

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
Sent: Tue 11/21/2017 5:45:43 PM
Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by the Peter G. Peterson Foundation: BREAKING: CHARLIE ROSE fired from CBS -- TRUMP chats with PUTIN -- CONYERS says he is not aware of any settlements -- FIRST IN PLAYBOOK: Pence's first round of political contributions

[View online version](#) | Add politicoplaybook@politico.com to your address book.

Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by the Peter G. Peterson Foundation

By JAKE SHERMAN (sherman@politico.com; [@JakeSherman](https://twitter.com/JakeSherman)), ANNA PALMER (anna@politico.com; [@apalmerdc](https://twitter.com/apalmerdc)), DANIEL LIPPMAN (daniel@politico.com; [@dlippman](https://twitter.com/dlippman)) and ZACH MONTELLARO (zmontellaro@politico.com; [@ZachMontellaro](https://twitter.com/ZachMontellaro))

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP and **VLADIMIR PUTIN** spoke on the phone about Syria, Iran, North Korea and Ukraine, per the AP.

Good Tuesday afternoon. AP'S COREY WILLIAMS: "DETROIT (AP) -- Longtime Michigan Rep. John Conyers on Tuesday denied settling a complaint in 2015 from a woman who alleged she was fired from his Washington staff because she rejected his sexual advances. ... Conyers, who answered the door at his Detroit home, told The Associated Press that he knows nothing about any claims of inappropriate touching and learned of the story from television just hours earlier.

"I have been looking at these things in amazement ,' he said, referring to allegations of sexual harassment and assault being made against politicians and others."

<http://bit.ly/2B2aZ2R>

-- **JOHN BRESNAHAN** and **HEATHER CAYGLE:** "House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi was not aware of any settlement, according to her office. Other top Democrats, including Congressional Black Caucus members, declined to comment. 'You gotta wait to see what the CBC says,' said a Democratic source. 'You gotta think there will be calls for resignation soon.' ... 'This is a huge, huge problem for us,' said an aide to one longtime Democrat. 'I don't know how Pelosi is going to handle this.'"

<http://politi.co/2jbacFF>

BREAKING -- @DylanByers: "CBS News President David Rhodes emails staff: 'A short time ago we terminated Charlie Rose's employment with CBS News, effective immediately.'" **Link to David Rhodes' email to CBS News staff:** <http://politi.co/2z97abr>

-- **@yashar:** "When asked if he has anything to say to the women who have accused him of 'wrongdoings,' Charlie Rose responds and says: 'It's not wrongdoings.'"

<http://bit.ly/2zW2N7k>

EXCLUSIVE -- VP MIKE PENCE'S FIRST ROUND OF POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS --

GOVERNORS: \$1,000 -- Jim Justice (W.Va.). \$10,000 -- Scott Walker (Wis.). \$10,000 -- Kim Reynolds (Iowa). \$5,000 -- Paul Laxalt (Nev.). \$10,000 -- Rick Scott (Fla.).

SENATE: \$5,400 to Sens. David Perdue (Ga.), Tom Cotton (Ark.), John Barrasso (Wyo.) and Ted Cruz (Texas). ...

... **HOUSE:** \$5,400 to Reps. Chris Collins (N.Y.), Buddy Carter (Ga.), Scott DesJarlais (Tenn.), Blaine Luetkemeyer (Mo.), Kevin Cramer (N.D.), Tom Reed (N.Y.), Lou Barletta (Pa.), Mark Amodei (Nev.), Andy Barr (Ky.), Mike Kelly (Pa.), Bill Shuster (Pa.), Jimmy Duncan (Tenn.), Andy Harris (Md.), Diane Black (Tenn.), Michael Burgess (Texas), Chuck Fleischmann (Tenn.), Alex Mooney (W.Va.), Steven Palazzo (Miss.), Phil Roe (Tenn.), Marsha Blackburn (Tenn.), Ron DeSantis (Fla.), Mark Meadows (N.C.), Jim Jordan (Ohio) and Mark Walker (N.C.). ...

