



The Meditation Cure

REVIEW

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WEEKEND

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What's News

World-Wide

Trump replaced Chief of Staff Priebus with Homeland Security Secretary Kelly, a move aimed at bringing order to a tumultuous administration. A1

◆ Trump plans to sign a sanctions bill aimed at punishing Russia for its alleged interference in the 2016 U.S. election. A7

◆ The collapse of the GOP's bid to rework the health-care system opened a new chapter of uncertainty for insurers, medical providers and millions of Americans. A1, A4

◆ North Korea test-fired a ballistic missile that experts said put the continental U.S. firmly in strike range. A1

◆ Pakistan's Supreme Court removed Premier Sharif from office following a probe into corruption allegations. A6

◆ Japan said it would impose a temporary 50% tariff on frozen beef from the U.S. and several other nations. A6

◆ McCain will be out of the Senate until September for treatment for brain cancer. A4

◆ Charlie Gard, at the center of a debate about who has the power to decide the fate of a terminally ill child, died. A8

Business & Finance

◆ Sprint has proposed a merger with Charter that would create a media and communications giant, upending sectors that are already changing dramatically. A1

◆ Health officials said they want tobacco firms to make all cigarettes with such low levels of nicotine that they are no longer addictive. B1

◆ The U.S. entered its ninth year of economic expansion, with second-quarter GDP rising at a 2.6% rate. A2

◆ J.P. Morgan executives are raising concerns that Sapphire Reserve won't make money, due in part to the card's generous rewards. B1

◆ Exxon and Chevron reported robust earnings, continuing a trend of strong gains by the world's big oil firms. B11

◆ The White House is preparing to nominate Columbia professor Robert Jackson to a Democratic SEC slot. B10

◆ Laurene Powell Jobs, the widow of Steve Jobs, is acquiring a majority stake in the Atlantic magazine. B3

◆ The Dow posted a gain for the week, while a fall in technology shares contributed to declines in the S&P 500 and Nasdaq. B12

Inside
NOONAN ALL
Trump Is Woody
Allen Without
The Humor

CONTENTS Sports A12
Books C5-10 Style & Fashion D2-3
Food D4-5 Travel D6-7
Gear & Gadgets D9-10 U.S. News A2-5
Heard on Street B12 Weather A12
Obituaries A8 Wknd Investor B4
Opinion A9-11 World News A6-8

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Please see KOREA page A6

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

WSJ

The 'It' Vegetables

OFF DUTY



Trump Ousts Priebus as Staff Chief

President taps John Kelly to bring order to a White House beset by internal feuding

By PETER NICHOLAS AND MICHAEL C. BENDER

President Donald Trump replaced Chief of Staff Reince Priebus on Friday with Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly, a retired Marine Corps general.

The shift at the top of the White House hierarchy is aimed at bringing order to an administration that has been beset by infighting, as Mr. Trump seeks to notch the sort of sweeping legislative victories that he promised during the campaign but that have eluded him to this point, advisers to the president said.

"John Kelly will do a fantas-

tic job. Gen. Kelly has been a star, done an incredible job thus far, respected by everybody," Mr. Trump told reporters Friday.

The president told Mr. Priebus two weeks ago he was planning to bring in a new staff chief, a senior administration official said. Mr. Kelly was offered the job earlier this week and immediately accepted, the senior official said.

Mr. Trump discussed bringing in Mr. Kelly with a very small group of people, the senior official said. Part of the draw, the official said, was that he believes Mr. Kelly can provide effective leadership and has the respect of the West Wing, which is staffed with aides whose ideology falls across the political spectrum.

After Mr. Trump's an-

Please see PRIEBUS page A5



Reince Priebus heads to Air Force One Friday for a trip to Long Island with President Trump.

EVAN VUCIC/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Health Bill's Defeat Roils Insurers, Republicans

WASHINGTON—The abrupt collapse of Republicans' bid to rework the U.S. health care system opened a new chapter of uncertainty for insurers, medical providers and millions of Americans Friday, as officials weighed divergent options for the road ahead.

Insurers had been anxious about a fallback legislative plan crafted by Republicans that

By Louise Radnofsky, Anna Wilde Mathews and Michelle Hackman

would strip a handful of elements from the 2010 Affordable Care Act they believed were integral—chiefly, the requirement that individuals buy coverage or pay a penalty. By Friday morn-

ing, that plan had fallen apart after a surprise defection of Republican senator John McCain.

President Donald Trump came under swift pressure from conservative activists to force action by withdrawing federal funding for the already rickety insurance markets.

But other Republicans and Democrats suggested different approaches, prolonging the un-

predictability that has created a tricky landscape for insurers.

Insurers had been pressing for legislation aimed at stabilizing the marketplaces, an idea that is likely to now move into the spotlight. But it's not clear that any bill can move forward fast enough to affect the markets for next year, as insurers must file rates by mid-August and make final decisions about

participation by late September.

"We really are right now up against it, as far as the deadline is concerned," said Gary Cohen, a vice president at Blue Shield of California. Even if lawmakers from both parties work to pull together a bill to bolster the ex-

Please see HEALTH page A4

◆ Gerald F. Seib: GOP search for answers leads across aisle... A4

N. Korea Advances Missile Potency

SEOUL—North Korea test-fired a ballistic missile Friday that experts said put the continental U.S. firmly in range of a strike, underscoring Pyongyang's rapid advance in technology and intensifying a standoff with Washington.

By Jonathan Cheng in Seoul and Dion Nissenbaum in Washington

The launch emanated from North Korea's mountainous interior, flying for more than 45 minutes before landing in the waters between Japan and the Korean Peninsula, U.S., South Korean and Japanese officials said.

Hours after the North Korea missile launch, the U.S. and South Korea carried out a live fire exercise by launching missiles into the territorial waters off South Korea's East Coast, according to the U.S. military.

North Korea's action comes just three weeks after North Korea surprised the world with its first ever intercontinental ballistic missile test.

But Friday's missile was a more advanced ICBM than the one fired earlier this month, flying 620 miles and reaching a maximum altitude of 2,300 miles—far more than the July 4 missile's 1,740 miles, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

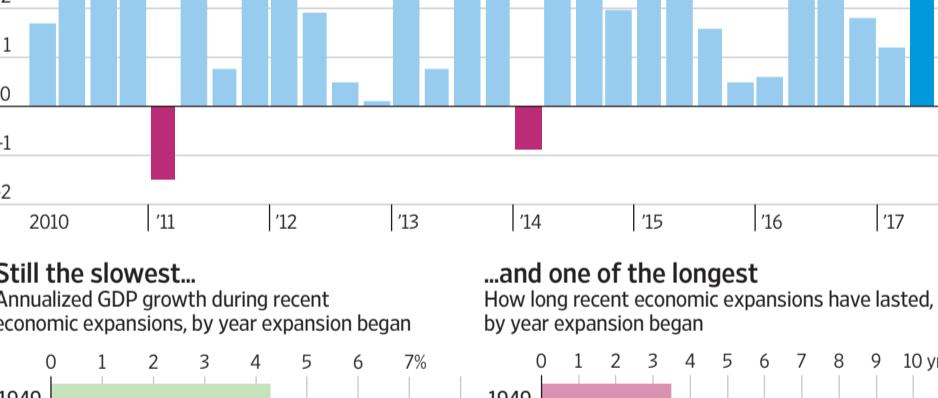
The significantly higher altitude of Friday's missile suggests that it could have flown much farther than the last one.

The new missile would be able to fly more than 6,400 miles if fired at a standard trajectory, David Wright, a physicist and co-director of the Global Security Program at the Union Concerned Scientists, wrote in an analysis on Friday. That would put Los Angeles, Denver and Chicago

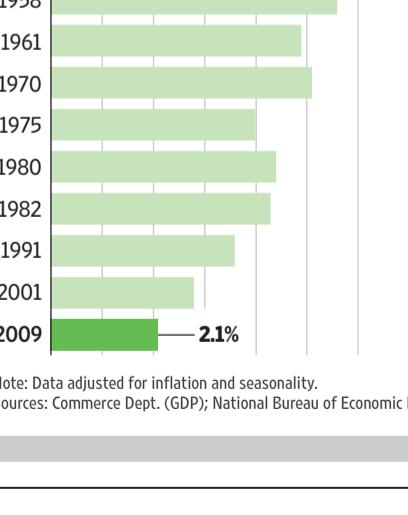
Slow and Steady

The economy enters its ninth year of expansion, the third longest but also the slowest since World War II. A2

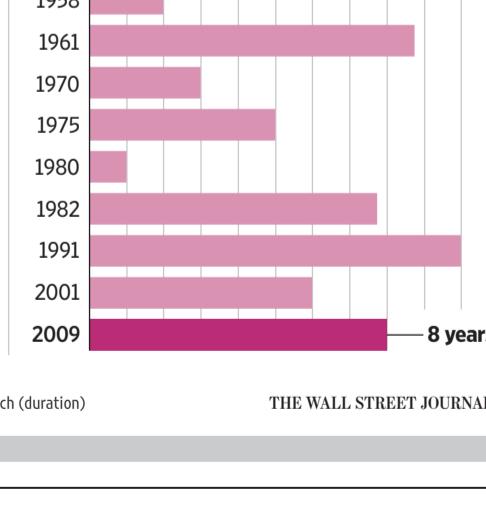
Quarterly change in annualized U.S. GDP



Still the slowest... Annualized GDP growth during recent economic expansions, by year expansion began



...and one of the longest How long recent economic expansions have lasted, by year expansion began



Sprint

Seeks

Deal With

Charter

BY RYAN KNUTSON AND DANA CIMILLUCA

Sprint Corp. has proposed a merger with Charter Communications Inc. that would create a media and communications giant, upending industries that are already in the throes of dramatic change.

Since the end of May, Charter and Comcast Corp. had been in exclusive talks with Sprint over possible deals, including one that would allow the cable companies to resell wireless service under their own brands. Though the exclusivity window ended this week, Sprint Chairman Masayoshi Son continues to pursue a much larger deal with Charter, according to people familiar with the matter: a full-blown merger of the two companies.

Should Mr. Son manage to succeed, the deal would be big: Sprint has a market value of \$33 billion and about that much in net debt. Charter has a market value of nearly \$100 billion after swallowing Time Warner Cable Inc. last year and more than \$60 billion of net debt.

The complex proposal calls Please see SPRINT page A2

America's Pigs Have a Body-Image Problem: They're Not Fat Enough

* * *

Today's leaner hog breeds won't yield the lardy pork chops, greasy bacon that foodies crave

By JULIE WERNAU

The day Aaron Foster finally got the full allotment of pork carcasses he'd ordered for his butcher shop in Brooklyn, the anxiety he'd felt during five long months of waiting melted away.

"These pigs had red, red, red meat," says the 35-year-old shop owner, "and amazing, thick back fat."



For decades, hog farmers have been breeding animals to produce a leaner, pinker, lower-fat variety of meat that would calm their customers' fears of clogged arteries. Lately, however, the strategy has run into an obstacle few people saw coming: a legion of foodies who think skinny pigs make for dry, bland meat.

The growing clamor for greasy bacon, sausages stuffed

with supple lard, and pork chops oozing with deep, scrumptious, oleaginous fat is so strong, in fact, that a problem has developed. America has a shortage of flabby pigs.

After deciding to search for a new local source of pork chops in December, Mr. Foster had to patiently woo an upstate New York farmer just to get his hooks on a single portly Oss-

Please see PIGS page A7

U.S. NEWS

Economy Is Steady in Slow Gear

BY JEFFREY SPARSHOTT

The U.S. entered the ninth year of economic expansion in steady but unspectacular fashion that shows little sign of abating.

Gross domestic product, a broad measure of goods and services produced in the U.S., expanded at a 2.6% annual rate in the second quarter, the Commerce Department said Friday, a rebound after a tepid start to the year.

The figures repeated a familiar pattern of weak winters followed by a stronger spring and summer, leaving overall growth subdued. "The economy is on cruise control. Unfortunately, cruise control is about 2%", said Diane Swonk, founder of DS Economics.

The U.S. emerged from recession in mid-2009. Since then, GDP growth has averaged 2.1%. In contrast, growth averaged 3.6% during a 10-year span in the 1990s and 4.9% during a nearly nine-year stretch in the 1960s, the only two expansions with longer durations.

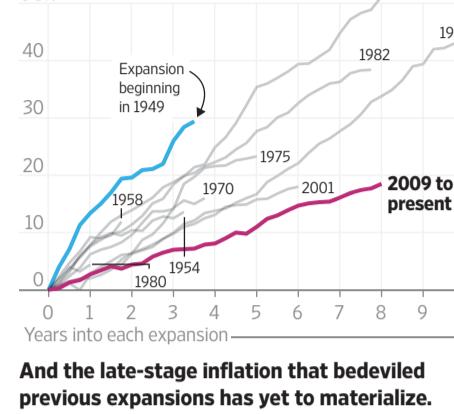
Slow and steady has produced a long stretch of job creation and left the economy on mostly stable footing, with few signs of the kind of excess that in the past have derailed long periods of growth.

In the 1960s, for example, runaway inflation led the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates and curtail growth. Today, broad measures of inflation are historically weak. The price index for personal-consumption expenditures—the Fed's preferred inflation gauge—rose at an annual rate of 0.3% in the second quarter. That is well below the Fed's 2% target. Core prices, which exclude volatile food and energy costs, increased 0.9% at

Plodding Pays Off

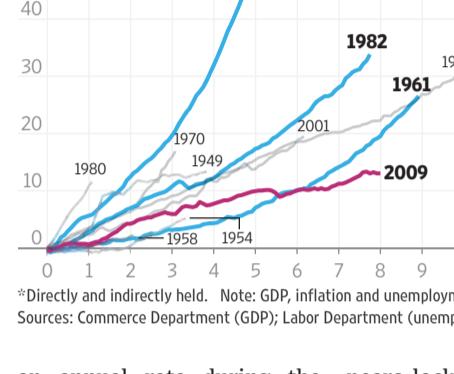
GDP growth is low and slow, but sometimes a deliberate pace has its benefits.

Change in inflation-adjusted GDP



And the late-stage inflation that bedeviled previous expansions has yet to materialize.

Change in the consumer-price index



*Directly and indirectly held. Note: GDP, inflation and unemployment are adjusted for seasonality.

Sources: Commerce Department (GDP); Labor Department (unemployment, CPI); Federal Reserve (equities) THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

an annual rate during the quarter.

After the 1990s stock boom, a tech bubble burst, crashing markets and ultimately sending the economy into recession and an expansion that didn't produce many jobs. There are signs today that stocks are fully valued, one potential risk for investors. But the stock boom lacks the fervor of the 1990s.

Absent such forces, underlying economic growth ap-

pears locked in for the foreseeable future, with both households and businesses helping to propel modest growth. Forecasts for the remainder of the year are mixed.

J.P. Morgan expects a second-half growth rate of 1.75%, NatWest Markets around 2.5% and Capital Economics 2.5% to 3.0%. The Federal Reserve in June estimated full-year GDP growth would register at 2.2%.

Forecasters in The Wall Street Journal's July survey of

economists pegged the odds of a recession at just 15%, little changed from last month and down 22% from a year ago.

Against that backdrop, stocks and corporate profits are marching higher and volatility in markets is low.

On Friday, the biggest U.S. energy companies reported robust profits. Exxon Mobil Corp. nearly doubled its net income, compared with a year ago, and Chevron Corp. saw profits jump to \$1.45 billion in

the second quarter.

"The outlook is that businesses and consumers are becoming more confident in the future," Christopher Martin, chairman and CEO of Jersey City, N.J.-based Provident Financial Services, told investors Friday. "And notwithstanding the headlines from Washington and the partisanship in Congress, overall, we are bullish on the U.S. and our local economy and its potential for stronger growth."

Friday's GDP report showed that consumer spending rose at a 2.8% pace, an improvement from the first quarter's 1.9% rate. Consumers stepped up spending on both goods and services, though there are signs households do have some concerns about the future.

The University of Michigan on Friday said its final reading on overall consumer sentiment in July fell slightly from the prior month. An index that tracks expectations about the future declined to 80.5, its lowest level since last October. An index tracking confidence in the current economic situation jumped to 113.4, its highest level since July 2005.

President Donald Trump has pledged to return the nation to above-3% growth by overhauling the tax and regulatory systems and negotiating better trade deals. There is little to suggest a breakout is imminent.

If a well-constructed tax reform deal is enacted this year or next, the economy may fire on all cylinders and accelerate to closer to President Trump's 3% goal," said Stephen Stanley, chief economist at Amherst Pierpont Securities. But, for now, the economy is firmly entrenched at a little better than 2%, he said.

People and cars lined up Friday to get on ferries, the only way off Ocracoke Island, after a mandatory evacuation order was announced. Gas stations ran perilously low on fuel and ice, and business owners complained about losing a chunk of their most lucrative time of year.

Ocracoke and Hatteras Islands went dark on Thursday when a construction company building a new bridge between the Outer Banks and the mainland drove a steel casing into an underground transmission line.

Without power, air conditioners went silent and ceiling fans stopped humming.

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper declared a state of emergency on the islands.

—Associated Press

MARYLAND

Alleged Misconduct Scuttles 34 Cases

Baltimore's top prosecutor says her office is dismissing 34 cases that relied on the testimony of three officers who are under scrutiny after the release of body camera footage that defense attorneys say shows evidence being fabricated.

Baltimore State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby said Friday that her office is reviewing dozens of other cases involving the officers. The cases being dropped are drug- or firearm-related.

Earlier this month, defense attorneys released a body-camera video that they said showed an officer planting drugs. That officer has had his police powers suspended. Two others in the video are on administrative duty.

Ms. Mosby previously said the number of cases under review was around 100. Friday she said it is approximately 123.

—Associated Press

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President Tailors Jobs Message to Rust Belt

BY ELI STOKOLS
AND ERIC MORATH

When President Donald Trump wanted to give a speech earlier this month outlining a major infrastructure overhaul, he went to Cincinnati. In recent interviews and tweets, Mr. Trump has celebrated Ford Motor Co.'s reinvestment in a Michigan car plant and the opening of a Pennsylvania coal mine.

In all of those instances, the president is talking up positive economic news in the states that form the backbone of his political coalition and are key to keeping his base intact amid his turbulent first six months in office.

This week's announcement that the Chinese iPhone manufacturer Foxconn Technologies has committed to building a \$10 billion plant continued the pattern. It was delivered in

Wisconsin, a Democratic stronghold for three decades where Mr. Trump bulldozed through Hillary Clinton's fire-wall on Election Night.

"You look at Wisconsin, [and Mr. Trump] winning by 22,000 votes last year, the first time it went Republican since 1984—I pay attention to those things," said Bill Stepien, the White House's political director. "I'm thrilled they picked Wisconsin."

The Foxconn plant, which isn't scheduled to open until 2020, is expected to initially employ 3,000 and may create an additional 22,000 related jobs in the future—but the deal doesn't come cheap for Wisconsin taxpayers, given the \$3 billion in state tax credits the company will receive. Gov. Scott Walker on Friday called a special legislative session next week focused on the incentive package.

The package is reminiscent of the deal Mr. Trump and Vice President Mike Pence helped engineer during the transition period when Indiana offered Carrier United Technologies \$7 million in tax incentives to keep 1,069 jobs at

its factory in Indianapolis.

Some independent analysts see a White House approach to job creation that is more a matter of public optics than smart or sustainable economic policy.

Adam Kamins, senior economist at Moody's Analytics, noted: "The amount of tax-

payer money being thrown at these firms to attract them to certain states is pretty exorbitant. That creates a high bar in terms of the number of jobs that need to be created for the investment to pay off."

The administration's moves come against the backdrop of an economy that is growing steadily but not spectacularly. The U.S. economy expanded at about 2% annual pace in the first half of 2017, essentially matching the average since the recession ended in 2009.

The White House's particular focus is on manufacturing activity, which Mr. Trump has promised to revive. That sector has grown by 53,000 jobs during the first half of 2017. The gain is improvement from the first half of 2016, when it declined by 12,000, but is broadly in line with the modest gains recorded for the sector since 2011.

"The survey-based data shows manufacturers are very optimistic, but in terms of hiring, there's not been much of a change," Mr. Kamins said.

Notwithstanding the economic reality, Mr. Trump's team points to private polling that shows the president's positive economic messaging connecting with voters in critical swing states.

In Wisconsin, a survey of voters conducted two weeks ago and shared by an administration official with The Wall Street Journal showed that 57% of residents believe more jobs are being created now than a year ago, compared to just 34% who disagree.

Similarly, a recent Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll of counties Mr. Trump carried last year found residents strongly supporting his bargaining with companies to keep jobs in America.

increasingly important and consumers rely more equally on cable and wireless companies to surf the web and watch videos.

Combining with Sprint could help Charter Communications fend off threats from cord-cutting.

The resale deal the cable companies have been discussing, which could have included an agreement to invest in Sprint's network and possibly buy a stake in the wireless carrier, appears to have taken a back seat to the merger talks. It is still possible, however, that there could be a resale deal with Sprint instead of any full-blown merger.

Before embarking on the resale talks, Sprint had been discussing a possible merger with rival T-Mobile US Inc., an effort that could now be rekindled alongside the Sprint-Charter talks, the people said. Even if Sprint and Charter did strike a merger or resale deal, it wouldn't preclude a subsequent tie-up between the new group and T-Mobile, one person said.

It is far from guaranteed that Charter would ultimately agree to such a deal.

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Combining with Sprint could help Charter Communications fend off threats from cord-cutting.

with the matter said they also included the possibility that Charter and Comcast would together acquire the wireless carrier. John Malone, whose Liberty Broadband Corp. is Charter's largest investor, had been trying to convince Comcast Chief Executive Brian Roberts that the companies should jointly buy a wireless carrier, people familiar with the matter have said. But Mr. Roberts has been reluctant and made comments on an earnings call this week that played down the possibility that Comcast would participate in any big wireless merger. "We really feel we're not missing anything," Mr. Roberts said. "No disrespect to wireless. It's a tough business."

As part of the deliberations, Mr. Son recently sought an investment in Sprint that could total more than \$10 billion from billionaire investor Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc., the Journal has reported. It isn't clear where that effort stands, though one person said Mr. Son would need to corral such an investment—if not from Mr. Buffett

than from someone else—for his current Charter bid to succeed.

Charter and Comcast, the two largest U.S. cable companies by subscribers, agreed in May to a partnership that barred either company from doing a wireless deal without the other's blessing or participation for a year. Charter would therefore need Comcast's approval for any merger with Sprint.

The backdrop of all the discussions is the convergence of the cable and wireless industries as smartphones become



PATRICK T. FALLON/BLOOMBERG NEWS

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The backdrop of all the discussions is the convergence of the cable and wireless industries as smartphones become

more prevalent.

Sprint reports its fiscal first-quarter earnings Tuesday and is expected to be grilled by analysts on its strategic options.

U.S. NEWS

Police Confront Growing Peril: Fentanyl

Officers increasingly come in contact with toxic drug that dealers tend to mix with heroin

BY ZOLAN KANNO-YOUNGS
AND CORINNE RAMEY

Law-enforcement officials across the nation are taking extraordinary new precautions against a growing threat to their ranks: fentanyl, a drug so toxic that just a few grains can kill.

In Maryland, an officer overdosed after inhaling fentanyl while searching a home for heroin. An Ohio officer also overdosed on fentanyl after responding to a traffic stop. And in Florida, three trained police dogs overdosed while searching a house with suspected narcotics. Law-enforcement officials worry that such risks will rise as fentanyl proliferates across the nation.

Kevin Phillips, a deputy sheriff in Harford County, Md., recently felt the drug's wrath when he responded to an increasingly routine call of drug overdose, opening a nightstand in the home while searching for heroin.

"About two or three seconds after I shut it, my face started burning. I broke out in a sweat," said Cpl. Phillips, who was rushed to the hospital for treatment after overdosing on fentanyl that had been mixed into the heroin.

Authorities swiftly set a new policy: officers must treat drug seizures like an active shooter incident—slow down and evaluate the scene before rushing inside. They must also wear protective gear.

Law-enforcement encounters with fentanyl nationwide rose to more than 14,000 in 2015 from about 1,000 in 2013, according to federal data. Fentanyl, which is 50 times more powerful than heroin, has been used legally for decades, including as a painkiller for cancer patients.

But in the past five years, illegal forms of the drug, often produced in China and Mexico, have quickly spread throughout the country and contributed to a broader opioid epidemic that has killed tens of thousands of people.

Two to three milligrams of



Breathing even a tiny amount of fentanyl can be dangerous. New York police officials in safety suits and respirator masks recently tested drugs in a forensics laboratory.

CAITLIN OCHS FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

fentanyl—the equivalent of five to seven grains of table salt—is enough to cause respiratory depression, cardiac arrest or death, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, which issued new guidelines for first responders in June.

"[Fentanyl] is a new challenge, a game changer for law enforcement," said Harford County Sheriff Jeffrey Gahler. "It could be anyone exposed."

It's not just humans at risk.

While executing a narcotics search warrant in October, officers from Broward Sheriff's Office in Florida directed three trained dogs—Primus, Finn and Packer—to sniff around a house.

The dogs soon became drowsy, found it difficult to stand and eventually adopted blank stares and became unable to move, said Det. Andy Weiman, the head dog trainer.

The dogs, who were later found to have overdosed, were treated at an animal hospital and returned to work the next day, he said.

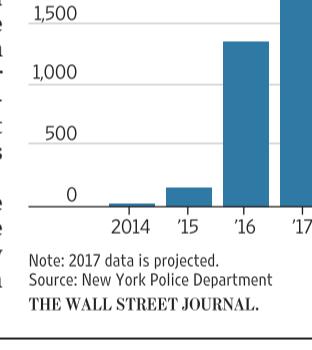
Law-enforcement officials are swiftly overhauling their procedures for handling fentanyl.

About a year ago, New York Police Department detectives routinely tested narcotics at a crime scene. Now, they wear protective gloves to package the drugs and drive it to a Queens laboratory to be tested. There, workers with white safety suits, respirator masks and the antidote naloxone stand by as an analyst tests the drug, which lies within a glass tank.

NYPD officials estimate they will find fentanyl in more than 2,200 narcotics cases by the end of the year, up from nine cases in 2013.

Deadly Menace

Like law enforcement agencies across the U.S., the New York Police Department is increasingly coming into contact with fentanyl. Number of times the NYPD found the drug in narcotics cases.



Note: 2017 data is projected.
Source: New York Police Department
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Prosecutors Worry About the Drug, Too

It isn't just police who fear unintentional fentanyl overdoses, but prosecutors as well. Some are now hesitant to store evidence like cellphones or laptops in their offices, as they customarily do. Prosecutors also are introducing new policies to protect investigators and handle evidence.

Ron O'Brien, prosecuting attorney of Franklin County, Ohio, said people on each floor of his office are trained to administer naloxone. "We have witnesses that show up in our lobby that may themselves be [drug] users," he added.

Prosecutors are discussing

how to keep fentanyl out of courtrooms. In typical cases, drugs like crack cocaine, heroin and marijuana are used as trial exhibits and wheeled into a courtroom on a dolly. Mr. O'Brien said prosecutors are preparing for the inevitable questions over how to handle fentanyl in the courtroom, where he hopes it will be banned.

"You can take as many precautions as you want, but it's still very dangerous stuff," he said.

Bridget Brennan, New York City's special narcotics prosecutor, said prosecutors in the city had discussed the logistical concerns of a fentanyl case going to trial. "I'm not sure anybody would want to sit in a courtroom with it, regardless."

—Zolan Kanno-Youngs
and Corinne Ramey

Cutbacks Planned For IHS Hospital

BY DAN FROSH

The Indian Health Service said Friday that it would permanently close critical medical services at a troubled hospital it operates in South Dakota a year after federal regulators found poor care at the facility.

The IHS, which provides health care to 2.2 million tribal members, will no longer offer emergency or inpatient services at its Sioux San Hospital in Rapid City, one of numerous facilities operated by the agency that have failed to meet basic standards for U.S. hospitals over the past few years. The agency said it would begin shutting down the services next July.

The IHS has faced mounting criticism from members of Congress and tribal leaders over conditions at its hospitals, which have been beset by unnecessary deaths, misdiagnoses and neglect, according to public documents and numerous interviews by The Wall Street Journal.

The IHS said it would continue to offer nonemergency urgent care and outpatient services at Sioux San.

Tribal leaders were taken aback by the announcement, noting that the hospital served people from dozens of tribes who live in the area.

"It's a pretty significant decision about a major IHS facility, and there was no consultation with tribes," said Jerilyn Church, chief executive of the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board.

In its statement, the agency said it had consulted with tribal leaders about how best to serve patients in the area and on plans to build a new clinic.

Trump to Law Enforcement: 'Don't Be Too Nice'

BY REBECCA BALLHAUS
AND BETH REINHARD

President Donald Trump told a crowd of law-enforcement officers on Friday they shouldn't be "too nice" when arresting "thugs," in remarks about combating gang activity.

Addressing federal, state and local law-enforcement officers in Brentwood, N.Y., on the threat posed by the transnational street gang MS-13, Mr. Trump also talked about the treatment of people who have been arrested.

"You know when you see

these thugs being thrown into the back of a paddy wagon, you just see them thrown in rough," the president said. "I said, please don't be too nice."

He also said police didn't need to use their hands to protect the heads of those they were arresting as they put them in their cars. "When you guys put somebody into the car and you're protecting their head—you know...like don't hit their head, and they've just killed somebody—I said, you can take the hand away, OK?"

The comments drew some cheers and applause from the

audience.

At another point, Mr. Trump told his audience: "We have your backs 100%. Not like the old days."

In the U.S. criminal-justice system, typically arrested suspects are legally innocent, as they haven't been tried or otherwise adjudicated guilty.

Mr. Trump's comments drew criticism from some law-enforcement groups. "It's inappropriate for him to make those kind of comments, and fortunately police officers understand their authority and when they can use force and

when they can't," said Darrel Stephens, executive director of the Major Cities Chiefs Association, a group of leaders from 69 urban departments.

"It's not acceptable to rough people up, so to speak," he said in an interview.

William Johnson, executive director of the National Association of Police Organizations, downplayed the president's remarks.

"Police won't be influenced by this off-the-cuff rhetoric," he said. "They'll continue to do their job with great restraint in the face of extreme

provocation."

Earlier this week, discussing efforts to combat MS-13 at a campaign rally in Youngstown, Ohio, Mr. Trump said "our guys" were "rougher than their guys."

Asked on Thursday to clarify what the president meant by "rougher," White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said, "I think the president means that our guys are going to do whatever it takes to protect Americans." She said Mr. Trump "wants people to do their jobs, not go beyond the scope of what they should do."

Jumbo-Size Dreams for Minnesota Aquaculture

A 9-acre indoor farm aims to raise 8 million pounds of shrimp a year

BY QUINT FORGEY

Minnesota is famous for having a lot of one of the key ingredients of a shrimp cocktail: ice.

Now, **Ralco**, a technology-focused animal-nutrition company, is planning to produce the other main component in the Land of 10,000 Lakes inside a nine-acre indoor bayou that will pump out more than 8 million pounds of farm-raised shrimp annually.

Ralco affiliate trū Shrimp has signed a letter of intent to locate its first shrimp production facility in the 4,700-person farming town of Luverne, contributing to a burgeoning aquaculture industry taking shape in the Midwest.

Construction of the \$50 million facility, dubbed Luverne Bay Harbor, is expected to support 330 jobs. A hatchery and the renovation of an existing processing facility in nearby Marshall, as well as a center to train harbor workers in Balaton, will add more.



A planned shrimp hatchery in Minnesota is part of a growing aquaculture industry in the Midwest.

Groundbreaking on the harbor is scheduled for early next year, and work on the hatchery, processing facility and training center is set to begin this year.

"We get the question all the time, 'Why Minnesota? Why Minnesota of all places?'" said Michael Ziebell, trū Shrimp president

and chief executive. The answer is the state's abundance of corn and soybeans that will feed the shrimp.

"It makes a lot of sense to bring the shrimp to the food," said Luverne Mayor Pat Baustian.

The plan is to breed the shrimp in the 40,000-square-foot hatchery in Marshall,

where they will be raised until they reach their mosquito-size, post-larvae state.

The shrimp will then be shipped by truck to the Luverne harbor and placed in shallow water tanks called tidal basins.

In that 82-degree environment, the shrimp will be harvested into nine different sizes.

The last step in the process will be trucking the shrimp back to the Marshall processing facility. The first harvest is set to take place in July 2019.

But others in the shrimp industry caution that the new venture will have a tough time matching the prices of Southeast Asian growers who control roughly 90% of the U.S. market and have faced criticism for polluting ponds with chemical waste.

"The person going into a Wal-Mart looking for the cheapest package of shrimp—if that's the buying decision, what it's going to cost—it's tough to compete," said C. David Veal, executive director of the American Shrimp Processors Association, which advocates for the wild-caught shrimp industry in Gulf Coast states and the South Atlantic.

Mr. Ziebell said trū Shrimp's operation is different because their production sites will be highly controlled, indoor facilities completely free of antibiotics.

U.S. NEWS

GOP's Search for Answers Leads Across Aisle



CAPITAL JOURNAL

By Gerald F. Seib

Where do Republicans go from here? That is the simple yet profound question the party faces after the failure early Friday of its months-long attempt to repeal and replace Obamacare.

That collapse on one end of Pennsylvania Avenue came precisely as, at the other end, the White House spiraled into its own bizarre bout of intramural

warfare, which culminated in the departure of Chief of Staff Reince Priebus, raising fresh doubts about its ability to lead the GOP out of this thicket. Republicans neither trusted nor feared their president enough to follow his exhortations to pass something—anything—on health care just to keep things moving.

That leaves the party with no obvious path forward. Except perhaps this: Try to work with Democrats.

That's precisely what Sen. John McCain (R., Ariz.) was trying to do when he returned to the capital, soon after being diagnosed with brain cancer, to cast a dramatic vote to allow debate on a health bill to proceed—and then another dramatic vote to kill off the last remaining version of health legislation Republicans



ALEX EDELMAN/ZUMA PRESS

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell leaving the chamber after the Senate voted down GOP efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

had left. He wanted to shock the system onto a new, more bipartisan track.

Of course, there's plenty of reason to doubt that even shock therapy will produce that result. For one thing, President Donald Trump responded to the health calamity by pushing in the opposite direction, tweeting that "If Republicans are going to pass great future legislation in the Senate, they must immediately go to a 51 vote majority, not senseless 60."

In other words, the presi-

dent advocated not for expanding the circle of support in the Senate to a filibuster-proof 60 by roping in some Democrats, but rather for doubling down on the now-failed effort to push ahead with Republican votes only.

There are ample roadblocks on the other side of the aisle as well. In their candid moments, Democratic lawmakers admit they are under enormous pressure from their base to simply resist anything Mr. Trump supports and everything Republicans try. It's hard

to know how many Democrats are courageous enough to move toward a compromise.

Yet Democrats haven't really been forced so far to make that hard choice. A truly bipartisan effort to make modest changes in the health system would force them to do so.

Health care "should have been bipartisan the first time seven years ago," when the Affordable Care Act was first passed, said Sen. John Barrasso of Wyoming, a physi-

cian and member of the Republican leadership. "And it needs to be bipartisan now."

He said Sen. Chuck Schumer, the Democratic leader, approached him as the health debate played out and expressed his desire to work together. Republican Sen. Lamar Alexander, chairman of the Senate health committee, now plans to hold hearings to start anew, Sen. Barrasso said.

Moreover, there is at least a glimmer of hope of bipartisanship on the next big issue

up, which is tax reform. In a Wall Street Journal interview this week, Mr. Trump described an emerging tax plan that will be centered on a big middle-class tax cut, even if finding the money to finance that requires higher taxes on the wealthiest Americans. If that's the kind of bill that emerges, it might get some support from at least a few Democrats—think Sens. Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Joe Donnelly of Indiana.

At this juncture, with health changes stalled and tax reform yet to be launched, it might be a good time for both parties to think anew about how Washington is working, or not working.

It's instructive to think of either party's strength in Congress as a bucket. The size of the bucket depends on how many votes the party has. If it's a five-gallon bucket and you try to pour seven gallons of water into it, you'll have a mess.

This is what both Republicans now, and Democrats in the latter years of the Obama term, have been trying to do—push bigger plans than their majorities can handle and a mess is what we have to show for it. Both parties need to right-size ambitions to suit their buckets.

Elections have consequences. Donald Trump is president. At the same time, Republicans have just 52 votes in the Senate, and in a party torn between conservatives and moderates, between a Wall Street wing and a populist wing, it isn't realistic to think those people will all line up neatly.

Those are the realities, and both parties have to deal with them.

Three Senators Show Hurdles Ahead for Republicans

By NATALIE ANDREWS
AND KRISTINA PETERSON

The three Republican senators who derailed efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act on Friday morning took their position despite intense pressure from GOP leaders, suggesting party loyalty won't be enough to advance President Donald Trump's legislative agenda this year.

GOP Sens. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, Susan Collins of Maine and John McCain of Arizona instead tapped into their strong political brands in their home states when they joined Democratic senators in blocking a slimmed-down Senate repeal measure, effectively

ending the GOP repeal push for now.

The 49-51 defeat blocked Republicans from fulfilling a longtime campaign promise to dismantle the 2010 health-care law. And it exposed the difficult Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R., Ky.) and Mr. Trump could face in their bid to lose no more than two GOP votes in the coming push to rewrite the tax code.

Many Republicans and conservatives criticized the three defectors Friday, depicting them as rogue lawmakers who prevented the party from reaching a long-sought goal.

"I am deeply disappointed in the handful of Republican senators who are the reason for this unacceptable out-

come—many of whom claimed they supported eliminating this flawed law," said Rep. Jeb Hensarling (R., Texas).

But ACA supporters praised them as independent-minded and true to their principles. All three have strong political identities and histories of dissenting from party orthodoxy.

Ms. Murkowski had flagged from the start of the health-care debate that she had concerns with the GOP approach. A defender of Planned Parenthood, she opposed stripping funds for the women's health organization, and she objected to the bill's cuts to federal funding for Medicaid.

As Friday's vote approached, the Trump administration turned up the pressure

on Ms. Murkowski, especially after she voted Tuesday against a Senate procedural motion to begin debate on the health bill.

"Senator @lisamurkowski of the Great State of Alaska really let the Republicans, and our country, down yesterday. Too bad!" Mr. Trump tweeted Wednesday.

Ms. Murkowski has been willing for years to operate independently of the GOP. In 2010, after losing the GOP primary to a Tea Party candidate, she was re-elected with an unusual write-in campaign. She was re-elected in 2016, meaning she doesn't face re-election until 2022.

After the vote, Ms. Murkowski, like her fellow

holdouts, suggested neither party had acquitted itself well in the health-care debate in recent years. "I voted no on the health-care proposal last night because both sides must do better on process and substance," she said.

Ms. Collins has also had significant electoral success, winning re-election in 2014 with more than 68% of the vote.

Ms. Collins and Ms. Murkowski, two of the five women GOP senators, received pointed criticism on Capitol Hill for their high-profile role in the health-care debate.

Ms. Collins, long known as the Senate's most centrist Republican, voiced concerns similar to those of Ms. Murkowski

about the Senate legislation. She came out against the Senate GOP bill hours after the first analysis from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimated it would leave 22 million more people uninsured than the ACA.

Her early opposition signaled she would not easily be flipped and White House officials and GOP leaders expended less energy trying to do so.

After casting her vote early Friday morning, Ms. Collins hopped on a plane to return home. When she arrived back at the Bangor airport at noon on Friday, according to one witness, she was greeted with applause as she walked through the waiting area.

HEALTH

Continued from Page One
changes, "my concern is that for 2018, it's going to be too late."

Mr. Trump signaled in an overnight tweet and remarks at a law enforcement event on Long Island Friday that he was open to seeing the markets fail. "I said from the beginning: Let Obamacare implode, and then do it. I turned out to be right. Let Obamacare implode," Mr. Trump said.

The president has on occasion publicly mulled cutting off monthly payments to insurers, which next come due in three weeks. Other administration officials, including Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price, have said they are open to using executive action to loosen Affordable Care Act rules, which could include relaxing the requirement that most people have insurance or pay a penalty.

For the skittish insurance industry, the sheer range of possibilities comes at a sensitive time. Insurers are on the cusp of making decisions about their prices and participation in states' individual insurance markets next year.

"We're worried," said Martin Hickey, chief executive of New Mexico Health Connections, a nonprofit insurer. "We need answers very soon to make good, responsible decisions.... You can't have functioning markets in uncertainty."

Some Republicans suggested pivoting to bipartisan legislation that would fund the insurer payments and shore up the insurance markets. Other GOP



Sen. Lamar Alexander (R., Tenn.), who chairs the Senate health committee, is expected to hold hearings on insurance markets.

lawmakers said they weren't giving up the repeal effort yet, even as Democratic supporters of the ACA cheered themselves for having saved the law again.

"Last night's horrific failure is not the final chapter in the debate," said Rep. Mark Meadows (R., N.C.), who heads the conservative House Freedom Caucus.

"I know that the president and vice president have spent most of the morning reaching out to senators on possible ideas that could gain the support of a majority of the upper chamber," Mr. Meadows said. "They are encouraging a number of key negotiators to stay involved in these first few weeks of August."

The White House said South Carolina Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham had visited with the president Friday, but didn't confirm other meetings or calls.

The political arm of the conservative Heritage Foundation said the Trump administration should stop making "cost-shar-

ing reduction" payments, which reimburse insurers for lowering copays and deductibles for millions of low-income people who get coverage under the ACA.

Those payments have been challenged in court by House Republicans, who argue the funds were never authorized by Congress. A federal judge has sided with the House but allowed the payments to continue until the litigation concludes.

"The administration should certainly make clear that they're not interested in throwing more money at Obamacare," said Dan Holler, a spokesman for the Heritage Foundation's political arm, Heritage Action.

Insurers say the loss of the cost-sharing payments would push up rates and convince more companies to exit from the markets where consumers buy subsidized coverage under the ACA. Already, several insurers have cited the uncertainty in announcing pullbacks for next year, while others have already built extra cushions into

No Votes

The Senate this week considered three Obamacare repeal bills; 13 Republicans voted against at least one of them.

'SKINNY' REPEAL

Failed Friday, 49-51

Eliminates employer, individual mandates; cuts Planned Parenthood funding

REPEAL ONLY

Failed Wednesday, 45-55

Partial repeal of Obamacare in two years

REPEAL/REPLACE

Failed Tuesday, 43-57

Repeals many of the major provisions in Obamacare

SENATORS

Collins	Maine	No	No	No
Murkowski	Alaska	No	No	No
McCain	Ariz.	Yes	No	No
Heller	Nev.	No	No	Yes
Corker	Tenn.	No	Yes	Yes
Cotton	Ark.	No	Yes	Yes
Graham	S.C.	No	Yes	Yes
Lee	Utah	No	Yes	Yes
Moran	Kan.	No	Yes	Yes
Paul	Ky.	No	Yes	Yes
Alexander	Tenn.	Yes	No	Yes
Capito	W. Va.	Yes	No	Yes
Portman	Ohio	Yes	No	Yes

Source: U.S. Senate

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

"No one with a sense of political realism would think that's even a good desperation move," said Tom Miller, a scholar at the right-leaning American Enterprise Institute. "It's not even leverage for anything, it's just pure wreckage."

The Department of Health and Human Services, meanwhile, could take administrative steps to peel back enforcement of the ACA requirement that most people obtain insurance or pay a penalty, a shift that insurers say would also push up premiums.

Rep. Michael Burgess (R., Texas) said the prospect of the individual mandate's disappearance had brought insurers to his office Thursday to discuss offering products that would appeal to healthy customers buying them voluntarily.

Mr. Burgess has said he is open to the Trump administration using executive action where it can, but said Friday he didn't want to see steps taken on the individual mandate in that way now.

Sen. Lamar Alexander (R., Tenn.), who chairs the Senate health committee, is expected to hold hearings on stabilizing the individual insurance market.

Senators are also considering including an appropriation for cost-sharing reduction payments, along with other kinds of short-term stabilization funding, to a reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program, which is popular with both parties.

A group of House Democrats, with buy-in from several centrist Republicans in that chamber, has been working to circulate its own plan to address the fragile insurance markets.

McCain Goes To Arizona For Therapy After Vote

BY NATALIE ANDREWS

Sen. John McCain, after casting a key vote on health care early Friday, headed home later that day and will be out of the Senate until September undergoing treatment for brain cancer, his office said.

Mr. McCain, an Arizona Republican, was diagnosed with a type of brain tumor called a glioblastoma earlier this month. Doctors removed a blood clot from above his left eye on July 14 and tested the tissue, discovering the cancer.

On Monday, the senator is set to start a "standard post-surgical regimen of targeted radiation and chemotherapy," according to a statement from his spokeswoman.

A glioblastoma is an aggressive type of tumor that can be difficult to treat, and a cure often isn't possible, according to the Mayo Clinic. Treatments may slow the progression of the cancer and reduce the symptoms.

Mr. McCain had been in Arizona recuperating after surgery and flew to Washington this week to cast deciding votes on the Senate's health care bill. His vote was needed by Republicans on Tuesday to open debate on the bill. But along with two other Republicans and all Senate Democrats, he voted against the bill early Friday, effectively sinking it.

U.S. NEWS

Health-Care Failure Augurs Tax Challenge

By RICHARD RUBIN

WASHINGTON—House Republicans built their tax plan around a new system for taxing imports and exports, an assumption that hundreds of billions of dollars in tax increases in the 2010 Affordable Care Act would be gone already and confidence that the GOP could muscle important legislation through Congress on party-line votes.

All three of those pillars collapsed overnight Thursday when party leaders formally abandoned a key piece of the House tax plan and the Senate narrowly rejected a plan to dismantle parts of the ACA.

The developments bring new urgency to Republicans' efforts to revamp the U.S. tax system, now the party's

best chance to deliver a major legislative victory before the 2018 midterm election.

"If you can't do health care, which we thought we agreed upon, I'm not sure how you're going to get a tax-reform bill through," said Rep. Joe Barton (R., Texas).

The party's leaders remain optimistic, and there are reasons to think a tax overhaul could be easier than health care. Republicans have more common ground, ideologically, and they won't be quite as bedeviled by Senate rules complicating passage of nonfiscal legislation. And the White House has been articulating clearer principles and showing deeper, more consistent interest.

The so-called Big Six—a team of negotiators from the Senate, House and Trump ad-

ministration—released a set of principles Thursday that entailed lower tax rates and simplification of the tax code while omitting the House's "border adjustment" plan for taxing business income.

The Business Roundtable, a group of corporate leaders who had largely sat on the sidelines because its members were divided on border adjustment, announced a multimillion-dollar ad campaign on Friday aimed at making the case that lower corporate tax rates would boost economic growth. Conservative groups that had criticized border adjustment, including those tied to the billionaire Koch brothers, are working more closely with the administration. Representatives from the groups are holding a public event in Wash-

ton on Monday to promote the tax plan alongside Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and White House Legislative Affairs Director Marc Short.

However, not far beneath that newfound unity are some

Rep. Barton: 'I'm not sure how you're going to get a tax-reform bill through.'

tough realities. In the coming months, Congress may take another stab at a health-care overhaul, and lawmakers will soon confront deadlines on spending and the debt limit that will distract them. Congress hasn't re-

written the tax code in 31 years because the task is hard, demands unpleasant trade-offs and sows divisions that are often more parochial than partisan. For example, some Republicans oppose tax breaks for renewable energy, but representatives from states with wind and solar energy disagree.

Distrust lingers between senators and House members. And while Republicans may agree on the broad strokes of tax policy—such as lower rates and lighter taxes on U.S. companies' foreign income—they are bound to divide on the details.

"It's going to take patience to do the right thing," said Rep. Mike Bishop (R., Mich.).

President Donald Trump says he wants to prioritize taxes for middle-class families, but his plan features tax cuts for busi-

nesses and for high-income households.

Republicans don't agree on whether they are aiming for tax cuts or for a plan that would be revenue-neutral. They probably need an answer to that question before voting on a tax bill, because that decision must be baked into the congressional budget. A budget unlocks the so-called reconciliation procedures that would allow the Senate to pass a tax bill with only Republican votes.

"They can't have spent all these years pontificating about deficits and debt and then embrace huge tax cuts that only contribute to debt," said Rep. Richard Neal (D., Mass.), the top Democrat on the House Ways and Means Committee.

—Natalie Andrews contributed to this article.

PRIEBUS

Continued from Page One

nouncement, which came as Air Force One landed in Washington after a flight from New York, he posted a tweet saying he thanked Mr. Priebus "for his service and dedication to his country. We accomplished a lot together and I am proud of him!"

Mr. Trump stayed on the plane while Mr. Priebus and other top aides disembarked. Mr. Priebus's car left the motorcade before Mr. Trump got off the plane.

Rep. Peter King (R., N.Y.), who was on the plane, said he spoke to Mr. Priebus during the flight from Long Island and was unaware he had been replaced. "Good poker face. Showed nothing," Mr. King said. "We didn't even know it."

Mr. King said that as he was preparing to disembark, the president told him and other lawmakers on the flight he would announce Mr. Kelly as chief of staff.

White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders told reporters that Messrs. Trump and Priebus began discussing the chief of staff's departure about two weeks ago.

Mr. Priebus told The Wall Street Journal he submitted his resignation on Thursday. Speaking later on CNN, he said Mr. Trump "obviously wanted to make a change, and I offered my resignation, and he agreed. And we moved on." He said he and the president discussed naming Mr. Kelly as his replacement, and said Mr. Trump "knows intuitively when things need to change."

Mr. Priebus's status seemed shakier after Mr. Trump installed Anthony Scaramucci as communications director.

Messrs. Scaramucci and Priebus openly feuded, creating a level of tension some advisers thought unsustainable. Mr. Scaramucci this week gave a profanity-laced interview to the New Yorker disparaging Mr. Priebus and other top staffers. One adviser who has spoken with Mr. Trump said he was dismissive of Mr. Priebus for not returning fire.

Asked on CNN about Mr. Scaramucci's criticism, Mr. Priebus said: "I'm not going to get into the mud on those sorts of things."

As homeland security secretary, Mr. Kelly was charged with overseeing implementation of Mr. Trump's travel ban, which has faced a series of holdups in the courts. The most recent version seeks to impose a 90-day ban on U.S. entry for people from Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen and to suspend temporarily the U.S. program for admitting refugees. Mr. Trump has said the order would help prevent terrorism.

Before joining the cabinet, Mr. Kelly was chief of the U.S. Southern Command, which oversees U.S. military activities south of Mexico, including Central America, South America and the Caribbean. The post involved monitoring drug trafficking and other smuggling activity.

Mr. Kelly, 67 years old, also served as legislative assistant to the Marine Corps commandant, dealing with Congress. He has overseen operations at the detention center at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and commanded troops in Iraq. He first joined the Marines in 1970 and retired last year.

His son, Marine 2nd Lt. Robert Kelly, was killed by a land mine in Afghanistan in 2010. On learning of the death, Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford Jr., now chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, waited outside Mr. Kelly's home at the Washington Navy Yard in the wee hours to inform his friend.

On Friday, Mr. Kelly said, "I am honored to be asked to serve as the Chief of Staff to the President of the United States."

The appointment capped



Former White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus, right, and White House Communications Director Anthony Scaramucci, left, arrive with President Trump aboard Air Force One at Long Island MacArthur Airport in Ronkonkoma, N.Y., on Friday.

JONATHAN ERNST/REUTERS

SUSAN WALSH/ASSOCIATED PRESS

John F. Kelly Chief of Staff

Age: 67

Background: Discharged from the Marine Corps in 1972 at the rank of sergeant. Graduated University of Massachusetts in 1976. Commissioned and returned to active duty, where he served for four decades.

Notable facts: In 2010, Gen. Kelly became the highest-ranking military officer to lose a child in Iraq or Afghanistan, when his son, Lt. Robert Michael Kelly, was killed after stepping on a landmine.

Mr. Kelly said he had never met Donald Trump before he was offered the job as Homeland Security Secretary shortly after the 2016 election.

—Shane Harris

TREASURY, IRS

Tax-Avoidance Rule For Firms Is Delayed

The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service delayed part of an Obama administration-era rule intended to combat corporate tax avoidance, giving companies an additional 12 months to comply with regulations requiring them to document internal loans.

The decision gives companies a reprieve while the Trump administration considers whether to amend or withdraw the broader regulations, which were designed to fight earnings stripping. That is a practice that mul-

tational corporations use to lower their U.S. tax bills. They load up U.S. subsidiaries with intracompany debt and make deductible interest payments that effectively push profits to lower-tax countries.

The Obama administration finished the rules in October.

—Richard Rubin

ELECTIONS

Vote-Security Issues Are Reviewed

Officials from a dozen states and the U.S. government took preliminary steps this week at a meeting near Albany, N.Y., toward more cooperation regarding

election-security efforts.

Attendees discussed coordinating information-sharing about cyberthreats. The meeting followed a sometimes contentious back-and-forth between U.S. and state election officials of both political parties who criticized the federal decision to formally designate election systems "critical infrastructure."

Federal officials said the designation will help DHS place a higher priority on election-security efforts. But many state officials said they were worried about whether the sharing of sensitive cybersecurity information could occur in a two-way manner.

—Alexa Corse



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WORLD NEWS

Pakistan Court Unseats Prime Minister

Supreme Court's act to remove Nawaz Sharif for not being 'honest' sows turbulence

By SAEED SHAH

ISLAMABAD—Pakistan was plunged into a new phase of political turmoil Friday after the country's Supreme Court removed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif from office following an investigation into allegations of corruption.

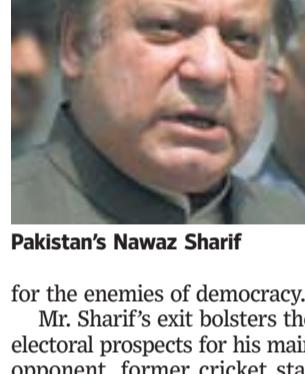
Pakistan, a fragile democracy that has been ruled by the military for nearly half its existence, is considered vital to the U.S. effort to bring peace to neighboring Afghanistan. Now, Islamabad's attention to that problem could be sapped by its own political crisis. The world's sixth-most populous country, Pakistan is also locked in a tense, nuclear-armed standoff with another neighbor, India.

The court disqualified Mr. Sharif, a third-time prime minister, for not being "honest," a requirement for lawmakers under Pakistan's constitution. The court also ordered a corruption trial against Mr. Sharif, whose family is accused of amassing wealth through corrupt means and purchasing expensive overseas properties with that money. His daughter and preferred political heir, Maryam, and his two sons also face a corruption trial, as does the finance minister, Ishaq Dar, who has been caught up in the allegations as well.

Mr. Sharif, who along with his family denies any wrongdoing, hasn't been convicted of any crime, and some of his supporters voiced defiance in the face of the court's action. "Justice hasn't been done with us," said Khawaja Saad Rafique, the railways minister. "Nawaz Sharif will be more lethal now



Opposition supporters in Peshawar celebrated on Friday after Pakistan's Supreme Court disqualified Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.



AAMIR QURESHI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Pakistan's Nawaz Sharif

Ex-Cricket Player's Political Star Rises

The ousting of Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif by the Supreme Court suddenly bolsters prospects for his main opponent, former cricket star and current parliamentarian Imran Khan, in an election expected next year.

