

April 3, 2017

Democracy Dies in Darkness

Edition: U.S. & World | Regional

In the News Trump 'incitement' Rachel Dolezal Scott Pruitt Neil deGrasse Tyson Death penalty April the giraffe Tina Fey Shia LaBeouf ACM Awards

EXCLUSIVE**Blackwater founder held secret meeting to establish Trump-Putin back channel**

(Video: Sarah Pernas/Post; wire photos)

The United Arab Emirates arranged the meeting — nine days before Donald Trump's inauguration — between Blackwater founder Erik Prince and a Russian close to President Vladimir Putin as part of an apparent effort to establish a back-channel line of communication between Moscow and the president-elect, according to U.S., European and Arab officials. The White House said it was not aware of any meetings and Prince had no role in Trump's transition.

By Adam Kuefele, Greg Miller, Kevin Sieff and Karen DeYoung

- **The Fix: The White House is a smoke machine when it comes to Russia**
- **Graphic: Here's what we know so far about Team Trump's ties to Russian interests**

Democrats secure enough votes to block Gorsuch, setting stage for 'nuclear option'

Four more Senate Democrats confirmed they will support a filibuster, giving the minority party the requisite 41 votes to maintain their procedural roadblock. The rules change known as the 'nuclear option' would allow Republicans to proceed with this and potentially future Supreme Court nominations on a simple majority vote, upending a long-standing Senate tradition that forces the governing party to seek bipartisan support.

By Ed O'Keefe and Elise Viebeck • 1 hour ago

- **Graphic: See which Democrats have signed on for the filibuster**
- **The Fix: Democrats just took the filibuster off life support**
- **The Fix: How Republicans can break the Democratic filibuster**

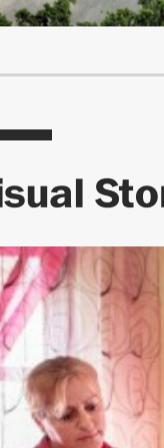
Trump can quietly draw money from trust whenever he wants, new documents show

The filing reveals more evidence that the trust agreement — which the president used to put his adult sons in charge of his company — offers little barrier against President Trump making money from the hotels, golf courses, branding deals and other business interests that he has widely promoted during his presidency.

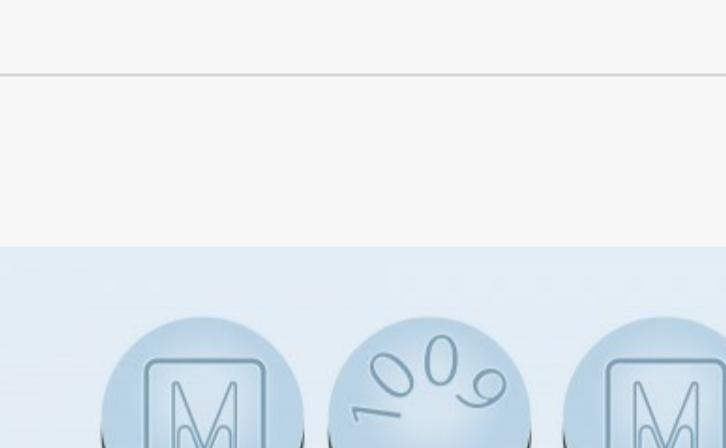
By Drew Harwell • 1 hour ago

**Share news tips with us confidentially**

Do you have information the public should know? Here are some ways you can securely send information and documents to Post journalists.

