren't just watching, they are also coming to games too. All five of the power conferences had huge crowds for their tournaments. The SEC and Big Ten had their best attendance ever. The Pac-12, ACC and Big 12 weren't far behind.

"The big names continue to put up big numbers and people are watching and the media is paying attention," Bueckers said. "The tournament will be great and will continue the rise of women's basketball."

Fans who pack the arenas are also sticking around afterward, hoping to get a coveted autograph. The importance of the moment isn't lost on the game's stars. Clark, Reese, Bueckers, Watkins and many others spend time postgame signing and taking pictures with not only young girls, but boys, too.

"There were 400 people in the stands before she got here and now we're selling out," Gottlieb said of Watkins. "We've got NBA players who want to see her, WNBA players, musicians and actors too. Regular fans also, it's a diversified crowd. Little boys and girls who ask me if I know JuJu. Could they meet Juju? Grown men you run into in downtown LA."

Even when Clark leaves for the WNBA after the NCAA Tournament, the future of women's basketball is still strong with Bueckers, Watkins, Hidalgo and many other up-and-coming players.

"It's going to get even better. So many kids coming out of high school are just unbelievably good," Auriemma said.

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the athletes "have plausibly stated an injury in fact" and sending the case back to the trial court, which had previously ruled the matter moot because the girls no longer attend high school.

Christiana Kiefer, ADF senior counsel, said that "Connecticut continues to drag its feet in restoring fair play for women and girls, and as a result, female athletes are still losing out on podium spots, opportunities to advance, and deserved recognition for their achievements."

The American Civil Liberties Union, which represents intervenors Miller and Yearwood, argued that the plaintiffs had also at various times bested the transgender athletes, arguing that there is "enough room on the victory podium for transgender girls too."

"Under Title IX, all girls, including transgender girls, should be able to participate fully and equally in athletics, in accordance with who they are," said Joshua Block, ACLU LGBTQ & HIV Project attorney in a June statement.

Christy Mitchell, whose daughter Chelsea Mitchell is one of the plaintiffs, said the 2013 CIAC policy is "very outdated at this point," but that the association "continues to ignore basic science."

"They are definitely out of step with biological reality," she said. "The policy not only deprives young women and girls of basic fairness, but also rejects the basic biological facts we all know: Males have inherent physical advantages over women."

Despite the concerns, Connecticut is plowing ahead. The Democrat-controlled Legislature is seeking to enshrine transgender rights in the state constitution with a proposed amendment that would ban discrimination based on "pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression."

Five House Republicans urged the Legislature last month to raise a Save Women's Sports bill, but the proposal was promptly decried by Democrats and LGBTQ groups. The concept has yet to receive a bill number, as required in this year's short session.

The Out Accountability Project of Connecticut said such bills "are motivated by a partisan desire to harm a specific segment of the population."

"If CT truly wants to support girls' sports, they would provide more funding, create more opportunities to play, and enact stronger laws that protect female athletes from harassment and abuse — not banning transgender youth from participating in school sports with their peers," said the project in a statement.

Elsewhere, however, lawmakers and policymakers are tipping the scales toward fairness versus inclusion in female sports.

World Athletics, the international track-and-field authority, tightened its rules last year, deciding that male-to-female athletes may enter women's world-rankings contests as long as they have not undergone male puberty and have kept their testosterone in serum below 2.5 nmol/L "continuously" since puberty.

Miller and Yearwood would not have been able to clear that hurdle — both had undergone male puberty and Miller had competed previously in boys' high school track — but it's possible that Bidwell could.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL

The miracle-makers club

Brotherhood born of tournament's most memorable names, moments

By Aaron Beard
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nearly a year has passed since Lamont Butler hit a buzzer-beater that sent San Diego State to the NCAA championship game. He's seen it so often on social media and TV that he never had to search it out himself.

"It's kind of hard to miss it," he said.

Especially in March Madness.

Last-second shots fuel the NCAA Tournament's allure. They are split-second moments that live for decades in highlights and memories. Butler is among those who did it last year and could get another chance as the tournament begins this week.

"I never thought about how big it was and the willingness to take it," Butler told The Associated Press. "I was just like, 'All right, we've got to win this game.'

"It's just confidence. You've got to go out there and play fearless. Things are going to happen, mistakes are going to happen. The only way you can do something is if you go out there and try it."

Florida Atlantic's Nick Boyd and TCU's JaKobe Coles felt that with first-round winners. So did Butler's teammate, Darrion Trammell, whose free throw with 1.2 seconds left edged Creighton for a Final Four berth.

They're all back. The Aztecs are the East Region's No. 5 seed, Boyd's Owls are the East's No. 8 and Coles' Horned Frogs are the Midwest's No. 9.

Hitting one of those shots tests confidence and nerve. And they're hard to come by considering all the variables that must line up — health, matchup, foul trouble — to even be on the court to make one.

