"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

THE WEATHER

Today, showers and clouds early, some sun late, high 83. Tonight, a clear sky, low 66. Tomorrow, sunshine through areas of high clouds, high 80. Weather map, Page 20.

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Prices in Canada may be higher

\$6.00



Palisades Park in Santa Monica, Calif. More than 70,000 people in Los Angeles County are homeless, and most live not in shelters, but on park benches and in tents.

PEACE AND PROFIT **BLUR IN MIDEAST**

U.S. Envoy's Son Sought **Gulf State Investors**

> By DEBRA KAMIN and BRADLEY HOPE

As Steve Witkoff, President Trump's envoy to the Middle East conducted delicate cease-fire negotiations between Israel and Hamas this year, his son Alex was on another mission. He was quietly soliciting billions of dollars from some of the same governments whose representatives were in-

Alex Witkoff

pitched Qatar, a

mediator in the

Gaza talks and

a key U.S. ally

in the Middle

on

East,



eign wealth fund.

planned invest-Steve Witkoff ment fund focused on commercial real estate projects in the United States, according to a spokeswoman for Qatar's sover-

He later wooed prospective investors by telling them that he had already secured pledges of billions of dollars from government-affiliated funds in Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, according to people familiar with his pitches who were not authorized to speak publicly.

The real estate fund had the potential to yield hundreds of millions of dollars of revenue for the Witkoff Group, which Steve Witkoff founded in 1997. He remains a partial owner of the company, after selling a portion of his stake this year.

The contemplated investment fund, as well as Alex Witkoff's fund-raising outreach to Gulf nations, represents another startling example of the Witkoff family apparently trying to profit off its patriarch's proximity to the president. Steve Witkoff and his other son, Zach, already face accusations of pushing ethical bound-

Continued on Page 8

One Man's Plan to Get People Off the Streets: A One-Way Ticket

By ELI SASLOW

SANTA MONICA, Calif. — The A.I. chatbot had been trained to mimic empathy, and dozens of people called into the hotline each week with last-ditch appeals for rescue. A 64-year-old who lived on a Santa Monica sidewalk said he needed a wheelchair and a bus ticket to reunite with family in Philadelphia. A mother and her toddler were being kicked out of their motel with \$8 and hoped to go to Boston. Another woman said she had just run away from her

Tara Marcelle says she doesn't

remember exactly what she said

near the nurses' station the day

that the conservative activist

Charlie Kirk was shot. She re-

members making some dark

jokes with her colleagues and, at

some point, laughing. But she

knows one thing for sure: It cost

Two days after the shooting,

Ms. Marcelle was handed a letter

of dismissal and told to pack up

her things at the hospital in

Phoenix where she had worked as

as disgraceful, morally unaccept-

able and abhorrent as you pub-

licly expressed joy and laughter

regarding the assassination of a

"Your behavior was described

a nurse for four years.

her her job.

abuser and wanted help escaping to Virginia. "He's hunting for me,"

"I'm sorry about your situation," the automated voice responded, again and again. "Would you like me to add you to the wait-

The calls came 24 hours a day from all over Los Angeles County, where more than 70,000 people are homeless and most live not in shelters, but on public beaches, park benches and in tents lining the streets. By the time the A.I. transferred callers to a human, the wait-list was full of people with

public figure," her termination let-

Ms. Marcelle, a 43-year-old Air

Force veteran, said she never said

Mr. Kirk deserved to be killed, but

she is now among scores of people

across the country who have been

fired, suspended, reassigned or

pushed to resign in the past two

weeks for things they said about

Though there is no way of deter-

mining exactly how many people

have faced workplace conse-

quences, The New York Times

identified more than 145 such

cases through news reports, pub-

lic statements and interviews

with several of those targeted.

Those who have faced discipline

Continued on Page 21

Mr. Kirk or his assassination.

Remarks on Kirk's Assassination

Bring On Broad Wave of Firings

By NICHOLAS BOGEL-BURROUGHS and BERNARD MOKAM

ter read.

Crusade in L.A. to Fix **Epidemic Himself**

the same hope: that someone, somewhere, might put them on a bus or plane and let them start

"How can we help you get off the streets?" John Alle asked, one afternoon, as he responded to a hotline call himself.

It was the problem he'd been trying to solve for years — first as a property manager watching en-

campments grow outside his buildings in Santa Monica, Calif., then as an activist trying to shame the city into action by filming a wave of overdoses and assaults on the downtown promenade, and now as the unlikely architect of a hotline promising free tickets home. The hotline was a two-man operation with no dedicated office space and minimal advertising on social media. Alle and his employee sifted through the wait-list and then packed down people's tents, paid to wash their laundry and ferried them to the airport. In its first

Continued on Page 22



CHANG W. LEE/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Swept Up in a Georgia ICE Raid Nate Cho is among 317 Korean workers arrested this month at a Hyundai factory who are still processing what happened. Page 17.