... **SENATE CANDIDATES:** Josh Hawley (Mo.) ... **HOUSE CANDIDATES:** Rick Saccone (candidate for Tim Murphy's seat in Pennsylvania).

-- **COUNT 'EM:** Seven donations to House Freedom Caucus members.

QUICK NOTE ... RNC has \$42.5 million on hand. The DNC has \$5 million.

SPOTTED: JAMIE DIMON and **KEVIN PLANK** walking out of the Seasons restaurant at the Four Seasons Georgetown this morning after getting coffee together.

ATTN. JARED KUSHNER: "SENIOR ABBAS ADVISER: CONTACTS WITH U.S. CONSULATE, VISITING AMERICAN OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN FROZEN: Palestinians say they won't be blackmailed by U.S. move to close Washington office ... Palestinians reject Trump team's reasons for threatening closure of DC PLO office," by the Jerusalem Post's Adam Rascon: "The Palestinians have frozen ties with the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem and American officials visiting the West Bank in response to the U.S. State Department's decision not to renew the certification of the PLO's representative office in Washington, D.C., a senior adviser to PA President Mahmoud Abbas said on Tuesday. ...

"Communications with the consulate in Jerusalem and meetings between American and Palestinian officials in Palestine are currently frozen because of the decision not to renew the PLO office in Washington's certification,' Majdi al-Khalidi, Abbas's diplomatic affairs adviser told The Jerusalem Post in a phone call. 'This is temporary until they clarify to us, if the office is closed or open. If they tell us the office is closed, we will continue to freeze our communications.'" <http://bit.ly/2jLzLkh>

THE LEGISLATIVE TEXT OF THE SENATE TAX BILL -- Posted today by the Senate Finance Committee <http://bit.ly/2zapMb8>

ON THE WORLD STAGE -- "Robert Mugabe Resigns as Zimbabwe's President, Ending 37-Year Rule," by NYT's Norimitsu Onishi and Jeffrey Moyo in Harare: "Robert Mugabe, who has ruled Zimbabwe since independence in 1980, resigned as president

on Tuesday shortly after lawmakers began impeachment proceedings against him, according to the speaker of Parliament. The speaker of Parliament read out a letter in which Mr. Mugabe said he was stepping down 'with immediate effect' for 'the welfare of the people of Zimbabwe and the need for a peaceful transfer of power.'

"Parliament erupted into cheers and jubilant residents poured into the streets of Harare, the capital. It seemed to be an abrupt capitulation by Mr. Mugabe, who had refused to step down only two days earlier, when his former political party, ZANU-PF, formally expelled him." <http://nyti.ms/2z9T2Pj>

***** **A message from the Peter G. Peterson Foundation:** As Washington debates tax reform, there's talk of tax cuts that will give trillions of dollars back to American taxpayers. That sounds great. But if these tax cuts aren't paid for, future generations will be stuck with the bill. Congress, tax reform should grow the economy. Not the debt. www.pgpf.org/tax-reform. *****

DOWN IN ALABAMA -- "The DSCC has descended on Alabama to help Doug Jones fight Roy Moore," by Vice News' Alexandra Jaffe: "The [DSCC], the party's campaign arm tasked with supporting Democrats in Senate races, has had a team of what an aide described to VICE News as 'less than a handful of staff' in Alabama since the GOP runoff in September, all working under the direction of the campaign. In a statement, the Jones campaign was also careful to emphasize that they were running the show." <http://bit.ly/2B1RN5j>

