

TALKING POINTS
DECODING
TRUMP'S
TAX PLAN
p.16



BRIEFING
If we go to
war with
North Korea
p.11



OBITUARIES
How Hef
changed
our culture
Pages 17, 39



THE WEEK

THE BEST OF THE U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA

The killing field


Is the U.S. powerless to stop mass shootings?

p.4



OCTOBER 13, 2017 VOLUME 17 ISSUE 843

MEILL

A photograph of an offshore wind farm in the ocean. Several white wind turbines with yellow bases are visible against a blue sky with light clouds. The water is a deep blue.

*ON A CLEAR DAY,
YOU CAN SEE THE
FUTURE.*

The U.S. needs more renewable energy, a problem felt on Block Island, RI, where residents paid some of the highest electricity prices in the country while burning a million gallons of harmful diesel fuel each year.

Citi provided long-term financing to help Deepwater Wind build the first offshore wind farm in the U.S. – part of Citi's \$100 billion commitment to finance sustainable energy projects. The Block Island Wind Farm could help lower electric bills by up to 40 percent and reduce carbon emissions by 40,000 tons a year, ushering in a new era of American renewables.

For over 200 years, Citi's job has been to believe in people and help make their ideas a reality.

citi.com/progressmakers



Editor's letter

Again. This week, we once again took part in a distinctly American ritual, cycling through the shock, the sadness, and the cynicism that accompany a mass shooting. The half-life of these tragedies grows ever shorter, as the country collectively acknowledges, a little faster each time, that little is likely to be done to prevent the next massacre. We cringe at the footage, look for some explanation in the shooter's background, and mourn the dead—but we move on, knowing that we'll be here again before too long. The time between these mass attacks is now measured not in years or months, but weeks and days. As defined by gun attacks in which four or more people are shot, Las Vegas was America's 337th mass shooting this year.

Consider for a moment the survivors of these rampages—the thousands of Americans who have seen friends and loved ones fall, and have crouched on a floor slicked with blood to avoid whizzing bullets while wondering if this day will be their last.

Since the Columbine attack 18 years ago, *The Washington Post* recently calculated, some 135,000 American students have experienced a shooting at school. How will surviving these nightmarish events shape their sense of security, and echo throughout the rest of their lives? Mass-shooting survivors have described grappling with recurring nightmares for years, obsessively searching for exits in every room they enter, and being haunted by guilt for having made it out alive. So when we recall the terrible drumbeat of recent mass attacks—Virginia Tech, Fort Hood, Aurora, Newtown, Charleston, San Bernardino, Orlando, Las Vegas, and the hundreds of others that don't make the national news—we can't limit the casualties to those the bullets found. The cost of this national insanity also includes a traumatized army of people with wounds that we cannot easily see. They, too, need our attention and help. Their number jumped by **Carolyn O'Hara** 22,000 this week. **Managing editor**

NEWS

- 4 Main stories**
A gunman massacres concertgoers in Las Vegas; Trump visits devastated Puerto Rico
- 6 Controversy of the week**
Will the Supreme Court take action on partisan gerrymandering?
- 7 The U.S. at a glance**
Cabinet officials' costly private-jet habit; Benghazi attack suspect goes on trial
- 8 The world at a glance**
France says *non* to airbrushed models; North Korean weapons in Egypt
- 10 People**
Lance Armstrong apologizes, again; Taraji P. Henson's big ambitions
- 11 Briefing**
What would happen in a war between the U.S. and North Korea?
- 12 Best U.S. columns**
The GOP's identity crisis; why Secretary of State Rex Tillerson should resign
- 14 Best European columns**
Anger after Spain's heavy-handed crackdown on Catalan separatists
- 16 Talking points**
The GOP's new tax plan; Hugh Hefner's sordid legacy; how Russia used social media to try to sway the 2016 election



Mourning the dead at a makeshift memorial in Las Vegas (p.4)

ARTS

- 23 Books**
The new nomads on America's roads
- 24 Author of the week**
Attica Locke on the complexities of being a proud black Texan
- 26 Art & Music**
Shania Twain is back, and angry
- 27 Film**
Replicants and humans face off in the dazzling *Blade Runner 2049*



Hugh Hefner (pages 17, 39)

LEISURE

- 30 Food & Drink**
Three Chilean village wines full of rustic character
- 31 Travel**
Exploring Kerala, India's spice garden
- 34 Consumer**
The best apps to help you split a dinner check fairly

BUSINESS

- 35 News at a glance**
GM and Ford steer toward an electric future; Yahoo's epic data breach gets worse
- 36 Making money**
Should you lock your credit following the Equifax hack?
- 38 Best columns**
Ikea jumps into the gig economy; why inflation may be gone for good

THE WEEK

Editor-in-chief: William Falk

Managing editors: Theunis Bates, Carolyn O'Hara
Deputy editor/International: Susan Caskie
Deputy editor/Arts: Chris Mitchell
Senior editors: Harry Byford, Alex Dalenberg, Andrew Murfett, Dale Obbie, Hallie Stillier, Frances Weaver
Art director: Dan Josephs
Photo editor: Loren Talbot
Copy editors: Jane A. Halsey, Jay Wilkins
Researchers: Christina Colizza, Joyce Chu
Contributing editors: Ryan Devlin, Bruno Maddox

VP, publisher: John Guehl

VP, marketing: Tara Mitchell
Sales development director: Samuel Homburger
Account director: Steve Mumford
Account managers: Shelley Adler, Alison Fernandez
Detroit director: Lisa Budnick
Midwest director: Lauren Ross
Southeast director: Jana Robinson
West Coast directors: James Horan, Rebecca Treadwell
Integrated marketing director: Jennifer Freire
Integrated marketing managers: Kelly Dyer, Caila Litman
Marketing design director: Joshua Moore
Marketing designer: Triona Moynihan
Research and insights manager: Joan Cheung
Marketing coordinator: Reisa Feigenbaum
Senior digital account manager: Yuliya Spektorsky
Programmatic manager: George Porter
Digital planners: Jennifer Riddell, Talia Sabag

Chief operating & financial officer: Kevin E. Morgan
Director of financial reporting: Arielle Starkman
EVP, consumer marketing & products: Sara O'Connor
Consumer marketing director: Leslie Guarnieri
HR manager: Joy Hart
Operations manager: Cassandra Mondonedo

Adviser: Ian Leggett
Chairman: John M. Lagana

U.K. founding editor: Jolyon Connell

Company founder: Felix Dennis

Visit us at TheWeek.com.
 For customer service go to www.TheWeek.com/service or phone us at 1-877-245-8151.

Renew a subscription at www.RenewTheWeek.com or give a gift at www.GiveTheWeek.com.

The massacre in Las Vegas

What happened

The nation was left reeling this week by the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, after a gunman on the 32nd floor of a Las Vegas hotel shot dead 58 people and injured 527 others at a country music festival across the street below. The massacre began at 10:07 p.m. on Sunday night, when 64-year-old retiree Stephen Paddock smashed out two windows in his suite at the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino and began raining down bullets on the 22,000 festivalgoers. Using semi-automatic rifles fitted with “bump stock” accessories—which increase the rate of fire to nearly machine-gun levels—Paddock spent 11 minutes spraying the crowd with bullets as they dove, hid, and ran for cover. “I stepped over a guy with blood pouring out of his head,” said Craig Herman, 57, a survivor. “I saw maybe 15 others like that. I’ve never seen so much blood.” When a SWAT team stormed Paddock’s suite, they found Paddock dead from a self-inflicted pistol wound. He had an arsenal of 23 guns—12 fitted with bump stocks—and had set up three remote cameras to watch for police.



Concertgoers fleeing as the bullets rain down

Investigators said they were baffled over what motivated Paddock. A retired real estate investor who lived in Mesquite, Nev., he often traveled to Las Vegas to gamble large sums on video poker. He had no criminal record—though his father was a bank robber who was once on the FBI’s most-wanted list—and seems to have bought his weapons legally. Paddock had no ties to international terror groups, and was described by family and neighbors as a loner with no obvious political or religious views. Police were hoping to learn more from his Filipino girlfriend, Marilou Danley, who left the country two weeks before the attack but returned to the U.S. on Tuesday.

President Donald Trump, who called the shooting “an act of pure evil,” traveled to Las Vegas to meet survivors and first responders. Amid calls from Democrats for stricter gun laws, the president said he was open to a discussion on that topic “at some point perhaps.”

What the editorials said

“The massacre in Las Vegas was horrifying,” said *NationalReview.com*, “the reaction to it dispiriting.” Progressives made the usual calls for “commonsensical” gun control measures, none of which would have helped in Las Vegas. Paddock would have passed any background check. “The sobering fact is that mass murders have become an ordinary part of our cultural landscape”—and unless we want to seize all guns and “convert our country into a police state,” we will remain “vulnerable to acts of mass violence.”

Four of the nation’s deadliest mass shootings—Virginia Tech, Newtown, Orlando, and now Las Vegas—have now

occurred “in the past decade,” said *USA Today*. After every one, the gun lobby insists various gun control measures “would not have stopped *that particular shooting*.” But that’s not the point. In countries such as Australia and Britain, mass shootings prompted legislative action that significantly reduced firearm deaths. In the U.S., the Second Amendment protects the right to bear arms, but “allows for reasonable regulation.” We could limit future carnage by adopting universal background checks on buyers, and banning the kinds of assault weapons, “bump stocks,” and high-capacity magazines Paddock used to turn Las Vegas into a killing field.

What the columnists said

Stephen Paddock is a “frightening enigma,” said **David Graham** in *TheAtlantic.com*. Though “solitary and itinerant,” he was relatively wealthy, relatively old, and apparently unaffiliated with any extremist groups. He fits into none of the obvious mass-shooter profiles. If an apparently “ordinary” guy is capable of an act this monstrous, “what hope can there be to identify suspects like him before they attack?” If Paddock had been a Muslim, then Trump, Congress, and many Americans “would be in full panic mode” and demanding drastic action, said **Adam Gopnik** in *NewYorker.com*. But because he was “just one more American ‘psycho’” with an arsenal of killing machines, Republicans disingenuously insist “there’s nothing at all to be done.”

Sorry, but the fact that “we are still overreacting to Muslims because of 9/11” doesn’t mean we should also overreact to mass shootings, said **Nick Gillespie** in *Reason.com*. If gun control is the answer, why did firearms crime and homicide rates drop significantly between 1993 and 2015—a period when it became much easier to acquire guns in most states?

This idea that gun control doesn’t work is a pernicious lie, said Democratic Sen. **Chris Murphy** in *The Washington Post*. Since my state of Connecticut responded to the Newtown massacre of 20 schoolchildren by expanding background checks and requiring issued handgun permits, “gun crimes have dropped by 40 percent.”

What next?

Before the massacre, House Republicans had been “poised to pass legislation that would make it easier to buy gun silencers,” said **Tara Golshan** in *Vox.com*. But while Speaker Paul Ryan has pushed that bill to the back burner for now, it is “expected to pass” when it does come to the floor. Democrats are pushing for a ban on “bump stocks,” but are deliberately “employing tamer tactics” than usual on gun control, said **Heather Caygle** and **Elana Schor** in *Politico.com*. They think the Republican-controlled Congress is almost guaranteed to do nothing about it—and that focusing too much on the issue ahead of next year’s midterms “could repel the very voters they need to woo to regain control of Congress.”

The debate over gun control runs much deeper than policy specifics, said **Anne Helen Petersen** in *BuzzFeed.com*. Liberals intrinsically believe it is the “responsibility of the group” to protect individuals, even if that entails individual sacrifices. Conservatives think everyone has the right to “make decisions for themselves”—and that the sacrifices liberals propose “are simply not worth the compromise of their liberty.” With each mass shooting, “these oppositional philosophies harden.”

Illustration by Howard McWilliam.
Cover photos from AP, Newscom, Everett Collection

Trump lauds relief effort in devastated Puerto Rico

What happened

President Trump sparked a fresh backlash during his visit to Puerto Rico this week, when he appeared to downplay the destruction caused by Hurricane Maria—just days after attacking island officials who criticized his administration’s response to the natural disaster. More than two weeks after the Category 4 storm pummeled the U.S. territory, almost all of the island’s 3.4 million residents remain without power and about half lack access to clean drinking water. Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rosselló said the death toll stood at 34, but that number was expected to rise; officials said morgues across the island were full. Trump met with storm victims and repeatedly praised his administration’s “incredible response,” telling Puerto Ricans they should be “very proud” that thousands of people didn’t die in Maria’s wake as they did in “a real catastrophe like [Hurricane] Katrina.”



Trump: Delivering aid in his own unique style

Before his visit, Trump lambasted San Juan Mayor Carmen Yulín Cruz after she pleaded for more help from Washington. “You are killing us with the inefficiency,” said Cruz. Other officials accused the federal government of doing far more to help Texas and Florida after hurricanes Harvey and Irma. In a flurry of 18 tweets, Trump called Cruz “nasty” and complained that Puerto Ricans “want everything to be done for them.” Following his visit, Trump shocked Wall Street by saying the island’s \$72 billion debt will have to be forgiven. “We’re going to have to wipe that out,” said Trump.

What the editorials said

It’s ridiculous to claim that Trump ignored Puerto Rico, said the Richmond, Va., *Times-Dispatch*. Federal and military aid was both “swift and large-scale,” but officials have had to deal with the monstrous destruction left behind by Maria’s 150 mph winds. Within days, the Federal Emergency Management Agency had delivered 4 million meals, 6 million liters of water and other supplies to San Juan airport. But “pallets upon pallets” sat on the tarmac “because there are so few working buses and few traversable roads.”

After the hurricane devastated the island, said *The Washington Post*, Trump spent four days at his New Jersey golf course tweet-

ing about protesting football players and ignoring “pleas from Puerto Rican officials for broader government assistance.” When an earthquake hit Haiti in 2010, President Obama had 22,000 U.S. troops on the ground within two weeks; “eight days after Hurricane Maria, just 4,400 service members were participating in efforts in Puerto Rico.” Trump’s personal attack on San Juan’s mayor was equally “shameful,” said *The Dallas Morning News*. To criticize Cruz from “the comfort of his luxury golf resort” while she was chest-deep in flood-water isn’t just bad optics; it “is chilling.”

What the columnists said

If the visit was intended “to reverse the impression that Trump has not taken Maria seriously,” then it failed, bigly, said David Graham in *TheAtlantic.com*. When our president wasn’t demeaning Puerto Ricans by lobbing rolls of paper towels like basketballs into a crowd of storm victims, he was making tone-deaf comments, such as complaining that the relief effort had thrown “our budget out of whack.” We’ve long wondered how our impulsive, unfocused president “would manage to handle a real crisis,” said Matthew Yglesias in *Vox.com*. Now we know—“and it’s appalling.”

Trump’s critics are eager to blame him, said Liz Peck in *FoxNews.com*, but where were they during “Puerto Rico’s decades of corruption and collapse”? Lawmakers on both sides of the aisle stood by as the territory’s debts ballooned and gross mismanagement led to closed schools and collapsing infrastructure. “These conditions were devastating; Hurricane Maria made them life-threatening.”

With any luck, this catastrophe might force “long overdue” political change, said Steven Cohen in *NewRepublic.com*. Before the hurricane hit, half of Americans didn’t even realize that Puerto Ricans were U.S. citizens. The island’s residents have second-class status: They lack voting representation in the U.S. Congress, and their leaders, while elected, can’t exercise autonomy over the territory’s budget and laws. Maria should force the U.S. to reconsider its “peculiar relationship to the island” out of simple compassion. But if that doesn’t do it, “the thought of 3.4 million potential climate refugees arriving on the mainland may be enough to inspire action.”

It wasn’t all bad

■ When a gunman opened fire on a country music concert in Las Vegas this week, a Marine veteran jumped into action to help the wounded. After climbing over a fence to escape the gunfire, Taylor Winston began checking nearby trucks for keys. The Iraq vet, 29, and a friend quickly commandeered a vehicle and began loading injured concertgoers into the truckbed. In two trips, they transported about 25 people to the hospital, likely saving several lives. “We tried the best we could,” says Winston, “to get as many as we could.”

■ They call him the ICU Grandpa. After retiring from his marketing job in 2005, David Deutchman visited the Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta hospital to see how he could help out. Struck by how parents of premature babies were terrified to leave their newborns alone in the hospital, Deutchman volunteered to be a “baby buddy” and provide sick kids with comfort when mom and dad can’t be around. Twelve years later, Deutchman, 82, still spends two days a week in the neonatal and pediatric ICUs snuggling babies, a technique that’s been proven to help nurse fragile infants back to health. “I get puked on, I get peed on,” he says of his job. “It’s great.”



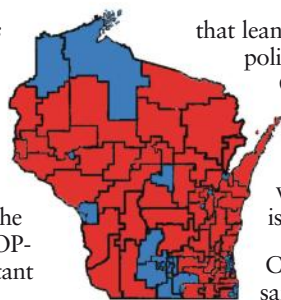
Deutchman at work

■ A network of daring volunteer pilots has been helping Puerto Rico recover from Hurricane Maria, risking their lives over the island after the storm knocked out many traffic-control radars. One of those amateur aviators is Connecticut-based investor Paul Weismann, who within hours of getting a call for help had packed his private plane with supplies and taken off. On the way back, he flew vulnerable evacuees to safety in Florida. Weismann is part of Patient Airlift Services (PALS), which mobilizes volunteer pilots during natural disasters. “It’s just human nature to try to help,” says another PALS pilot, Bob Lambert. “We can literally respond in minutes.”

Gerrymandering: Should the Supreme Court intervene?

“Donald Trump was right,” said *The New York Times* in an editorial: “America’s political system is rigged.” One primary way the rigging is accomplished is through partisan “gerrymandering”—the practice of redrawing electoral districts to favor one political party over the other. This week the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a landmark gerrymandering case that could “transform the American landscape.” The case of *Gill v. Whitford* concerns Wisconsin, whose GOP-controlled legislature redrew boundaries with such blatant partisanship that even though Democrats won 51 percent of statewide votes in 2012, Republicans took 60 of 99 seats in the state assembly. And Wisconsin is no aberration. Nationally, recent Republican gerrymandering helps explain why the GOP holds 10 percent more House seats than the Democrats (241 to 194) despite winning only 1 percent more of the congressional vote in 2016. The Supreme Court has historically shied away from gerrymandering cases, said Noah Feldman in *Bloomberg.com*, for fear of being accused of meddling in politics. A newly developed statistic called the “efficiency gap,” however, precisely measures the effect of redistricting on parties’ relative power in a state. In oral arguments this week, perennial swing vote Anthony Kennedy seemed receptive to using the “efficiency gap” as a tool in such cases. If he upholds a lower-court ruling that Wisconsin’s redistricting violates the Constitution’s “one person, one vote” principle, it would be a “game-changing decision.”

The Democrats’ problem isn’t gerrymandering, said Guy Harrison and Jason Torchinsky in *NationalReview.com*, which both parties practice with relish when in power. Their real problem is that their voters are now “clustered into coastal states and large urban areas.” That gives them lopsided victories in relatively few districts, but few voters in the many districts encompassing large rural areas



Wisconsin’s assembly districts in 2016

that lean Republican. Unable to woo rural voters with their policies, Democrats are now essentially asking the Supreme Court to undo natural self-sorting. District-based representation is a “bedrock principle of American politics,” said John Ryder in *The Wall Street Journal*. Replacing it with what Chief Justice John Roberts this week called “sociological gobbledygook” about fairness is “a line the high court shouldn’t cross.”

Crossing that line would lead to “unending litigation,” said George Will in *The Washington Post*. Drawing electoral districts has been a partisan process since the beginning of our republic. If courts intervene on the basis of an “efficiency gap,” both parties will summon “dueling professors who will cherry-pick concocted metrics” to insist various districts are unfair. That’s why Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter warned in a 1946 gerrymandering case that the court should not enter “this political thicket.”

The court’s historic reluctance to tackle this issue is understandable, said Edwin Chermensky in *The Sacramento Bee*. But sophisticated computer programs have made gerrymandering more powerful than ever, and when a minority of voters consistently wins a majority of seats, it leaves voters cynical about the political process. In the Wisconsin case, a federal court ruled that the “efficiency gap”—which measures how many votes were “wasted” in districts a party didn’t win—provides a reliable measure of how districts were drawn. When a state cannot explain a major gap by natural geography or population patterns, the court ruled, it’s fair to conclude that the districts were drawn unconstitutionally. If we’re to avoid a true crisis in our democracy, we urgently need to get back to a system where voters choose their elected officials, rather than “elected officials choosing their voters.”

Only in America

■ Four people were arrested after a fistfight in an “empathy tent” at the University of California at Berkeley. The tent was conceived as a space for pro-Trump and anti-fifa activists to find common ground, but passions ran so high last week that the tent was almost knocked over. “It’s tough,” said tent founder Edwin Fulch, “but we do what we can to foster dialogue.”

■ An Idaho woman is facing burglary charges after she used a coffee shop’s fire extinguisher to rescue a child trapped in a burning car. Tequila Isaacson, 34, says that after she broke a window to get the lifesaving device, a police officer told her she would be charged with burglary because “using a fire extinguisher that doesn’t belong to me is theft, no matter how good your intentions.”

Good week for:

Reality, after two quantum physicists published a study disputing the fashionable notion that we’re living in a computer simulation like *The Matrix*. To generate the complex behavior of subatomic particles, the physicists argue, a supercomputer would require more atoms than exist in the universe.

Self-reliance, after an Italian fitness instructor became so frustrated with the dating game that she married herself in a lavish ceremony. Laura Mesi, 40, spent \$12,000 to stage “my fairy-tale wedding—only without a Prince Charming.”

Ceasing and desisting, after Pablo Escobar’s family demanded \$1 billion from Netflix, whose hit show *Narcos* is based on the life of the late drug kingpin. “If we don’t receive it,” said Escobar’s brother, Roberto, “we will close their little show.”

Bad week for:

Human dignity, after excited male visitors so badly molested a realistic new “sex robot” at an electronics festival in Austria that she needed extensive repairs. “People can be bad,” said inventor Sergi Santos. “They treated the doll like barbarians.”

Theresa May, after the British prime minister suffered a prolonged coughing fit during a speech, then saw the F and E fall off a backdrop that read “Building a country that works for everyone.”

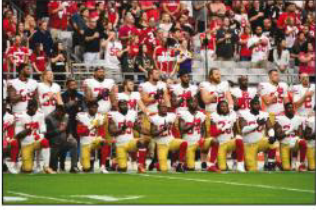
Pride, after an alleged dark-web drug mogul from France, Gal Vallerius, was arrested en route to displaying his long red whiskers at a beard competition in Texas. “I don’t know anything about what other stuff he did,” said beard champion M.J. Johnson, “but as far as his beard goes, it’s really awesome.”

Kids’ health-care program lapses

Congress missed a deadline this week to extend funding for the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which provides health coverage to 8.9 million low-income children. CHIP, which lapsed Sept. 30, has broad bipartisan support, but reauthorization was pushed to the back burner in Washington amid GOP efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Although no child is expected to lose his or her health insurance immediately, because states have reserves of CHIP funding they can draw on, 10 states are at risk of running out of money in the next two months, including California and Mississippi. Lawmakers in both the House and Senate are now working on bills to extend CHIP funding by five years, while phasing out a 23 percent funding increase provided through Obamacare.