Learn more »**Opinions****A (probably futile) plea for sanity in the Senate**

By Ruth Marcus

**Trump's court needs a fool**

By Catherine Rampell

**The one thing these senators can agree on: They're about to do something very bad**

By Dana Milbank

**Fox serves up a fetid reminder that when you're a star, you can still do anything**

By Michael Gerson

**Bringing peace to the Mideast is Kushner's second-toughest job**

By Eugene Robinson

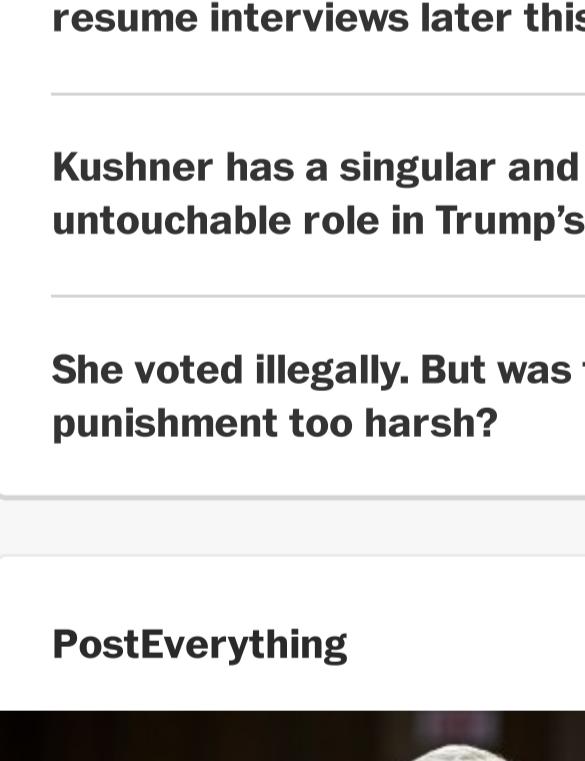
**The Senate is on the brink of an historic mistake**

Editorial Board

More Top Stories**Foreign tech workers on edge as lottery opens for 'high skilled' H-1B visas**

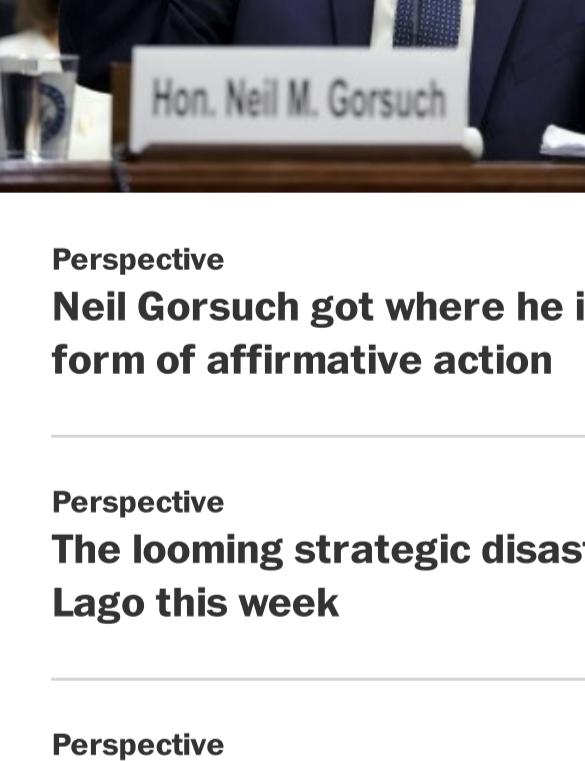
The 85,000 visa slots are expected to fill in a matter of days, with nearly three-quarters of them expected to go to Indian workers, as they have in recent years. But the Trump administration injected new uncertainty in the process Monday with a warning to employers.

By Tracy Jan

**'It was hand-to-hand combat': New details emerge about 2014 Russian hack of the State Department**

One official described the attackers' thrust-and-parry moves inside the network while defenders were trying to kick them out. Others fear the aggressive espionage tactics could spill over into the private sector.

By Ellen Nakashima

**The Fix Analysis: The left and right agree: Fox News destroyed EPA chief Scott Pruitt over climate change**

"Fox News Sunday" host Chris Wallace grilled the controversial new head of the Environmental Protection Agency, whose responses earned the rare distinction of being panned by both climate change advocates and skeptics alike.

By Amy B Wang

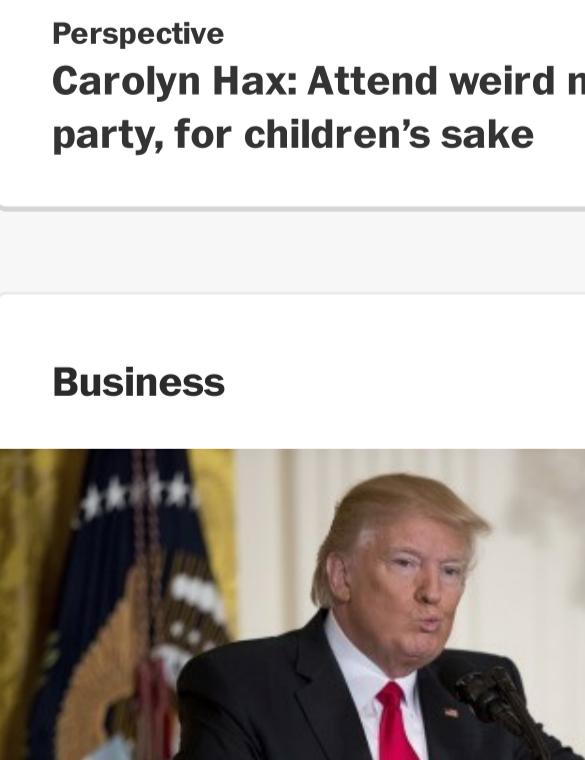
- **These stunning timelapse photos show the effects of climate change**