THE PRESIDENT'S THANKSGIVING -- "Trump's return to Mar-a-Lago: No pepper spray, pocket knives or laser pointers," by Darren Samuelson: "President Donald Trump returns to his private Palm Beach club Tuesday for the first time since April, and several of his dues-paying members said they plan on making a beeline there in the hopes of catching a glimpse of the president or even chatting him up over the holiday weekend, including an extravagant Thanksgiving buffet. ... Members at the exclusive seaside resort -- who endured ad hoc procedures to accommodate Trump's new status as commander-in-chief earlier this year -- will nevertheless see some changes this season. Only two guests per member are allowed at any one time, and dinner reservations are available only two weeks in advance to stop members from snagging all the potential prime Trump time, according to a recent notice relayed to members." <http://politi.co/2iCtZ1d>

FIRST IN PLAYBOOK -- TRUMP WHITE HOUSE DEPARTURE LOUNGE -- TIM TRIPEPI has left the White House as director of operations for First Lady Melania Trump and special assistant to the president. He had his final day last week. He previously was deputy director of the Trump inauguration committee, worked on advance for the Trump campaign and is also a Kasich 2016 and Romney 2012 campaign alum. He declined to comment. A spokesperson for the first lady told us: "We thank him for his service and wish him luck in his future endeavors."

VALLEY TALK -- "Google collects Android users' locations even when location

services are disabled," by Quartz's Keith Collins: "Since the beginning of 2017, Android phones have been collecting the addresses of nearby cellular towers -- even when location services are disabled-and sending that data back to Google. The result is that Google, the unit of Alphabet behind Android, has access to data about individuals' locations and their movements that go far beyond a reasonable consumer expectation of privacy. Quartz observed the data collection occur and contacted Google, which confirmed the practice.

"The cell tower addresses have been included in information sent to the system Google uses to manage push notifications and messages on Android phones for the past 11 months, according to a Google spokesperson. They were never used or stored, the spokesperson said, and the company is now taking steps to end the practice after being contacted by Quartz. By the end of November, the company said, Android phones will no longer send cell-tower location data to Google, at least as part of this particular service, which consumers cannot disable." <http://bit.ly/2iB139W>

REVOLT AT FOGGY BOTTOM -- "State Dept. revolt: Tillerson accused of violating U.S. law on child soldiers," by Reuters' Jason Szep and Matt Spetalnick: "A group of about a dozen U.S. State Department officials have taken the unusual step of formally accusing Secretary of State Rex Tillerson of violating a federal law designed to stop foreign militaries from enlisting child soldiers, according to internal government documents reviewed by Reuters.

"A confidential State Department 'dissent' memo not previously reported said Tillerson breached the Child Soldiers Prevention Act when he decided in June to exclude Iraq, Myanmar, and Afghanistan from a U.S. list of offenders in the use of child soldiers. This was despite the department publicly acknowledging that children were being conscripted in those countries." <http://reut.rs/2iBvvk4>

NEW OFF MESSAGE -- "Garry Kasparov Would Like You to Stop Saying 'Trump Is Playing 4-D Chess'," by Isaac Dove: "Chess? That's not what Garry Kasparov sees Donald Trump or Vladimir Putin playing -- three-dimensional or any other kind. But if they did sit down for a game, the former grandmaster believes the Russian president would obviously win. ... For the last 10 months, Kasparov has watched Trump's interactions with the Russian president, and thinks Trump is playing exactly into what the Kremlin wants while apparently refusing to understand Putin's goals." <http://politi.co/2B06u8V> ... *Listen on Apple Podcasts* <http://apple.co/2yEsfe8>

MORE ON WEINSTEIN -- "Harvey Weinstein's Secret Settlements," by Ronan Farrow in The New Yorker: "On April 20, 2015, the Filipina-Italian model Ambra Battilana Gutierrez sat in an office in midtown Manhattan with an eighteen-page legal agreement in front of her. She had been advised by her attorney that signing the agreement was the best thing for her and her family. In exchange for a million-dollar payment from Harvey Weinstein, Gutierrez would agree never to talk publicly about an incident during which Weinstein groped her breasts and tried to stick his hand up her skirt. ...

