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April 5, 2017

Democracy Dies in Darkness

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## Crises in Syria, North Korea put Trump's 'America First' foreign policy to the test

The Syrian chemical weapons attack seemed to awaken the president's sense of moral responsibility as leader of the world's sole remaining superpower. A president who has often seemed indifferent to suffering in faraway countries — including the plight of Syrian refugees — reacted with a natural revulsion. Less clear was whether that would produce a significant shift in policy.

By Greg Jaffe • 46 minutes ago

### Hinting at action, Trump says chemical attack in Syria 'crossed a lot of lines for me'

The president acknowledged that he now bears responsibility for a war his predecessor could not end, but he offered no specifics on what he could do differently.

By Anne Gearan • 1 hour ago

- **Video | Trump: Chemical attack was an 'affront to humanity'**
- **The Fix: Trump's handling of Syria has some Senate Republicans very concerned**
- **GOP congressman questions whether Assad was responsible for attack**

'If the world wanted to stop this, they would have done so by now'

In Khan Sheikhoun, Syria, site of a chemical attack that killed scores of civilians, families spoke of grief and a sense of betrayal, as the United States and European allies at the U.N. Security Council demanded an investigation. "My son died yesterday," one woman said. "I have nothing left to say to the world."

By Louisa Loveluck and Zakaria Zakaria • 2 hours ago



White House chief strategist Stephen K. Bannon, left, and national security adviser H.R. McMaster. (AP/AP Getty)

### Bannon's removal from NSC reflects growing influence of national security adviser H.R. McMaster

An Army three-star general who took over the post after Michael Flynn was ousted in February, McMaster is increasingly asserting himself over the flow of national security information in the White House. He has become a rising and blunt force who has made clear to several top officials and the president that he does not want the NSC to have any political elements.

By Robert Costa, Abby Phillip and Karen DeYoung • 1 hour ago

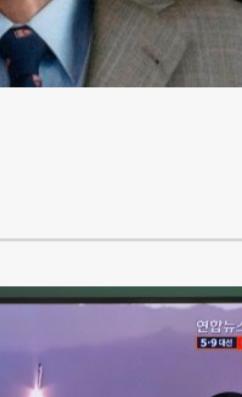
#### @KCCapitol Analysis

**Mitch McConnell: 'Nuclear' option helps Senate. John McCain: 'Whoever says that is a stupid idiot.'**

The Senate majority leader believes the GOP's unilateral response to confirm Neil Gorsuch on a simple majority vote will take senators "back to what was the tradition in the Senate" for confirming justices. McCain sees the move as the next step in the slide to crushing the chamber's bipartisan traditions.

By Paul Kane

- **Democratic opposition to Gorsuch comes from inside and outside of Washington**
- **Analysis: Your guide to Gorsuch's confirmation to the Supreme Court**
- **The Fix: Gorsuch's 11th-hour plagiarism scare**



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## Opinions



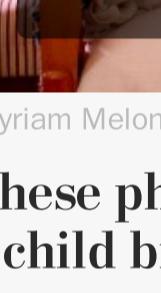
### The Gorsuch filibuster is about far more than payback

By E.J. Dionne Jr.



### Personal irresponsibility: A concise history of Trump's buck-passing

By Dana Milbank



### The Syrian genocide is now Trump's problem

By Jennifer Rubin

### The 'alternative facts' epidemic goes way beyond politics

By George F. Will

### How Trump can stop China from eating our lunch

By Robert D. Atkinson

### The Texas-size scapegoating of an illegal voter is a travesty of justice

Editorial Board

## More Top Stories



### House Republicans likely to start two-week recess without passing health-care bill

Three top GOP leaders each dialed back expectations for action before a two-week recess begins Thursday, as finger-pointing between conservatives and moderates overcame a spirited White House effort to revive the American Health Care Act.