But with political parties, the military and an activist ju-

rnality competing with one another for power, analysts said the prime minister's removal on nebulous grounds of dishonesty could further complicate Pakistan's efforts to consolidate democracy. Some lawyers criti-

over the London property so aggressively that, after threatened street protests by his party last year, the Supreme Court took up the case, hearings that snowballed into Friday's historic verdict.

"We've been given hope because the Supreme Court has stood up and held the powerful accountable," Mr. Khan said.

"This is the beginning."

—Saeed Shah

for the enemies of democracy."

Mr. Sharif's exit bolsters the electoral prospects for his main opponent, former cricket star and current member of parliament Imran Khan. Though Mr. Sharif's party is expected to

name a new prime minister, the court's action effectively launched an early start to the campaign for an election expected next year.

But with political parties,

the military and an activist ju-

nality competing with one another for power, analysts said the prime minister's removal on nebulous grounds of dishonesty could further complicate Pakistan's efforts to consolidate democracy. Some lawyers criti-

over the London property so aggressively that, after threatened street protests by his party last year, the Supreme Court took up the case, hearings that snowballed into Friday's historic verdict.

"We've been given hope because the Supreme Court has stood up and held the powerful accountable," Mr. Khan said.

"This is the beginning."

—Saeed Shah

"To strengthen institutions, you have to make sure you don't open Pandora's boxes in immature democracies," said Moeed Yusuf of the United States Institute of Peace, a Washington think tank.

The case centered on questions over how the family acquired four apartments in one of London's most upscale areas, offering views over the city's Hyde Park, where Mr. Sharif is said to like to walk.

There is speculation Mr. Sharif's party could seek to replace him with his brother, Shehbaz, who is chief minister of Punjab province, the Sharifs' home base. That appointment, however, would require an interim prime minister for some weeks as Shehbaz would have to be elected to the national parliament first.

Some U.S. officials believe strengthening civilian authority is the way to eventually rein in the Pakistani military, which Washington accuses of supporting jihadist groups as proxies, including the Taliban in Afghanistan. The Pakistani military denies the accusation.

"While some here in Washington will praise the Supreme Court's aggressive anticorruption agenda, the dramatic return of judicial activism in Pakistan has a dark side," said Joshua White, a former member of the National Security Council under the Obama administration. "I expect it will spur greater political instability, further consolidate military power, and likely stall the government's modest economic reform efforts."

"This is an internal matter," a State Department spokeswoman said Friday, referring to the court's removal of Mr. Sharif. "We look forward to a smooth transition as Pakistan's parliament selects the next prime minister."

—Qasim Nauman

contributed to this article.

Japan Hits U.S. Beef With 50% Tariff

Japan said Friday that it would impose a temporary 50% tariff on frozen beef from the U.S. and several other countries, a move that Washington said could inflame trade tensions with an important partner.

By Yoko Kubota in Tokyo and William Mauldin in Washington

The action, which Tokyo officials described as a required response to a recent import surge, came after President Donald Trump named Japan as one of the countries contributing to the U.S. trade deficit.

Japanese officials said the tariff increase, the first such step in 14 years involving beef, was mandated under a framework that took effect following a 1994 global trade deal. The framework was to be scrapped under the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a proposed 12-nation trade deal that included the U.S. and Japan. Mr. Trump formally pulled the U.S. out of the TPP before it was submitted to Congress for approval.

The tariff increase to 50% from the regular 38.5% will take effect in August and hit frozen beef imports from countries that don't have an economic-partnership agreement with Japan, the Ministry of Finance said. That includes the U.S., Japan's second-biggest foreign supplier of beef after Australia, as well as Canada and New Zealand.

The move doesn't affect Australia, which has a free-trade deal with Japan, and doesn't cover refrigerated or fresh beef.

The higher beef tariff will likely reduce American exports, boost the U.S. trade deficit with Japan and "harm our important bilateral trade relationship with Japan on agricultural products," U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said.

The U.S. Meat Export Federation said Japan's action would have negative implications for both U.S. beef producers and Japanese restaurant chains that rely on frozen American beef. The group "will work with its partners in Japan to mitigate the impact" of the move, Chief Executive

KOREA

Continued from Page One

within range.

The test ramps up the stakes for U.S. President Donald Trump, who has vowed to halt North Korea's weapons program as a top foreign policy priority.

The White House denounced the test as another "reckless and dangerous" provocation. "The United States will take all necessary steps to ensure the security of the American homeland and protect our allies in the region."

The launch also comes as experts say North Korea is advancing faster than expected on another vital component of a long-range nuclear missile: its ability to miniaturize a nuclear device on a missile warhead that can handle atmospheric re-entry.

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Mac Thornberry (R., Texas) said that makes the need to address North Korea's threat more urgent.

"It always should be a wake-up call when you realize you were wrong on previous estimates," Mr. Thornberry told The Wall Street Journal. "It ought to be a sobering wake-up call and it ought to have some action attached to it."

North Korea also test-fired the missile from a remote part of the country from which it has never done so before, according to data from the Nuclear Threat Initiative in Washington, a non-profit advocacy group, highlighting Pyongyang's ability to defy expectations about where and when it can launch a strike.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in said early Saturday that Seoul would consider deploying more components of a U.S. missile-defense system in South Korea in response to the latest test-launch.

China objects strenuously to the U.S.-made missile-defense system—the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense—saying it compromises Beijing's national security.

Gen. Joe Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Adm. Harry Harris, commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, gathered in the Pentagon to call Gen. Lee Sun Jin, chairman of South Korea's

Meaty Increase

U.S. beef exports to Japan

\$2.0 billion



Source: U.S. Meat Export Federation

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Philip Seng said.

While not entirely unexpected, Tokyo's move struck a nerve in Washington, where Trump officials have spent months completing a small but widely hailed opening for some U.S. beef exports to China.

On Wednesday farm groups lamented the U.S. withdrawal from the TPP at a hearing before the House agriculture committee. U.S. lawmakers from farm districts favored the Asia-Pacific deal as a way to send more American farm products to Japan, Canada and

38.5%

The regular tariff on beef imports

other signatories.

Trump administration officials say they are seeking to use U.S. leverage in the open markets in the Asia-Pacific region through a series of bilateral talks. But some U.S. farm lobbyists worry Tokyo won't open its agricultural markets significantly through the bilateral trade and economic talks because Washington has few barriers to Japanese exports that could be lifted in return.

Japan is the largest overseas purchaser of U.S. beef, overtaking Canada and Mexico four years ago.

In Range

The missile launched Friday by North Korea could reach Chicago at a standard trajectory, according to the Union of Concerned Scientists. But accounting for the earth's rotation and the aim, it could also reach the U.S. East Coast, but not quite the nation's capital, the group says.

Altitude, in miles

Estimated apogee of July 28 missile tested at steep trajectory: 2,300 miles

Estimated apogee of July 4 missile: 1,740 miles

Estimated range at standard trajectory

July 4 Friday Anchorage Honolulu Los Angeles Chicago D.C.

Range, in miles

Estimated range of July 4 missile

Estimated range of Friday's missile, fired at a standard trajectory targeting the U.S.

Range if aimed at: New York Washington

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Longwood Gardens Fellows Program



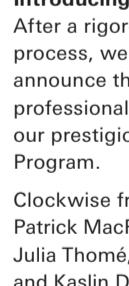
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Julia Thomé, Neil Gerlowski,
and Kaslin Daniels

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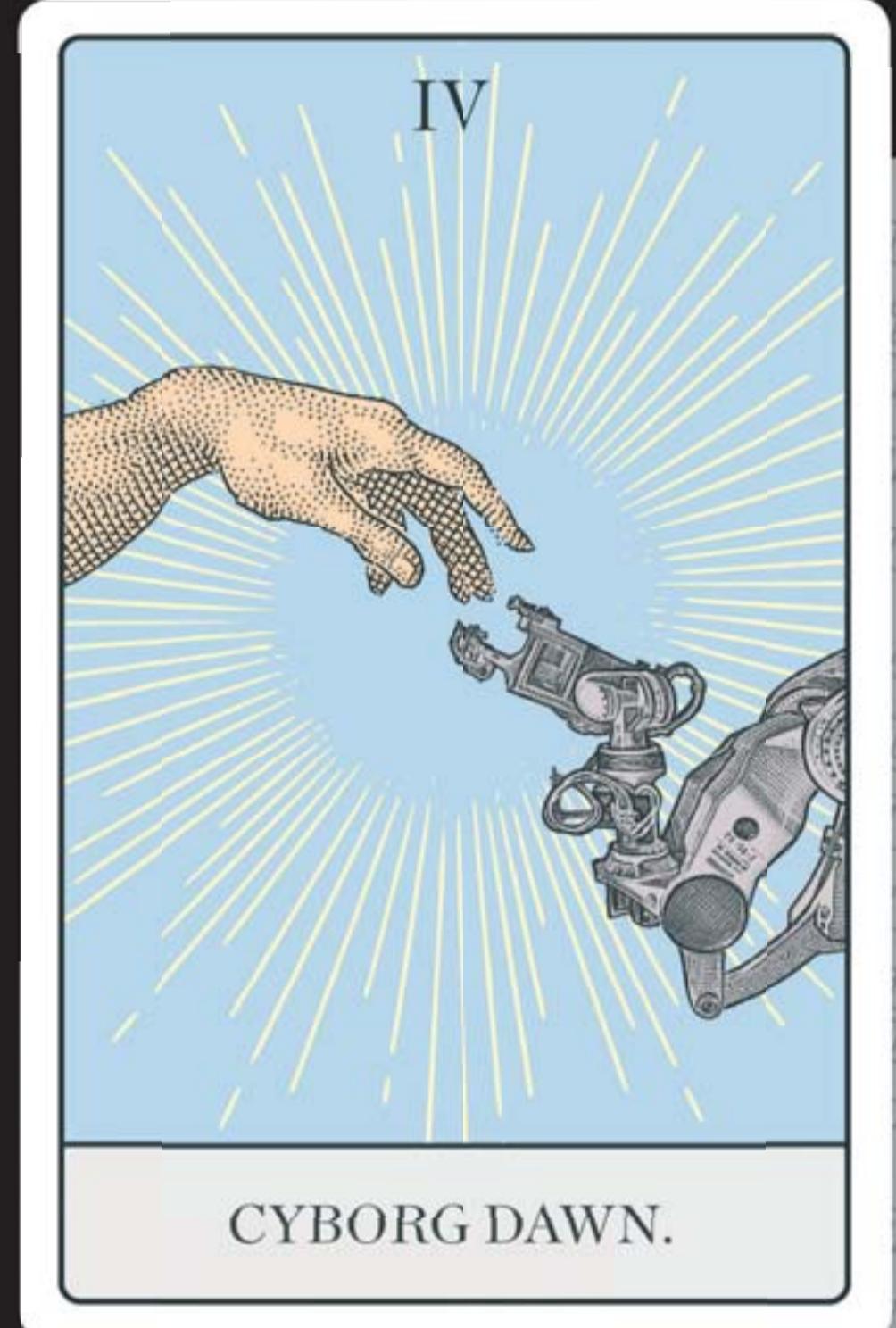
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WORLD NEWS

Trump Set to Sign Russia Sanctions Bill

BY NATALIE ANDREWS

WASHINGTON—President Donald Trump plans to sign a sanctions bill aimed at punishing Russia for its alleged interference in the 2016 U.S. election, the White House announced Friday.

White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders sent a statement to reporters late Friday saying the president has reviewed the final version of the bill "and, based on its responsiveness to his negotiations, approves the bill and intends to sign it."

The measure, which also imposes sanctions on North Korea and Iran, passed the Senate on Thursday on a 98-2 vote on Thursday. The same

measure passed the House on Tuesday on a 419-3 vote. The overwhelming majority showed the president that there was enough strength to override a veto should he choose to block the legislation.

While the measure was debated in Congress, White House officials wouldn't commit to whether the president would sign the bill, often saying the bill may infringe on presidential authority. Mr. Trump also has expressed skepticism about U.S. intelligence findings that Russia interfered in the election.

The provision that concerned the White House would require the president to consult with Congress before relaxing any sanctions against

Moscow or restoring Russia's control over diplomatic compounds in the U.S. that had been seized by the Obama administration as part of U.S. reprisals for the alleged election interference.

Should the bill become law, the president would have to notify Congress if he wants to lift sanctions on Moscow. Congress then would have 30 days to pass a resolution of disapproval to stop the president. Should Mr. Trump veto that resolution, Congress would have 10 days to override the veto.

The legislation comes as congressional committees and Special Counsel Robert Mueller are investigating Russia's actions last year in a probe

that also is seeking to determine whether anyone in the Trump campaign colluded with Moscow. Mr. Trump and Russian officials have denied any collusion.

A U.S. intelligence assessment in January concluded that the Russian interference was directed from the highest levels of its government.

Russia didn't wait for the White House to announce whether Mr. Trump would sign the bill to retaliate. Moscow struck back Friday, forcing Washington to cut its diplomatic presence in the country to 455 and close a U.S. diplomatic retreat outside Moscow.

The bill would tighten restrictions on the extension of

credit to Russian entities and mandate sanctions on those deemed to be undermining cybersecurity as well as those engaging in significant transactions involving the Russian defense and intelligence sectors.

It would allow some joint energy ventures to go ahead, but would sanction new projects and joint ventures in which a sanctioned Russian person or entity holds a stake of 33% or more.

The bill maintains a provision that says the president may impose penalties on firms backing a high-profile Russian pipeline project, but stops short of mandating penalties. That provision has upset Europeans because it poses a po-

tential risk to the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, a Gazprom project backed by a consortium of five European companies, to transport gas from Russia to Europe through the Baltic Sea.

After European countries, including Germany and Austria, protested, lawmakers added a stipulation that the president may impose sanctions, but "in coordination with allies of the United States."

The legislation also imposes new sanctions on Iran's ballistic-missile program and the Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps, and attempts to squeeze the cash available to North Korea for its nuclear and ballistic-missile programs.

Venezuelans Prepare to Vote for Assembly

BY ANATOLY KURMANAEV

RIO CHICO, Venezuela—Most Venezuelans have told pollsters they don't want a new constitution. On Sunday, voters will pick delegates to write a new one.

President Nicolás Maduro is holding an election among 6,000 handpicked candidates for 545 seats for a new assembly despite sanctions over the move by the U.S., censure by his Latin America neighbors, an opposition boycott and weeks of antigovernment protests that have resulted in more than 100 deaths.

While opponents say the new assembly is another step toward a Venezuelan dictatorship, many supporters have trouble even articulating what the mission is.

"We want this election to make everything better," said Maignelia Díaz, a hospital cook, who wore party red in a protest rally staged by the government in this town outside Caracas. "But we're not sure how this will happen." Her companions nodded in agreement. "We are not deeply informed of the details," she said.

The Trump administration this past week imposed sanctions on 13 Venezuelan officials for alleged corruption, human-rights violations and undermining the country's democracy. The administration threatened deeper penalties should Mr. Maduro's government proceed with Sunday's vote. Caracas didn't respond to requests for comment.

Seven in 10 Venezuelans are opposed to the assembly's creation, according to Caracas pollster Consultores 21. These people are boycotting the vote, saying it is unconstitutional since a referendum is needed to approve a call for a constituent assembly. The results are a foregone conclusion: Voters can only pick from an array of Socialist candidates.

The government is hoping that millions of voters support the election and lend the process more legitimacy and support than the opposition, which organized an unauthorized referendum on July 16. At that time, academics that oversaw the vote said nearly 7.5 million of Venezuela's 19 million voters showed their displeasure with the constituent assembly.



Riot security forces detained a demonstrator during a rally against President Nicolás Maduro's government in Caracas on Friday.

The government has billed the constituent assembly as a way to end an economic crisis.

communities, seem to be in the dark as much as voters. One in four Venezuelans said they had no idea what the Constituent Assembly even is, according to a survey this month by local pollster Delphos.

At a Rio Chico rally, none of the 16 candidates announced any proposals for the assembly, which is tasked with redrafting the 37,000-word con-

stitution that was created over a six-month span in 1999 under Mr. Maduro's predecessor, Hugo Chávez.

In interviews, some didn't even know why they had been chosen to run for the assembly. Mary Santamaría, for instance, was picked to run for the same seat as the candidate she supports, Héctor Rodríguez, a congressman and head of the ruling party's electoral campaign.

"Between comrades, there's no competition," she said. "We're all a team."

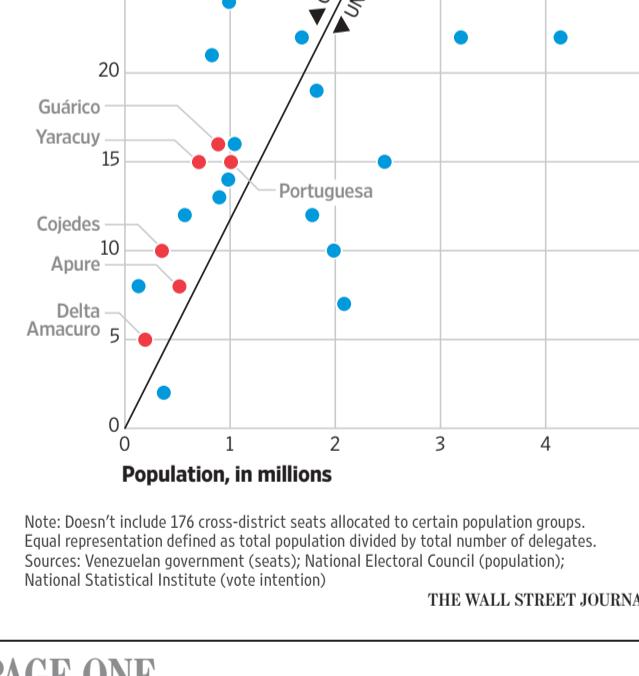
Mr. Rodríguez was vague on the purpose of the assembly. "The main objective here is peace," he said, saying the assembly offered a forum for debate and to heal what he called partisan hatred.

The government has billed the constituent assembly as a way forward in ending a grinding economic crisis and the social unrest. Mr. Rodríguez, a close ally of Mr. Maduro, said the assembly wouldn't dissolve the opposition-controlled congress or postpone elections. Instead, it would add articles to the constitution, without changing its spirit, he said.

—Ryan Dube and Juan Forero in Caracas contributed to this article.

Uneven Playing Field

Small Venezuelan states that support President Nicolás Maduro's government have a disproportionately high number of delegates assigned to the new constituent assembly, while the opposite is true for many large opposition states.



WORLD NEWS

Syria's Shattered Economy

Nation's GDP has dropped by more than half; a pretty nightmarish situation

BY RAJA ABDULRAHIM

After the Syrian government recently introduced a 2,000-pound bank note—the largest denomination it has ever issued—a satirical obituary circulated online for a currency that has lost 90% of its value over more than six years of war.

"The Central Bank of Syria is accepting condolences," it announced.

The introduction of the note, worth less than \$4, comes as Syria's economy is in tatters, grappling with inflation, lost production and poverty that could threaten stability even in regime-held areas.

Syria's consumer-price index soared more than 500% between 2010 and 2016, according to Syrian economists and local news reports that cited the government's Central Bureau of Statistics.

Incomes haven't kept pace. The average civil servant's salary was worth at least \$200 a month before the conflict; now, even with raises, it is worth less than \$60, because of the falling currency.

The World Bank estimates that Syria's gross domestic product has fallen by more than half this decade. That has cost at least two million people their jobs, and left about 60% of Syrians unable to buy food and essential nonfood items, according to the Bank.

"It's going to be a pretty nightmarish economic situation for a long time to come," said David Butter, an economic analyst at U.K.-based think tank Chatham House.

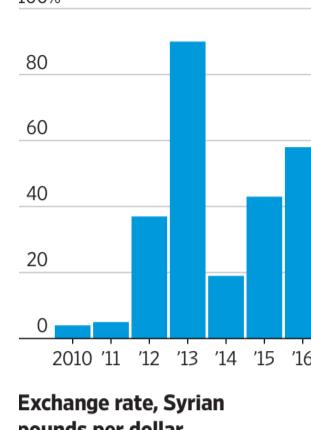
Syria has been divided, in effect, by the fighting. The regime of President Bashar al-Assad, antigovernment rebels, U.S.-backed Kurds and the militant group Islamic State all control parts of the country.

But the faltering economy

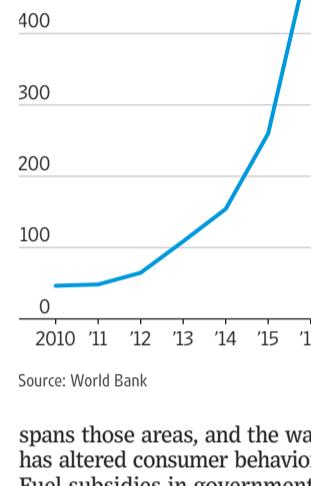
The Cost of War

The Syrian economy has suffered during the more than six-year conflict in the country, as prices have climbed, oil production has fallen and government finances have weakened.

Annual inflation, as measured by percentage change in Syria's consumer-price index

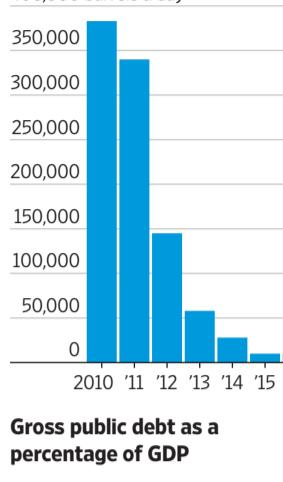


Exchange rate, Syrian pounds per dollar



Source: World Bank

Oil production in government-controlled areas

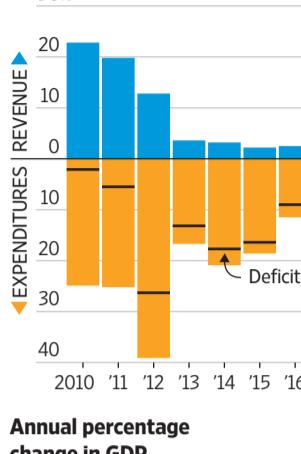


Gross public debt as a percentage of GDP

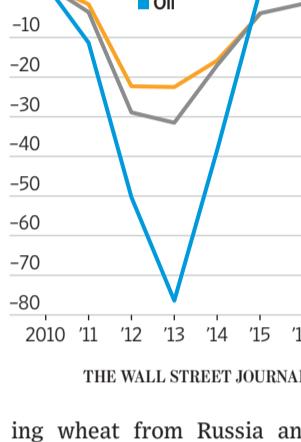


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Fiscal balance as a percentage of GDP



Annual percentage change in GDP



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spans those areas, and the war has altered consumer behavior. Fuel subsidies in government-held areas have plummeted, leading more middle-class Syrians, even women, to ride bicycles—rarely seen before the war. Panhandlers, many of them children, crowd the streets. In some parts of the country, the marriage dowry has almost disappeared.

"The fabric of society has been destroyed," said Jihad Yazigi, Beirut-based editor of an economic trade publication, The Syria Report.

Markets for used goods,

which many once viewed with a measure of shame, have prospered. "There's no security in Syria so why buy new if it could all be destroyed?" said Khalid al-Najjar, who owns a used-car dealership in rebel-held territory in northwest Syria.

The regime banned the use of foreign currencies in 2013, but that hasn't stopped people from doing business in dollars because of the volatility of the Syrian pound. Yet uttering the word "dollar" in public can lead to trouble.

The Syrian economy relies on foreign assistance, includ-

ing wheat from Russia and fuel from Iran. Both countries are major allies of the regime. Many Syrians receive remittances from family members who live elsewhere.

Between four million and five million Syrians receive food aid from the World Food Program each month. Another million or so receive other food aid, according to the World Bank. Many end up selling some of it to buy other necessities.

—Nikhil Lohade
and a special
correspondent in Syria
contributed to this article.

IRAN

U.S. Imposes More Missile Sanctions

The U.S. Treasury Department sanctioned six Iran-based entities that officials said are central to its ballistic-missile program, a day after Tehran tested a rocket designed to carry a satellite.

The Treasury, calling the rocket launch part of a broader series of provocations, said the measures target subsidiaries of Shahid Hemmat Industrial Group that make components and provide fuel, research and ground support for the missile program.

Iran has said its rocket and missile launches don't violate the 2015 nuclear deal between it and six world powers. A U.N. Security Council resolution connected to its implementation called on Iran not to develop missiles designed to be capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

—Ian Talley

UNITED KINGDOM

Terminally Ill Infant Dies at Hospice

Charlie Gard, the British infant at the center of a thorny international debate about who has the power to decide the fate of a terminally ill child, died Friday, his mother said, one week before his first birthday.

Connie Yates and Chris Gard, Charlie's father, this week gave up their effort to take their child

abroad for an experimental treatment that doctors in Britain had said was futile and agreed to let him die in hospice care—ending a months-long fight with London's Great Ormond Street Hospital.

The 11-month-old was thought to be one of 16 children in the world suffering from mitochondrial depletion syndrome, a genetic condition that rendered him unable to cry or to see, swallow, hear, move or breathe without assistance.

U.K. courts, which are tasked with protecting a child's rights, agreed with doctors that the therapy would merely prolong the boy's suffering and that his life support should be withdrawn so he could die with dignity.

—Amanda Coletta

FRANCE

Growth Gives Macron Cushion for Overhaul

The French economy maintained firm growth in the second quarter, giving President Emmanuel Macron a shot in the arm as he embarks on contentious plans to rewrite labor laws and cut public spending.

Gross domestic product rose by 0.5% in the second quarter from the first, keeping up with the above-average pace the economy set in the previous two quarters, statistics agency Insee said.

Stronger growth could help support incomes and employment as the state tightens its belt.

—William Horobin

An Uneasy Calm in Jerusalem



PRAYER TIME: Muslims peacefully conducted Friday prayers at one of Jerusalem's holiest sites, known to them as the Noble Sanctuary and to Jews as the Temple Mount. Israel finished removing recently installed security precautions at the contested site the day before, in what many Palestinians saw as a symbolic victory.

AHMAD GHARABLI/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

OBITUARIES

LONNIE 'BO' PILGRIM

1928 – 2017

Pilgrim's Pride Co-Founder Credited Success to God

BY JAMES R. HAGERTY

It would have been easy to conclude that Lonnie "Bo" Pilgrim had a big head.

The co-founder of Pilgrim's Pride Corp., one of the world's largest processors of chicken, built a French-style chateau, sometimes called Cluckingham Palace, for his family near Pittsburgh, Texas. He crisscrossed America in corporate jets and starred in the company's goofy TV ads.

Outside a distribution plant near Pittsburgh, the company erected a 37-foot-high bust of Mr. Pilgrim wearing a pilgrim-style buck hat.

Yet the self-made entrepreneur, whose education ended with high school, insisted that his success was entirely due to God's guidance. In each of his three corporate jets, he placed a Bible, inscribed: "Jesus, thank You for the plane."

He handed out 12-page booklets on how to become a Christian—and tucked a \$20 bill into each one. The cash, he said, was "a sign that I'm serious about what I'm saying."

He admitted to the occasional error. In 1989, while lobbying for changes in workers' compensation law, he handed \$10,000 checks to eight members of the Texas Senate. "What I did was neither a bribe nor illegal, but the incident was considered questionable," he wrote in a memoir. He called it a "bonehead mistake."

As head of a company built largely through acquisition, he believed in seizing opportunities rather than binding himself to strategic plans. In 2006, at age 78, he agreed to pay \$1.1 billion for rival Gold Kist Inc. The Lord, Mr. Pilgrim said, "had foreordained the deal."

Within two years, chicken prices dropped, feed prices soared and the economy slid into recession,



leaving Pilgrim's Pride overloaded with debt. The company filed for bankruptcy protection in December 2008, and the next year JBS SA of Brazil bought control of the firm Mr. Pilgrim had built up over six decades.

He died July 21 at his home in Pittsburgh at age 89.

Mr. Pilgrim, known as Bo, was born May 8, 1928, in Pine, Texas, a town with fewer than 100 residents. His father was a grocer and dealer in cotton and potatoes. The family attended the local Baptist church.

Young Bo sold Coca-Cola from a homemade wagon for a nickel a bottle.

His father died of a heart attack when Bo was 10. The boy was so angry at his mother when she remarried three years later that he moved into a farmhouse with a grandmother and an aunt.

His older brother Aubrey became part owner of a feed and seed store in Pittsburgh in 1946. Bo Pilgrim drove a truck for the feed store and became a partner in the business. The brothers began buy-

ing chickens from farmers and hauling them to the Dallas-Fort Worth area for resale.

In 1951, he was drafted by the Army. Although he expected to be sent to Korea, he was stationed in California and given training duties.

After his military service, the brothers' business evolved into chicken and turkey processing as demand for lean white meat grew. Aubrey Pilgrim died of a heart attack in 1966, leaving Bo Pilgrim to press on as head of a company.

During a rough patch in 1988, when Pilgrim's Pride was losing about \$1 million a week, Mr. Pilgrim came close to selling his firm to Tyson Foods Inc., but Tyson backed away. A director of Pilgrim said, "Bo, the Lord has given your company back to you." It recovered to profitability within five months.

Mr. Pilgrim was proud of creating jobs at processing plants in rural areas, though that sometimes exposed him to criticism. A 1994 investigation by The Wall Street Journal found that breaks at one Pilgrim's Pride plant were brief and infrequent, and exhausted workers "appeared to be sleep-walking through the latter part of their shift."

Mr. Pilgrim is survived by his wife of 61 years, Patty. She was still a teenager when he met her at a wedding. He was a decade older and had to overcome her parents' initial doubts about his suitability. Survivors also include a sister, three children, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Pilgrim's habit was to get up around 5 a.m. and make a breakfast of two eggs and turkey sausage. "I'm always eager to find out what God has on my schedule and agenda," he wrote.

◆ Read a collection of in-depth profiles at WSJ.com/Obituaries

JAKE BUTCHER

1936 – 2017

Banker's Triumph Swiftly Turned Sour

The 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville, Tenn., seemed to be Jake Butcher's moment of triumph. The handsome, silver-haired banker, as chairman of the fair, lined up the political support and financing for an event that drew millions of visitors and decorated the Knoxville skyline with a glinting gold ball dubbed the Sunsphere.

One day after the fair closed, federal bank regulators raided many of the 27 or so banks in Tennessee and Kentucky controlled by Mr. Butcher and his brother C.H. Butcher Jr. Their banking empire swiftly collapsed amid allegations that they had concealed bad loans by transferring them between banks ahead

of routine examinations.

Both brothers were convicted of bank fraud and other offenses and served nearly seven years apiece in federal prison.

"I got a lot of misery at the end," Jake Butcher said in a television interview to mark the 25th anniversary of the fair. "It was my fault. I have no one to blame but myself."

Before his fall, Mr. Butcher ran twice for governor of Tennessee. The first time, in 1974, he failed to get the Democratic nomination. The second time, he ran as the Democratic nominee in 1978 and lost to Lamar Alexander.

Mr. Butcher died July 19 of cancer. He was 81.

—James R. Hagerty

SHIGEAKI HINOHARA

1911 – 2017

He Transitioned to a New Career in His 90s

He said age was no barrier to self-reinvention—and proved it in his own life by transforming himself in his 90s into a best-selling author and sage.

When Shigeaki Hinohara died July 18 at age 105, his obituary ran on front pages across Japan, a measure of how the former director of St. Luke's International Hospital in Tokyo had made an impact in one of the world's fastest-aging societies, where 14% of the population is 75 or older.

Dr. Hinohara went to America, spending a year at Emory University as one of the first Japanese to study abroad after World War II. What he learned there inspired him to introduce Japan's first

comprehensive annual medical exam system at St. Luke's in 1954.

He treated victims of the American firebombing of Tokyo in World War II. Traveling to a medical conference in 1970, he was on a plane hijacked by terrorists.

At age 90, he published "How to Live Well," a collection of commentaries on life. The book said people over 75 shouldn't be shunted to society's margins, and he exhorted his fellow elderly citizens to consider themselves "on the job" of living even if they were retired from paid work.

"Animals can't change how they crawl or run, but humans can change how they live," wrote Dr. Hinohara.

—Koji Everard

OPINION

THE WEEKEND INTERVIEW with Montse Alvarado | By Tunku Varadarajan

'God's ACLU' Seeks Freedom for the Faithful

Close your eyes and try to picture an activist for religious liberty. Maybe you imagine a noisily assertive Baptist, a beleaguered but intransigent Catholic nun, a militant rabbi or imam, or even a peyote-ingesting Native American. You'd be unlikely, I wager, to think of an amiable 30-year-old Mexican-American woman, who sees herself as a defender of all religion, on the front lines of America's culture wars.

Montse Alvarado is the executive director of the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, a Washington-based nonprofit law firm. It's named for Thomas Becket, the archbishop of Canterbury who was assassinated in 1170 for refusing to let the church in England do the bidding of King Henry II.

Advocates for religious liberty in America are part of what might be seen as the second wave of rights activism in the courts, the first being the wave that began in the 1950s and '60s with litigation over the rights of minorities, women and criminal suspects, among others. In the past 25 years, conservative and libertarian groups have applied lessons that the liberal vanguard learned about how to select test cases for litigation as a way to steer the law. The focus today is still on the individual, but on his right to own guns, send his children to the school of his choice, or—Ms. Alvarado's field of concern—worship freely and live a full religious life uncramped by the state.

The Becket Fund's head on why religious liberty extends beyond church—and how the 'Slants' case helped believers.

"Our first case at Becket was in 1996," Ms. Alvarado says. "A boy name Zachary Hood wanted to bring a 'Beginner's Bible' to his first-grade class on share-your-favorite-story day. His teacher said, 'No, you don't get to do that.' The family sued the school board but lost the case, and the Supreme Court declined to hear their appeal. But the board eventually settled in a related matter—having to do with a Thanksgiving poster the 6-year-old had drawn saying he was "thankful for Jesus"—and the federal Education Department issued official guidance shortly thereafter, affirming a student's right to express religious beliefs in all schoolwork.

This past year's Supreme Court term included a landmark decision in support of religious liberty, *Trinity Lutheran Church v. Comer*. The justices ruled that Missouri could not turn down a church's application for a public grant to resurface its playgrounds merely because of its status as a religious institution.

Missouri had asserted its authority to deny the grant by citing its state constitution, which in-

cludes a "Blaine amendment"—a provision 38 states adopted in the late 19th century to prohibit public funding of religious institutions. The *Trinity Lutheran* ruling "is not the end of Blaine, as many people like to say," explains Ms. Alvarado. "There's still a lot of work to be done there, but we're very positive about it."

The history of the Blaine amendments—named for James Blaine of Maine, who introduced a similar measure in the U.S. House in 1875—reveals they were intended to discriminate. "You're looking at anti-Catholic laws, based on the sentiment of the majority of the population at the time," Ms. Alvarado says. "Why we still have them today knowing their history," she says, "I really don't understand."

Although the Blaine amendment isn't yet dead, Ms. Alvarado sees the 7-2 ruling in *Trinity Lutheran* as "a great win, a landslide win. For religious liberty, it's huge. But if you think about what it does for parental choice, and associational rights, it's also very powerful." The day after the justices decided *Trinity Lutheran*, they sent two other Blaine amendment cases back to state courts for reconsideration.

"There were other cases in the court's last term that were a little quieter on religious liberties, but just as important," Ms. Alvarado says. She refers, somewhat improbably, to *Matal v. Tam*, popularly known as the "Slants" case, after the Asian-American musicians who asserted the right to trademark an ethnic slur as the name of their rock band. The 8-0 ruling permits citizens to register terms that are "disparaging." It regards any government attempt to prohibit such expression, however offensive it may be, as a straightforward violation of the First Amendment's free-speech protection.

"It's also a religious liberties case," says Ms. Alvarado, whose organization filed a friend-of-the-court brief. I ask her to elaborate on what seems a novel analysis. "Oh," she exclaims, as if she's been asked to explain something much too obvious, "because any time the government can limit speech for one side or another, you're in trouble. In 'Slants,' they said you can't say your name is something because it's disparaging to a specific group. Well, anything that I say as a Christian or a Jew could be disparaging to someone else. Individuals want to say things from the pulpit about any kind of cultural issue, like abortion or same-sex marriage. If they don't have the right to express themselves on moral issues, you're limiting freedom of religion to a freedom of worship alone."

Ms. Alvarado's point goes to the heart of the different ways in which religious liberty is perceived in America. The progressive or liberal approach is to equate free exercise of religion with the freedom to worship and to deny that it has anything to do with how a person organizes his life. The Becket Fund and others assert that most religions have complete codes govern-



KEN FALLIN

ing not only worship but other aspects of conduct. This comprehensive Way of Life—which leads a devoutly Christian baker to decline to decorate a cake for a same-sex wedding, for instance—commands much more from believers than progressives will allow.

This thrust of *Matal v. Tam* would seem relevant to a case on the Supreme Court's menu for the coming term, *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*. The justices will decide whether Colorado's attempts to compel a patissier to make a cake for a same-sex wedding, in contravention of his religious beliefs, violates his free-speech or free-exercise rights under the First Amendment. Ms. Alvarado believes the state's position is logically untenable. Colorado is "arguing that baking a cake is not expressive," and therefore not protected speech. "But at the same time, not baking a cake is obviously an expression. Is it one or the other?"

Ms. Alvarado is optimistic about the case, in which Becket plans to file a brief. "Speech right now has been very, very protected by the court in the past four terms," she says. "They seem to have an understanding of the importance of speech for individuals, for institutions. That's an opening where you want to follow through as much as you can to expand rights."

Yet in *Masterpiece Cakeshop* the American Civil Liberties Union is doggedly on the side of the state. Why is the left hostile to religious liberty? "It's fundamentally a misunderstanding of the role of religion," Ms. Alvarado says. "Besides, the only way to expand government is to edge yourself into all aspects of an individual's life,

starting with how they can and cannot participate in the market." She also cites *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby*, the 2014 case in which the high court held that the craft store's owners, who object on religious grounds to certain types of contraceptives, could not be forced to provide them to employees.

"The ACLU has a sadly checkered record on religious liberty," Ms. Alvarado says. "It's sometimes with us, and sometimes against, but the moment that a lot of the sexual-morality issues came into play, it seems they lost the live-and-let-live philosophy that was so fundamental to them." The ACLU, she says, supports religious liberty only for the groups it likes. "It's an all-too-common error that undermines the First Amendment standard of equal protection for all religions." This broader view is why legal scholar Viet Dinh has described the Becket Fund as "God's ACLU."

On the whole, Ms. Alvarado is buoyant "without being complacent" about the future of religious liberty in the U.S. The end of the Obama administration, she believes, should bring some respite to the faithful. "His administration was definitely hostile to conscience rights," she says. "If you look at a lot of the writings his administration put out, you'll see they were really focused on worship, the importance of being able to practice within the four walls of a church.

But they were hostile to religious speech, hostile to religious exercise, anything within the workplace. They'd say, 'You shouldn't have this job. You're a second-class citizen if you're unwilling to perform same-sex marriage services, or to accept the contraceptive mandate, or hand out these drugs. That makes you unfit for a specific position in the market.'

Ms. Alvarado describes this kind of hard line on religious exercise as "unprecedented, unlike anything we'd seen before in our country." While not all American presidents have great track records on religious liberty, the others in her lifetime do. "Bill Clinton, obviously, was the one who signed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act into law, so he gets a gold star," she says. (RFRA was the law under which Hobby Lobby prevailed in 2014.) "George W. Bush gets a gold star as well. He did a lot of great work to make sure religious communities had expressive rights." The Obama administration, by contrast, authorized "direct, government-enforced action, and a wielding of the force of the state against conscience."

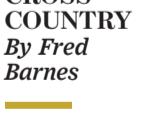
One of the Becket Fund's best-known victories was a case that originated under Mr. Bush's presidency and was resolved during Mr. Obama's. Pastor Robert Soto, the Native American head of the McAllen Grace Brethren Church in Texas, asserts the right to use eagle feathers in his syncretic religious services. In 2006 undercover agents attended and confiscated the feathers under the Eagle Protection Act. As Ms. Alvarado lays out the facts, she is as close to apoplectic as it's possible for a woman of her poise to be: "I mean, the Wildlife Service going after people's eagle feathers that you can find on the ground, and you can be jailed when you want to use them to practice your religion! Isn't that a little heavy-handed?" The case dragged on until June 2016, when a settlement allowed the church to keep its feathers.

Does the Trump administration offer better prospects for religious freedom? Ms. Alvarado pauses before answering: "This administration isn't necessarily one way or another on these issues. But Trump's campaign promises were awesome." She cites an executive order President Trump issued that should protect the Little Sisters of the Poor, an order of Catholic nuns, from the ObamaCare contraceptive mandate. But she also says the Justice Department has yet to "work out the kinks" in the matter. The Little Sisters' predicament was litigated all the way up the judicial chain, until a presumably divided Supreme Court kicked it back to the lower courts in 2016.

A cursory search of the subject on the internet reveals a great deal of consternation on the political right over the lack of legal relief for the Little Sisters, largely as a result of the chronic dysfunction in the Trump Justice Department. Even so, Ms. Alvarado is hopeful about the new administration. "The way they talk about religion is as religious liberty, not as freedom of worship," she says. "They're not limiting the right. For religious freedom, you're looking at the robust version."

Mr. Varadarajan is a fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.

For Alabama's Junior Senator, What a Long Strange Trip It's Been



In late June, a seemingly blockbuster article appeared in the Alabama Political Reporter. It accused Luther Strange—now the Yellowhammer State's junior U.S. senator—of being present when a coal company attempted to bribe a state legislator. The transaction, which supposedly occurred in 2014 when Mr. Strange was Alabama's attorney general, sounded implausible.

The next day, the alleged bribe recipient, Democratic Rep. John Rogers, said Mr. Strange "was not there and there was no bribe."

That normally would have ended this tale of political corruption, but the accusation came in the midst of a nasty GOP primary for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Not only did the Alabama Political Reporter refuse to retract the story; two rival candidates are still pursuing its real priority: stopping Mr. Strange.

Before he was appointed by then-Gov. Robert Bentley to the Senate in February, 6-foot-9 "Big Luther" was a popular, crusading attorney general. He set up Alabama's Public Corruption and White Collar Crime Division. His crack team of investigators prosecuted more than 20 officials statewide, including Gov. Bentley, who was forced to resign under a cloud in April. Mr. Strange didn't ex-

empt members of his own party from scrutiny, but his success created enemies.

Mr. Strange recused himself from the prosecution of Mike Hubbard, the Republican House speaker convicted on felony ethics charges in June 2016. That didn't spare him the wrath of an entire wing of the Republican party that includes former Gov. Bob Riley and timber tycoon Jimmy Rane, considered Alabama's richest citizen. Mr. Hubbard's supporters wanted state Senate Presi-

Jeff Sessions's successor, appointed by a scandal-plagued ex-governor, now faces electoral adversity.

dent Pro Tempore Del Marsh to challenge Mr. Strange in the special election, but he declined. Without a candidate, the anti-Strange faction is still pursuing its real priority: stopping Mr. Strange.

The primary takes place Aug. 15, and if no one gets 50% a runoff is set for Sept. 26. The general election, in which Republicans are expected to prevail, comes Dec. 12. The winner will serve until the regularly scheduled Senate election in 2020.

"It's possible to get to 50 percent," Mr. Strange told me last week.

"But it's difficult with 10 people in the race." Two of them, U.S. Rep. Mo Brooks and suspended Alabama Supreme Court justice Roy Moore, have a shot at making the runoff, as does Mr. Strange.

Mr. Strange likely would be in better shape were it not for his association with Mr. Bentley, who initially called for a 2018 special election to replace Mr. Sessions. "I knew I'd be criticized one way or the other," the senator acknowledged. Still, Mr. Strange followed Mr. Sessions's advice and said yes when the governor offered him the job.

Criticism erupted instantly. Yet with the election 19 months away, Mr. Strange thought he would have time to overcome the Bentley connection and build a record as a capable, reliable and popular senator. But the scandal-scarred governor resigned three weeks later, and his replacement, Kay Ivey, was eager to distinguish herself from her predecessor. She moved up the dates of the primary and runoff to this year, leaving the new senator less time to build an independent reputation.

Worse, Mr. Strange's opponents have insinuated he negotiated a quid pro quo deal with the departing governor. Never mind that this made no sense because there was no quo. Mr. Strange became a senator because he was the obvious choice—the person with the most impressive background. The governor got nothing in return: He resigned and pleaded

guilty to two campaign violations.

There's no evidence of wrongdoing by Mr. Strange, but the link to Mr. Bentley has proved damaging to his primary campaign. Had Mr. Strange turned down the appointment, "he'd be running in 2018 as a white knight from the outside against somebody with the stench of a Bentley association," according to Quin Hillyer, a prominent Alabama writer and columnist.

Mr. Strange has plenty to talk about today. He was the lead attorney general in the case against BP after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010. He fired the private lawyers the previous attorney general had hired, saving Alabama \$180 million in legal fees. The state was awarded \$2.3 billion in damages. He also joined other Republican attorneys

general in challenging Obama administration policies from energy regulation to health care.

Mr. Strange is being treated in Washington like any Republican incumbent. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and the National Republican Senate Committee, the political arm of GOP senators, support him. He's backed by his Alabama colleague, Republican Sen. Richard Shelby. A poll, conducted for eight businesses and business group earlier this month, put Mr. Strange in the lead with 33%. Mr. Moore had 26% and Mr. Brooks 16%. The question is whether anyone can get past 50% in August.

Mr. Barnes, executive editor of the Weekly Standard, is a Fox News commentator.

Notable & Quotable: Hillary

From "What happened? What happened? You blew it, Hillary," by Damon Linker, ThisWeek.com, July 28:

Donald Trump as an opponent! What a dream! Clinton didn't even need to campaign in August. She could just rest up and travel to a few fundraisers where she could rake in \$143 million in excess cash. The media buy would take care of Trump. Hell, she wouldn't even need a motivating message of her own. Just be-

ing Not Trump and reminding voters over and over and over about his self-evident awfulness would be more than enough to win—and not just in the usual states behind the fabled Blue Wall. No siree, she could clean up in other places, too. Arizona. Georgia. Maybe even Texas! Wouldn't that be something? . . .

I even believed it for a while, writing the most boneheaded column of my career as a writer, on how Trump would lose in a historic landslide.

OPINION

REVIEW & OUTLOOK

The Republican ObamaCare Crack Up

After promising Americans for seven years that it would fix the Affordable Care Act, the Republican Party failed. This is a historic debacle that will echo politically for years.

A divided GOP Senate could not muster a majority even for a simple bill repealing the individual and employer mandates they had long opposed.

Nor were they able to repeal the medical-device tax that some 70 Senators had gone on record wanting to repeal in previous Congresses.

The so-called skinny bill that failed in the Senate would have gone to a conference with the House, which had signaled its willingness to work out a compromise. That arduous process is the way the American legislative system works. A strong majority of the GOP caucuses on both chambers supported the effort to repeal and replace ObamaCare, but that was undone by an intransigent and petulant minority.

Where to begin in comprehending John McCain's last-minute defection? Early Friday morning Senator McCain turned his thumb down on the bill, which doomed this long effort. Explaining that vote, Mr. McCain said the bill "offered no replacement to actually reform our health care system and deliver affordable, quality health care to our citizens." This is hard to credit, because his "no" has left the American people with ObamaCare in toto.

On Thursday, with three other Senators, Mr. McCain said he wanted assurances that House Speaker Paul Ryan would negotiate in conference. Mr. Ryan said he would, and the other three voted yes. Senator McCain nonetheless chose to cast the decisive vote that broke the GOP promise.

The Arizona Senator's politics has always been more personal than ideological. His baffling, 11th-hour vote makes us recall Donald Trump's infamous campaign slight about Mr. McCain's war imprisonment. Whatever his motives, the greater shame is that his vote keeps the edifice of ObamaCare in place with all of its harm to patients, the health-care system and the national fisc.

There were many other contributors to this debacle. The Freedom Caucus dragged out the process in the House, which created time for opposition to build. Alaska Senator Lisa Murkowski betrayed her many previous votes and public statements. Two GOP Governors, Ohio's John Kasich and Nevada's Brian Sandoval, grandiloquently assaulted the bill for their own political gain, which made life difficult for their states' Senators, Rob Portman and Dean Heller.

The Senate's GOP moderates conspired to kill both a historic Medicaid reform and repeal of

ObamaCare's myriad taxes. Senators Rand Paul and Mike Lee worked to defeat Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's compromise draft to no good end. We cannot recall a similar effort by so many to subject their own party to such an abject public humiliation.

Mr. Trump in a tweet blamed the three GOP Senators who voted no, but he was also an architect of his own defeat. Mr. Trump was elected in no small part on his promise to do big deals like this one. In the end he couldn't close. He never tried to sell the policy to the American public, in part because he knows nothing about health care and couldn't bother to learn.

His chaos theory of White House management, on morbid public display this week (see nearby), also means no one on Capitol Hill knows who is in charge. As his approval rating sinks below 40%, few in politics fear him and increasingly few will step forward to defend him.

What next? The Senate failure has burned the reconciliation process available from last year and thus the ability to pass anything with 50 votes. The next reconciliation bill is earmarked for tax reform, if the hapless GOP can first pass a budget outline. Meanwhile, the ObamaCare exchanges will continue to deteriorate. This means the Trump Administration will face a choice of how much money to spend to keep some of them from collapsing. HHS Secretary Tom Price can give insurers more flexibility, but premiums will keep rising while choices for consumers decline.

The Republicans who did so much to kill repeal and replace will now clamor for bipartisan action. And it would be nice to think Democrats would meet Mitch McConnell halfway. But Democratic leader Chuck Schumer knows he has Republicans on the run, and his price for 60 votes will be a costly bailout of ObamaCare, which liberal health-care academics are already proposing. Good luck repealing the law's mandates and taxes, or deregulating insurance markets.

Mr. Schumer knows that a "bipartisan" Senate insurance bailout will further divide the GOP and put the House on the spot if it fails to go along. With the House majority in jeopardy in 2018, Speaker Ryan could face an excruciating choice: Attempt to save the seats of his party's moderates by voting with Democrats to bail out the exchanges, or get blamed by Democrats and the press for all of ObamaCare's ills.

Republicans will now try to salvage what is left of this Congress with tax reform. But the tragedy remains: Republicans in their selfish political and personal interests squandered a once in a generation chance to show that their principles can make life better for Americans.

The party had a historic chance to act in the public interest. It failed.

Priebus Wasn't the Problem

President Trump announced late Friday on Twitter—how else?—that he is replacing White House chief of staff Reince Priebus with Homeland Security secretary John Kelly. The decision was probably inevitable given how the President publicly humiliated Mr. Priebus in recent days, but this shuffling of the staff furniture won't matter unless Mr. Trump accepts that the White House problem isn't Mr. Priebus. It's him.

Presidents get the White House operations they want, and Mr. Trump has a chaotic mess because he seems to like it. He likes pitting faction against faction, as if his advisers are competing casino operators from his Atlantic City days. But a presidential Administration is a larger undertaking than a family business, and the infighting and competing leaks have created

a dysfunctional White House.

Perhaps Mr. Kelly, a retired Marine general, can impose some order on the staff. But then that's what Anthony Scaramucci was supposed to do for the communications team, only to blow up in adolescent fashion this week by trashing Mr. Priebus and others in public. White House leakers then let it be known that Mr. Trump liked Mr. Scaramucci's X-rated rant.

The reason Mr. Priebus wasn't as effective as he could have been is because Mr. Trump wouldn't listen to him and wouldn't let him establish a normal decision-making process. Mr. Trump has a soft spot for military men so perhaps he'll listen more to Mr. Kelly. He'd better, because on present course his Presidency is careening toward a historic reputation where names like Jimmy Carter and Richard Nixon reside.

Russia Sanctions Breakthrough

The Senate Thursday followed the House in voting overwhelmingly for a much-improved bill imposing sanctions on Russia, Iran and North Korea. Even before the bill could reach President Trump's desk, Vladimir Putin vowed he would not tolerate such "insolence." On Friday the Russian Foreign Ministry retaliated by closing down

a recreational retreat on the outskirts of Moscow used by American Embassy staff and ordered the U.S. to cut its diplomatic presence. All the more reason for Mr. Trump to sign.

The bill passed with huge, veto-proof majorities in the House (419-3) and Senate (98-2) in a rare show of bipartisanship. The legislation raps a broad array of Russian entities as punishment for U.S. election interference, military activity in eastern Ukraine, annexation of Crimea, support for Bashar Assad in Syria and global cyber-attacks.

The bills also levies sanctions on Iran for terrorism funding and its efforts to destabilize the Middle East. As part of a compromise between the House and Senate, it also incorporates North Korea sanctions, taking aim at Kim Jong Un's nuclear program.

The big change is a compromise over how Congress holds the Trump Administration to account on implementing these penalties. House Democrats wanted the power to introduce legislation to block the President if he removed sanctions—a significant break with traditional House minority rights. Negotiators instead crafted a deal by which any Senator can introduce a resolution of disapproval against the Administration if it lifts sanctions. If that resolution passes the Senate, it is then heard in expedited fashion in the House.

The GOP restrains Trump, unlike Democrats on Obama and Iran.

The final bill fixes Senate language that threatened to undermine U.S. oil and gas companies. The bill now counts for sanctions purposes only those global energy projects in which Russia has a 33% or greater stake. This change is vital to U.S. firms that work in deepwater oil fields where host countries require all leaseholders to jointly develop

such infrastructure as pipelines. This modest ownership threshold stops Moscow from strategically buying leases to force U.S. companies out of projects.

The White House initially signaled that Mr. Trump would likely sign the bill, despite its restraints on executive power. But new communications director Anthony Scaramucci said before the Senate vote that he might veto it. The bill will become law one way or another—with his signature or a veto override. By signing, Mr. Trump would at least share in the credit and send a message to Mr. Putin.

Republicans in Congress deserve credit for holding a GOP President to greater scrutiny than Democrats were ever willing to impose on Barack Obama. The Congressional liberals who are now crowing about this executive check blocked Republicans from oversight over Mr. Obama's Iranian sanctions. They also let Mr. Obama avoid submitting the Iran deal to the Senate as the treaty it was, where it would have needed 67 votes.

We generally support presidential flexibility on sanctions, but Mr. Trump's flirtation with Mr. Putin has brought this bill's limitation on himself. Russia needs to see that there is a political consensus in the U.S. that won't tolerate meddling in U.S. elections.

OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EPA Fund Recipients Side With the Agency

Steve Milloy's call for reforming EPA's science advisory boards is predicated on falsehoods and misdirection ("A Step Toward Scientific Integrity at the EPA," op-ed, July 18). His claim that 70% of an advisory panel's members are EPA grantees is false. While some individuals are members of interdisciplinary scientific consortia that have received EPA funding, not all of them have.

Mr. Milloy employs misdirection when he argues recipients of EPA funds should be disqualified from being science advisers. He does not mention that many EPA advisers, like me, have also received research support from industry. Under EPA rules, a scientist cannot be disqualified for receiving industry or EPA support. Indeed, if industry support were grounds for disqualification, there would be zero EPA science advisers representing corporate America, including my Scientific Advisory Board colleague, Michael Dourson, Donald Trump's pick for the EPA's toxics chief.

Mr. Milloy also implies there's a shortage of industry representatives among EPA's advisers. EPA boards contain a healthy mix of experts from regulated industries. For example, every SAB advisory panel includes significant and valuable industry representation. The recent fracking review panel had more than 200 years of collective industry experience.