But when they do, there's magic like Villanova's Kris Jenkins hitting a 3-pointer at the horn for the 2016 title or Luke Maye's jumper with 0.3 seconds

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

San Diego State guard Lamont Butler scored the game-winning basket against Florida Atlantic in the semifinals of last year's NCAA basketball tournament.

Women's tournament features high-voltage lineup of top players, star coaches

By Doug Feinberg
ASSOCIATED PRESS

As March Madness is set to tip off, three of the most recognizable names in college basketball are in the women's tournament: Caitlin Clark, Angel Reese and Paige Bueckers.

Clark drew record crowds and ratings all season long. Reese has LSU in contention for a second straight national championship. Bueckers is finally healthy and

Clark

doing things on the court for UConn reminiscent of her freshman season when she was the AP Player of the Year.

Throw in a few stellar freshmen like JuJu Watkins and Hannah Hidalgo and the game is reaching heights it's never seen.

"One thousand percent we've seen a shift in just the perception of women's college basketball in general," USC coach Lindsay Gottlieb said. "It doesn't have to be at the detriment of men's college basketball. The increased coverage and star power these players have; they are legitimate, popcorn-worthy type of players."

For countless seasons, the buzz around the NCAA tournaments have often been on the men's game. The one-and-done stars, the juggernaut blue blood programs, the buzzer beaters and athleticism all getting more attention. The women's game has pretty much all of that too, and the ratings and attendance this season suggest casual fans are fully engaged with a game that boasts star power and an increasingly high level of play.

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OLYMPICS

IOC says no to Russia, Belarus in opening ceremony

By Graham Dunbar
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Countries' athletes competing in Paris Games as neutrals cannot join parade

GENEVA | Russian and Belarusian athletes will not be allowed to take part in the traditional parade at the opening ceremony at the Paris Olympics, the IOC said Tuesday.

The opening ceremony on July 26 will see thousands of athletes travel on boats down the River Seine for several miles (kilometers) toward the Eiffel Tower, instead of the normal parade of teams inside a stadium.

The International Olympic Committee said athletes from Russia and Belarus who are approved to compete at the Olympics as neutrals will have a chance only "to experience the event" — likely watching from near the river.

The IOC decision follows the International Paralympic Committee which two weeks ago announced a ban for its Paris opening ceremony on Aug. 28.

Russia and Belarus are barred from team sports at the Olympics because of the war in Ukraine and the IOC has laid out a two-step vetting procedure for individual athletes from those countries to be granted neutral status. Those athletes must first be approved by the governing body of their individual sport and then by an an IOC-appointed review panel.

Neutral athletes must not have publicly supported the invasion of Ukraine, or be affiliated with military or state security agencies. It is unclear if membership of a Russian military sports club, such as CSKA, will be a reason for denying neutral status.

The IOC said Tuesday it expects about 36 neutral athletes with Russian passports and 22 with Belarusian passports to qualify for the Paris Games.

A decision on whether those athletes will be allowed to take part in the Aug. ll closing ceremony will be taken "at a later stage," the IOC said.

Any medals won by neutral athletes will not be counted as a collective group in the overall medals table.

The IOC also revealed details of the replacement flag in jade green that will be used for neutral athletes at medal ceremonies, where a specially written anthem without lyrics will be played.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russian and Belarusian athletes participating in the Paris Olympics will not be allowed to take part in the opening ceremony, the IOC said.



ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Terry Miller (second from left) and Andraya Yearwood (far left) participate in the 55-meter dash Feb. 7, 2019. The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference's policy allows athletes to compete in sports competitions matching their gender identity.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Transgender spotlight falls on Connecticut

By Valerie Richardson
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The saying goes that you get more of what you reward, and in Connecticut, that apparently means transgender athletes in girls' track and field.

West Hartford high jumper Lizzy Bidwell, who is reportedly transgender, took first place earlier this month at the New England High School Indoor Track & Field Championship, a few years after trans runners Terry Miller and Andraya Yearwood combined to capture 15 state championships and break 17 meet records from 2017-20.

Not only did Bidwell win, but the Conard High School junior notched the year's highest indoor girls' jump in the state and third highest in the nation with her 5'9" leap, surpassing her 2023 personal best by nine inches.

Critics of transgender athletes in female sports weren't surprised. At a time when national and international sports bodies are tightening up their transgender-eligibility rules — 25 states have banned male-born athletes in female sports altogether — Connecticut is going the opposite direction.

The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference's transgender policy allows athletes to compete based on gender identity as long as the school district verifies that the "gender identity is bona fide and not for the purpose of gaining an unfair advantage in competitive athletics."

"Connecticut was definitely ground zero for male athletes competing in girls' sports," Independent Council on Women's Sports co-founder Marshi Smith told The Washington Times. "It was ground zero for awareness that this is potentially happening. And it continues to happen."

Two years before transgender swimmer Lia Thomas burst onto the scene, the Alliance Defending Freedom sued Connecticut in 2020 on behalf of four high school female runners who had lost to Miller and Yearwood, arguing that the transgender eligibility policy violated Title IX.

In January, the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in the girls' favor, saying

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