Seattle and Glendale, Ariz.

Football protests: Fewer pro football players took a knee as the national anthem played during this week's NFL games, though many teams expressed solidarity through gestures like locking



The 49ers line up.

arms. Fifty-two players knelt this week, according to an ESPN tally, down from nearly 200 players who knelt the week before, when President Trump castigated former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick and other players for kneeling to protest racial injustice, calling them "sons of bitches." The 49ers, who were playing their first game since Trump's comments, staged one of the largest protests while facing off against the Arizona Cardinals. The team lined up in two rows, the front row kneeling and the second standing, with each player holding a hand over his heart. In Seattle, where players stayed in the locker room during the anthem last week, six Seahawks players sat on the bench for the entire song.

Lovelock, Nev.

O.J. goes free: O.J. Simpson was released from prison in the dead of night this



Simpson signing out

week after serving nine years for robbing two sports memorabilia dealers at gunpoint in Las Vegas in 2007. The former NFL star, who was granted parole in July, plans to live with friends in a gated community in Las Vegas, before eventually moving to Florida, where he lived before his conviction. "He's going to focus on kids, friends, his family, and golf," said longtime friend Tom Scotto. Simpson left Lovelock Correctional Center shortly after midnight to avoid a media scrum. *TMZ.com* reported that he brought with him several boxes, containing a hot plate and several pairs of shoes, not wanting other inmates to sell them online as souvenirs. Asked by a reporter at a gas station where he was headed, Simpson said, "None of your business."

Washington, D.C.

Benghazi trial: Survivors of the 2012 attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, described crawling through the burning compound and choking on thick smoke as dozens of assailants poured onto the grounds, as the trial of the assault's alleged mastermind began this week. Ahmed Abu Khattala, a 46-year-old Libyan, is accused of helping to orchestrate the attack, which killed four Americans, including Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens. In testimony, David Ubben, a State Department security agent, described dragging the lifeless body of one of the Americans out of a burning building and locking eyes with an attacker armed with an AK-47 as Ubben fled in an armored vehicle. "We had this kind of odd moment and stared at each other," Ubben said. "Then he lifted his weapon and started firing," the rounds striking bulletproof glass next to Ubben's face. The trial is expected to last five weeks.



Antioch, Tenn.

Church shooter's motive: The 25-year-old black man accused of killing one woman and wounding seven others in a shooting spree at a church near Nashville last week may have been seeking revenge for white supremacist Dylann Roof's 2015 massacre in Charleston, S.C. Emanuel Kidega Samson allegedly opened fire at the Burnette Chapel Church of Christ as Sunday services were ending. Police later found a note in Samson's car that referenced retaliation for the shootings at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, in which nine black parishioners were killed. The congregation at Burnette Chapel Church of Christ, where Samson had attended worship, is racially mixed. Investigators are still looking into Samson's background, including any signs of mental illness. Samson appeared to be suicidal in texts he sent to his father earlier this year. "Your phone is off," Samson wrote. "I have a gun to my head."

Washington, D.C.

Travel bills: At least four Cabinet officials were facing internal investigations this week over excessive travel expenses, after Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price resigned under pressure for spending \$400,000 in public money on private planes. The Interior Department's inspector general is investigating Secretary Ryan Zinke's use of taxpayer-funded chartered flights, including a \$12,000 trip from Las Vegas to Montana aboard an oil executive's private plane. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt has reportedly spent more than \$58,000 of taxpayer money on chartered and military flights since February, while Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin took his wife on a 10-day, government-funded trip to Europe in July, during which they spent half their time sightseeing. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin is also under investigation for using a government jet to travel to Fort Knox for the solar eclipse in August, and for inquiring about using a \$25,000-an-hour military plane for his European honeymoon.



Price: Resigned

Pittsburgh Pro-lifer abortion scandal:

Rep. Tim Murphy, an ardently pro-life Republican congressman, urged his mistress to have an abortion during a pregnancy scare, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reported this week. In texts obtained by the newspaper, a woman the married Murphy has admitted to having an affair with took him to task over anti-abortion statements on his official Facebook page. "You have zero issue posting your pro-life stance all over the place when you had no issue asking me to abort our unborn child just last week," she wrote in January. Murphy, a member of the House Pro-Life Caucus who has been lauded by the Family Research Council, responded that his staff had written the Facebook posts and that he "winc'd" when he saw them. Murphy co-sponsored a bill that passed the House this week banning all abortions after 20 weeks, except in cases of rape, incest, or when a pregnancy threatens the mother's life.



Murphy



The U-Haul used in the rampage

Edmonton, Alberta

Truck attack: A Somali refugee was charged with five counts of attempted murder this week for a bloody rampage in Canada. Abdulahi Hasan Sharif, 30, is accused of speeding his car straight into a police officer standing outside a football stadium in Edmonton, before exiting the vehicle and stabbing the fallen cop. Officer Mike Chernyk has since been released from the hospital. Later that evening, police stopped a U-Haul truck at a checkpoint and recognized Sharif as the driver. The truck sped off down an avenue packed with football fans, and Sharif allegedly aimed his vehicle at pedestrians, hitting and injuring four people. Sharif had been reported to police in 2015 for suspected jihadist sympathies, and an ISIS flag was found in his car, but he has not yet been charged with terrorism. Canadian police believe he was a lone wolf, not a member of a cell.

Barcelona

Catalonia vs. Madrid: The king of Spain blasted Catalan authorities in a rare televised address this week, accusing the regional government of showing “unacceptable disloyalty” by holding an illegal independence referendum. (See Best Columns: Europe.) Catalonia’s government, said King Felipe VI, “have placed themselves outside the law and democracy, they have tried to break the unity of Spain.” He made no mention of the nearly 900 people injured during attempts by the federal police to stop the vote. The speech came as hundreds of thousands of people rallied in the streets across Catalonia to protest police brutality; businesses, offices, and transport services throughout the region also shut down in sympathy with the demonstrators. Of the more than 2 million votes cast in this week’s referendum, 90 percent supported secession.



Protesting the vote crackdown

San Salvador, El Salvador

Targeting MS-13: U.S. law enforcement and Central American authorities have been cracking down on two of the Americas’ most brutal gangs, MS-13 and Barrio 18, as part of a push by the Trump administration to eliminate the criminal outfits. Some 3,800 suspected gang members have been arrested and charged since March, the U.S. Department of Justice said last week, including more than 70 in the U.S. “These gang members in Central America are not going to have a place to hide,” said acting U.S. Assistant Attorney General Kenneth Blanco. The gangs were founded by Salvadoran and Honduran immigrants in Los Angeles in the 1980s and have since spread across Central America.

Quito, Ecuador

Veep arrested: A sprawling corruption scandal radiating out of Brazil has now reached Ecuador, where Vice President Jorge Glas was jailed this week on charges he took millions of dollars in bribes from the Brazilian construction giant Odebrecht. Minutes before he turned himself in, Glas posted a video online saying he was innocent and that there was a “conspiracy” to “seize the vice presidency.” Glas, 48, allegedly accepted bribes while serving as a minister and vice president under President Rafael Correa, who left office this year after a decade in power. Odebrecht has admitted to paying some \$800 million in bribes to win construction projects in more than a dozen countries, mostly in Latin America.



Glas: Corrupt?

Paris

No whittling the waist: Advertisers in France must now disclose whether a commercial photo has been digitally manipulated to make a featured model look skinnier or curvier. Under what French media call the Photoshop decree, any company that uses an altered photo without attaching the label “Photographie retouchée” (“Retouched photograph”) could be fined \$44,000 or one-third the cost of the ad. The new regulation is part of a Health Ministry push against a media onslaught of exaggeratedly thin body images, which health officials say can contribute to eating disorders and other mental illness. Some 600,000 French young people are thought to suffer from eating disorders. Models in France now have to show medical certification that they are healthy, and some fashion brands have banned ultrathin models.



Bogotá, Colombia

Rebels stop shooting: Colombia’s last remaining leftist rebel group, the National Liberation Army, or ELN, has signed its first cease-fire in more than 50 years of fighting the national government. Guerrilla leader Nicolás Rodríguez said his 2,000-strong force would halt all kidnappings, attacks on oil pipelines, and clashes with government troops. The ELN has been in talks with the government of Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos since February. In return for the pause in hostilities, the government promised to improve prison conditions for jailed ELN fighters. Santos clinched a peace deal last year with a larger Marxist rebel group, FARC, ending a five-decade-long conflict.



Rodríguez: Cease-fire

Stockholm

Americans win Nobel: Three American scientists have won the 2017 Nobel Prize in physics for the detection of gravitational waves—ripples in the fabric of space-time that were predicted by Albert Einstein a century ago. Rainer Weiss of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Kip Thorne and Barry Barish of the California Institute of Technology split the \$1 million prize for their work designing and developing the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO), a pair of detectors in Louisiana and Washington State. In 2015, LIGO for the first time observed gravitational waves produced by the collision of two black holes a billion light-years away. “The first-ever observation of a gravitational wave was a milestone,” said Olga Botner, from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, “a window on the universe.”



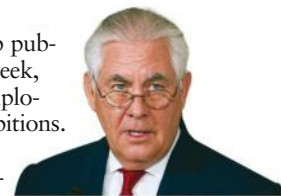
Weiss, Barish, and Thorne

Gaza

Palestinians try reconciliation: After a bitter 10-year standoff, the two main Palestinian factions, Fatah and Hamas, have launched a reconciliation effort in the hope of eventually forming a unity government. Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah held meetings this week in Gaza with officials from Hamas—the militant group that took over the coastal strip in 2007 and evicted the Fatah-led forces of the Palestinian Authority. Since then, Hamas has run an increasingly poor and violence-wracked Gaza while the Palestinian Authority has controlled autonomous areas in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. The talks, though, may be doomed to failure, because while Hamas is willing to hand over governing responsibilities to the Palestinian Authority, it will not give up control of its thousands of rockets and mortars pointed at Israel—one of the authority’s key conditions.

Beijing

Trump undercuts Tillerson: President Trump publicly undermined his secretary of state this week, dismissing Rex Tillerson’s efforts to find a diplomatic solution to North Korea’s nuclear ambitions. The comments came as Tillerson held talks with officials in China, where he told reporters that the U.S. had lines of communication open with North Korea. “We can talk to them, we do talk to them,” he said. Trump promptly tweeted that Tillerson was “wasting his time trying to negotiate with Little Rocket Man,” meaning North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, adding, “Save your energy, Rex.” NBC later reported that Tillerson had referred to Trump as a “moron” in front of defense officials in July, after the president likened managing the Afghan War to renovating a restaurant, and that he had contemplated quitting his job this summer. In an impromptu press conference, Tillerson said he had never considered leaving his post. He described Trump as “smart” during his remarks; he did not deny calling him a moron.

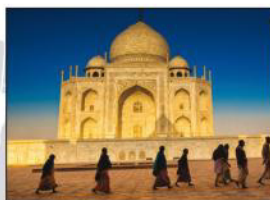


Tillerson: Belittled



Agra, India

Taj Mahal sidelined: Six months after a Hindu nationalist became leader of India’s most populous state, the government of Uttar Pradesh has released a tourism booklet that fails to mention the Taj Mahal. Muslim Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan built the immense mausoleum in the 17th century in memory of his favorite wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Some Hindu nationalists believe that the ornate white marble building is not part of India’s heritage, because of its Islamic connection. Shortly after taking office, Uttar Pradesh’s Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath sided with the hard-liners, saying the Hindu epics “Ramayana and the Gita represent Indian culture, not the Taj Mahal.”



Not for tourists?

Harare, Zimbabwe

Grace under fire: One of Zimbabwe’s two vice presidents has accused the wife of President Robert Mugabe of trying to poison him. Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa is seen as a potential successor to Mugabe, 93, who has been in power since 1980—but so is Mugabe’s wife, Grace, 52. Last month, Mnangagwa got extremely sick after eating ice cream from a dairy Grace owns, and had to be treated in South Africa. He now says he was intentionally poisoned, but his fellow vice president, Phelekezela Mphoko, said that spoiled food, not poison, was to blame, and reprimanded Mnangagwa for trying to “destabilize” the country. Grace’s public image has taken a series of hits recently: In August, she was accused of bursting into a Johannesburg hotel room and using an electrical cable to whip a South African model who was visiting her two playboy sons. Grace insists she acted in self-defense.



Robert and Grace Mugabe

Cairo

Propping up North Korea: Egypt is denying a report that it tried to buy North Korean weapons in violation of United Nations sanctions. In August 2016, the U.S. tipped off the Egyptian authorities that a Cambodian-flagged ship heading toward the Suez Canal was smuggling arms from North Korea, and Egyptian customs agents confiscated and destroyed its load of 30,000 anti-tank missiles. The intended buyer, though, remained a mystery for months. This week, *The Washington Post* reported that a secret U.N. investigation found that the Egyptian military was itself the buyer, and that it had routed the \$23 million purchase through various Egyptian businessmen to obscure the government’s role. The incident was one reason the Trump administration decided this summer to delay nearly \$300 million in military aid to Egypt, a key U.S. ally.

Henson's empire building

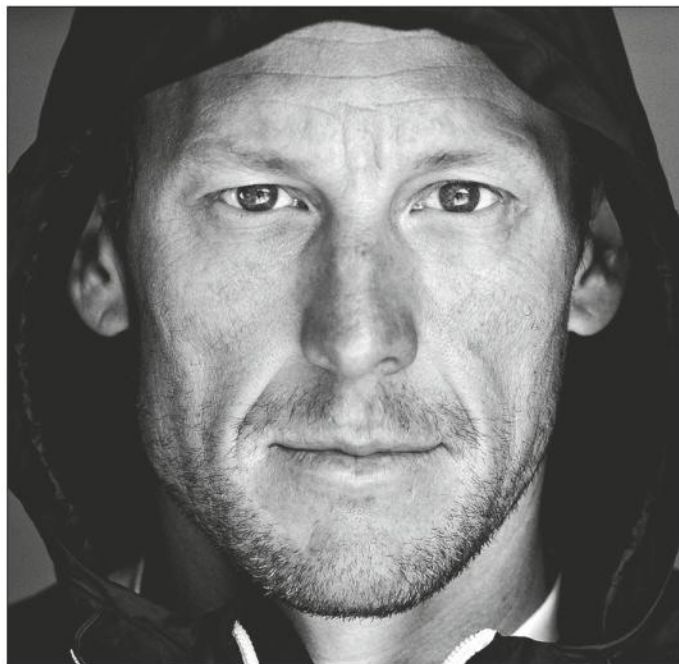


Taraji P. Henson is on a mission to become the biggest actress in Hollywood, said Janet Mock in *Marie Claire*. "You'll never outwork me, not in this acting game," she says. "Never. I can do four movies to your one in the blink of an eye." Next year, the *Empire* star will play a hitwoman in *Proud Mary*, a betrayed spouse in Tyler Perry's *She's Living My Life*, and a civil rights activist in

The Best of Enemies, and provide voice work for Disney's *Wreck-It Ralph* sequel. "Why stop now?" asks Henson of her breakneck work schedule. "I've got to buy an island. I've got to buy a private jet." Henson, 47, moved to Los Angeles at age 27 with \$700 and a young son in tow. For years, she shunned "ghetto roles" to avoid being typecast. "My mission became showing that I'm a character actress. I can give them as many different performances as Meryl Streep." Now well-established in her career—she won critical acclaim for playing NASA engineer Katherine Johnson in last year's *Hidden Figures*—Henson says she feels free to play parts like the hip-hop matriarch Cookie in TV's *Empire*, though some have criticized her for contributing to stereotypes. "Well, those images, are they false?" she asks. "You don't like the images you see—get off your fat black ass, go in the hood, and do something about it."

Joaquin Phoenix's quiet midlife

Joaquin Phoenix lives a surprisingly low-key existence, said Bret Easton Ellis in *The New York Times Style Magazine*. Most nights, the 42-year-old actor is in bed by 9 p.m., and when he's not on set, he spends most of his time "chilling" with his dog, meditating, attending karate classes, reading scripts, and hanging out with actress Rooney Mara, his live-in girlfriend. He stays off social media entirely. It's been 12 years since Phoenix decided to check himself into rehab for alcoholism. "I really just thought of myself as a hedonist," he says. "I was an actor in L.A. I wanted to have a good time. But I wasn't engaging with the world or myself in the way I wanted to. I was being an idiot, running around, drinking, trying to screw people, going to stupid clubs." Rehab was more intense than he expected. "I thought rehab was a place where you sat in a Jacuzzi and ate fruit salad. But when I got there, they started talking about the 12 steps and I went, 'Wait a minute, I'm still gonna smoke weed.'" Phoenix has since given up marijuana, and although he still has a drink when he flies, lives a mostly sober existence. "There's too many things I enjoy doing, and I don't want to wake up feeling hungover. It's not a thing I fight against—it's just the way I live my life. Some of it's probably age."



Lance Armstrong, really sorry this time

Lance Armstrong has come to terms with the label "disgraced cyclist," said S.C. Gwynne in *Outside*. Once bitterly angry about his fall from grace, the 45-year-old Armstrong now regrets his infamous 2013 interview with Oprah Winfrey, in which he admitted to using performance-enhancing drugs but apologized in a sullen, perfunctory way to the millions of fans he disappointed. "When I did Oprah, my attitude was, 'F---ing get over it,'" he says. "I now understand that 'Get over it' was not an option." Since then, Armstrong has focused on rebuilding his relationships with friends and family, even going into therapy, an idea he once laughed off. To stay busy, he still rides his bike, hosts a podcast called *Forward*, and continues to meet regularly with cancer patients and survivors. Because most of his competitors were also doping, he still believes he was treated unfairly by cycling's authorities, who stripped him of his Tour de France titles and banned him from the sport for life. But he feels remorse for deceiving fans and friends about his cheating. "There were all sorts of people out there who had my back the whole time, even as the smoke got thicker and thicker," Armstrong says. "That is what I have to apologize for, for the rest of my life."

Gossip

■ **Megyn Kelly** didn't get off to the best of starts as NBC's new \$18 million-a-year daytime talk show host. The former Fox News star anchor was hired as a new marquee talent of the 9 a.m. *Today* show hour, but struggled in transforming her hard-edged news persona to the feel-good format of morning talk.

Kelly immediately hit a wrong note when she welcomed the cast of *Will & Grace* on the show—and asked a superfan in the audience whether "it was true you became a lawyer and you became gay because of Will," the sitcom's gay lawyer character.

Debra Messing, who plays Grace, said she was "dismayed" by Kelly's

comments. Two days later, Kelly created another uncomfortable moment when she pressed actress Jane Fonda, 79, to discuss her plastic surgery—prompting an icy Fonda to scowl and reply, "We're really going to talk about that now?" In just four days, viewership of the show dropped from 2.9 million viewers to 2.3 million—lower than last year's ratings in that time slot. The show's executive producer, Jackie Levin, attributed the rough start to Kelly evolving into a different role. "Megyn said the first day, 'This is new; I'm nervous,'" Levin said.

■ The third *Sex and the City* movie project has collapsed days before shooting, after **Kim Cattrall** made "outrageous" demands of producers, said *DailyMail.com*. The latest installment of the hit series was all set to go, but Cattrall, 61, who plays Samantha Jones in the franchise, reportedly refused to take

part unless Warner Bros. backed her other film projects too. "Kim made it all about her," claimed a source, who said the show's other stars were heartbroken. "It's over. We're not doing it," confirmed *SATC* star Sarah Jessica Parker, who said she was "disappointed." Cattrall denied the reports. "The only 'DEMAND' I ever made was that I didn't want to do a 3rd film," she tweeted.

■ **Julia Louis-Dreyfus** has revealed that she has breast cancer. The *Veep* and *Seinfeld* star learned the news the day after she won a record-setting sixth consecutive Emmy award. "1 in 8 women get breast cancer," tweeted Louis-Dreyfus, 56. "Today, I'm the one." Louis-Dreyfus said she has good health insurance through the actor's union, but added, "The bad news is that not all women are so lucky, so let's fight all cancers and make universal health care a reality."

The next Korean war

With tensions running high, what would a military confrontation with Kim Jong Un's North Korea actually involve?

Is a limited war possible?

Probably not. Trump administration officials recently said they were working on four or five military options that would not involve the total destruction of North Korea. One such option might be an air or drone “decapitation” strike to take out Kim himself. But assassinating the Hermit Kingdom’s paranoid dictator would be extremely difficult; to avoid just such a strike, he reportedly has 30 residences, each with its own underground bunker, takes elaborate precautions to hide his location, and moves around only at night. All other military scenarios would lead to a catastrophic number of casualties, according to war games staged by the Pentagon and various think tanks. Kim has one of the world’s largest artillery arsenals, and would likely respond to any attack by unleashing a blistering retaliatory assault on Seoul’s 10 million people, killing up to 100,000 residents in a day. The region could then spiral into an all-out, months-long war costing \$1 trillion in damage and a million lives, according to one Pentagon estimate. It “would probably be the worst kind of fighting in most people’s lifetimes,” Defense Secretary James Mattis has said.



South Korean soldiers in a recent war exercise

How would a hot war begin?

If either Kim or the Trump administration misread each other’s belligerent rhetoric or aggressive actions as a signal of an imminent attack, it could trigger the other to launch a pre-emptive strike. But many of North Korea’s nuclear devices are hidden in the mountains or buried deep underground, and it would take the U.S. four or five days to destroy even Kim’s conventional artillery, according to the Nautilus Institute, a think tank. The megalomaniacal tyrant would likely go into “use or lose” mode and try to inflict as much damage on his enemies as possible while he still had weapons. Even if he didn’t launch some of his 20 or so nuclear warheads, Kim would still have some 8,000 conventional rocket launchers and artillery cannons dug into the mountains on his side of the demilitarized zone (DMZ). They include 240-mm and 300-mm rocket launchers that can reach Seoul, located just 25 miles from the border. Some of these shells could be loaded with nerve gas or other chemical weapons, and if they “start plopping down in the middle of the city,” says Joseph Bermudez, an analyst for the U.S.-Korea Institute, “there would be panic like you would not believe.”

What then?

As Seoul’s residents raced to the city’s 3,300 bomb shelters, the full might of the U.S.–South Korean war machine would spring into action. The U.S.–South Korean command would direct dozens of jets and Tomahawk missiles into the North to destroy military bases

and Pyongyang’s major command-and-control infrastructure—though military experts say it would take at least four days to achieve this objective. If the U.S. also wanted regime change, a ground war would then begin. Former National Security Council staffer Victor Cha believes the Pentagon would deploy combat divisions of up to 120,000 troops to supplement the 28,500 U.S. soldiers already in South Korea, as well as South Korea’s 650,000 active-duty troops. But those combined forces would still be outnumbered by Kim’s million-man army, and the ensuing battle conditions would be “unforgiving,” says Cha—“over 2 million mechanized forces, all converging on a total battle space the equivalent of the distance between Washington, D.C., and Boston.”

What else could Kim do?