Finally, Mr. Milloy calls for tighter conflict-of-interest rules for EPA advisers. He doesn't mention that every federal advisory committee in every government agency follows the same set of rules.

JOE ÁRVAL
Ann Arbor, Mich.

The left has connivings because a foreign official may spend a night at a hotel in which the Trump fam-

ily has an interest. The left is apoplectic when scientific research is funded by Exxon or when the Koch brothers provide funds to universities. Researchers and academics who accept money from those outcasts become pariahs tainted by association with connivers. Meanwhile, the left moans incessantly about money being the root of all evil in politics.

What we see at the EPA is the flip side of regulatory capture that otherwise is anathema to liberals. This capture is when recipients of federal agency funds are compelled to protect the interests and power of federal regulators.

DON KELLY
Washington

There is good scientific evidence of mortality associated with fine particulate and ozone exposure, contrary to the opinion of Mr. Milloy.

The New England Journal of Medicine reported June 29 in "Air Pollution and Mortality in the Medicare Population" that based on the whole Medicare population and the entirety of the United States, increases in fine particulate matter and ozone, even below National Ambient Air Quality Standards, were associated with a substantial (>7%) increase in all causes of mortality in all countries in the U.S.

Those of us old enough to remember Donora, Pa., and similar disasters associated with high particulate levels in the air, have no doubt about the lethal potential of fine particulate matter both acutely and chronically. Unfortunately, in the medical profession we have found that industry-sponsored research into issues that affect the bottom lines of those industries tends to be erroneous or misleading.

CURTIS KROCK, M.D.
Champaign, Ill.

'Dunkirk': On Point or Missing the Point?

In "The Dumbing Down of 'Dunkirk'" (op-ed, July 21) Dorothy Rabinowitz criticizes Director Christopher Nolan for not including Winston Churchill in his film. She thinks it should have more historical detail.

But to do so would compromise the film's artistry. The film's focus and restraint are its strongest features. There is very little back story to the characters. The dialogue rarely reveals as much as the visuals. It avoids most genre conventions of a war film.

Yet for all its restraint, it is still a powerful experience to watch. Why? Mr. Nolan deconstructs the experience of soldiers and civilians and reassembles it in a tense, non linear film about vulnerable people struggling to survive and save lives. He takes the background details as a given. Instead, we get details like fuel gauges, propeller engines, oil leaks and the ever-present bombs.

CHANDLER RYD
Colorado Springs, Colo.

In "Dunkirk," the director and script writers have taken one of the most inspiring events of the 20th century and made it mundane, almost to the point of boring. The movie is uneven and disjointed and fails to convey the desperation of the British Empire that made it so important to save as many soldiers as possible to fight another day. It barely mentions the Germans and gives even less attention to Churchill.

If you didn't know history, this movie would have you believe the Royal Air Force and Navy basically abandoned 400,000 soldiers on the beaches of Dunkirk, and that the civilian flotilla showed up at the last minute to save the day.

JIM BARBER
Mesa, Ariz.

Hopefully, "Dunkirk," with its story of ordinary citizens risking all to save soldiers, will help stir a populace that takes its military for granted.

SAM KODA
Hershey, Pa.

Justice Kennedy's Smooth Talk Didn't Persuade Scalia

William McGurn says Justice Anthony Kennedy "writes in the smooth tones of Stanford and Harvard Law" ("Anthony Kennedy, Culture Warrior," Main Street, June 27). But, like elevator music, Justice Kennedy's smooth tones grated on Justice Antonin Scalia in the two hot-button cases cited by Mr. McGurn.

In *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, Scalia wrote sarcastically: "The issue is whether [abortion] is a liberty protected by the Constitution of the United States. I am sure it is not. I reach that conclusion not because of anything so exalted as my views concerning the 'concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life.'"

Scalia's dissent in the *Obergefell v. Hodges* gay-marriage case was even more caustic: "If, even as the price to be paid for a fifth vote, I ever joined an opinion for the Court that began: 'The Constitution promises liberty to all within its reach, a liberty that includes certain specific rights that allow persons, within a lawful realm, to define and express their identity,' I would hide my head in a bag."

Far worse than Justice Kennedy's lame attempts at profundity, these constitutionally baseless rulings have polarized Americans.

CHARLES D. EDEN
Atlanta, Ga.

The fact that Churchill is missing from "Dunkirk" would come as no surprise to anyone aware of what is being taught in most history classes today.

While Mr. Nolan is not wrong that the evacuation of Dunkirk owed much to "communal heroism," he is shortsighted to worry that putting "Dunkirk" into political context might make the heroism less relevant.

ANNA BRAY DUFF
Clyde Hill, Wash.

I was born in southern England at the start of World War II and remember all too well being bombed, as well as how we hung on the words of Churchill coming out of our crackly radio broadcasts to exhort us to keep up our spirits against terrible odds, without sugarcoating or lies. Omitting him from this movie renders it meaningless to me.

BRENDA REVELLE,
Orange, Calif.

Pepper ... And Salt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



"One last thing, can you validate my parking ticket?"

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OPINION

Trump Is Woody Allen Without the Humor



DECLARATIONS
By Peggy Noonan

The president's primary problem as a leader is not that he is impetuous, brash or naive. It's not that he is inexperienced, crude, an outsider. It is that he is weak and sniveling. It is that he undermines himself almost daily by ignoring traditional norms and forms of American masculinity.

He's not strong and self-controlled, not cool and tough, not low-key and determined; he's whiny, weepy and self-pitying. He throws himself sobbing, on the body politic. He's a drama queen. It was once said, sarcastically, of George H.W. Bush that he reminded everyone of her first husband. Trump must remind people of their first wife.

Half his tweets show utter weakness. They are plaintive, shrill little cries, usually just after dawn.

Actually his wife, Melania, is tougher than he is with her stoicism and grace, her self-discipline and desire to show the world respect by presenting herself with dignity.

Half the president's tweets show utter weakness. They are plaintive, shrill little cries, usually just after dawn. "It's very sad that Republicans, even some that were carried over the line on my back, do very little to protect their president." The brutes. Actually they've been laboring to be loyal to him since Inauguration Day. "The Republicans never discuss how good their health care bill is." True,

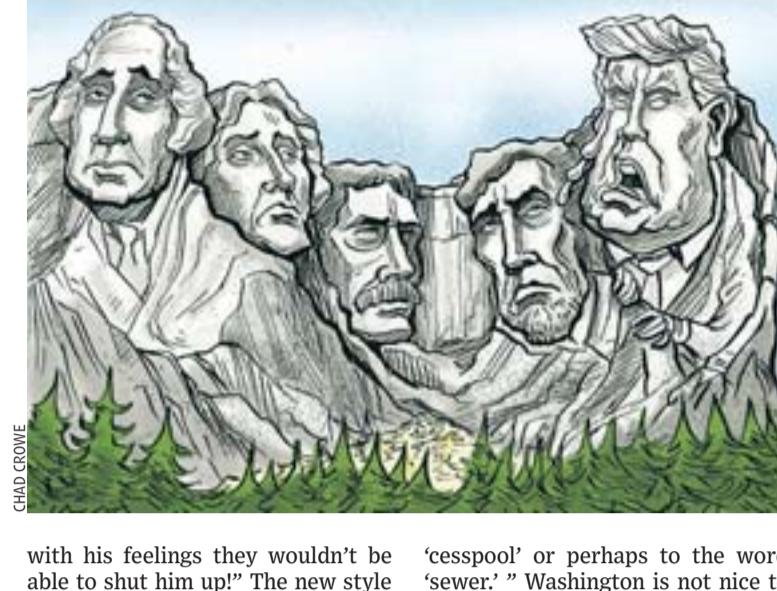
but neither does Mr. Trump, who seems unsure of its content. In just the past two weeks, of the press, he complained: "Every story/opinion, even if should be positive, is bad!" Journalists produce "highly slanted & even fraudulent reporting." They are "DISTORTING DEMOCRACY." They "fabricate the facts."

It's all whimpering accusation and finger-pointing: *Nobody's nice to me. Why don't they appreciate me?*

His public brutalizing of Attorney General Jeff Sessions isn't strong, cool and deadly; it's limp, lame and blubbery. "Sessions has taken a VERY weak position on Hillary Clinton crimes," he tweeted this week. Talk about projection.

He told the Journal's Michael C. Bender he is disappointed in Mr. Sessions and doesn't feel any particular loyalty toward him. "He was a senator, he looks at 40,000 people and he probably says, 'What do I have to lose?' And he endorsed me. So it's not like a great loyal thing about the endorsement." Actually, Mr. Sessions supported him early and put his personal credibility on the line. In Politico, John J. Pitney Jr. of Claremont McKenna College writes: "Loyalty is about strength. It is about sticking with a person, a cause, an idea or a country even when it is costly, difficult or unpopular." A strong man does that. A weak one would unleash his resentments and derive sadistic pleasure from their unleashing.

The way American men used to like seeing themselves, the template they most admired, was the strong silent type celebrated in classic mid-20th century films—Gary Cooper, John Wayne, Henry Fonda. In time the style shifted, and we wound up with the nervous and chattery. More than a decade ago the producer and writer David Chase had his Tony Soprano mourn the disappearance of the old style: "What they didn't know is once they got Gary Cooper in touch



with his feelings they wouldn't be able to shut him up!" The new style was more like that of Woody Allen. His characters couldn't stop talking about their emotions, their resentments and needs. They were self-justifying as they acted out their cowardice and anger.

But he was a comic. It was funny. He wasn't putting it out as a new template for maleness. Donald Trump now is like an unfunny Woody Allen.

Who needs a template for how to be a man? A lot of boys and young men, who've grown up in a culture confused about what men are and do. Who teaches them the real dignity and meaning of being a man? Mostly good fathers and teachers. Luckily Mr. Trump this week addressed the Boy Scout Jamboree in West Virginia, where he represented to them masculinity and the moral life.

"Who the hell wants to speak about politics when I'm in front of the Boy Scouts, right?" But he overcame his natural reticence. We should change how we refer to Washington, he said: "We ought to change it from the word 'swamp' to perhaps

'cesspool' or perhaps to the word 'sewer.'" Washington is not nice to him and is full of bad people. "As the Scout Law says, 'A Scout is trustworthy, loyal—we could use some more loyalty, I will tell you that.' He then told them the apparently tragic story of a man who was once successful. "And in the end he failed, and he failed badly."

Why should he inspire them, show personal height, weight and dignity, support our frail institutions? He has needs and wants—he is angry!—which supersede pesky, long-term objectives. Why put the amorphous hopes of the audience ahead of his own, more urgent needs?

His inability—not his refusal, but his inability—to embrace the public and rhetorical role of the presidency consistently and constructively is weak.

"It's so easy to act presidential but that's not gonna get it done," Mr. Trump said the other night at a rally in Youngstown, Ohio. That is the opposite of the truth. The truth, six months in, is that he is not presidential and is not getting it done. His mad, blubbery petulance isn't work-

ing for him but against him. If he were presidential he'd be getting it done—building momentum, gaining support. He'd be over 50%, not under 40%. He'd have health care, and more.

We close with the observation that it's all nonstop drama and queen-for-a-day inside this hothouse of a White House. Staffers speak in their common yet somehow colorful language of their wants, their complaints. The new communications chief, Anthony Scaramucci, who in his debut came across as affable and in control of himself, went on CNN Thursday to show he'll fit right in. He's surrounded by "nefarious, backstabbing" leakers. "The fish stinks from the head down. But I can tell you two fish that don't stink, and that's me and the president." He's strong and well connected: "I've got buddies of mine in the FBI"; "Sean Hannity is one of my closest friends." He is constantly with the president, at dinner, on the phone, in the sauna snapping towels. I made that up. "The president and I would like to tell everybody we have a very, very good idea of who the leakers are." Chief of Staff Reince Priebus better watch it. There are people in the White House who "think it is their job to save America from this president, okay?" So they leak. But we know who they are.

He seemed to think this diarrheic diatribe was professional, the kind of thing the big boys do with their media bros. But he came across as just another drama queen for this warring, riven, incontinent White House. As Scaramucci spoke, the historian Joshua Zeitz observed wonderfully, on Twitter: "It's Team of Rivals but for morons."

It is. And it stinks from the top.

Meanwhile the whole world is watching, a world that contains predators. How could they not be seeing this weakness, confusion and chaos and thinking it's a good time to cause some trouble?

The Danger of Progressives' Inhumanity to the Humanities

By Paula Marantz Cohen

There was a time when both literature and the study of literature came under the delightful rubric *belles lettres*—beautiful letters. When the phrase was introduced in the 18th century, literature was considered, at its best, beautiful. Devotees tried to emulate that beauty in their response to it.

Modernism was a turning point, when literature became more alienated and combative with respect to society. American literature, with its muscular, democratic associations, contributed to the change. Belles lettres seemed too elitist, not to mention too French, to describe early-20th-century writing.

The prestige of belles lettres was further impaired by the rise of science as civilization's potential savior. Science was necessary to defend democracy, first during World War II and then during the Cold War. Now, it is the means of moving ahead in a competitive, technological society. Who has time for beauty when there is serious work to be done?

The death knell for belles lettres came with a 1959 lecture by the scientist and novelist C.P. Snow, "The Two Cultures and the Scientific Revolution." Snow seemed to call for cooperation between science and the humanities, but he was really decrying the scientific illiteracy of writers and critics who, unlike him, didn't happen to be scientists as well. His lecture touched a nerve. It spoke to the insecurity of the humanist who wished to have the hard knowledge and social status of the scientist.

The eminent literary critic F.R. Leavis delivered a rebuttal in 1962. He took issue with Snow's tone and sense of superiority. But his critique was not so much about Snow himself (though it was taken this way) as about the assumption that science and the humanities could be judged by the same standards. Literature, according to Leavis, had a role in society that had no bearing on what science—a focused,

fact-based discipline—could do.

Leavis's argument met with mockery and abuse. It was labeled foolish, intemperate and overly personal—which is to say original, emotional and subjective, the very qualities associated with the human condition that are central to the humanities.

He had few supporters at the time, but he never retreated from his position—and he turned out to be prescient. Snow's scientific bias has infected all humanities disciplines at all levels. We have seen the prestige of numbers and facts take precedence over imagination and discernment.

The problem, as Leavis understood, is that science and the humanities are inherently incommensurate endeavors. Science builds on its discoveries. It moves forward, so that the past is the literal foundation for the present and future. Literature does not move forward in this way. Poets and writers may be influenced by their predecessors, but they do not have to be. One need not read Shakespeare to write a play or a

poem. By the same token Shakespeare is as relevant today as he was when he wrote. That cannot be said of Ptolemy.

The simple truth that progress is central to science but not to the humanities is difficult to grasp for people who seek improvement in every

Science moves forward; literature doesn't—and when it tries, the results can be monstrous.

walk of life. It fuels the drive to render the humanities scientific—through the use of technical jargon, general theories about social texts, and quantitative tools to analyze word choice, sentence structure and other aspects of literature. There are even efforts to measure the imagination using functional magnetic resonance imaging.

All this is fine as it pertains to political science, linguistics and neuro-

science. But literature and literary criticism—*belles lettres*—ought not to be usurped in the process. Their purpose is different. Literary study ought to be concerned with the search for meaning and value in life. The humanities teach wisdom—or at least exercise the faculty that leads to that elusive end. Without wisdom, so-called progress can lead to corruption and devastation.

When the humanities desert their mission and seek to ally themselves with progress, they become dangerous adjuncts to ideological agendas. Students come to feel there is a definitive, "virtuous" reading of an event or a text; they excoriate great authors of the past for not abiding by the standards of the present; they come to see the world as divided into victims and oppressors. They create a climate that arouses opposition from those who feel excluded or demeaned by such thinking but who lack the humanistic training to do more than lash out.

The unique role of the humanities

is to recognize genius, revere complexity, and be deliberative in judging character and action, in life as in art. Without training in this habit of mind, we become a polarized society with no tools to communicate across difference. Nothing happens except name-calling and retribution.

The 19th-century poet John Keats, ended his most famous poem "Ode on a Grecian Urn" with the lines: "Beauty is truth, truth beauty,—that is all / Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know." Are these words the smug pronouncement of a dead artifact, the oracular invocation of a higher power, the commentary of a poet interrogating the value of his work? They are all these things. We need to be skeptical of beauty and its relationship to truth, but we also need to need to see truth as beautiful, and to look with skepticism upon the products of a culture that speak to us in ugly, pseudoscientific ways.

Ms. Cohen is a dean and English professor at Drexel University.

Chipotle Seeks a 'Kill Step'

BUSINESS WORLD
By Holman W. Jenkins, Jr.

In Virginia this month, a county health director took complaints over the phone and web from customers saying they got sick at a local Chipotle Mexican Grill.

Chipotle management swept in and temporarily closed

the store for what it calls a "sanitizing."

Is this the right approach? Maybe health inspectors need to get in there with swabs and black lights and then hold accountable the employee who brought norovirus into the store if Chipotle ever is to escape the stigma of the 2015 food-poisoning outbreaks.

Some dwell on the presence of Wall Streeter Bill Ackman, who subsequently bought a sizable stake in the chain. Now either he's Typhoid Mary, the bringer of bad luck, or else the most important thing about this story is another Ackman investing pratfall.

Smart stock pickers often say their worst misuses come from being wrong for the right reason. Mr. Ackman, in explaining his purchase to clients of his Pershing Square fund, clearly believed he was buying a solid company under a temporary cloud.

But here's why the clean-up-and-move-on approach taken by Chipotle may be delivering a different message. It's possible that Chipotle tummy has, in fact, always been a significant risk for a Chipotle customer, as sickness is always a bit of a risk for patrons of any restaurant where fresh, unprocessed ingredients are handled by fallible human beings.

The real problem is Chipotle's more-daring-than-it-seems business model of serving up fresh, raw ingredients in a fast-food chain, at fast-food prices, using a fast-food workforce. A fancy, one-off restaurant in your favorite city doesn't lend itself to a national media firestorm the way a 2,250-store chain does. The media will always pick up the scent (unpleasant metaphor) of a Chipotle incident and publicize it. And making sure an employee doesn't bring norovirus into your eatery is never going to be a 100% endeavor.

All this comes as the wider food-handling community increasingly is calling for a "kill step" in handling raw vegetables and produce.

Cooking (properly) is a kill step that works for food that is cooked. In most restaurants and grocery stores,

raw greens and vegetable usually are just washed with tap water before being served to the customer. Thanks to America's interest in healthier eating, fresh produce now exceeds beef, poultry and seafood as a source of illness, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

After the 2015 disaster, Chipotle hired a Prof. James Marsden of Kansas State University's renowned food safety program. By the details re-

America's growing taste for fresh greens is a challenge to food-handling practices.

leased so far, the company has indeed begun experimenting with kill steps. These include blanching—dipping produce in boiling water—or spritzing with "natural" pathogen-neutralizers like lemon juice. Certain tasks have also been shifted to a central, McDonald's-style kitchen and away from the local restaurant, though the company says certain steps were reversed when customers complained about the taste or appearance of their meals.

Prof. Marsden, when he was hired, promised the company eventually would publish details of its innovations. Many in the food-safety camp are already keen on more-energetic kill steps, such as irradiation, chemical treatment with ozone or chlorine compounds, or the use of high-barometric-pressure systems.

To be sure, it's not wrong to expect diners to accept some risk. Even the best sushi restaurant sends away a few unhappy customers. Raw

meats and quite a few prepared foods from the supermarket rely on an unreliable consumer to supply a kill step. A 2007 KSU study put volunteers in a test kitchen to see if they could follow directions safely to prepare frozen, uncooked, breaded chicken products. Many couldn't. Among the findings: 100% of adolescents (the kind that work in fast-food restaurants) claimed they washed their hands when video monitoring showed they hadn't.

So here's a question: How far can Chipotle go in this direction without undermining its fans' faith? Presumably the food, not the propaganda, is the main reason diners come. But the propaganda is important too. Chipotle founder Steve Ells wouldn't constantly harp on the horrors of "artificial" and "processed" ingredients if he didn't believe such talismanic claims were important to bringing customers to stores.

Here's where the Food and Drug Administration could help: It continues to drag out an investigation and possible rule making on the use of the word "natural" in food marketing. A 50-page entry in the Federal Register is surely due sometime between now and 2075 A.D., when all that's really needed is an official statement, in block letters, saying the word "natural" is not a synonym for "safe," "healthy," "nutritious" or even "ecologically sound."

It is a junk word, all too tempting to Mr. Ells and every other marketer seeking to appeal to the reptilian brains of millennials, liberals and others for whom natural = good = me = good.

At which point their consciences are liberated to enjoy a burrito with more fat, salt and calories than a Big Mac.

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Saturday/Sunday, July 29 - 30, 2017 | B1

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FDA Puts Squeeze on Cigarettes

Aim is to cut nicotine to nonaddictive levels, as agency redirects antismoking strategy

By JENNIFER MALONEY

U.S. health officials said Friday they want tobacco companies to make all cigarettes with such low levels of nicotine that they are no longer addictive, part of a sweeping regulatory overhaul that threatens Big Tobacco's main moneymaker.

The Food and Drug Administration also said it would encourage smokers to switch to products such as e-cigarettes and smokeless tobacco that are less dangerous than cigarettes. The harm-reduction strategy is a break by the U.S. government from an abstinence-only approach to fighting tobacco-related diseases and deaths.

Shares of major tobacco companies, which have been reaping growing profits in the U.S. market even as the number of smokers dwindles, tumbled Friday on the surprise move. Marlboro maker Altria Group

Inc. fell 9.5%, while British American Tobacco PLC, maker of Camel cigarettes, dropped 6.8%, erasing tens of billions of market value.

"The problem isn't just nicotine, the problem is the delivery mechanism," FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb said at a press conference Friday.

Nicotine hooks people on cigarettes, but nicotine itself doesn't cause cancer, heart disease or lung disease, he noted. It is other harmful compounds in cigarette smoke that kill 480,000 people in the U.S. each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

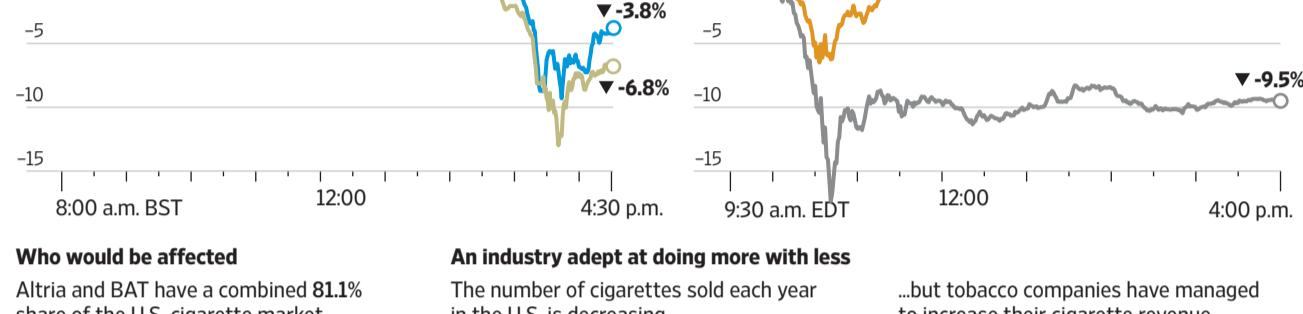
"Cigarettes will likely remain incredibly toxic," he said. "We may be able to reach a day when the most harmful products will no longer be capable of addicting our children."

In addition to pursuing regulation to "render cigarettes minimally addictive," Dr. Gottlieb said the FDA would consider a ban on menthol cigarettes.

The announcement is the biggest step by the U.S. government to affect the tobacco industry since the 1964 Surgeon General's Report on Smoking and Health.

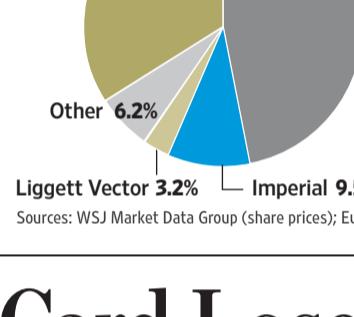
Up in Smoke

Tobacco shares on both sides of the Atlantic tumbled Friday after the FDA said it wants to require companies to reduce nicotine in cigarettes to non-addictive levels. Philip Morris International, which doesn't sell cigarettes in the U.S., recovered its losses by market close.



Who would be affected

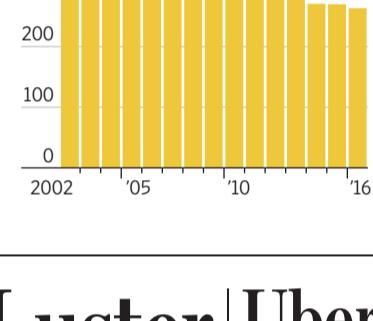
Altria and BAT have a combined 81.1% share of the U.S. cigarette market.



Sources: WSJ Market Data Group (share prices); Euromonitor

An industry adept at doing more with less

The number of cigarettes sold each year in the U.S. is decreasing...



...but tobacco companies have managed to increase their cigarette revenue.



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Sapphire Reserve Card Loses Luster

By EMILY GLAZER

J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.'s Sapphire Reserve credit card has been popular with consumers—maybe too popular.

Some at J.P. Morgan are raising concerns that Sapphire Reserve won't make money for the bank, due in part to high demand and the card's generous rewards.

Meanwhile, the lender is pushing for about \$200 million in fresh cost cuts in the retail-banking unit that oversees the card, people familiar with the matter say.

The scrutiny inside the bank reflects changing economics of the competitive premium card market. Rewards for consumers—paid for by the bank—have gotten sweeter. Spenders are becoming savvier about maximizing benefits and avoiding balances that pad banks' profits.

J.P. Morgan says it is making a long-term bet on the millennial customers who favor

the card. Prospects will become clearer in August, one year after its launch, when the first Sapphire Reserve customers will decide whether they want to spend another \$450 on the card's annual renewal fee, without the generous sign-up rewards. If many flee, it would add to the anxiety.

Gordon Smith, head of J.P. Morgan's retail-banking business, this month ordered up cost trims at the unit overseeing cards, the people familiar with the matter said. A bank spokeswoman, Trish Wexler, said any midyear cuts would take into account overall expense targets regardless of specific products.

"As part of any planning process you're always looking for ways to eliminate waste," she said. "That's just good fiscal hygiene."

Still, internal concerns about the card are on the rise, surprising for what has been seen as a blockbuster at the nation's largest bank by assets.

At recent meetings, senior J.P. Morgan employees reviewed models questioning whether the card would make money and when, the people familiar with the process said.

Banks such as J.P. Morgan generate credit-card revenue from the annual fees customers pay, the interest charged on their balances and the fees merchants pay when the card is used at their businesses.

The bank pays out when it offers rewards, such as the 100,000-point sign-up bonus that J.P. Morgan initially offered on Sapphire Reserve.

The bank offered the bonus for about five months after the card's launch.

It estimated the reward was worth about \$1,500 per customer if used on travel, along with a \$300 annual travel credit.

J.P. Morgan doesn't disclose how many Chase Sapphire Reserve cards it has issued. The bank said it exceeded its 12-month sales target in two

weeks and temporarily ran out of the metal used to make the cards.

J.P. Morgan's second-quarter card income, as reported, fell 15% from the year-earlier period to \$1.06 billion. Credit-card account openings, excluding commercial cards, totaled 2.1 million, down 22% from the year-earlier quarter.

Executives at J.P. Morgan acknowledge the bank doesn't immediately make money on each new card and customer. "You expense the acquisition costs over 12 months. The benefit comes over seven years," J.P. Morgan Chairman and Chief Executive James Dimon said on a conference call this month.

"These are the customers that everybody wants to acquire," Marianne Lake, the bank's chief financial officer, said on the call. "We now have them, and we intend to deepen relationships with them."

The big question is whether

Please see CARD page B2

Uber's CEO Search Travels Rough Road

By GREG BENSINGER AND JOANN S. LUBLIN

Five weeks after Travis Kalanick's surprise resignation as chief executive of Uber Technologies Inc., the board of the now-leaderless company is wrestling with a thorny question.

Should it negotiate with SoftBank Group Corp., which has in recent weeks approached Uber with a multibillion-dollar investment offer that could alter the course of the ride-sharing powerhouse? Or should it wait until after it hires a new CEO to consider the offer?

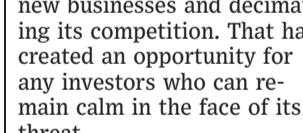
The puzzle points up the delicate situation Uber's eight-member board is in as it rushes to find a CEO to head a depleted executive suite and help navigate a litany of legal challenges, fierce competition and a contentious investor base angling to preserve the company's nearly \$70 billion valuation.

On Thursday, Uber's board met to discuss CEO candidates and the offer from the Japanese tech giant, a potential deal that ultimately could affect the recruiting. Uber has set a Labor Day deadline to name a new CEO, but the board faces an un-

Please see UBER page B2

HEARD ON THE STREET | By Miriam Gottfried

Investors Too Wary Of Amazon Effect



Ama-zon.com has developed a fearsome reputa-tion for moving into

new businesses and decimating its competition. That has created an opportunity for any investors who can remain calm in the face of its threat.

Since its early days as a bookseller, Amazon has demonstrated the ability to siphon the growth out of a variety of businesses and take market share. So, when the e-commerce giant announced plans June 16 to acquire Whole Foods Market, shares of grocery chain Kroger fell 9%. Kroger, which already had lowered guidance for full-year profit, was now poised to be its latest victim, or at least that is what investors feared.

But the effect of Amazon's deal on Kroger's business won't be immediate and may ultimately not be as big as feared. Amazon bought Whole Foods because it needed an established business with physical stores to achieve scale in groceries.

Indeed, shares of Kroger have climbed 7% since the Amazon announcement, suggesting the initial selloff was overdone.

There have been other prematurely buried Amazon victims. Shares of Best Buy got hit twice, falling more than 6% on July 10 after a

report that Amazon was launching a competitor to the chain's Geek Squad service and about 4% on July 20 after Sears Holdings said it would sell Kenmore appliances on Amazon. Shares of Home Depot and Lowe's also fell. All three have since regained ground, with Best Buy trading roughly where it was before the first report.

Investors may have realized that Amazon's service could have a narrower focus than Best Buy's. The Geek Squad accounts for only about 3% of Best Buy's sales, Loop Capital Markets estimates. It estimates major appliances are less than 9% of sales. Moreover, neither Best Buy nor the home-improvement stores have ever sold the Kenmore brand.

The Amazon threat shouldn't be taken lightly, of course. Still, many of the companies that have suffered the most already appeared vulnerable.

There are also survivors of Amazon's onslaught. Netflix is still adding subscribers, despite Amazon's push into video streaming. Indeed, if a company has a strong position in its market or won't be immediately affected by competition from Amazon, investors should consider buying the dip created by the e-commerce company's entrance.

The Amazon threat is real, but it isn't always a sure thing.

Trump's Pick to Shake Up the Fed

Randal Quarles is expected to try to reduce central bank's influence on lenders

By RYAN TRACY

Randal Quarles became skeptical of government intervention during decades of work in the financial world. Now he is set to take the lead in shaping oversight at one of the greatest

interveners of all: the Federal Reserve.

Mr. Quarles, who would be President Donald Trump's first appointee to the central bank, is expected to be confirmed in coming months for a four-year term as Fed vice chairman for supervision. That would make him the most influential U.S. financial regulator and give him a voice on monetary policy.

His de facto predecessor, former Fed governor Daniel Tarullo, engineered broad new curbs on risk-taking by the largest U.S. banks. Mr. Quarles, a 59-year-old amateur pilot and former government official who has made millions advising and investing in banks, has a record that suggests he will seek to reduce the Fed's influence on bankers' decisions, rather than expand it.

"Some refinements will undoubtedly be in order," Mr. Quarles told the Senate



Mr. Quarles could become the most influential U.S. financial regulator if confirmed as Fed vice chairman for supervision.

Banking Committee on Thursday, referring to the U.S. regulatory regime. "The key question will be ensuring that...we do so while maintaining the robust resilience of the system to shocks."

Mr. Quarles's approach may conflict with that of Fed Chairwoman Janet Yellen, who supported Mr. Tarullo's agenda. Her term as chair ends in February. Mr. Quar-

les has separately advocated that the Fed articulate a more rigid formula for setting monetary policy, an idea Ms. Yellen has criticized.

Friends and former colleagues said that if Mr. Quarles does try to change direction at the Fed, they expect him to move slowly and methodically, and to seek consensus. Cerebral with a wry wit, Mr. Quarles spent nights

les has separately advocated that the Fed articulate a more rigid formula for setting monetary policy, an idea Ms. Yellen has criticized.

At his confirmation hearing Thursday, Mr. Quarles said the Fed should publish more information about the stress tests. "The benefits of the transparency outweigh any of the theoretical costs," he said.

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Please see QUARLES page B2

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Please see QUARLES page B2

INDEX TO BUSINESSES

These indexes cite notable references to most parent companies and businesspeople in today's edition. Articles on regional page inserts aren't cited in these indexes.

A	Citigroup.....B2
Aixtron.....B2	Cynosure Group.....B2
Alphabet.....B2	D - E
Altria Group.....B1,B2,B12	Didi Chuxing.....B2
Amazon.com.....B1	Eros International.....B12
American Express.....B2	Exxon Mobil.....B11
B	F - G
Banco Popular Español.....B10	Fullscreen.....B3
Banco Santander.....B10	GrabTaxi Holdings.....B2
Barclays.....B10	H - I
Brand Group Holdings.....B2	Hewlett Packard Enterprise.....B2
British American Tobacco.....B1,B2,B12	Imperial Brands.....B2
C	J.P. Morgan Chase.....B1
Canyon Bridge Capital Partners.....B2	Kraft Heinz.....B12
Chevron.....B11	Kroger.....B1
China Minsheng Banking.....B10	L - M
China Reform Holdings.....B2	Lattice Semiconductor.....B2
China Southern Airlines.....B11	Mondelez International.....B12
	Morgan Stanley.....B2

N

National General Insurance.....B10	
P	Philip Morris International.....B2,B12
R	Ralco.....A3
RBC Capital Markets.....B2	Rooster Teeth.....B3
Royal Dutch Shell.....B11	Russell Reynolds Associates.....B2
S - T	SoftBank Group.....B1,B2
Sprint.....A1	Sstatol.....B11
Tencent Holdings.....B11	Tesla.....B2
Total.....B11	Whole Foods Market.....B1

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Tesla Rolls Out Its First Sedan Aimed at the Mass Market



Chief Executive Elon Musk was set to become one of the first recipients of the Model 3 on Friday. The car sells for \$35,000.

INDEX TO PEOPLE

A	Huffington, Arianna...B2
Al Rumayyan, Yair.....B2	Hullum, Matt.....B3
B	Bezos, Jeff.....B3
Billerbeck, Darin.....B2	Immelt, Jeffrey R.....B2
Bingham, Ray.....B2	Jobs, Laurene Powell...B3
Bradley, David.....B3	Kalanick, Travis.....B1
C	Koesterich, Russ.....B12
Camp, Garrett.....B2	Krebs, Michelle.....B2
D	Lake, Marianne.....B1
Deshpande, Jyoti.....B12	Langan, Colin.....B2
Dimon, James.....B1	McShane, Margot.....B2
Donahoe, John.....B2	Musk, Elon.....B2
G	Nilsen, Steve.....B2
Gottlieb, Scott.....B12	Omidyar, Pierre.....B3
H	Quirk, Adam.....D5
Hammer, Robert.....B2	
Hingorani, Seema.....B10	

R

Roberts, Brian.....A2	
Rosenberg, Joe.....B4	
I	Immelt, Jeffrey R.....B2
J	Jobs, Laurene Powell...B3
K	Kalanick, Travis.....B1
Koesterich, Russ.....B12	Scissors, Derek.....B2
Krebs, Michelle.....B2	Smith, Gordon.....B1
L	Sammartino, Frank.....B4
Lake, Marianne.....B1	Son, Masayoshi.....A1
Langan, Colin.....B2	Staggs, Thomas.....B2
M	Starr, Liz.....D3
McShane, Margot.....B2	T
Musk, Elon.....B2	Thompson, Sarah.....C14
N	Woodbury, Jeff.....B11
Nilsen, Steve.....B2	Tsang, Agnes.....B11
O	Whitman, Meg.....B2
Omidyar, Pierre.....B3	Twine, Nancy.....D3
Q	Youngberg, Brian.....B11
Quirk, Adam.....D5	Zuckerberg, Mark.....B3

S

W

V

U

E

D

C

B

A

R

I

S

J

K

L

M

N

O

P

Q

R

S

T

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V

W

X

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Z

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BUSINESS NEWS

Rooster Teeth Draws Fun-Seeking Crowds

By COVEY E. SON

AUSTIN, Texas—Ashley Bowling saved up for months to buy a \$575 VIP pass to RTX, an annual three-day gaming convention hosted by digital entertainment company **Rooster Teeth** that attracts young, web-savvy consumers.

But by the time ticket sales opened to the general public, all the VIP passes had been snapped up. The 18-year-old recent high-school grad and her mother, who is also a fan, ended up buying regular weekend passes, at around \$100 each.

Clad in costumes based on characters from Rooster Teeth shows, they flew to Texas earlier this month from their home in Milan, Ind., for the packed gathering.

High-profile events like Comic-Con International and Electronic Entertainment Expo, or E3, have for years attracted upward of 100,000 fans to a range of comic and film franchises. Now, niche entertainment businesses are getting into the convention trade.

Once sequestered to YouTube and other web spaces, online entertainers like Rooster Teeth are breaking into new

sources of revenue, and events drawing thousands of fans are becoming a key part of their growing franchises.

Longtime web comic Penny Arcade, for example, has spun its original business into new series, a merchandise line and its own gaming convention, Penny Arcade Expo. Podcast network Maximum Fun hosts its convention, MaxFunCon, at least twice a year on the East and West coasts.

Rooster Teeth won a loyal following with online videos in which people play videogames in front of audiences, with witty banter that evokes improv comedy and British game shows. Its personality-driven content has spawned a universe of microbrands, including podcasts, live-action shows, animated series, videogames and even a feature film.

Most of the company's material is available free on its website and YouTube, but superfans—200,000 of them, according to the company—pay up to \$35 a month to watch new material before anyone else, among other perks.

On YouTube, the company boasts about 38 million subscribers across its network of channels.



The digital entertainment company is growing by sponsoring events, including RTX Austin 2017.

to take seriously as a business."

Rooster Teeth was born in 2003 when Mr. Hullum and four friends started making an animated series about gaming in a spare bedroom in Austin. "Red vs. Blue," a comedic spinoff of hit videogame "Halo," garnered nearly 1 million downloads for four episodes by the end of its first month.

Rooster Teeth was acquired in 2014 for an undisclosed sum by **Fullscreen** Inc., which manages and markets YouTube content creators and is now owned by a joint venture between AT&T Inc. and the Chernin Group. Peter Chernin, the veteran Hollywood executive and producer behind the Chernin Group, said Rooster Teeth was already profitable when Fullscreen acquired it, thanks in large part to advertising revenue from YouTube.

Today, advertising makes up 31% of the company's revenue. Less than half of that comes from YouTube ads; the rest comes from sponsorship relationships. One-fifth of revenue comes from sales of merchandise. It declined to disclose exact revenue figures.

—Ben Fritz contributed to this article.

Emerson Collective Buys Majority Stake in Atlantic

By AUSTEN HUFFORD

Laurene Powell Jobs, the widow of Apple Inc. co-founder Steve Jobs, is acquiring a majority stake in The Atlantic magazine through Emerson Collective, her philanthropic organization.

Terms of the deal weren't disclosed.

Ms. Powell Jobs is the latest wealthy individual from the technology world to take an ac-

tive interest in the future of news. Amazon founder Jeff Bezos bought the Washington Post in 2013 for \$250 million. EBay founder Pierre Omidyar created First Look Media, which operates the Intercept, and Facebook co-founder Chris Hughes had owned a majority stake in New Republic magazine before selling it last year to Win McCormack.

The deal includes the magazine and its website, a live

events business and consulting services but doesn't include Atlantic Media's other properties, including National Journal and business news website Quartz.

The move cements long-term ownership for the Atlantic, founded in 1857. The news organization had 33 million monthly unique visitors for the first half of this year and now generates annual profits "well above" \$10 million, the Atlantic said in its news release. Total

makes you feel like family," Ms. Mattis said of Rooster Teeth's gaming videos and podcasts.

About 62,000 Rooster Teeth fans descended on the Austin Convention Center earlier this month for the seventh RTX Austin, the largest yet. The company's first RTX in 2011 drew 600 people. The next year, 4,500 people attended the event, which moved into the Austin Convention Center to

accommodate the larger crowd. Last year, Rooster Teeth expanded the franchise to Sydney, Australia, where 11,500 attended, the company said. A sold-out London event is set to draw 15,000 this October.

"We saw that there was so much pent-up demand," said Matt Hullum, co-founder and chief executive of Rooster Teeth. "We very quickly realized this is something we need

Co., who bought the magazine in 1999. In a memo to staff, Mr. Bradley, who will continue to run the business, said Emerson would "likely, but not certainly" purchase his remaining minority stake in three to five years.

Peter Lattman, a former New York Times editor and Wall Street Journal reporter, will join the Atlantic as vice chairman and continue as managing director of media for Emerson.

BUSINESS WATCH

SEARS CANADA

Bankruptcy Deal Fails to Take Shape

Hedge-fund managers Eddie Lampert and Bruce Berkowitz called off a potential joint bankruptcy deal for **Sears Canada** Inc., clearing the way for other bidders to challenge its two largest shareholders.

ESL Partners LP, the hedge fund operated by Mr. Lampert, also said it might sell "some or all" of its 45.3% Sears Canada stake to generate a tax loss for its investors. Mr. Lampert is the chairman of **Sears Holdings** Corp., which retains a 12% stake in the Canadian business after it was spun off in 2012. Mr. Lampert has pumped billions of dollars into both operations.

Mr. Berkowitz's **Fairholme Capital Management** LLC, which holds a 21% stake in Sears Canada, had increased his holdings in the quarters leading up to the June bankruptcy filing. Sears Canada has 225 stores and employs about 17,000 people.

—Andrew Scurria

AMERICAN AIRLINES

Profit Declines But CEO Is Upbeat

American Airlines Group Inc.'s profit fell in the second quarter, even as the carrier said strong revenue and demand trends would lift performance through the rest of the year.

American said second-quarter unit revenue, a closely watched measure of the amount taken in for each seat flown a mile, rose 5.7% annually. Unit revenue improved for most airlines in the quarter, breaking a yearslong slump in performance by that measure.

American said it expects unit revenue to increase up to 2.5% annually in the third quarter and possibly more in the fourth, in part because new no-frills fares and premium products are expected to boost revenue. American is planning in September to roll out low-fare, low-perk fares to its entire domestic network.

"We are enthusiastic about our prospects for the second half of 2017," Chief Executive Doug Parker said.

Profit was \$803 million, or \$1.63 a share, down about 15% from year-earlier \$950 million, or \$1.68 a share. The decline was due to a jump in costs, mostly higher fuel and labor expenses.

—Susan Carey

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13 Spider Blk/Bge 2k	\$245K
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430 MID ENGINE

07 Spider Red/Tan 4k	\$139K
06 Spider Red/Blk 12k	\$129K
06 Coupe Blk/Tan 11k	\$119K

360 MID ENGINE

03 Spider Blk/Bge 13k	\$94K
03 Spider Red/Blk 13k	\$89K

348 TS

90 Targa Red/Bge 15k	\$58K
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328 GTS

89 GTS Whi/Blk 20k	\$119K
88 GTS Red/Tan 25k	DUE

INTERESTING OTHERS

WEEKEND INVESTOR

TAX REPORT | By Laura Saunders

The Winners and Losers of a Tax Overhaul



If President Donald Trump sticks to what he has said, Americans earning between \$149,400 and \$307,900 are most likely to see an increase in their taxes as a result of a tax revamp.

Those figures come from a recent study by the Tax Policy Center, a nonpartisan group in Washington, and are based on Mr. Trump's statements and proposals. The study concludes that nearly one-third of about 19 million households in that income range could see tax increases averaging from \$3,000 to \$4,000 a year.

By contrast, less than 10% of households earning the least or the most—below \$25,000 or above \$733,000—would owe more after an overhaul.

Overall, the study found that about 20% of taxpayers would owe more after a revamp than before it.

The issue of tax overhauls' winners and losers has resurfaced after top congressional Republicans and the Trump administration released a set of broad principles for tax policy on Thursday containing few details.

In an interview with The Wall Street Journal this week, Mr. Trump affirmed that a major overhaul could bring "upward revisions" that raise taxes for some people.

He also struck a new tone, stating that he doesn't like it that a "rich guy who made...\$25 million last year is going to pay less" after tax overhauls than before.

But based on his proposals and statements, that is exactly what would happen.

It's important to note that the one-page tax proposal released by the White House in April omitted many important details. And the Big Six, a small group of Republican law- and policy makers now working on an overhaul plan, are meeting in secret.

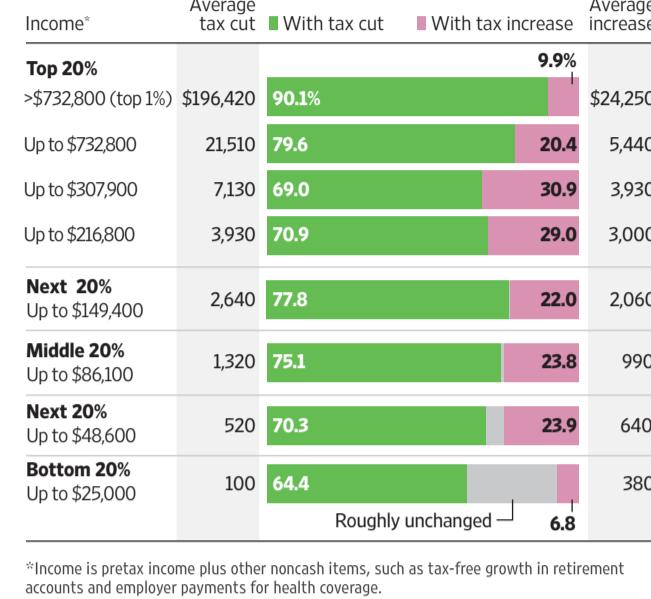
A final deal, if any, could include many changes. But the Tax Policy Center's estimates provide a useful marker in the interim.

"The broad conclusions are likely to be stable because they are based on the tax cuts Trump has promised," says Joe Rosenberg, an economist with the Tax Policy Center.

The study assumed a tax plan that loses revenue overall but has tax increases to stem losses.

Good News, Bad News

Most households would get a tax cut, based on a study of Trump's proposals and statements. But high-income households are more likely to get a tax increase than the wealthiest.



*Income is pretax income plus other noncash items, such as tax-free growth in retirement accounts and employer payments for health coverage.

Source: Roberton Williams, Tax Policy Center

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

ing the head-of-household filing status, taxing payouts of large pass-through entities as dividends, and taxing capital gains at death above an exemption of \$5 million a person.

The effects of these changes aren't constant across income tiers, so the percentage of a tax revamp's net losers varies greatly among people with different incomes.

The affluent are at the greatest risk of owing more for several reasons. Compared with the working poor, they have more ability to pay higher taxes. Compared with the highest earners, they often derive a large chunk of their tax benefits from a host of deductions and exclusions that could be cut back.

The highest earners are more likely to reap additional benefits from favorable rates on investment income, such as long-term capital gains, than the affluent are. Unlike in the 1986 tax overhaul, which raised rates on capital gains, there are no current plans to do that this time.

The provisions that would boost revenue include repealing itemized deductions other than for charitable giving and mortgage interest, repealing personal exemptions, repeal-

ing didn't break out which changes would contribute most to tax increases for the affluent. But it's a good bet that a big one is eliminating deductions for state and local taxes.

These write-offs cost Uncle Sam \$103 billion a year, far more than the mortgage-interest deductions at \$64 billion and charitable deductions at \$61 billion.

Loss of the state and local tax deduction could raise taxes for many even if the alternative minimum tax, or AMT, is repealed, according to a different study by Tax Policy Center economist Frank Sammartino.

This result might seem surprising because the AMT curtails the benefit of deducting state and local taxes for taxpayers who owe the AMT.

Because of complex interactions in the two provisions, however, about three-quarters of those who owe the AMT and deduct state and local taxes would see a net tax increase if both provisions are repealed.

In this case, the affluent taxpayers at risk of owing more after an overhaul are especially likely to live in high-tax states such as California, Connecticut, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York.

How to Pick an Adviser

BY ANNE TERGESEN

If you want to hire a financial adviser but are unsure of how to shop for one, here are a few tips.

Advisers come in two basic types, each held to different legal standards.

Registered investment advisers are legally bound to serve as fiduciaries by putting the client's interests first. To minimize conflicts of interest, they are typically paid by the client; a fee of up to 1% of the annual account balance is common. And they tend to avoid products, such as annuities, that pay them sales incentives.

Brokers, on the other hand, are allowed to recommend products that pay them commissions or other sales incentives as long as the product suits the client's needs. A commission-based account can be cheaper, especially if you don't trade frequently.

The Labor Department's new fiduciary rule increases the overlap between the two approaches. The rule, which started to be phased in last month, requires brokers to act as fiduciaries when advising on individual retirement accounts but not on taxable brokerage accounts. As a result, many brokerage firms are starting to switch clients into fee-based accounts, which typically cost about 1% a year and come with fiduciary care.

Some firms, such as Bank of America Corp.'s Merrill Lynch, have been offering discounts to affected clients.

To determine whether an adviser is a fiduciary, simply ask. If you get an unclear response, ask the name of the adviser's regulator. Registered investment advisers must register with the Securities and Exchange Commission if they manage \$110 million or more and with their state securities regulator if they manage up to \$100 million. (Those in between can choose.) The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or Finra, oversees brokers.

Be aware that some advis-

ers at brokerage firms are dually registered, which means they may, for example, work for clients as a fiduciary when preparing a financial plan but act as a broker, and earn commissions, when recommending investments.

If you have a complex financial situation or want a lot of help, consider hiring an adviser—at an independent or brokerage firm—who provides continuing help for a fee that typically starts at 1% of assets a year. (Many offer discounts above set thresholds.)

Most advisers—from low-cost "robo" technology-driven services to full-service firms—offer financial planning and

investment advice. As a result, investors who pay 1% a year should either expect a good deal of attention or expertise in other areas, such as insurance, tax and estate planning.

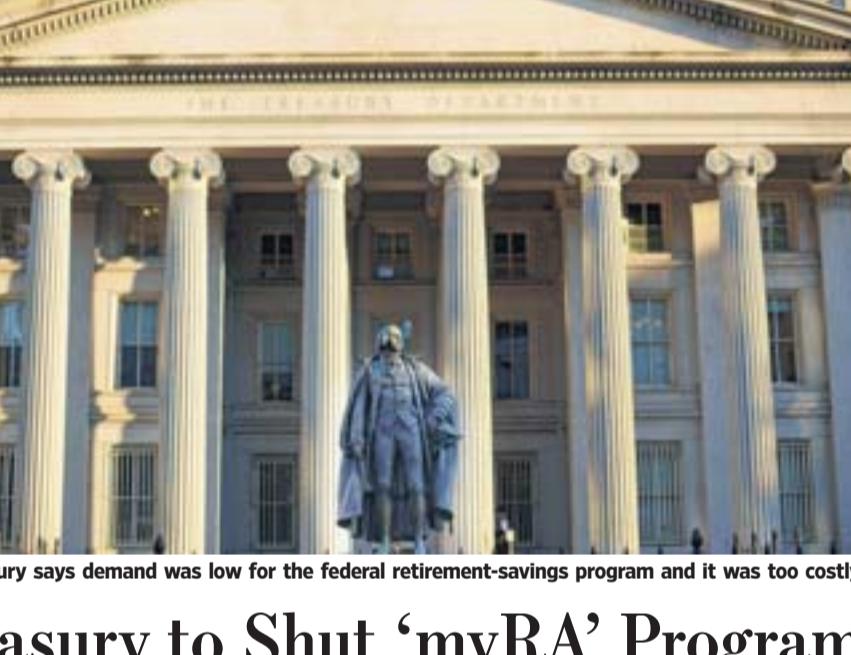
Those whose needs are fairly simple may want to consider options that cost less.

Automated or semiautomated services, such as Vanguard Personal Advisor Services, Schwab Intelligent Advisory and Betterment LLC's services, typically charge advisory fees that range from 0.25% to 0.50%. Some provide the option to work with a human adviser.

Hourly planners can make sense for those who want one-time or relatively infrequent advice. Advisers in the Garrett Planning Network typically charge from \$180 to \$300 an hour. Brokers may be cost-effective for investors who seldom trade.

Try to interview more than one candidate and to check disciplinary histories. For registered investment advisers, look for Form ADV, available in the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure database. Finra's BrokerCheck has data on both brokers and registered investment advisers.

Look also for professional designations that require extensive training, such as the certified financial planner, chartered financial analyst and certified public accountant credentials. Steer clear of designations that can be earned with minimal or no study, which can be common in this industry.



The Treasury says demand was low for the federal retirement-savings program and it was too costly.

Treasury to Shut 'myRA' Program

BY KATE DAVIDSON

just 20,000 people had signed up for the program.

"Unfortunately, there has been very little demand for the program, and the cost to taxpayers cannot be justified by the assets in the program," Treasurer Jovita Carranza said. "Fortunately, ample private-sector solutions exist, which resulted in less appeal for myRA."

President Barack Obama had announced the program in his January 2014 State of the Union Address. Officials at the time touted myRA as a way to teach more workers the importance and ease of saving for retirement, and the initiative received support from re-

tirement specialists and groups including the AARP.

The accounts are structured much like Roth IRAs, in which account holders contribute money after income taxes are paid. Investment gains and withdrawals are tax-free after that. Employees can fund the accounts from their paychecks, bank accounts or from federal tax refunds. Participation in the program is voluntary.

Mr. Carranza said the Treasury would begin phasing out the program in coming months and would communicate frequently with participants in the program to help them move their myRA savings to other investment vehicles.

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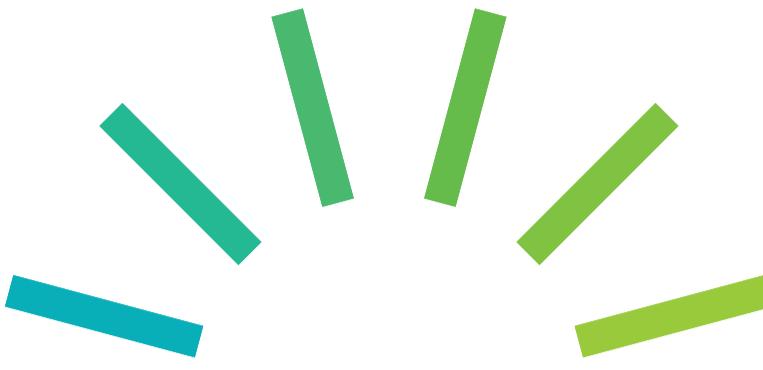


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Retirement Is a Work in Progress

Patricia Adrian had the kind of job most people would love to have. It was "unbeatable," she says. She worked at a well-known media company, where she had a plush expense account and hobnobbed with celebrity chefs, who frequently cooked for her. The last thing she wanted was to retire.