**Retropolis The Past, Rediscovered**

The U.S. joined the 'Great War' 100 years ago. America and warfare were never the same.

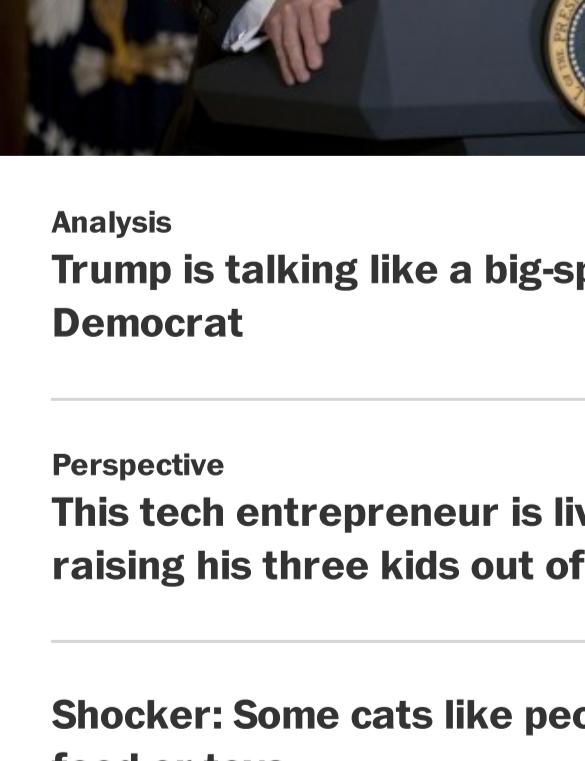
Called to arms by the sinking of neutral ships and by German provocations, hundreds of thousands of Americans crossed the Atlantic to fight in World War I. Tens of thousands never came home. Those who did — such as a doughboy from Iowa and a nurse from Wisconsin, whose stories were recorded for posterity — would never be the same.

By Michael E. Ruane

**Trump will donate his first-quarter salary — \$78,333 — to the National Park Service, White House says**

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke said that the money would be put toward the maintenance of historic battlefields.