"Weinstein used nondisclosure agreements like the one Gutierrez signed to evade accountability for claims of sexual harassment and assault for at least twenty years. He used these kinds of agreements with employees, business partners, and women who made allegations -- women who were often much younger and far less powerful than Weinstein, and who signed under pressure from attorneys on both sides.

"Weinstein also hid the payments underwriting some of these settlements. In one case, in the nineteen-nineties, Bob Weinstein, who co-founded the film studio Miramax with his brother, paid two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, roughly six hundred thousand dollars today, to be split between two female employees in England who accused Harvey Weinstein of sexual harassment and assault. The funds came from Bob Weinstein's personal bank account -- a move that helped conceal the payment from executives at Miramax and its parent company, Disney, as well as from Harvey Weinstein's spouse." <http://bit.ly/2iBmdoc>

-- **Slate** hosted a conversation with three of Weinstein's accusers -- actresses Alice Evans and Katherine Kendall and Tomi-Ann Roberts, a psychology professor and former aspiring actress herself -- about the aftermath of their allegations and the wave of stories it kickstarted. <http://slate.me/2B02CoB>

MEDIAWATCH -- "Ben Carson's Controversial Confidant Wants to Buy Washington Newspaper," by Mother Jones' Andy Kroll and Russ Choma: "Armstrong Williams, the conservative businessman, TV talk-show host, and longtime confidant of Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Ben Carson, is trying to buy Washington City Paper, the alternative weekly newspaper covering the nation's capital. According to a current City Paper staffer, the paper's editor, Alexa Mills, informed the staff on November 10 that Williams was interested in buying the publication. Later that morning, Williams and three associates arrived in the newsroom. 'We learned he was coming in,' the staffer told Mother Jones, 'and then he was suddenly there.' Williams went around the newsroom shaking hands with members of the editorial staff and asking about their journalism backgrounds." <http://bit.ly/2iDK4Ua>

-- **MARK LEVIN** will host a show on Fox News called "Life, Liberty & Levin" that debuts in February 2018. It will air Sundays at 10 p.m.

GOOD NEWS -- "Cups to Remain in Russell," by Roll Call's Alex Gangitano: "The Architect of the Capitol has decided to keep Cups & Company in the Russell Senate Office Building after all. The beloved coffee spot's contract will be renewed, co-owner Kathy Chung told Roll Call. The good news came in a Monday email from the AOC, she said." <http://bit.ly/2iBJ6rt>

SPOTTED -- AI Hunt this morning on the Acela to New York.

OBAMA ALUMNI -- BRENT COLBURN has been hired as Princeton's VP for communications and public affairs; he starts Feb. 1. He currently is VP for

communications at the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative and served as assistant to the Secretary of Defense for public affairs during the Obama administration, where he also worked at HUD, DHS and FEMA.

TRANSITIONS -- Jacqueline Boggess has joined Strategic Partners & Media as a media strategist. She was previously creative director at D.C. London. **Arpit Patel** has also joined the firm as a digital media planner and **Baker Landon** as interactive content coordinator. ... **Jill Gerber** has started as communications director for the U.S. Office of Special Counsel. She previously worked for Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa). ... **Layle Nelson** has joined CRAFT as the company's senior vice president of public affairs. She was previously SVP at APCO Worldwide.

ENGAGED -- Tara Mancini, manager of public policy at the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, recently got engaged to **Aditya Chakrabarti**, a software engineer at Sprinklr. "He proposed after dinner at Silver Brassiere in D.C. We met through an Italian language Meet-up group in D.C. in 2008 (I had just returned from studying in Italy over the summer, and he had lived in Rome for a few years as a child)."