Some 100,000 highly trained special-operations troops could infiltrate the South via underground tunnels, mini submarines, and biplanes to wreak havoc, detonating dirty bombs, assassinating government officials, and sabotaging water plants. If he began to fear for his regime’s survival, Kim could start aiming his medium- to long-range missiles at Japan, the U.S. territory of Guam, and even the continental U.S. itself. His last resort would be to go nuclear, knowing it would prompt the immediate destruction of his own country in a devastating U.S. nuclear counterattack. Whatever happens, Pyongyang would ultimately lose—but not without first causing mass destruction and death.

And after the fighting ended?

If Kim’s regime collapsed, a vast wave of North Korea’s 25 million poverty-stricken and malnourished people would try to flee the country for food and safety. Some might head south, but many would cross into neighboring China. This is the scenario that Beijing most dreads, and China might send its military to create

a 50-mile-wide buffer zone to hold desperate North Korean citizens. The United Nations’ Blue Helmet peace-keeping forces would likely intervene to restore some stability, amid general panic and anarchy. “It could be the mother of all humanitarian relief operations,” says former Army Special Forces Col. David Maxwell. Meanwhile, U.S. forces would race to gain control over the regime’s nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, and try to prevent another dictatorial regime from rising. A 2013 Rand Corp. study warned that U.S. troops crossing into the North might trigger a military confrontation with China. “If we intervene and the Chinese run into our people and if we run into their people, what are we going to do?” asks study author Bruce Bennett. “All of that needs to be really thought about seriously.”

South Korea’s ‘decapitation’ unit

South Korea recently unveiled its own “nuclear” weapon against its dreaded neighbor: an elite “decapitation unit” whose aim is to infiltrate the North and take down Kim. In 1971, a similar kill squad was tasked with slitting the throat of Kim Il Sung, Jong Un’s grandfather. Formed of thugs and street criminals, the bandit group rebelled over how it was treated, got into a firefight with South Korea’s own soldiers, and was disbanded. The new decapitation unit is more professional, but faces long odds against success. First, Kim’s assassins would have to make it into Pyongyang without detection, and then track down North Korea’s elusive leader. Finally, they’d have to overcome Kim’s elite guards. All in all, says Leonid Petrov, a Korea expert from the Australian National University, “Kim is more likely to die of an overdose of expensive Cognac or cheese [than] from a South Korean bullet.”

The GOP's populist divide

Rich Lowry
NationalReview.com

The Republican Party has a crippling “identity crisis,” said Rich Lowry. Religious extremist Roy Moore’s triumph over Sen. Luther Strange in Alabama’s Republican primary reveals a party “locked in mortal combat” with itself. Moore, twice removed as chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court for insisting that the Bible trumps the Constitution, won a smashing victory over Strange because many conservatives are furious at the party establishment, especially Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. They blame him for failing to repeal Obamacare or deliver other legislative victories. But electing Moore won’t get them any closer to realizing their goals. Moore, a culture warrior, has “a knack for the theatrical, polarizing cause” but is ill-informed and “unlikely to make legislating his priority.” President Trump backed Strange over the Trumpian Moore on the advice of his aides, but probably won’t let that mistake happen again. So expect more Roy Moores to win primaries against mainstream Republicans. That will be a nightmare for the establishment, which has no idea how to integrate Trumpist populism into the traditional Republican agenda. Republicans are now torn “between an establishment that is ineffectual and unimaginative and a populist wing that is ineffectual and inflamed.”

Why Tillerson should resign

Eliot Cohen
TheAtlantic.com

For the good of the country, not to mention his own dignity, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson “has to quit,” said Eliot Cohen. President Trump belittled Tillerson’s efforts at diplomacy with North Korea this week, tweeting that he was “wasting his time” trying to negotiate with Kim Jong Un. No other secretary of state has ever been “undercut in such a public, dismissive way.” Trump has signaled to the world that Tillerson does not speak for the administration—only for a small, embattled coterie of aides in a gutted State Department. What message does this send? By mocking Tillerson’s diplomacy, Trump has indicated North Korea will be attacked if it doesn’t cease its rapid development of nuclear weapons that could reach our shores. If Trump is bluffing, he will have shown other countries that “he is a blowhard tapping out empty threats on Twitter.” Tillerson has reportedly called Trump “a moron,” but like other spineless aides Trump has humiliated, he stays on in vain hopes of tempering this erratic president’s impulses. One of Trump’s lieutenants must finally stand up to him, or we will be left with “a government administered by moral weaklings and lickspittles.”

Gorsuch may outdo Scalia

Jeffrey Toobin
The New Yorker

Neil Gorsuch is turning out to be the justice “his sponsors had hoped and his opponents had feared” he’d be, said Jeffrey Toobin. The conservative whom President Trump nominated to fill Antonin Scalia’s Supreme Court seat has already left no doubt where he will line up on nearly every legal debate. Gorsuch last week chose to give a speech before the Fund for American Studies, a conservative advocacy group, at Trump International Hotel in Washington—which is the focus of several pending lawsuits that may wind up before the Supreme Court. He then traveled to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell’s hometown of Louisville, to give another speech that many saw as a “victory lap.” McConnell, of course, made Gorsuch’s nomination to the high court possible by blocking President Obama’s nomination of Merrick Garland. In his first 15 cases on the court, Gorsuch joined Clarence Thomas—“the most right-wing justice”—every time. He also reportedly irked his senior colleagues by dominating oral arguments, and by expressing “ill-disguised contempt” for liberal justices in his opinions. Conservatives wanted a new Scalia, and in Gorsuch, they have that true ideological warrior.

Viewpoint

“The Trump administration resembles an American version of a monarchy. [He] dominates every nook and cranny of public life like no president before him—yet is so weak institutionally that he can’t pass any legislation with his party fully in charge. The endless gossip over his family resembles the tabloid sensations surrounding the British royal family. White House staffers, like former Trump press secretary Sean Spicer, become celebrities in their own right. Now our political landscape is littered with rock stars, talk show hosts, and football players rumored for higher office. Trump is a reflection of who we are: obsessed with celebrity, addicted to conflict, and tribalistic in our worldviews.”

Josh Kraushaar in National Journal

It must be true... I read it in the tabloids

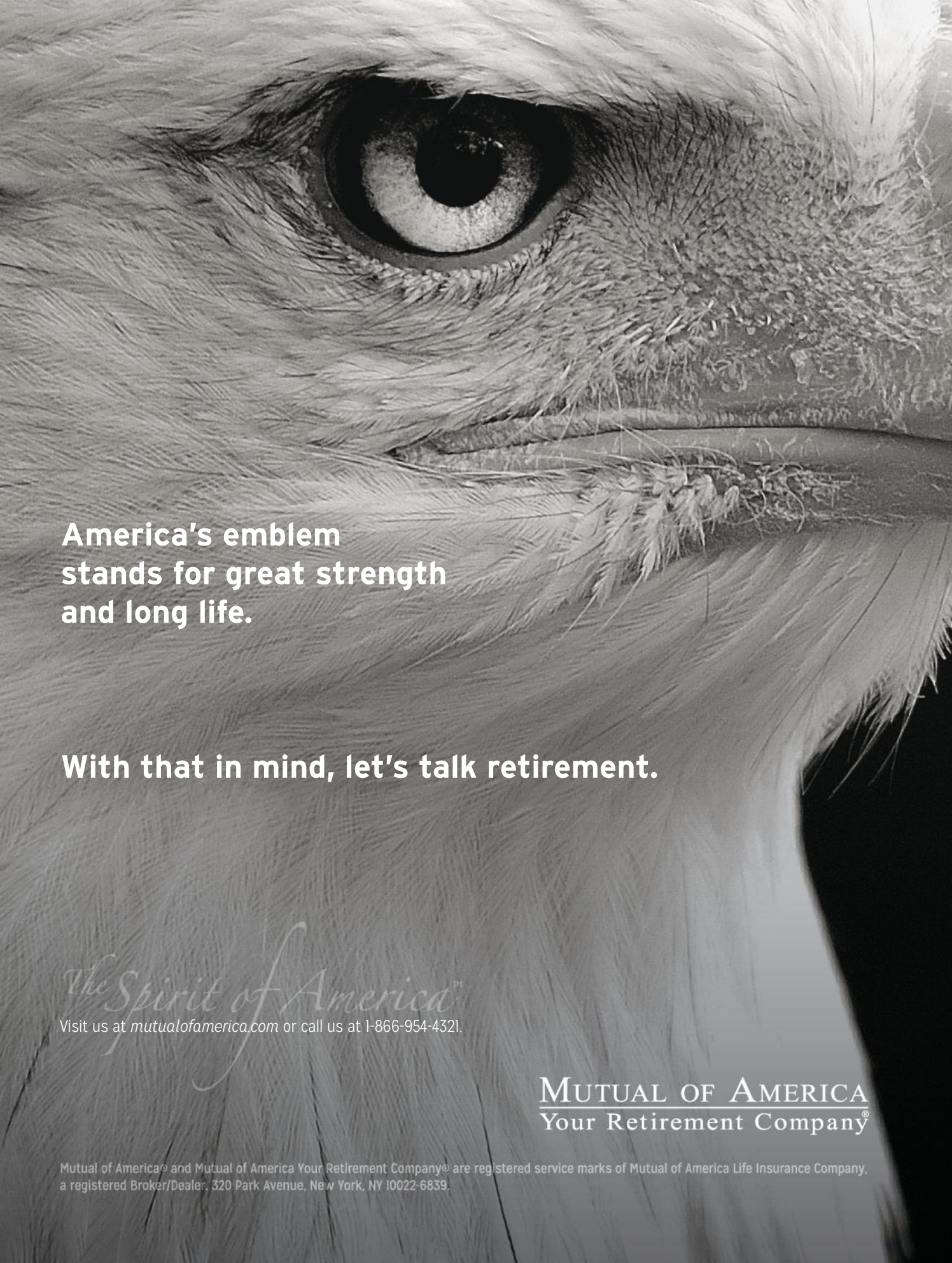
■ A history buff has upset his neighbors by parking a World War II tank outside his multimillion-dollar Houston home. Attorney Tony Buzbee bought the working M4 Sherman tank for \$600,000 from a French museum and got it shipped back to Texas. But the homeowners’ association in Buzbee’s swanky neighborhood is now demanding he remove the armored vehicle, claiming it’s a “safety issue” and “impedes traffic.” Buzbee insists the historic tank is “an asset” to the neighborhood. “Lighten up,” he said. “It isn’t hurting anyone.”

■ A Texas longhorn bull with record-setting horns that span



8 feet 5 inches from tip to tip was sold at auction last week for a whopping \$165,000. The bull, named Cowboy Tuff Chex, has been bought by a Texas farm, and is the culmination of generations of longhorn breeding, new owner Richard Filip says. “I would call him the perfect bull, the complete package,” said Filip, who added that the animal would be used for breeding and treated like a “VIP” at his ranch.

■ A British man who thought he had lung cancer was relieved to discover that his suspected tumor was in fact a toy traffic cone he’d inhaled 43 years earlier. Paul Baxter, 50, was suffering from a lingering cough, and an X-ray revealed a mass on his chest. But when doctors put a camera down his throat, they were surprised to spot something small and orange in his lung. They removed the object—which Baxter identified as a cone from a model railway set he’d gotten for his 7th birthday. “I must have had it in my mouth and it went down my windpipe,” said Baxter, who plans to pass the souvenir “on to my grandchildren.”



**America's emblem
stands for great strength
and long life.**

With that in mind, let's talk retirement.

The Spirit of America™
Visit us at mutualofamerica.com or call us at 1-866-954-4321.

MUTUAL OF AMERICA
Your Retirement Company®

Mutual of America® and Mutual of America Your Retirement Company® are registered service marks of Mutual of America Life Insurance Company, a registered Broker/Dealer, 320 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022-6839.

UNITED KINGDOM

Why Brits now lean to the left

Fraser Nelson
The Daily Telegraph

“Socialism has turned out to be this year’s surprise hit,” said Fraser Nelson. Ever since Jeremy Corbyn was selected leader of the opposition Labor Party two years ago, members of the ruling Conservative Party have treated the Palestinian-hugging, nuke-hating far-left politician “as a historical burp, a blast of foul air from the ’70s creating a temporary stink in Westminster.” But Corbyn has not gone away and his fringy Marxist ideas are now widely accepted as reasonable. New research by a right-leaning think tank has revealed that three-quarters of voters strongly back Corbyn’s plans to nationalize the U.K.’s water, gas, and electricity companies. Even among supposedly free market-cheering

Conservatives, two-thirds support renationalizing the railways. Half the country would be thrilled to have the state take over the banks, something even Corbyn hasn’t proposed, “so if anything, he’s to the right of the mainstream” these days. Voters too young to have seen images of Soviet bread lines have found themselves priced out of homeownership and want the government to do something. “Capitalism is proving unpopular among those with no capital,” and so the Conservatives are now trying to appease voters by adopting Labor policies. That’s a losing strategy. The party must “make the moral case for small government and lower taxes”—or risk ceding Britain to socialism.

GREECE

Germany’s neo-Nazis terrify us

Pantelis Boukalas
Kathimerini

Those of us who remember the Nazi occupation of Greece are appalled at the outcome of Germany’s recent election, said Pantelis Boukalas. The far-right party Alternative for Germany (AfD)—made up of “the bigots, the migrant-hunters, in short the 21st century’s Nazis”—is now the third-largest bloc in the lower house of the German national legislature. Its adherents, many of them young, “refuse to feel any historical guilt or sense of responsibility” for their country’s horrific crimes during World War II. Instead, they “take pride in what the German soldiers achieved.” AfD supporters aren’t Holocaust deniers: They’re worse. They acknowledge that Hitler committed

genocide in killing 6 million Jews, but they shrug it off as just one of those things that happens in war. If these Germans “treat Auschwitz as a detail, one does not want to imagine what they think of the Distomo killings,” the 1944 massacre of 214 Greek civilians, when SS soldiers went door to door in the village of Distomo, slaughtering civilians, even bayoneting babies, as punishment for Greek partisan resistance. Greeks are now gripped by “chills and fear” as we once again see the basest nationalism spreading across Germany. If the AfD imposes its leadership on other far-right parties across Europe, the cancer will only spread. “We cannot afford to drop our guard.”

Spain: Cracking down on separatist Catalonia

No one is celebrating in Catalonia in the wake of this week’s independence referendum, said Barcelona-based *La Vanguardia* in an editorial. All Catalans, separatist or not, are devastated about the police brutality that was meted out at polling places as our semiautonomous region voted on whether to break away from Spain. The federal government in Madrid had warned that the vote was illegal. And when the Mossos d’Esquadra—Catalonia’s police force—refused to confiscate ballots or close polling places, Madrid sent thousands of federal police from all over Spain to do so. While many officers behaved honorably, others “acted with real fury,” and the world witnessed scenes of riot police beating voters with billy clubs, grabbing women by the hair and hurling them down staircases, and firing rubber bullets into lines of orderly people clutching ballot papers. By the end of the day, some 900 people had been injured, and at least two were in the hospital in serious condition.

The leaders of both Catalonia and Spain are to blame, said the Madrid daily *El País*. Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont should never have forced a vote that was so strongly opposed by Madrid as well as by up to half his own people. Worse, because he had “at least the passive support of an armed force,” the Mossos, his act was dangerously close to rebellion. Still, his “blatant crime” does not justify the behavior of Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, who first thunderously forbade a referendum and then hid behind the Justice Ministry, pretending he bore no responsibility



Police push back voters at a Barcelona polling station.

for the brutality of the crackdown. He could have let the vote proceed and then simply refused to honor its result, rather than sending police to beat up grandmothers at the ballot box.

Rajoy’s response to the violence he unleashed has been shameful, said *El Punt Avui*, a Girona, Catalonia-based daily. Rajoy “sounded exactly like a domestic abuser,” repeatedly saying he didn’t want to hurt Catalans but that he had no choice because we were so disrespectful. Yet while the day of the

vote was traumatic, it was also the first day of our new life as free Catalans. We chose the ballot, not the gun, and we prevailed.

But we can’t claim that a majority of Catalans overall voted for independence, said Barcelona-based *El Periódico de Catalunya*. While 90 percent of voters who cast ballots—some 2.3 million people—supported seceding from Spain, turnout was only 42 percent, because most pro-Spanish voters simply stayed home. Puigdemont made “a serious mistake” both in calling the referendum and then in immediately announcing that the results meant independence was inevitable. Now Puigdemont is trying to use opposition to Madrid’s crackdown to rally Catalans to independence. But let’s be clear: “The disproportionate police response does not make the referendum legal, nor render its results democratic.” Now Rajoy’s government is saying it might place Catalonia under federal authority, at least temporarily. The end result of this mess could be less independence, not more.

Iraq: Kurds' desire for independence roils region

What have Iraqi Kurds unleashed? asked **Mohamed Mahad Darar** in *The Jerusalem Post* (Israel). The semiautonomous Kurdistan Regional Government in northern Iraq held a referendum last week on whether to break away from Baghdad, and nearly 93 percent of the 3.3 million voters who cast ballots backed independence. Kurds in Iraq cheered in the streets; so did fellow Kurds in neighboring Turkey and Iran. But the central governments of those countries, which fear losing chunks of their territory to a new nation of Kurdistan, responded with anger. Iraq called the referendum an assault on its territorial integrity and immediately began joint military exercises with Turkey and with Iran along Iraqi Kurdistan's borders. Masoud Barzani, president of the Iraqi Kurdistan region, wants the nonbinding vote to prompt negotiations, saying Iraq, Iran, and Turkey will have to decide whether to address Kurds' desire for freedom "responsibly and peacefully, or escalate tension." If the three choose military confrontation, "the outcome will be catastrophic."



Iraqi Kurds celebrate the pro-secession vote.

Blame Israel, said **Serdar Turgut** in *Haberturk* (Turkey). Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu openly supports Kurdish statehood because Kurdistan would be an ally of the Jewish state and a "weapon to be used against the increasing power of Iran." Kurds regard Israel as a model for achieving their own independent ethnic homeland—many waved Israeli flags along with Kurdish ones as they voted. Turkish President Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said that such displays prove that the Israeli intelligence agency Mossad was behind the referendum. Other shad-

owly forces are at work, said **Ibrahim Karagul** in *Yeni Safak* (Turkey). The U.S., U.K., and other Western powers secretly support the creation of a Greater Kurdistan. "A terrible distribution of trophies is underway in the region, and everybody is trying to get a share in it." Turkey will be carved up and encircled if it does not act now, and decisively.

Yet after coming under pressure from Russia, Turkey softened its stance, said Ankara-based journalist **Jasper Mortimer** in *Al-Monitor.com*. Erdogan initially threatened to "starve" Iraqi Kurds into submission by closing the border and cutting off the pipeline that takes Iraqi oil from the Kurdish-controlled city of Kirkuk to the Turkish port of Ceyhan. But that would have hurt Russia, which has sunk some \$4 billion into Kurdish energy projects and "plans to ship large quantities of crude" from Ceyhan to Europe. After President Vladimir Putin made a quick visit to Ankara three days after the referendum, talk of a pipeline cut ended. But that doesn't mean Russia supports Kurdish independence—Moscow has no desire to complicate its own relations with Baghdad or Tehran.

If violence does flare up, Kirkuk could be the flash point, said **Sedat Ergin** in *Hurriyet* (Turkey). "Located on very rich oil reservoirs," that city is home to large populations of Iraqi Kurds, Arabs, and Turkmen—a minority group that Turkey has vowed to protect. With its volatile ethnic mix, any crisis in Kirkuk could "expand to the whole region in a short period of time."

VENEZUELA

Maduro has reduced us to beggars

Carolina Jaimes Branger
El Universal

It's heartbreaking to see middle-class Venezuelans begging for food, said Carolina Jaimes Branger. I went to the grocery last week for the first time in nearly a month, and "the entire experience was an agony." Of course, there was "no cornmeal, no flour, no milk, no coffee." Still, there were supplies to be had—at outrageous cost. Hyperinflation has sent prices soaring. A bottle of wine marked 25,000 bolivars (about \$2,450) a few weeks ago now costs five times as much. Even if I could afford it, how could I justify spending such a sum "when there are people rooting through the dumpsters outside for food?" President Nicolás Maduro blames the crisis

on the supposed economic war the U.S. is waging against us, but we all know that "exists only in his feverish imagination." There is no Cuban-style blockade here preventing goods from entering our oil-rich country, only sanctions against individual members of Maduro's administration. As I was about to leave the market, I was approached by a well-dressed, polite, but very thin gentleman holding a packet of bread and cheese. "I'm very sorry, ma'am," he said. "But I need help paying for this." I was overwhelmed, with sympathy for him and with fury at the government that let this happen. "No one in Venezuela should go hungry."

AUSTRALIA

Why we deserve a footy holiday

Sam Duncan
The Sydney Morning Herald

Residents of the Australian state of Victoria got a day off last week, said Sam Duncan, but all we did was gripe about it. Grand Final Friday, the day before the Australian Football League's Grand Final match, was declared a public holiday two years ago. People still aren't used to it and seem to "feel uncomfortable about doing nothing." Pundits told us we were slackers, and business leaders moaned the holiday would cost the economy nearly \$1 billion. With all that negativity, it's no wonder polls suggest that most Victorians want the holiday either "moved or dumped." Why can't we just relax and enjoy the festivities? Australians work long

hours, and children are more plugged in to their devices than ever. We need a holiday where we can spend time together, strengthen family bonds, and give the kids happy memories. And there's nothing better for bringing families together than Australian Rules football, in which some of the world's best athletes kick and run an oblong ball across a massive field and take down rival players with crunching tackles. With a day off, everyone can watch the Melbourne parade on the eve of the big match, decked out in team colors. Footy is "one of the most culturally significant pastimes of our state." We deserve a day to celebrate it.

Tax reform: Who would benefit from Trump's plan?

President Trump's tax plan represents "the most pro-growth fiscal agenda" since Ronald Reagan unleashed the economy in the 1980s, said **Charles Gasparino** in the *New York Post*. Under the initial blueprint announced last week, the number of tax brackets would collapse from seven to three, simplifying our "messy tax system," while the top individual tax rate would drop from 39.6 percent to 35 percent. The bottom rate would rise slightly, from 10 percent to 12 percent, but lower- to middle-income folks would see their standard deduction double, to \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for married couples, and enjoy an as yet unspecified increase in the child tax credit. Trump's plan also "contains a *mountain* of incentives" for small and large businesses, said **Larry Kudlow** in *NationalReview.com*. It cuts the corporate tax rate from 35 percent—one of the highest rates in the world—to a much more competitive 20 percent, encouraging U.S. companies to expand and hire more workers. "This is a revolutionary change," said Trump, "and the biggest winners will be the American workers."



Trump: My plan is 'revolutionary.'

Unfortunately, "none of that is true," said **David Leonhardt** in *The New York Times*. Trump insists that his plan favors middle-income Americans and *not* the rich. But an analysis by the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center found that about 30 percent of taxpayers earning between \$50,000 and \$150,000 would see their taxes *increase* under the GOP plan. Meanwhile, by 2027, 80 percent of the plan's benefits would go to the wealthiest 1 percent. Republicans howl about the national debt when a Democrat is president, said **Jonathan Chait** in *NYMag.com*, but don't seem to care that their plan would explode the deficit by reducing federal revenues by \$2.4 trillion over a decade. The GOP hopes to claw back about \$1 trillion by closing loopholes and tax breaks, including eliminating the deduction for state and local taxes. But every existing deduction will be vigorously defended by its beneficiaries and lobbyists. Republicans could avoid their math problem by not giving "a tiny number of extremely affluent people" a big tax cut in the first place—but that's "the motivation of the entire exercise."