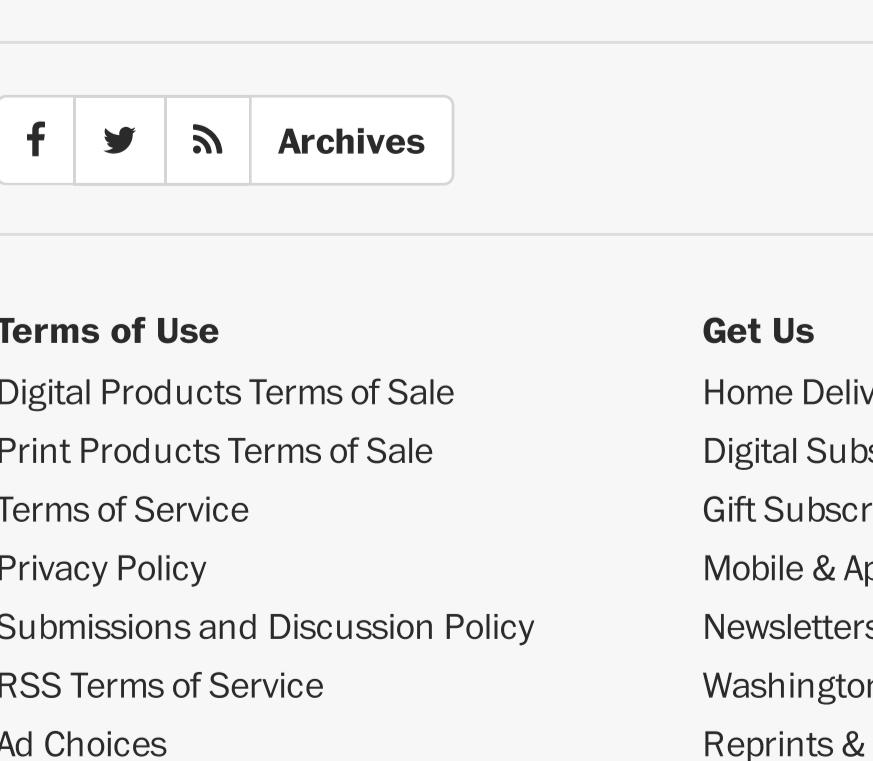
By David A. Fahrenthold

**Georgetown hires star alumnus Patrick Ewing to replace John Thompson III as men's basketball coach**

Ewing will take over the program he helped lead to a national championship as a player in 1984.

By Gene Wang • 1 hour ago

- **Looking back at the first time Ewing committed to Georgetown**

**University mourns sorority member who died after pancake-eating contest**

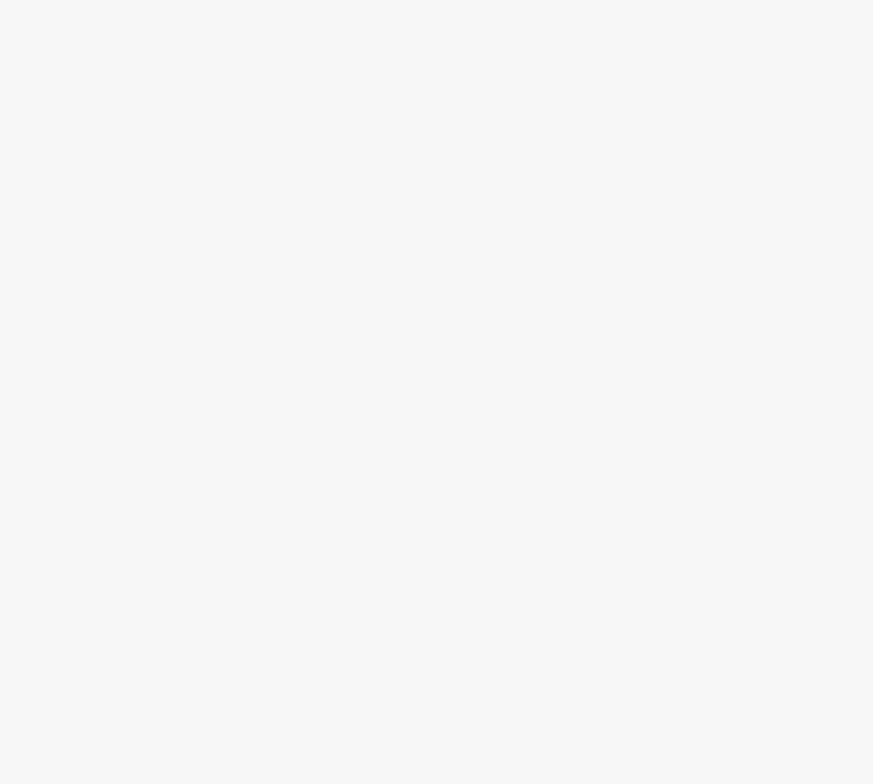
Thousands attended a Mass at Sacred Heart University in Connecticut in honor of the student, whose father died while trying to save people after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City.

By Susan Svrljig • 3 hours ago

**Storm chasers berated by their peers after driving into a tornado on purpose**

The chasers set a dangerous example, critics said, after filming themselves speeding directly into a small twister in northern Louisiana.

By Jason Samenow

**Visual Stories****These photos show what it's like being a child bride in the country of Georgia**

By Myriam Meloni

Perspective Neil Gorsuch got where he is because of a form of affirmative action

Perspective The looming strategic disaster at Mar-a-Lago this week

Perspective Carolyn Hax: Attend weird neighbor's party, for children's sake

Perspective Trump Models might be running out of models

Perspective One of the best Trump impersonators around is getting his own late-night comedy show

Perspective Carolyn Hax: Attend weird neighbor's party, for children's sake

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Perspective Trump is talking like a big-spending Democrat

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