"I absolutely dreaded retirement because I was so wrapped up in my job. I thought retirement would be flat, nothing," says Adrian, a member of the retiree focus group conducted by WSJ. Insights, the research department of WSJ. Custom Studios. "But from the first day, I was off and running. I finally had time to pursue everything that always interested me, but didn't have the time or money to go after before."

Adrian's leap into retirement is how most people hope their retirement transition will be — an optimistic time that's full of new pursuits and pleasures. However, the road to a gratifying retirement can start out a bit bumpy. There may be feelings of loss when letting go of friendships in the workplace and the ways in which work provided the core of your work-life structure. Those who have enjoyed successful careers may also experience a loss of purpose and identity.

After running a company for 25 years, Robert Delamontagne struggled with the sudden change in his daily life immediately after retirement. Although he was financially secure, the emotional toll took him by surprise. "When I retired, I felt lost. I didn't know what to do. Nobody ever talked about what turned out to be a pretty significant transition," he says.

Eventually, Delamontagne found his equilibrium and used his personal experiences to launch a second career as an author, writing *The Retiring Mind*, a series of books on the psychology of retirement. What he learned is that it's vital to be actively engaged in the rediscovery of who you are and how you choose to spend your retirement years. "Your capital is your time," he says. "How you spend your capital determines the quality of your retirement life."

By all accounts, the focus group retirees are spending their "time capital" well — exploring new opportunities, such as owning a share in a vineyard and doing charitable work; immersing themselves in culture, fitness and classes; traveling to Africa and India; and creating new circles of friends who share their abundant interests and passions. Each person is crafting their own "original" retirement — nothing like their parents' and distinctly different from one another. What they do have in common is they all manage their financial capital wisely, relying on a combination of guaranteed and lower-risk assets to receive a pension-like income stream, while reallocating market-sensitive assets in their portfolios to minimize risk.

"When you're younger, you think you are smart enough to invest in the stock market and equities. Then you learn from the losses and get more educated," says David Sellar, a focus group member. "When you plan for retirement, you make decisions based on the income you'll need to sustain your lifestyle. You tend to go far safer and more conservative."

Playing it safe doesn't mean retirees are out of the game entirely; many still have a toehold in the markets. While



About the Research

Working with Brighthouse Financial, WSJ. Custom Studios conducted research that takes a deep dive into the retirement planning journey. Two focus groups and a survey of 529 pre-retirees (ages 50-64) and retirees (age 65+) were conducted by WSJ. Insights, the research department of WSJ. Custom Studios, during April and May 2017.

retirees (age 65+) who responded to the WSJ. Insights survey acknowledged that they should minimize risk in their portfolios, 73 percent were not ready to give up potential gains. Sellar refers to the funds he invests in the markets as "racetrack money" — money he can afford to lose — that he's set aside to "gamble" with. More than 85 percent of retirees surveyed saw their investments in the markets similarly.

A successful retirement plan starts with a diversified, balanced portfolio, according to Matt Quale, vice president of marketing for Brighthouse Financial. Annuity solutions or other sources of more consistent income, such as Social Security and pensions, can be important parts of a portfolio that help on the protection side. "People tend to think of it as a binary choice — either chase protection or chase growth," Quale says. "Once they understand that they have the security needed to cover their living expenses in retirement, they can think about taking some of their ancillary assets and investing them for growth or incorporating them into legacy planning."

Retirees remain involved with financial planning, continuing to monitor and adjust their retirement strategies as needed. "Just because they have certain goals when they retire doesn't mean their circumstances won't change," says Myles Lambert, chief distribution and marketing officer for Brighthouse Financial. "The best plan is to build a trusting relationship with a financial advisor now, because retirement planning isn't something they should set and forget. It's an iterative process, and they'll need guidance along the way."

By working with a financial advisor, you can create the income streams that will help give you the confidence to pursue the retirement life you envision. The goal is to create a retirement plan that is as individual and original as the life you wish to lead.

Making Savings Last

Planning for a fulfilling, rewarding life — and ensuring you have the funds to do it — continues through retirement. While pre-retirees and retirees may look to take on low levels of risk, their primary focus is on how to preserve savings and spend their funds on the things that matter most to them.

What financial decisions are you making about your retirement savings?



65%

would rather **play it safe** with their money than play the markets



77%

are planning to **conserve funds in early retirement** to ensure savings will last



62%

continually **readjust portfolio allocations** to reduce risk as they grow older

Source: Sheding New Light on Retirement Planning | WSJ. Insights in collaboration with Brighthouse Financial, June 2017. Total, n=529 Wall Street Journal Readers.

Learn more about how financial attitudes and behaviors shift during each stage of the retirement planning journey.

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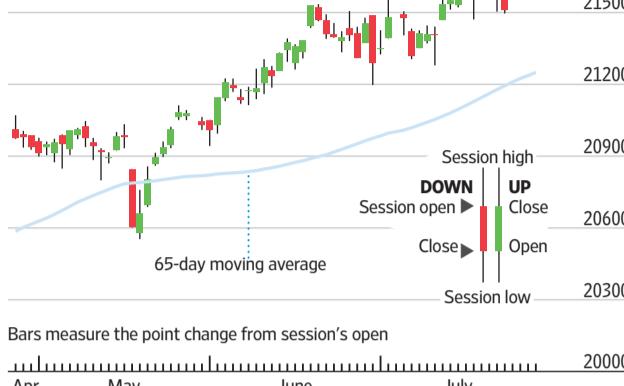
EQUITIES

Dow Jones Industrial Average

21830.31 ▲ 33.76, or 0.15%
 High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.

Trailing P/E ratio 19.83 19.88
 P/E estimate * 18.42 17.87
 Dividend yield 2.29 2.51
 All-time high 21830.31, 07/28/17

Current divisor 0.14602128057775



Bars measure the point change from session's open
 Apr. May June July 20000

Weekly P/E data based on as-reported earnings from Birinyi Associates Inc.

S&P 500 Index

2472.10 ▼ 3.32, or 0.13%
 High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.

Trailing P/E ratio 23.94 25.03
 P/E estimate * 18.94 18.42
 Dividend yield 1.97 2.11
 All-time high 2477.83, 07/26/17



Apr. May June July 2300

Nasdaq Composite Index

6374.68 ▼ 7.51, or 0.12%
 High, low, open and close for each trading day of the past three months.

Trailing P/E ratio *25.75 24.20
 P/E estimate * 21.45 19.92
 Dividend yield 1.10 1.24
 All-time high 6422.75, 07/26/17



Apr. May June July 5660

Major U.S. Stock-Market Indexes

	High	Low	Latest Close	Net chg	% chg	High	52-Week Low	% chg	YTD % chg	3-yr. ann.		
	Dow Jones	Industrial Average	Transportation Avg	Utility Average	Total Stock Market	Barron's 400	Nasdaq Composite	Nasdaq 100	Standard & Poor's	500 Index	MidCap 400	SmallCap 600
Industrial Average	21841.18	21756.12	21830.31	33.76	▲ 0.15%	21830.31	17888.28	18.4	10.5	8.7		
Transportation Avg	9236.36	9165.47	9227.07	37.46	▲ 0.41%	9742.76	7648.44	17.6	2.0	3.5		
Utility Average	726.10	720.05	724.06	0.41	▲ 0.06%	737.51	625.44	1.8	9.8	8.7		
Total Stock Market	25610.15	25527.15	25595.53	-37.67	-0.15%	25692.25	21514.15	14.0	10.0	7.5		
Barron's 400	653.17	650.86	652.41	-1.59	-0.24%	661.93	521.59	19.3	8.4	7.1		

Nasdaq Stock Market

Nasdaq Composite	6379.70	6337.22	6374.68	-7.51	-0.12%	6422.75	5046.37	23.5	18.4	12.8
Nasdaq 100	5918.31	5868.92	5908.92	-8.11	-0.14%	5950.73	4660.46	24.9	21.5	14.2

Standard & Poor's

500 Index	2473.53	2464.66	2472.10	-3.32	-0.13%	2477.83	2085.18	13.7	10.4	7.7
MidCap 400	1767.48	1758.22	1762.34	-8.68	-0.49%	1791.93	1476.68	13.0	6.1	7.9
SmallCap 600	865.59	861.44	865.00	-1.69	-0.19%	876.06	703.64	16.3	3.2	9.6

Other Indexes

Russell 2000	1432.59	1425.80	1429.26	-4.36	-0.30%	1450.39	1156.89	17.2	5.3	7.8
NYSE Composite	11959.86	11923.16	11954.69	-8.54	-0.07%	11965.72	10289.35	10.8	8.1	2.9
Value Line	529.59	527.16	528.66	-0.93	-0.18%	533.62	455.65	9.9	4.4	2.3
NYSE Arca Biotech	3994.62	3931.35	3988.25	29.66	▲ 0.75%	4075.95	2834.14	17.7	29.7	13.4
NYSE Arca Pharma	532.04	527.51	531.53	1.64	▲ 0.31%	554.66	463.78	-3.9	10.4	1.0
KBW Bank	95.60	94.64	95.23	-0.27	-0.29%	99.33	66.90	40.0	3.7	10.2
PHLX\$ Gold/Silver	85.77	84.24	85.56	1.51	▲ 1.80%	112.86	73.03	-22.4	8.5	-5.8
PHLX\$ Oil Service	139.21	134.28	134.88	-0.27	-0.20%	192.66	126.75	-16.1	-26.6	-23.3
PHLX\$ Semiconductor	1097.57	1088.05	1092.99	-4.27	-0.39%	1138.25	755.73	42.5	20.6	21.1
CBOE Volatility	11.30	10.26	10.29	0.18	▲ 1.78%	22.51	9.36	-13.3	-26.7	-6.4

\$Philadelphia Stock Exchange

Sources: SIX Financial Information; WSJ Market Data Group

Late Trading

Most-active and biggest movers among NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE Amer. and Nasdaq issues from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. ET as reported by electronic trading services, securities dealers and regional exchanges. Minimum share price of \$2 and minimum after-hours volume of 5,000 shares.

Most-active issues in late trading

Company	Symbol	Volume (000)	Last	Net chg	After Hours % chg	High	Low
SPDR S&P 500	SPY	8,708.9	247.05	0.14	▲ 0.06%	247.08	246.13
Van Eck Vectors Gold Miner	GDX	4,943.6	22.92	0.01	▲ 0.04%	22.96	22.85
First Select Sector SPDR	XLF	4,374.8	24.93	0.02	▲ 0.08%	24.93	24.87
LendingClub	LC	4,125.8	5.22	...	-unc.	5.24	5.22
PwrShrs QQQ Tr Series 1	QQQ	3,571.4	143.92	0.08	▲ 0.06%	143.99	142.99
iShares Russell 2000 ETF	IWM	3,224.4	141.96	...	-unc.	142.09	141.84
Ceda Realty Trust	CDR	2,890.6	5.29	...	-unc.	5.30	5.28
BHP Billiton ADR	BBL	2,015.5	35.89	...	<		

BIGGEST 1,000 STOCKS

How to Read the Stock Tables

The following explanations apply to NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE MKT and Nasdaq Stock Market listed securities. Prices are composite quotations that include primary market trades as well as trades reported by Nasdaq OMX BXSM (formerly Boston), Chicago Stock Exchange, CBOE, National Stock Exchange, ICE and BATS.

The list comprises the 1,000 largest companies based on market capitalization. Underlined quotations are those stocks with large changes in volume compared with the issue's average trading volume.

Boldfaced quotations highlight those issues whose price changed by 5% or more if their previous closing price was \$2 or higher.

Footnotes:
I-New 52-week high.
L-New 52-week low.
dd-Indicates loss in the most recent four quarters.
FD-FIRST day of trading.

I-Does not meet continued listing standards
I-Late filing
dd-Temporary exemption from Nasdaq Bankruptcy Code, or securities requirements.
t-NYSE bankruptcy

Wall Street Journal stock tables reflect composite regular trading as of 4 p.m. and changes in the closing prices from 4 p.m. the previous day.

Friday, July 28, 2017

YTD % Chg	52-Week High		52-Week Low		Yld %	52-Week % Chg	52-Week Hi		52-Week Lo		Yld %	52-Week % Chg	52-Week Hi		52-Week Lo		Yld %	52-Week % Chg	52-Week Hi		52-Week Lo		Yld %	52-Week % Chg	52-Week Hi		Yld %	52-Week % Chg
	Hi	Lo	Stock	Sym	% PE	Last	Chg	Hi	Lo	Stock	Sym	% PE	Last	Chg	Hi	Lo	Stock	Sym	% PE	Last	Chg	Hi	Lo	Stock	Sym	% PE	Last	
NYSE																												
11.52 25.82 20.26 ABB	ABB	3.22 22.23 25.0	0.15	-5.51 13.32 10.6 AES	AES	4.41 dd 10.98	-0.12	10.62 14.71 11.24 Clorox	CLX	2.56 12.27 12.77	-1.40	-8.09 43.62 49.15 JacobsEngineering	JEC	1.11 31 52.39	-0.67	0.12 98.82 73.13 ScottsMiracleGro	SMG	2.14 19 95.66	0.82	-3.34 50.62 41.74 SealedAir	SEE	1.55 25 43.87	-0.82	39.13 55.48 27.46 CSX	CSX	1.26 26 49.99	-0.01	
14.05 79.86 66.50 Aflac	AFL	2.21 13.78 7.9	.226	24.33 73.97 46.22 AGCO	AGCO	0.82 31.74 9.9	-0.32	7.39 34.85 30.24 JanusHenderson	JHG	1.35 32 32.86	-0.33	12.32 117.97 92.99 SempraEnergy	SRE	2.90 21 113.04	-0.04	46.75 37.51 23.83 CadenceDesign	CND	... 43 37.01	0.03									
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BANKING & FINANCE



The lender says 570,000 of its customers may have been affected from auto policies placed between 2012 and 2017.

Wells Fargo Plans Refunds

Insurance problems related to auto-loan customers will cost the bank \$80 million

BY EMILY GLAZER

Wells Fargo & Co. said it plans to make refunds to certain auto-loan customers who may have been improperly charged for some auto insurance.

The bank late Thursday said it found 570,000 customers who may have been affected from policies placed between 2012 and 2017, and that they will get refunds or account adjustments totaling around \$80 million.

Franklin Codel, head of Wells Fargo consumer lending, said the bank takes responsibility for its failure to manage the insurance program and apologized to customers. "Upon our discovery, we acted swiftly to discontinue the program and immediately develop a plan to make impacted customers whole," he said.

Asked about Wells Fargo's auto-insurance practices, a spokesman for the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency said he couldn't comment on ongoing supervisory issues or pending actions.

The bank's auto-loan problems come on the heels of Wells Fargo's sales-practices scandal last year, in which bank employees opened as many as 2.1 million accounts using fictitious or unauthorized customer information.

Wells Fargo paid a \$185 million fine in September 2016, its chief executive abruptly retired, and it has continued facing many federal and state investigations since then. The bank has said it is cooperating with those. Wells Fargo agreed to a \$142 million class-action customer settlement along with related customer refunds.

Regarding the auto loans, Wells Fargo said customers' contracts require them to maintain collateral-protection insurance on behalf of the lender throughout the term of the loan. Wells Fargo purchased that insurance, known as CPI, from a vendor on a customer's behalf if there was no

evidence the customer already had the insurance, the bank said. That insurance protects against the loss or damage to a vehicle serving as collateral to secure a loan.

The vendor is National General Insurance, a company the bank had joined with for years, a person familiar with the matter said.

A spokeswoman for National General, Christine Worley, said it "feels confident with its compliance in this highly regulated industry." She added: "We have always refunded premiums directly to our financial institution customers in a timely manner and provided all necessary notifications in compliance with law and industry practice."

Wells Fargo said that, in response to customer complaints in July 2016, it began a review of the program and third-party vendor practices. Based on that review, it discontinued the program in September 2016.

The New York Times earlier reported the problems with Wells Fargo's auto insurance, citing a report from consultant Oliver Wyman prepared for the bank examining National General insurance policies sold to Wells Fargo customers from January 2012 through July 2016. It found the insurance was often more expensive than auto-insurance customers had already obtained on their own.

Wells Fargo said it has "gone through a comprehensive review using independent consultants" that determined certain external vendor processes and internal controls were inadequate.

For instance, one result was that customers may have been charged premiums for this insurance even if they were paying for their own vehicle insurance. In some cases, those premiums could have contributed to a default that led to the vehicle's repossession.

The bank has begun providing refunds to some customers and will send letters and refund checks to additional customers in August. The bank said it expects to complete the refunding process by year-end.

—Ryan Tracy
contributed to this article.

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—Ryan Tracy
contributed to this article.

Columbia Professor Weighed for SEC Post

BY ANDREW ACKERMAN

WASHINGTON—The White House is preparing to nominate Columbia University law professor Robert Jackson to a Democratic slot on the Securities and Exchange Commission, according to people familiar with the matter.

The White House is currently vetting Mr. Jackson after he was recommended by Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D., N.Y.), these people said.

The selection process isn't complete and could still change, one of the people said.

A White House spokeswoman and Mr. Jackson didn't respond to requests for comment. A spokesman for Mr. Schumer declined to comment.

The five-seat commission is required to have a partisan balance. Mr. Jackson's candidacy suggests the Trump administration is willing to defer to Senate Democratic leaders when filling regulatory seats reserved for Democrats.

While that practice mirrors one adopted by the Obama administration—which typically deferred to Senate Republicans for slots reserved for Republican individuals—it was unclear if the Trump administration would continue that tradition for high-profile regulatory posts.

If Mr. Jackson is nominated, Senate lawmakers would likely seek to speed up his confirmation by pairing him with Hester Peirce, a Republican tapped earlier this month to fill another SEC vacancy.

Both would join an SEC down to just three members: Democrat Kara Stein, Republican Michael Piwowar, and Jay Clayton, the chairman, who is an independent.

Mr. Jackson has written on securities topics such as executive compensation and corporate governance.

In 2014, he helped uncover a flaw with the SEC's corpo-

rate-filing system that allowed hedge funds and other rapid-fire investors to gain access to certain market-moving documents ahead of other users of the system. The SEC pledged to correct the flaw.

A 2015 research paper he co-wrote suggests corporate insiders might trade on material, nonpublic information before their companies are required to publicly report the information. He is also among a group of 10 academics to petition the SEC in 2011 to require public companies to disclose their political-spending activities.

Mr. Jackson's effort to persuade the SEC to regulate corporate political spending is notable, because the issue helped torpedo a previous nominee for the same post.

When the Obama administration nominated an academic for the same SEC slot in 2015, Senate Democrats, including Mr. Schumer, helped block her nomination when she didn't take a clear stand on the issue. Mr. Schumer said she was "fence-sitting" on whether public companies should have to disclose the money they give to political groups.

Democrats believe more transparency could prompt some companies to spend less on politics if shareholders or other influential groups protest the giving. Still, the effort is unlikely to gain traction during the Trump administration.

Republican officials generally oppose such a rule, saying the SEC shouldn't compel firms to report political donations because securities laws require companies to report only information that helps shareholders make investment decisions.

Such judgments usually turn on a company's prospects for earning profits or cash flow, not whether a business has donated money to a politically active group, they say.

—Dave Michaels
contributed to this article.

Group Seeks to Close Wall Street's Gender Gap

BY GEOFFREY ROGOW

State Street Global Advisors has a plan to improve gender diversity on corporate boards. A New York City group is focusing on getting women in the pipeline first.

Girls Who Invest, founded by Seema Hingorani, a former chief investment officer for the New York City Retirement Systems, aims to increase the number of women in leadership and portfolio-management roles in the asset-management industry by helping managers get more female job candidates.

Surprisingly, the number of female asset managers is shrinking. According to data from 2015, the most recent available, 7% of investment managers in the \$15 trillion mutual-fund industry were female, according to Morningstar Inc. That is down from 10% in 2009.

Among its efforts, the non-profit group organizes an intensive summer educational program, joining with profes-

sors at several large universities and executives at asset-management firms.

Following this four-week education program, where these college students receive what Ms. Hingorani calls a "crash-course M.B.A.," the students then embark on six-week paid internships at companies such as Bank of America Corp., Oaktree Capital Group LLC and Wellington Management Co.

This summer, about 60 women are taking part in the program, which began on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania. Next year, the group hopes to have about 100 women at Penn and the University of Notre Dame.

"More gender diverse teams get better outcomes. The firms believe that, they just don't know how to get it," said Ms. Hingorani, who has had a long career working for such firms as Pyramis Global Advisors, a unit of Fidelity Investments, and T. Rowe Price Group Inc.

She said when she had asked most investment execu-

tives why they don't have more women, the most common answer was they don't get resumes from women.

Within the asset-management industry, alternative assets—which includes private equity, real estate and hedge funds—has the lowest percentage of female representation. Adding a few more women to these areas, which run large pools of money, could help Girls Who Invest reach its goal of having 30% of the world's investible capital managed by women by 2030, Ms. Hingorani said.

The issue of women in management was in focus this past week after index-fund giant State Street said it voted against the re-election of directors at 400 companies this year on grounds they failed to take steps to add women to their boards.

The money manager, a unit of State Street Corp., said it discovered that 476 companies whose shares it owned lacked a single female board member. Of that group, the Boston-

based firm said 400 companies failed to make any significant effort to address the issue.

State Street, which oversees more than \$2.5 trillion in assets, had pledged in March to throw its weight behind the issue of gender diversity this year. The firm commissioned and placed a bronze statue of a young girl across from the iconic bull near Wall Street.



The Fearless Girl statue in New York. Girls Who Invest wants more women in leadership roles.

Ms. Hingorani, over the past few years, met with industry executives, endowment chairs, college professors and college students directly to launch the program.

Many of the asset-management firms that financially back the program—which is free for the students—also take on a student as an intern.

Ms. Hingorani's hope is to expand the program to a total

of 150 students and three locations within the next few years. Students don't have to be finance majors to apply, with liberal arts, engineers and other majors accepted.

The one thing she doesn't want is too much expansion.

"It's more than just educating women. It's about providing real jobs," she said. "By creating a boutique-like structure, we can do that."

FINANCE WATCH

SWISS BANKS

UBS, Credit Suisse Notch Profit Gains

Swiss banks UBS Group AG and Credit Suisse Group AG posted gains in profit in the second quarter, suggesting their bets that managing money for well-heeled clients have paid off.

UBS said its net profit rose 14% to 1.17 billion Swiss francs (\$1.21 billion).

Credit Suisse said net income soared 78%, to 303 million francs, compared with 170 million francs in the year-earlier period. Net new assets increased by nearly 23 billion francs in the first half of the year, pushing its assets under management to a record.

UBS's shares fell 2.9%, while Credit Suisse's stock rose 31%.

—Brian Blackstone

BANCO SANTANDER

Earnings Climb 35%

Banco Santander SA reported a 35% rise in second-quarter profit and said its recent acquisition of Banco Popular Español SA would boost returns as Spain's recovery accelerates.

The Spanish bank said net profit rose to €1.75 billion (\$2.04 billion) from €1.3 billion a year earlier. Net interest income was €8.61 billion, compared with €7.57 billion. Those figures include its acquisition of Banco Popular.

Santander's ratio of bad loans to total loans edged up with the acquisition of Banco Popular to 5.37% in the second quarter from 3.74% in the first quarter.

Santander's shares fell 0.1% on Friday.

—Jeannette Neumann

BARCLAYS

Bank Swings to Loss

Barclays PLC said it swung to a second-quarter loss as it took a hit on the disposal of its Africa operations and higher provisions for conduct costs.

Revenue fell 16% on the back of muted trading at its investment bank and lower sales at its retail operations.

For the quarter, the British bank had a net loss of £1.4 billion (\$1.83 billion), compared with a £677 million profit in the same period last year. Revenue fell to £5 billion.

The bank took a £700 million charge to compensate customers who were sold insurance products they didn't need. It also took a £2.5 billion hit on the disposal of its African business.

—Max Colchester

BEIJING—China's foreign-exchange regulator, in a rare move, accused several banks of negligence or violation of rules amid its efforts to stem capital outflows.

The State Administration of Foreign Exchange on Friday said that it found irregularities in local branches of nine banks when handling foreign-exchange transactions, combined valued at almost \$360 million.

The regulator has penalized non-financial firms and individuals for moving funds offshore by faking deals or through underground banks before, but it is the first time the regulator has exposed banks' alleged wrongdoings.

A local branch of the Industrial Bank Co. failed to con-

duct due diligence on checking the documentations of 15 trade deals valued at \$162 million, the regulator said. Those deals turned out to be fake, and the regulator slapped a fine of 900,000 yuan (\$133,470) on that branch, the agency said.

More than a dozen employees at a branch of China Minsheng Bank purchased foreign exchanges for an executive at the branch and friends of that executive through the employees' own annual quotas for foreign exchanges, the regulator said.

Other banks penalized include local branches of Bank of Ningbo Co. and Agricultural Bank of China Ltd.

The regulator's notice of the actions was released late

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MARKETS

Energy Firms Post Gusher Of Earnings

BY BRADLEY OLSON

The largest U.S. energy companies reported robust earnings on Friday, continuing a quarter in which the world's big oil

COMMODITIES firms have posted some of their strongest gains since a pronounced price crash began in 2014.

Exxon Mobil Corp. nearly doubled its second-quarter profit compared with a year ago, to \$3.35 billion, and **Chevron** Corp. jacked up its bottom line to \$1.45 billion.

The gains came even as oil prices fell again in the quarter, dipping below \$50 a barrel, and questions about future demand continue to weigh on producers, underscoring the transition under way in the industry to curb ambitions, cut costs and focus on smaller-scale opportunities.

Friday's tallies echoed results at **Royal Dutch Shell** PLC, Norway's **Statoil ASA** and France's **Total SA**. Collectively, the five energy companies this year are off to their best start since 2014, generating excess cash and profits that outstrip any two consecutive quarters in the past two years.

They generated more than \$30 billion in cash and managed to avoid sliding deeper into debt, an increasingly important barometer of an oil producer's ability to survive the crisis.

In addition to cutting costs by tens of billions, many energy companies have reori-

ented their businesses toward projects that can be completed quickly and produce profits within a few years rather than after more than a decade of upfront, billion-dollar spending.

"For us to compete and win," Exxon Vice President Jeff Woodbury told analysts on a call, "we have got to be the lowest cost-of-supply producer out there."

While the sector's improved performance doesn't yet match precrash levels, it does back up executives who have told investors in the downturn that the largest Western producers can thrive in a lower-price era.

"The companies are at different stages of learning how to deal with this low-price environment," said Brian Youngberg, an energy analyst at Edward Jones. "They will need to remain disciplined with their spending or investors will shun them."

Oil prices have risen recently to two-month highs on momentum furthered by recent inventory declines. Market observers have long said a sustained reduction in the amount of oil being stored would point to a partial price recovery as it would indicate greater demand. U.S. prices this week settled above the \$49 mark for the first time since May 30.

The push to a "short cycle" strategy has helped companies such as Exxon, Chevron and Shell prepare for a world in which prices don't return to \$100 a barrel for many years,



An Exxon oil refining and storage facility in the U.K. The company nearly doubled its second-quarter profit to \$3.35 billion.

if ever.

Shell Chief Executive Ben van Beurden said Thursday that the company had adjusted to a world in which prices could remain "lower forever" due to the potential for declining demand.

While Exxon and Chevron don't share the view that falling oil demand is a threat to their business before 2040, the companies have nonetheless pivoted toward investments that pay off quickly, especially in the U.S.

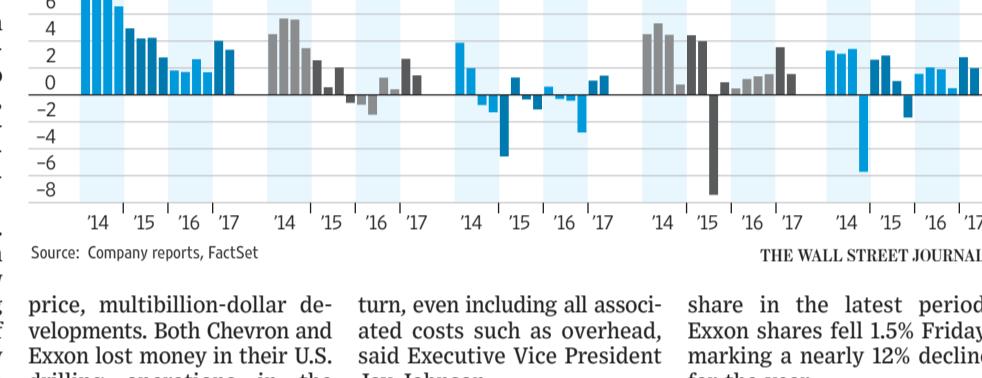
Through 2020, the U.S. units of big oil companies such as Exxon are expected to grow by about 7% a year, adding about 800,000 barrels a day of oil and gas production, largely from fracking operations in West Texas and deep-water drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, according to Tudor Pickering Holt & Co.

One challenge is coaxing the same returns out of shorter-term projects that the companies enjoyed with high-

Bouncing Back

Big energy companies' earnings are up after a rough couple of years.

Net income



Source: Company reports, FactSet

price, multibillion-dollar developments. Both Chevron and Exxon lost money in their U.S. drilling operations in the quarter.

Chevron said its land in West Texas and New Mexico could be worth as much as \$50 billion. The company's wells in that area—one of the hottest for drilling in the world—can bring a 30% re-

turn, even including all associated costs such as overhead, said Executive Vice President Jay Johnson.

Exxon's second-quarter profit of \$3.35 billion came to 78 cents a share; a year earlier, the company posted a profit of \$1.7 billion, or 41 cents a share. Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters were expecting earnings of 84 cents a

share in the latest period. Exxon shares fell 1.5% Friday, marking a nearly 12% decline for the year.

Chevron's profit of \$1.45 billion compares with a year-earlier loss of \$1.47 billion, stemming largely from asset write-downs. Chevron shares rose 1.9% Friday.

—Ezequiel Minaya contributed to this article.

Chinese Funds Fuel Hong Kong Stock Rally

BY GREGOR STUART HUNTER

HONG KONG—Chinese investors are gobbling up an increasing share of the Hong Kong stock market, helping to push the Hang Seng Index to its highest level in two years, even as markets at home flounder.

Chinese buyers have been able to buy shares on the Hong Kong stock exchange since 2014 via a trading link with Shanghai that also lets foreigners purchase shares in China. When that program was launched—followed by a similar link between Hong Kong and Shenzhen that started late last year—many expected it to herald a flood of money into mainland Chinese stocks.

Instead, flows into Hong Kong have been more prominent, particularly with its market booming. The city's Hang Seng Index is up 23% so far this year. By contrast, mainland markets have been lackluster, with the Shanghai Composite Index up just 4.8% and the Shenzhen market down 5.2%.

As money flows out of China and into Hong Kong, it is getting more expensive to trade stocks popular with Chinese investors, said Rahul Chadha, co-chief investment officer at Mirae Asset Global Investments. "One has seen huge amount of interest on the southbound side, and that's come from the fact that the [mainland] market hasn't gone anywhere this year," he said. "This is how markets or stocks get frothy."

Interest from mainland investors in Chinese companies that aren't listed at home has helped push up the valuations of firms such as **Tencent Holdings** Ltd., Mr. Chadha said. Precise data on trading flows through Stock Connect aren't available. However, data tracked by Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing indicate Chinese buyers had purchased more than 10% of the issued share capital of 45 Hong Kong-listed companies at the end of June through the link.

Hungarian Government Sells 'Panda' Bonds

BY SAUMYA VAISHAMPAYAN

China's bond market is opening up—to the government of Hungary.

The European country this past week raised 1 billion yuan (\$148 million) by selling bonds in the onshore Chinese market that priced at 4.85%.

CREDIT MARKETS Hungary's sale of these so-called panda bonds—yuan-denominated debt issued by foreign governments or companies in China's domestic market—was the first by a country since Poland last year, according to Dealogic.

But there are rumblings of more. Portugal has started discussions with Chinese authorities about a bond issue, though the size and timing

aren't yet settled, according to Portugal's Ministry of Finance. The Philippines plans to issue panda bonds this year, according to local media reports. The Bureau of the Treasury in the Philippines didn't respond to requests for comment.

Why the interest, given that the flow of money out of China is restricted by capital controls? For starters, the bond sales are largely symbolic. The \$148 million raised by Hungary in China is a drop in its planned total gross bond issuance of €26.2 billion (\$30.6 billion) for 2017.

Like most countries that raise funds overseas, Hungary plans to repatriate the proceeds of its panda-bond sale. In China, that is less of a problem for countries than for compa-

nies, according to experts, who say such plans are typically disclosed to regulators before the deal is completed.

Emerging-market countries, seeking cheap and diversified sources of cash, often issue debt in a number of currencies.

China's bond market is the third-largest in the world, so it makes sense for some countries to try it out, especially as Chinese bonds are eventually expected to be included in major bond indexes. That would bring in index funds and other passive investors.

"If it proves a success, they open up another channel for their government to tap at any time," said Sean Chang, head of Asian debt investment at Baring Asset Management in Hong Kong, who owns Hungar-

ian dim-sum bonds, which are yuan-denominated bonds sold outside China. "There is a lot of appetite [for bonds] in the onshore market," he added.

Interest from foreign governments in China's bond market can be politically motivated, too, meant to improve relations with the world's second-largest economy, according to bankers and investors.

China is working to attract foreigners to its bond market. Trading began earlier this month through its bond-connect program, which enables global investors with trading accounts in Hong Kong to access the interbank bond market. Last year, China opened its interbank bond market to foreigners with trading accounts in China.

"The Chinese financial market is expanding, and we believe it makes sense for Portugal to participate in the development of this market from its early stages," a representative of Portugal's Ministry of Finance said in an email.

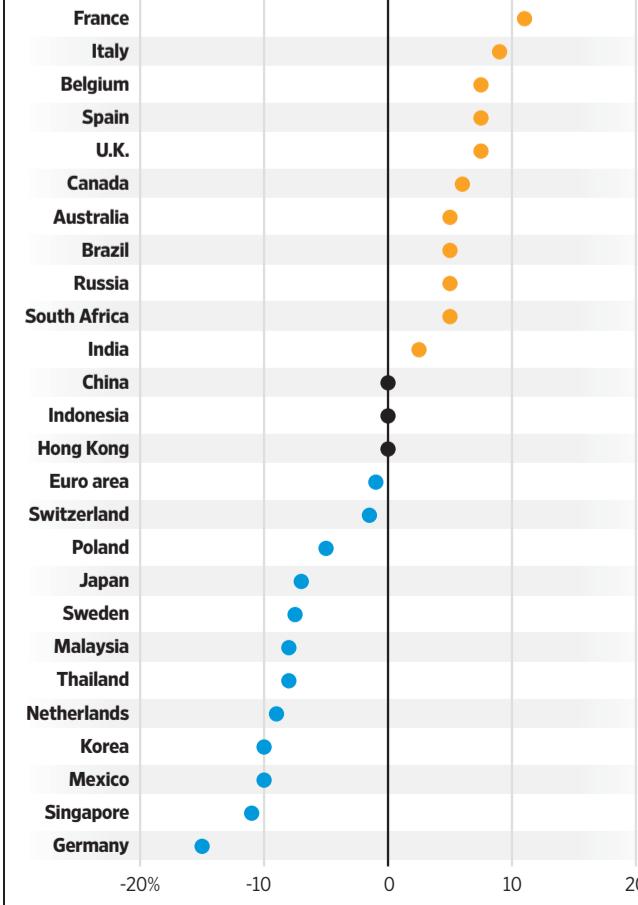
Foreign companies and governments have been able to tap the panda-bond market since 2005. Chinese authorities broadened access in late 2015, and foreign companies took advantage of that last year.

But obstacles remain: "One of the hurdles that foreign issuers going in face is the uncertainty of execution timing," said Agnes Tsang, a partner at law firm Allen & Overy in Hong Kong. "It takes time for local regulators to review [the deals] and give feedback."

Out of Sync

A new IMF report suggests the U.S. and Saudi Arabian currencies are the most overvalued among 29 major economies.

Exchange-rate misalignments



*Chart shows percentage above or below each currency's fair value. Each percentage is the midpoint of a range.

Source: International Monetary Fund staff assessments

BY CHERYL DULANEY

This year's slide in the U.S. dollar still leaves it the second-most overvalued among the currencies of 29 major economies, according to a new report by the International Monetary Fund.

The IMF's 2017 External Sector Report estimated that the greenback was roughly 15% overvalued, second only to Saudi Ara-

bia's riyal. Among G-10 currencies, the dollar was the most overvalued, despite a 7% slide in 2017 against a basket of 16 peers tracked by The Wall Street Journal.

The IMF report also provides some support for statements made by President Donald Trump in two separate Wall Street Journal interviews that the dollar is "too strong." A stronger dollar can hurt the economy by making U.S. exports less competitive abroad.

The Trump administration has urged the IMF to more strictly enforce currency policies while also accusing China, Germany and Japan of using undervalued currencies to boost their exports at the disadvantage of U.S. companies.

On Thursday, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said countries who are found to manipulate currencies should face more than talk. "There should be an impact," he said in front of the House Financial Services Committee.

Analysts have noted that many of the currencies singled out by the administration don't actually fit the criteria for currency manipulation.

Saudi Arabia's riyal was the most overvalued, at an estimated 20%.

The IMF's report said China's currency is roughly in line with fundamentals, while the euro is only about 1% undervalued. Japan's currency, the yen, is undervalued by an estimated 7%, an improvement from 11% in 2015.

The biggest misalignments were found in emerging-market currencies, which tend to be more volatile.

Following, are the biggest currency imbalances, according to the IMF report:

◆ Saudi Arabia's riyal was the most overvalued, at an estimated 20%. The riyal is pegged to the U.S. dollar and has been forced higher by the dollar's big 2014-2016 rally.

◆ South Korea (-10%), Mexico (-10%) and Singapore (-11%) had the most undervalued emerging-market currencies. Weaker currencies are seen as beneficial for these countries because it gives them a trade advantage over other exporters.

◆ Germany remains an outlier, with the IMF estimating the euro is about 15% too weak for the economy.

Chancellor Angela Merkel has acknowledged that the common currency is too weak for Germany, but stressed that the euro's value is driven in part by European Central Bank policies that are out of Germany's control.

The dollar fell Friday after data showed U.S. inflation remains tepid despite a pickup in economic growth.

The WSJ Dollar Index, which measures the U.S. currency against 16 others, fell 0.4% to 86.10, its lowest closing level since last September. The dollar fell 0.6% against the euro and 0.5% against the Japanese yen.

U.S. Dollar May Be Cheaper, But Currency Isn't Inexpensive

BY CHERYL DULANEY

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MARKETS

Tech Pulls Down S&P 500 and Nasdaq

Sector falls 0.6% for the week; earnings reports help keep the Dow industrials in the black

By RIVA GOLD
AND CORRIE DRIEBUSCH

The Dow Jones Industrial Average posted a gain for the day and the week, while a fall in technology shares contributed to declines in the S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite.

Upbeat quarterly results from large U.S. companies including Boeing, Caterpillar, Chevron and Verizon Communications helped the Dow industrials outperform its peers in recent days.

Together, those stocks' weekly gains contributed roughly 310 points to the index, which rose 250.24 points, or 1.2%, for the week. On Friday, the Dow industrials rose 33.76 points, or 0.2%, to 21,830.31—a fresh record.

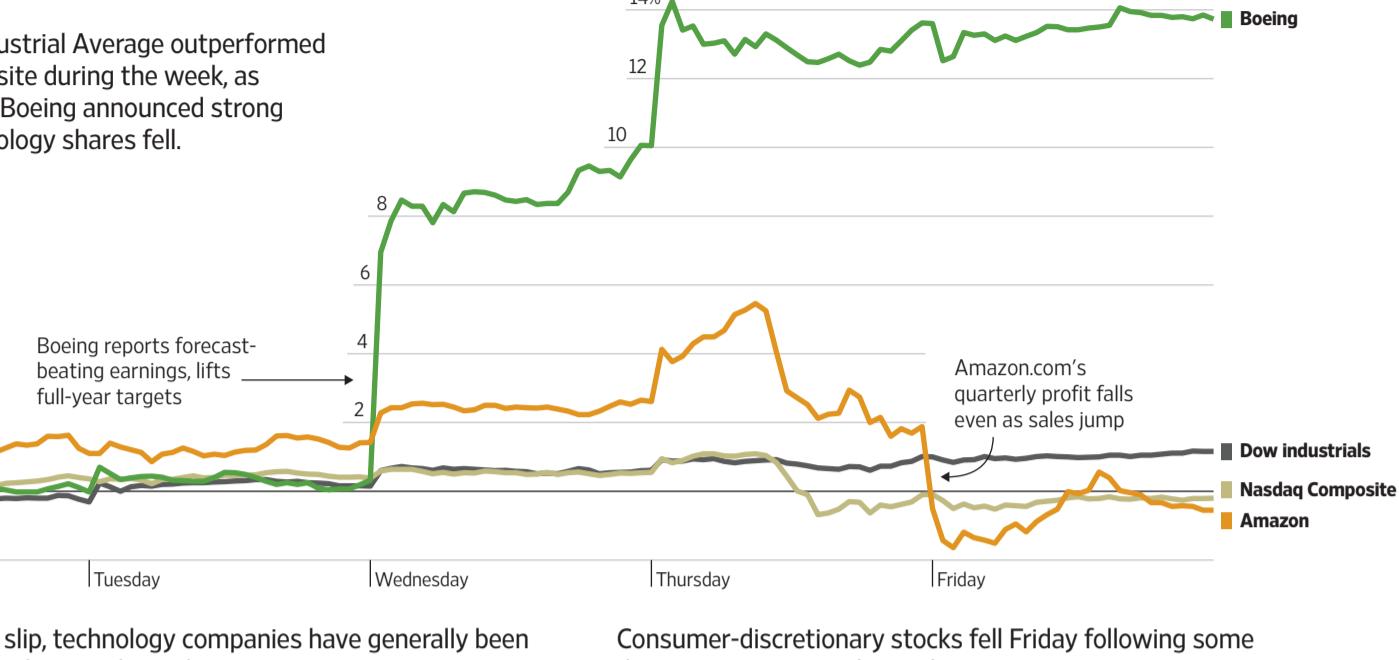
The S&P 500 fell 3.32 points, or 0.1%, to 2,472.10 Friday and was little changed on the week, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite shed 7.51, or 0.1%, to 6,374.68 Friday and lost 0.2% during the week.

Shares of Amazon.com weighed on both indexes after the internet retailer reported downbeat results late Thursday. Amazon fell \$25.96, or 2.5%, to \$1,020.04 after the company said its quarterly profit fell 77%, adding to Friday's declines in the consumer-discretionary sector. Starbucks shed 5.50, or 9.2%, to \$48.00 after its earnings fell short of analysts' expectations and it lowered its full-year earnings forecast. Goodyear Tire & Rubber sank 2.97, or 8.4%, to \$32.51 after the tire maker cut its profit outlook for the year.

The tech sector of the S&P 500 slipped 0.1% Friday, extending declines from the prior session, and posted a weekly fall of 0.6%. Nonethe-

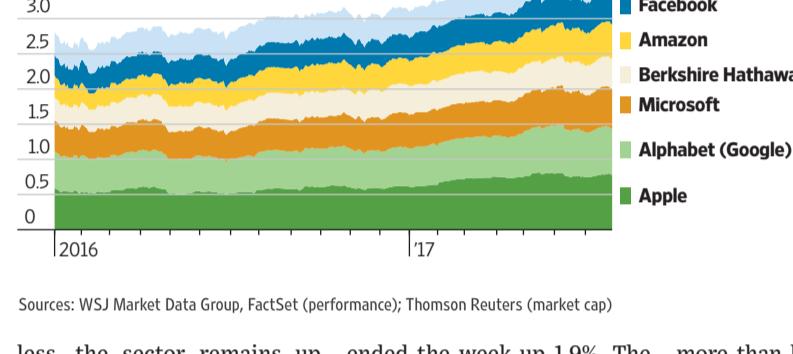
Diverging

The Dow Jones Industrial Average outperformed the Nasdaq Composite during the week, as companies such as Boeing announced strong earnings and technology shares fell.



Despite the week's slip, technology companies have generally been rallying, pumping up their market values.

Market cap



Sources: WSJ Market Data Group, FactSet (performance); Thomson Reuters (market cap)

less, the sector remains up 22% year to date.

"There's been such an enormous run-up in tech that these stocks are vulnerable to any disappointment," said Russ Koesterich, co-portfolio manager of the BlackRock Global Allocation Fund. The question now is if investors sell their positions in tech shares, into what assets or sectors will they move that money, he added.

Energy stocks in the S&P 500 ticked lower Friday but

ended the week up 1.9%. The sector climbed as the price of oil jumped, with crude prices up 8.6% for the week at \$49.71 a barrel—the best weekly performance since December.

On Friday, Exxon Mobil and Chevron both reported second-quarter profit gains. Shares of Chevron rose 2.01, or 1.9%, to 108.12, while Exxon fell 1.23, or 1.5%, to 79.60 as its earnings missed analysts' expectations.

Second-quarter earnings overall have been positive. With

more than half of the companies in the S&P 500 having reported results, earnings are on track to rise 9.1% from a year earlier, according to FactSet.

The dollar edged lower Friday after data showed U.S. economic growth picked up in the second quarter but inflation remained soft. The Commerce Department said gross domestic product rose at a 2.6% annual rate in the quarter. The Fed's preferred inflation gauge, the price index for

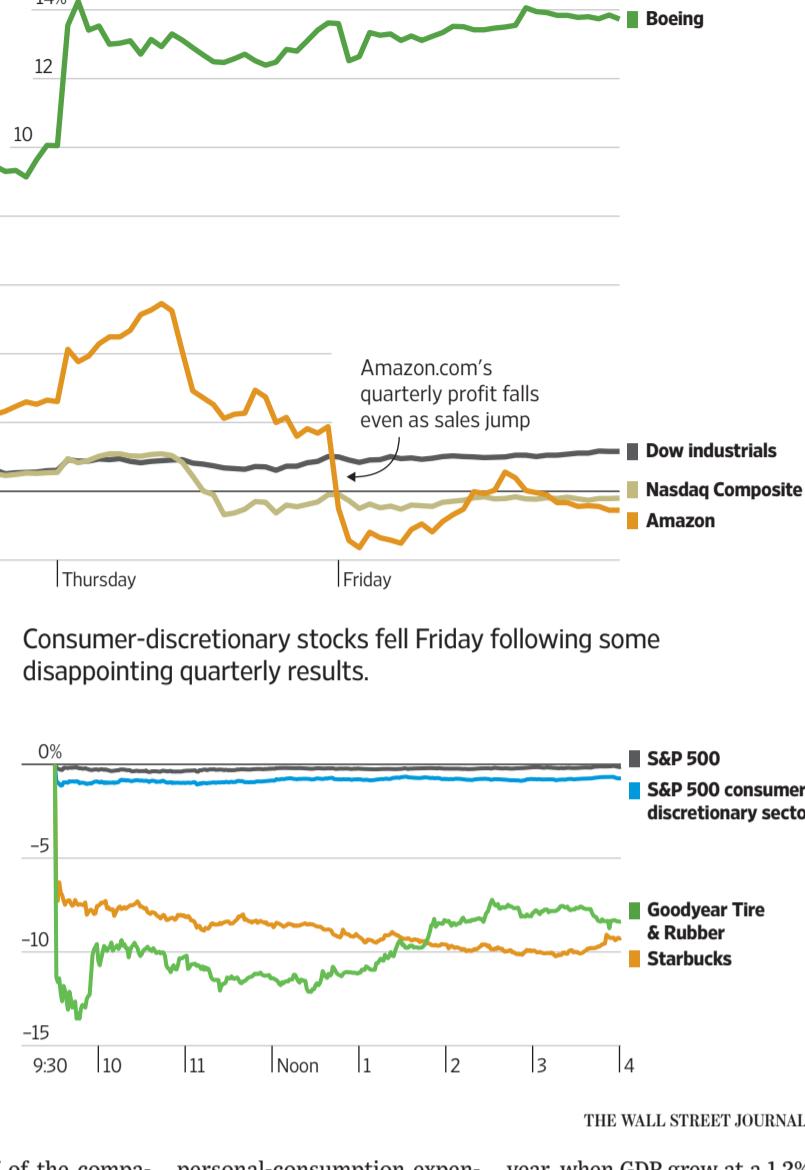
personal-consumption expenditures, rose at a rate of 0.3% during the period.

The WSJ Dollar Index, which measures the U.S. currency against 16 others, declined 0.5% for the week. U.S. government bonds strengthened, sending the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note down to 2.291% from 2.312% on Thursday.

The second-quarter pickup in growth follows a stumble in the first three months of the

year, when GDP grew at a 1.2% pace. Expectations for solid growth in the second quarter climbed heading into Friday as data on U.S. factories and jobs offered encouraging signals on the U.S. economy.

The Stoxx Europe 600 fell 1%—marking its lowest close since April. Europe's technology sector shed 1.3% on Friday, while Japan's Nikkei Stock Average and Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index each fell 0.6% amid pressure on the sector.



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FINANCIAL ANALYSIS & COMMENTARY

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Where There's Smoke, There's Fire

Don't look for cigar butts in the tobacco sector.

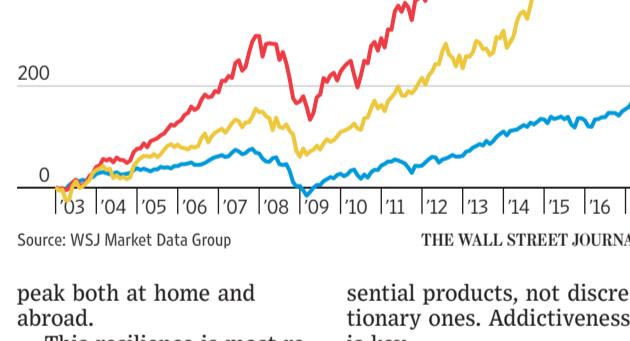
A little over \$50 billion of market value in three U.S.-listed tobacco companies briefly went up in smoke on Friday after the Food and Drug Administration spooked investors in the sector. Commissioner Scott Gottlieb said the agency was taking steps to render cigarettes "minimally addictive."

Perhaps, some users simply like their taste or the image cigarettes project, but nicotine's addictiveness is undoubtedly a big part of the appeal for a product that can cost upward of \$12 a pack and carries warnings of its deadly effects.

Fretting about tobacco companies such as Altria Group, Philip Morris International and British American Tobacco has proved costly in the past. The decadeslong public-health battle against smoking has reduced per capita consumption of cigarettes in the U.S. by about 80%, but, paradoxically, the profitability of the business is near a

Nicotine High

Share-price and index performance since 2002, monthly



Source: WSJ Market Data Group

risk products," which can be quite profitable, too.

Curb your enthusiasm,

though. Newer products introduced after August 2016 face scrutiny.

Furthermore, back in 2003, when regulatory worries were last so acute about plain old cigarettes, Altria sported a dividend yield of more than 5% and traded at less than six times trailing earnings. It recently sported a yield of barely 3% and a trailing P/E ratio of about 28 times.

Moreover, 14 years ago domestic leader Altria had big exposure to international tobacco sales and to food.

Those businesses now reside in Philip Morris, Kraft Heinz and Mondelez International.

Famed value investor Warren Buffett often spoke of "cigar butt" stocks that looked bad due to a declining or threatened business but still had a few puffs left in them. Tobacco stocks might fit the bill if it weren't for their rich valuations.

—Spencer Jakab

peak both at home and abroad.

This resilience is most remarkable considering the fact that excise taxes and other cost pressures as well as plain old price increases have pushed the price per pack to about four times what it was in cigarette smoking's U.S. heyday. An economist would say that the "price elasticity of demand" is low for tobacco, a trait usually shared by es-

sential products, not discretionary ones. Addictiveness is key.

There are caveats that might make an investor want to pounce once again on a spot of bad news. The measures may never be enacted due to effective lobbying or legal challenges, or get watered down. Even then, they may take some time. Finally, as analysts at Wells Fargo point out, the news could be "an opportunity for reduced

More of Same Isn't So Bad For Economy

The U.S. economy has been far from inspiring, but, hey, it could be worse.

The Commerce Department on Friday reported that gross domestic product expanded at a 2.6% annual rate in the second quarter, after increasing (a downwardly revised) 1.2% in the first quarter. With the rebound in growth owing more to temporary factors and measurement issues than anything fundamental, the average of the two figures of 1.9% is probably the better reflection of GDP's underlying trend.

Since the recession ended, GDP has expanded at a 2.1% annual rate. Everybody would have liked, and many people expected, growth to be stronger. Then again, the economy weathered a lot during those years. Sometimes being stuck in a rut isn't such a bad thing.

Moreover, slow as growth has been, it has been sufficient for the economy to keep adding jobs. Even though wage growth has been lackluster, the pace of hiring has bolstered household income. Next Friday's jobs report will likely show that hiring remains strong.

Half of the message for investors is that they shouldn't expect the economy to suddenly shift into higher gear, particularly with the stimulus hopes that accompanied President Donald Trump's move to the White House looking doubtful.

But the other half of the message is that the economy can absorb a lot, and despite all of the political uncertainties the U.S. faces, the risk of recession—typically the stock market's biggest danger—remains low. That counts for a lot.

—Justin Lahart

European Investment Banks Suffer From American Envy

Life isn't getting any easier for Europe's investment banks.

A string of results on Friday showed they are falling further behind U.S. rivals in the business of trading bonds and currencies, although some are doing better in equities. Low volatility at home and a lack of scale in the more active and profitable U.S. market are taking their toll.

In investment banking, advising on deals and capital raising, Europeans are performing worse, too, with only UBS Group getting close to the revenue gains reported by U.S. banks.

peans is that the more

money U.S. banks make in their domestic market, the more firepower they will have to deploy on winning business elsewhere. As banks such as Morgan Stanley and Citigroup return to strength, the White House's deregulatory agenda for banks might give this extra impetus.

Credit Suisse Group stood out as having a particularly rough second quarter, mainly due to a much worse performance in both equity and bond trading in Asia, a market on which it is pinning its turnaround story.

Low volatility in currencies and weak activity among clients in interest-

rate-related trading hurt all banks. Only Deutsche Bank, which reported Thursday, did marginally better than the U.S. average, although the German bank fell down on its equities business, which saw the biggest revenue drop among its peers.

One bright spot for several banks was the business of funding equities trades for hedge funds, which makes Deutsche's major loss of ground there look doubly painful. BNP Paribas appeared to benefit most from Deutsche's woes, with its equities revenue up 24% from the second quarter of 2016 in dollar terms, although it said strong equity deriva-

Falling Down

Change in second-quarter fixed-income revenue from prior year in dollar terms

-36%	UBS
-25	Credit Suisse
-21	Barclays
-17	BNP Paribas
-14	Deutsche Bank
-16	U.S. average

Source: the companies

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tives results were also a big part of that.

BNP's revenue gains were far ahead of the pack. Barclays and UBS both managed to do a little better than the

U.S. average of a 1% increase. Barclays's equity revenue rose 4% in dollar terms and UBS's was up 3%.

There is a further threat to European banks in the form of planned changes to global capital rules that could increase equity requirements. This has become somewhat less of a concern since rule makers said banks are likely to have up to 10 years to meet updated rules.

Meanwhile, European banks' best hope is that U.S. regulators don't loosen the leash on American banks too much. Otherwise, the Europeans will have little chance of recovering lost ground.