Trump's critics must be "clairvoyant," said *The Wall Street Journal* in an editorial. They've denounced his tax plan even before "crucial details are known." And the Tax Policy Center's analysis doesn't

even attempt to factor in the "growth impact from tax cuts." After years of "stagnation" under Obama, Trump's plan could encourage at least 3 percent growth, adding some \$2.5 trillion to the Treasury. Actually, that's a long-disproven Republican myth, said **Catherine Rampell** in *The Washington Post*. Recent history shows no evidence that tax cuts create so much economic growth they pay for themselves. When Kansas passed sweeping tax cuts in 2012, it experienced below-average growth, huge budget shortfalls, and brutal cuts to school funding and social services. Eventually, after realizing their supply-side experiment had failed, red-faced Republicans were forced to raise taxes again.

Trump is peddling another outright lie, said **Seth Hanlon** in *Fortune.com*. The president claims he and other wealthy people wouldn't personally benefit from his tax plan—when, in fact, he and his billionaire-filled Cabinet will enjoy a huge windfall if it passes Congress. His proposal eliminates the estate tax, which applies only to the 1 in 500 U.S. families whose assets are worth more than \$5.5 million—saving Trump and his family an estimated \$1.1 billion. It also creates a special, preferential 25 percent "pass-through" tax for partnerships and limited liability companies; Trump owns more than 500 such entities. And it eliminates the alternative minimum tax—essentially the sole reason Trump paid any tax on his \$150 million income in the 2005 return that was partly leaked to the press. Trump "doesn't just benefit from his tax plan," said **Jamelle Bouie** in *Slate.com*. "He *flourishes* under it."

That's if Republicans manage to pass the tax plan, said **Adam Brandon** in *WashingtonExaminer.com*. Already, their "backs are up against the wall." Blue-state Republicans are threatening "no" votes if GOP leaders go through with eliminating deductions for state and local taxes—a change that would hurt taxpayers from high-tax states such as California and New York. Meanwhile, Republican Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee says he won't back any plan that adds "one penny to the deficit." But failing to pass *something* isn't an option. The GOP has already botched Obamacare repeal, despite controlling Congress and the White House. The 2018 midterms are creeping ever closer. "If Republicans don't pass tax reform, they're screwed."

Noted

■ The FBI is conducting about 1,000 investigations of suspected white supremacists or other types of domestic terrorists who might be planning violence, FBI Director Christopher Wray told Congress this week. The FBI has about the same number of investigations into suspects who may be inspired by ISIS.

The Washington Post

■ As of April, 630,019 machine guns, or fully automatic weapons, were registered with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, including more than 11,700 in Nevada. That number includes machine guns to be used by government officials and unserviceable guns that are

purchased by collectors as souvenirs.

The Wall Street Journal

■ Only about 650 miles of the 2,000-mile-long Mexican border are now fenced. But to build a longer border fence or wall, the federal government would have to buy or condemn about 4,900 parcels of land—a process that could lead to years or even decades of court battles. A 2006 federal attempt to condemn 300 border parcels still has 85 cases unsettled.

USA Today



■ More Americans live in Puerto Rico than in 21 states, including Iowa, Utah, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Nevada. The U.S. territory's gross domestic product, about \$103 billion, would rank 37th if Puerto Rico were a state.

CNN.com

■ One of the most expensive years for natural disasters on record is expected to cause widespread losses for the global insurance industry. Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria and two Mexican earthquakes in recent weeks could cost insurance firms more than \$100 billion, according to initial estimates.

The Wall Street Journal

Hefner: His impact on sexual mores

The conventional wisdom on *Playboy* founder Hugh Hefner is that he was a “retrograde chauvinist,” said Carrie Pitzulo in *Politico.com*—“a creepy old man” who created a “sexist, objectifying rag.” The truth is more complicated. Before *Playboy* hit the newsstands in 1953, society recognized only two types of women: “good girls” who married young as virgins and had sex in order to bear children and “bad girls” who had sex before marriage and enjoyed it. With his *Playmate* centerfolds, Hefner “rejected this constricted vision of women’s sexuality” and showed that “good girls” enjoyed sex, too—that “women were as sexual as men.” In the “conservative postwar years,” that was a “revolutionary idea.” For all his faults, “Hefner fought for sexual liberation his whole career,” said Erin Gloria Ryan in *TheDailyBeast.com*. He pushed for women’s access to birth control and vigorously supported legalizing abortion long before *Roe v. Wade*. He “stood up for gay rights” when most others didn’t dare.



Did ‘Hef’ help liberate women?

You have to hand it to Hef, spinning his “modification of female flesh” as “a win for sexual liberation,” said Christine Cauterucci in *Slate.com*. He was obviously right that women enjoy

sex and “should be allowed to show it.” But *Playboy* promoted a patriarchal world in which Barbie doll-like women were transformed into “hairless, glistening, plumped-up” ideals, shaped not by their own desires but those of men. When Hefner commissioned a hit piece on the feminist movement in 1970, he told his staff, “These chicks are our natural enemy.” Hef claimed to “love women,” said Jill Filipovic in *Time.com*, but he viewed us as objects without minds or souls and promoted our freedom only insofar as it “benefited men’s sex lives”—in particular his own. Rather than challenging the notion that sex is “primarily about male pleasure and experience,” he “magnified it.”

Hefner leaves a coarser, “degraded” culture as his principal legacy, said Ross Douthat in *The New York Times*. He launched *Playboy* “with talk of jazz and Picasso,” but ended up as a “lecherous, low-brow Peter Pan”—a “leering grotesque” with a “paid harem” of fame-seeking women several decades his junior. The “social liberalism” Hef championed paved the way for the rot of ubiquitous, misogyny-laced internet porn, and for conservatives unashamedly voting in a “playboy as our president.” That, too, is Hef’s legacy.

2016: How Russians hijacked social media

Social media “has a Russia problem,” said April Glaser in *Slate.com*. Twitter joined Facebook last week in admitting that Russians used its service to send divisive messages to Americans before and after the 2016 election, with 201 Twitter accounts traced to such propaganda efforts so far. Facebook has already turned over to congressional investigators more than 3,000 advertisements tied to Kremlin propagandists. The social network says Russia-linked groups spent \$100,000 on ad campaigns that were seen by an estimated 10 million people, featuring hot-button messages “clearly intended to rile up opposing sides on the brink of America’s polarized politics,” ranging from support for Black Lives Matter, third-party candidate Jill Stein, and Donald Trump. The Senate Intelligence Committee has summoned both companies to testify about Russia’s interference in the election, and “the public deserves to know exactly how it happened.”

Russians posing as Americans on social media “tried on quite an array of disguises,” said Mike Isaac and Scott Shane in *The New York Times*. There were fake accounts dedicated to gun-rights supporters, LGBT activists, and anti-immigration hard-liners, all buying “boosted posts” to help their content go viral. The Russians took advan-

tage of sophisticated ad-targeting tools used by businesses, said Elizabeth Dwoskin in *The Washington Post*. They used a Facebook feature called Custom Audiences to zero in on users who had already clicked their ads, repeatedly targeting them with tailored messages. But until we know exactly who was targeted, it will be “difficult to assess the impact of the Russian influence campaign.”

“It’s a good time to re-examine our relationship with Facebook,” said Christopher Mims in *The Wall Street Journal*. Social media prizes visceral, emotional posts because technology companies need us to keep sharing and clicking so that they can show us more ads. For its part, Facebook has pledged to hire 1,000 more monitors to review ad purchases. But that’s a pittance, given its \$14 billion worth of ads last year. Facebook and Twitter have always argued that more sharing will create stronger democracies, said Jason Tanz in *Wired*. Instead, social media has utterly fractured us along tribal fault lines, creating opportunities for extremists, rage-filled trolls, and foreign agents to tear at the social fabric. “We are certainly hearing more from one another than ever before,” but no one would mistake America today for a “more cohesive and politically coherent nation.”

Wit & Wisdom

“Anyone who has the power to make you believe absurdities has the power to make you commit injustices.”

Voltaire, quoted in *The Wall Street Journal*

“It is an unwavering rule for those in power that, when it comes to heads, it is best to cut them off before they start thinking.”

Novelist José Saramago, quoted in *LitHub.com*

“Silence is the ultimate weapon of power.”

Charles de Gaulle, quoted in *TheBrowser.com*

“If you say what’s on your mind in the language that comes to you from your parents and your street and friends, you’ll probably say something beautiful.”

Grace Paley, quoted in *The New York Review of Books*

“Living in the past is for cowards.”

Football coach Mike Ditka, quoted in *The Chicago Tribune*

“To be nobody-but-yourself—in a world which is doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else—means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight.”

E.E. Cummings, quoted in *BrainPickings.org*

“I don’t like to be out of my comfort zone, which is about a half-inch wide.”

Larry David, quoted in *The Observer (U.K.)*

Poll watch

■ **56%** of American voters think Donald Trump is not “fit to serve as president.” **59%** say he is not honest, and **69%** want him to stop using Twitter. Quinnipiac University

■ **30%** of Americans currently own a gun. **74%** of those who own guns say that they view that right as essential to their personal freedom. Pew Research Center

Social media: Twitter expands beyond 140 characters

“Twitter’s defining attribute has long been its brevity,” said Mike Isaac in *The New York Times*. Users are limited to 140 characters a post and no more, giving the social network a pithiness and speed that distinguishes it from rivals such as Facebook and makes it a hub for breaking news. But last week, Twitter announced that it would allow a small group of random users to test posts with up to 280 characters, in order to “eliminate what it viewed as constraints that kept people from tweeting more frequently.”

As with all things on Twitter, “reaction was swift—and mostly negative,” said Maureen Lee Lenker in *EW.com*. Many users said that increasing the character limit would rob the platform of its succinct, clever essence, or give online abusers double the ability to harass their targets. Others questioned the size of the new 280-character cap, pointing out that the 140-character limit was left over from the long-gone days when SMS text messages had a limit of 160 characters, and that the new limit seemed just as arbitrary as the first.

“It’s hard to overstate what a crossroads this is for Twitter, since monkeying with its character limit changes the nature of the service,” said Pete Pachal in *Mashable.com*. But it’s all part of a plan to attract more users—and perhaps one day turn a profit. Since Twitter went public four years ago, “Wall Street has been very, very disappointed” with the social network’s user



Double the space for your rants and raves

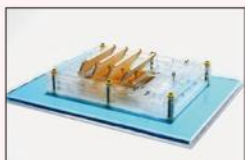
growth, which is now stalled at 328 million monthly users; by comparison, Facebook boasts some 2 billion. By offering users a little more space to share and vent, Twitter clearly hopes to lure folks “who may not be as great at compressing their thoughts.” Whining about character limits is admittedly the “most first world—iest of first world problems,” said Dom Knight in *The Guardian*. “And yet, for those of us for whom Twitter is our primary interface with what’s happening in the world, it’s a major, highly undesirable change.” More words

will mean more flab—and less humor, less punch, and less wit. I understand the pressures on Twitter to make money, but “it can’t compete with Facebook, and shouldn’t try.”

Maybe Twitter could have tightened a few rules rather than just loosening character limits, said Virginia Heffernan in the *Los Angeles Times*. For years, users have been asking Twitter to move more forcefully against hate-mongering trolls. “They have pleaded for no bots, and begged for fewer Nazis.” But instead they get “surplus characters no one asked for.” No doubt veteran users will adapt to the new format, and “probably even find crafty ways to exploit it for humor, cultural commentary, and new kinds of op-eds.” But Twitter has missed an opportunity to address the worst elements on its platform. “That would have been nice. And would have sufficed.”

Innovation of the week

Forget the sun and wind—evaporating water could be the next



big source of renewable energy, said James Temple in *TechnologyReview.com*. So-called evaporation-driven engines “generate power from the motion of bacterial spores that expand and contract as they absorb and release air moisture.” Evaporation continues 24/7, so the engines, which sit on the water’s surface, could provide power nonstop—unlike solar panels. The technology is still in a prototype phase, but a new study in the journal *Nature Communications* notes that the power available from natural evaporation in lakes and reservoirs in the continental U.S. could meet 70 percent of the nation’s needs. If even a small amount of that energy were tapped, says study co-author Ozgur Sahin of Columbia University, evaporation-driven engines “could make a significant contribution to clean-energy and climate goals.”

Bytes: What’s new in tech

Tech giants spend on STEM

Some of the country’s biggest tech firms are partnering with the Trump administration to help “prepare more students and workers for the jobs of the future,” said Tony Romm in *Recode.net*. Amazon, Facebook, Google, Microsoft, and Salesforce will commit \$50 million each to a new White House project to boost science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and computing skills among K-12 students. The private sector money will be combined with at least \$200 million in grants from the Department of Education. Silicon Valley’s support for the initiative stands in “stark contrast to the industry’s many clashes with the White House in recent months.” President Trump has attacked Amazon repeatedly on Twitter, and last week suggested that Facebook was “anti-Trump.”

Tapping ‘intimate’ data

“The privacy debate tends to focus on how big companies handle ‘private’ information like Social Security numbers, credit histories, and financial transactions,” said Kim Hart in *Axios.com*. But the most valuable information, according to University of Pennsylvania computer science professor Michael Kearns, is “intimate” data. That includes “opinions,

attitudes, beliefs, and moods that aren’t written down anywhere, but can be inferred from your online behavior,” such as posts you like on Facebook, your Google search queries, and your purchases on Amazon. Advances in machine learning and neural networks make it easier to see patterns in this seemingly innocuous pool of data. Companies with this information, said Kearns, “can make all kinds of inferences about you and your life circumstances that you may not even know yourself.”

EasyJet’s electric dreams

EasyJet is going electric, said Ivana Kottasová in *CNN.com*. The British budget airline announced last week that it was partnering with Los Angeles–based startup Wright Electric to build an “all-electric airliner.” Founded last year, Wright Electric has already designed and flown a two-seat electric plane. The passenger aircraft it’s working on with EasyJet “would handle short routes of 335 miles or less—think New York to Boston or London to Paris.” EasyJet hopes the plane will be flying in the next decade, and says the aircraft could cover up to 20 percent of the carrier’s journeys. “Electric planes could be a game changer for airlines, because fuel is one of their biggest costs.”

NOW YOU CAN LOSE YOUR RECEIPTS EVEN FASTER.

TRAVEL AND EXPENSES ARE LIVE.

Make the expense process painless for business and traveler alike. Concur's live, intuitive expense reports practically file themselves. While giving businesses a live look at exactly where and how their money is being spent.

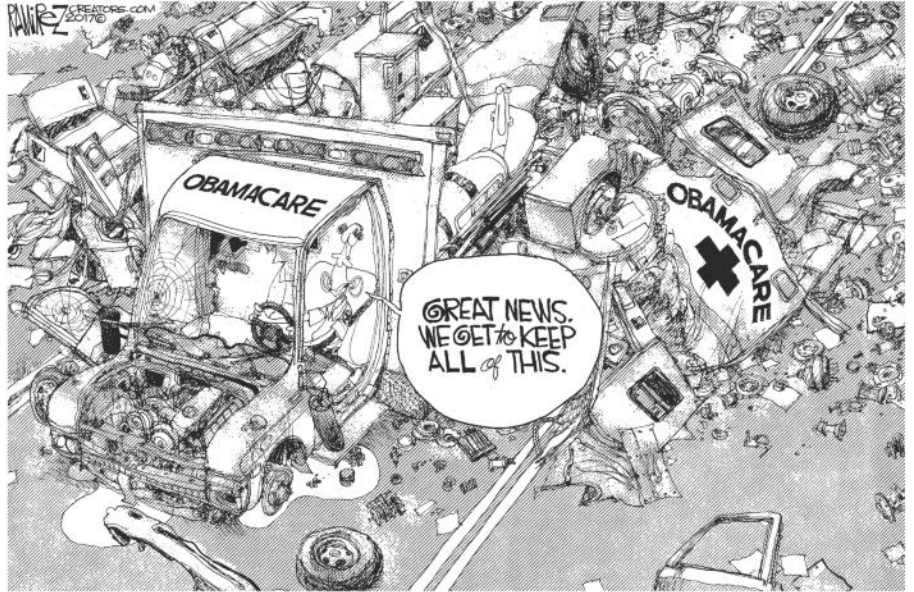
sap.com/livebusiness



SAP

Run Simple





@Ramireztoons

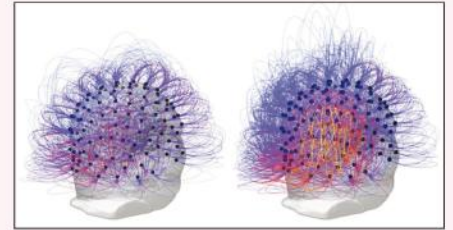
michaelpramirez.com



Nerve stimulation restores partial consciousness

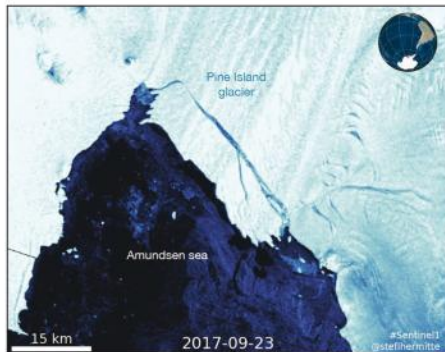
Using a new experimental treatment, neurosurgeons in France have enabled a patient who had been in a vegetative state for more than 15 years to smile, cry, and show other signs of consciousness. The 35-year-old man had been in “unresponsive wakefulness”—periodically opening his eyes but never “awake” or responding to his surroundings—since suffering brain damage in a car accident in 2001, reports *NewScientist.com*. A team from the French National Center for Scientific Research wrapped electrodes around the patient’s vagus nerve, which extends from the brain stem to the abdomen.

When they then stimulated this nerve with tiny electrical currents, the patient experienced increased brain activity. After just one month of treatment, he opened his eyes more often, tracked people moving around his room, and responded to requests to turn his head. He even shed tears on hearing his favorite song. While the severity of his brain damage makes it very unlikely he’ll ever regain the ability to talk or walk, the nerve stimulation appears to have taken him out of a vegetative state. Study leader Angela Sirigu says more research is needed into the treatment, which is already used for some



A depiction of increased brain activity (right)

forms of epilepsy and depression. But she says the findings show that “brain repair [is] still possible even when hope seems to have vanished.”



The crack shows where the iceberg formed.

Another iceberg breakaway

An iceberg four times the size of Manhattan broke away from a glacier in Western Antarctica last month, permanently altering the continent’s coastline and increasing concerns about rising sea levels. The 100-square-mile chunk of ice calved from the Pine Island Glacier, which accounts for about 45 billion tons of ice flow into the ocean each year. Scientists monitoring the glacier via satellite say the newly formed iceberg is unstable and has already broken apart into smaller pieces as it drifts out to sea. Though massive, the berg is dwarfed by the Delaware-sized block of ice that split from the Larsen C ice shelf in Antarctica earlier this year, reports *CBSNews.com*. The new breakaway won’t directly affect global sea levels, because that portion of Pine Island is already floating, but it may diminish the glacier’s function as a plug that holds back ice streams from the West Antarctic ice shelf. Scientists are also concerned that these calving events are becoming more frequent—and that they’re forming in the center of the glacier, as warmer ocean water weakens it from below. “If new rifts continue to form progressively inland,” says Ian Howat, a glaciologist at Ohio State University, “the significance to ice shelf retreat would be high.”

A new way of diagnosing CTE

In a potential breakthrough in the study of chronic traumatic encephalopathy—the degenerative brain disease linked to playing football—researchers may have found a way to diagnose the condition in living people. CTE, which is thought to be caused or exacerbated by repeated blows to the head, can currently be identified only in an autopsy. For the new study, scientists at Boston University’s School of Medicine compared the brains of 23 deceased football players who had CTE with the brains of 68 deceased non-athletes, 50 of whom had had Alzheimer’s disease. They found that the football players had significantly elevated levels of CCL11, a protein linked to inflammation; the longer they had played, the higher their levels. More research is needed to determine if a spinal tap or blood test could be used to test for CCL11 in people with warning signs of CTE, such as depression and impulsive behavior. But study author Ann McKee says the findings are the “first ray of hope” in the effort to understand the disease—and to find a treatment. “It’s a eureka moment, but we don’t think it’s the end,” she tells *The Washington Post*. “We think it’s the beginning.”

Joint lunar space station

As part of its long-term aim to send humans to Mars, NASA is teaming up with its Russian counterpart, Roscosmos, to build a space station that will orbit the moon. The two agencies want to create a “deep-space gateway” to act as a launchpad for missions to the lunar surface and further



afield. The long-term base, which would include a residence and research facilities, would also serve as a replacement for the International Space Station, which isn’t expected to last much beyond 2028. The new station would likely be constructed from modules launched separately into space in the early 2020s, laying the groundwork for a mission to the Red Planet in the 2030s. Canada, Japan, and the European Space Agency—all of them already working with Russia and the U.S. on the ISS—are expected to be involved in the project, together with private space travel companies. “While the deep-space gateway is still in concept formulation,” says NASA’s Robert Lightfoot, “[we are] pleased to see growing international interest in moving into cislunar space as the next step for advancing human space exploration.”

Health scare of the week A surge in STDs

New cases of three common sexually transmitted bacterial diseases—chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis—reached a record high in the U.S. last year, reports *CNN.com*. Figures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that more than 2 million new infections were reported in 2016. About 1.6 million were chlamydia, representing a 5 percent increase from last year, while gonorrhea and syphilis both surged by about 18 percent, to 470,000 and 28,000 cases, respectively. These STDs can be cured with antibiotics, but drug-resistant strains of gonorrhea are on the rise. Complicating matters, gonorrhea and chlamydia are often “silent” infections that produce no symptoms but can lead to infertility and life-threatening complications if left untreated. “Clearly we need to reverse this disturbing trend,” says the CDC’s Gail Bolan. “We need to get the word out that everyone needs a yearly checkup.”

Review of reviews: Books

Book of the week

Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century

by Jessica Bruder

(Norton, \$27)

You can call them houseless—“but don’t you dare call them homeless,” said **Rachelle Bergstein** in the *New York Post*. Journalism professor Jessica Bruder spent three years getting to know some of the tens of thousands of Americans who have given up on the dream of a traditional home to live in RVs or vans and travel the country picking up seasonal employment. Known variously as workampers, vandwellers, or rubber tramps, they’re often older Americans whose finances were devastated by medical bills or the 2008 financial crisis, and they flock to short-term gigs at farms, campsites, and the warehouses of Amazon—which aggressively recruits workampers for the run-up to Christmas. Many members of this new breed tell Bruder that they enjoy being free of mortgage payments or rent. Still, it’s “a difficult existence,” and not the life most of these Americans had imagined.