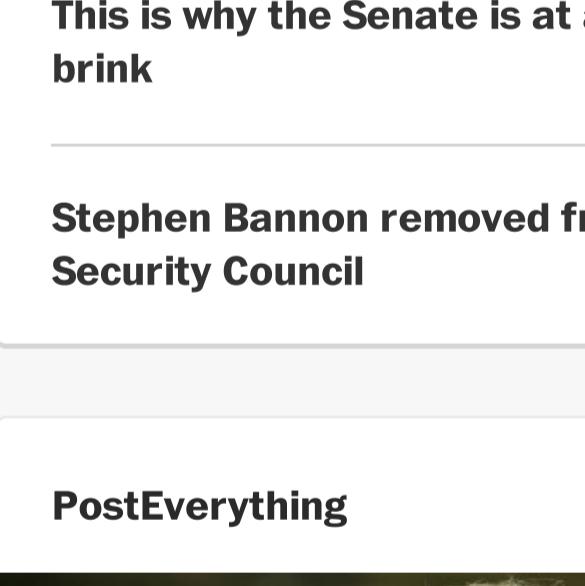
By Mike DeBonis and David Weigel • 1 hour ago



### Susan Rice may have committed a crime, Trump says without providing evidence

"I think it's going to be the biggest story," the president told the New York Times about his suggestion that Obama's former national security adviser requested the identities of Trump campaign associates contained in classified intelligence reports for political purposes.

By Abby Phillip • 2 hours ago

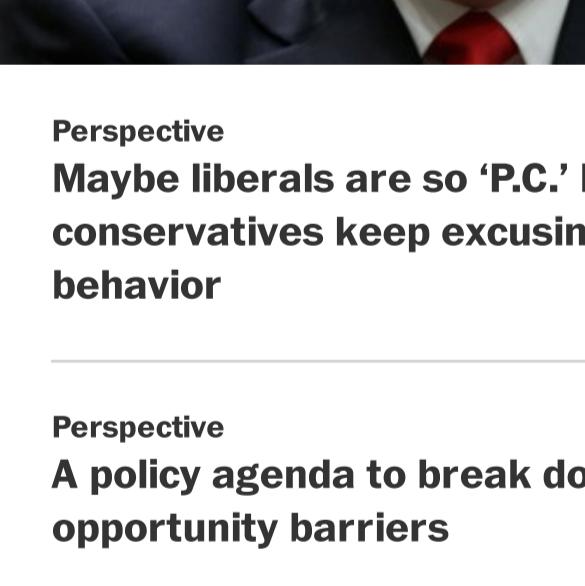


### Culture of misogyny makes O'Reilly's hotline defense nothing short of ridiculous

You can have all the corporate handbooks, anonymous hotlines and internal memos in the world, but they won't do much if the real-life work environment sends the opposite message.

By Margaret Sullivan

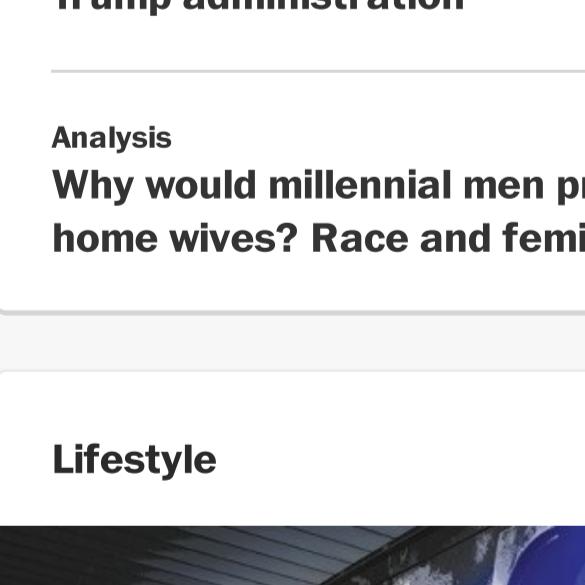
- **Is this the end of Bill O'Reilly? That's a complicated question.**



### IRS took millions of dollars from innocent people, inspector general finds

While enforcing a transparency rule on large-sum bank deposits, the IRS confiscated legally obtained money more than 90 percent of the time, according to the Treasury Department report.