—Paul J. Davies

A former Marine
sees peril
in Trump's
focus on U.S.
military might



C3

REVIEW



A matchless
window on the
early republic:
the diary of John
Quincy Adams

C5

BOOKS | CULTURE | SCIENCE | COMMERCE | HUMOR | POLITICS | LANGUAGE | TECHNOLOGY | ART | IDEAS

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Saturday/Sunday, July 29 - 30, 2017 | C1

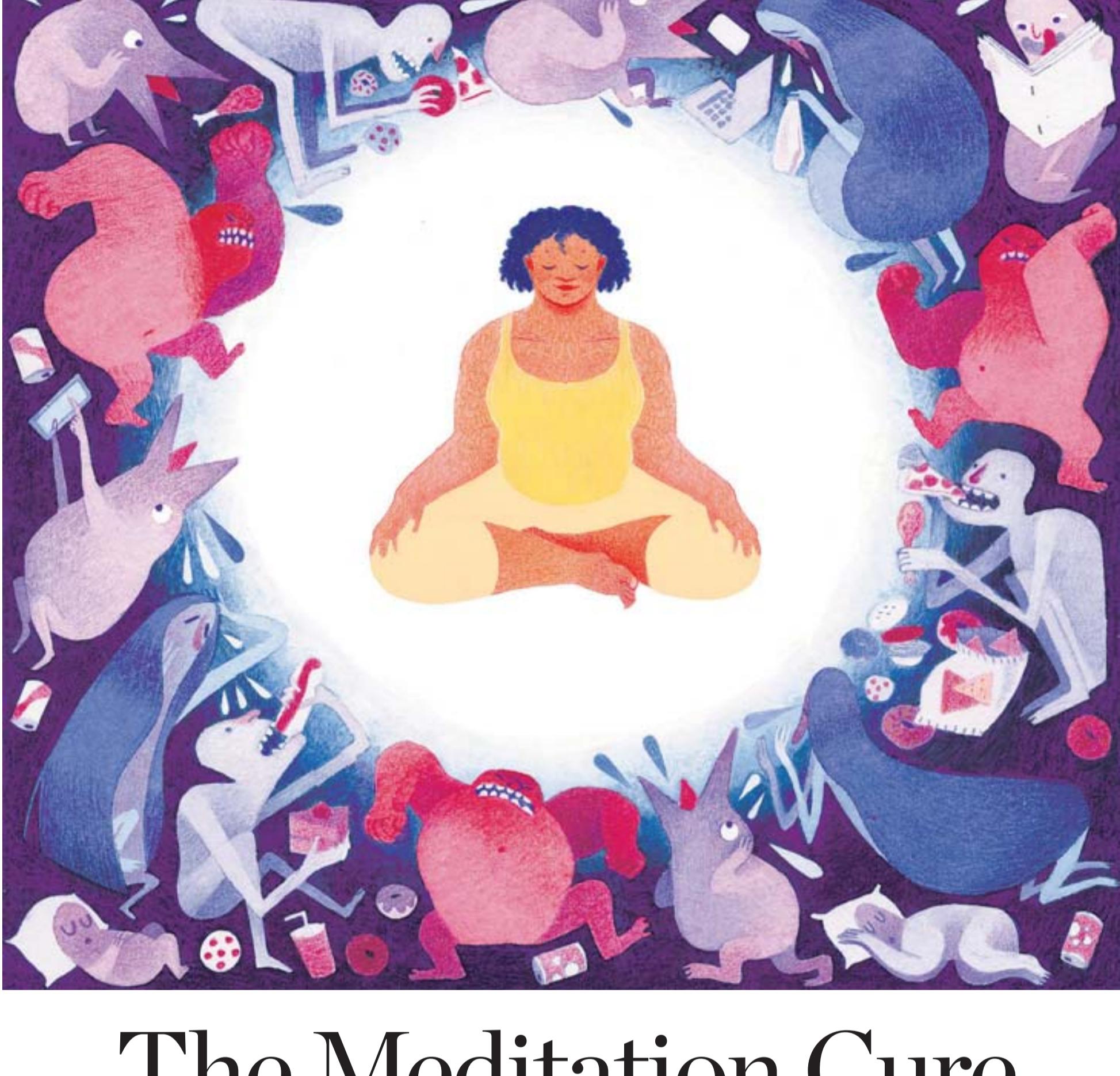


ILLUSTRATION BY ELEANOR DAVIS

The Meditation Cure

A basic practice of Buddhism turns out to be one of the best ways to deal with the anxieties and appetites bequeathed to us by our evolutionary history.

BY ROBERT WRIGHT

MUCH OF BUDDHISM can be boiled down to a bad-news/good-news story. The bad news is that life is full of suffering and we humans are full of illusions. The good news is that these two problems are actually one problem: If we could get rid of our illusions—if we could see the world clearly—our suffering would end.

And there's more good news: Buddhism offers tools for doing that job. A good example is the type of meditation known as mindfulness meditation, now practiced by millions of people in the U.S. and other places far from Buddhism's Asian homeland. Mindfulness meditation, Buddhists say, can change our perspective on feelings such as anxiety and rage and thereby sap their power to warp our vision and make us suffer.

These claims—the bad news and the good—are more than two millennia old, but they're now getting important support from evolutionary psychology, the modern study of how natural selection engineered the human mind. Evolutionary psychology gives Buddhism's diagnosis of the human predicament a back story. It explains *why* humans are prone to illusions and to suffering and why the two problems are related. And this explanation can strengthen the Buddhist pre-

scription, adding to the power of mindfulness meditation in particular.

Mindfulness meditation is an exercise in attention. It involves calming the mind—typically by focusing on the breath—and then using the resulting equanimity to observe things with unusual care and clarity. The things observed can include sounds, physical sensa-

Natural selection is indifferent to whether we are happy or sad, enlightened or deluded.

tions or anything else in the field of awareness. But perhaps most important is the careful observation of feelings, because feelings play such a powerful role in guiding our perceptions, thoughts and behavior.

And here is where an evolutionary perspective can be helpful. Mindfulness calls for a kind of skepticism toward feelings. Rather than automatically following their guidance, you critically inspect them and decide

which ones to trust. Evolutionary psychology helps to explain why this skepticism is warranted—why so many human feelings are unreliable guides. We don't generally think of Darwin and the Buddha as being on the same wavelength, but in this and other ways their worldviews turn out to harmonize nicely.

The Darwinian account of the human situation, like the Buddhist account, begins with bad news. The process that created us, natural selection, is indifferent to whether we are happy or sad, enlightened or deluded. Ultimately, natural selection only cares about one thing (or, I should say, "cares"—in quotes—since natural selection is just a blind process, not a conscious designer). And that one thing is getting genes into the next generation. Genetically based mental traits—including particular feelings—that in the past contributed to genetic proliferation have flourished, while traits that didn't

Please turn to the next page

This essay is adapted from Mr. Wright's new book, "Why Buddhism Is True: The Science and Philosophy of Meditation and Enlightenment," which will be published by Simon & Schuster on Aug. 8. His previous books include "The Evolution of God," "Nonzero" and "The Moral Animal."

INSIDE



WEEKEND CONFIDENTIAL
Esteem on the menu? Panera's Ron Shaich wants the chain to feed emotional needs too.

C11



MIND & MATTER
Yes, just taking a picture can help to treat childlessness. Melvin Konner explains.

C2



HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

Jane Austen without her name: Amanda Foreman on women writers who hid their identity.

C12



BOOKS
Searching for the blind, stinky, ancient Greenland shark—and finding a great story.

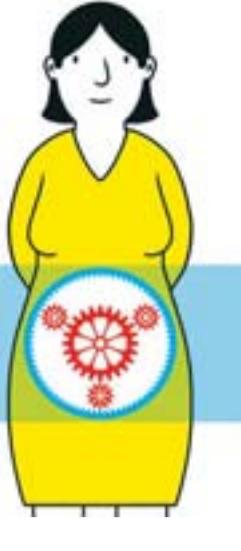
C9



ESSAY
Why Venezuela's socialist government doesn't want outside medical aid.

C3

REVIEW



MIND & MATTER:
MELVIN KONNER

Can Just Taking a Picture Help to Treat Infertility?

IN MEDICAL SCHOOL, some of the worst emotional distress I saw resulted from failed fertility treatments. Through all of the pain and loss I witnessed in hospitals, I can still remember the face of one woman weeping as she yet again faced the prospect of childlessness. In a 1985 study of 200 couples whose fertility treatment ended in failure, half the women and 15% of the men called it the worst experience of their lives.

That's why my eye was drawn to a new study in the New England Journal of Medicine finding that hysterosalpingography cured some cases of infertility. *Hystero* refers to the uterus. *Salpingo*, I knew, relates to the fallopian tubes that funnel eggs to the uterus. *Ography* relates to imaging—but how could taking a picture of reproductive organs cure anything?

Doctors use hysterosalpingography to see if there are blockages that could be causing fertility problems. Sexually transmitted infections, especially gonorrhea and chlamydia, can sometimes go unnoticed and untreated, and the resulting inflammation or scarring can block the fallopian tubes. (These aren't the only causes of infertility, of course. Around a third of cases are due to male problems, a third to female issues, including blockages, 10% to 20% to both partners, and the rest to unknown causes.)

To look at blockages, technicians have to introduce a teaspoon or two of a dye that's opaque to X-rays. How that material is introduced, it turns out, is the key to the procedure's effect on childlessness.

The new study, published in May, focused on couples visiting 27 hospitals in the Netherlands. The researchers excluded couples in which men had issues like low sperm count or in which women had hormonal problems, ovary disease or major tube blockages that could prevent pregnancy. In the end, 1,119 participants trying to have children met the researchers' criteria, with the women all receiving hysterosalpingography.

Smaller studies had given the scientists an idea of what to do next. They randomly chose half of the women to get the X-ray-opaque dye dissolved in oil, while the other half got the dye in water. Hence the experiment's nickname (all big studies have them): "The H2Oil Trial."

After the imaging procedure, the couples received various recommendations. For about 58%, doctors just suggested months of "watchful waiting" as the couples tried to have a child. For the rest, the researchers intervened with artificial insemination or other procedures. In each group, the median age, 33, and age ranges were almost identical.

In an average of three months, whether treated or not, about 40% of the women receiving the oil-based dye material became pregnant, while only 29% of the women who got the water-based dye material conceived.

Hysterosalpingography is exactly a century old this year. Luckily, some astute doctors guessed that the method of taking a picture was having an unintended fertility effect, and now research has backed this up. Such serendipity in medical progress is neatly captured by a saying of the great French biologist Louis Pasteur about the need to be ready to see the unexpected: "In the fields of observation, chance only favors the prepared mind."

The realization that supposedly inert oil could help to fulfill some couples' dreams has built slowly. No one knows exactly how it works. Probably, the liquid flushes out some unseen debris, and previous studies suggested that oil for some reason does it better than water.

A lot of the women in the study would eventually have become pregnant, though not so many so quickly. Oil and water don't mix—but in this case they have collaborated in research that may spare many couples some very distressing news.

Where the Buddha Meets Darwin

Continued from the prior page

have fallen by the wayside. Whether those feelings—and the thoughts and perceptions those feelings shape—give us a true view of reality is, strictly speaking, beside the point. So is whether they make us happy or miserable.

Take anxiety, for example. Evolutionary psychologists consider anxiety to be natural, grounded in our genes. After all, worrying about things can lead you to do something about those things. If you worry that your toddler, who seems to have wandered off somewhere, may get devoured by a beast, you'll go make sure your toddler is safe—which, not incidentally, means making sure that copies of your genes are safe.

Of course, anxiety is unpleasant. But natural selection doesn't care about that. It doesn't even care that some of this unpleasantness will be for naught—that your toddler turned out to be in the hut next door, and the nightmare scenario that for a moment seemed so real was all in your head. Better safe than sorry, from natural selection's point of view. "False positives" are a feature, not a bug, even though they make you suffer by fostering an illusion.

According to evolutionary psychology, our natural anxieties include social anxieties. The ancestral environment—the hunter-gatherer milieu in which humans evolved—featured lots of social interaction, and this interaction had consequence for a person's genes. If you had low status in the group and few friends, that cut your chances of spreading your genes, so impressing people mattered.

Similarly, if your offspring didn't thrive socially, that boded ill for their reproductive prospects, and hence for your genes. So it made sense, in Darwinian terms, for our ancestors to worry about what people thought of them and their offspring.

Here, too, false positives could arise. Our ancestors presumably worried about some things in their social environment that turned out not to be worth worrying about. But we moderns have things even worse. The false-positive problem can be compounded by the fact that anxiety no longer operates in the environment for which natural selection designed it.

Consider an artifact that has never been found by archaeologists unearthing the remnants of a Paleolithic hunter-gatherer village: PowerPoint. One thing our hunter-gatherer ancestors didn't do was give presentations to an audience consisting largely of people they didn't know. Maybe that's why the prospect of doing this fills some people with overwhelming anxiety: Anxieties designed for a small and fairly intimate social environment get amplified by an environment that is neither.

This doesn't mean that anxiety about public speaking is worthless. Worrying about your PowerPoint presentation can lead to a better presentation.

But let's face it: Though this anxiety is sometimes productive, it often isn't. There are people who, before a presentation, are beset by images of themselves spontaneously vomiting while talking to a crowd—even though, come to think of it, they've never spontaneously vomited while talking to a crowd. In a particularly perverse twist on PowerPoint anxiety, I've been known to lie awake the night before a big presentation worrying that if I don't get to sleep I'll do a bad job the next day.

I defy anyone to argue that this is natural selection's way of increasing my chances of surviving and reproducing. So too with other modern social anxieties: a sense of dread before going to a cocktail party that, in fact, is unlikely to lead to anything worth dreading; or worrying about how your child is doing at her first slumber party, something you're powerless to influence. Our hunter-gatherer ancestors didn't have to navigate roomfuls of people they had never met, or send their children off to sleep in homes they had never seen—and that, presumably, is why these occasions can bring powerful yet typically unproductive anxiety.

This mismatch between our evolved nature and the environment in which we find ourselves isn't just a modern phenomenon. For thousands of years, there have been social environments that weren't the ones people were designed for. The Buddha was born to a royal family, which means that he lived in a society with clusters of population much bigger than a hunter-gatherer village. And there is evidence that people were being called on to speak before large audiences and that something like PowerPoint anxiety had taken shape. In one discourse, the Buddha's list of common fears included the "fear of embarrassment in assemblies."

That people were, even in the Buddha's day, experiencing an uncomfortable mismatch between the environment their feelings were engineered for and the environment in which they found themselves may help to explain Buddhism's early emphasis on meditative practice. The meditation that is described in ancient texts would have made people more aware of their feelings—in a sense more objectively aware of them—and so less reflexively governed by them. This remains a central goal of mindfulness meditation today.

And it can work. I have a daily meditation practice—periodically recharged by silent meditation retreats of a week or more—and I have more than once used meditation to deal with intense anxiety.

In the middle of the night before a big talk, I have even sat up in bed, meditated, and gotten to a point where I viewed a knot of anxiety with such calm objectivity that it might as well have been a piece of abstract art I was contemplating in a museum. It entirely lost its grip on me, after which it disappeared. Perhaps Buddhists more than two millennia ago had much the same experience when meditating on "fear of speaking in assemblies."

There is no doubt, however, that the modern environment surpasses the Buddha's environment in its power to warp our feelings about, hence our perception of, the world. Consider powdered sugar doughnuts.

I have warm feelings toward them—so warm that, if I were guided only by my feelings, I would eat them for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and between-meal snacks. Yet I'm told that eating that many doughnuts would be bad for me—that my feeling of attraction to powdered-sugar doughnuts is not to be trusted. This is hard news to take.

How could natural selection let something like this happen—give me feelings that don't even do a good job of taking care of the body containing my genes? Well, natural selection designed our feelings for an environment with no junk food, an environment in which the sweetest thing available was fruit. So a sweet tooth, and the feelings it inspires, served us well. But in the modern world, which features the achievement of culinary science known as "empty calories," these feelings become misleading.

Or, I should say, more misleading. Fundamental to Buddhism is the idea that craving in general—*tanha*, as it's called in ancient texts—is inherently misleading. Regardless of what we thirst after—junk food, healthy food, sex—the thirst, the *tanha*, fosters an illusion of enduring gratification. When I see anything tasty, I imagine how good it will taste, not how that satisfaction will inevitably fade, leading to the desire for more.

This was one of the Buddha's main messages: that the pleasures we seek evaporate quickly and leave us thirsting for more. We spend our time looking for the next gratifying thing—the next doughnut, the next sexual encounter, the next status-enhancing promotion, the next online purchase. But the thrill always fades, and it always leaves us wanting more. The old Rolling Stones lyric "I can't get no satisfaction" is, according to Buddhism, the human condition. Though the Buddha is famous for asserting that life is full of suffering, some scholars say that's an incomplete rendering of his message and that the word translated as "suffering," *dukkha*, could be translated as "unsatisfactoriness."

From natural selection's point of view, dooming an animal to relentlessly recurring unsatisfactoriness is a wonderful idea. After all, if pleasure didn't subside, we'd never seek it again. Our first meal would be our last, because hunger would never return. So too with sex: a single act of intercourse, and then a lifetime of lying there basking in the afterglow. That's no way to get lots of genes into the next generation! Contentment is nice while it lasts, but it evaporates by design.

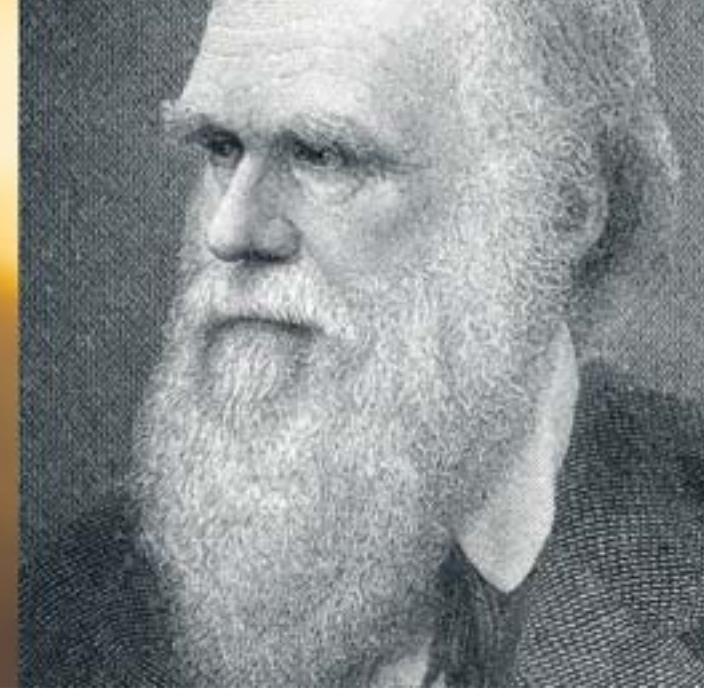
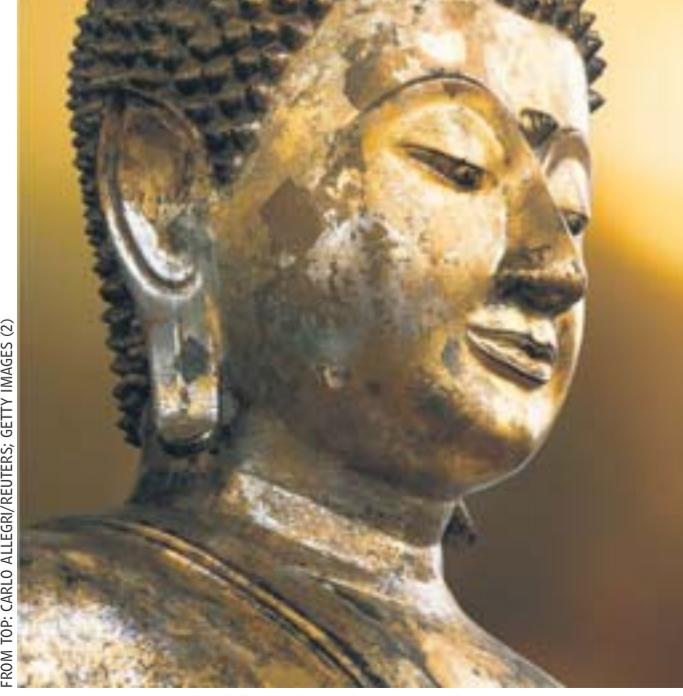
Much in the modern world—from junk food to pornography to nicotine to the Facebook algorithm that governs your news feed—has been engineered to intensify *tanha*, our unquenchable desire for more.

What to do? One approach is to meditate: Observe particular cravings mindfully, thus weakening them. This is challenging—more challenging than meditating on anxiety, I'd say—but there's evidence that it can work. A study involving 88 smokers, published in the journal Drug and Alcohol Dependence in 2011, found that this kind of mindfulness training more effectively treated nicotine addiction than the American Lung Association's Freedom From Smoking program, which offers group counseling and a menu of therapies such as nicotine patches.

Regular mindfulness meditation can also undermine craving in a more general way. It can lessen the urgency of finding the next big thing by deepening your appreciation of things that you already have.

Buddhism's list of unfortunate human illusions is long. It includes misconceptions about the "self" that we think of as being at our core and misconceptions about the nature of the things that we see in the world, including other humans. And many of these illusions can plausibly be explained as having been implanted in us by natural selection to serve its agenda—an agenda that doesn't put a priority on seeing the world as it actually is or on finding lasting happiness in the world that we do see.

It is a tribute to Buddhism that it sized up the human predicament more than two millennia before science got around to discovering the origins of that predicament. But it would be unlike the Buddha to boast about this. If he were around today, he might instead thank Darwin for the corroboration, for explaining how humans wound up being prone to illusion and to attendant suffering. And if Darwin were around today, and joined the mindfulness meditation movement, he might thank the Buddha for coming up with a way to address the problem.



FROM TOP: CARLO ALLEGRI/REUTERS/GTY IMAGES (2); THE INSIGHTS of Buddhism have been corroborated in important ways by Darwin and his heirs in evolutionary psychology.

REVIEW



U.S. ARMY LT. Adam Wilson shakes hands with Sheikh Mahmood al-Ghizzi after a lunch meeting, Dec. 5, 2011, Nasiriyah, Iraq.

the weak West African states of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea—but more developed African countries such as Nigeria controlled their initial outbreaks of the disease with minimal assistance.

A more well-rounded national-security approach would also capitalize on America's unrivaled strengths. The world still looks to U.S. leadership in tech, education and entrepreneurship. When I travel to conflict zones such as Mali and Afghanistan now to work with local companies, I find them more eager for American partners than most of the local defense forces in Iraq ever were.

The U.S. still needs to deter potential foes, of course, but the return-on-investment for the purchase of that 1,000th missile is pretty limited. A few well-spent development dollars, by contrast, can unlock 100 times more in private investment for the long-term infrastructure that provides jobs and electricity in a

faltering state. The U.S. military budget is already 10 times that of our diplomatic and development efforts, which represent only 1% of the federal budget. We need to adjust that balance.

A more expansive idea of how the U.S. operates abroad can also help us to deal with the challenge from China, which is adept at using its own influence in the developing world—a soft-power contest with hard-power consequences. China has deployed aid and loans across Africa, winning infrastructure deals and a new military base in the strategically critical Horn of Africa. U.S. funding for such programs as AIDS relief and scholarships for African youth to attend American universities can help to counter the pull of Chinese-built stadiums and railways.

When the U.S. military isn't backed up by aid, diplomacy and private investment, it has a harder time identifying early signs of instability. A standard briefing during my time in Iraq would cover firefights and roadside bomb attacks and our own response with patrols and checkpoints. The best barometer of progress available to our commanders was often how many times our forces had been hit in the past week. That's hardly a complete picture of a complex modern conflict.

We put our troops at a disadvantage if our approach scorns key instruments of American power. U.S. private and public engagement in developing countries isn't charity. It is a wise investment in security writ large—the returns from which make it less likely that we'll need to send more Marines into harm's way.

Mr. Cusack served as a sniper-platoon commander and intelligence officer with the U.S. Marine Corps in Iraq from 2005 to 2008. He is a managing partner at CrossBoundary, an investment firm that works in emerging markets and fragile states.

All the Tools Of U.S. Power

Aid, diplomacy and private investment can spare us the use of military force

BY JAKE CUSACK

ON JULY 22, as he commissioned the Navy's newest aircraft carrier, the USS Gerald R. Ford, President Donald Trump said, "American steel and American hands have constructed a 100,000-ton message to the world: American might is second to none...We will win, win, win. We will never lose."

Mr. Trump's speech reflected his administration's emphasis on the military as the primary instrument of U.S. foreign policy. He has delegated broad powers to his military commanders while sidelining the State Department and proposing deep cuts to foreign aid. As a former Marine, I loved seeing a new aircraft carrier commissioned. But as I listened to Mr. Trump, I recalled a lesson from my service in Iraq a decade ago: Feeling strong and being strong are often two very different things.

I vividly remember one particular mission in which we searched four compounds for "high-value" insurgents. It was the heady stuff of recruiting commercials—heavily armed Marines riding helicopters into lawless terrain in the dead of night. The raid was a success, and when we landed back on base at 5 a.m., we felt great,

high on testosterone and adrenaline.

But I soon began to wonder if this was the best we could do with our superior technology and troops. More than 60 Marines, backed by assault helicopters and fighter planes, just to capture a few Iraqi farmers who had taken pot-shots at other Marines a few weeks earlier?

Later in my deployment, I joined a small group of Marines to talk to some sheikhs who lived along a U.S. resupply route that was riddled with explosive devices. We tried to map the road out in one- or two-kilometer segments, identifying which local leaders held their communities' respect. With various rewards and punishments as our tools, we worked with them to reduce the number of roadside bombs.

The second mission lacked the action-movie excitement of helicopters whisking away bad guys under cover of darkness. But what feels effective is often different from what is effective.

Winning the support of local leaders was a key part of the counterinsurgency strategies forged by such commanders as David Petraeus and H.R. McMaster (now Mr. Trump's national security adviser). These low-key efforts buttressed the pulse-pounding raids—and made Iraq a safer place for several years before the U.S. troop pullout that ended in 2011.

This problem—the gap between the exciting

As a Marine, I saw the gap between the exciting and the effective.

and the effective—is particularly relevant today. Mr. Trump's affection for firepower is reflected in his administration's budget proposals and overall attitude toward diplomacy. He has suggested raising military spending by \$54 billion, up some 10%, and cutting such soft-sounding programs as "economic support funds" and "development assistance." That means slashing the budget of the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development and related organizations by \$17 billion, or about 32%.

Such a shift in priorities may feel strong, and with plenty of problems here at home, many Americans think that we should not spend dollars abroad. But relying so completely on the military is a formula for disengagement that will make the U.S. less secure—and put at risk the lives of

American soldiers forced to deploy without our country's full array of resources behind them.

In the 20th century, U.S. strategists worried about strong states. In the 21st century, Mr. Trump and his advisers will find themselves forced to focus instead on weak states, which destabilize regions, foment terrorism and spread misery as they crumble. For dealing with the

likes of Yemen, Mali, Afghanistan and Libya, the best tools are not drone strikes and sanctions. The U.S. can do far more to bolster them with diplomacy, aid and the private sector.

Helping such states to prevent or limit conflict costs far less in American blood and treasure than intervention after they collapse. Fragile states struggle to provide security, build institutions and find jobs for their young populations.

Once they start meeting those needs,

they enter a virtuous cycle that helps their neighbors too. The U.S. spent more than \$2 billion and deployed 2,800 troops to stop Ebola in

VENEZUELA'S GOVERNMENT SEES CONSPIRACIES IN MEDICAL AID

BY RYAN DUBE

AT THE RUNDOWN children's hospital in Caracas, volunteers on a recent day worked quickly in a small playroom to sort through goods donated from abroad. There was a bag full of diapers, a box of medicines, baby formula, a few syringes—prized items in Venezuela, whose government has derided calls for foreign aid to alleviate the country's humanitarian crisis.

"This is gold," said Katherine Martínez, who led the volunteers at the J.M. de los Ríos Hospital, where the medical staff has gone for weeks at a time without baby formula and other necessities. "The donations are fundamental for us because the shortages are so big."

Once Latin America's richest country, Venezuela has been crippled by nationalization and price controls. The economy has contracted by 23% since 2013, and inflation is expected to hit 720% this year, according to the International Monetary Fund. Despite their country's vast oil wealth, many Venezuelans struggle to find food and medicine. Three-quarters of Venezuelans said that they lost weight last year, an average of 19 pounds, and the infant-mortality rate has hit 30%—higher than that of war-ravaged Syria.

President Nicolás Maduro says that the crisis will be eased with Sunday's election of a special assembly that will rewrite the constitution. Critics say that the move will only deepen Venezuela's troubles and further isolate its increasingly authoritarian regime. The opposition is boycotting the vote and has called for the government to open a "humanitarian corridor" for aid.

Mr. Maduro has been willing to seek help from U.N. agencies to buy medicine at lower prices, but his administration has rejected offers

for outright aid. The government believes that its imperialist foes are exaggerating the gravity of the situation to provide a pretext for meddling or even invasion. In May, Venezuela banned imports of first aid that could have been used by antigovernment protesters.

Accepting aid would also be seen as an acknowledgment that Venezuela's socialist policies have failed, a hard pill to swallow for a government used to sending relief to other Latin American countries hit by natural disasters.

Many people have said that in Venezuela there is a humanitarian crisis...that's the biggest lie of all lies," said Delcy Rodríguez, then the



EMPLOYEES of the J.M. de los Ríos children's hospital in Caracas sort donations, June 30.

country's foreign minister, at a June meeting of the Organization of American States. "It's one more excuse to intervene in Venezuela."

Care, the Atlanta-based charity, decided against working in Venezuela. The decision was based in part on the difficulty of setting up operations in the face of government opposition to relief agencies' efforts, said Lex Kassenberg, the group's emergency and humanitarian director.

Watching Venezuela's collapse from abroad, expatriates and some international relief agencies have decided to act despite the government's hostility. They collect donations in the U.S., Canada, Europe and across Latin America

and then must get the stash into Venezuela.

Some groups send rice, beans and tuna to orphanages and schools. Others deliver bandages, formula and high-blood-pressure pills to physicians or nonprofit organizations.

The groups generally avoid sending large shipments, for fear that the authorities might seize them. "I'd rather it arrive a little at a time than not arrive at all," said Milagros Ramirez, the founder of Fundación Sanando, or the Healing Foundation, a Florida-based aid provider.

Giving Children Hope, a California-based nonprofit, trucks food and medical donations to Florida, where the aid is separated into smaller boxes. The packages are shipped to Colombia or other neighboring countries, then moved overland into Venezuela in small batches.

Inside Venezuela, activists say that a government ban on internal shipments of medicine by courier hamstrings their efforts to deliver donations outside Caracas. Those who receive donations call them a lifeline, but few people view them as a long-term solution.

Acción Solidaria, a Caracas-based nonprofit founded to support HIV/AIDS patients, has seen its office transformed over the past year. On a recent day, its storage room was full of medication, diapers and even a wheelchair donated from abroad. Its staff checked inventory while taking calls from people searching for medicine. An elderly woman with osteoporosis stopped by to pick up calcium pills; a man collected antidepressants for patients in another city. Since last June, the group has distributed medicine and other health supplies to 10 hospitals and to some 6,600 people with prescriptions.

"For us, it's an achievement," said María Fernanda Sosa, a coordinator at Acción Solidaria.

"But it is a small drop of water in the desert."

REVIEW

WORD ON THE STREET: BEN ZIMMER

'Beleaguer': Trump Goes Dutch

WHEN President Donald Trump took to Twitter on Monday to criticize Jeff Sessions, his attorney general, one word stood out.

"So why aren't the Committees and investigators, and of course our beleaguered A.G., looking into Crooked Hillary's crimes & Russia relations?" Mr. Trump tweeted. Calling Mr. Sessions "beleaguered," meaning "besieged" or "beset by difficulties," led many observers to question who exactly was responsible for the beleaguered.

"And beleaguered he should be, since the president who selected him is his 'beleaguerer in chief,'" CNN legal analyst Paul Callan said of Mr. Sessions. On Twitter, Bill Kristol of the Weekly Standard called the choice of words "a nice, postmodern touch" since "Trump's doing the beleaguered."

Interest in the word skyrocketed, unsurprisingly. According to Merriam-Webster editor at large Peter Sokolowski, in the four hours following Mr. Trump's tweet, the number of look-ups for "beleaguered" in their online dictionary spiked 128,000% over the typical frequency.

A tweet and a rush of questions.

The verb "beleaguer" entered English in the late 16th century with the meaning "to surround with troops," as in the siege of a town. It was borrowed from the Dutch word "belegeren," which in turn comes from the word "leger" meaning "military camp." The "be-" prefix means "around" (also seen in words like "beset," "besiege" and "besmear"), so the verb suggests a sieging force encircling its target on all sides, preventing escape.

The word "leger" had previously entered Old English from an earlier Germanic source, with the related meaning of "a place to lie down." That gave rise to the modern word "lair," for a place where wild animals dwell. On another branch of the tree from the same Germanic root is "lager," named after the storehouse where the beer is slowly fermented.

"Beleaguer" came in from Dutch at a time when England and Holland were often involved in military entanglements, which ended up enriching the English lexicon. Other words taken from Dutch around the same time include "furlough" (from "verlof") and "knapsack" (from "knapzak," literally a "snack bag").

A 1587 treatise by a soldier named Barnabe Rich, "A Pathway to Military Practice," included "observations as well for those that shall beleaguer, as for the besieged." Soon after its entrance into English, "beleaguer" (like "besiege" before it) became applied to nonmilitary situations for more metaphorical assaults.

In modern political parlance, "beleaguered" has become—along with "embattled"—a common description of officials embroiled in scandals or other predicaments. A 1991 book by the political scientist Aaron Wildavsky, surveying the crises faced by presidents from Lyndon Johnson onward, was entitled "The Beleaguered Presidency." And just last week, after Sean Spicer resigned as the White House press secretary, the Los Angeles Times referred to Mr. Trump as "the beleaguered president."

By directing the word at Mr. Sessions, Mr. Trump may have decided it is better to be the beleaguerer than the beleaguered.

| WORK IN PROGRESS: EMILY BOBROW



ARTISTS FROM Radio Disney Country sing to a young patient at the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Nashville, Tenn., in June.

MUSIC THAT MAKES HOSPITAL ROUNDS

IN 1993, the great jazz trumpeter Wynton Marsalis came with a small band to perform for patients and workers at Manhattan's Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. The music was a brief, uplifting counterpoint to the hospital's buzzing fluorescent lights and antiseptic smells.

Michael Solomon, a music and tech entrepreneur, had helped to arrange the concert as a show of thanks to the center, which had cared for his late fiancée before her death from sarcoma. As he recalls it, the event's effect on the 60-odd cancer patients arranged in their wheelchairs around the makeshift stage was instanta-

neous and inspiring. He felt that he needed to bring such experiences to more patients, particularly those too ill to leave their rooms.

In 1999, together with Vivek Tiwary, a friend and fellow impresario, Mr. Solomon launched Musicians on Call, a nonprofit group that sends volunteer musicians to play in hospitals, veterans' facilities, nursing homes and hospice centers across the country.

The organization, which has offices in Nashville and New York City, now runs 74 weekly programs in 26 cities, including Atlanta, Dallas, Indianapolis, Miami and Wilmington, Del. Its volunteers—ranging from local professionals to the occasional celebrity—typically spend several hours going door-to-door in medical facilities to play a song or two to bedridden patients, the group says.

Musicians on Call says it has performed for nearly 600,000 patients, families and caregivers to date. Pharrell Williams, Kelly Clarkson, Keith Urban and Nick Jonas have all lent their talent to the cause. Most volunteers hear about the group by word-of-mouth, and many become regulars.

Live music can have a dramatic effect on an otherwise somber hospital room. "I've seen peo-

ple who weren't able to really move get out of bed and start dancing," says Pete Griffin, the organization's president. "I've been in rooms with children where afterward, their parents come to me and say, 'That's the first time my daughter has smiled in three weeks.'

When Mr. Griffin joined Musicians on Call as its president three years ago, it had programs in 15 cities. Today, the group has increased its geographic scope considerably without dramatically expanding its budget of around \$1.8 million, most of it from individual donors.

As more hospitals discover the value of music therapy, which studies show can alleviate patients' pain and anxiety, demand for volunteers is outstripping supply. To reach more people, Musicians on Call is working to create a digital platform that directly connects health-care centers with accredited musicians.

The group's mission is straightforward but powerful, says Mr. Griffin. "You might see a family that's really struggling, but when a musician comes in to play a song, you can see the entire room transform right in front of you. Once you see something like that, there's nothing that can replicate it. Music is a universal drug."

| R&D: DANIEL AKST

New Robots Mimic Vines

the tip. The plastic "vine" is driven by air pumped into the stationary end. Controllers can steer the robot—based on the video it sends back—by adding air to one or another of the long control chambers running along the walls. This causes the emerging tip to bend, changing the direction of growth.

In a new scientific article about their work, the scientists report taking their cues from nature, which is filled with creatures that "navigate their environments not through locomotion but through growth."

Among the uses for the robot envisioned by its inventors are emergencies requiring access to confined spaces. For example, the robot can traverse various obstacles to worm its way into a cavern or the remains of a collapsed building, where it can use a carbon-dioxide sensor at the

tip to detect whether anyone remains alive. The tube could also deliver water to those who are trapped or, in a thicker version, carry water to douse a fire. More mundanely, the scientists used their device to snake a wire across the top of a dropped ceiling.

A tool to reach the tightest spaces.

They also foresee medical uses for smaller versions that could get into the human body's nooks and crannies without dragging the entire tube along.

As is so often the case with modern inventions, an important part of the job was getting the software right. Controlling a soft robot is harder than controlling a rigid one, and the scientists also needed to process its camera images as they were produced. "A lot of work went into designing algorithms that both ran fast and produced results that were accurate enough for

controlling the soft robot," says Joseph Greer, one of the scientists.

The researchers have made versions with diameters ranging from a fraction of an inch to more than a foot, and they have achieved a maximum expansion speed, over short distances, of 10 meters a second, or about 22 miles an hour. They have guided prototypes through obstacle courses studded with nails and run the robot under a 220-pound crate—which it lifted. It also can be formed into shapes, such as a standing spiral.

The team even managed to snake the robot through an opening just 10% of its diameter. "The body can be stuck to the environment or jammed between rocks," says Elliot Hawkes, the paper's lead author, "but that doesn't stop the robot, because the tip can continue to progress as new material is added to the end."

"A soft robot that navigates its environment through growth," Elliot W. Hawkes, Laura H. Blumenschein, Joseph D. Greer and Allison M. Okamura, Science Robotics (June 19)

| PHOTO OF THE WEEK



MARTIN BUREAU/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

Head Above Water

Photographed with an underwater camera, U.S. Olympian Nathan Adrian swam in a men's 100-meter freestyle heat at the FINA World Championships in Budapest on Wednesday.

Answers
To the News Quiz
on page C13

1.C, 2.D, 3.B, 4.B,
5.A, 6.D, 7.A, 8.B

BOOKS

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Saturday/Sunday, July 29 - 30, 2017 | C5

The Daily Brilliance of JQA

The candid diary of a great American statesman is a matchless window on the early republic

The Diaries of John Quincy Adams

Edited by David Waldstreicher

Library of America, 1,488 pages, \$75

BY RICHARD BROOKHISER

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS (1767-1848) was the sixth president of the United States, chosen by the House of Representatives after the chaotic contest of 1824, crushed in his re-election bid by Andrew Jackson in 1828. But his public career stretched decades before and after his single term. His diplomat father, John Adams, took him on his first European trip when he was 10; he suffered a fatal stroke on the floor of the House of Representatives when he was 80. In the seven decades in between he served as ambassador to four countries, senator, secretary of state, congressman and advocate before the Supreme Court.

He also kept a diary, with a juvenile start in 1779 called "A Journal by Me, J Q A, Vol: 1st." It grew, as he entered adulthood, into an almost daily record. An electronic facsimile of this running autobiography, comprising 14,000 digitized pages of JQA's original handwriting, can be found at the website of the Massachusetts Historical Society. David Waldstreicher, professor at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, has distilled 1,200 pages of it, plus chronology and notes, into two volumes in the Library of America's handsome format. It will be the standard reader's edition of this masterpiece, which gives an account of both a fascinating life and a thrilling, disastrous period of American history.

JQA is a masterly diarist. He could write in sentences and paragraphs, unlike modern politicians. (Sad!) His style is always clear, often elegant, informed by his reading in Latin, French and German (not Austrian). He has a sharp eye for people, things and places. While he was representing the United States in St. Petersburg he described a Russian Orthodox baptism: "Another singularity was that at one part of the ceremony they were all required to spit on the floor." Throughout his life, he noted sunrises (he



APRIL 4, 1796 'At Mr. Copley's, final sitting for my portrait. He has made a good picture of it.'

himself typically rose at 4 a.m.), sunsets and eclipses.

Although public affairs consumed him, he had a variety of quirky interests and habits. He had a garden at home in Quincy, Mass., where he tried to start the seedlings of trees, usually with no luck. When he was in Wash-

ington he swam (he called it "bathing") in the Potomac; he once nearly drowned, and on another occasion saw a drowned body pulled from the river. He was forever writing verse, and scolding himself for its poor quality. "It is with poetry as with Chess and Billiards—There is a certain de-

gree of attainment, which labour and practice will reach, and beyond which no vigils and no vows will go."

His signal deficiency as a chronicler is that he had almost no sense of humor. Whatever seriousness was

not drilled into him by his Puritan heritage, history and Adams family

history supplied. When he was 7 he saw the smoke and heard the cannon of the Battle of Bunker Hill across Boston Harbor; his childhood friends were heroes—Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and Lafayette; his father, the second president, was the hero at home. The private history of the Adams family was somber: JQA's two brothers, and two of his three sons, were alcoholics.

The gusto that sunnier temperaments draw from humor, JQA got instead from bile. He knew everybody, and hated almost everybody. The diary is a cavalcade of vituperation: Stephen Douglas "cast away his cravat, unbuttoned his waistcoat and had the awkward aspect of a half naked pugilist." Daniel Webster had "gigantic intellect," "envious tem-

Adams the diarist was a hanging judge—of his Washington colleagues, his opponents and himself.

per," "ravenous ambition" and a "rotten heart." Ralph Waldo Emerson was "a crack-brained young man." Alexander Hamilton's death in a duel was "divine retributive justice" for his opposing JQA's father. He acknowledged Martin Van Buren's "calmness," "gentleness of manners" and "conciliatory temper" but flayed his "obsequiousness," "syphilitic" and "fawning servility." The sternest rebuke was reserved for Jefferson, who "combined a rare mixture of infidel philosophy, and Epicurean Morals—Of burning Ambition, and of Stoical self-control—of deep duplicity and of generous sensibility, between which two qualities and a treacherous and inventive Memory, his conduct towards his rivals and opponents appears one tissue of inconsistency." JQA ticked off some instances, then struck off this epigram: Jefferson had "a memory so pandering to the will that in deceiving others he seems to have begun by deceiving himself."

JQA had the vices that hobbled his father: wrath and aggression, cast as righteousness. "My cause is

Please turn to page C6

A World in Miniature

Housman Country

By Peter Parker

Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 530 pages, \$30

BY JAMIE JAMES

IN 1898, an enterprising young publisher made a deal with Alfred Housman, a Latin professor at University College London, to reissue his first book of poems, "A Shropshire Lad," which had sold just 381 copies in the year it was published. The author drove a hard bargain: He would accept no royalties, stipulating only that the book be cheap and simply designed. By its 50th anniversary, in 1946, this slim collection had gone through 48 editions in Britain, making Grant Richards, the publisher, a rich man and A.E. Housman (1859-1936) a famous one. In the United States, it was sold in many pirated editions with the author's tolerant acquiescence until its first authorized American publication, in 1922.

Housman's melancholy lyrics of lost love and early death, set in an imagined Eden of rural England, are among the most familiar poems in English, often quoted and set to song, memorized by generations of schoolchildren, and carved in the stone of village war memorials. By one reckoning, Housman's lapidary phrases have been used as titles for more books than any other source except the Bible and Shakespeare. From the start, "A Shropshire Lad" was a cultural more than a literary phenomenon. George Orwell called Housman "the writer who had the deepest hold upon the thinking young"; at Eton, he said, he memorized the whole of the "Lad," adding "these are the poems that I and my contemporaries used to recite to ourselves, over and over, in a kind

of ecstasy." Poems such as "To an Athlete Dying Young" unite a young man's dream of success and dread of failure in polished stanzas:

Smart lad, to slip betimes away
From fields where glory does not stay
And early though the laurel grows
It withers quicker than the rose.

In "Housman Country," Peter Parker, the author of biographies of Christopher Isherwood and J.R. Ackroyd, offers a sensitive, well-researched study of the poet and his

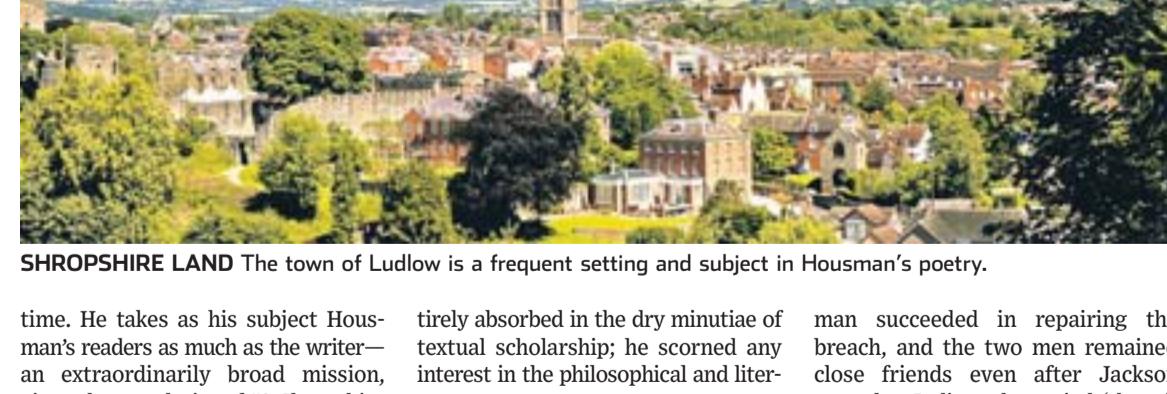
though his comprehensive sketch of Housman's life and publishing career, running to 135 pages, is a model of brief biography, detailed enough for most readers. Housman's life was as uneventful as that of most classical scholars, rarely ranging beyond the placid confines of universities. After an idyllic childhood in Worcestershire (near but not Shropshire), he studied at a school founded by Edward VI and in 1877 won a scholarship to St. John's College, Oxford, where he became an atheist and the most brilliant Latinist of his class. He got a first in "Mods," the preliminary undergraduate examination. His studies were en-

the archival cupboard is nearly bare. From the tortured hints that survive, it would appear that Housman provoked a crisis in his friendship with Jackson by openly declaring his love and then suffered a breakdown of some sort.

As a result of his emotional turmoil and disdain for studying anything that did not capture his fancy, Housman failed his final exam and did not earn a degree. To support himself, he passed the civil-service examination and took a post with a miserable salary at the patent office, where he could work alongside Jackson, who had a much better job there. Hous-

Housman's life followed the paradigm of the cold, aloof don with a caustic wit and buried emotions. His brother, Laurence, a playwright and illustrator, was a leading campaigner for the acceptance of homosexuality, but Alfred led a solitary life, shunning public honors as resolutely as personal entanglements. His unsuspected passionate sensitivity emerged, fully blown, when "A Shropshire Lad" was published a month before his 37th birthday. Housman is almost unique among poets in that he published virtually no verse until midlife.

The book's 63 poems (printed in full at the end of "Housman Country") are short, most of them 20 lines or fewer, and remarkably homogeneous in style, composed in cantering iambic



SHROPSHIRE LAND The town of Ludlow is a frequent setting and subject in Housman's poetry.

time. He takes as his subject Housman's readers as much as the writer—an extraordinarily broad mission, given the popularity of "A Shropshire Lad." Mr. Parker is an unabashed enthusiast who makes a spirited case for the artistic merit of the work, all the more persuasive because he frankly concedes its limits.

Housman's position as a literary giant was a part-time occupation; he held down a day job as one of the most eminent classical scholars of his day. As its title makes explicit, Mr. Parker's book is not a biography,

tirely absorbed in the dry minutiae of textual scholarship; he scorned any interest in the philosophical and literary content.

The great, almost the only, event in Housman's private life was an unrequited love for a roommate at Oxford named Moses Jackson, which would become a major source of the melancholy that pervades his poetry. Like all Housman biographers, Mr. Parker faces an insurmountable task in plumbing the murky depths of this passion, conceived during the high tide of Victorian moral hypocrisy, for

man succeeded in repairing the breach, and the two men remained close friends even after Jackson moved to India and married (though he did not invite Housman to the wedding). Housman also stayed true to his classical vocation. He toiled nights and weekends at the British Library, writing a series of scholarly articles that brought the offer of a professorship at University College London in 1892. Nineteen years later, he was appointed to a named chair at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he remained until his death at age 77.

with perfect end rhymes. Vocabulary and syntax are spare and relatively simple. Remarkably, apart from a brief poem about Narcissus, the "Lad" is devoid of specific classical or other literary allusions. Echoes of antiquity are there for the attentive reader: Robert Lowell, who said that Housman was the poet "who most moves me to tears," noted the affinity between Housman's "iron quatrains" and "the tomb inscriptions for the Athenian youths who died at Marathon." Housman's poetry constitutes a little self-sufficient world, perfect and changeless, which welcomes all readers regardless of their educational background. It might be noted

Please turn to page C8

BOOKS

'The scabs outside still laughed at their murderous spree / And the children that died there were seventy-three.' —Woody Guthrie

Let Fury Have the Hour

Grown-Up Anger

By Daniel Wolff

Harper, 354 pages, \$26.99

BY RANDALL FULLER

MORE THAN a decade before Joe Strummer of The Clash declared "anger can be power," Bob Dylan channeled the smoldering fury of generational revolt in his seminal 1965 hit, "Like a Rolling Stone." "How does it feel?" Mr. Dylan sneered, his nasal twang sounding to many listeners like a battle cry against bourgeois conformity. "How does it feel, to be on your own?"

In "Grown-Up Anger: The Connected Mysteries of Bob Dylan, Woody Guthrie, and the Calumet Massacre of 1913," author and songwriter Daniel Wolff blasts through layers of American history to uncover the rage animating Mr. Dylan's classic song, tracing its origins back through the life and music of Woody Guthrie and, even further, to a violent confrontation in Michigan decades before. Mr. Wolff's claim is that the death of dozens of striking copper miners and their children reverberates, like an earthquake's aftershocks, half a century later in Mr. Dylan's music. "Follow that darkish vein back to find . . . what?" he writes. "The history of anger. Hope. The truth."

"Grown-Up Anger" is an associative—rather than a chronological—history, its narrative pieced together from seemingly disparate events and personalities. Tying together the book's various strands is another Dylan tune, "Song to Woody," written several weeks after the aspiring songwriter arrived in New York in 1961 and visited Guthrie, who was confined to a New Jersey psychiatric hospital. He had been admitted with Huntington's chorea after his family could no longer take care of him. As Mr. Dylan later recalled: "It was one of them freezing days . . . a February Sunday night. . . . And I just thought about Woody, I wondered about him, thought harder and wondered harder. I wrote this song in five minutes."

In classic folk-singer tradition, Mr. Dylan borrowed the melody for "Song to Woody" from one of Guthrie's own songs, "1913 Massacre," a haunting ballad about the death of dozens of Polish and Italian copper miners and their children in Calumet, Mich. Guthrie learned about the tragedy from Mother Bloor, a longtime labor activist and Communist Party member, who said that the massacre occurred at the newly built Italian Hall during a Christmas party when someone falsely shouted "fire." The panicked crowd tried to flee, and 60 children and 13 adults



COPPER MINERS Shift workers in an open tram, Calumet, Mich., 1906.

were crushed to death. Guthrie's song, one of the saddest he ever wrote, begins with an invitation—"Take a trip with me in 1913"—but quickly adopts the voice of the grieving community: "We carried our children back up to their [Christmas] tree."

What the song doesn't say outright is that the copper miners in Italian Hall were on strike and that whoever was responsible for yelling "fire" was almost certainly affiliated with the mining company. In the process of recounting this episode, "Grown-Up Anger" excavates America's long and often bloody history of labor strikes and union organization, implicitly arguing that these sporadic conflicts better capture the nation's democratic soul than the more familiar and triumphant accounts of upward mobility

and material success. Along the way, we learn of the accidental discovery of copper in Michigan, its prompt seizure and exploitation by New England financiers, and the birth of the labor movement at various coal and copper mines throughout the country.

Mr. Wolff populates his story with activists from early in the 20th century, including Joe Hill, the Swedish immigrant who became a popular cartoonist and songwriter for the Industrial Workers of the World (or Wobblies) and who was executed in 1915 after being falsely accused of murder in Utah. Also making appearances are the song collector Alan Lomax and folk icon Pete Seeger, both of whom aligned themselves with Popular Front radicals and worked on behalf of Depression-era unions.

These juxtapositions prove remarkably fruitful. For instance, Mr. Wolff traces Mr. Dylan's "Like a Rolling Stone" to Joe Hill's rhyming last will and testament: "My will is easy to decide / For there is nothing to divide / My kin don't need to fuss and moan / Moss does not cling to a rolling stone." And he is especially good at recapturing the radical fervor that characterized much late 19th- and early 20th-century labor history—a period when it seemed genuinely unclear whether capitalism or some brand of socialism would prevail as the American way of life.

But "Grown-Up Anger" is at its best when discussing Guthrie and Mr. Dylan, especially the way in which each invited history to seep into his finest work. Both songwriters were middle-class kids from the

heart of the country. Both fashioned musical personae—and voices—that allowed them to distance themselves from their upbringings while identifying with America's poor and oppressed, whether African-American sharecroppers, immigrant copper miners, Okies or bums. As Guthrie told Lomax in a letter: "Music is some kind of electricity that makes a radio out of a man."

In telling their story, Mr. Wolff hopes to effect something similar—to encourage his readers to reimagine American history as a continuing struggle to live up to its promise of equality of opportunity. What is not addressed in "Grown-Up Anger" is whether anger at social injustice is more effectively mo-

We still listen to protest songs by Dylan and Guthrie. But workers no longer take to the streets.

bilized as political action or articulated by singular poets. Is the bracing outrage of "Like a Rolling Stone" all that is left of the 20th century's various labor movements? Are popular songs capable of reawakening the struggle for workers' rights at a time when those rights are out of favor in the country?

For Guthrie, the Calumet Massacre was one of countless injustices that fueled his vast corpus—a body of work he hoped would chronicle "the struggle of working people in bringing to light their fight for a place in the America that they envisioned." For Mr. Dylan, anger would become detached from political movements by 1965, evolving into a deeply individual fury that lashed out with equal force against racism, war, the smug pieties of the folk movement and the betrayals of unnamed women.

"Like a Rolling Stone" is now as remote from our time as the Calumet Massacre was from Mr. Dylan's when he wrote the anthem. Mr. Wolff's gripping account reminds us of an important, if submerged, reality of American life—that the rich and powerful have often exploited labor in the name of economic freedom, upward mobility and (that most sacred word in the national lexicon) democracy. The story of the Calumet Massacre as it was passed along from Woody Guthrie to Bob Dylan is also a record of the gradual erosion and burying of hope for labor equality.