Pic of the couple on top of the Space Needle <http://politi.co/2jLsKQN>

WELCOME TO THE WORLD -- Adam Piper, policy director for the Republican Attorneys General Association, who previously served as a top aide to S.C. AG Alan Wilson, and **Meredith Piper**, a CPA with Scott and Co., welcomed Paige Renee Piper on Monday at 1:01 p.m. "Adam and Meredith were so excited to be parents, Meredith was in Labor for only 9 minutes!" Paige came in at 5lbs 13.4oz, 18.5 inches. **Pic** <http://politi.co/2jlfzzZ>

--**Winston Lord**, co-founder and "chief evangelist" of Venga, and **Stephanie Lord**, executive director of Batonga Foundation, email friends and family: "Please say hello to Miss Tenley!... Born Saturday, November 18, at 8:03 p.m. Like Levi, she was also born at home -- this time intentionally and with dad present :). ... Full name: Winston Tennessee 'Tenley' Lord 6lbs 2oz and 19 inches Brown hair, blue eyes; Winston for obvious reasons. Tennessee because Stephanie's family has deep roots there." **Pics** <http://politi.co/2A0nkoQ> ... <http://politi.co/2zv9JRX> ... <http://politi.co/2zaeFzd>

WEEKEND WEDDING -- Mary-Ryan Douglass, the PAC director at the American Pharmacists Association and a DCCC alum, on Friday married **Colin Milligan**, who works in communications at the American Hospital Association and is an alum of Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and Rep. Cheri Bustos (D-Ill.). The wedding was in her hometown of Cleveland. "The couple met in 2012 at 'The Hammer,' a now defunct bar in Las Vegas, while both were working on political campaigns in Nevada." **Pics** <http://bit.ly/2zTAJkV> ... <http://bit.ly/2iy71YP>

SPOTTED: Ivana Brancaccio and Steven Kirsch, Mandi Karp, Brittany Kerrigan, Daniel Delgado, Kat Loomis and Richard Davidson, Calla Brown and Kerry Gutknecht, Katie Naessens, John-Michael Donahue, Courtney Ryan and Nick Halsted, Joe Manion, Todd Wolf, Mary Plasencia, Alexandra and Ben Driscoll, and Kristen Bautz.

BONUS BIRTHDAY OF THE DAY: Jonathan Greenblatt, national director and CEO of the Anti-Defamation League. **A trend he thinks deserves more attention:** "The rise of extremism from both sides of the political spectrum." **Read his Playbook Plus Q&A:** <http://politi.co/2z8hcKe>

***** **A message from the Peter G. Peterson Foundation:** Washington is debating tax reform. There's talk of substantial tax cuts that will give trillions of dollars back to American taxpayers. That sounds great. But if these tax cuts aren't paid for, future generations will be stuck with the bill. Congress is right to pursue tax reform - the code is outdated, complex and unfair. Tax reform done right should be permanent, because businesses and individuals need certainty to plan and invest. It should be based on realistic, independent projections and assumptions about the effect on our economy and our fiscal outlook. And it should enjoy bipartisan support, so that it's durable over time. Lawmakers should use the valuable opportunity presented by tax reform both to improve our fiscal outlook and strengthen the economy at the same time. Congress, tax reform should grow the economy. Not the debt. Learn more at www.pgpf.org/tax-reform.

SUBSCRIBE to the Playbook family: **POLITICO Playbook** <http://politi.co/2lQswbh> ... **Playbook Power Briefing** <http://politi.co/2xuOiqh> ... **New York Playbook** <http://politi.co/1ON8bqW> ... **Florida Playbook** <http://politi.co/1OypFe9> ... **New Jersey Playbook** <http://politi.co/1HLKItF> ... **Massachusetts Playbook** <http://politi.co/1Nhtq5v> ... **Illinois Playbook** <http://politi.co/1N7u5sb> ... **California Playbook** <http://politi.co/2bLvcPI> ... **London Playbook** <http://politi.co/2xfDPuK> ... **Brussels Playbook** <http://politi.co/1FZeLcw> ... **All our political and policy tipsheets** <http://politi.co/1M75UbX>

[View online](#)

To change your alert settings, please go to <https://secure.politico.com/settings>

This email was sent to jackson.ryan@epa.gov by: POLITICO, LLC 1000 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA, 22209, USA

Please click [here](#) and follow the steps to unsubscribe.