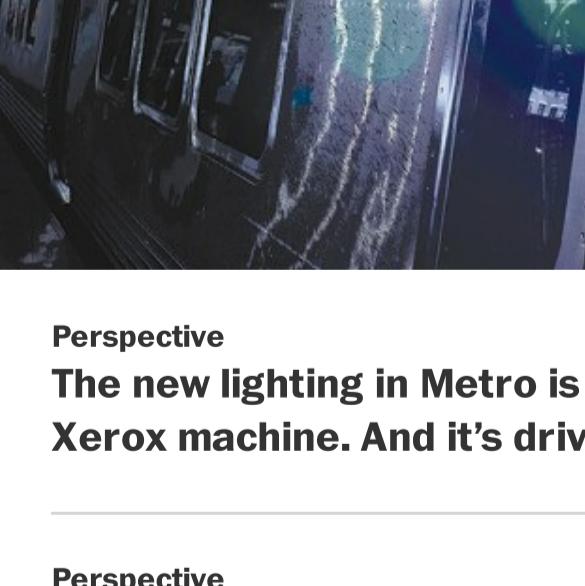
By Christopher Ingraham



### Long shadow cast by psychiatrist on transgender issues finally recedes at Johns Hopkins

The institution will come full circle on transgender medicine as it resumes surgeries this summer after abruptly halting them in 1979 when its then-chief of psychiatry Paul McHugh declared transgender people needed psychological, not surgical, help.

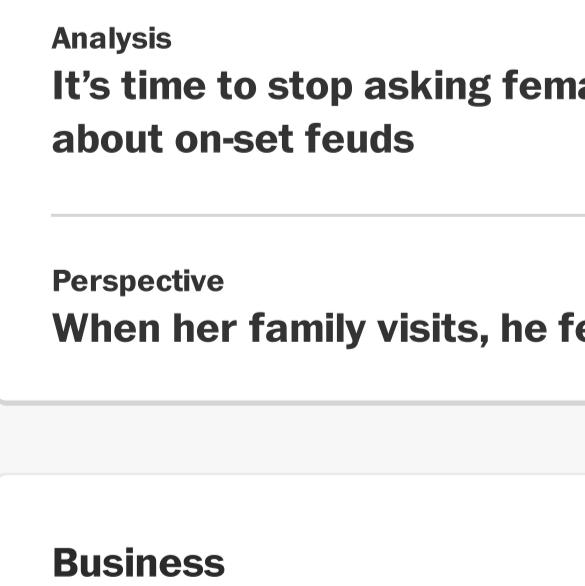
By Amy Ellis Nutt • 2 hours ago



### Will North Korea fire a missile capable of hitting the U.S. mainland? Probably.

Kim Jong Un has declared that North Korea is close to testing a missile that can reach the United States. Is it time to freak out?

By Anna Fifield



### Melania Trump and the politics of airbrushing

Her official portrait might give a certain segment of the population pause, but there's another part of it that will just as forcefully declare it beautiful, admirable and aspirational.