‘Workamper’ Linda May outside her home

As a reader gets to know them, it’s hard not to be struck by their resiliency and humor, said **Kim Ode** in the Minneapolis *Star Tribune*. The new nomads boast of owning “wheel estate,” and form friendly ad-hoc communities, sharing potluck dinners and swapping money-saving tips. The veritable star of *Nomadland*, a spirited 64-year-old grandmother who calls her rig “the Squeeze Inn,” is a hoot. But Linda May is also an example of the book’s blind spots, said **Steven Malanga**

in *City Journal*. We learn that earlier in life May held jobs as a cocktail waitress, a Home Depot cashier, and an insurance executive, but we don’t hear how she lost them—though a mention of troubles with alcoholism and drug use provides a clue. Another subject confesses to having amassed \$30,000 in credit card debt. “Bruder’s itinerants are not Okies fleeing the Dust Bowl.” Many are victims of their own poor choices.

By some measures, they’re the lucky ones, said **Parul Sehgal** in *The New York Times*. The workampers take backbreaking work and live without a safety net, but they enjoy advantages over the majority of America’s 3 million migrant workers. Only at the end of *Nomadland* does Bruder mention that virtually all workampers are white, a phenomenon she shrugs off without considering how the allure of the road might be dimmed for anyone under the threat of racial violence or deportation. However much you worry about the wanderers Bruder so gracefully portrays, “you also ache for the ones without even this option,” the ones who “don’t even merit a mention.”

Novel of the week

Manhattan Beach

by Jennifer Egan

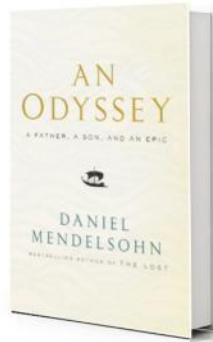
(Scribner, \$28)

Jennifer Egan’s fiction “keeps taking her (and the reader) to new places,” said **Francine Prose** in *The New York Review of Books*. In the case of her “ambitious, engrossing” fifth novel, that place is 1930s Brooklyn, where 11-year-old Anna Kerrigan watches as her dockworker father and a racketeer confer on a beach over matters she won’t fully understand for years. When the story jumps ahead to wartime, Eddie Kerrigan has disappeared, leaving Anna to care for her disabled sister. Anna will become a Navy diver and also inch closer to discovering the reason her father vanished. A departure from the “postmodern razzle-dazzle” of Egan’s Pulitzer-winning *A Visit From the Goon Squad*, *Manhattan Beach* is slowed by “tweedy historical accuracy,” said **Ron Charles** in *The Washington Post*. But there’s much to savor here, with Egan “blending a jazzy range of tones,” from noir to melodrama. And her ending, hopeful yet credible, “dares to satisfy us in a way that stories of an earlier age used to.”

An Odyssey: A Father, a Son, and an Epic

by Daniel Mendelsohn

(Knopf, \$27)



“What catches you off-guard about this memoir is how moving it is,” said **Dwight Garner** in *The New York Times*. The setup sounds like light comedy: Critic and classics scholar Daniel Mendelsohn teaches a seminar on *The Odyssey* to teenage undergraduates, and one winter his vinegary 81-year-old father asks if he can sit in. If you know Mendelsohn, you also expect he’ll know his Homer. But he exceeds expectations. Combining classroom comedy, biographical memoir, literary criticism, and even a related account of being trapped on a theme cruise, he’s written a book as warmly layered as a Rodgers and Hart song. And though it’s often amusing, “it has many complicated things to say not only about Homer’s epic poem but about fathers and sons.”

The book’s most entertaining passages are

the classroom scenes, said **Jonathan Russell Clark** in the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Jay Mendelsohn, a supremely intelligent retired scientist, initially agrees to be a silent observer. But he breaks his promise on Day One, immediately objecting to his son’s characterization of Odysseus as a hero, which sends the class’s younger students into fits of laughter. Jay takes the study of Homer’s epic poem seriously, though, and soon Odysseus’ winding path toward a reunion with his son begins to parallel the growing understanding between the two Mendelsohns.

Like *The Odyssey*, Mendelsohn’s book can be leading to only one ending, said **John Freeman** in *The Boston Globe*. Less than a year after taking his son’s course, Jay Mendelsohn dies. By then, Daniel has gained a fuller appreciation of his father—his humble Depression-era childhood, his autodidactic mastery of mathematics, his devotion to rigorous study—and those discoveries have deepened his understanding of Homer’s text. The elder Mendelsohn emerges as having been a hero in disguise, a mentor ready even in death to counsel any son willing to go in search of him. *An Odyssey* “shows us how necessary this education is, how provisional, how frightening, how comforting.”



Author of the week

Attica Locke

There's a reason Attica Locke started regularly wearing cowboy boots a few years ago, said **Dwyer Murphy** in *LitHub.com*. Though she's lived and worked in Los Angeles for two decades, the novelist and television



screenwriter is an East Texas native who dreamed up her first stories during long drives to visit family along a rural

highway running north out of Houston. "I never really got Texas out of my system," she says. That world of red dirt, piney woods, and interracial community, but also racist violence, provides the setting for her fifth novel, *Bluebird*, *Bluebird*, in which a black Texas Ranger investigates a pair of possibly racially motivated killings on a stretch of U.S. Highway 59 that Locke's family used to drive.

Highway 59 has historic significance too, dating to the Great Migration, said **Rachel Martin** in *NPR.org*. "For black folks, that was the road North," says Locke. "That was the road to get out of Texas." Her novel's protagonist, Ranger Darren Mathews, like Locke's 19th-century forebears, chose to make a stand in East Texas—in Mathews' case, even after a law school education in Chicago. "It's a quintessentially Texas thing, this idea about not getting run off," Locke says. Darren's ambivalence about his home turf mirrors the author's own. "He feels that it doesn't belong to its worst impulses," she says, "that people who hold racist views don't get to decide what a state or country is; that as long as he is present there, too, as long as he is wearing a badge, there is a chance that he can define the state as being a place that is fundamentally hospitable to black life."

Best books...chosen by Brené Brown

Brené Brown, a research professor at the University of Houston, recently followed up her books on shame and vulnerability with Braving the Wilderness, a new best-seller about courage. Below, she names six books that inspired her to be braver.

Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson (Spiegel & Grau, \$16). This book is a call to individual and collective courage. Stevenson, founder of the Equal Justice Initiative, writes, "Each of us is more than the worst thing we've ever done. My work with the poor and the incarcerated has persuaded me that the opposite of poverty is not wealth; the opposite of poverty is justice." His work changed me.

Why Won't You Apologize? by Harriet Lerner (Touchstone, \$16). Lerner's books have shaped my life and my career. I thought I was good at apologizing and making amends, but this book challenged me in an unexpected and profound way. Imagine a world where we move away from blame and defensiveness and toward real accountability. This is the road map.

The Book of Forgiving by Desmond and Mpho Tutu (HarperOne, \$16). Of all of the topics I've studied over the past two decades, forgiveness has been the most complex and difficult. Here, Bishop Desmond Tutu and his daughter take us on a journey that has the potential to change lives and the broader culture.

Creativity, Inc. by Ed Catmull (Random House, \$28). I opened this book seeking answers about the relationships between creativity, vulnerability, and courage. I didn't expect it to profoundly change the way I work. This is one of the most important leadership books of our time.

Teaching to Transgress by Bell Hooks (Routledge, \$37). This book sat next to my bed the entire first year I taught at the University of Houston. Hooks' idea of "education as the practice of freedom" shaped who I am today. Whenever difficult conversations about race, class, or gender begin to surface, I remember what she taught me: If your students are comfortable, you're not doing your job.

The Heart of Christianity by Marcus J. Borg (HarperOne, \$16). I jokingly call myself a "Borg-again Christian." Born into the Episcopalian church and raised Catholic, I bolted from organized religion when it got too hard to find God—when politics and certainty replaced mystery and faith. Years later, this book brought me back. It's a beautiful reminder of what's possible when the church commits itself to love and justice above all.

Also of interest...in diseases and other contagions

Sleeping Beauties

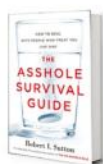
by Stephen and Owen King (Scribner, \$32.50)



Stephen King's first collaboration with his son Owen riffs on *Sleeping Beauty*, and it's "sleepy in its own right," said Janet Maslin in *The New York Times*. In a small Appalachian town, a virus is causing women to fall into a deep slumber and be cocooned by tendrils. But despite the central role given to a witchy beauty who commands an army of moths, the 700-page book is short on thrills, provocative ideas, and striking characters. Though scores of people are introduced, "very few of them spring to life."

The Asshole Survival Guide

by Robert Sutton (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$28)



"This is a small book, but it could play a big part in making us treat others better," said Roger Trapp in *Forbes.com*. Following up his 2007 best-seller *The No Asshole Rule*, management guru Robert Sutton focuses this time on how to deal with toxic people and how to figure out if you're one yourself. He presents plenty of evidence that bad behavior spreads, and that it damages organizations and lives. Best for middle managers, the book offers important lessons for leaders, too.

Pale Rider

by Laura Spinney (PublicAffairs, \$28)



Too often we forget the one 20th-century event that was probably deadlier than any war, said Tilli Tansey in *Nature*. In her look at the 1918 flu pandemic that killed as many as 100 million people, journalist Laura Spinney argues that the catastrophe faded from memory because, though it burnt out, no nation could claim to have defeated it. Her account is "packed with fascinating detail," circling outward from three potential Patient Zeros to show how governments failed, and what they learned.

I Know Your Kind

by William Brewer (Milkweed, \$16)



William Brewer's poetry captures the effects of America's opioid epidemic in "a way that statistics, figures, and journalism cannot," said Mike Good in *PShares.org*. The simple absence of straight narrative "helps arrest the notion that a straight path exists between dependence and sobriety." Brewer's verse wanders into politics, economics, and Greek myth. But he puts individual addicts front and center, and the combination of a refined style and rough content "creates a startling experience."



Healthy Body



Heart, Brain & Eye Support**

NEW

Centrum® MultiGummies® Multi+Omega-3
helps support a healthy body, including your heart, brain & eyes.*
Plus, they taste great too. This is no ordinary gummy multivitamin.



*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. These products are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease.

• B-Vitamins help support heart health, brain health, energy and metabolism. Vitamins A, C, E and Zinc help support normal immune function and healthy eyes. Calcium and vitamin D help support bone health*. ** Includes 11 nutrients to support whole body health including B vitamins to support heart health, zinc and B vitamins to support normal brain function and Vitamins A, C, and E to support healthy eyes. This is not a replacement for cholesterol lowering drugs.* ©2017 Pfizer Inc. Use as directed.

Exhibit of the week**Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA***Various dates and locations, through Jan. 14*

Is Los Angeles part of Latin America? asked Larry Wilson in the Los Angeles *Daily News*. “The answer, of course, is *sí*”: L.A. was founded by 11 Mexican families in 1781, didn’t enter its Anglo phase for a century, and today is home to more people of Latino descent than of any other ethnicity. At long last, the city’s art establishment is celebrating that reality this fall with 80 linked exhibitions, all underwritten by the Getty Foundation, at 70 Southern California institutions. The family bond between Latin America and all of Southland from San Diego to Santa Barbara feels especially strong at this political moment, “but it was always thus.” In the work of the 1,100 artists represented in the sprawling endeavor, the idea of home “emerges as an overarching theme,” said *The Economist*. One small show, at L.A.’s Craft & Folk Art Museum, makes the U.S.-Mexico borderland seem itself like a homeland by calling attention to the art inspired by the border among artists on both sides.

“Given the god-awful traffic in Southern California,” almost no one will be able to visit all 70 venues participating in “Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA,” said Peter Plagens



An untitled Ramírez: ‘Passionately dizzying’

in *The Wall Street Journal*. But a recent sampling suggests that nearly half offer rewarding experiences: I didn’t even mind that I needed three hours to drive the mere 30 miles between the two halves of an exhibition about how Donald Duck reflects and embodies a history of cultural appropriation, cultural imperialism, and playful cross-cultural dialogue. The scat-

tered “wow moments” in “Home—So Different, So Appealing” make that uneven Los Angeles County Museum of Art show a must-see before its mid-October closing. And for “pure pleasure,” nothing beats the Institute of Contemporary Art’s Martín Ramírez retrospective. Ramírez’s “stunning” drawings “combine ingenious ‘outsider’ figuration with passionately dizzying patterns,” and the Mexican-born ex-railroad worker created them all in the mental hospital he was thrown into after becoming homeless during the Great Depression.

This overdue celebration of Latin American art probably won’t last, said Holland Cotter in *The New York Times*. Many artists enjoying their “Hollywood moment” will fade back into obscurity, especially given that only a dozen of the “LA/LA” exhibitions will travel outside Southern California. Happily, one of those shows is “Radical Women,” now at UCLA’s Hammer Museum and heading to the Brooklyn Museum next spring. A “head-spinning” showcase of art created between 1960 and 1985 by more than 100 female artists, it mixes marquee names like the pop-art queen Marisol with dozens of little-known contemporaries. “In terms of sheer audacity,” it is “the single most exciting and hope-inspiring historical group show of contemporary art I’ve seen in 10 years.”

Shania Twain

Now

★★★★★



It should come as no surprise that Shania Twain’s first album in 15 years has “a darker, angrier, sultrier tone” than anything she’s recorded before, said Rob Harvilla in

TheRinger.com. Since 2002’s *Up!*, the pop-country superstar endured a messy divorce from her cheating husband and contracted such a bad case of Lyme disease that she lost her singing voice for years. But though you won’t find the bubbly, carefree Shania of 2002 on *Now*, the album “isn’t the dirge you might have feared.” Whenever a song slips into anger, it also “sneaks in a rowdy horn section and plenty of strident defiance.” At moments like that, “the problem is Twain’s singing,” said Mikael Wood in the *Los Angeles Times*. Her damaged voice is lower and less flexible than before, and though it serves her reasonably well on slow, moody tracks, it comes across as “flat and robotic” on the busy, uptempo numbers that used to be her strength. On the party song “More Fun,” her exhortations prove “about as convincing as an ad in an airline magazine.”

Kamasi Washington

Harmony of Difference

★★★★★



Though it lasts just 32 minutes, Kamasi Washington’s new EP “builds a towering euphoria,” said Sarah Lawson in *PasteMagazine.com*.

An “ideal” follow-up to the jazz saxophonist’s three-disc 2015 debut, *Harmony of Difference* finds the 36-year-old Kendrick Lamar collaborator and overnight superstar combining ‘70s funk, modal and smooth jazz, and even flourishes of calypso. Across a mere six tracks, he creates “a polyphonic soundscape that is vast and ocean-like, rushing at you in swells before bearing you out to sea to succumb to complete submersion.” As before, Washington’s music is “both a challenge and a balm,” said Mark Richardson in *Pitchfork.com*. “Truth,” the final, 13-minute track, showcases his talent for “explosively grand” compositions. Strings and choirs “reach for the heavens” as they revisit motifs introduced earlier in the six-part suite. Listening to the whole record in one sitting is “like looking at a sculpture from multiple angles”: “Suddenly the three-dimensional form clicks in your mind, and you apprehend the whole.”

Protomartyr

Relatives in Descent

★★★★★



Protomartyr’s apocalyptic new album feels “uniquely attuned to our cultural moment,” said Clayton Purdom in *AVClub.com*. The Detroit post-punk band has made bleak music

since its 2012 debut, but every song now is “a gloaming din of guitars” perfectly matched to singer Joe Casey’s weary baritone voice and grim imagery. *Relatives in Descent* is “an album of apocalyptic vision, of late-capitalist desolation, beaches full of bones, atomized discourse, poison clouds and soil, and foul trumpets blasting like bombs.” The band’s first three albums drew on the post-punk legacy of acts like Pere Ubu and Public Image Limited, said Jon Pareles in *The New York Times*. Now, on its fourth album, the band is moving toward a more original sound, pioneering a “post-post-punk” vocabulary that includes “relentless minimalist repetition, melodic (though still jagged) guitar leads, and song structures that keep taking left turns.” Protomartyr “offers no easy consolations, no release—only tension, wound ever more tightly.”

Blade Runner 2049

Directed by
Denis Villeneuve
(R)



An android strives to head off a war.

As much as the original *Blade Runner* merits its reputation as a cinematic landmark, Denis Villeneuve's sequel "could be more important in the long run," said **Brian Truitt** in *USA Today*. Easily "the best film so far this year," *Blade Runner 2049* is a "super-stylish" and surprisingly moving sci-fi masterpiece that repurposes the sturdy detective-story architecture of its 1982 predecessor to present a mythic tale evocative enough to change how we think about identity, memory, creation, and revolution. Consider it "an incredible lucid dream," said **Peter Bradshaw** in *TheGuardian.com*. This dazzling work of futurist fiction "simply couldn't be any more of a triumph."

Ryan Gosling proves "ideally suited" to play the story's lead, said **A.A. Dowd** in *AVClub.com*. Like Harrison Ford's character, Gosling's K is a blade runner—an LAPD cop tasked with hunting down and killing androids who've outlived their usefulness. But we know from the start that K is an android, or "replicant," himself, and Gosling's innate aloofness makes K credibly "a mechanical man with something stirring deep inside him." He discovers a secret



Gosling on his beat: Perfectly half-human

early on, one big enough to spark war between mankind and its replicant servants. That puts him on a quest to learn more and triggers a cat and mouse in which he's pursued by the right-hand woman of a wealthy industrialist and eventually finds Ford, who imbues his aging character with "an almost relaxed gravitas."

Still, even Ford can't recapture the spooky magic of the first *Blade Runner*, said **A.O. Scott** in *The New York Times*. As "sumptuous and surprising" as this 163-minute follow-up is from one scene to the next, it doesn't haunt us the way the cryptic original did. It's "a carefully engineered narrative puzzle, and its power dissipates as the pieces snap into place." Given the movie's length, you could also argue that Villeneuve, the auteur behind last year's *Arrival*, "may have fallen a little too in love with his own creation," said **Leah Greenblatt** in *Entertainment Weekly*. "But how could he not, when nearly every impeccably composed shot feels like such a ravishing visual feast?" Even when it disappoints on an emotional level, *Blade Runner 2049* "reaches for, and finds, something remarkable: the elevation of mainstream moviemaking to high art."

Lucky

Directed by
John Carroll Lynch

(Not rated)



A 90-year-old loner reckons with mortality.

"If only every actor we loved could leave us with a farewell film like this one," said **Stephanie Zacharek** in *Time*. Harry Dean Stanton, who died last month at 91, had a face "so radiant in its ragged beauty" that it seemed ageless. In his final star turn, he plays a frail and superficially grumpy old man mindfully living out his final days in a dusty desert town, and the movie makes the most of Stanton's inner light and deadpan demeanor. Alas, the film is also "a painful trivialization" of Stanton's arresting persona, said **Richard Brody** in *The New Yorker*. It follows his title character through his mildly eccentric daily routine—yoga,



Stanton's soulful curmudgeon

a morning coffee at the local diner, daytime TV—and a few twee plot developments, such as having an old buddy, played by David Lynch, despair over the disappearance of a pet tortoise. Stanton plays every scene beautifully, but the character is a cipher, an empty vessel waiting for the moment the screenplay fills out his backstory. Still,

regarding life's great mysteries, this humble movie "nurtures a quiet sense of mystery," said **Justin Chang** in the *Los Angeles Times*. *Lucky* doesn't believe in an afterlife and scoffs at the idea that people have souls. Even at that moment, Stanton's presence represents a "magnificent" counterargument.

Victoria & Abdul

Directed by Stephen Frears
(PG-13)



Queen Victoria befriends a Muslim servant.

"Is there a more monarchical actress alive than Judi Dench?" asked **Mark Feeny** in *The Boston Globe*. Twenty years after her Oscar-nominated portrayal of Queen Victoria in *Mrs. Brown*, the spirited dame again proves "she could play Victoria in her sleep." Here, the queen is nearing the end of her 63-year reign when she strikes up an unlikely friendship with an Indian servant she appoints as her guide to the foreign land she leads from afar. There's "something for everyone" in the ensuing blend of travelogue, costume drama, and comedy of manners. It's "the kind of story about



Dench and Fazal: Worlds collide.

colonization that the colonizers always like to tell," said **Kristen Page-Kirby** in *WashingtonPost.com*. Ali Fazal's Abdul is based on a real person, but his relationship with Victoria is "bathed in a loving, golden glow" that "leaves no room for history's more shadowy parts." We're even supposed to think Abdul was perfectly content to be torn from his family to humor Victoria's whims. If the art of screen acting fascinates you, *Victoria & Abdul* is "worth seeing for Dench's magisterial performance," said **Christopher Orr** in *TheAtlantic.com*. "Just don't mistake it for actual history."

Movies on TV

Monday, Oct. 9

The Big Sleep

Humphrey Bogart is private detective Philip Marlowe, hired to find out who is blackmailing an unruly divorcée in Howard Hawks' adaptation of Raymond Chandler's novel. (1946) 8 p.m., TCM

Tuesday, Oct. 10

The Big Lebowski

Look for *Big Sleep* parallels in this comedy from the Coen brothers about a burnout who attempts to recoup damages when his rug is defiled by thugs. (1998) 8 p.m., Cinemax

Wednesday, Oct. 11

Casualties of War

Michael J. Fox and Sean Penn co-star in Brian de Palma's chilling Vietnam War drama about a U.S. soldier who refuses to participate in a plan to use a captive young woman as a sex slave. (1989) 10:45 p.m., Showtime

Thursday, Oct. 12

Grand Hotel

John and Lionel Barrymore, Greta Garbo, and Joan Crawford headline this Best Picture winner about the goings-on at a posh Berlin address. (1932) 6 p.m., TCM

Friday, Oct. 13

The Curse of the Cat People

The sequel to Val Lewton's 1942 horror classic is also an excellent stand-alone thriller that vividly captures the perspective of its 6-year-old protagonist. (1944) 6:45 p.m., TCM

Saturday, Oct. 14

Office Space

An IT worker leads a revolution against workplace banality in Mike Judge's modern comedy classic. (1999) 6 p.m., IFC

Sunday, Oct. 15

Escape From New York

Kurt Russell plays a tough convict asked to be a hero in a future Manhattan inhabited exclusively by guards and other prisoners. (1981) 6 p.m., SundanceTV

The Week's guide to what's worth watching

Mr. Robot

The series once widely hailed as the best show on television may be ready for a bounce-back run. At the end of a second season often muddled by narrative trickery, our protagonist, delusion-plagued hacker revolutionary Elliot Alderson, lay shot and bleeding, but surely not dead. Now recovered, he's ready to fight his alter ego, Mr. Robot, and the damage that side of him has done and could do, while trying to advance a larger battle pitting people against capital. Emmy winner Rami Malek and Christian Slater return in their starring roles. *Wednesday, Oct. 11, at 10 p.m., USA Network*

Crazy Ex-Girlfriend

Just when Rebecca Bunch's craziness was about to pay off, the onetime summer camp fling she followed from New York to suburban L.A. jilted her at the altar. Unsurprisingly, revenge will be the theme of Season 3 for the celebrated musical cringe-comedy starring co-creator Rachel Bloom. *Friday, Oct. 13, at 8 p.m., the CW*

The Meyerowitz Stories (New and Selected)

Adored by audiences at Cannes, Noah Baumbach's latest movie comedy is skipping a typical release to go straight to streaming TV. Dustin Hoffman shines as Harold Meyerowitz, a mediocre and embittered New York City sculptor whose adult children have gathered to celebrate his career retrospective, and he's surrounded by an all-star cast. Ben Stiller and Adam Sandler play Harold's bickering sons—one a success, one a spectacular failure—and both actors turn in some of the best work of their careers. *Available for streaming Friday, Oct. 13, Netflix*

Tokyo Project

This half-hour stand-alone drama from Emmy-winning director Richard Shepard is the movie equivalent of finding a good bowl of ramen in a Tokyo back-alley shop. It's simple, shot on the fly with small cameras on Tokyo's streets. It contains quality ingredients that work well together, thanks to co-stars Elisabeth Moss and Ebon Moss-Bachrach. And it riffs smartly on a time-tested recipe—a story of a chance romance. *Saturday, Oct. 14, at 10 p.m., HBO*



Groff braves the belly of the beast.