Mr. Fuller is the Herman Melville Distinguished Professor of 19th-Century American Literature at the University of Kansas.

The Diaries of John Quincy Adams

Continued from page C5

the cause of my Country, and of human liberty. It is the cause of Christian improvement—the fulfilment of the prophecies." His canting rage was stoked by the punishments he administered to himself: for being a mediocre poet; for getting up as late as 6 a.m.; for reading for pleasure when he should have been doing research; for a hundred shortcomings, almost all of them magnified by relentless self-scrutiny. Back of the implacable internal judge lay a profound internal fear: I am not worthy—of my father; of the founding fathers; of the opportunities I have been given. Sometimes sheer loss released him from the prison of himself, if only into grief: The death of his mother, and of his drunkard sons, touched him to the core. And day by day, poems, plants and heavenly bodies momentarily soothed him, even if he called them distractions. Otherwise the vise of his personality stayed tight.

Much of Volume I is taken up with JQA's career as a diplomat. His crowning achievement was his part in procuring the Treaty of Ghent, which ended the War of 1812. JQA belonged to a five-man American negotiating commission, which also included the young Henry Clay. The shuffling and bluffing of their British counterparts, and their own internal bickering, shows how the sausage of a treaty gets made. There is unintentional comedy in the clash of JQA's earnest temperament with that of the smiling, spouting Clay; Clay's all-night card parties broke up just when JQA was starting his day.

In 1817 James Monroe tapped JQA to be secretary of state. Monroe's eight years in the White House became the original permanent campaign as Adams, Treasury Secretary William Crawford, Secretary of War John C. Calhoun, House Speaker Clay and Gen. Andrew Jackson jockeyed to succeed him. JQA's account of these years, which straddles Volumes I and II, is the ultimate inside baseball. JQA learned that, at one point, a frustrated Crawford, seeing his chances slip away, threatened to beat Monroe with his cane.) It is a tribute to JQA's public-spiritedness that in the midst of these brawls he crafted the principle of mutual European/American non-interference, known as the Monroe Doctrine, that would guide our foreign policy for 90 years.

JQA beat his competitors for the White House and served a damp term as president. The most important subject in the diary—much more important than this sterile victory—is slavery. Joseph Ellis believes that John Adams, at the end of his life, told JQA that the founders of the North had made a tacit bargain with their

brothers of the South: End slavery in your own way. Since the South hadn't done so, it would be fair, and

tween free and slave states, balked.

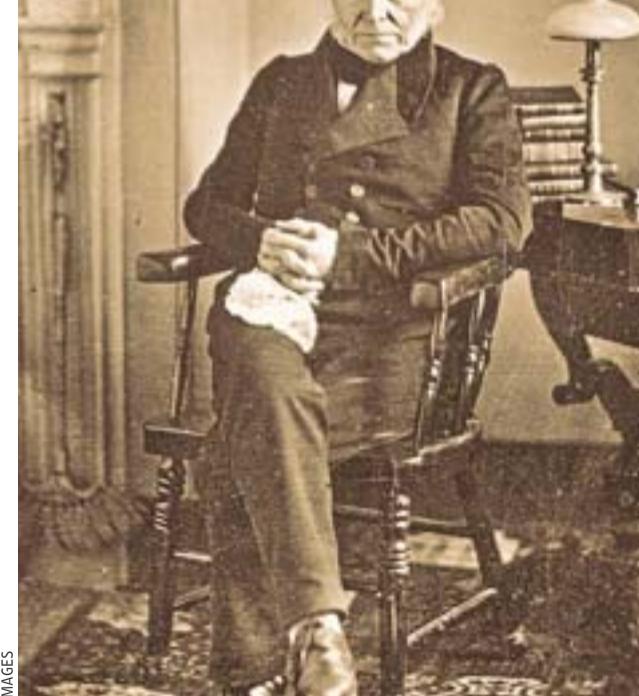
JQA recorded a conversation he had with Calhoun in March 1820, as the two walked home from a cabinet meeting at which Missouri had been the topic. JQA had argued for freedom, citing the Declaration of Independence. Calhoun, who was from South Carolina, told him "that the principles which I had avowed were just and noble; but that in the Southern Country, whenever they were mentioned, they were always understood as applying only to white men." Slavery, he went on, had "many excellent consequences. . . . It was the best guarantee to equality among the whites."

JQA wrote it all down, then ruminated:

"When probed to the quick," slaveholders "show at the bottom of their Souls, pride and vain-glory in their very condition of masterdom. . . . They look down upon the simplic-

nity of a yankee's manners because he has no habits of overbearing like theirs, and cannot treat negroes like dogs."

The power of this encounter comes from the fact that, at that moment, Calhoun was one of the few



JQA IN TWILIGHT Bitter, resourceful, smart and brave.

necessary, for JQA to push hard against it.

I see an earlier turning point in

the diary, after Missouri applied for statehood in 1819. The House, dominated by free states, wanted Missouri to be free; the Senate, split be-

people JQA respected. "Calhoun thinks for himself," he wrote, "independently of all the rest." If, even so, he thought as he did, what hope was there for the country? You might as well jump straight to Antietam.

JQA did nothing with this prophetic insight—he still had the greasy pole of ambition to climb. But after winning and losing the presidency, then taking a brief time-out in private life, he returned to politics, winning a House seat in 1830, and the slavery issue returned to him. The climax of Volume II is his double resistance to the annexation of Texas, a future slave state, and to the gag rule, which required anti-slavery petitions to the House to be tabled, unread and unrecorded. His struggle against the latter employed all his qualities, bad and good: he was bitter, resourceful, smart and brave. He gave orations, and he wrangled over points of order. What rendered his campaign all the more splendid were the rants and threats of his slaveholding opponents. In that long-ago conversation with Calhoun he had seen their nature, and he forced them to show it again and again.

The gag rule went down in 1844, but Texas was annexed the following year; the road to disunion and war ran clear and straight. But JQA left, in his life and his diary, the example of a statesman, distracted by many projects and woes, who, late but true, grasped the vital question.

Mr. Brookhiser is the author of, among other books, "America's First Dynasty: The Adamses, 1735-1918."

BOOKS

'The present moment gives the motion and the color of the flake, Antiquity its form and properties.' —Ralph Waldo Emerson

Outrunning the Past

The Classical Debt

By Johanna Hanink

Harvard, 337 pages, \$29.95

BY A.E. STALLINGS

DURING THE GREEK War of Independence (1821-32), the Ottoman Turks held the Acropolis in Athens. Running short of ammunition, they supposedly threatened to melt down the lead-coated iron clamps that held the Parthenon's columns together. The Greek fighters below, horrified at the threat of destruction, negotiated to send them more ammunition, with the message: "Here are bullets, don't touch the columns."

Johanna Hanink relates the story a few chapters into "The Classical Debt," which cleverly connects Western Europe's investment in ancient Greek origins with the decade-old Greek debt crisis. Ms. Hanink is an associate professor of classics at Brown who in 2014 lived in Thessaloniki. Her stay coincided with an exciting—or nerve-racking—time to be in Greece, on edge and on the cusp of dramatic changes. "Grexit" was in the air. Would Greece leave the euro and return to the drachma? Elections in January of 2015 swept Syriza, the Coalition of the Radical Left, and its young, untried leader, Alexis Tsipras, to power on the slogan of "Hope Is Coming." By July, they had painted themselves into a corner with their creditors, and Mr. Tsipras called a referendum.

While the referendum was worded in such a way as to mean different things to different people, the resounding "No" vote was interpreted as a rejection of punitive bailout conditions. Head-spinningly, within days of this populist victory, Mr. Tsipras capitulated to even more severe demands than had just been on offer; Greek banks went into capital controls, allowing the withdrawal of only 420 euros a week; and pensioners queued up weeping at bank branches. Ms. Hanink found, in short, that she knew actual Greeks who were suffering in the crisis—people who had lost their jobs or whose jobs had simply stopped paying. She became (as this book demonstrates) involved.

But back to the Parthenon story. When Ms. Hanink related the anecdote to her Modern Greek teacher, he accused her of naïveté. "Why," he asked, would the Greeks have "readily given such aid" to their Turkish foes? Ms. Hanink responded (with echoes of John 3:16), "because they loved the Parthenon so much that they would rather lose the whole Acropolis than see it destroyed." "Wrong!" the teacher said. They did it because "foreigners love stuff like that, and they knew that if they played the part of



SWIFT-FOOTED A demonstrator flees clouds of tear gas during an anti-austerity protest in central Athens, 2011.

good Hellenes, the Europeans would send them money." She found both the story and his reaction illuminating.

In the classical era, Ms. Hanink argues convincingly, Athenians systematically set out to persuade not only themselves but also the world (and posterity) that they were exceptional. The Spartans may have been valiant on their suicide mission at Thermopylae, but it was the Athenians who held off the Persian invasion at Marathon and at Salamis in 480 B.C. For this, all Greece owed Athens, and Athens would not let them forget it. Byron, millennia later, distills this notion in verses about Marathon and Salamis from "Don Juan": "For standing on the Persians' grave / I could not deem myself a slave."

Even today, a few iconic columns are visual shorthand for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law. (The book is richly illustrated with cartoons and magazine covers, as well as images of Athens through the centuries.) Yet the Parthenon is less a monument to democracy than an advertisement for empire, the massive fore-gates to the Acropolis framing the view to Salamis and promoting the Athenian victory there (a brilliant insight put forth in 2012 by the scholars Samantha Martin-McAuliffe and John Papadopoulos).

Although other Greek cities and regions produced great art, Athenian philosophy, history and plays predominated, along with Attic, their particular flavor of Greek. Thus when Greek works were reintroduced to Western culture during the Renaissance, they were already colored with the idea of

Athenian exceptionality and an indebtedness that could never be paid off. Meanwhile, the Greeks themselves had fallen under the Ottoman "yoke" and seemed to exist in a state of degradation and ruin. As a result, when it comes to modern Greece, the West ends up with a marble chip on its shoulder. When contemporary Greeks fail to live up to their glorious ancestors, Ms. Hanink argues, they are the ones who are compelled to repay, with interest, not only in actual money but in punitive austerity measures. As one Greek cartoonist has quipped when asked about the future of the country: "We have a great past. You can't ask for everything."

Ms. Hanink plots a convincing argument over the course of centuries that Greece and the rest of Europe have been lashed together in a "complex push-and-pull that constantly interweaves . . . the relative values of money, history and culture." She is excellent on ancient Athens; this book might have been titled "The Athenian Debt," since she has much less to say about non-Athenian Greeks. Laconophilia (being wild for all things Spartan) comes in for barely a paragraph, although the British public school system, that builder of empire, was in some sense modeled on the Spartan ethos. Nor did the Athenians dream up out of nowhere the idea that things had been better in the past. The Boeotian poet Hesiod, at the very dawn of Greek letters, spoke of the five ages of man, descending from Gold to the present Iron, with a brief flash of glory in the generation preceding his own,

the sons of Oedipus and the heroes of the Trojan War. The Homeric epics share the concern that things aren't what they used to be—Hector can lift a huge stone with ease that the two of the strongest men "of these times" could scarcely budge with a wagon.

Ancient Athens persuaded the world that it was exceptional. No wonder modern Greeks can't live up to the standard.

Ms. Hanink is also very good on classical reception, and the history of Western travelers (and the occasional Ottoman) to Greece and their impressions. She is also masterly on the troubled birth of Hellas in the 19th century; on the disastrous loans to support Independence that British philhellenes secured from London at exorbitant interest, and with Greece itself as collateral; and the early history of the independent-but-only-on-European-terms early Greek nation-state (a regency with a Bavarian teenager on the throne).

"The Classical Debt" came out of an article that Ms. Hanink wrote in 2015 that took classicists wittily to task for their facile Greek tragedy metaphors. The book seems to have taken shape quickly, which might explain some unevenness as Ms. Hanink approaches the present. These flaws are mostly

minor. Good on cultural debt, she is vaguer on the fiscal nuts and bolts and the bailouts, for example, mentioning the IMF only in passing and the European Central Bank not at all.

Readers might also be leery of her comparisons of Islamic State's media-savvy destruction of antiquities at Palmyra, Syria, with Greece's heavy-handed use of a photograph of Nazi soldiers pulling ancient artifacts from the ground. Yes, both exploited images of antiquity for rhetorical purposes (the Greek Ministry of Defense was making a plea, doomed but not unfounded, for the Germans to pay war reparations and repay the loan they extracted from the Greeks during the Occupation). But the effect is tone-deaf in a book concerned with actual human suffering, especially considering that the Occupation is in living memory (my mother-in-law saw German tanks trundle down Athens's Patission Street) and that the human victims of Islamic State continue to fetch up daily on Greece's shores.

Ms. Hanink is a classicist but also, although she might balk at the label, a philhellene. It is a mild irony that, though she criticizes "travelers" who "were convinced that because of their classical education and personal passion for antiquity, they understood and appreciated Greece better than Greeks themselves could," she does not herself entirely escape the charge, if that is what it is, of a "proprietary attitude toward Greece." She too wants to show the West what the Greeks are really like, as when she tells the story of her Greek tutor with his authentic, cynical reaction to her clichéd sentimentality.

The Parthenon anecdote returns, some 60 pages later, with a twist. It turns out that the young Greek warrior in charge of the negotiations with the Ottomans was Kyriakos Pittakis, later an antiquities official for the new Greek state. As Ms. Hanink admits: "By all accounts . . . Pittakis really was tireless in his devotion to protecting antiquities." One contemporary recalled that when Pittakis saw people approach antiquities he became anxious, leaping "over stick and stone to the place where the greatest danger threatened."

Counterintuitively, even if the Acropolis story is apocryphal, elements of it are essentially true: Pittakis, a veteran of the War of Independence, cared about the Parthenon for itself and not as a way to cynically extort European money. The story, like most stories about Greece, is more complicated than it seems, escaping the author's attempt to allegorize it. Or maybe the allegory is there after all, Greeks continuing to send up bullets to those who have taken the high ground and laid claim to the columns.

Ms. Stallings is an American poet and translator based in Greece.

Last of the Great Mughal Emperors

Aurangzeb

By Audrey Truschke

Stanford, 136 pages, \$19.95

BY MAXWELL CARTER

SOME EIGHT decades before Elizabeth I granted the English East India Co. its charter—and, for that matter, before Henry VIII ever set eyes on Anne Boleyn—the Mughals, Turkic-Muslim descendants of Tamerlane and Genghis Khan, marched southeast

Today he is remembered for razing Hindu temples, forcing conversions and banning music outright.

from modern-day Uzbekistan into the Punjab. Across six generations, until their precipitous 18th-century decline, the Mughals conquered much of the subcontinent and synthesized Central and South Asian aesthetic, spiritual and social traditions, leaving behind splendid miniature paintings, exquisitely proportioned tombs and fresh-as-paint chronicles of court life.

The first Mughal emperor, Babur, wrested power from the Lodi dynasty in 1526 and wrote one of the world's outstanding memoirs; the second, Humayun, rallied from defeat and exile to restore Mughal sovereignty in 1555; the third, Akbar, promoted an exemplary religious syncretism, abolishing the poll tax for non-Muslims in 1564; the fourth, Jahangir, was Mu-

ghal portraiture's keenest patron and connoisseur; and the fifth, Shah Jahan, built Delhi's Red Fort and the Taj Mahal. His son, Aurangzeb, the last of the so-called great Mughal emperors, whose reign spanned nearly 50 years (1658-1707), enlarged the empire's borders to their furthest extent. Yet today Aurangzeb is remembered for razing Hindu temples, forcibly converting nonbelievers and banning music outright. In

"Aurangzeb: The Life and Legacy of India's Most Controversial King," Audrey Truschke, of Rutgers University, re-examines the evidence and questions the severity of the verdict.

Aurangzeb's formative years were shaped by the bloody, fratricidal dynamic of Mughal succession, with childhood competition among princes culminating in do-or-die struggles for kingship. ("Either the throne or the grave," as the Persian saying went. Babur's advice to Humayun was decidedly more encouraging: "The world is his who hastens most.") So, from ages 16 to 38, Aurangzeb campaigned tirelessly abroad, gaining martial and administrative experience while his eldest brother, Dara Shukoh, in Ms. Truschke's tell-

ing, "leisure at court" and basked in their father's favor. In September 1657, Shah Jahan "awoke gravely ill" and failed to appear before his subjects. He would live for an additional nine years, but hastily spread rumors of his demise brought the long-simmering rivalry between Aurangzeb and his three brothers to its lurid conclusion.

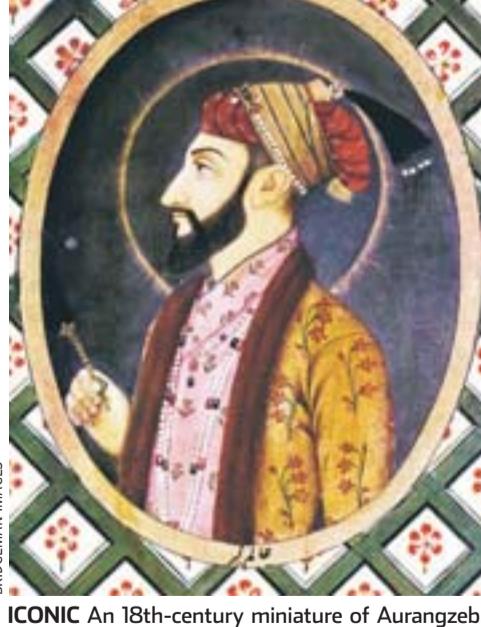
A staggered series of victories de-

livered Aurangzeb the throne—and provoked controversy. He had his brother Dara paraded through Delhi in rags and beheaded; ordered Dara's son, Sulayman, overdosed on opium water; double-crossed and executed his youngest brother, Murad; and imprisoned his father in Agra Fort for the remainder of his life. Ruthlessly

ship." Aurangzeb practiced an austere and, by most accounts, impartial brand of justice and prosecuted overreaching, Pyrrhic wars, attempting to subdue the Marathas, Hindu warriors from what is now the state of Maharashtra, and the recalcitrant kingdoms of the Deccan plateau. To this end, he relocated his court south to the Deccan in 1681, where it remained until his death in 1707.

By contemporary standards, Aurangzeb's record leaves something to be desired. In 2015, his name was removed, with tellingly little dissent, from an important Delhi thoroughfare. All the more reason, Ms. Truschke contends, why we should judge him by his lights and those of his time. Aurangzeb destroyed, in Ms. Truschke's estimation, only "a few dozen [temples] in total," bellying his reputation for systematic Hindu oppression (though, in Varanasi and elsewhere, Aurangzeb targeted particularly sacred sites); he employed more Hindu officials than any other Mughal emperor; and he didn't ban music, merely regulating select types at court. On these points and others, Ms. Truschke argues with wit and enthusiasm, even if the latter occasionally runs away with her.

The oft-repeated story of 14-year-old Aurangzeb coolly spearing an elephant, which Ms. Truschke relates without qualification, seems dubious or at least exaggerated. It's possible—just as it's possible that Kim Jong Il really invented the hamburger—but smacks of the mythologizing she pushes up against elsewhere. The



ICONIC An 18th-century miniature of Aurangzeb.

snuffing out rival claimants wasn't necessarily unusual; shunting one's father aside was. As Ms. Truschke acknowledges, this unjust and unnatural betrayal "haunted" Aurangzeb's rule.

Pious, teetotal and painfully earnest, Aurangzeb felt the weight of his responsibilities keenly. Not for nothing had Babur warned that "there is no bondage like the bondage of king-

rub, above all, lies in the book's slender format—not so much brevity itself as the glibness such brevity invites. Ms. Truschke's concision is admirable; the moral judgments she takes for granted, less so. Assertions that the Raj willfully bred communal mistrust ("positing timeless Hindu-Muslim animosity embodied the British strategy of divide and conquer") or that the Hindu right trades in ahistorical, divisive fictions may contain an element of truth; they nevertheless require unpacking. A like-minded readership tends to be assumed in "Aurangzeb," which is too bad. Liberal historians and readers might applaud Ms. Truschke's approach; those who stand to benefit most from her biography won't.

The neglect and contempt the Mughals have lately suffered reflect present political symptoms more than past maladies. While their conquest of India was cynical—Babur was drawn to plunder, not the climate or customs, which he disparaged—and sometimes brutal, Mughal administration was, in certain respects, enlightened, rooted in the land and its people. The tragedy of partition can't be laid at Aurangzeb's door; nor were the Mughals alien overlords bent on Hindu persecution. Inasmuch as he did away with formal court histories, Aurangzeb is himself partly to blame for the paucity of sources and uninformed attacks on his character. Ms. Truschke's "Aurangzeb" will go some way toward his rehabilitation, yet there is more work to be done.

Mr. Carter is the head of the Impressionist and modern art department at Christie's in New York.

BOOKS

'Don't fool yourself, baby.... Time does not heal and history is not progressive.' —Danzy Senna

FICTION CHRONICLE: SAM SACKS

Butterscotch Dream Children


EARLY IN Danzy Senna's "New People" (Riverhead, 229 pages, \$26), a woman named Maria runs into a distant acquaintance in a New York subway station. The woman seems unusually excited about the encounter, showering Maria with extraordinary compliments. And then all is explained when she invites Maria to take the notorious personality test administered by the Church of Scientology.

It's at this point that most people would hurl themselves into, if not in front of, the next arriving train. But Maria has a fascination with cults. She happens to be completing a dissertation on the ethnomusicology of the Peoples Temple in Jonestown. And she herself belongs to a group that, Ms. Senna suggests, can feel much like an exclusive social order: Both she and her fiancé Khalil are biracial. In the eyes of others their beige skin is the consummation of enlightened racial attitudes. "Maybe she and Khalil are some kind of solution," she thinks, "the beautiful blend that happens four hundred years after humanity's collision." The two have been selected to star in a documentary called "New People" about the future of American coupledom. When Maria wonders why their wedding announcement is being featured in the New York Times, Khalil answers, only half joking, "We're mulatto. Everybody loves mulattos. Nobody will grow bored of us, ever."

A charmed future seems to lie ahead: "A Brooklyn brownstone, a tribe of butterscotch dream children, a fancy tenure-track job." But Maria is having severe doubts about her membership in the tribe. Her pre-wedding jitters have taken the form of a ruinous obsession with a writer friend of Khalil's she thinks of only as "the poet." The poet isn't a New Person—he's "old-school," meaning he's simply a black guy, someone who endures the slights and persecutions that come with his skin color but feels no confusion about who he is.

Maria's confusion is central to the breakdown that follows her obsession, and Ms. Senna deftly draws it out in the way of an espionage thriller, peeling back her characters' racial personas as though they were so many disguises. During the Scientology personality test, Maria realizes she has no idea how to answer the question "Can you remember a time when you were really real?" She was raised on Whitney Houston and LL Cool J and now she watches "Seinfeld" reruns every night. Khalil grew up a preppie—"the only black



guy at the frat party"—before undergoing a road-to-Damascus conversion in which he embraced his blackness and changed his clique of friends. The frankness with which "New People" treats race as a kind of public performance is both uncomfortable and strangely cathartic.

Being a performance, it transforms easily into deception, and the story hinges on two hallucinatory sequences in which Maria falsifies her identity in order to sneak into the poet's apartment. The ending of this brittle, provocative novel carries the fated sense of a utopia heading inexorably toward collapse.

Christopher Swann's first novel, "Shadow of the Lions" (Algonquin, 356 pages, \$26.95), takes place in another closed society prone to delusions of self-importance, an elite Virginia prep school called Blackburne. Our narrator, Matthias Glass, was a cocky upperclassman at Blackburne when his roommate Fritz suddenly went missing. Extensive investigations turned up no trace of him. The disappearance remains unexplained 10 years later when Matthias, now a washed-up novelist facing insolvency in New York, takes a

one-year position teaching English at his alma mater.

As a student, Matthias once cheated on a test and he irrationally fears that knowledge of the peccadillo prompted Fritz to run away. Now back on campus, he guiltily takes up the search for his friend, desperately hoping "to find the narrative that made sense of the facts." His amateur

Senna treats race as kind of a public performance, a provocative approach that proves strangely cathartic.

sleuthing puts him in contact with an assortment of local law enforcement officers and Blackburne staff and alums, with some unexpectedly nefarious figures among them.

Mr. Swann spins out an enjoyable little potboiler from this premise,

and his ending comes alive with action and intrigue. What's most memorable about the book, however, is its exposé of the dishonorable behavior hidden inside the ivy-covered

walls of an institution that prides itself on its honor code. Mr. Swann makes a few half-hearted gestures at portraying the camaraderie and self-worth fostered at Blackburne, but like countless prep school novels before it, "Shadow of the Lions" exudes an odor of rot. What is it about wealth and privilege that smells so strongly of death?

The presiding absence in Kristen Iskandrian's debut is the unnamed mother of the novel's 18-year-old narrator, Agnes. As "Motherest" (Twelve, 279 pages, \$26) opens, Agnes has started her freshman year at college and her mother has gone off the map, part of a continued reaction to the death of her son, Simon, Agnes's brother, some years earlier. But as her daughter observes, this woman was a remote figure in the best of times ("Even as you entered a room, you were already halfway out of it"), and Agnes has learned to cope with the desertion by keeping up a vigorous pen-pal correspondence—"Though 'pen pal' suggests a back-and-forth that's impossible here," she forlornly admits.

Ms. Iskandrian divides each chapter between these letters and sharp first-person depictions of the hedge maze of college life, as Agnes navigates the usual obstacles of roommates and romance. Timorous and passive in her everyday interactions, she's an unfailingly witty chronicler of her unhappiness. "I feel a general lack of volition," she writes as she falls into a relationship with a callow classmate. "Being filled with emptiness is its own kind of being full."

Fullness arrives in an unplanned way when Agnes becomes pregnant from the fling shortly before getting dumped. Choosing to keep the baby—"I want to possess and be possessed. I don't like giving away and I don't like cutting out"—she moves back home with her overwhelmed father and prepares to raise a child in the rooms haunted by the phantoms of her brother and mother.

It's a rewarding turn of events. One of the better trends of recent fiction, exemplified by novels like Elisa Albert's "After Birth" and Pamela Erens's "Eleven Hours," is that pregnancy and childbirth are being treated as the epic subjects they plainly are, and that have been neglected largely out of squeamishness. "Motherest" transforms from a smart but broody meditation on abandonment into an emotionally brimming story of new life and new responsibility. It becomes saturated with hope, a thing Agnes calls "that most violent softness"—which is also a wonderfully apt way of describing a baby.

A.E. Housman

Continued from page C5

that Housman said on many occasions that his poems were aimed at "young men"; the only female fan of note mentioned in "Housman Country" is Willa Cather, who called on Housman uninvited and found him "the most gaunt and gray and embittered individual" she had ever met.

"A Shropshire Lad" was enormously popular with soldiers in World War I; cheap editions of the book were found in the pockets of many men who died in battle. Yet by the war's end, modernism was the reigning mode, and Housman's elegies of doomed youth began to acquire a reputation as maudlin and dreary. Ezra Pound epitomized this contemptuous attitude in a parody, "Mr. Housman's Message," which begins:

O woe, woe,
People are born and die,
We also shall be dead pretty soon
Therefore let us act as if we were
Dead already.

In its earnest way, Housman's poetry is almost as remote and difficult of access to modern readers as Pound's "Cantos," a relic of an era when heartfelt sentiment sold books. Housman published a second collection, ominously titled "Last Poems," in 1922, which is entirely continuous in theme and style with the "Lad." With his narrow range and indifference to experimentation and stylistic growth, Housman must be classed a minor poet, as even his most ardent admirers admit.

Yet, as Mr. Parker demonstrates in his skillful, judicious analysis of the work, Housman's virtues as a poet are all too easily overlooked. There is, after all, a lot to be said for a perfect expression: The reader may ransack the poems for hours without finding a flaw, a prosodic bobble or a word slightly misused. Housman's message, too, has an enduring resonance, even if it becomes monotonous in a straight read-through. W.H. Auden, a major poet by any measure, was strongly under Housman's influence. In 1938, at the height of his powers, Auden wrote an elegy to Housman, and as late as 1972 he published a poem in the *New Yorker* that began: "Housman was perfectly right: / our world rapidly worsens."

"Housman Country" sets itself the goal of being the definitive study of the distinctively English culture that formed the poet's sensibility and the reciprocal imprint he left on that culture. This mission inspires Mr. Parker to embark on a series of merry excursions, such as brief disquisitions on country walks, English folk music, the evolving usage of the word "lad" and as much information about the Morris-dancing revival as most readers will ever want. However, the pages devoted to Housman's cultural influence sink under the weight of their comprehensive intention.

The book's weakest section is the one devoted to musical settings of Housman's verse. Hundreds of songs have set poems from the "Lad," and by the end of this long chapter the reader feels as though every one of them has been catalogued. Most of Housman's poems are untitled and thus are identified by the opening line, which makes sentences that list as many as 15 songs, including the composers' names and the dates of the first performances (and, in many cases, the musicians and venues), read like a long index entry. Mr. Parker has a fine talent for analyzing poetry but a meager gift for writing about music; frequently, he substitutes a complimentary phrase from a newspaper review for his own judgment.

In its final chapter, "Housman Country" compiles an exhaustive collection of tidbits from popular culture that make reference to Housman's poetry. It is amusing to know that Shpetim Zogaj, a performer on "Albanians Got Talent," set "When I was one-and-twenty" to music, but when Mr. Parker goes on to enumerate commemorative plaques and record the auction price for the nameplate from a locomotive called A Shropshire Lad, and to compile stray quotations from "The Simpsons" and "Inspector Morse," compendious becomes tedious.

Yet despite these sporadic excesses of zeal, "Housman Country" finally achieves its principal goal. Mr. Parker's labor of love is enriched by a remarkable breadth of research and is guided by keen intelligence, and only a foolhardy writer would have the hubris to undertake another book of its kind.

Mr. James is the author of "The Glamour of Strangeness."

Forty Whacks Plus One

See What I Have Done

By Sarah Schmidt

Atlantic Monthly Press, 328 pages, \$26

BY ALLAN MASSIE

RAYMOND CHANDLER once said of the Lizzie Borden case that "its fascination is its extreme gruesomeness against a background of extreme respectability." Anyone who knows the old rhyme—"Lizzie Borden took an ax . . ."—might well assume that she had been found guilty of hacking her father and stepmother to death. In fact, after a trial in June 1893, she

No one believed that such a well-brought-up young woman could commit so hideous a crime.

was acquitted, though the evidence, admittedly circumstantial, pointed to her guilt. It's not hard to understand why the Fall River, Mass., jury could not quite believe a 32-year-old spinster and Sunday-school teacher capable of so hideous a crime.

With "See What I Have Done," Sarah Schmidt has made a novel of the case, basing her narrative on what facts we know but adding in details of her own. She undoubtedly faced two distinct challenges: first, creating an atmosphere in which, granting the family's gentility, the crimes become

believable; and second, leaving the question of "whodunit" teasingly open as long as possible. She has met both challenges splendidly.

Ms. Schmidt tells the story through different voices: those of Lizzie herself; her elder sister, Emma (who was staying with friends at the time of the murders); a maid, Bridget; and a violent hobo, Benjamin, recruited by the young women's uncle to confront, beat up and—perhaps—kill Andrew Borden, their father, because he has been treating his daughters harshly.

The novel begins with Lizzie telling Bridget of her "discovery" of her father's body, moves back to the day before, then forward again, then back into the two sisters' childhood and adolescence. The novel's denouement is in Benjamin's voice, the reliability of which may be questionable. The shifting time scale works well: It's a neatly patterned novel, deftly done.

Chandler may have been right in speaking of the "background of extreme respectability"; that was certainly the appearance presented to the world. But in the novel it is a home in which ill feelings fester. Both daughters have come to resent their stepmother, whom they address as "Mrs. Borden." As for their well-to-do father, he is, despite moments of generosity, a

domestic tyrant. His relationship with Lizzie seems now disturbingly close, now brutal. On the day before the murders he decides to get rid of Lizzie's pigeons, on the grounds that they bring disease into the house. So

their initial reluctance to regard Lizzie as the most likely suspect is made understandable: Such a well-brought-up young woman, they thought, could not commit such a deed unless she were insane, and Lizzie, though high-strung, shows signs of shock, not madness. Yet there seems to be no one else who could have hacked Mrs. Borden and Andrew to death. So Lizzie is arrested and brought to trial.

It's a gripping and still puzzling story, and Ms. Schmidt contrives to make her version persuasive. In some respects the novel is over-written. Blood jumps. Words are snarled or spat out. When Lizzie eats cake, she says that she lets "the deliciousness form soft pyramids in my cheeks." Ms. Schmidt's intelligent treatment of the story makes such strained writing feel irritatingly superfluous.

That said, "See What I Have Done" is a credible imagining of a bizarre episode. It also offers a convincing explanation of why, a dozen years after the murders, Emma suddenly left the house that she and Lizzie had bought and lived in together since the trial and never spoke to her again.

Mr. Massie is the author of many novels, most recently, "End Games in Bordeaux."



ENIGMA Lizzie Borden (1860-1927).

he chops off their heads with a hatchet, leaving Lizzie to find the bodies. Extreme respectability hides horrors behind locked doors.

Ms. Schmidt nicely handles the somewhat bumbling police investiga-

BOOKS

'The City was the acme of efficiency, but it made demands of its inhabitants.' —Isaac Asimov

The Perils of Agriculture

Built on Bones

By Brenna Hassett

Bloomsbury Sigma, 320 pages, \$27

BY FELIPE FERNÁNDEZ-ARMESTO

'MY NAME IS OLLIE,' said the waitress, before boring me with her life story. The effect on my digestion was similar to that of Brenna Hassett's intrusiveness on her book: The author affects intimacy as tiresomely as the most egocentric table-server, and it is hard, amid all the chatty distractions, to admire her history of the effects of sedentarism on the bodily well-being of farmers and city-dwellers. If you want to know why she likes tents, or how she used an egg carton to make 18th-century fancy dress, or how she got in line behind Pamela Anderson at a Starbucks in Malibu, or how she "ended up locked in a... box full of things that go beep," pick up this book. Her cultural allusions include Eddie Izzard, Hannibal Lecter and "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves," but she does not expect readers to know that "a man called Edward Jenner" pioneered inoculation. Her humor is flippant or facetious, as when she calls the sacrifice of Isaac "a miraculous kid-ram switcheroo." Footnotes reference Chunky Monkey ice cream and the Daily Mail. Some authors think that no book can succeed unless demotic and dumb. It is a shame to find Ms. Hassett among them, because she has gifts of scholarship and wordsmithery that could, with more discipline and respect for her readers, contribute mightily toward knowledge and debate.

The problem this archaeologist-author addresses is one of the most absorbing in the history of the last 14,000 years or so: why, when sedentary ways are obviously destructive of health, have so many people abandoned foraging for farming and rural for urban life—or, as she says, why have we "moved to no longer moving?" She focuses on the evidence of bones, and so psychological sickness and social malaise are under-represented in her tally. But, on most calculations, there is no doubt that farming is bad for you. Populations that adopt it die earlier than hunter-gatherers, exhibiting more stunted and distorted bones, more tooth decay, more exposure to viruses and more evidence of malnutrition than their foraging predecessors. Concentrated populations are accident-prone niches for epidemics, where filth and pollution accumulate, while deprivation ensues from widening inequalities.

Yet farming and urbanization conquered most of the world, with rapidity that, as Ms. Hassett points out,



HARDLY 'CIVILIZED' A relief from Egypt's Tomb of Horemheb (15th century B.C.). The high-ranking overseer Horemheb (bottom right) later became pharaoh.

seems astonishing by comparison with the rate of transmission of earlier technological innovations. A way of life that brought "debilitating, spine-crunching diseases" zoomed across the globe during the Neolithic revolution, whereas two-edged flints took perhaps half a millennium to reach Europe from Africa. Populations grow at the expense of individual health and happiness; resources increase, but so do risks of wipe-out.

The paradox is important, because it helps to show how cultural adaptations can defy evolution: instead of promoting the survival of organisms and populations that transmit them, cultural change often kills them off. That is why most farming and urban peoples are one with Nineveh and Tyre, and history is a path picked amid their ruins. To avoid future annihilation, we need to understand past errors.

At times, Ms. Hassett gets close to doing so. She distrusts a "progressive narrative of increasing 'complexity' reaching an apex in agrarian states." She is good at undermining collective complacency. "Universalising philosophers who can't quite picture themselves anywhere else but the pinnacle

of human achievement" dismay her. She misses, however, the most promising ways of resolving the contradictions she exposes. She is strangely indifferent to the effects of ancient climate change, which, at the inception of agriculture, forced people either to domesticate and cultivate the threatened species on which they depended,

Hunter-gatherers were healthier than humans who settled in early cities. They were less violent, too.

or to follow the retreating ice-edge. Nor does she notice the convergence of the late medieval and early modern "age of plague" with the low temperatures that help to explain the microbial mutations of the time.

She dismisses, moreover, the importance of key decision-makers: elites who benefited from tillage and herding at the expense of peasants and workers. She seems reluctant to admit that ancient rulers imposed "an institutionalised programme of forced labour,"

but that is more or less what happened in highly regulated "hydraulic civilisations" that organized subject-peoples for irrigation, tillage, monumental building and war. Ms. Hassett notices what she calls a Neolithic "spike in violence" but overlooks the political changes that enhanced rulers' power: the accumulation of surpluses that allowed them to augment followings and cement loyalties; the opportunity to warehouse harvests and therefore to mobilize police; and the need to defend fields and therefore to raise armies.

Ms. Hassett gropes for, but does not grasp, a useful analogy. Industrialization was, like agriculture, an innovation favorable to the elite but immiserating for early workforces. The boss class victimized them as surely as the pharaohs exploited peasants and slaves. Ms. Hassett has a laudable distaste of inequality but errs, I think, in seeing its excesses as the results of farming and city-building, rather than as part of their cause. Claiming that there were "no young tortoise princesses"—that is, no youngsters buried with signs of heritable status—before the Neolithic period, she misdates the earliest evidence of hereditarily trans-

mitted power by at least 10,000 years. In as much as human agency—rather than environmental constraints or the co-evolution of humans and the domesticated species we depend on—was responsible for propelling our species into farms and cities, the effort was accomplished by a power caste, making decisions for its own benefit.

After Ms. Hassett's imprecations against cities, her final optimism seems misplaced. "The secret of the modern city's success," she thinks, is its capacity for democratic self-rectifications. "So many eyes on so many problems will, however grindingly slowly, force action." But I know of only three influences that have ever checked the egotism of elites: the constraints of war (which does more harm than good), the threat of revolution (which is underrated in our current world) and the beneficence of religion (which, in the face of fanaticism and secularism, now seems hopelessly feeble and fading).

Mr. Fernández-Armesto is a professor at Notre Dame and the author, most recently, of "A Foot in the River: Why Our Lives Change—and the Limits of Evolution."

The Thing That Should Not Be

Shark Drunk

By Morten Stroksnes

Knopf, 307 pages, \$26.95

BY TOM FORT

OUT ON THE MIGHTY ocean, men and women of a certain kind seek to test themselves, to find out what they are made of. The rest of us more cautious types watch from afar and marvel uncomprehendingly. Among the vast literature of aquatic endurance—stories of sailing in search of treasure or an unknown island or a rumored passage, or just from one side of an inhospitable sea to the other—a small but strong strand is the quest to catch the monster. Melville's Ahab and Hemingway's Old Man spring to mind. Morten Stroksnes's account of how he and a friend set about trying to haul in one of the world's most outlandish giant predators from the inky depths of the Norwegian sea is a worthy addition to the subgenre.

The author, an Oslo-based literary journalist, casts "Shark Drunk" as a quest, arbitrary in direction by definition and, in practical terms, completely pointless. The Greenland shark is huge—bigger than a Great White—and hideous. It can live up to 500 years and does not have sex until into its second century. Parasites eat its eyes, blinding it. The shark flesh smells of urine and is imbued with a toxin that induces a state akin to extreme intoxication in anyone dumb enough to eat it—hence the title of the book.

A Greenland shark swims very slowly through the depths, feeding off

sleeping seals and the blubber of dead whales. To say that it has limited sporting appeal would be overstating the case. For bait, Mr. Stroksnes and his friend use a chunk of whale meat or a thighbone covered in rotting meat from a Highland bull carcass, having previously dumped to the bottom of the sea sacks of stinking bull guts or the waste from cod livers.

Obviously no one in their right mind would go after this creature for the fun of the fishing. The pursuit of the Greenland shark becomes a kind of literary curtain-rail upon which Mr. Stroksnes suspends his collection

Drifting on the Norwegian sea, angling for the blind, putrescent, seemingly ageless Greenland shark.

of musings and diversions. "Our thoughts have slipped their moorings and are drifting with the current," he writes as the two adventurers sit patiently in their inflatable, waiting day after day for a shark to bite. And drift they do, far but rarely too far, from the matter at hand. The sea and its infinite wonders remain the main focus. Mr. Stroksnes makes a telling point—one that had not occurred to me before—about the vertical dimension, with life from top to bottom. "The vast majority of living space on earth, so to speak, can be found in the sea."

During one of several periods of non-fishing enforced either by the weather or the malfunction of the outboard engine essential to shark fishing,

Mr. Stroksnes delves deep into works of the 16th-century Swedish bishop Olaus Magnus, and in particular his epic ocean map, *Carta marina*, with its depictions of red-eyed, fanged sea monsters. The sea swine, for instance, had four dragon's feet and an eye in its navel. The zophius had an owl's face and a dorsal fin it used to cut into ships to eat their crews.



When the age of science dawned, men of reason tended to mock the ancients for their childish credulity. But, as Mr. Stroksnes vividly shows, nothing Olaus Magnus and the others ever dreamt up exceeded the strangeness of the creatures of the deep marine biologists found when they finally caught up with them. Consider the

vampire squid, which bites off one of its own arms when under attack, leaving the limb to drift off with its minute blue lights blinking as a diversion.

Mr. Stroksnes and his partner encounter their own wonders as they hunt their shark. A sperm whale—the first his friend has seen in 50 years of living by the sea—spouts, dives and resurfaces. "A thunderous sound rum-

In between all this, there is a challenging expedition to catch spawning cod—successful, in that they weigh down the boat with fish, but highly perilous after they get lost in a snow-storm on the way home. "The deep, salty black sea rolls towards us, cold and indifferent, lacking all empathy," Mr. Stroksnes records. "It doesn't care about our hopes and fears—nor does it give a damn about our descriptions." The men make it back to safety, just, and then spend days preparing the fish for drying, detaching the livers for oil and making use of every part of the cod (just as his companion's fishing forebears once did)—out of respect for a resource too precious to waste.

That respect for the past—for the isolated fishing villages of northern Norway and for the hard lives of their people—runs like a powerful current through the book. In general the tone is cheerful, almost chatty, which makes the story all the more unsettling when the friends come close to falling out, the tensions between them heightened while stuck on shore waiting for the ever-unreliable outboard engine to be repaired. It roars back just in time, and they sally forth once more to find the shark.

This rich and fascinating book, translated from the Norwegian by Tiina Nunnally, reaches its climax abruptly and surprisingly, and takes its leave rapidly. Morten Stroksnes's clever trick is to remind us for one last time that the catching of the big fish is the least important part of the story.

Mr. Fort's books include "The Book of Eels" and "The Far From Compleat Angler."

BOOKS

'There are occasions when it pays better to fight and be beaten than not to fight at all.' —George Orwell

CHILDREN'S BOOKS: MEGHAN COX GURDON



Behold, Great Works

TO CREATE his frightful, dread-soaked short stories and poems, Edgar Allan Poe combined and recombined certain literary elements, much as a poisoner might use toxins from different vials to achieve his own murderous effect. For Poe (1809-49), these ingredients included fire, insanity, confinement and death. Each grim motif gets its own symbol in "**Poe: Stories and Poems**" (Candlewick, 120 pages, \$14), a graphic-novel translation of seven of Poe's best-known works, and artist Gareth Hinds includes the relevant symbols at the start of each story or poem to hint at the horrors to come.

For the grisly 1842 tale "The Masque of the Red Death," for example, Mr. Hinds warns that we will encounter death, disease and scary sounds. These portents have the twin effects of engaging both our critical and our imaginative faculties so that we are aware of what Poe is doing even as he is doing it to us, just as the poor bound victim in "The Pit and the Pendulum," also from 1842, watches as the "crescent of glittering steel, its bottom edge evidently as sharp as a razor," descends toward him in inexorable sweeps. Brilliant and terrifying, this collection shows in pictures much of what Poe revealed only through words. Still, Mr. Hinds has retained sufficient ambiguity to leave brave young readers with many of their own dark imaginings.

Just as a graphic-novel presentation may ease a young reader's access to the eldritch world of Poe, so art books for children use informality to make fine art accessible to the potential young connoisseur. Pictures are made to seem friendly and undemanding. In the picture book "**Masterpiece Mix**" (Holiday House, 32 pages, \$16.95), Roxie Munro achieves this effect by setting great paintings amid her own cartoon-style drawing.

"Today I will make a new painting," the unnamed adult narrator announces, showing 4- to 7-year-olds how she prepares a large canvas and assembles her tools. But what to paint? This question produces a series of possible answers in the form of pictures borrowed from the National

Gallery of Art, sorted into categories such as landscapes, portraits, still lifes and figure studies. A final two-page spread shows the results of the artist's labors: a witty seek-and-find city scene that incorporates all the pictures. The flag outside Al's Gym shows the boxers from Bellows's "Both Members of This Club," for instance, and a bridal salon advertises its wares with Whistler's "The White Girl."

A larger and more detailed collection of artwork designed to awaken aesthetic interest fills the pages of "**Old Masters Rock**" (Pimpernel, 109 pages, \$22.95), a chatty guide to looking at pictures for children and parents by art dealer Maria-Christina Sayn-Wittgenstein Nottebohm. The author, who goes by the nickname Puppa, has assembled a distinctive collection of 50 paintings, some of

Three books that invite young readers to step up to more adult fare: literature and fine art.

which, like an otherworldly Arcimboldo head made of animals and an Ingres portrait, are drawn from private collections. Each picture—including a 16th-century watercolor by Hans Hoffmann showing a furry boar piglet (above)—comes with a page of text that include questions to consider, details about the artist and invitations to notice telling details. Of a Frans Hals picture of a laughing fisher boy, for instance, the author asks: "Is he hardworking or lazy?" A moment later she reveals that, according to the syntax of 17th-century Dutch painting, the boy's pose and sidelong look convey that he is "a lazybones."

Making fine art available to children is a noble cause, and I'm all for it, though here and there (including the title) "Old Masters Rock" feels a bit too breezy. I winced to see van Gogh's "Self-Portrait With Bandaged Ear and Pipe" identified as "Vincent's Selfie" and Rembrandt's "Abraham Serving the Angels" as "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" Still, the book would be both a wonderful prelude to a museum visit or a rainy-day excursion in itself.

Carolyn Jessop with Laura Palmer/Crown/Archetype
Hillbilly Elegy 4 1
J.D. Vance/HarperCollins Publishers
The Complete Software Developer's... 5 New
John Sonmez/John Sonmez
The Wars of the Roses 6 -
Dan Jones/Penguin Publishing Group
How the Scots Invented the Modern World 7 -
Arthur Herman/Crown/Archetype
The Subtle Art of Not Giving A F*ck 8 7
Mark Manson/HarperCollins Publishers
The Operator 9 -
Robert O'Neill/Scribner
Tell Me Where It Hurts 10 -
Dr. Nick Trout/Crown/Archetype

Nonfiction E-Books

Nonfiction Combined

Fiction E-Books

Fiction Combined

Hardcover Nonfiction

Hardcover Fiction

Methodology

NPD BookScan gathers point-of-sale book data from more than 16,000 locations across the U.S., representing about 85% of the nation's book sales. Print-book data providers include all major booksellers (now inclusive of Wal-Mart) and Web retailers, and food stores. E-book data providers include all major e-book retailers. Free e-books and those sold for less than 99 cents are excluded. The fiction and nonfiction lists in all formats include adult, young adult, and juvenile titles; the business list includes only adult titles. The combined lists track sales by title across all print and e-book formats; audio books are excluded. Refer questions to Peter.Saenger@wsj.com.

Hardcover Business

Strengths Finder 2.0 1 1
Tom Rath/Gallup Press

The Five Dysfunctions of a Team 2 4
Patrick M. Lencioni/Jossey-Bass

Extreme Ownership 3 3
Jocko Willink & Leif Babin/St. Martin's Press

Total Money Makeover 4 2
Dave Ramsey/Thomas Nelson

Perennial Seller 5 New
Ryan Holiday/Portfolio

Essentialism 6 -
Greg McKeown/Crown Business

The Ideal Team Player 7 9
Patrick M. Lencioni/Jossey-Bass

The ONE Thing 8 10
Gary Keller & Jay Papasan/Bard Press (TX)

Who Moved My Cheese? 9 8
Spencer Johnson/Penguin Putnam

Strengths Based Leadership 10 -
Tom Rath/Gallup Press

Books

Five Best: A Personal Choice

Peter Stansky

on violence and visionaries

The Strange Death of Liberal England

By George Dangerfield (1935)

DANGERFIELD'S brilliantly

written book charts the esca-

lating level of violence, dis-

concerting and dynamic, in the

richest country in the world from

1910 to 1914. The chaos came from

both left and the right. The Lib-

eral Party had inaugurated a com-

paratively modest welfare system

and then increased taxes on the

well-off to help pay for it. The

House of Lords vociferously ob-

jected and then capitulated, which

only led to more confrontational

action. Society was further chal-

lenged by the remarkable violence

related to the women's suffrage

movement, which included dem-

onstrations, arrests, hunger

strikes and forced feedings. A

huge increase in labor unrest and

strikes contributed to the chaos.

There was agitation, on the right,

against Home Rule in Ireland, with

the Tories pledging to support

armed resistance by Ulster Protes-

tants, who were militantly op-

posed to a semi-independent Ire-

land. There was a growing danger

of a civil war between Protestants

and Catholics. It was only the

greater violence of World War I

that prevented it.

WILLIAM MORRIS—poet,

designer, businessman, so-

cialist, novelist, printer—

was an extraordinary Victorian. In

his visionary book "News From

Nowhere," he imagined a post-rev-

olutionary British utopia, an ideal

changed as the war proceeded. At

first poets, Rupert Brooke among

them, had found it possible to ro-

manticize the struggle. Then came

the carnage—the British experi-

ence on the Western Front in

France. With that came a pro-

foundly different rendering of

war's terrors. In Fussell's telling,

the works of writers like Siegfried

Sassoon, Robert Graves, Wilfred

Owen—the war poets—had a libe-

rating influence on the great Ameri-

cian novelists of World War II.

The novels of Norman Mailer,

James Jones, Joseph Heller and

Thomas Pynchon portray war's

realities as brutal, absurd, out-

rageous: a view that the poets of

the earlier war had come to know

well.

EDWARD UPWARD, the

novelist and short-story

writer, was a crucial figure in

left-wing literary circles in the

1930s. His vivid first novel depicts

a day in the life of an unnamed

young man as he entertains

thoughts on how he might make a

IDEALIC The frontispiece to 'News

From Nowhere,' showing William

Morris's home, Kelmscott Manor.

world achieved after a violent

mid-20th-century civil war be-

tween the forces of capitalism and

labor. In this Britain there is no

longer any need for law courts,

prisons or a central government:

There are self-governing commu-

nies based on participatory di-

rect democracy. Work hours are

minimal, and leisure and commu-

nal activities are paramount. Here

the alienation from society caused

by capitalism no longer exists. The

world is very much as if Morris &

Co. had designed everything; its

inhabitants have learned that

pleasure in work results in the

creation of beautiful objects. It is

a bucolic society, a British dream

come true. The book's last line is:

"If others can see it as I have seen

it, then it may be called a vision

rather than a dream."

The Great War and Modern Memory

By Paul Fussell (1975)

WITH PENETRATING insight, Paul Fussell examines

not only how World War I

transformed British writers' views

of the world but also how that

transformation affected the work

of many of America's outstanding

writers a generation later. He de-

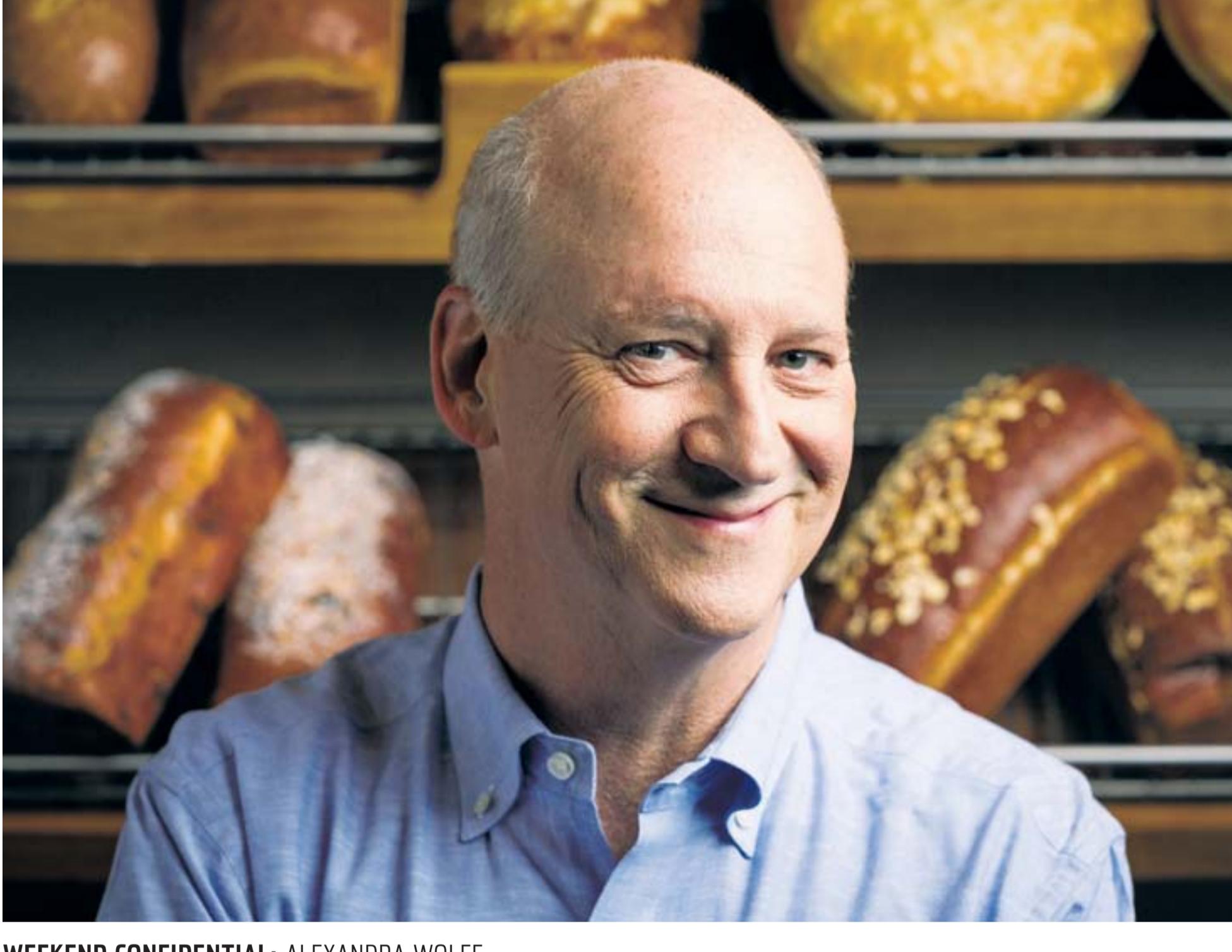
scribes, eloquently, how the atti-

tudes of the British writers

changed as the war proceeded. At

first poets, Rupert Brooke among

REVIEW



JASON GROW FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WEEKEND CONFIDENTIAL: ALEXANDRA WOLFE

Ron Shaich

IN THE EARLY 1980S, the future CEO of Panera Bread Co., Ron Shaich, opened a 400-square-foot cookie store in downtown Boston. He soon realized that no one was buying cookies before noon, so he began to stock breakfast pastries from a small chain called Au Bon Pain. Mr. Shaich soon merged Au Bon Pain with his cookie company.