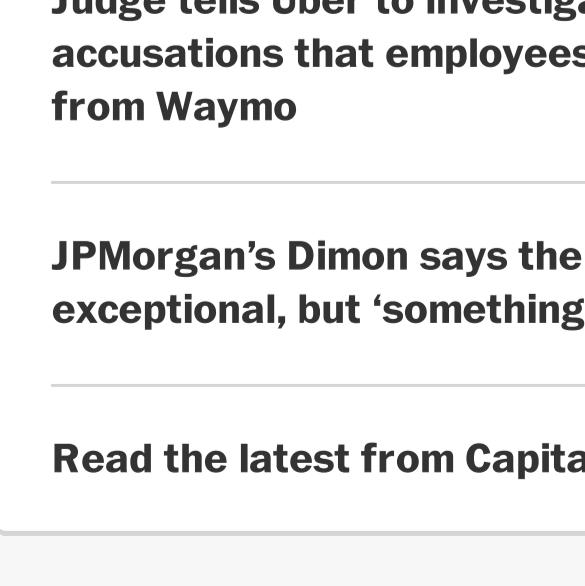
By Robin Givhan



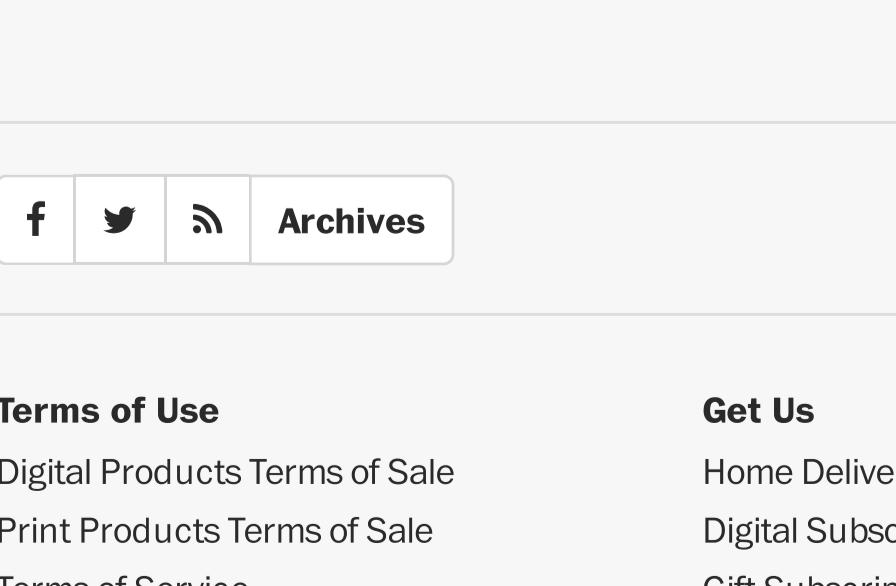
### What does a black hole look like? Astronomers are on a quest to find out.

A battalion of scientists working in concert at eight observatories on four continents Wednesday night will attempt to capture a silhouette of the black hole at the center of the Milky Way.

By Sarah Kaplan



### Visual Stories



#### In Sight

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

By Miryam Meloni

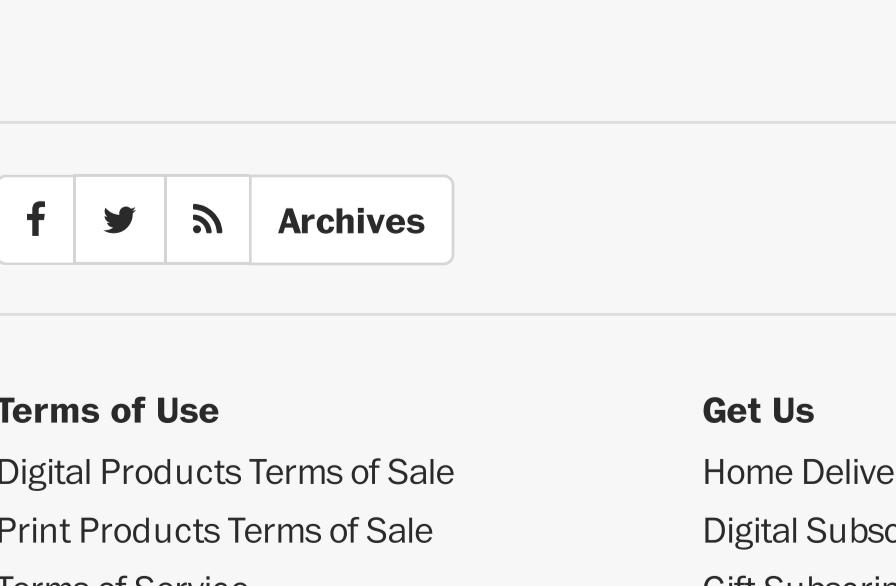


The Republican corporate tax plan is confusing. Here's how it works.