Crazy Ex-Girlfriend: Bloom undercover

White Famous

Floyd Mooney, a black stand-up comedian, has a chance of becoming "white famous"—if only he can navigate Hollywood-style networking. *Saturday Night Live* alum Jay Pharoah stars in this promising new series, alongside Utkarsh Ambudkar as Mooney's hustling agent. Jamie Foxx, whose career inspired the show, guest-stars as himself. *Sunday, Oct. 15, at 10 p.m., Showtime*

Other highlights
Chance

Because the always enthralling Hugh Laurie plays the title character, this till-now-tepid noir thriller series about a neuropsychologist gone bad deserves a new look as its second season begins. *Available for streaming Wednesday, Oct. 11, Hulu*

Jane the Virgin

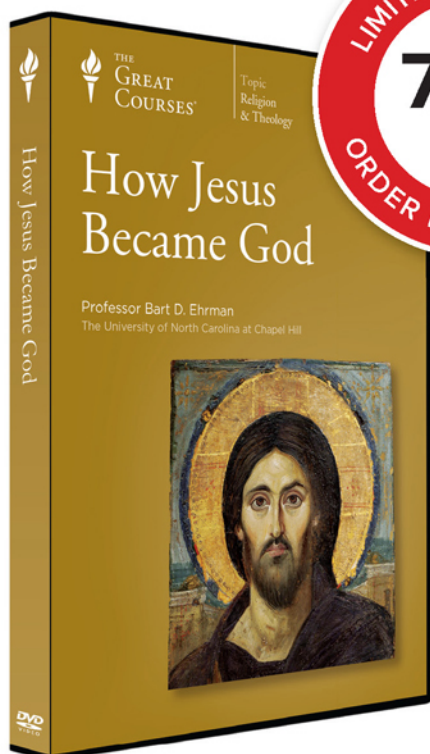
Gina Rodriguez and her hit dramedy series return for a new season in which single-mom Jane will reunite with her first love, played by Tyler Posey. *Friday, Oct. 13, at 9 p.m., the CW*

The Durrells in Corfu

Star Keeley Hawes tries to peddle English cooking to the Greeks as Season 2 begins for the delightful period drama based on the memoirs of naturalist Gerald Durrell. *Sunday, Oct. 15, at 8 p.m., PBS; check local listings*

Show of the week
Mindhunter

As *House of Cards* proved, Hollywood director David Fincher and Netflix make a powerful team. In this somber new series set in the late 1970s, two FBI agents venture into the darkness of the psychopathic mind as they visit incarcerated serial killers across the country and try to figure out how to track down others like them. Jonathan Groff and Holt McCallany co-star, inhabiting a world and mindset that Fincher knows well, having terrified us with stylized evil before in the serial-killer thrillers *Se7en* and *Zodiac*. *Available for streaming Friday, Oct. 13, Netflix*



Uncover the Extraordinary Story of Jesus Christ

The early Christian claim that Jesus of Nazareth was God completely changed the course of Western civilization. For that reason, the question of how Jesus became God is one of the most significant historical questions and, in fact, a question that some believers have never thought to ask. What exactly happened, such that Jesus came to be considered God? To ask this question is to delve into a fascinating, multilayered historical puzzle—one that offers a richly illuminating look into the origins of the Western worldview and the theological underpinnings of our civilization.

In the 24 provocative lectures of **How Jesus Became God**, Professor Bart D. Ehrman of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill takes you deeply into the process by which the divinity of Jesus was first conceived by his followers, demonstrating how this conception was refined over time to become the core of the Christian theology that has so significantly shaped our civilization.

Offer expires 10/27/17

THEGREATCOURSES.COM/9WEEK

1-800-832-2412

How Jesus Became God

Taught by Professor Bart D. Ehrman

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

LECTURE TITLES

1. Jesus—The Man Who Became God
2. Greco-Roman Gods Who Became Human
3. Humans as Gods in the Greco-Roman World
4. Gods Who Were Human in Ancient Judaism
5. Ancient Jews Who Were Gods
6. The Life and Teachings of Jesus
7. Did Jesus Think He Was God?
8. The Death of Jesus—Historical Certainties
9. Jesus's Death—What Historians Can't Know
10. The Resurrection—What Historians Can't Know
11. What History Reveals about the Resurrection
12. The Disciples' Visions of Jesus
13. Jesus's Exaltation—Earliest Christian Views
14. The Backward Movement of Christology
15. Paul's View—Christ's Elevated Divinity
16. John's View—The Word Made Human
17. Was Christ Human? The Docetic View
18. The Divided Christ of the Separationists
19. Christ's Dual Nature—Proto-Orthodoxy
20. The Birth of the Trinity
21. The Arian Controversy
22. The Conversion of Constantine
23. The Council of Nicea
24. Once Jesus Became God

How Jesus Became God

Course no. 6522 | 24 lectures (30 minutes/lecture)

SAVE UP TO \$220

DVD	\$269.95	NOW \$49.95
Video Download	\$234.95	NOW \$34.95
CD	\$189.95	NOW \$39.95
Audio Download	\$149.95	NOW \$24.95

+ \$10 Shipping & Processing (DVD & CD only)
and Lifetime Satisfaction Guarantee

Priority Code: 151441

For over 25 years, The Great Courses has brought the world's foremost educators to millions who want to go deeper into the subjects that matter most. No exams. No homework. Just a world of knowledge available anytime, anywhere. Download or stream to your laptop or PC, or use our free apps for iPad, iPhone, Android, Kindle Fire, or Roku. Over 600 courses available at www.TheGreatCourses.com.

LEISURE

Food & Drink

Critics' choice: Dinner with a little bit of everything

Brewery Bhavana Raleigh, N.C.

"On paper," Brewery Bhavana "sounds like a misstep," said Andrew Knowlton in *Bon Appetit*. A dim sum restaurant that's also a brewery, a floral shop, and a bookstore? Miraculously, it works, because you can feel the team spirit behind it the moment you settle into the "bright, light, and cheery" space. Created by a brother and sister with friends who brought their own passions for beer and floral arrangements to the project, Brewery Bhavana "feels like a community center for like-minded individuals who value diversity, open-mindedness, and, yes, Cantonese pork buns." Any meal you have at Bhavana should begin with a beer—"even if you don't drink beer." The resident brewer makes wonderful sours and saisons that pair beautifully with dumplings—stuffed with corn and shrimp, perhaps, or with pork and snowpeas. "You'll order too much, but that's OK. Take a deep breath and find the strength to persist, because you don't want to miss the crab-fried rice that arrives covered in an egg crêpe, or the whole Peking duck with textbook crunchy skin and confit-like meat." 218 S. Blount St., (919) 829-9998

Palizzi Social Club Philadelphia

Welcome to "a South Philly time capsule," said Craig LaBan in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. For nearly a century, the Palizzi



Holy Roller's Callie Speer: Austin rediscovers punk.

Social Club has been a gathering place for Abruzzo, Italy, immigrants and their descendants, and chef Joey Baldino maintained the club's look when he recently inherited it from his uncle and expanded the charter. Demand has since compelled a halt to new members, but if you ever get your hands on a membership card and get in the door, you'll be transported: Live accordion music plays and Negronis are being mixed behind the art deco bar. Anchovy fritters and grilled fennel sausage over broccoli rabe establish a theme of familiar fare done just right. "You've had escarole and beans, but probably not as silky as these," and no other crab sauce over pasta in town is "as profoundly steeped with briny deep-sea sweetness." It all makes you want to wait out the mem-

bership freeze and turn Palizzi into your new go-to for dinner, cocktails, sing-alongs, and even house-made spumoni. "Who knew this old trope of trattorias gone by could suddenly be so sublime?" 1408 S. 12th St.

Holy Roller Austin

"By going against the grain," Callie Speer "has again shown us the way forward," said Brandon Watson in *The Austin Chronicle*. At a moment when other Austin restaurateurs are playing it safe, the celebrated pastry chef has opened a punk-rock all-day brunch saloon, and the party feel she's created "couldn't have come at a better time." The broad, airy dining room references rebellion everywhere: in its black-leather bar stools, kitschy religious iconography, and mammoth portrait of Iggy Pop. But the members of Speer's all-female executive staff are as serious about service as they are creative about sandwiches and cocktails, and there's a sense of humor in everything they do. Sandwich fare includes an "instant cult classic" burger, piled high with shaved ham, hash browns, and a fried egg. You can pair that with "Trash Fries" slathered in gravy, *cotija* cheese, corn, and lime. But don't miss the yellow-cake pancakes topped with fried chicken and Sriracha butter. Today's Austin, it turns out, really needed a punk-rock diner. 509 Rio Grande St., (512) 502-5119

Wine: Chile's originals

"It is one thing to make world-class wine, another to capture the world's attention," said Patrick Comiskey in the *Los Angeles Times*. Known for producing fine versions of the same wines everyone else makes, Chile is rediscovering what's special about its village wines—often made from rare grapes grown on centuries-old vines. They're rustic, but "all of them have a ton of character."

2015 Louis-Antoine Luyt 'Pipeños Portezuelo' (\$18 a liter). Pais grapes grown on 200-year-old vines create a wine with "spicy, earthy" flavors and "the scent of dusty strawberries."

2014 Garage Wine Co. Bagual Vineyard Red Blend Lot No. 56 (\$33). This red blend offers "flavors of dark cherry laced with tobacco."

2015 A Los Viñateros Bravos 'Volcanico Pais' (\$20). This "amiable" wine offers "scents of muddled strawberry" and "flavors of fresh, bright red fruit."

Recipe of the week

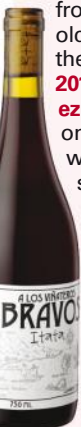
This perfect early-fall appetizer can make even a novice cook "look like a culinary rock star," said Bonnie Berwick in *The Washington Post*. You build it from the bottom up, then invert it to serve. Packaged puff pastry dough becomes the crisped, golden base to a blanket of caramelized onions, sweet walnuts, blue cheese, and mushrooms.

Onion walnut tarte Tatin

3 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil • 4 or 5 small yellow onions, halved top to bottom • 1½ tbsp dark brown sugar • kosher salt • 8 oz mushrooms, preferably a mix, stemmed, rinsed well, and chopped if large • ½ cup walnut halves • 8 oz defrosted packaged puff-pastry dough • 6 oz blue cheese

- Heat oil in an ovenproof skillet over medium heat. Place onions cut side down in pan. Reduce heat to medium-low; cook onions 20 minutes, until bottoms color slightly. Sprinkle on brown sugar; season onions lightly with salt. When sugar begins to melt, stuff mushrooms and walnuts into gaps between onions. Cook 5 to 7 minutes. Remove from heat.
- Preheat oven to 375. Unfold pastry dough and roll out between sheets of parchment to a 10-inch round.

- Dot pan contents with pinches of cheese. Lay dough over pan and tuck in around edge of filling. Roast on middle rack of oven until evenly browned, 25 to 35 minutes, rotating halfway through. Transfer pan to a wire rack for 5 minutes. Set a serving plate over pastry, then carefully invert pan to transfer tart to plate. Filling should be nicely caramelized; if not, roast tart 5 minutes more on a foil-lined baking sheet. Cut into wedges; serve warm. Makes 4 to 6 servings.



This week's dream: Kerala, the spice garden of India

"I owe black pepper an apology," said Kim Severson in *National Geographic Traveler*. At home, the ubiquitous table spice rarely wins my attention at most meals, but on a brief tour of the land that made it ubiquitous, I became a true enthusiast. In Kerala, India, spice gardens and tea plantations "cover the mountains like a tapestry," and the taste of the dried pepper berries is so wonderfully complex that you understand why the spice was once more valuable than gold and why traders have sought out this southern coastal region for four millennia. I arrived from Atlanta with chef Asha Gomez expecting a low-key week of exploring her Indian culinary roots. It ended up being "a farm-to-table trip on steroids."

Asha was born in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala's capital, where we spend our first night loading up on dosas at a place called Pai Brothers. A photojournalist has agreed to be our guide to Kerala's culinary landscape, and the next morning we leave the



Tea plantations outside Munnar

muggy city in a van and drive five hours to the cool air of the Cardamom Hills. As we near our destination, small spice gardens, each touting tours, "begin to pop up like roadside pick-your-own apple orchards." The mountaintop Briar Tea Bungalow outside Munnar sits on 2,500 acres, and the tea plants that surround the inn are "so meticulously trimmed, they look like suburban shrubbery." Tourists can pick tea in the

morning, watch it get dried, then drink it in the afternoon. Instead, we drive to the edge of the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, where the eco-lodge Spice Village puts us up in bungalows that look like tribal huts, and serves us coffee made with cardamom and black pepper.

Everywhere, black pepper "remains the coin of the realm," cultivated in both vast plots and family gardens. I meet an ex-policeman in his 80s who shows me around his pepper patch. "This is the pepper people fought wars over," he says, adding that soil, elevation, and climate make the difference. At a shop at the edge of the field, I buy a small sack of his peppercorns and open it. The smell "brings to mind fresh cedar," and when I crack one between my teeth, "it is hot on the back of my tongue but fruity and full of character." I buy two more bags: "I finally understand how pepper is supposed to taste." *At the Tayalar Valley Bungalow (briarteabungalows.com), suites start at \$175*

Hotel of the week



History with a splash of color

The Lygon Arms

Worcestershire, England
At this 14th-century inn, "ghosts of the past linger," said Tom Chesshyre in *The Times* (U.K.). Both Oliver Cromwell and the king he dethroned stayed here; later, so did Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton. Following a major redesign, the 86-room property reopened recently with freshened rooms and an overhauled spa, but the old beams and sloping floors in the main building create a "frozen-in-time atmosphere." Though the wine and cocktail bars offer light dining, "the main attraction" is the bar and grill, with its old oil paintings and "eye-catching" antler chandeliers.
lygonarmshotel.co.uk; doubles from \$206

Getting the flavor of...

Washington's Mount St. Helens

"There's nothing quite like climbing a living mountain," said John Nelson in *The Seattle Times*. Fortunately, this is the best time of year to climb Mount St. Helens, the most active volcano in the Cascade Range. In the fall, there's less competition for climbing permits (via *mshinstitute.org*), and the footing is far better because rains and cold solidify the loose ash and pumice near the peak. The 5-mile hike from Climbers Bivouac Trailhead to the crater rim requires an elevation gain of 4,500 feet, and it's "by no means easy." Experiencing the force of nature that is Mount St. Helens is unforgettable, though. "Its heart beats with earthy rumbles. Its steamy breath vents skyward. St. Helens even speaks, with the sound of rocks and landslides tumbling down its crater walls." As you approach the crater rim, "prepare for an astonishing sight." The mountain blew its top off in 1980, but small eruptions have been erecting a lava dome in the caldera ever since.

Philadelphia's trailblazing penitentiary

Eastern State Penitentiary has been a major Philadelphia tourist attraction almost from the day it opened, said Jay Jones in the *Chicago Tribune*. Built in 1829, the massive Gothic-style fortress was the largest public structure in the country at the time, and when Charles Dickens visited America, he named the prison and Niagara Falls as the two places he most wanted to see. But in its intended role as a humane rehabilitation facility, the institution "failed miserably." Following the ideas of Benjamin Franklin and other would-be reformers, the prison kept all inmates in solitary, their only reading the Bible. The idea was that penitence would redeem them. Visit today and you'll notice that Al Capone's cell was rendered less spartan by oil paintings and Oriental rugs provided by his guards. A new exhibition, which questions America's reliance on mass incarceration, might seem to risk controversy. In this setting, it "resonates with many."

Last-minute travel deals

Haunted New England

Tour spooky sites from Salem, Mass., to New York City on a Geckos Adventures group six-night road trip for guests ages 18 to 29. The Halloween-themed tour departs Boston on Oct. 26 and has been discounted from \$1,510 to \$1,359.
geckosadventures.com

Cruising around Cuba

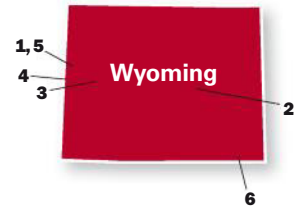
Book a 2018 cruise to Cuba this month and save \$1,000 a person. Abercrombie & Kent's 11-day excursion includes two nights at Havana's first five-star hotel, stops in five other Cuban ports, and a snorkeling outing. From \$9,995 per head.
abercrombiekent.com

One more night in Jamaica

Through Dec. 16, the Half Moon resort in Montego Bay, Jamaica, is offering seven-night stays for the price of six. The resort features tropical gardens and a championship golf course. Doubles start at \$207. Book by Nov. 18.
halfmoon.com

This week: Living in Wyoming

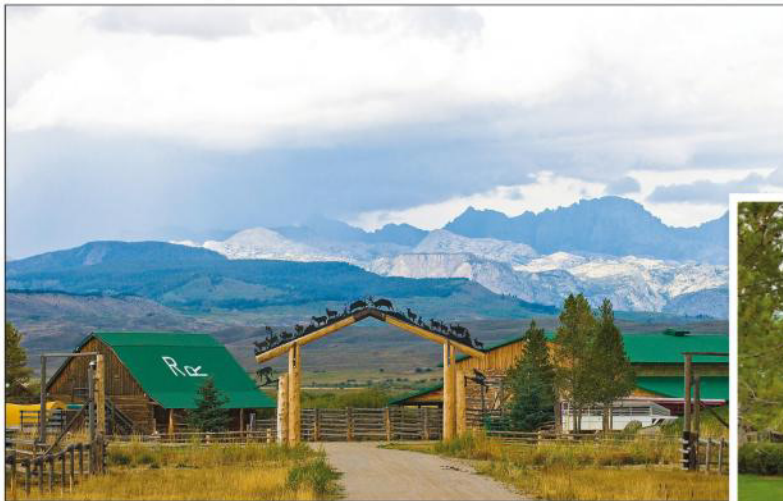
1 ▶ Jackson Set on just over 5 mountain acres, this three-bedroom, glass-walled home offers 360-degree views of the Teton Range. The modern house features an open floor plan, hydronic-heated floors, and two masonry fireplaces. A large stone patio includes a built-in gas grill and granite and quartz countertops for prep stations. \$2,795,000. Julie Faupel, Jackson Hole Real Estate/Christie's International Real Estate, (307) 690-0812



2 ◀ Casper Sculpted lions guard the grand front door to the 1923 Henning mansion, in the South Wolcott Street Historic District. Built by the town's first millionaire, the four-bedroom brick Colonial Revival still has a ballroom, and the original dental moldings, plaster reliefs, French doors, chandeliers, and roof tiles. A recent remodel replaced the plumbing and electrical systems, updated five bathrooms, and enlarged the caretaker's apartment over the garage. \$1,755,000. Jeanne Goldrick, #1 Properties of Casper, (307) 262-1365



3 ▶ Cora The Rendezvous Ranch is a 1,200-acre cattle ranch in the Green River Valley with expansive views of the Wind River Mountains. Its early-19th-century log buildings include a three-bedroom main house, manager's quarters, and two one-bedroom guest cabins with kitchenettes. The property has a trout lake, a horse barn, corrals, and an outdoor roping arena. \$4,950,000. Jim Taylor, Hall and Hall, (406) 855-0344



4 ▶ Etna Part of the Double L Ranch community, this four-bedroom home sits on a 5-acre property by the Salt River. Built in 2015 of reclaimed barn wood and stone, the open-plan house features a chef's kitchen with custom cabinets, a fireplace with forged metalwork, oversized windows, and exposed beams, and offers mountain and valley views. Community amenities include a saloon, an equestrian center, a golf course, and a grass airstrip with private hangar. \$2,650,000. Tate Jarry, Live Water Properties, (307) 413-2180



Steal of the week



5 ▲ Jackson This three-bedroom house lies on 3.6 acres close to the Snake River and Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. The interior has a great room with vaulted fir ceiling, three fireplaces, an updated kitchen, and a hot tub room with glass walls overlooking the natural stream, pond, and gardens. A guest apartment is located down a walkway, allowing for privacy. \$5,450,000. Ed Liebrecht, Jackson Hole/Sotheby's International Realty, (307) 413-1618



6 ▲ Cheyenne Dating to 1883, this three-bedroom cottage is two blocks from Holliday Park and Lake Minnehaha. It retains many Victorian features: screened front porch, hardwood floors, stained-glass windows, cast-iron stove, butler's pantry with built-ins, and a fretwork spandrel over one bedroom's bay window. A two-bedroom in-law suite is accessible from the picket-fenced garden and yard. \$399,000. JP Fluellen, The Property Exchange/Coldwell Banker, (307) 772-1184

The 2018 Nissan Leaf: What the critics say

Wired

The new Nissan Leaf isn't fast or flashy; "it's a regular car that happens to run on electricity"—and "that's a great thing." Since its 2010 debut, the Leaf has racked up enough sales to become the most popular plug-in in history, and it earned that distinction by being reliable and affordable. Wisely, Nissan hasn't altered the formula with the car's first redesign. The new Leaf adds 43 miles of range and adopts more mainstream styling. Now thoroughly ordinary, "it's exactly what it's meant to be."

Motor Trend

The new motor generates 147 hp, up from

107, but it's also quieter, helping make the upgraded cabin "phenomenally hush." Nissan focused on delivering a stress-free experience, making the Leaf easier to drive—and stop—using only the accelerator pedal. There's also an optional ProPilot Assist feature that marks a huge step toward bringing semiautonomous driving to the masses. Even with that \$2,200 upcharge, the Leaf is "a heck of a deal."

Autoblog.com

The new Leaf's 150-mile range falls short of the Tesla Model 3's 220. But 150 covers most day-to-day driving, and a pricier battery with a 225-mile range will be available next year.



A stealth plug-in, from \$29,990

Given that prospect—and everything else this vehicle gets right—it's "hard to find effective criticism against the new Nissan Leaf"

The best of...retro tech



Polaroid OneStep 2

"The Polaroid instant camera is back." A decade after it vanished, the iconic point-and-shoot is being reintroduced Oct. 16 by the Dutch company that bought the brand. Updates include USB charging—"and that's about it."

\$100, bestbuy.com

Source: TheVerge.com



Tivoli Model One

Listening to music by tuning in a Tivoli analog radio "feels alarmingly civil." The time-tested Model One has tidy knobs and a handsome walnut cabinet, and "the sound quality is great." For Bluetooth connectivity, add \$30.