Ten years later, in 1991, he took Au Bon Pain public. In 1993, Au Bon Pain acquired Saint Louis Bread Co. to form what is now Panera Bread. And on July 18, Mr. Shaich sold Panera for \$7.5 billion in one of the biggest restaurant deals ever. His ownership of nearly 6% of the company's stock netted him an estimated \$400 million pretax payout.

Such a windfall once seemed unlikely. In 2010, Mr. Shaich, who had stepped down as Panera's CEO and became executive chairman, was worried enough about the soup-and-sandwich chain's trajectory that he drew up a "pre-mortem" to explain how a competitor could beat it. Walking into a Panera branch was like a "mosh pit," he said. As lines and waits grew, customers often found ordering so frustrating that they would just leave. The company's growth slowed.

Panera adopted the strategies that Mr. Shaich devised for its would-be competitors, such as Starbucks and Chipotle Mexican Grill. In 2012, he returned as CEO to help lead an overhaul known as Panera 2.0, including an estimated \$100 million investment in better technology to speed up ser-

vice. Last year, the firm's revenue grew to \$2.8 billion, up from \$2.7 billion in 2015.

All 2,000 restaurants are now slated to get a new look, including sleeker drive-throughs and digital screens, and a menu of "artisanal" offerings that Panera says are preservative-free, including a steak and white-cheddar panini and a watermelon feta salad.

Customers at revamped stores can now order on an iPad, and many can get deliveries at their homes or offices.

The high-tech refurbishing of Panera is just the latest act for Mr. Shaich, a 36-year veteran of the restaurant business. This spring, Whole Foods Market named him to its board of directors, further increasing his influence in the food industry. Mr.

Shaich, 63, will stay on as CEO of Panera and help guide its new owner, JAB Holding Co., a European investment fund that owns Krispy Kreme, Keurig Green Mountain and other food and retail chains.

Growing up in Livingston, N.J., amid the social and cultural ferment of the 1960s, Mr. Shaich initially wanted to go into politics. The son of an accountant father and a home-maker mother, he went to Clark University, where he became treasurer of the student body. In that role, he opened a nonprofit convenience store. "For a kid who can't dance and can't sing...this was the most creative

A pioneer in 'fast-casual' dining wants Panera to feed some emotional needs too

thing I had ever done in my life," he laughs.

After graduation, he went to Washington to work in campaign consulting—and realized that he'd rather start his own business. He attended Harvard Business School and then opened that first cookie store. Since then, he has been a keen observer of trends in the food industry.

In the mid-1990s, he started seeing a move away from baked goods and ready-made sandwiches and toward healthier, fresher food. He noticed that while many customers once ordered their baguettes sliced crosswise in circular pieces, people were starting to ask to have the loaves sliced lengthwise to use for sandwiches. That made him think that customers

wanted to come in for real meals, not just to buy baked goods on the run.

Modern chains such as McDonald's once met that need for a more complete food experience, he says, but by the mid-1990s, fast-food restaurants had become "self-service gasoline stations for the human body." Sensing an opening, Mr. Shaich became one of the founders of the "fast-casual" movement: restaurants that aim to provide fresh, high-quality food swiftly and affordably—with a serving of self-esteem on the side.

Over the years, he says, he began to see "people waking up and saying, 'I want to feel

special in a world in which I'm not.' " Panera, he concluded, answered that desire better than Au Bon Pain. So in 1999, he sold Au Bon Pain to focus on growing Panera into a fast-casual pioneer. As that market has become more competitive, with the Sweetgreen salad chain and Tom Colicchio's "Wichcraft" sandwich shops expanding nationally, Mr. Shaich is relying on his digital plan to compete by giving customers easier ways to get their lunches, including an app for advance orders.

Mr. Shaich says that he hasn't thought about how to spend his enormous payout from the deal, but he plans to keep his current routine. When he isn't traveling, he wakes up at his home in Brookline, Mass., at 4:30 a.m., reads the news for 45 minutes and sees his fitness trainer three to four days a week. ("My favorite part of the trainer is saying goodbye," he says.) Afterward, he checks Panera sales and heads to work, stopping at a branch to pick up a Greek yogurt parfait and cappuccino before a day of meetings. After work, he likes to have dinner with his wife and their teenage son and daughter around 6:30 p.m.

He hopes to use his family vacation this winter for another, more personal "pre-mortem." "I've watched both my mom and dad pass away and...I learned we each have an opportunity if we have a chronic disease to reflect on our own lives," he says. "But I'm convinced that the time to reflect is not in the ninth inning, on your death bed. It's while you're going through life."

A foe of self-service gasoline stations for the human body.'

MOVING TARGETS: JOE QUEENAN

Who's Afraid of Singing, Acting Politicians?

FOR THE STARS of stage and screen, the dream of another audience—the one in the voting booth—lives on. Celebrities as varied as Dwayne Johnson (*The Rock*), Kid Rock and Caitlyn Jenner have been making noises recently about running for public office.

If tweets are to be believed, the Michigan-born rocker Kid Rock might challenge Democratic Sen. Debbie Stabenow for her seat in 2018. Meanwhile, wrestler-turned-matinee-idol Mr. Johnson told *GQ* that he could imagine himself in the White House one day. And one-time Olympic star and transgender heroine Ms. Jenner has been talking about running for the U.S. Senate in California.

As a Republican, no less.

If anything comes of all this, the three would be following in the footsteps of such resounding successes as Ronald Reagan (actor), Al Franken (comic) and Donald Trump (television host, real-estate

developer, impresario). They would also be following the trails blazed by the likes of Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jesse Ventura and Sonny Bono.

The chutzpah that pop-culture icons display when they talk about hitting the hustings must be maddening to politicians, who hit the hustings for a living. Politicians are committed professionals with real talents. They're not amateurs or clowns. And they didn't enter politics as a stunt, to see if anyone would bother listening to them (well, perhaps some of them did).

So the obvious question is: How would the Messrs. Rock and Ms. Jenner like it if politicians responded to any incursion on their turf by suddenly waltzing into the performers' chosen fields?

The results would not be pretty. Can we imagine House Speaker Nancy Pelosi or Sen. Susan Collins hatching conspiracies as leading

As Kid Rock and others ponder public office, pols may strike back.



ladies in "Game of Thrones"? Can we envision a scenario in which the preternaturally uncool Gov.

Chris Christie fills in for Keanu Reeves in "John Wick: Chapter 3"? Would we sign off on Sen. Chuck Schumer taking over for Flea in the Red Hot Chili Peppers? Or Rep. Steny Hoyer hitting the arena circuit in place of Eminem?

Does anyone want to see Sen. Paul Ryan thundering across the stage like Angus Young of AC/DC? Sen. Elizabeth Warren decked out like Beyoncé? Attorney General Jeff Sessions playing a fearsome hit man in "Better Call Saul"? Newt Gingrich recording the Patti Smith songbook?

Because the truth is, such obviously implausible role reversals are tantamount to Kid Rock and The Rock deciding that what the Senate really needs is their own bombastic, opinionated presence. (Then again, considering the antics of that august body lately, maybe no

one would notice.)

Are there figures in the rich, varied world of American politics who could handle such career shifts with aplomb? Sure. Sen. Bernie Sanders has the wise, well-traveled look needed to replace Ian McKellen as Gandalf in any future "Lord of the Rings" remake. And many who saw "The Fate of the Furious" would agree that a tough-talking chrome dome like Gov.

Jerry Brown would be a vast improvement over the cartoonish The Rock, whose only virtue in the latest installment of that crash-and-noise fest is to make Vin Diesel seem like The Laurence Olivier as Hamlet.

That said, the very notion of having both a Sen. Rock and a President The Rock is tempting. It's what MTV talks about when it encourages young people at election time to "Rock the Vote." Only in this case, it would be: "Vote the Rocks."

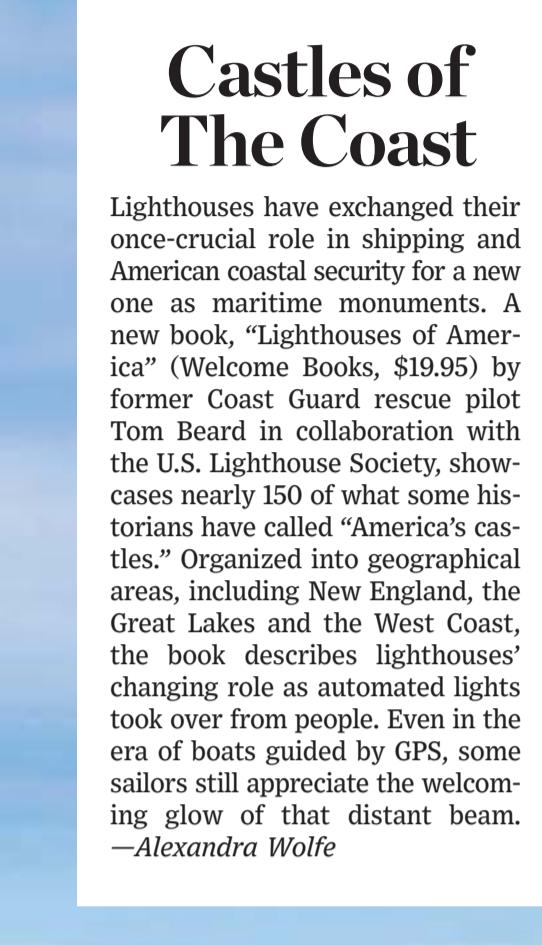
REVIEW

EXHIBIT

Castles of The Coast

Lighthouses have exchanged their once-crucial role in shipping and American coastal security for a new one as maritime monuments. A new book, "Lighthouses of America" (Welcome Books, \$19.95) by former Coast Guard rescue pilot Tom Beard in collaboration with the U.S. Lighthouse Society, showcases nearly 150 of what some historians have called "America's castles." Organized into geographical areas, including New England, the Great Lakes and the West Coast, the book describes lighthouses' changing role as automated lights took over from people. Even in the era of boats guided by GPS, some sailors still appreciate the welcoming glow of that distant beam.

—Alexandra Wolfe



A.



B.



C.



D.

A. Yaquina Head Lighthouse, Oregon. This 93-foot lighthouse is the tallest on the state's coast. Boats can see the light from more than 19 miles away. **B.** Point Judith Light, Rhode Island. This lighthouse appeared on a set of postal stamps in 2013 called "New England Coastal Lighthouses." **C.** West Quoddy Head Light, Maine. The stripes served as a "daymark" or identifying daylight symbol to mariners. Red and white are common on Canadian lighthouses, but this tower is one of the few in the U.S. to have horizontal red-and-white stripes. **D.** Tchefuncte River Lighthouse, Louisiana. The vertical black stripes help mariners identify this lighthouse so they can navigate the channel coming off Lake Pontchartrain.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: DON MITCHELL, JEREMY D'ENTREMONT, JAMES CONKLIN, JAMES HILL; LIGHTHOUSES OF AMERICA (ALL)

PLAYLIST: LINDA FAIRSTEIN

Fire, Rain and a Mustang

A James Taylor classic about a tragedy can still make a crime novelist cry

Linda Fairstein, 70, is a former prosecutor in the Manhattan district attorney's office and the author of 19 crime novels, including "Deadfall" (Dutton). She spoke with Marc Myers.

In the spring of 1970, my boyfriend and I took turns driving my 1965 Mustang convertible from New York to Charlottesville, Va. I had gone up to New York to visit him, and he was accompanying me back to the University of Virginia, where I was studying law.

James Taylor's

"FIRE AND RAIN"

came on the radio

several times during

our seven-hour trip.

I loved "Fire and Rain" the moment I

heard it, especially the song's soft sadness. Though the single had come out a month or so earlier, I heard it for the first time while heading south in the Mustang.

After my boyfriend returned to New York, I went out and bought "Sweet Baby James," the album on which the song appears. One of my closest friends at law school was a guy named Geoff. I adored and admired him, and we spent a lot of time talking, studying and hanging out together.

Two years later, I was working in the Manhattan district attorney's

office when a friend from law school called. She asked if I was alone. Then she told me that Geoff was dead, that he had taken his own life.

I went to pieces. I retreated to my mother's house in the suburbs of New York and was inconsolable for days. I had never lost a friend to suicide before, and "Fire and Rain" helped me get through it.

The song opens with JT's beautiful and melancholy acoustic guitar. Then he begins to sing about a woman named Suzanne and how her suicide affected him:

"Just yesterday morning, they let me know you were

gone / Suzanne, the plans they made put an end to you...I've seen lonely times when I could not find a friend, / But I always thought that I'd see you again."

I listened often to the song following Geoff's death. Over the years, I've lost other friends to tragic deaths. Sometimes when I'm driving near my home on Martha's Vineyard, I'll hear the song on the radio and cry. But it's a good cry and cathartic.

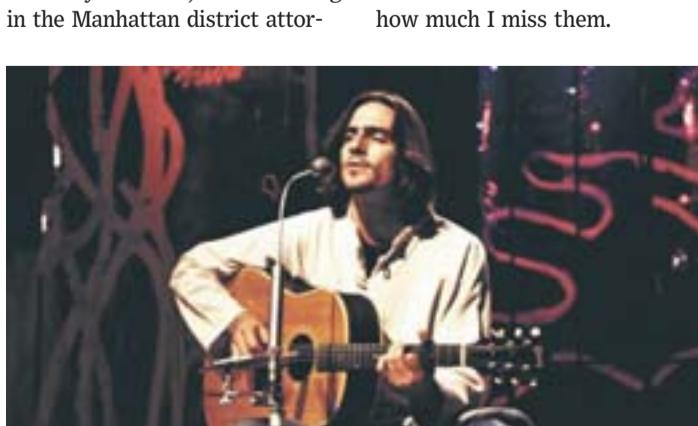
"Fire and Rain" lets me remember the people who left me too soon and makes me think how much I miss them.

Recalling people who left too soon.

gone / Suzanne, the plans they made put an end to you...I've seen lonely times when I could not find a friend, / But I always thought that I'd see you again."

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"Fire and Rain" lets me remember the people who left me too soon and makes me think how much I miss them.

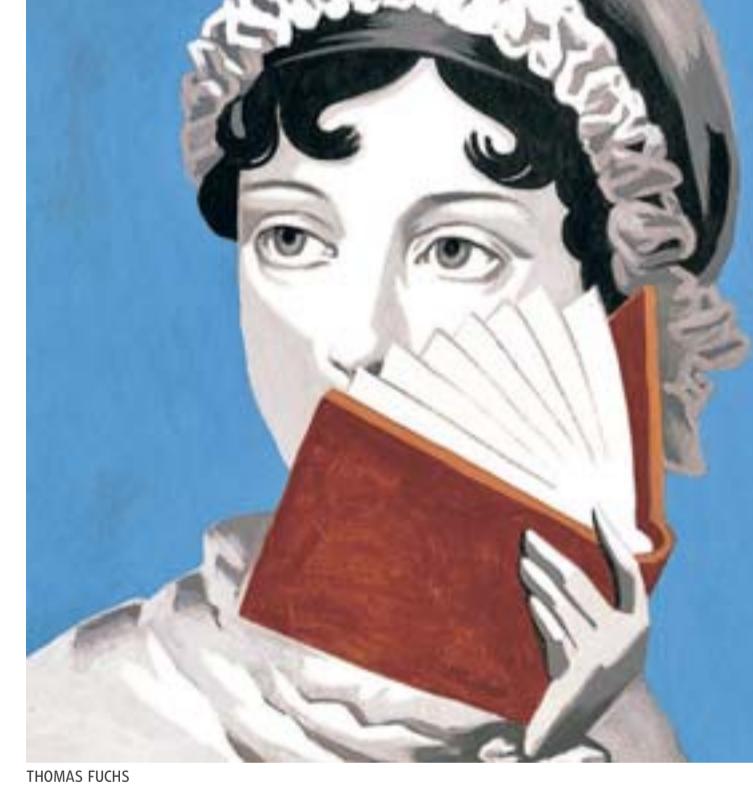


EVERETT COLLECTION

JAMES TAYLOR performing in the early 1970s.

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING: AMANDA FOREMAN

Jane Austen Without Her Name



IT IS A TRUTH universally acknowledged that "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen—who died 200 years ago this month—is one of the most romantic and popular tales ever written. Behind the global adoration she enjoys today lies the irony that in her own time Austen's name never appeared on her books.

In "Pride and Prejudice" she was simply the author of "Sense and Sensibility," which had carried the title "By a Lady." Her veil of anonymity worked so well that even friends of the Austen family had no idea that dear, sweet spinster Jane was a novelist of repute. An acquaintance of her brother Henry actually told him that "Pride and Prejudice" was "much too clever to be the work of a woman." Austen's decision to publish anonymously was par for the course before the mid-19th century. Writing for money was akin to taking on paid work—something that few gentlemen, much less gentle ladies, would ever consider.

Authors of politically controversial tracts also frequently chose to be invisible, for reasons of safety or to let their views stand on their own. Tom Paine, author of "Common Sense," which galvanized American public opinion in favor of revolution in 1776, kept his identity hidden for a short time after publication. "The Federalist Papers," urging ratifica-

tion of the Constitution, were famously the work of Publius, the joint pseudonym adopted by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay.

But for a woman, there was the added burden of societal expectations regarding "female respectability," which characterized any sort of publishing or public display of talent as not just vulgar but unchaste behavior. As Virginia Woolf declared in "A Room of One's Own": "I would venture to guess that Anon, who wrote so many poems without signing them, was often a woman."

It wasn't only fear about propriety that deterred women from writing under their own names. Despite the esteem afforded Austen, women's writing was seldom taken seriously, as Charlotte Brontë, author of "Jane Eyre," discovered when she sent her poetry to the poet laureate Robert Southey, who responded: "Literature cannot be the business of a woman's life." Brontë used the pseudonym Currer Bell to publish "Jane Eyre" in 1847, while her sister Emily published "Wuthering Heights" as Ellis Bell in the same year.

They joined a long list of women authors who felt they had to hide. Mary Shelley's "Frankenstein" had come out anonymously in 1818, while Mary Anne Evans wrote "Middlemarch" and her

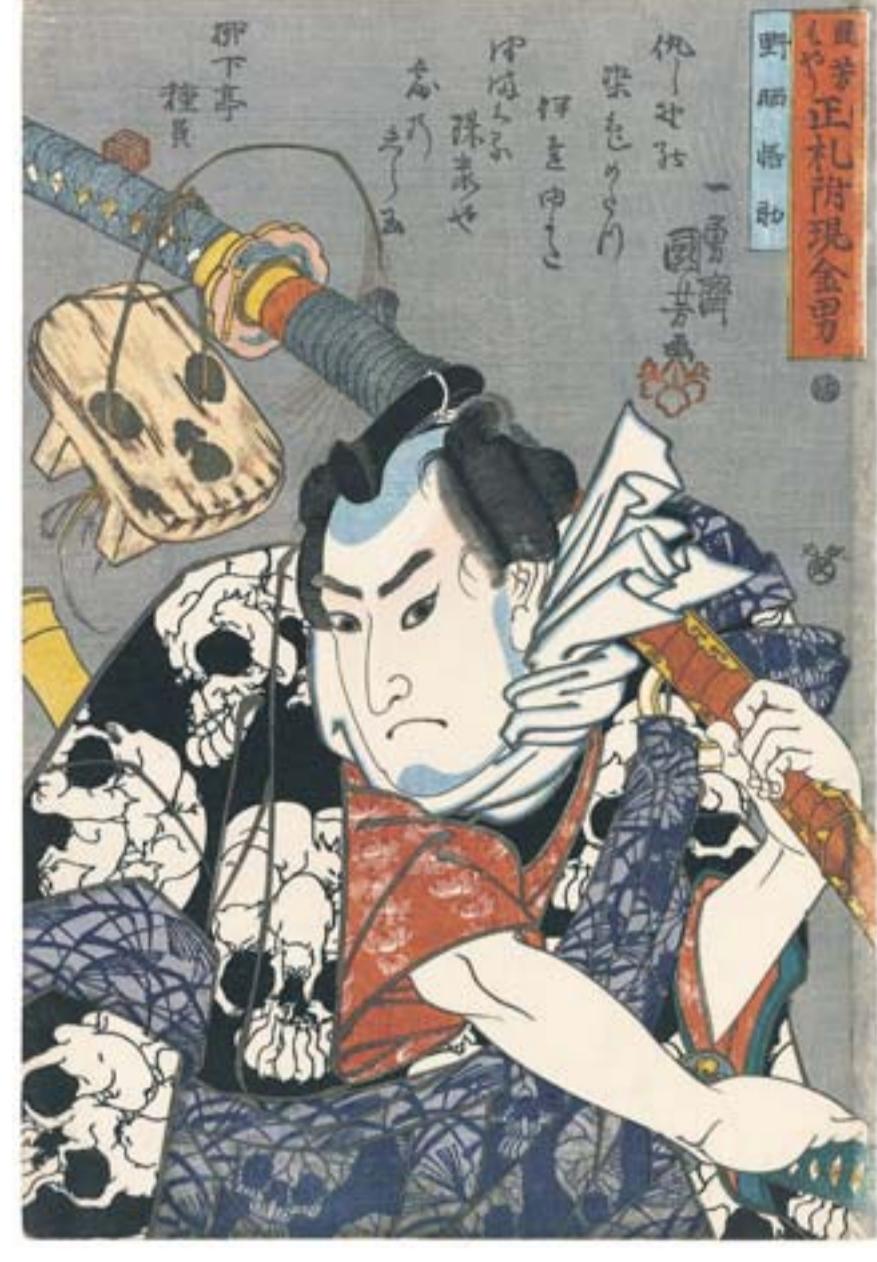
other novels under the pen name George Eliot.

In theory, the great strides toward gender equality in the 20th century should have made it unnecessary for women writers to follow the same path as Austen, unless driven by personal reasons. In a 2016 interview with the Guardian, the Italian novelist Elena Ferrante claimed that her use of a pseudonym let her "concentrate exclusively and with complete freedom on writing and its strategies."

But in practice, certain prejudices just won't go away, making a pen name appear to be the only option. Joanne Rowling, author of the Harry Potter novels, was advised to become J.K. Rowling because, as Connie Ann Kirk's biography puts it, "boys might frown on picking up a book by a woman."

Virginia Woolf was more right than she knew: "Anonymous" is still often a woman.

REVIEW



KUNISADA'S 'The In-demand Type,' left, from the series '32 Physiognomic Types in the Modern World'; at right, Kuniyoshi's 'Nozarashi Gosuke,' from the series 'Men of Ready Money With True Labels Attached, Kuniyoshi Fashion.'

BY ALEXANDRA WOLFE

JAPANESE WOODCUT ARTISTS Utagawa Kuniyoshi and Utagawa Kunisada were fierce rivals in the 19th century. Nearly 200 years later, they're competing again.

A new exhibition starting Aug. 11 features 100 of the artists' colorful images of Kabuki theater actors, beautiful women, dueling warriors and battles between heroes and monsters. "Showdown! Kuniyoshi vs. Kunisada" will give visitors at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts the chance to decide—on an iPad in the gallery or online—which artist they prefer. Organized thematically by subject, the prints of each artist sport a different color frame—black for Kuniyoshi (1797-1861) and cherry wood for Kunisada (1786-1864).

In the 19th century, both artists made their living in large part by illustrating fashionably dressed people and, especially, Kabuki theater actors. Kabuki was a rich dance-drama tradition then already several centuries old. Plot-heavy and stylized, with an emphasis on vivid costumes and makeup, it was the main form of entertainment, especially in big cities. "If you wanted a picture of your favorite star, you bought a color woodblock print," says exhibition curator Sarah Thompson.

Each woodblock artist created thousands of designs. Fans could buy a print in a bookstore for the price of a bowl of noodles. The artists' prints of celebrities were like today's glossy magazine covers.

Both Kuniyoshi and Kunisada, who was 11 years older, came from Edo, the city that is now

ICONS

Woodcut-Artist Smackdown

Boston museum rekindles a rivalry between masters who depicted actors, monsters and heroes

Tokyo. In contrast to Kunisada, whose family owned a successful ferry service, Kuniyoshi came from a modest background. His father is thought to have been a textile dyer, leading some scholars to connect his father's profession with the bright colors that he used in his works.

The two artists apprenticed with the same teacher, Utagawa Toyokuni, who headed the top school of the time for woodblock artists. (The first part of their names, "Kuni," comes from Toyokuni.) His specialty was teaching how to draw the faces of actors so that they would be recognizable. "The business they were in was very commercial and competitive," Dr. Thompson says.

Kuniyoshi and Kunisada often competed for the same kinds of commissions from publishers. Dr. Thompson says that one story—possibly apocryphal—holds that when Kuniyoshi was a struggling young artist, he saw the older Kunisada passing by on a boat surrounded by

gorgeous women. The vision motivated Kuniyoshi to work harder.

In their lifetimes, Kunisada was the favorite. He rendered actors more realistically than Kuniyoshi did, says Dr. Thompson, so the actors' fans preferred the older man's works. In his woodcut

design "Actor Onoe Kikugorō III as a Cat Monster," Kunisada depicts an angry man-beast with a fearsome expression and a sumptuous kimono. Three actors have a lively conversation in Kunisada's triptych "Plum: Actors Arashi Kichisaburō III, Ichikawa Kodanji IV, and Iwai Kumesaburō III," from the series "A Modern Shuihuzuan."

Cherry-tree blossoms and branches stretch across all three images of the actors, each wearing clothing with different animal motifs.

With the advent of photography, such artistic realism lost much of its value. Today, collectors tend to prefer Kuniyoshi's works, depicting hard-charging heroes and frightening monsters,

Dr. Thompson says. Kuniyoshi tended to fill his whole image with movement, such as his circa 1851-52 triptych, "The Rescue of Tametomo," in which ghostly bird-men, amid raging waves, save the hero from a giant fish with a gaping mouth full of teeth. In Kuniyoshi's 1830 "Hayakawa Ayunosuke," the hero blocks a massive wave with part of a wooden wall as fish leap in the white foam on top of it.

In the 1840s, a brief government crackdown set back both artists—at least at the start. Declaring that "to make woodblock prints of Kabuki actors, courtesans and geisha is detrimental to public morals," political leaders banned extravagant images.

Eventually, though, says Dr. Thompson, the decree provoked the artists into more creativity—especially Kuniyoshi. He started designing "complicated pictures that looked as though they had hidden meaning," she says. In 1843, for example, he designed a battle between monsters that many people thought represented citizens angry about the new laws. "He escaped punishment because there was no proof of deliberate wrongdoing," says Dr. Thompson.

Today, Kuniyoshi's prints bring in anywhere from a few hundred dollars for a simple print to five figures for an elaborate triptych. Scholars see his imaginative storytelling and fantastical subject matter as an influence on today's anime, or Japanese animation. Contemporary manga comic-book artists use the same imagery of ghosts, monsters and giant skeletons that Kuniyoshi and Kunisada did, Dr. Thompson says.

She adds with a laugh: "There are still a lot of people having fun with monsters."

FROM LEFT: UTAGAWA KUNISADA/MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON; UTAGAWA KUNIYOSHI/MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON

MASTERPIECE: 'MACK THE KNIFE' (1955), BY LOUIS ARMSTRONG AND HIS ALL STARS



RYAN INZANA

THE SHARK'S PRETTY TEETH

BY TERRY TEACHOUT

FOR ALL the enduring success of their other collaborations, Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill are both best remembered for "Die Dreigroschenoper" ("The Threepenny Opera"), their caustically witty 1928 adaptation of John Gay's 1728 "Beggar's Opera," which portrayed low life in 18th-century London. But it was not until 1955 that the American public at large first heard any part of "The Threepenny Opera"—and it was Louis Armstrong, the most im-

portant figure in the history of jazz, who introduced them to it.

In September of that year, Armstrong and His All Stars recorded "Mack the Knife," Marc Blitzstein's English-language version of "Die Moritat von Mackie Messer," a "murder ballad" about the vicious exploits of the show's principal character that was the most popular number in "The Threepenny Opera." Armstrong's deliciously swinging cover version became a hit single, one of a handful of small-group jazz recordings ever to do so, and he

would perform it the world over until he died in 1971.

Armstrong was introduced to "Mack the Knife" by George Avakian, his producer at Columbia Records. Mr. Avakian, who was determined to put his beloved Satchmo back on the pop charts, had recently seen the 1954 off-Broadway revival of "The Threepenny Opera." While the original 1933 Broadway production had closed after just 12 performances, this small-scale staging, newly translated by Blitzstein, the author of "The Cradle Will Rock," became a sleeper hit, ultimately running for six years. Mr. Avakian came home certain that "Mack the Knife" had the makings of a hit single, but he was unable to

persuade any of Columbia's other artists to play his hunch. Dave Brubeck, Erroll Garner and Gerry Mulligan all turned him down flat, finding the simple tune to be too repetitious.

It was Turk Murphy, a San Francisco trombonist, who suggested that the song might suit Armstrong. Murphy wrote and recorded a combo arrangement that Mr. Avakian brought to the trumpeter, who agreed on the spot to record it. His attraction to "Mack the Knife" was easy to understand. Not only was Weill's riff-like melody instantly appealing, but Blitzstein's rendering of Brecht's lyric, an acid-etched portrait of a switchblade-wielding street thug, was no less immediately memorable: "Just a jackknife has Macheath, dear / And he keeps it out of sight." Armstrong

found the song richly evocative of his New Orleans childhood, laughing out loud as he listened to the demo. "Oh, I'm going to love doing this!" he told Mr. Avakian. "I knew cats like this in New Orleans. Every one of them, they'd stick a knife into you without blinking an eye!"

Murphy's arrangement was a spare sketch well suited to the talents of the All Stars, the instrumental combo that accompanied Armstrong. "Dig, man, there goes Mack the Knife!" the trumpeter rasped genially by way of introduction. Arvell Shaw and Barrett Deems laid down

How a song about a murderer became a jazz hit.

a springy, pulsing two-beat accompaniment on bass and drums over which Billy Kyle, the All Stars' pianist, strewed Basie-like twinkles. A muted Armstrong played the pennyplain melody, with the clarinetist Edmond Hall and the trombonist Trummy Young riffing softly behind him. Then he put down his horn and told the tale of the bloodthirsty Macheath with a glee that had nothing whatsoever to do with the grim lyric, translating it into New Orleans-flavored Satchmo-ese: "Oh, the shark has pretty teeth, dear / And he shows them a-poi-ly white." Armstrong also overdubbed a trumpet obbligato behind his vocal. At the

end he pulled out his mute, shouted "Take it, Satch," and led the band through a rocking out-chorus.

The results were irresistible, and no one tried to resist them. Released as fast as Mr. Avakian could slap it onto vinyl, "Mack the Knife" rose to No. 20 on Billboard's pop chart. Though Bobby Darin's cover version, cut three years later, sold even better, it was Armstrong who turned "Mack the Knife" into a jazz and pop standard that has since been recorded by such artists as Tony Bennett, Ella Fitzgerald, Bill Haley and the Comets, Peggy Lee, Sonny Rollins and Frank Sinatra. But Armstrong's version remains sui generis, a quintessential example of his fabled ability to take unlikely sounding songs and make them his own.

In 2015 "Mack the Knife" was made part of the Library of Congress' National Recording Registry, a roster of "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant" audio recordings "of enduring importance to American culture." The other recordings enshrined in the registry range from Judy Garland's "Over the Rainbow" to Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. Satchmo would have been proud.

Mr. Teachout, the Journal's drama critic, is the author of "Pops: A Life of Louis Armstrong" and "Satchmo at the Waldorf," a play about Armstrong. This essay, commissioned by the Library of Congress for the National Recording Registry, was adapted from "Pops."

Can you
wear a tux
without a bow
tie? Let the
debate begin
D2



OFF DUTY



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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Saturday/Sunday, July 29 - 30, 2017 | **D1**



VICTOR PRADO FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, FOOD STYLING BY HEATHER MELDRUM, PROP STYLING BY STEPHANIE HANES

Growing Fashionable

Is kohlrabi the new kale? As chefs, farmers and wholesalers plot emerging produce trends, here's a glimpse into the making of an 'It' vegetable—and what smart market bags will be hauling home next

BY KAREN STABINER

YOU MAY NOT have heard of a yacon, but pay attention. This Andean tuber could be big.

If you've ever eaten a kiwi or a kale salad, you've already surfed a produce wave. But there's a new urgency to fruit and vegetable trends as a tight restaurant economy makes it more important than ever for a chef to stand out. Savvy customers want produce that's intriguing, surprising, delicious and, if possible, wildly nutritious—not only at restaurants and stores but on our doorsteps, as grocery-delivery services such as FreshDirect expand the market.

On the local level, veteran southern California farmer Alex Weiser plants what he calls "develop-

ment crops"—seasonal items that a chef might audition on his menu—to see if they warrant more acreage. On a much larger scale, companies like Los Angeles-based Frieda's Specialty Produce scour the globe for fruits and vegetables that might come from nearby or from South America, because supermarket clients want variety year-round.

Karen Caplan, CEO of the 55-year-old Frieda's, has never seen anything like the current scramble for marquee produce. "Information travels at the speed of light" in the Instagram era, she said. The next big thing gets a lot more exposure, and faces a lot more competition.

The new star could be a tomato called the datterino—Italian for little date—that Pennsylvania farmer Chris Field brings to New York's Union Square Greenmarket every Friday. "We can't grow enough," said Mr. Field, considering a near-empty

crate only an hour after the market opened.

Or it could be a happy fluke like the Stokes purple sweet potato that Frieda's distributes. Its debut happened to coincide with the popular Blue Zone diet; though the regimen promotes the health benefits of a different variety of purple sweet potato, the Stokes benefited from the association.

Yet for every lucky crop there's a story of unmet potential. Remember kale sprouts, aka lollipop kale or kalettes? Back in 2013, this hybrid of kale and Brussels sprouts was touted as the next kale—the biggest produce-marketing success story in recent memory—but wasn't.

On a postcard Sunday morning in Santa Monica, Calif., Mr. Weiser presides over his family's stand at the farmers' market in a well-worn "Life is Good" T-shirt. Conversations with customers invigorate

Please turn to page D4

Bag, \$1,970, *Prada*, 212-334-8888

[INSIDE]

BARE MARKET

Are nude paintings so out they're in?
Interior designers flesh out an answer **D8**



LAST TANGLE IN PARIS...

...or wherever
you are, thanks
to knot-proof
neckband
earbuds **D9**



THE ISLAND THAT HYPE FORGOT
For travelers, Minorca—off the coast of Spain—is quietly compelling **D6**

SOOTS YOU FINE

Charcoal is burning up as a hot ingredient in beauty and grooming products **D3**



STYLE & FASHION

STYLE ROLE MODEL

The Slope Sartorialist

Outshining his T-shirt-clad rivals, Olympic snowboarder Shaun White isn't afraid to wear a suit—with Vans or without. Here, his tips



HIGH FASHION

Shaun White, here on Mount Hood in Oregon, seeks out unique pieces like this embroidered bomber jacket.

Forget Me Knot "I like to sub scarves from brands like Hermès, Gucci and Louis Vuitton for a tie. Not down the front, but under a suit so you get just a bit of pattern or color showing. It's a showpiece but not as blatant as a colorful suit." Scarves, \$185 and \$215, Hermès, 800-441-4488

Coastal Character

"I'm digging the whole vintage Miami vibe, sort of like Jonah Hill in the movie 'War Dogs.' I wouldn't say that Jonah Hill is a classic style icon, but those big shades are coming back, and that retro look is coming in heavy."

Flip Service "I had some wins in Las Vegas so I bought a Jaeger-LeCoultre Reverso. I heard it was a gentleman's watch for when he wanted to play polo. He could flip it over to protect it. I'm tough on my jewelry so I like that."

Watch, \$21,000, jaeger-lecoultre.com

Top Flight "The bomber jacket has been done to death, but there's a brand out of L.A., Hotel 1171, that's a little different. The jacket [shown in main photo] says 'Paradise Hotel' on the back and has a bird of paradise embroidered on the front." Jacket, \$200, hotel1171.com



Seoul Man "The last place I bought a ton of clothing was in Korea at this shop Hide Store. I'm a perfect Korean large so I roll in there and everything fits me perfectly."



Pocket the Difference
"The Japanese brand N. Hoolywood has great unstructured suits. Plus, inside the chest pocket, the suit already has a built-in pocket square so you just flip it up and it's the perfect size. I like that, even if I forget, I've still got one in there."

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STYLE & FASHION

SMOKE IS IT My Magic Mud Toothpaste, \$10, bedbathbeyond.com; Toothbrush, \$9, bigelowchemists.com



Clean Coal

There's a beauty blackout under way: Charcoal is the ingredient du jour—used to cleanse and detoxify. But is it a gimmick or a godsend?

BY FIORELLA VALDESOLO

IT'S EMBLAZONED on the labels of products on beauty-store shelves from international giant Sephora to CAP Beauty, a tiny purveyor of upscale natural lines in Manhattan's West Village. You can buy sticks of it at old-time apothecary C.O. Bigelow and e-commerce site the Line to alkalize your water. If you haven't noticed, charcoal is now everywhere.

Its popularity may lie in its reported ability to help us detox, a current cultural obsession. "For most people just hearing that charcoal is detoxifying is enough to get them on board with any product that has it as an ingredient," said Jessica Richards, owner of Brooklyn beauty shop Shen, which stocks a number of charcoal products.

Charcoal isn't a Johnny-come-lately beauty fad. Its applications span centuries and cultures. Hippocrates, the father of natural medicine, used it on patients suffering from epilepsy, anemia or poisoning (it remains an antidote for poisoning in hospitals today); ancient Egyptians and, centuries later, Native Americans relied on it to heal wounds and treat intestinal and digestive issues; and the Japanese have long valued it as part of their dental hygiene routines.

Beauty company Origins intro-

duced its first charcoal product in 1990: the Clear Improvement Active Charcoal Mask. "Active charcoal acts like a magnet, drawing out oil, dirt and other environmental debris from clogged pores," said Lizz Starr, executive director of global product development at Origins. The Clear Improvement mask, she added, continues to be a top seller to this day, though the company has launched newer charcoal products like the Exfoliating Cleansing Powder (below).

Charcoal also plays a role in

hair products. "Many scalp issues stem from buildup of product, oil and dirt which clog the follicle," said Nancy Twine, founder of hair-care brand Briogeo. "A detoxified scalp is the foundation to healthy hair." When developing products like her Scalp Revival tonic, she found charcoal to be useful.

Indeed, charcoal seems poised to take over your entire medicine cabinet. It's also used in deodorant and toothpaste (see below). But the big question, of course, is: Does it really work? Dr. Frank Lip-

man, an expert in integrative medicine, believes it does. "Charcoal literally binds to toxins, and that binding effect makes it a great cleanser, inside and out," said Dr. Lipman, founder of Eleven Eleven Wellness Center in New York, which offers services ranging from acupuncture to nutritional counseling. He does caution though that activated charcoal supplements, which are taken orally, can interfere with the absorption of nutrients and medication. He recommends no more than 1000mg to

counter a heavy meal or excessive drinking—and only occasionally.

Other doctors aren't convinced. "There is no concrete evidence that charcoal will help the skin look better," said New York dermatologist Robert Anolik, citing the absence of peer-reviewed scientific studies. He admitted, though, that trying some topical products would probably not be harmful. High-quality companies will use high-quality ingredients, he said. Below, a buying guide to a few high-end products you may want to test for yourself.



THE EXFOLIATOR

This combination of bamboo charcoal with superfine walnut shells exfoliates gently; even sensitive skin can handle it. Exfoliating Cleansing Powder, \$30, origins.com



THE SOAP

Made with olive oil and shea butter, this charcoal-infused bar soap claims to tighten pores without drying out the skin. Miracle Bar, \$22, joannavargas.com



THE DENTAL DUO

The ADA is skeptical but some swear both brush and paste help whiten teeth and combat bacteria. Toothpaste, \$16, carbonlab.com; Morihata Toothbrush, \$8, rikumo.com



THE DEODORANT

The natural formula is free of aluminum, parabens and baking soda and full of essential oils like cold-pressed rose. Takesumi Detox Deodorant, \$21, kaianaturals.com



THE HAIR TONIC

This liquid uses charcoal plus peppermint, spearmint and witch hazel to clean, soothe and hydrate the scalp. Scalp Treatment, \$32, briogehair.com

FÊTE ACCOMPLI A GOOD-LOOKS GUIDE TO RECENT EVENTS

WHILE IT'S HOT

Lovers of romance brave the heat for a sweet store opening

WHAT BETTER GIFTS to receive from a romantic interest than jewelry and flowers? Designer Lisa Salzer-Wiles combined the two in her jewelry brand Lulu Frost's new Manhattan store. Ms. Salzer-Wiles asked florist Tess Casey to create a "bouquet boutique" inside the shop, which opened last week with a steamy, summer-evening bash.

Though guests like "Saturday Night Live" comic Aidy Bryant couldn't resist the Instagram-worthy allure of the zinnias, the jewelry was the star of the evening. "We're die-hard fans," said Ms. Bryant, with SNL alum Vanessa Bayer. "I can't think of an event I've been to in the last five years that I haven't worn [Lulu Frost gems]," added Ms. Bayer.

Airy frocks were the look of choice for the sweltering evening, in both black and brighter hues like the bubble-gum pink of the shirtdress worn by model and cookbook author Elettra Wiedemann, Ms. Salzer-Wiles's co-host. Four months pregnant, Ms. Wiedemann particularly appreciated the dress's breeziness: "It's great to have something that feels pajama-y but looks evening."

—Lauren Ingram



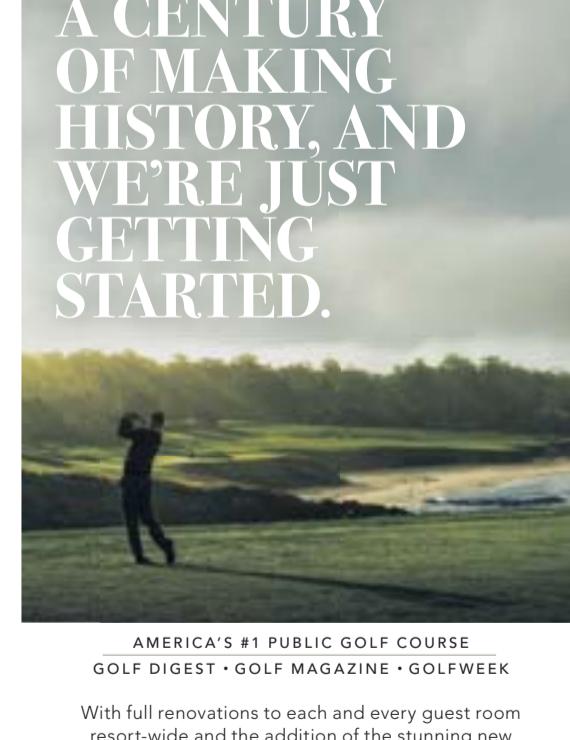
Nneya Richards
Sloane Crosley



BLOOM WITH A VIEW You can shop for both jewelry and flowers at Lulu Frost's new Manhattan boutique. Below: a Code Lulu Frost ring.



Elettra Wiedemann
in Brock Collection
Vanessa Bayer
Aidy Bryant
in a Lanvin top and H&M skirt
Lisa Salzer-Wiles



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EATING & DRINKING

EAT YOUR TRENDY VEGETABLES

Continued from page D1

him. Chatting with a couple of chefs, he learned about the yacon, the aforementioned Andean tuber, which he now cultivates alongside other newcomers at his farm at the base of the Tehachapi Mountains. The versatile vegetable "tastes like a combo of celery and apple raw, and cooked, it gets sweeter," said Mr. Weiser. He'll give the early yield to the chefs who told him about it, to see what kind of response they get from diners.

Collaborations between chefs and small farmers sometimes hinge on matching produce to the appropriate microclimate. Evan Funke, chef-partner at Felix Trattoria in Venice, Calif., handed out chicory seeds to Mr. Weiser and a few other farmers, to make sure he has a constant supply of the bitter green as the seasons shift. He's a one-man chicory trend-maker: When the crops hit, there will be enough not only for him but for other local chefs.

Kong Thao, who has a farm in Fresno, Calif., is going to grow a thin-skinned Italian pepper called Jimmy Nardello for Mr. Funke, as is Mr. Weiser. Once the peppers hit the market, Mr. Thao expects word of mouth to expand his customer base. "Chefs try something, people see it on the menu, they want to buy it and try it at home," he said. "And if a chef's here buying something and another chef's standing nearby, they have a conversation—and the second chef tries it too."

The same synergy informs the East Coast market. Greg Vernick, who won this year's James Beard Foundation award for Best Chef, Mid-Atlantic Region, said that his menu at Vernick Food & Drink in Philadelphia emphasizes vegetables because so many people, himself included, are eating more of them (or feel they should be). He's always on the hunt for novel produce.

Like most people, Mr. Vernick thought of kohlrabi as a fall vegetable—until he found some in June at the local farmers market. The summer strains were tasty and easy to work with, Mr. Vernick found—the right combination for a potential trend. "It's not like an artichoke, where you do all this work to get a quarter cup of vegetable," said Mr. Vernick. His kohlrabi slaw recipe, at right, combines the zesty bulb, cut into matchsticks, with cabbage, corn, tomatoes and strawberries.

The back-and-forth among farmer, chef and market customer means more variety, and more candidates for fame. When Mr. Thao first came to the Santa Monica market 21 years ago he had about 15 crops to sell, including Chinese long beans, most of which went back on the truck at the end of the day. Now he grows about 300 produce varieties, and a bigger harvest of Chinese long beans frequently sells out in the first hour.

On the national level, big distributors take a more strategic approach to trend-building, selecting candidates that satisfy two additional criteria: volume and a decent shelf life. "Jackfruit's the hottest," said Ms. Caplan of Frieda's Produce, who likens its flavor to "Juicy Fruit gum" and describes it as "big as a toddler." It doesn't spoil quickly, it's unusual enough to appeal to a retailer who wants to stand out, and it works raw and cooked, frozen or canned. It also has a demographic advantage, coming from Asia: The Asian population is the fastest-growing in the U.S.

None of which was sufficient to make a shopper take a chance on an \$80 whole jackfruit. Ms. Caplan said shoppers will spend about five dollars to try a new fruit or vegetable. So Frieda's created a label to introduce the new item and got retailers to sell cut segments for a fraction of an entire jackfruit's cost.

As with any trend, there can be backlash. Chef Missy Robbins of Lilia, in Brooklyn, said that over the last couple of seasons she saw versions of the same dish everywhere: "carrots, roasted, with some seeds and yogurt." Instead, she used thinly sliced raw carrots in a salad with feta and boquerones. For years she embraced springtime peas and fava beans, an annual rite at New York restaurants. "Peas come in, people do them with everything; favas come in, people do them with everything," she said. She's over it.

"Peas and favas don't excite me the way they used to," she said. Vegetables have moved to the center of the plate, from the cauliflower steaks that have been so popular in recent years to Ms. Robbins's own hearty, boldly flavored broccolini salad (recipe at right). "I like a vegetable you can eat as a meal, and people want that," she said. "That's the trend."



Kohlrabi Slaw

Summer kohlrabi varieties do exist; look for them at a farmers' market near you. Chef Greg Vernick was inspired by them to create this riff on a barbecue staple.

ACTIVE TIME: 40 minutes TOTAL TIME: 40 minutes SERVES: 4-6

For the vinaigrette:

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup raspberry vinegar
2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
1 teaspoon kosher salt
1 pinch cayenne pepper
1 tablespoon honey
1 cup extra-virgin olive oil

For the slaw:

2 cups kohlrabi, peeled and cut into matchsticks (from 1 large or 2 small bulbs)

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup carrot, cut into matchsticks

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup thinly sliced Napa cabbage
2 ears corn, husked
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cherry tomatoes, quartered
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup strawberries, stems removed, quartered

2 tablespoons Italian parsley, chopped
Kosher salt
Crushed chili flakes

1. Preheat grill. (You can also use a grill pan on the stove over medium heat.) Once hot, place corn on grate and grill until charred in spots, 5 minutes. Turn and continue to cook until charred all over. Let cool, then cut kernels off cob.

2. Make vinaigrette: Put all ingredients except olive oil and raspberries into a blender or food processor. Process on high and add olive oil in a slow stream to

emulsify. Add raspberries and blend briefly, leaving little chunks of berries.

3. Make slaw: Assemble all vegetables and fruits in a large salad bowl. Add chopped parsley and a pinch each of kosher salt and chili flakes. Add 3-4 tablespoons vinaigrette and mix well to combine. Adjust seasonings and add more vinaigrette, if you like.

—Adapted from Greg Vernick of Vernick Food & Drink, Philadelphia

The back-and-forth among farmer, chef and market customer means more variety.

Broccolini Salad

Broccolini is the lighter, brighter summer cousin of deep-winter broccoli or the stronger-flavored broccoli rabe. It cooks up quickly for this mix of tart, spicy and salty flavors.

Oil-packed Calabrian chilies can be purchased at Italian markets, many supermarkets and online at kalustyans.com.

TOTAL TIME: 25 minutes SERVES: 4-6

2 tablespoons oil

from a jar of oil-packed Calabrian chilies

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup extra-virgin olive oil

$\frac{1}{2}$ pounds broccolini

2 lemons, halved
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup grated Parmigiano Reggiano

Salt

1. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add broccolini and cook until very tender and bright green, 3-5 minutes. Remove from water and drain in a colander. Place on towels to remove any excess water.

2. Put half the grated cheese in a large salad bowl. Place warm broccolini on top of cheese. Squeeze lemons over

broccolini and drizzle with olive oil and Calabrian chili oil. Top with remaining cheese, mix gently and serve.

—Adapted from Missy Robbins of Lilia, Brooklyn



Stuffed Escarole

Chef Evan Funke of Felix Trattoria, in Venice, Calif., likes bitter greens—a southern California produce trend, thanks in part to seeds he's provided to local farmers. Here, his version of traditional Italian stuffed escarole.

TOTAL TIME: 1 hour 45 minutes SERVES: 4-6

1 large head escarole

$\frac{1}{4}$ pound ground pork shoulder

1 cup unseasoned bread crumbs

2 tablespoons capers

2 tablespoons black currants

2 tablespoons toasted pine

nuts

2 tablespoons chopped Italian parsley

2 tablespoons chopped marjoram

2 tablespoons sliced mint

3 tablespoons torn basil

leaves

1 clove garlic, finely chopped

2 fillets white anchovy, mashed

Zest and juice of 1 lemon

Zest of 1 orange

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup olive oil

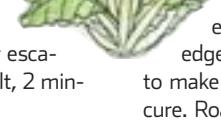
Mix thoroughly.

3. Add lemon juice and olive oil and mix to combine. Adjust seasonings.

Spoon pork stuffing into center of outer escarole leaves until about $\frac{1}{2}$ full. Gather edges of outer leaves, pinch together at top

to make a purse and use a piece of twine to secure. Roast until stuffing is cooked through and exterior leaves crisp at edges, 45 minutes-1 hour.

—Adapted from Evan Funke of Felix Trattoria, Venice, Calif.



EATING & DRINKING

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE: NOVELIST CHRISTOPHER BOLLEN ON CARDINAL SPIRITS TERRA BOTANICAL GIN



Can You Capture Nostalgia in a Bottle?

I WAS BORN and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, and vodka has been my go-to liquor for most of my adult life. Just add a slice of lemon, club soda, two cubes of ice.

So, when a bottle of Terra Botanical Gin, distilled in Bloomington, Ind., arrived at my Manhattan apartment on a blistering Friday afternoon, it didn't seem like an entirely foreign entity. Brisk, clear liquor, Midwestern city. Indeed, this Hoosier spirit with its hunter-green label that looked as if it were modeled on a merit badge transported me back to two periods of my life.

Memory one: On the small farm on the border of Ohio and Indiana where my father grew up, the white farmhouse with its tiny windmill and two-car garage sat safely on the Ohio side. On visits, my grandmother would tell me—it always seemed like a warning—that somewhere beyond the barn and before the cornfield loomed the invisible Indiana state line. I used to spend lonely afternoons traversing the land between barn and cornfield, concentrating with each step on the moment I might cross. I'd also imagine being chased by Ohio police and just making it over the border and out of their jurisdiction.

Later, as a preteen, I'd attend barbecues at the house of Indiana cousins just beyond that cornfield. Those male cousins were so much bigger and blonder than I was (the fey, emaciated brat from suburban Cincinnati); they wore tight red-and-white Indiana University sweatshirts, while I doomed myself to alienation by wearing a Wimbledon one. It was at one of those barbecues that I downed my first alcoholic drink, a beer pilfered from the cooler, and at another that I first shot a gun (a semi-automatic pistol, into a stop sign). Indiana was beautiful and rural and it always felt on the verge of beating me up.

Memory two: Before vodka, my alcohol of choice was gin. There was no real logic to the allegiance except for the fact I'd decorated my teenage bedroom with ripped-out magazine ads for a certain bejeweled gin brand. At 17, at 18, even at 20, a gin and tonic sounded distinguished, refined, very grown up. I liked the look of the clear, fizzy liquids in a glass along with the floating corpse of a lime rind.

I remember being told by wise elders in their early twenties to be careful with gin. It made people mean; it caused some to sit slumped at bar counters at 11 a.m.; too much of it re-sculpted pretty faces into gourds. Truthfully, at that age, I don't think I could even distinguish the taste of gin beyond a stinging tartness. Gin was intoxication fuel. It was liquid with a purpose: to make me stumble and laugh and dance and feel horrible the next day.



the Amish dining table and poured out three shots of Terra Gin.

"OK," I said handing the Australians their glasses. "It's meant to conjure the wilderness."

"Smells like mouthwash," the sister exclaimed.

I sniffed my glass. "That's because of the wild zuta from Galilee." One press release and I was suddenly an expert on Israeli mint.

The Australian boyfriend ran to the kitchen. "I'll get tonic water and lemon! Maybe we have juice."

"No," I wheezed. "We're supposed to be judging how it unlocks our childhood memories of the outdoors. You know, camping." But then I realized that these Australians were from the Gold Coast, which means they basically grew up inside a commercial for boogie boards. They had no pre-adolescent reference points for the nostalgia of shining flashlights on raccoons or fighting through the sticky branches of evergreens with your sleeping bag tied to your backpack.

I closed my eyes and tasted the Terra. I got the sting and some flavors, soft delicious flavors, but I couldn't recognize them due to distraction. The sitar music was too loud, the Australians were chatting away. I submitted to the lemon wedge and tonic. "The quinine in tonic water gives our stepmother bruises," the Australians said. "But wasn't it a cure for malaria and that's why they call it tonic? Oh, the record needs to be flipped."