FIVE FRANTIC DAYS SEALED CAMPAIGN TO CHARGE COMEY

DRIVE FOR VENGEANCE

Justice Dept. Scrambled — Career Prosecutors Shopped Résumés

This article is by Glenn Thrush, Maggie Haberman, Alan Feuer and

WASHINGTON — The first few days in any new job are always hard, but Thursday was especially tough for Lindsey Halligan, the newly installed U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia.

She had to navigate an unfamiliar courthouse, make her firstever appearance in a criminal case and, on top of all that, indict one of President Trump's ene-

Ms. Halligan, who took over on Monday after her predecessor quit rather than prosecute James B. Comey with what he believed was insufficient evidence, had a little trouble with the first two tasks. At one point, she entered the wrong courtroom. When she found the right one, she stood on the wrong side of the judge, and then appeared confused about the paperwork she just had signed.

But she accomplished the third task — the one that mattered most to her boss — securing a criminal indictment against Mr. Comey, a former F.B.I. director.

The indictment was the culmination of an extraordinary series of White House actions that have, in the view of many Justice Department veterans, stripped away remaining legal and procedural restraints that might have prevented Mr. Trump from directing federal law enforcement to humiliate, investigate and prosecute the people he hates.

Mr. Trump's campaign of retribution began to intensify in mid-July after an adviser stoked his snarling impatience over the slow pace of Justice Department investigations. It hit a fever pitch over the past week with the resignation of Erik S. Siebert, the U.S. attorney who believed the evidence against Mr. Comey was insufficient, and with Mr. Trump's remarkable public demand last Saturday that Attorney General Pam Bondi move quickly to prosecute his enemies.

The moves set in motion five frantic days that dealt a blow to the department's independence. It ended with a tableau that summed up the gravity and slapstick of the moment. Ms. Halligan stood before the grand jury in Alexandria, Va., overriding the judgment of her new subordinates to seek a prize her boss had long coveted: Mr. Comey's comeuppance.

This account is based on interviews with more than a dozen administration officials and former and current prosecutors, all of whom spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe internal deliberations.

The U.S. attorney's office, based in Alexandria, Va., just outside Continued on Page 18

For Fox News Authors, the Road to the Best-Seller List Runs Through Fox News

By ALEXANDRA ALTER and ELIZABETH A. HARRIS

One of this fall's breakout debut novelists isn't a romance writer or a recent graduate from a prestigious M.F.A. program. It's Trey Gowdy, a former Republican congressman and current Fox News host, whose crime novel, "The Col-

or of Death," debuted at No. 2 on the New York Times best-seller

Gowdy says he can't take too much credit for the book's success, however. That's the work of

Fox News Books has found tremendous success capitalizing on the popularity of Fox person-

his publisher: Fox News Books.

alities and the loyalty of its viewers. Most of its books are not expressly political, but they align with the network's conservative

The subject matter is often dictated by market research into what appeals to Fox audiences, topics like faith, family, patriotism, criminal justice and military

service. Executives sometimes play matchmaker, pairing a particular subject with a Fox host or contributor. Then the books are launched into the world with a cascade of TV appearances — a publicity bonanza that is rare in today's media climate.

When Gowdy's book was published, he was a guest on "Fox & Friends," "The Five" and "Hannity." Asked on "Fox & Friends" how he came up with the idea for the book, about an assistant district attorney in small-town South Carolina trying to solve a murder, Gowdy, a former prosecutor, said, "I lived it."

"I could never get the exposure Continued on Page 19

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INTERNATIONAL 4-13

Passage Without a Ferryman

With the closing of a crossing between an Ontario island and a village in New York State, islanders face inconvenience — and the end of an era. PAGE 4 ARTS & LEISURE

Story Ideas From the Backyard

"The Lowdown," Sterlin Harjo's followup to the acclaimed "Reservation Dogs," is a Tulsa noir that is steeped in corruption and myth. PAGE 8 **METROPOLITAN**

The Next School Shooter?

Dozens of agencies united to answer a single question: Is it possible to stop potential mass shooters before they commit a crime?

SUNDAY BUSINESS

If You Build It ...

For nearly four decades, the Iowa baseball field used as the set of the beloved Hollywood movie "Field of Dreams" has been trying to find its next act. PAGE 6 **SUNDAY OPINION**

Roy Richard Grinker



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