\$150, tivolioaudio.com

Source: GQ.com



Big Chill Induction Range

Big Chill specializes in retro-style appliances, and this range has all the modern conveniences, including true convection and a Power Booster function that'll boil a gallon of water in under 5 minutes.

\$4,995, bigchill.com

Source: ApartmentTherapy.com



Super Nintendo Classic Edition

Encouraged by last year's "insanely successful" NES Classic Edition, Nintendo has now released a miniaturized version of 1990's Super Nintendo. Don't worry about dusty cartridges—the console comes preloaded with 21 classic 16-bit games.

\$80, nintendo.com

Source: Gizmodo.com



Qwerkywriter

There are cheaper mechanical Bluetooth keyboards, but this sturdy metal throwback offers "truly old-school inspiration." It includes a stand for a tablet, but can also pair with a laptop or desktop computer.

\$249, qwerkywriter.com

Source: PopularMechanics.com

Tip of the week...

What to buy in the kids' section

■ **Clothing** is much cheaper when it's sold as children's wear, even when it'll fit an adult. Women up to size 8 can buy boys' tees and tank tops, and diminutive shoppers can branch into jeans from Gap Kids and even winter coats from brands like The North Face.

■ **Shoes** for kids run narrow, but a lot of women can handle the crossover, which can mean big savings. To get the length right, use size conversion charts like the ones at Zappos.com.

■ **Furniture** and other décor items, such as rugs, lamps, and wall art, can be really cute—and more affordable—when they're marketed for kids. Try Pottery Barn Teen or Target's Pillowfort line.

■ **A smartwatch** doesn't have to be super smart to be used for receiving calls when you're out running or hiking. Consider the \$79 GizmoPal 2 from LG a discount Apple Watch, and your gateway to toy-style tech. Source: Lifehacker.com

And for those who have everything...

Finally, there's a way to coordinate your jewelry with your water bottle. California jewelry designer Anjanette Sinesio recently founded **Gem-Water**, a company that sells a reusable water bottle that contains a removable glass pod filled with opals, garnets, emeralds, amethyst, quartz, or diamonds. The company, which also sells decanters, claims that the gemstones "enliven your water, restoring its crystal structure to the quality of actual spring water." Whether or not you believe in the transformative energy of crystals, there's no denying their accessorizing potential.

From \$78 to \$340, gem-water.com

Source: [Los Angeles magazine](http://LosAngelesMagazine.com)



Best apps...

For splitting a dinner check fairly

■ **Split My Tab** provides a quick, simple breakdown of who owes what, and can handle item-by-item input too. If you dine with a regular crowd, you can send the breakdown to their phones with a couple of taps. (\$1, iOS)

■ **Plates by Splitwise** provides a useful visual aid: It shows plates with prices assigned to them, and lets you drag the plates around a tabletop to keep track of who ordered what and how it was shared. (Free, iOS)

■ **Tab** is ideal if you're in a hurry. Take a picture of the receipt and share it with the other diners' phones. Just tap the items you ordered and you each get a separate subtotal. (Free, Android and iOS)

■ **Divvy** combines many of the functions already described, and it's great for dealing with complications like a large party that includes individual payers as well as couples who wish to pay together. (\$3, iOS)

Source: Bustle.com

The news at a glance

The bottom line

■ Three-quarters of the world's food today is derived from just 12 crops and five animal species. Scientists fear a mass extinction event could devastate global food supplies.

The Guardian

■ Nearly two-thirds of congestion-related traffic violations in downtown San Francisco between April 1 and June 30 this year involved Uber and Lyft vehicles.

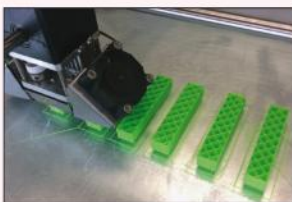
San Francisco Examiner

■ The median net worth for Americans with a college degree is \$292,100, compared with \$67,100 for those with just a high school diploma, according to the Federal Reserve.

Oz.com

■ The average cost of a withdrawal from an out-of-network ATM now exceeds \$4.50, according to a new BankRate.com analysis. In 1998, the average was \$1.97.

Bloomberg.com



■ Advances in 3-D printing could wipe out nearly a quarter of cross-border trade by 2060, according to an analysis by the financial firm ING. About half of all manufactured goods could be printed by then if investment in the technology continues to grow at the current rate.

Bloomberg.com

■ If Amazon were a U.S. state, it would rank fifth in terms of job creation in the 12 months ending in June. The company employed 382,400 people in June 2017, an increase of 113,500 from 12 months before. Only Texas, California, Florida, and New York added more jobs over that time period, according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Money.com

Autos: GM and Ford shift to an electric future

General Motors “outlined a fundamental shift in its vision” for the future of the auto industry this week, announcing a plan to vastly increase its fleet of all-electric vehicles, said Bill Vlasic in *The New York Times*.

America’s largest automaker said it plans to build 20 new all-electric models by 2023, including two in the next 18 months. Although electric vehicles are currently just 1 percent of the U.S. car market, China and several European countries have announced that they will eventually ban gasoline-powered cars, which has “set off a scramble by the world’s car companies to embrace electric vehicles.”



A global scramble to develop clean cars

GM’s rival Ford also announced plans this week to develop electric vehicles—13 new models over the next several years, said Phil LeBeau in *CNBC.com*.

Alongside that push, Ford will shift its focus away from passenger cars and sedans to its more profitable and popular SUVs and pickup trucks,

which this year composed 76 percent of Ford’s sales in the U.S. Balancing that dual focus—electric cars of the future and the big vehicles of today—could prove challenging. “The decision to change is not easy,” said new CEO Jim Hackett. But past approaches “are really no guarantee of future success” as the car industry transforms.

Finance: Former Equifax CEO faces questions

Equifax’s former CEO Richard Smith was grilled by U.S. lawmakers this week over the company’s massive data breach, which exposed sensitive data for more than 140 million Americans, said Hamza Shaban in *The Washington Post*. Smith, who retired from Equifax last week with an \$18 million pension, began his appearance before the House Energy and Commerce Committee with an apology before asserting that an employee at Equifax was to blame for the breach, saying the person failed to observe security warnings and patch vulnerabilities. Smith declined to name the individual or say if he or she remained employed.

Economy: GDP shows solid growth

The U.S. economy just got “upgraded,” said Martin Crutsinger in the *Associated Press*. The Commerce Department last week revised its estimate for GDP growth in the second quarter to an annualized rate of 3.1 percent, the fastest pace in two years. Consumer spending, which accounts for nearly 70 percent of economic activity, helped fuel the upward revision, growing at a solid 3.3 percent between April and June. “But growth is expected to slow sharply this quarter in the wake of a string of devastating hurricanes.”

Aviation: Airline closure strands 110,000 passengers

Britain’s fifth-largest airline collapsed this week, leaving 110,000 passengers marooned in Europe and North Africa, said *The Economist*. Low-cost carrier Monarch Airlines, which specialized in vacation packages to the Mediterranean, is the biggest U.K. airline failure ever. Founded in 1968, Monarch has faced stiff competition in the no-frills European flight market. The British government has organized more than 30 planes to repatriate vacationers stranded abroad; another 860,000 customers will lose their booked flights.

Tech: All 3 billion Yahoo accounts breached

Yahoo’s colossal data breach from 2013 was much worse than first reported, “affecting all of its 3 billion user accounts,” said Robert McMillan and Ryan Knutson in *The Wall Street Journal*. The figure is three times the number of accounts that Yahoo said had been affected when it revealed the breach in December. Yahoo’s new parent, Verizon, reported this week that it discovered the breach’s full extent after receiving “new information from outside the company,” but declined to explain what the information was. In March, the Justice Department indicted four men, “including two Russian intelligence officers,” in connection with a 2014 Yahoo breach that affected 500 million accounts.

The curse of the Blade Runner cameo

With the sequel to *Blade Runner* now in theaters, talk has returned to the odd curse that afflicted the brands featured in the original 1982 sci-fi classic, said Don Steinberg in *The Wall Street Journal*. Set in a dystopian Los Angeles in the year 2019, *Blade Runner* featured cameos by a host of then-thriving companies that all seemed to go bust after appearing in the film. Atari, whose logo was shown prominently on screen, held 80 percent of the home video game market in 1982; within a year, “it was dumping truckloads of unsold games into a New Mexico landfill.” Headphone maker Koss, displayed in an electronics store in the film, was bankrupt by 1984. Two others with screen time, RCA and Bell Telephone, were defunct within a few years. By 1991, when featured airline Pan Am filed for Chapter 11, the jinx led movie magazine *Premiere* to run an article titled “The ‘Curse’ of *Blade Runner*.” *Premiere* folded in 2007.”

Equifax breach: Should you lock your credit?

Equifax “is finally taking real steps to help consumers” affected by its catastrophic data breach, said **Jeff John Roberts** in *Fortune.com*. Nearly a month after the credit agency revealed that hackers had gained access to sensitive financial data, including Social Security numbers, for as many as 143 million Americans, the company’s interim CEO announced last week that it would offer consumers a lifetime of free credit locking beginning Jan. 31. Credit locking can help protect your accounts by preventing fraudsters from opening new accounts in your name, but consumer advocates are already “concerned over the unknowns,” said **Katie Lobosco** in *Money.com*. While a credit lock is very similar to a credit freeze—both can be unlocked or thawed so you can apply for a new credit card or loan—locks have fewer legal protections. It’s not yet clear, for instance, if enrolling in Equifax’s new service “could limit your rights to sue” the company later.

Given the choice, “a credit freeze is better than a credit lock,” said **Octavio Blanco** in *ConsumerReports.org*. Credit freezes are typically covered by state laws, so you are “protected from any financial liability.” You’ll probably also save money with a freeze. Equifax and TransUnion offer credit locking for free, but “locking down only two of the three main credit reports isn’t enough,” and Experian’s locking service can cost up to \$24.99 a month. By contrast, thawing a frozen credit report is capped by law at \$10



After Equifax, consumers need to be vigilant.

per instance, so even if you need to apply for new credit repeatedly, the cost will still “likely be less than paying Experian’s monthly fee indefinitely.” Some will argue that locking is more convenient than freezing, said **Ron Lieber** in *The New York Times*. Credit locks can be lifted instantly from a smartphone app, whereas thawing a freeze can sometimes take several days. “That scares plenty of people off,” but I’ve had my credit report frozen for a decade and “have always found the thawing to be instantaneous” and the process painless. Overlooked in all of this is the fact that locking or freezing your credit “will not prevent the most common type of identity theft,” said **Lauren Lyons Cole** in *BusinessInsider.com*. Credit locks and freezes prevent only new accounts from being opened in your name, which affects just 4 percent of identity theft victims each year. Far more common is theft and fraud involving *current* credit cards and bank accounts. To protect your finances, “monitor your accounts daily or weekly” and use secure passwords and two-step verification whenever possible. That sounds time-consuming, but the truth is, “Equifax just changed the rest of your life,” said **Liz Weston** in the *Associated Press*. There are just so many ways that “bad guys can use the information” that has been stolen to wreak havoc in your finances. “As long as your Social Security number is the key to your identity, you’ll need to be on guard.”

What the experts say

Employees get ID theft protection

“More employees are likely to see a timely new offering when they choose their benefits in a month or so: identity theft protection,” said **Suzanne Woodley** in *Bloomberg.com*. Some 70 percent of companies say that the service could be on their benefits menu by 2018, according to brokerage firm Willis Towers Watson, up from 35 percent in 2015. Corporate interest in ID theft protection began to pick up following the massive data breach at insurer Anthem in 2015 and surged again after the recent hack of Equifax. “Employers have a strong interest in their workers using the service.” A 2016 study found that 56 percent of ID theft victims asked for time off work to deal with the issue.

Millennials in love with prenups

The prenuptial agreement “is starting to lose its taboo” among Millennials, said **Jonnelle Marte** in *The Washington Post*. For generations, the agreements have been a sticking point for couples who deem them unromantic. But because Millennials are getting married later in life than earlier generations, they are more likely to have their own careers, businesses, and property. “And that, financial advisers say, has made them more protective of what they have built.” A 2016 survey of

matrimonial lawyers found that 62 percent had seen an increase in the number of couples seeking prenups; 51 percent noticed more Millennials requesting the agreements. And prenups aren’t just about protecting assets. In an era of rising student loan debt, the agreements let young couples “say up front how they would like to separate their debt loads in the event of a divorce.”

Simple strategies to boost savings

Most Americans admit they’re bad at saving for retirement, said **Gail MarksJarvis** in the *Chicago Tribune*. Nearly 70 percent of respondents to an Employee Benefit Research Institute survey confessed that they could put aside more but don’t. The trouble is that people make too many financial commitments—a car loan, gym membership, housing that they can’t really afford—that sabotage their ability to save. “They need to follow some rules of thumb to keep them out of a financial strait-jacket.” Among them, spend no more than 30 percent of income on housing. “Consider a 50/30/20 budget.” Fifty percent of pay after taxes goes to necessities such as mortgage or rent, insurance, food, and student loans. “Thirty percent goes to wants, like gyms and vacations, and 20 percent goes into savings.”

Charity of the week



hispanicfederation

Hurricane Maria has devastated the U.S. territory of Puerto Rico. Hundreds of thousands of residents lack power and clean water, and tens of thousands more have been left homeless by the storm, which hit just two weeks after Hurricane Irma blew through and caused up to \$1 billion in damage. To help the island, the **Hispanic Federation (hispanicfederation.org)** has partnered with civic leaders in New York to launch the Unidos (“United”) relief fund. The New York-based Hispanic Federation has spent more than 25 years providing disaster-relief assistance inside the U.S. and across Latin America. One hundred percent of donations to the Unidos fund will go to community and civic organizations in Puerto Rico carrying out hurricane relief and recovery work.

Each charity we feature has earned a four-star overall rating from *Charity Navigator*, which rates not-for-profit organizations on the strength of their finances, their governance practices, and the transparency of their operations. Four stars is the group’s highest rating.

CHARLES TYRWHITT

JERMYN STREET LONDON



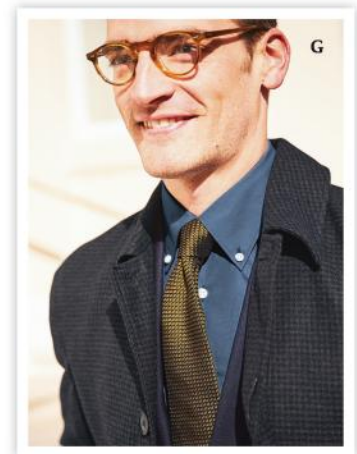
NON-IRON BUSINESS CASUAL BUTTON-DOWN SHIRTS

3 SHIRTS FOR ONLY

\$99.95

NORMALLY \$100 OR \$110 EACH

SAVE \$200 OR MORE



A WHITE ~~\$\$\$~~ **\$29.95**
Slim Fit FOB0188 WHT
Extra Slim Fit FOB0206 WHT
Classic Fit FOB0186 WHT

B SKY ~~\$\$\$~~ **\$29.95**
Slim Fit FOB0188 SKY
Extra Slim Fit FOB0206 SKY
Classic Fit FOB0186 SKY

C VIOLET STRIPE ~~\$\$\$~~ **\$29.95**
Slim Fit FOB0188 VLT
Extra Slim Fit FOB0206 VLT
Classic Fit FOB0186 VLT

D NAVY STRIPE ~~\$\$\$~~ **\$29.95**
Slim Fit FOB0188 BLU
Extra Slim Fit FOB0206 BLU
Classic Fit FOB0186 BLU

E SKY PRINCE OF WALES ~~\$\$\$~~ **\$29.95**
Slim Fit FOB0188 LBU
Extra Slim Fit FOB0206 LBU
Classic Fit FOB0186 LBU

F LIGHT PINK ~~\$\$\$~~ **\$29.95**
Slim Fit FOB0188 LPK
Extra Slim Fit FOB0206 LPK
Classic Fit FOB0186 LPK

G MID BLUE ~~\$\$\$~~ **\$29.95**
Slim Fit FOB0188 MBU
Extra Slim Fit FOB0206 MBU
Classic Fit FOB0186 MBU

Neck Sizes: 14½" - 20"

A SPECIAL OFFER FOR READERS OF THE WEEK

1 866 - 797 - 2701

QUOTE: MTACF

WWW.CTSHIRTS.COM/MTACF

VISIT THIS SITE FOR THIS SPECIAL OFFER

IN-STORE

SEE ONLINE FOR STORE LOCATIONS

QUOTE: MTACF

Issue of the week: Ikea jumps into the gig economy

“For those left baffled by the assembly instructions for an Ikea cabinet, help is on the way,” said Zlati Meyer in *USA Today*. The Swedish furniture giant announced last week that it has acquired TaskRabbit, a San Francisco-based startup that connects consumers with on-demand workers willing to do odd jobs around the house, such as fixing a broken toilet, hanging curtains, or—you guessed it—assembling Ikea furniture. Ikea, which didn’t release financial details about the deal, said it hopes to use TaskRabbit’s 60,000 freelancers in 40 U.S. cities and London to make it easier for

customers to put together its shelves, sofas, and beds. Analysts praised the deal, saying that consumers might now choose Ikea over competitors “solely because the assembly service is practically built-in.” This is Ikea’s “first foray anywhere near Silicon Valley,” said Saabira Chaudhuri and Eliot Brown in *The Wall Street Journal*. Many large, established companies are “grappling with big changes brought on by digitization,” and they are turning to service-oriented tech firms “to help their business grow, or slow their decline.”

Ikea isn’t the first furniture company to team up with a handyman marketplace this year, said Adam Rogers in *Wired.com*. In May, Wayfair, the world’s largest online-only furniture retailer, announced a partnership with Handy, a platform that connects people with repairmen and cleaners, to offer “one-click installation and assembly” at checkout. This “gig-plus” economy has a ton of upsides for big retailers such as Wayfair and Ikea. They



No DIY skills? No problem.

“get to charge more for an added service” and access a new set of customers “who want to buy big-ticket items but don’t want the hassle of assembly.” Plus, they’ll have fewer returns, because “people are less likely to send something back once it’s built and installed.” Being able to rely on gig workers helps the bottom line, too, said Leonid Bershidsky in *Bloomberg.com*. TaskRabbit workers are freelancers, so the company won’t have to offer them overtime or “pay for their benefits.” Ikea’s move is also a bid to hang on to the crucial Millennial

market. In a recent poll of 2,000 U.S. Millennials, 3 in 5 said they “struggle with basic DIY tasks.” Ikea understands that message loud and clear: “More and more customers will be put off by the need to assemble furniture, and unless Ikea gets in on the assembly business, it will miss out on revenue.”

There’s another “not-so-obvious reason” that Ikea wanted an army of handymen, said Sonya Mann in *Inc.com*. The retailer conducts extensive ethnographic research—studying people’s morning routines and what makes a home feel like a home—and “then shapes its products accordingly.” But while Ikea knows a lot about what products people are willing to buy, it doesn’t know as much about the services they are willing to pay for. Enter TaskRabbit, whose “huge trove of data” about the domestic jobs people are eager to outsource will help Ikea fill that gap. “There’s no market research like going into people’s homes and seeing how they live.”

Where finance went wrong

Rana Foroohar
The New York Times

A decade on from the financial crisis, the banking industry “has lost its core purpose,” said Rana Foroohar. “It isn’t serving us, we’re serving it.” While the biggest banks can credibly claim to have improved their balance sheets and off-loaded the risky assets that helped fuel the crash, “their business model has become fundamentally disconnected from the very people and entities it was designed to serve.” Economist Adam Smith, the father of modern capitalism, simply wouldn’t recognize today’s big banks, which he envisioned as partners for industry, rather than an industry unto themselves. Forty years ago, most of the money flowing

through the biggest banks was devoted to new business investment. Today, lending to Main Street commands just 15 percent of what financial firms do. The rest of the money “exists in a closed loop of trading” and corporate deal making that works solely to enrich the already rich. It has proved to be an incredibly profitable strategy—the financial industry provides just 4 percent of U.S. jobs, while taking a quarter of the corporate profit pie—but it doesn’t help consumers much. Until we talk about how to create a financial system “that really serves society,” the big banks will be our masters, rather than the other way around.

Why inflation may be long gone

Zachary Karabell
Wired.com

“The economic truths of the past may not be so true anymore,” said Zachary Karabell. Since the economy began to recover from the 2008 crash, officials at the Federal Reserve have been puzzled about why inflation hasn’t risen as their models predicted. As the economy improves and companies start hiring, wages are supposed to go up, which pushes up prices, spurring inflation; that’s when the Fed steps in to slow things down by raising interest rates. This process has always been at the core of the central bank’s mission, and for the past several years, the Fed has assumed that some economic conditions were simply taking longer to “return to normal.” But what if the

stubborn lack of inflation is “not just a short-term blip?” Thanks to technology, the cost of most of life’s necessities, “from food to clothing to shelter,” has stabilized or fallen over the past two decades. Cars are more fuel efficient, and smartphones put “incalculable reams of data” into our pockets at cheaper and cheaper prices. Tech-driven efficiencies are all around us, from the app economy to the electrical grid. That surely affects inflation, but in ways that are still little understood. The Fed needs to begin formulating models that consider how technology has restructured the economy. “Otherwise we risk making policy geared toward a world that no longer exists.”

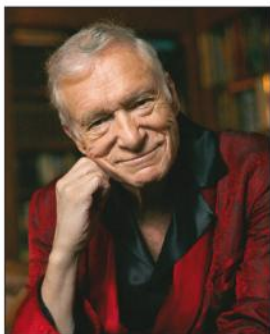
The *Playboy* founder who brought sex to the mainstream

Hugh Hefner

1926–2017

On a winter's night in 1953, Hugh Hefner stood on a Chicago bridge wondering where his life had gone wrong. Twenty-seven years old, he was unhappily married and working as a circulation manager at a children's magazine. "I felt as if I had successfully become my parents," he recalled. "Tears filled my eyes." It was at that moment Hefner decided to start a magazine that, he said, would "thumb its nose at the phony puritan values" of 1950s America. Combining photos of naked women with high-minded journalism, *Playboy* would prove enormously popular with aspirational young men—and teenage boys. The magazine became a cultural wrecking ball, propelling nudity and sexuality into the American mainstream and helping usher in the sexual revolution of the 1960s. Hefner came to embody the sybaritic lifestyle espoused by his magazine, sleeping with hundreds of women and hosting wild parties at his Playboy Mansion. "I dreamed impossible dreams, and the dreams turned out beyond anything I could possibly imagine," he said. "I'm the luckiest cat on the planet."

Born in Chicago to an accountant father and a teacher mother, Hefner "grew up in what he called a conservative household of 'rigid Protestant fundamentalist ethics,'" said *The Washington Post*. Drinking, smoking, and swearing were forbidden; sex, he said, was "a horrid thing never to be mentioned." After graduating from the University of Illinois in 1949, he married his college sweetheart, Mildred Williams. Just before they wed, Williams confessed that she'd had an affair—a revelation that Hefner said "shattered any illusions he held about the virtue of women." He went on to work in a series of publishing jobs, and tried to make a living as a cartoonist, before "plotting his own magazine," said *The New York Times*. Financing *Playboy* with \$600 of savings and \$8,000 from investors—including his disapproving mother—he bought the rights to a "nude calendar photograph of Marilyn Monroe" and made the emerging starlet his first cover girl. He had his art director draw a tuxedoed rabbit for the logo and described the "*Playboy* lifestyle"



in an editorial: "We enjoy mixing up cocktails...and inviting in a female acquaintance for a quiet discussion on Picasso, Nietzsche, jazz, sex."