Later, when the Australians were asleep and the fire quieted to embers, I filled a glass with gin. I sat by an open window, the pines and hemlocks were swaying in the wind and the coyotes were calling to each other in the blackness of the mountains. I sipped. There was the familiar burn on the tip of the tongue, a sort of antiseptic snakebite. Then my gums started to tingle, and in the reverse direction, from the back of my mouth to the front came the fresh taste of mint, strong as any I'd picked from a garden, riding on a playful, sweet citrus.

And yes it was woodsy, and it flowed like a stream, and suddenly I was back in the woods that surrounded my house in Cincinnati. I used to run the trails, jumping over downed trees, swinging from ropes tied to branches. No one was chasing me and there was nothing ahead, not even a border. I took another sip and sprinted through the maples and oaks. I stayed up a little while longer. Since my father died I haven't been back to Indiana. My mother sold our house in Cincinnati. I always say I miss that house. But what I really miss are those woods.

Mr. Bollen's latest novel, "The Destroyers," was published last month by Harper.

The flavor was not the point.

I noted right away that this bottle of Terra Botanical Gin had "nostalgia" printed on its back label. It had done as it promised. The very sight of Indiana gin had zoomed me into multiple memory wormholes. On closer inspection, however, I saw that the label actually read "nostalgia for nature." Then I spotted other phrases: "wilderness in a bottle," "woodsy state parks, secret streams, treasured hiking trails." Terra was offering something other than the glamorous, exotic image that had sold me on gin in my youth, and it was after a different kind of nostalgia: the collective longing for camping in tents and climbing through mountain vistas and scaring deer while slapping mosquitoes.

Terra is the brainchild of Adam

Quirk, co-founder of Cardinal Spirits, and New York-based master spice blender Lior Lev Sercarz. In the attempt to conjure a return to nature, Mr. Sercarz created a blend of flavors that includes a wild mint grown in his father's olive grove in Galilee and Indonesian cubeb berries. I admit none of these ingredients scream Deep Forest of My Youth to me, but I also understand the peculiar manner in which sense memory operates. For example, the smell rising from New York subway tracks on a humid morning takes me back to the summer of 1999, when I lived in Venice, Italy. I could happily miss a train to keep breathing that dank, dying-rat odor and reminisce about my morning walks over the Grand Canal.

I opened the bottle of Terra and

set a glass on the kitchen counter.

But, hold on; the Upper West Side was not the ideal laboratory for testing an alcohol meant to propel me into the woods of yore. No, I would take Terra into the woods to determine whether it managed to bottle nature. Luckily, I own a 1923 hunting cabin deep in the Berkshire Mountains. So I packed the Terra in my bag, herded my Australian boyfriend and his visiting-from-Brisbane sister into the car, and drove for three hours into the forest.

We arrived at night, and I went around opening the windows and picking up a week's worth of dead mice. The Australian boyfriend built a fire and put on an album of sitar music by Ravi Shankar that he had just purchased in Los Angeles. I set three red-glass Murano tumblers on

SLOW FOOD FAST SEASONAL AND SATISFYING FOOD IN ABOUT 30 MINUTES

Grilled Leg of Lamb With Roasted Apricots

“WITH STONE FRUITS the first of the season is never the best of the season,” said Tom Hill, chef of London’s Ducksoup. So he waits until high summer to serve this combination of lamb and creamy labneh topped with apricots roasted on the grill.

It was inspired by a simple vineyard lunch Ducksoup’s proprietress, Clare Lattin, had outside Beirut. Mr. Hill’s recipe calls for grilling the lamb for char and smokiness, then roasting to cook it

through. Any stone fruit can stand in for the apricots; use whatever looks best and ripest. “We’ve done this with firm peaches and nectarines,” Mr. Hill said. “Roast with the pit in place to help the fruit keep its shape while it blisters and its flavors concentrate.”

When tearing the fruit, hold it over the serving platter to let the lamb catch all the delicious juices—your reward for patiently awaiting peak ripeness. —Kitty Greenwald

TOTAL TIME: 35 minutes **SERVES:** 4-6

1 (3-pound) leg of lamb, deboned and butterflied

3½ tablespoons extra-

virgin olive oil, plus extra for drizzling

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

8 fresh apricots

15 thyme branches

½ cup labneh

Juice of ½ lemon

1. Heat grill and preheat oven to 400 degrees. Rub lamb with 2 tablespoons oil and season all over with salt and pepper. Place lamb on grill and cook both sides over medium-high heat until well charred, 3-5 minutes per side. Use tongs to turn lamb onto its sides to sear edges, 1-2 minutes per side. Transfer seared lamb to a large roasting pan and place on oven’s center rack. Roast until interior is rosé and cooked to medium, about 10 minutes. Poke lamb in thickest part; it should have a little bounce and feel firm. If there is little resistance, lamb should roast a few minutes more.

2. Meanwhile, place an ovenproof frying pan on

grill and swirl in ½ tablespoon oil. Once hot,

add whole apricots and cook until blistered,

about 5 minutes. Season fruit with salt and

add ½ of thyme branches to pan, tucking them under the fruit. Transfer pan to oven and roast until apricots are caramelized but still firm to the touch, about 8 minutes.

3. Loosely cover lamb in foil and let rest at least 15 minutes. Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, season labneh with lemon juice, remaining olive oil, salt and pepper to taste. Stir in thyme leaves picked from remaining branches.

4. To serve, slice meat at a 30-degree angle into ½-inch-thick pieces. Spread labneh over individual plates or a serving platter and top with lamb slices. Pour pan juices over meat and drizzle with oil. Working over lamb, tear apricots into large bite-size pieces and discard pits.

Nestle fruit into meat and season everything with salt and another drizzle of olive oil.



CREAM ON Labneh, the tangy Middle Eastern yogurt strained until thick and luscious, makes a cool and refreshing counterpoint to the charred lamb.

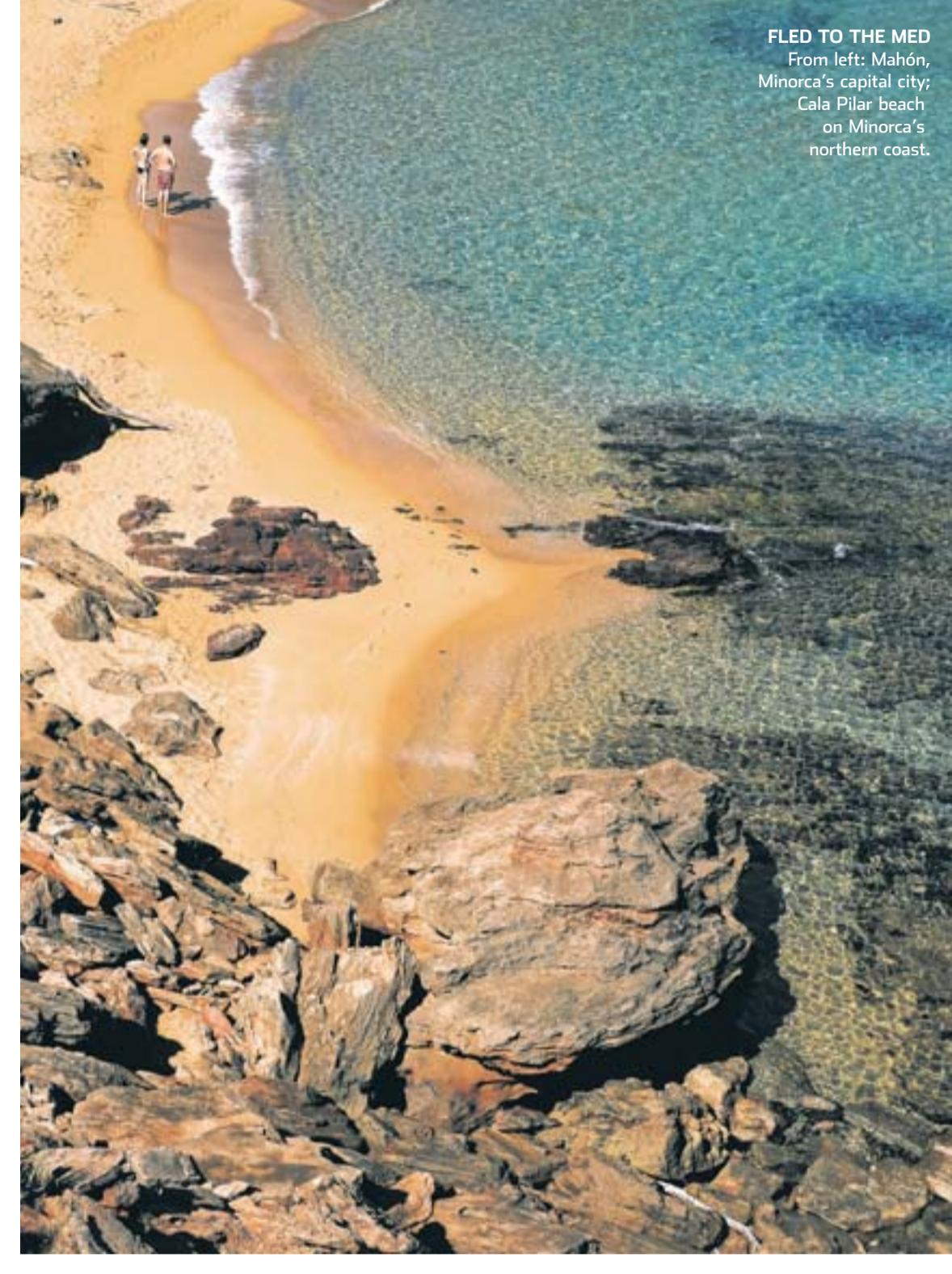
The Chef
Tom Hill

His Restaurant
Ducksoup,
in London

What He’s Known For
Cozy, quietly impressive dishes that marry Mediterranean and Middle Eastern flavors, with no superfluous flourishes.

BRYAN GARDNER FOR WSJ, FOOD STYLING BY JAMIE KIMM, PROP STYLING BY VANESSA VAZQUEZ; ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL HOEWEIER

ADVENTURE & TRAVEL



FLED TO THE MED
From left: Mahón,
Minorca's capital city;
Cala Pilar beach
on Minorca's
northern coast.

Minorca Undertaking

One of the quieter Spanish Islands, it has obstinately endeavored to remain unspoiled

BY RAPHAEL KADUSHIN

THE TOWN OF Ciutadella, on the Spanish island of Minorca, is dense with statues. My favorite by far was a cameo of the Virgin Mary sitting above the doorway of the Diocesan Museum. Hoisting a big bat in her manly fist, more holy avenger than stoic saint, she was nonchalantly clubbing the bug-eyed devil slithering at her feet.

This particular Mary also functions ably as a metaphor for Minorca (Spanish for "minor island"), which has largely managed to protect its honor by batting away the big developers and supersize projects overrunning its fellow Balearic islands. Mega resorts crowd Mallorca. And Ibiza, the home of thumping all-night clubs and all-day hangovers, looks nothing like the quiet outlier it was 50 years ago. But as far as tourist destinations go, Minorca has remained so relatively untouched that it still lives down to its recessive name. As word gets out that this slumbering isle is the next big Mediterranean thing, however, its future doesn't look so minor.

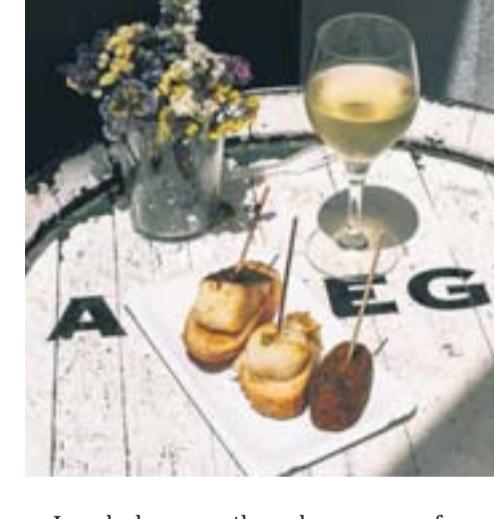
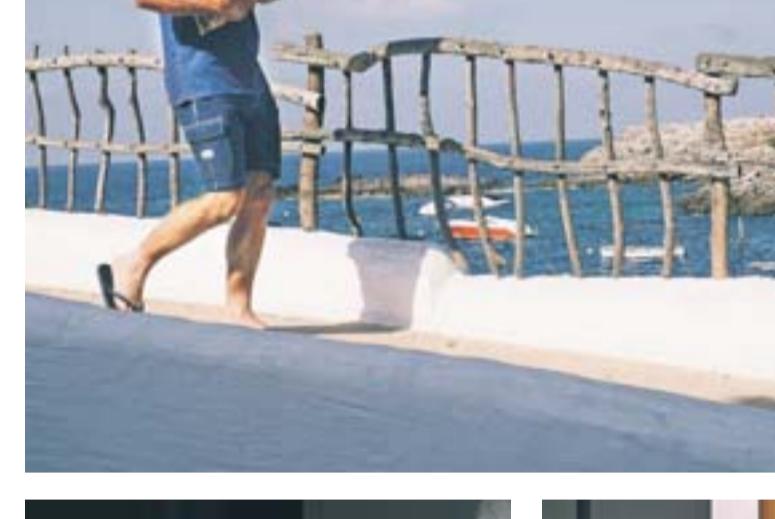
I discovered Minorca's paradox—idyllic but relatively unfrequented—on a recent visit. Flying into Mahón airport, I picked up a rental car and set out on a route that would bisect the island, taking me 28 miles from the capital of Mahón on the east coast to Ciutadella on the west. Minorca's coves, pocking its 120 miles of coastline, offer some of the finest sand beaches in the Mediterranean. So where were the crowds? After a few big-box hotels popped up on the island in the '70s, and its Balearic neighbors started to look manically overbuilt, the Minorcans opted for a more thoughtful kind of development. The result: an island that's the poster child for very slow travel.

My first stop, Torralbenc Hotel, which opened in 2013, seems to

embody this more delicate approach to tourism. Instead of another Brutalist resort, this renovated 19th-century farmstead is a sprawl of whitewashed buildings and red-tile roofs, surrounded by vineyards and olive trees. My room was all bucolic restraint, from its limestone floors to its exposed beamed ceiling, and the hotel's restaurant featured a strictly locavore menu. "I work almost entirely with what Minorca has to offer," said chef Luis Loza proudly, serving me shavings of Iberian ham in a dining room crowned by a high cane ceiling. Local red prawns, langoustines, olives, figs and plums also frequent his menu.

The tourist attractions at Torralbenc skew organic too. You can horseback ride through the olive groves, or head down to the beach. On my first day on the island, I chose instead to explore neighboring Mahón, the tiny capital (population: 28,000). Still very much a working market town, Mahón felt drowsy. Boys were kicking soccer balls in the plazas, matrons were drinking the local gin in outdoor cafes, and the shops were stocked with regional crafts. The classic souvenir to take home: the espadrilles that jam the dollhouse-sized Boba's shop, in the city's center.

"The heritage of shoemaking is a Minorcan tradition," owner and espadrille designer Llorenç Pons told me as I tried on some of his work. "I try to combine that heritage with my own designs." Dangling from the atelier's walls were every imaginable, and some unimaginable, iteration of espadrille: leopard skin, polka dot, ikat, grafitti, chintz and a rubber-soled, high-top sneaker version that probably qualifies as the butchest espadrille ever made. I opted for restraint, purchasing a pair of green-tartan creations that seemed subtle by local standards. The one time I wore them back home, they looked about as understated as clown shoes, but they went unnoticed on the island



LOAF ABOUT Clockwise from top: A bread run in the fishing village of Binibequer; espadrilles at Boba's shop in Mahón; Hotel Can Faustino; Mercado de Pescado in Mahón.

as I worked my way through Mahón's produce market, which is tucked into the cloisters of La Verge del Carme church. I scanned the pyramids of Minorcan cheese, lemons, artichokes, eggplants and melons, under the stone arches, and settled on a basket of strawberries. Then I headed off in my rental car, driving west out of town into Minorca's interior.

Within minutes Mahón gave way to the back country, where dry stone walls were looping, like a craggy necklace, through pastures as green as those in the Cotswolds. Olive groves popped up frequently, and sometimes I glimpsed the glint of the ocean along Minorca's sandy coast. What turns Minorca into something more enigmatic than other beach destinations are its cultural heirlooms. Cyclopean stone burial chambers dating as far back as 1400 B.C. and still lined with skulls, survey the island's meadows. But it's the island's *taulas*, tall stone structures shaped like giant Ts, jutting up everywhere, that remain a riddle. My guide, Luis Ameller, a local historian, led me down a rocky path to the *taula* that anchors the Torretrencada site, a prehistoric settlement 26 miles northwest from Mahón. We walked through a field

of purple thistle, as the original Minorcans might have, and suddenly the soaring standing stones, topped by a thick slab, soared up with a kind of primal jolt. "There are lots of theories regarding the *taulas*," Luis told me. "The current theory is that they represent some version of divinity, maybe the bull god or a phallic fertility symbol. What's clear is that they were a kind of religious altar." As we left, I realized the pottery shards, crunching under our feet were splinters of ancient votive offerings.

The *taula* was the last stop along my route to Ciutadella. If Mahón is a ruddy, forthcoming city, Ciutadella is more patrician and self-sufficient. A Baroque port, the town feels slightly haunted, like a place that's hugging its own sad secrets. Sacked by the Ottomans in 1558, it was left largely abandoned; most of its surviving 3,000 inhabitants were hauled off and sold in the slave markets of Constantinople. Today, its narrow, winding streets still look deserted at dusk. Carriage lanterns light the golden stone manor houses, and if you look up you see the raucous world of cherubs, saints and apostles carved into the austere facades.

The Palau Salort house museum

allows a peek inside one of the mansions but a better view was offered by the Hotel Can Faustino, a refurbished 16th-century palace where I stayed the night. "When I started restoring the place it was still a private house in a state of decay," owner Laurent Morel-Ruymen told me, giving me a tour of the library and guest rooms, all minimally designed, showcasing the mansion's own baroque, vaulting bones. Sitting just below Can Faustino's terrace was Ciutadella's wide curve of a harbor, where I had dinner, alternating between two dueling seafood restaurants. At Café Balear I sampled the island's signature lobster rice stew, a creamier take on paella; at S'Amarador I tackled coins of octopus dusted with paprika.

Mr. Morel-Ruymen, who's originally from Paris, was waiting for me back at Can Faustino, relaxing on the terrace with a nightcap. "I wanted to bring the palace back to its original beauty," the hotelier said. "When I sailed into the port here a long time ago, it was still unique and still preserved." Sitting under the golden stones of his revived palace, staring down at the ancient harbor, he could make the same claim today.

THE LOWDOWN // SIZING UP MINORCA

Getting There Flights from major European cities connect to the island's Mahón Airport.

Hotel Torralbenc, which sits outside Mahón overlooking the sea ([from \\$220, torralbenc.com](#)).

SPAIN
Barcelona
Balearic Sea
Ciutadella Minorca
Mahón
Mallorca
Ibiza
FRANCE
Detail

Staying There Rising above Ciutadella's harbor, Hotel Can Faustino offers 25 rooms in a renovated 16th-century palace ([from \\$160; San Rafael 9, canfaustino.com](#)). If you want more of a bucolic retreat, book the 27-room

Ciutadella, samardor.com). For a splurge, Sa Pedrera d'es Pujol, 15 minutes outside Mahón, plates an elegantly simple spiny lobster stew ([Camí des Pujol 14, Sant Lluís, sapederaderespujol.com](#)) and the neighboring S'Amarador (Port de

Ciutadella, samardor.com). For a splurge, Sa Pedrera d'es Pujol, 15 minutes outside Mahón, plates an elegantly simple spiny lobster stew ([Camí des Pujol 14, Sant Lluís, sapederaderespujol.com](#)) and the neighboring S'Amarador (Port de

ADVENTURE & TRAVEL

Casting Directions

Six superior fishing trips, from the Everglades to the Maine woods, for anglers of all stripes

BY JEN MURPHY

FOR THOSE WHO...PREFER SECLUSION BUT NOT ROUGHING IT

Florida's Marquesas Keys, an uninhabited group of islands 20 miles off Key West, and the Everglades both offer excellent sportfishing but mostly middling accommodations. Enter *Mothership*, an immodestly named 74 Hatteras yacht kitted out with three spacious staterooms—each big enough for at least two beefy fishermen. The boat is run by Eleven Experiences, the company behind a series of high-end, sports-minded lodges, and they know a thing or two about pleasing finicky outdoors lovers. You'll head out on skiffs at dawn to cast for tarpon, snook and bonefish, and return at dusk to *Yeti* coolers of craft beer and meals prepared by the ship's chef. *From \$6,600 for three nights, double occupancy; elevenexperience.com*

...WANT ALL THE FISH TO THEMSELVES

Fishing at Nimmo Bay, in British Columbia's Great Bear Rainforest, almost feels like a cheat. With 50 isolated rivers and streams crisscrossing the 50,000 square miles of wilderness surrounding the floating lodge, you have plenty of opportunities to land a trophy steelhead or coho—especially since you have at your disposal a fleet of helicopters and pilots who double as guides. The lodge itself offers just nine cabins, all recently renovated. After fishing excursions or other wildlife expeditions (this is grizzly-bear country, after all), guests tend to utilize the lodge's hot tubs, set near a waterfall, or congregate around the fire pit floating on the

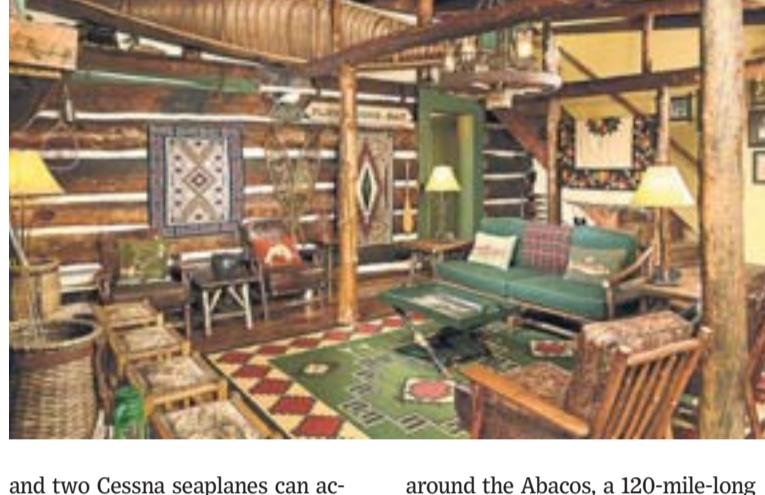
dock. *From \$4,395 a day per person, double occupancy; nimmobay.com*

...ARE EAGER BEGINNERS (OR PARENTS TO NOVICE KIDS)

The two-year-old Fly Fishing Camp is a family-oriented wilderness complement to the more buttoned-up Broadmoor, a historic resort 75 miles west in Colorado Springs, and it evokes an old-timey summer-camp feel. Paddles, vintage fishing baskets and an old canoe decorate the main lodge, where guests gather for communal meals. The seven restored miners' cabins sleep two to eight, though only four have their own bathrooms; a central bathhouse has showers and toilets. Days revolve around baiting lines with stonefly and mayfly nymph, practicing roll casts and hooking trout—all under the watchful eye of guides. At night you'll learn to clean and prep fish before the chef grills the catch for dinner. When the anglers, big and small, in your fishing party get restless, they can opt for hiking or horseback excursions or a mean game of cornhole. *Doubles from \$825, including meals and fishing excursions; broadmoor.com/the-wilderness-experiences/fly-fishing-camp*

...BELIEVE BEER AND FISHING GO HAND IN HAND

How do you top hours of fly fishing some of the West's top trout rivers? The guides at Montana's Last Best Outfitters, in Bozeman, offer a post-fishing beer crawl. Following a fishing excursion to either the Gallatin or Missouri rivers, those who sign up for the Trout & Stout package head to three or four of Bozeman's microbreweries. Brew tours include four tasting flights, three pints and



GOT TO BE REEL Clockwise from top: British Columbia's Nimmo Bay, a cosseting heli-fishing destination; the Fly Fishing Camp, a rustic annex of the Broadmoor resort in Colorado Springs, Colo.; a boat from Blackfly Lodge in the Abacos, Bahamas.

pub snacks. *From \$540 for two for a one-day package, accommodations not included; tourdefoam.com/trout-and-stout-package*

...VALUE THE SIMPLE THINGS

Fourth-generation owner Matt Libby jokes that the unofficial motto at Maine's Libby Camps is "catch and relax." Set deep in the remote North Maine Woods, the 127-year-old Orvis-endorsed sporting lodge still doesn't get a cell signal, though there is limited Wi-Fi. Wood burning stoves and gas lamps appoint most of the timber lakeside cabins, and electricity in the main lodge cuts off at 9 p.m. A fleet of canoes

and two Cessna seaplanes can access 45 different bodies of water within a 20-mile radius of camp, including the Allagash, Penobscot and Aroostook Rivers. Anglers decamp here in May and June to dry-fly fish for brook trout and landlocked salmon in September. The Libby family's home-style cooking (think Maine blueberry pie) serves as its own kind of bait, bringing guests back year after year. *From \$225 per person, including meals and boats; libbycamps.com*

...RELISS A CHALLENGE

Lazing around the powdery sand beaches takes a back-seat to fishing

around the Abacos, a 120-mile-long chain of islands in the Bahamas. Anglers descend on this bucket-list fly-fishing destination to stalk its resident "gray ghosts," the nickname of the region's elusive bonefish. Blackfly Lodge, a colonial-style building on Schooner Bay, caters to obsessive fishermen with country-club sensibilities. The eight bedrooms are each named for a famous angler, and fishing memorabilia decorate the downstairs common areas. After a day poling the flats in the lodge's East Coast skiffs, guests gather on the veranda for Martinis and stone-crab claws. *Three-night fishing package, from \$2,925; blackflylodge.com*

THE SUN, THE MOON AND A COLANDER

Expert stargazers offer travel tips on how best to see next month's solar eclipse



The yellow path indicates prime viewing areas for the Aug. 21 eclipse.

AS YOU'VE probably heard, a 70-mile-wide swath of the U.S. that spans from Oregon to South Carolina will offer prime viewing of the total solar eclipse on Aug. 21—and millions of Americans are pumped. Hordes are expected to flock to the "path of totality" to behold the sun's corona while it's visible to the naked eye, about 40 to 150 seconds depending on exactly where you are.

Why would anyone other than the biggest astro-

nerds risk gridlock and price gouging for this? Because, argued MIT astro-

nomer Richard Binzel, the view

from within the path is "a mil-

lion times" better than outside it: "The light level in-

stantly drops by a factor

of a million, the stars

come out, and you're im-

mersed in a totally bizarre

universe you've never ex-

perienced before."

Now for more mundane

goals—finding a viewing

spot in this universe. Two on-

line tools can help: 1) the interac-

tive map linked at eclipse2017.org,

which makes identifying towns in the path

of totality easy, and 2) flights.google.com, whose

"Discover Destinations" feature will display a map of available flights and their fares originating from

the airport of your choice.

Just be sure to arrive at least 24 hours early

(preferably 48) to avoid traffic. "The sooner you

arrive in the eclipse zone and stay put, the better,"

said Dr. Binzel. You needn't travel to the exact cen-

ter of the path. Although the total eclipse will be viewable for the longest there, the edges afford a longer view of the Bailey's beads effect—sunlight peeking behind the mountains on the moon's surface, said Dr. Binzel.

Expect hotels to be booked solid and Airbnbs to be exorbitantly priced. "If you have any friends or family living in the path of totality, now is the time to impose on them," said David Baron, author of

"American Eclipse." He also recom-

mends checking out the "Eclipse Lodging" tab of americanclipseusa.com, where farmers and homeowners post listings, campsites and rooms.

Jay Anderson, a me-

teorologist whose fore-

casts are gospel among

eclipse chasers, recom-

mends out-of-the-box

thinking: "What I'd do is

make a short list of places in

which I could view the eclipse

from a spectacular setting.... That

position could even be from the air."

(Royal Caribbean currently has space on its

seven-night Total Eclipse Cruise, which will view the

event hundreds of miles off the coast of Florida.)

And if you can't make the pilgrimage? Solar

physicist Shadia Habbal suggests this experiment:

During the partial phases of the eclipse, look at the

ground while holding a colander. The light rays

passing through the holes will create crescent-

shaped dapples of sunlight.

—Michael Hsu



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DESIGN & DECORATING

What Do You Say to a Naked Lady?

Decades of minimalist interior design have made the decorative painted nude so rare, its reappearance is a revelation

BY JULIE LASKY

MY LATE FATHER was a doctor who dabbled in life drawing. He loved the human body. During my childhood, plenty of nude art decorated our suburban Chicago home, including a large lithograph by Swiss artist Hans Erni that hung in my parents' bedroom.

The print depicted a naked man crouching over a woman who wore only a dreamy expression. "Believe it or not, it was hanging over your father's fireplace when I met him," my mother recalled recently. "We used to stare at it and wonder, 'Before or after?'"

A lot of people in the 1960s and '70s, my formative decades, considered nudes socially progressive. My parents respected the frank sexual references in Freud, Picasso and "Portnoy's Complaint." In those heady days of wine and roach clips, they were not alone.

One designer offsets crisp right angles with the curves of female nudes.

And today? After falling out of style for years—sensitivities ran higher over the perceived objectification of women; reserved minimalism dominated décor—naked folks are so out they're arguably in. As the pendulum swings toward maximalism, a look characterized by a profusion of pattern and design exhibitionism, the candid expressiveness of nudes seems fresh.

The decision to hang one in your home, however, is still fraught for many. Mary Crowder Spears, 29, attended graduate school for American literature with a focus on women's and gender studies. She thought twice before installing female-nude portraits—one painted by a male artist, one anonymous—in her Philadelphia living room. Was she supporting the exploitation of women, promoting "the male



BETHANY NAJERT

FLESH TONES In a Los Feliz, Calif., guest room, designer Isabelle Dahlin installed one of her client's nudes in lieu of a faddish macramé wall hanging.

gaze"? Ms. Spears, who owns the vintage fashion and design boutique Millay, ultimately decided "no": She was attracted to the imperfect bodies in the paintings. "They celebrate any woman," she said.

More than once, New York designer Vicente Wolf has set out to hang clients' nudes in living rooms and heard the cry, "No, no, the kids will see that!" Indeed, many people still cache their nudes in bedrooms and bathrooms, a move New York architect Calvin Tsao considers clichéd. He talked a client out of displaying some not particularly provocative male-nude photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe in the bedroom. "If you're squeamish and not proud to expose a piece, don't buy it," he advised. The photos hang in

the living room.

Still other professionals insist that clients are not prudish, arguing that the painted, drawn or sculpted figure—with or without clothes—has simply gone out of style. The trend is for "contemporary art and its more abstract imagery," said New York designer Jamie Drake. Ms. Spears acknowledged that, for her generation, progressive artwork isn't figurative: "It's bold, abstract and super minimalist." She characterized the nudes she hung so hesitantly as "frumpy."

Designer Todd Nickey, who sells art in his Los Angeles (and, soon, New York) shop, Nickey Kehoe, said of the relative absence of the human figure in décor: "An antidote will follow." The return of exuberant

color and layered pattern may help turn the tide, especially as old-school painted nudes have taken on a quaint quality after the deluge of undressed humans in Abercrombie and Fitch catalogs, web porn and HBO series. "I see plenty of nudity on 'Game of Thrones,'" said design historian Steven Heller, co-author of the coming Rizzoli book "Head to Toe: The Nude in Graphic Design."

Chicago designer Sean Cowan disputes the notion that nudes and minimalist décor don't mix. He uses the curves of female nudes to offset crisp right angles in his own home. Mr. Wolf, too, champions the use of nudes, male or female, in any style of setting. "I think it's a wonderful, beautiful form," he said. The Cuban-born designer suggests a series of

photos by a single artist with a strong compositional sense, like Hungarian-born André Kertész.

When Los Angeles designer Isabelle Dahlin remodeled a home in Los Feliz, Calif., she found a moody portrait of a bare-breasted woman in her clients' collection. The oil painting went between the nobby spindles of a four-poster, on a busily papered wall in a guest room (pictured above). The work, she said, was a refreshing departure from the craft-based art pieces she had been dealing with: "If I have to see another macramé wall hanging, I'm going to kill myself."

The couple is now expecting a girl. This will be the baby's room, and the picture, Ms. Dahlin said, is staying.

FLOWER SCHOOL



THE ARRANGEMENT

LOUNGE ACT

Floral designer **Lindsey Taylor** captures the tranquility—and simmering unease—in a painting by 'Austria's van Gogh'

ON A RECENT STICKY summer day, I treated myself to a trip to New York's Neue Galerie, an elegant—and vigorously air-conditioned—jewel of a museum. I stumbled on an exhibit devoted to an artist unfamiliar to me, Richard Gerstl (1883-1908), considered by some to be Austria's Vincent van Gogh. Until he took his life at 25, after a scandalous affair with the wife of composer Arnold Schoenberg, Gerstl painted prolifically in an expressionist style. While some of his self-portraits verge on disturbingly intense, his brush strokes loosened in his later work and he began painting en plein air. The resulting pieces seem to suggest that he saw beauty in the

world despite his anguish.

The inspiration for this month's arrangement, Gerstl's "Portrait of a Man" (1908), depicts a well-dressed figure in repose, his clenched face revealing a tension at odds with his languor and the cool, verdant setting. To translate this dynamic, I gathered heirloom flowers that felt loose and summery: pink and lavender sweet pea, purple baptisia, white scabiosa, periwinkle hydrangea and fresh green lady's mantle. I let the flowers cascade over the vintage ceramic's rim, taking on a horizontal shape, so the arrangement aped the man's pose while the deep brown vase and black background convey some of the darkness seen in his anxious expression.



THE INSPIRATION

An array of cascading sweet pea, baptisia and scabiosa mimic the reclining figure in Richard Gerstl's 1908 'Portrait of a Man.'

Ceramic Vessel, artist's own

FAST FIVE

LOOK, NO HANDS

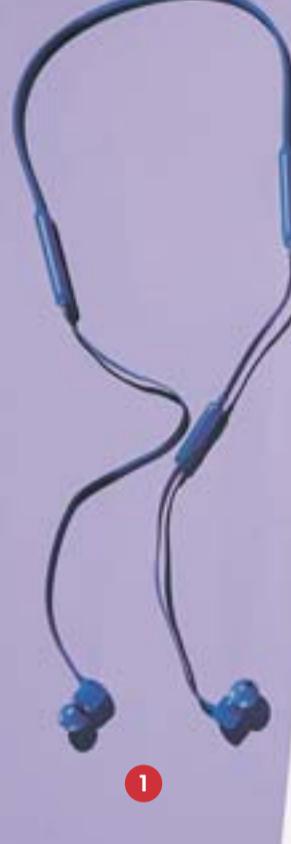
Most digital alarm clocks? So mundane. It's high time to consider these stylish exceptions

1) Ameico Etch Clock, \$1,950, MoMA Design Store, 212-767-1050; 2) iHome Bluetooth Dual-Alarm Clock, \$100, bestbuy.com; 3) AuraBox Clock Speaker, \$65, store.moma.org; 4) Touch Creator's Edition Clock, \$1,250, glocktwo.com; 5) Numbers Clock, \$80, areaware.com

GEAR & GADGETS

Don't Tangle With Me

They may look bulky, but neckband earbuds are surprisingly comfortable and won't tie you up in knots



BY MICHAEL HSU

FOR ANY MUSIC lover who longs to be untethered from a smartphone, Bluetooth headphones look like they'd offer the ultimate freedom.

In reality, though, they can be harder to live with than expected. Totally wire-free models, like Apple's futuristic AirPods, are easy to lose. Over-the-ear models weigh you down too much to feel truly liberating. And those Bluetooth 'buds whose earpieces are linked by a single wire have their drawbacks, too: subpar battery life and unwieldy cables that you can hear hitting your body as you move around.

In the real world, where you're constantly taking your headphones on and off throughout the day, the neckband earbud may turn out to be the most practical.

With neckband earbuds, each earpiece has a short wire connecting it to a band that fits around the back of your neck. The seemingly clunky design offers many advantages: Because the cables are short and kept apart from each other, they're unlikely to tangle (unlike the corded earbuds you're always stuffing into your pockets). The neckband anchors

the cords in place, so there's less noise when you listen on the move.

And when you're not using them, you can simply let the earbuds dangle. It's easy enough to drape the neckband over your shoulders and leave it there until the end of the day.

Although the band itself does add weight, it rests mostly on your collarbone; after a while, you don't notice it. Most important, that little bit of bulk allows manufacturers to pack in larger batteries that last all day. These are also pretty much the only category of headphone to vibrate when you get an alert on your smartphone (available on all models shown here except the BeatsX).

LG's Tone series of neckband headphones feature earbuds whose wires can be retracted by giving them a tug, like a roll-up shade. If you're looking for active noise cancellation, the Bose QuietControl 30 (\$300) offers that perk, but we found that simply making sure that the earpieces of standard earbuds are seated firmly in your ear canal does a pretty good job of blocking outside noise, too.

Here, four models that not only sound great but are sleek and comfortable enough to hang out with all day.

HANGERS ON // SONICALLY SUPERIOR NECKBAND EARBUDS

1 FOR APPLE ACOLYTES

BeatsX

This is the outlier of the bunch: Unlike other earbuds shown here, the BeatsX has no bulky neckband to house a large battery, yet it delivers eight hours of playback (and yields two hours of playtime with a five-minute charge). Even better, for owners of an iPhone, iPad or Mac running a newer operating system, the BeatsX eliminates much of the headache associated with Bluetooth pairing. Your first device will automatically sync with the BeatX with just a tap. After that, all of your other Apple devices associated with the same iCloud account get paired in the background. A thicker cable does make these 'buds feel heavier than the others, and as with other Beats products, the sound is aggressively bottom-heavy. But for Apple devotees, the convenience makes up for the minor trade offs. \$150, beatsbydre.com

2 FOR STELLAR SONICS

Sennheiser HD 1 In-Ear Wireless

Expecting pristine sound quality when using earbuds in public is rather misguided, since subtle sonic improvements are easily obliterated by background noise. That said, this pair does sound heavenly, delivering airy, shimmering high and mid frequencies plus plenty of measured and musical-sounding low end. The austere neckband, clad in sheepskin leather with a contrasting red stitch, houses an 1,100 mAh battery that provides 10 hours of playback and can be fully recharged in 90 minutes. A little known feature that will appeal to audiophiles: If the compressed sound of Bluetooth gets you down, you can connect these earbuds to a computer via a micro-USB cable to listen using a purely digital audio path. \$200, sennheiser.com

3 FOR DISCRETION

V-Moda Forza Metallo Wireless

If draping a neckband over your shoulders all day will detract from your meticulously put-together look, fear not. The Forza Metallo Wireless's lightweight titanium neck band is slim enough to hide under your shirt collar. Sound is open and uncolored, with a crispness that shimmers and bass that never veers toward boomy. It's also sport-friendly. In addition to being water resistant, it has a nanocoating that protects against sweat's corrosive properties. Three sizes of earfins, which lock into the folds of your ear to keep the 'buds secure, are included. The Forza Metallo has a 10-hour battery life (and a 15-minute quick charge that yields two hours of playback). \$170, v-moda.com

4 FOR ALL-DAY LISTENING

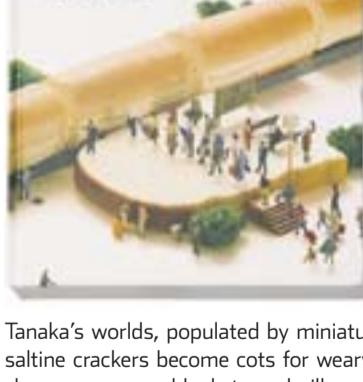
Klipsch X12 Neckband

The X12's neckband is the most ornate. Clad in leather with copper-colored caps, it houses not one but two 110-mAh batteries, thus these headphones' impressive 18 hours of battery life. Although at 3.25 ounces, it's the heaviest model of those shown here, the X12 is still comfortable to wear. Music comes across as neutral and colored, and a wide range of eartips makes it easy to get a good seal: Three sizes of single-flange tips are included, as well as two sizes of double-flange (for superior noise isolation), and a pair of audiophile-grade expanding foam eartips that are superlative at blocking background noise. The dedicated switch to toggle vibration alerts on and off is a nice touch, too. \$399, klipsch.com

BOOKSHELF

SUMMER READS FOR YOUR INNER NERD

A coffee-table book of miniature worlds made mostly of food, harrowing tales of search-and-rescue crews and a biography of an intrepid scientist seeking aliens



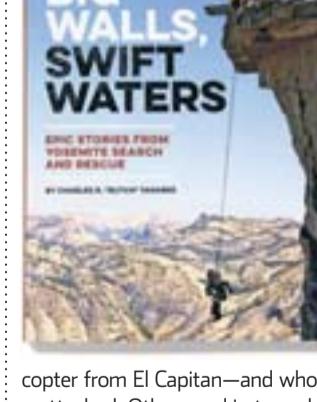
Small Wonders:
Life Portrait in
Miniature
By Tatsuya Tanaka

Elevator pitch Artist and Instagram star (with a following 800,000 strong) Tatsuya Tanaka creates tiny tableaus, cleverly using everyday objects to build bustling super-small-scale environments. In Mr.

Tanaka's worlds, populated by miniature figurines that he crafts, saltine crackers become cots for weary workers while thinly sliced cheeses serve as blankets and pillows. A half-avocado convincingly turns into a steamship for two sailors, and SD memory cards are expertly arranged to look like grand pianos. This book collects the photos of those adorable scenarios that Mr. Tanaka has posted each day to his website Miniature Calendar (miniature-calendar.com) since 2011.

Very brief excerpt "Have you ever thought that a bunch of broccoli or parsley would look like a forest? I am sure everyone has had a similar experience. This act of making objects resemble something else is often called 'Mitiate,' or 'likening.' It has been my life-work to capture this 'Mitiate' through the eyes of miniature people."

Surprising factoid Not all of Mr. Tanaka's scenes appear to be static. To represent a tennis ball hovering in midair, he stuck a pin with a yellow head (the ball) into a pair of kitchen sponges with their green scrubber sides up.

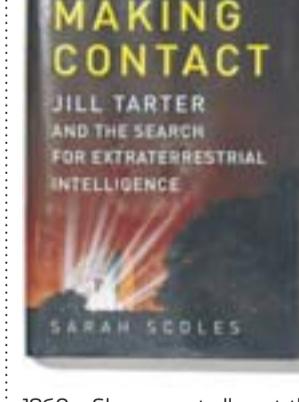


**Big Walls, Swift
Waters: Epic Stories
From Yosemite
Search and Rescue**
By Charles R. "Butch" Farabee

Elevator pitch "Butch" Farabee has participated in over 900 missions with Yosemite Search and Rescue. In this book, he chronicles those that his team and others have undertaken. Some stories end relatively favorably, like that of an Austrian climber who was rescued by helicopter from El Capitan—and who managed to have his severed thumb reattached. Others end in tragedy (you can tell by foreboding synopses, like "A peaceful rafting trip goes terribly wrong," that precede the stories). All of these cautionary tales are followed by a "Takeaway" section, which explains mistakes that triggered the crisis ("disobeyed a warning sign," "wore the wrong boots").

Very brief excerpt "As day eight dawned, [photographer Galen Rowell and master climber Warren Harding] knew they were in true trouble, and might not survive. Rowell was completely soaked, his toes and fingers totally numb, but he still hoped to make it down the 1,400 feet of snow-covered cliff to the base of Half Dome."

Surprising factoid In 1871, a San Francisco restaurateur stopped on a ladder to offer assistance to a female climber. When she declined his hand, he stepped back to bow politely—and fell 35 feet to his death. The park's ladders were replaced by wooden staircases with railings shortly thereafter.



**Making Contact: Jill
Tarter and the Search
for Extraterrestrial
Intelligence**
By Sarah Scates

Elevator pitch After reading "Making Contact," a biography of former SETI Institute director Jill Tarter, it's hard not to ponder the question Dr. Tarter used as a screen saver: "So... Are we alone?" On earth, Dr. Tarter blazed trails both in the search for extraterrestrial intelligence and as a female scientist in the

1960s. She purportedly got the male scientists at Australia's National Telescope Facility to stop telling blonde jokes by responding to a punch line with, "I don't get that one. Please explain it to me," while staring vacantly. Her male colleagues never told a blonde joke around her again.

Very brief excerpt "Searching for extraterrestrial civilizations is like waiting for the cable guy to come: You're always ready, on edge and dressed, even though he probably won't show within the anticipated window."

Surprising factoid Carl Sagan modeled the protagonist of his science-fiction book "Contact" on Ms. Tarter. Ms. Tarter was surprised by the accuracy of his depiction of her, from the details of her formative relationship with her parents to the fact that her favorite car was a 1957 T-Bird.

—Lane Florsheim

GEAR & GADGETS

RUMBLE SEAT DAN NEIL



VW Atlas: What Germany Knows America Wants

FERDINAND PORSCHE—automotive genius, Volkswagen patriarch, Hitler BFF—was an imaginative guy, but I bet he never saw this coming: the VW Atlas, a mid- to full-size, three-row SUV, built by and for the North American market, in Chattanooga, Tenn., which is nowhere near Berlin.

The ironies are irresistible. During World War II, some of Dr. Porsche's best work—the Tiger tank, for instance—was designed to kill Americans. Seventy-two years later, the company Dr. Porsche founded absolutely loves Americans, obsessively studies their habits and needs, and wants nothing more than to sell them what they want. Which are tanks.

Have you seen the Atlas commercial in which a German émigré grandmother, fulfilling her husband's dying wish, takes a road trip across America to show the grandkids the country they embraced as home? To the strains of Simon and Garfunkel's "America," no less?

I believe I've decoded a message, sir: Atlas=American.

Now, having embarked on this shameless sop to American vanity in an effort to sell SUVs, VW should double down. I will not be satisfied until they make Hinrich J. Woeberken, VW's North American CEO, walk around in an Uncle Sam costume on stilts. I want to see the man eat squirrel jerky he bought at a Stuckey's in Arkansas. Commit, dude.

The Atlas (\$30,500 base MSRP) is a steel-bodied, seven-passenger crossover SUV, the largest and heaviest vehicle built atop VW's transverse-front-engine vehicle architecture, known as the MQB. The Atlas comes out of VW's new, \$900 million assembly hall on the Chattanooga campus, part of a planned \$7 billion investment in North America by 2019. The one I drove was nicely knocked together, I must say, with excellent fit and finish.

The only engine currently available is VW's immortal 3.6-liter gas



VOVSKAGEN

V6 (276 hp), bolted to an eight-speed automatic, with front-wheel drive and optional on-demand all-wheel drive. Our test vehicle was an SEL in Premium trim (\$49,415, with destination charge), including big-ticket items such as 4Motion all-wheel drive, 20-inch wheels and panoramic sunroof. A version with a 2.0-liter four, front-drive only, will follow later this year.

The square-shouldered Atlas lines up against popular three-row family crossovers such as the Chevy Traverse, GMC Acadia, Honda Pilot and Toyota Highlander. Fortunately for the Atlas, this segment doesn't have a lot of what you would call lookers. Compared to some of these steel-bodied flower arrangements, the Atlas is a vision of purpose.

Above all, the Atlas is about product, volume, moving the tin. In case you hadn't heard, VW Group has recently incurred some legal liabilities

that it will be paying down for the next few years. The Atlas—a high-volume crossover SUV built on fully amortized underpinnings in a low-wage state—represents naught but rich, creamy profit.

Which is to say, VW desperately needs cash flow from an American-spec SUV that gets quite mediocre fuel economy (19 mpg, combined) to help pay off damages from Dieselgate, which involves cheating on emissions. That makes my head hurt.

You know who's delirious with joy at the sight of the Atlas? VW dealers, whose collective misery in the wake of the scandal would make a really good Broadway musical called "Screwed!" Not only does the Atlas fill in gigantic product white space, it changes the topic of conversation.

A subject for M.B.A. seminars of the future is American consumers' remarkable clemency toward VW as a brand, notwithstanding the roughly half-million wildly pissed off victims of Dieselgate who will never darken its door again. In 2016, VW's *annus terribilis*, brand sales in the U.S. were off only about 7%.

The Atlas is not, fair to say, revolutionary car-building. It takes VW's modular architecture—the sideways-mounted engine and transmission, front axles and auxiliaries in front of the firewall—to places it has been before, in vehicles such as the Tiguan compact SUV. The dash module (including LCD instrument panel, steering column, center-stack touch screen, HVAC vents, plumbing and controls, air bags) is freshly modern but conspicuously carlike, even a bit dwarfed in the Atlas's cavernous cabin.

Still, the innards look pretty nice, retaining a bit of German premiumness as compared to the domestics' interiors. The Atlas's app-driven, 8-inch central touch screen—commanding connectivity, entertainment and navigation functions—is bright, fast and works effortlessly.

Between the seats, in a console with two gigantic cupholders, is a stubby shift selector that could have come out of a sport compact. Near at hand is the (optional) all-wheel-drive-mode selector, with special mapping for snow and loose terrain. The Atlas's crisp, substantial switchgear (window and locking controls, switches, column stalks) is typical of the VW Group parts bin, and it's good stuff.

When it comes to the chassis, the MQB's usual suspension array (struts in front, multi-links in rear) delivers driving behavior that is blandly competent and composed, but no more. The power steering feel is light, strongly boosted for ease of low-speed maneuvering, but at highway speeds it's just a tiller. The suspension occasionally runs out of leverage trying to contain the Atlas's raised mass (4,728 pounds on Car and Driver's scales) and high center of gravity (27.5 inches, also according to C&D) so it's easy to provoke body roll.

The Atlas offers American customers the thing that they covet most: room.

Most of all, the Atlas does an exquisite job of being soft. VW conducted extensive market research into the vehicle preferences of American SUV buyers. Based on this analysis, VW's chassis engineers tuned the Atlas to ride and handle like a turgid water bed.

And yet, by a quirk of its own expediency—putting a big SUV body on a car's mechanical platform—the Atlas is able to offer American customers the thing that they actually covet most in three-row family trucksters: room.

The Atlas's interior is comparably vast, almost improbably spacious, especially the front cabin around the broad driver's, um, throne. If I had the butt that did justice to that seat, I would definitely avoid tennis whites.

The second and third-row seating areas are also Checker Cab-like in their spaciousness. If you are transporting a high school basketball team, the Atlas's mid- and rear-seat legroom will look like a problem solved. Moreover, the mid-row bench seats (heated, ventilated, 60/40 split fold-down) tilt and slide forward easily, with a single lever pull, making third-row entry almost as easy as it is in a minivan. Parents, please note: The mid-row seats can fully forward-retract even with a baby car seat in place. That is. Huge.

Finally, both second and third-row seats fold forward to form a wide flat floor and cargo area of 97 cubic feet behind the front seats.

Such acute market research as produced the Atlas constitutes nothing less than a portrait of the intended audience, a mirror of industrial design. We're a big people, with big beverages, and large feet, apparently. And we'll forgive just about anybody for the right price on a family SUV.

You, me, VW? We've all come to look for America.



2018 VW ATLAS V6 SEL PREMIUM

Base price \$30,500

Price, as tested \$49,415

Powertrain Naturally aspirated 3.6-liter direct-injection V6 with variable valve timing; eight-speed automatic transmission; front-biased, on-demand all-wheel drive

Horsepower/torque 276 hp at 6,200 rpm/ 266 lb-ft at 2,750 rpm

Length/width/height/wheelbase

198.3/78.3/70.0/117.3 inches

Weight 4,728 pounds (Car and Driver)

0-60 mph 8 seconds (est)

EPA fuel economy 17/23/19 mpg, city/highway/combined

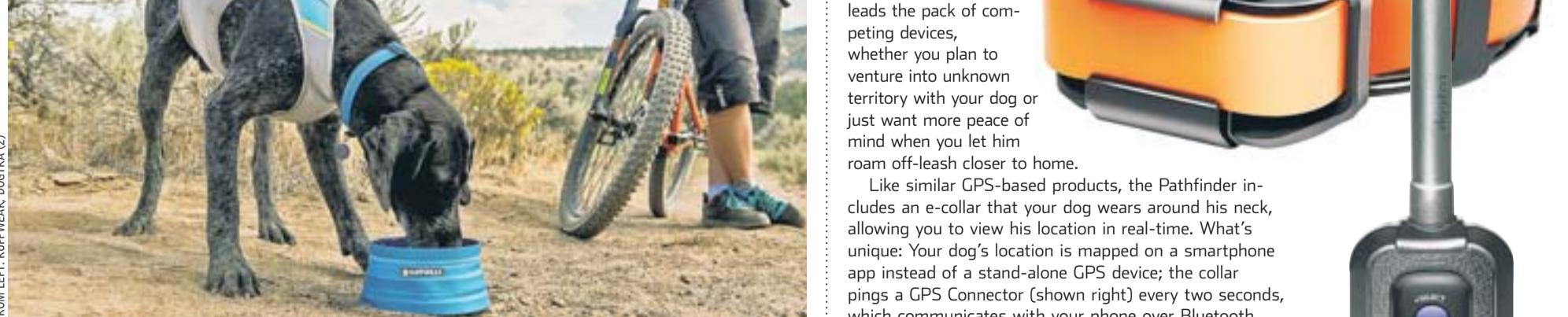
Cargo capacity 21/56/97 cubic feet, behind 3rd/2nd/1st row seats

In performance, the Atlas team was content with being merely competitive against the segment, and I think that's fine. Zero-to-60 mph acceleration (8 seconds) matters less than maximum towing capacity (5,000 pounds). Likewise with content: The Atlas offers a competitively priced spread of optional driver-assistance functions, including autonomous collision-avoidance braking, which tops my list. Also included in the SEL's package is the parking assist, which stitches together video from several cameras to simulate a bird's-eye view.

AT PLAY

THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Gear to keep adventurous canine companions comfortable—and safe—this season



For Staying Cool

No matter how proud or attitudinal your pooch, chances are he won't protest when you slip him into the latest doggy apparel from Ruffwear. The Jet Stream Vest leverages the principle of evaporative cooling to keep dogs from overheating as they tag along on your hikes or bike rides: Just

wet the vest and wring it out before fitting it on your four-legged friend. The wicking material that covers your pet's chest area promotes evaporation to cool his core, while a dry-weave inner mesh allows for airflow. The vest is available in six sizes, to accommodate breeds from Pomeranians to Great Danes. \$40, ruffwear.com

For Keeping Tabs

Dogtra's recently released canine-tracking device, the Pathfinder, leads the pack of competing devices, whether you plan to venture into unknown territory with your dog or just want more peace of mind when you let him roam off-leash closer to home.

Like similar GPS-based products, the Pathfinder includes an e-collar that your dog wears around his neck, allowing you to view his location in real-time. What's unique: Your dog's location is mapped on a smartphone app instead of a stand-alone GPS device; the collar pings a GPS Connector (shown right) every two seconds, which communicates with your phone over Bluetooth.

Because the Pathfinder doesn't require cellular service to work, you don't have to pay any monthly fees. The collar weighs about 10 ounces, has a 24-hour battery life and a range of 9 miles. Designed to be robust enough for use by canine search-and-rescue teams, the app can keep tabs on up to 21 dogs at a time—or, of course, just the one that's your closest friend. \$400, dogtra.com—Brigid Mander