A look inside the Obamas' Kalorama home

By Mark McFadden/McFadden Group



#### In Sight

See what Melania Trump has been doing since becoming first lady

By Joshua Roberts/Reuters

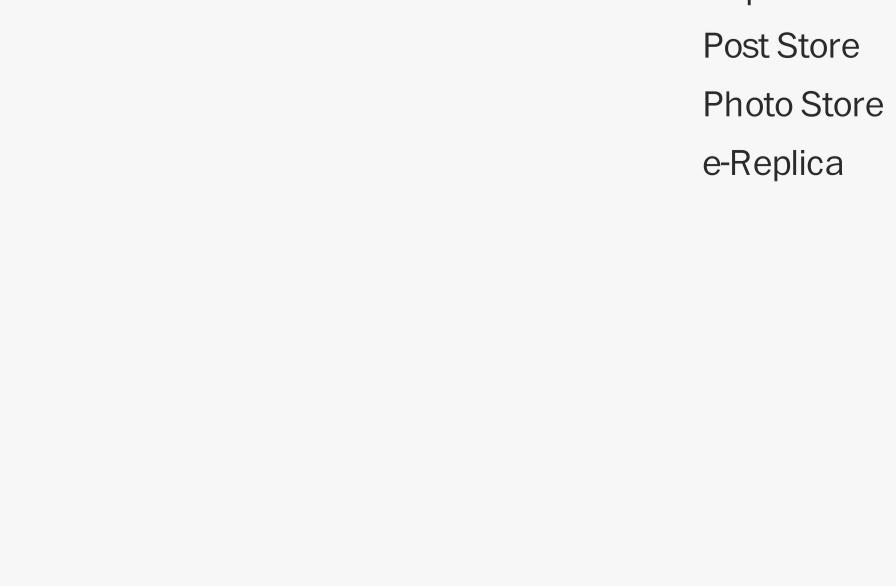
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Here are 23 of the week's best photos

By Ryan Remiorz/AP

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#### PostEverything

This GOP congressman still doesn't believe that Assad is behind the Syrian attack

By Christopher Ingraham

Bannon removed from security council as McMaster asserts control

By Christopher Ingraham

This is why the Senate is at a nuclear brink

By Christopher Ingraham

Stephen Bannon removed from National Security Council

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#### Politics

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Concerns about hiring freeze's disruption, costs spur request for audit

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Democrats call for largest IRS budget to improve service as Trump calls for cuts

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Trump condemns Syria chemical attack and suggests he will act

By Christopher Ingraham

World Health Organization: Syria chemical attack likely involved nerve agent

By Christopher Ingraham



#### World

How do you stop fake news? In Germany, with a law.

By Christopher Ingraham

Trump and his 'America First' philosophy face first moral quandary in Syria

By Christopher Ingraham

Trump condemns Syria chemical attack and suggests he will act

By Christopher Ingraham

World Health Organization: Syria chemical attack likely involved nerve agent

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#### National

Jeff Bezos shows off the crew capsule that could soon take tourists to space

By Christopher Ingraham

Facebook takes new steps to stop 'revenge porn' images from spreading

By Christopher Ingraham

Analysis The future of net neutrality in Trump's America

By Christopher Ingraham

AT&T is now offering HBO for free. Here's why.

By Christopher Ingraham

Portland bike-share vandalized. Motive seems particularly idiotic.

By Christopher Ingraham



#### Real Estate

Popular deductions for homeownership are targeted in tax plans

By Christopher Ingraham

Two upcoming events for Montgomery County architecture aficionados

By Christopher Ingraham

How to vet a home contractor

By Christopher Ingraham

Is your vacant home languishing on the market? Why staging might spark a sale.

By Christopher Ingraham



#### Business

The troubles at the American mall are coming to a boil

By Christopher Ingraham

Judge tells Uber to investigate accusations that employees stole secrets from Waymo