The first print run of 53,000 copies "quickly sold out," said the *Los Angeles Times*. Hefner soon began using nonmodels for the "Playmate of the Month" centerfold spread, prompting "ecstatic responses" from readers. Sandwiched between the nudes was high-quality writing, with contributors including Jack Kerouac, Norman Mailer, and Vladimir Nabokov, and interviews with luminaries such as Stanley Kubrick and Martin Luther King Jr. As the magazine grew—its worldwide circulation peaked at 7 million a month in the 1970s—"Hefner astutely diversified his brand," said *The Guardian* (U.K.). He hosted TV shows about his life, and opened Playboy Clubs and casinos around the world. Often criticized by feminists for exploiting and degrading women, he argued *Playboy* treated women as "sexual beings, not as sexual objects."

Having divorced his first wife in 1959, Hefner became famous for his "lavish and lascivious parties," said *The Times* (U.K.). At the Playboy Mansion—first in Chicago, then in Beverly Hills—scantly clad "bunny girls" mixed with A-list celebrities, while butlers served "recreational drugs on silver trays." Hefner "kept a harem of nubile playmates-in-residence" and presided over the decadent scenes in his trademark silk pajamas, "a pipe clenched rakishly between his teeth." His fortunes slumped in the 1980s, when *Playboy* started losing readers to "more sexually explicit competitors," said *BBC.com*. He suffered a stroke in 1985; four years later he passed control of the business to his daughter, Christie, and married 26-year-old Playmate Kimberly Conrad. When that marriage foundered in 1998, Hefner surrounded himself with a "half-dozen or so live-in female companions" and extolled the virtues of Viagra. He married again in 2012, to a Playmate 60 years his junior, but chose to be buried in a crypt next to that of *Playboy's* first cover star. "Spending eternity next to Marilyn," Hefner said, "is too sweet to pass up."

The Heartbreakers frontman who rejuvenated rock 'n' roll

Tom Petty

1950–2017

Tom Petty was sitting in the backyard of his parents' Florida home on a sweltering summer day in 1961 when his aunt popped by and asked the 10-year-old if he'd like to meet Elvis Presley. His meeting with the King, who was shooting a movie nearby, was brief. "He sort of grunted my way," Petty recalled. "But for a kid at an impressionable age, he was an incredible sight." The next day, Petty swapped his slingshot for a pile of his friend's Elvis singles. "And that," he said, "was the end of doing anything other than music with my life." Petty would go on to become an iconic rock 'n' roll star himself, selling more than 80 million records as frontman for the Heartbreakers and as a solo artist. "It's a strange [thing] to say out loud, but I always felt destined to do this," Petty said. "From a very young age I felt this was going to happen to me."

Born in Gainesville, Fla., Petty was beaten relentlessly from the age of 5 by his alcoholic father, said *The Washington Post*. Music offered an escape. "He became obsessed with the guitar, grew his hair long in the style of the Beatles, dropped out of school at 17, and devoted himself to playing in local rock bands." By the mid-'70s he had formed Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, a band that



combined the jangling guitar of the Byrds, the swagger of the Rolling Stones, and the soul of Ray Charles. With their stripped-back sound, the group "was a breath of fresh air amid a rising tide of 'corporate rock' bands," such as Kansas and Foreigner, said the *Los Angeles Times*. Heartbreakers' songs, including "Listen To Her Heart" and "Refugee," "quickly became staples of Top 40 and FM radio playlists."

The mid-'80s "would prove to be tumultuous for Petty," said *RollingStone.com*. The Heartbreakers' 1986 album, *Let Me Up (I've Had Enough)*, was a commercial disappointment; the following year, Petty's house burned down—arson was suspected—destroying nearly all of his possessions. But he found new success with the Traveling Wilburys, a supergroup with Bob Dylan, Roy Orbison, George Harrison, and Jeff Lynne: Their 1988 debut album was a triple-platinum hit. Petty then released his first solo album, 1989's *Full Moon Fever*—home to the smash "Free Fallin'"—and soon reunited with the Heartbreakers. As the band completed a 40th anniversary tour this year, Petty dismissed reports that the shows would be the group's swan song. "Why would we quit?" he said. "The band is playing better than ever."

Portraits of the lives lost

They came to Las Vegas from all over the country—Tennessee, California, Alaska—for three days of celebration and country music. Here are the stories of a handful of the dozens of people who perished.

ADRIAN MURFITT

Adrian Murfitt, 35, had been working 16-hour days all summer as a commercial salmon fisherman in his home state of Alaska. It was time for a break.

He gathered up two of his childhood friends and booked tickets for a country music festival, just as he had done last year, according to his sister, Shannon Gothard.

“He had such a great time when he went before, and he wanted to treat himself for a successful fishing season,” Gothard said from Anchorage.

Murfitt was an Alaskan to the core. Since he was a toddler, he loved playing hockey, she said; he could fix almost anything mechanical; he was devoted to his dog, Paxson, a West Siberian Laika.

Gothard said the family had pieced together her brother’s last minutes from Brian MacKinnon, a friend who was with him at the concert Sunday night. “He was just having a good time, enjoying himself, and got shot in the neck,” she said of her brother. A woman standing next to Murfitt was shot in the head, MacKinnon told the family. He watched as medics tried to resuscitate Murfitt, though the medics told MacKinnon to leave the scene for his own safety.

“Sadly, he died in my arms,” MacKinnon wrote on Facebook. “I don’t really know what else to say at this time. I’m really sorry.”

SONNY MELTON

When Sonny Melton and his wife, Heather Gulish Melton, heard the sound of gunshots in Las Vegas on Sunday night, he grabbed her and began to run.

“I felt him get shot in the back,” Gulish Melton told WCYB, a television station in northeast Tennessee. “I want everyone to know what a kindhearted, loving man he was, but at this point, I can barely breathe.”

Melton, 29, was described in Facebook tributes as a kind spirit, a registered nurse who worked for much of 2016 in the surgical unit at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital in Jackson, Tenn.

“He was a very kind, compassionate, genuine person who lived life to the fullest, and he took great care of our patients,” said Amy Garner, a spokeswoman for the hospital. Union University, a college in Jackson, said Melton was a 2015 graduate of the school and worked in the emergency

department at Henry County Medical Center.

White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Melton and his wife had been married only a year and had traveled from Tennessee for the music festival.

“When the bullets began raining down from above, Sonny shielded her from danger, selflessly giving up his life to save hers,” Sanders said Monday.

ANGIE GOMEZ

Angie Gomez, 20, traveled from Southern California to the concert with her high school sweetheart to toast a new job as a certified nursing assistant, family friend Tyler Smith confirmed.

“She was just celebrating the music she loved,” Smith said. “She was a light to everyone in her life; she was just the best kind of person, she was what the world needs.”

Gomez graduated from Riverside Polytechnic High in Riverside, Calif., in 2015, the school confirmed on Facebook. A member of the school’s cheer and song team, Gomez was remembered by her squad on Facebook as “having a warm heart and a loving spirit.”

In a statement to the news media, the Riverside Unified School District described Gomez as “always seen with a smile on her face whenever she was on campus.” She was enrolled at Riverside Community College.

Gomez’s mother, when reached Monday afternoon, was on her way back to Riverside from Las Vegas. She was too distraught to talk and said she and her family needed time to grieve.

Gomez was shot three times, Smith said, once in the shoulder and twice in the arm. Her boyfriend of five years tried to carry her out of the concert venue with the help of several strangers. But Smith said that the crowds and blocked-off streets made it impossible to get Gomez to a hospital in time to save her life.



Adrian Murfitt, Sonny Melton, and Sandy Casey were among

“She had a lot going for her, young and in love, with a good family,” Smith said. “It’s just incredibly surreal.”

JORDAN MCILDOON

Jordan McIlldoon, a 23-year-old mechanic from Maple Ridge, British Columbia, was among the dead, a family member said. His parents described him to CBC News in Canada as outdoorsy, about to begin trade school, and on the trip to Las Vegas with his girlfriend. They were expecting him to return home Monday evening.

“We only had one child,” they told CBC News. “We just don’t know what to do.”

LISA ROMERO-MUNIZ

Last year, Lisa Romero-Muniz’s husband, Chris, forgot their wedding anniversary. This year he was determined to make it up to her.

So he made a grand gesture, planning a four-day weekend in Las Vegas and buying tickets to see her favorite country singer, Jason Aldean. Muniz, who worked long hours at a refinery, and Romero-Muniz, a high school secretary in Gallup, N.M., left Thursday for Las Vegas, more than a six-hour drive away.

“She was beyond excited,” said Rosie Fernandez, her friend and supervisor at the high school where they worked. “For her husband to remember her anniversary and do all of that, this was a big thing for her.”

Born and raised in the small city of Gallup, the 48-year-old was a mother of three grown children and a secretary at Miyamura High School, where she was responsible for disciplining students who got into trouble. Romero-Muniz had a warm personality and a big laugh, and was always

teasing her co-workers, Fernandez said. “We were known as the two loudmouths of the office,” Fernandez said. “She knew 90 percent of the kids at this school. She would talk to them like she was talking to her own children. I’d hear her saying, ‘I know you can do better than this.’”



JOHN PHIPPEN
John Phippen, 57, was a “lumberjack kind of a guy” who loved music, said his best friend. Still, it came as a surprise when the general contractor belted out Shania Twain’s “Man! I Feel Like a Woman” while helping the friend renovate his bathroom.

“It was so wrong it was funny,” said the

friend, Thomas Polucki, a chiropractor who lives in the same Southern California town, in the Santa Clarita Valley, as Phippen.

Phippen attended the festival with his son, Travis.

Jake Diaz, 19, who with his mother is a friend of the Phippens, said family members told them that Phippen jumped on top of his son when the shooting started. “He saved his life,” Diaz said.

Polucki said Travis worked as a medic and, even after being shot in the arm, treated more than a dozen of the injured.

Polucki said Phippen actually “looks like a teddy bear and acts like a sweetheart,” with a calm demeanor no matter how tense a situation. Phippen took buggies out on the sand dunes, and ran a company called JP Specialties that advertises as an “all-purpose remodeling company” with painting, electrical, drywall, plumbing, and flooring. Polucki said that he first met Phippen about 10 years ago after he had bought a “money pit of a house.”

He said Phippen helped him out. “He was the guy you wanted to have a beer with,” the chiropractor said. “You wouldn’t want to hang out with a celebrity or a politician. You’d want to hang out with John.”

QUINTON ROBBINS

When Quinton Robbins, 20, first clutched his chest, his girlfriend thought something was wrong with his sugar levels, she told his grandmother. They were on a date at a Jason Aldean concert. They hadn’t been together for very long, but she knew he had diabetes and thought he might need his insulin. She didn’t yet realize that a bullet had torn through his body.

Robbins’ grandmother Gaynor Wells said Monday that he will be remembered as “just a jewel.” She recounted the story of his death as she heard it through his girlfriend, who was uninjured.

He was the oldest of three children, a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and a student at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, where he was considering going to dental school. An avid athlete, Robbins spent his time refereeing various recreation leagues in his hometown of Henderson, Nev.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and country music, which is why he decided to drive to Las Vegas for the Sunday-night concert. His girlfriend would later tell his family about two strangers, who described themselves as a Marine and a nurse, who tried to carry Robbins to a vehicle so he could get medical attention, even as the gunman was still firing on the crowd. It would be hours before his family would find out for sure where he had been taken and that he hadn’t survived.

SANDY CASEY

In early April, on the last day of their 10-day vacation in New Zealand, Christopher Willemse and his girlfriend, Sandy Casey, walked down a steep hill to a lake. As she played by the water’s edge, Willemse took a ring out of his pocket. When she turned around, he was down on one knee.

At the end of this month, they planned to tour the final wedding venue on their list.

Instead, after seven years as colleagues at Manhattan Beach Middle School in California, three years as a couple, and five months engaged, Willemse held Casey, 35, on Sunday night as she died of a gunshot to her lower back.

Willemse, 32, worked as a behavioral therapist in Casey’s special-education classes. They bonded over their love of country music.

They were attending the festival with a few of Willemse’s friends, huddled in front of the stage, when the gunshots rang out. They all dropped to the ground, but Casey said she’d been hit and couldn’t feel her legs. Willemse stuck his finger in the wound to stop the bleeding and then carried her out, dodging the continuous gunfire.

When she stopped responding, he told her that he loved her and that she was amazing.

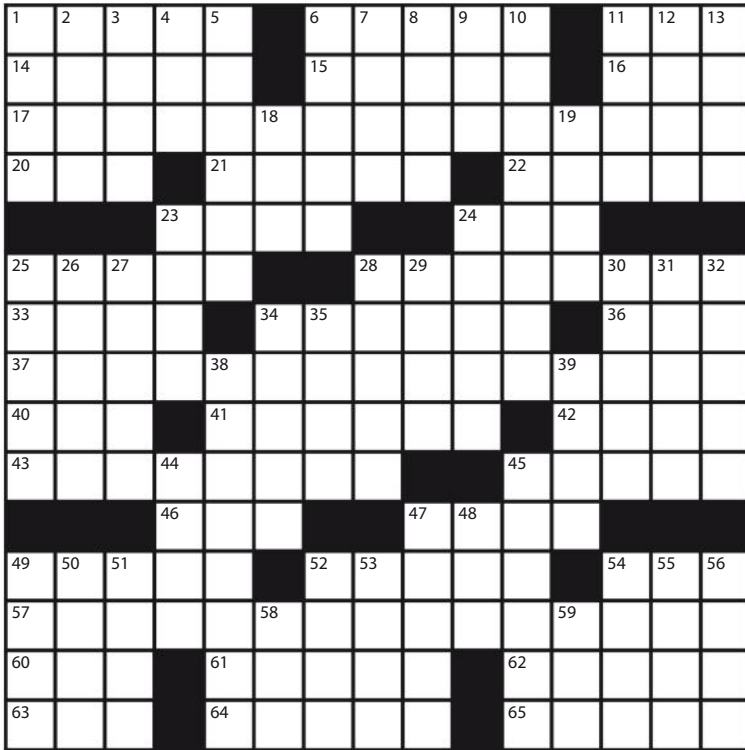
“She was just a kind soul and she was full of life and loved to live it,” Willemse said. “She made everybody smile, she was an excellent teacher, and loved the kids she taught. Everyone who meets her never forgets her.”

Casey, who also loved yoga and the outdoors, was originally from Vermont, where her family still lives. Willemse said he’s arranging to get her body back to her parents. She wanted to be cremated, he said, so he’ll be able to keep a part of her with him.

Excerpted from articles that originally appeared in The Washington Post and The New York Times. Reprinted with permission.

Statement of ownership		
1. Statement required by 39 U.S.C. 3685 showing the ownership, management, and circulation of THE WEEK. 2. Publication No. 1533-8304. 3. Date of filing: September 28, 2017. 4. Issue frequency: weekly, except for July, August, and December combined issues. 5. Number of issues published annually: 48 issues. 6. Annual subscription price: \$75.00. 7. Contact person: Sara O’Connor, 646-717-9500. Location of known office of publication: 55 West 39th Street, New York, NY 10018-3703. 8. Location of headquarters or general business offices of publisher is same as above. 9. The names and addresses of publisher, editor-in-chief, and managing editors are: Publisher: John Guehl, 55 West 39th Street, New York, NY 10018. Editor-in-chief: William Falk, 55 West 39th Street, New York, NY 10018. Managing Editor: Theunis Bates, 55 West 39th Street, New York, NY 10018. Managing Editor: Carolyn O’Hara, 55 West 39th Street, New York, NY 10018. 10. The owner is: Executors of Felix Dennis Estate, 55 West 39th Street, New York, NY 10018. 11. Known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities: none. 12. For tax purposes, the purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization have not changed during the preceding 12 months. 13. Publication title: The Week magazine. 14. Issue for circulation data below: 9/22/17. 15. Extent and nature of circulation.		
	Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months	Single issue nearest to filing date
A. Total No. Copies Printed	625,101	615,204
B. Paid and/or Requested Circulation		
1. Paid/Requested Outside-County mail subscriptions stated on Form 3541	613,413	603,792
2. Paid In-County subscriptions stated on Form 3541	0	0
3. Sales through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution	5,773	5,620
4. Other Classes mailed through the USPS	0	0
C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation	619,186	609,412
D. Free Distribution by Mail		
1. Outside-County as stated on Form 3541	3,069	3,137
2. In-County as stated on Form 3541	0	0
3. Other Classes mailed through the USPS	0	0
4. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail	2,846	2,655
E. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution	5,915	5,792
F. Total Distribution	625,101	615,204
G. Copies not Distributed	0	0
H. Total	625,101	615,204
I. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation	99.05%	99.06%
17. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. (Signed) Sara O’Connor, EVP Consumer Marketing & Products		

Crossword No. 427: Keep Typing by Matt Gaffney



ACROSS

- 1 Special delivery?
- 6 Don Draper and colleagues
- 11 Bread spread
- 14 Microwave oven brand
- 15 Item of winter clothing
- 16 Gourmet Garten
- 17 Words spoken after giving a very long opinion?
- 20 Snake seen in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*
- 21 Tea of *Madam Secretary*
- 22 Jazz band instruments
- 23 Eye drop
- 24 “___ favor”
- 25 Quarterback Favre
- 28 Showed off
- 33 ___ Music (Brian Eno band)
- 34 Failed to be
- 36 Channel that now shows *Sesame Street*
- 37 Super-utterly-extremely happy?
- 40 Many a Keats poem
- 41 Informs (about a situation)
- 42 Al on trumpet
- 43 Slow-moving food
- 45 Little stores
- 46 Permit
- 47 Framed advantageously, as a press secretary might
- 49 Jonah Hill, for one
- 52 Walks back and forth nervously
- 54 Abbr. seen after a few examples

- 57 Clothing store for those who think middle age is the prime of life?
- 60 Before, in verse
- 61 Navratilova rival
- 62 Students take them
- 63 Teeny-tiny
- 64 Train station
- 65 Message experimentally expanded for some users last week from 140 characters maximum to 280—a doubling that inspired this puzzle’s theme entries

DOWN

- 1 Mexican peninsula
- 2 Shock jock Don
- 3 Voice feature, sometimes
- 4 Explosive stuff
- 5 Play with indecision
- 6 Regarding
- 7 Pest control brand once pitched in TV ads by Muhammad Ali
- 8 *Moana* role named for a Hawaiian island
- 9 Go astray
- 10 Division for the Carolina Panthers
- 11 Hex
- 12 Prefix with chamber
- 13 Part of Einstein’s equation
- 18 House vote
- 19 Bring home
- 23 “Bye,” when texting

- 24 Feelings of guilt or hunger
- 25 It brings sweeping victories
- 26 Musical refrain form
- 27 Spreadsheet name
- 28 Releases
- 29 Explorer Erikson
- 30 ___ *Eyes Were Watching God* (Zora Neale Hurston novel)
- 31 Critic whose collection of 1-star reviews is called *Your Movie Sucks*
- 32 Inadvisable behaviors
- 34 Stuttgart sausage
- 35 Brickell who sings “What I Am”
- 38 Watched
- 39 Compared with
- 44 Lanolin’s frequent partner
- 45 Opposite of “has to”
- 47 Florida governor Rick
- 48 Apiece
- 49 Not that many
- 50 Uneaten part of an apple
- 51 Lumberjack’s target
- 52 Word before class or school
- 53 ___-Caribbean music
- 54 Ending for luncheon
- 55 Cutesy, as some souvenirs
- 56 Expense
- 58 Night before
- 59 Shocked shout

The Week Contest

This week’s question: After North Korean leader Kim Jong Un called President Trump a “dotard,” Google saw an immediate spike in searches for that rarely used word, which means “an old person, especially one who has become weak or senile.” If Kim were to publish a collection of creative insults to use against rivals and enemies, what title could he give the book?

Last week’s contest: Actress turned lifestyle guru Gwyneth Paltrow has opened a Goop Lab store in Los Angeles, filled with such products as “sex dust,” healing stones, and “psychic vampire repellent.” Please come up with the name of another useful new product of this type that Paltrow could sell.

THE WINNER: Transcendental Floss
Carol J. Hill, Elephant Butte, N.M.

SECOND PLACE: Snake Oil of Olay —*Phyllis Klein, New York City*

THIRD PLACE: Conscious Uncufflinks
Tim Mistele, Coral Gables, Fla.

For runners-up and complete contest rules, please go to theweek.com/contest.

How to enter: Submissions should be emailed to contest@theweek.com. Please include your name, address, and daytime telephone number for verification; this week, type “Kim insults” in the subject line. Entries are due by noon, Eastern Time, Tuesday, Oct. 10.

Winners will appear on the Puzzle Page next issue and at theweek.com/puzzles on Friday, Oct. 13. In the case of identical or similar entries, the first one received gets credit.



◀ **The winner gets a one-year subscription to *The Week*.**

Sudoku

Fill in all the boxes so that each row, column, and outlined square includes all the numbers from 1 through 9.

Difficulty: hard

		9		2				
2			7	4				
8			3			7		
	6	4			1	9		
				2				
		3	4			5	6	
		1			4			6
				5	7			1
			9			8		

Find the solutions to all *The Week*’s puzzles online: www.theweek.com/puzzle.

©2017. All rights reserved. *The Week* is a registered trademark owned by the Executors of the Felix Dennis Estate. *The Week* (ISSN 1533-8304) is published weekly except for one week in each January, July, August and December. *The Week* is published by *The Week* Publications, Inc., 55 West 39th Street, New York, NY 10018. Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to *The Week*, PO Box 62290, Tampa, FL 33662-2290. One-year subscription rates: U.S. \$75; Canada \$90; all other countries \$125 in prepaid U.S. funds. Publications Mail Agreement No. 40031590, Registration No. 140467846. Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to P.O. Box 503, RPO West Beaver Creek, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 4R6. *The Week* is a member of The New York Times News Service, The Washington Post/Bloomberg News Service, McClatchy-Tribune Information Services, and subscribes to The Associated Press.



THE WEEK
LIVE
OCTOBER 2017 ★ NYC

PRESENTING SPONSOR



THE LINCOLN MOTOR COMPANY

EXCLUSIVE
ARTS &
CULTURE
EVENTS

HOSTED BY THE EDITORS
OF *THE WEEK*

For event details and tickets, visit
THEWEEK.COM/EVENTS



My Impossible:

Moving to a new city to start a business without clients took strength. Then a fire left me homeless and without tools to show how strong I could be.

Alicia Igees, Urban Tangles
Hiscox Customer

I'mpossible

Hiscox business insurance.
Helping the courageous overcome the impossible.

Get a fast, free quote at [Hiscox.com](https://www.hiscox.com) | 888-477-0209

**HISCOX**
encourage courage®