

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
Sent: Thur 6/15/2017 10:44:57 AM
Subject: POLITICO Playbook, presented by POET: LATEST on Steve Scalise – TRUMP visits hospital -- Shock on the Hill -- Dems hold off on gun debate -- WAPO: Special counsel investigating obstruction – FOX NEWS drops 'fair and balanced' slogan -- B'DAY: Alyssa Farah

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

Today's PLAYBOOK presented by POET
06/15/2017 06:41 AM EDT

By JAKE SHERMAN (sherman@politico.com; [@JakeSherman](#)), ANNA PALMER (anna@politico.com; [@apalmerdc](#)) and DANIEL LIPPMAN (daniel@politico.com; [@dlippman](#))

Driving the Day

Listen to the Playbook Audio Briefing <http://bit.ly/2svw2dO> ... **Subscribe on iTunes** <http://apple.co/2eX6Eay> ... **Visit the online home of Playbook** <http://politi.co/2f51Jnf>

Good Thursday morning. THE LATEST ON STEVE SCALISE -- "Scalise remains in critical condition after mass shooting," by Louis Nelson, John Bresnahan, and Jake Sherman: "House Majority Whip Steve Scalise is in critical condition in a Washington hospital, and will require additional surgeries after a bullet pierced his hip, injured organs and caused 'severe bleeding,' according to a statement Wednesday night. Scalise, a Louisiana Republican, is in MedStar Washington Hospital Center in Northwest D.C., where he has had at least two procedures, and 'multiple units of blood transfusion,' the hospital said Wednesday night. Scalise was brought to the hospital in 'shock,' the statement said. President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump visited the hospital Wednesday night, and brought the Scalise family flowers."
<http://politi.co/2ru9BWi>

-- [@realDonaldTrump](#) at 9:41 p.m.: "Just left hospital. Rep. Steve Scalise, one of the truly great people, is in very tough shape - but he is a real fighter. Pray for Steve!"

STATEMENT FROM MATT MIKA'S FAMILY: "Matt suffered multiple gunshot wounds. He recently came out of surgery but remains in the ICU in critical condition and we expect him to stay there for at least several days. Our family is now here with him and we continue to ask for privacy and understanding while we focus on Matt and his recovery.

"Many have asked about Matt and what we can share about him. While the attack today was a terrible surprise, Matt's presence on the ball field, helping longtime colleagues and friends was not. He is a very thoughtful, fun-loving person who is

competitive and loyal; all things which contributed to his continued commitment to the Congressional Baseball Game."

-- **"Who were the people injured at Wednesday's baseball practice shooting?,"** by Rachael Bade, Theo Meyer, John Lauinger, and Kyle Cheney: <http://politi.co/2tppcmG>

THE VENEER, SHATTERED. Members of Congress have long thought of Washington as a safe space, of sorts. Sure, they engage in heated rhetoric in the Capitol, waging partisan war from early in the morning until late at night. But their life in Washington is quite sheltered: they exercise in a members-only gym. Many of them sleep in their offices in the Capitol complex. They eat and drink together at partisan social clubs. But we're hearing a refrain we first heard in 2011, when Gabby Giffords was shot: we're sitting ducks.

-- **FROM USA TODAY'S HEIDI PRZYBYLA:** "[L]awmakers including Cedric Richmond, D-La., had expressed fears last week about member safety. Richmond, who chairs the Congressional Black Caucus, raised his concerns directly to House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis." <https://usat.ly/2rjOi5E> ***Richmond is a good friend of Scalise's, as well.***

THE SENSE OF SHOCK in the Capitol -- especially the House -- is extraordinarily palpable. The mood was tense all day, and remained uncertain at night. Several House Republicans were texting us throughout the evening, wondering about the severity of Scalise's injuries. Lawmakers are extraordinarily shaken. Forget party affiliation: Congress -- and Washington -- is a big saga with a set of predictable characters: lawmakers, aides, lobbyists, reporters. And when one gets hurt, sick, injured -- many realize it could easily be them. And a shooting like this is causing lawmakers and staff to take stock of their own safety. Countless lawmakers we spoke to throughout the day yesterday were rethinking their out-in-front, prominent roles in today's political scene.

CAPITOL HILL REPORTERS were shaken up, as well. First of all, dozens of reporters work in the Capitol every day. And unlike the White House -- which regularly dumps all over reporters and decries their work product as phony -- lawmakers on the Hill are generally cordial with journalists in the Capitol and respect the job we do. We spend years covering lawmakers up close and oftentimes develop an easy rapport with people like Scalise -- savvy pols who successfully make their way up the leadership ladder. Scalise shows up at off-the-record happy hours for reporters at the annual Republican retreat. His office, like others, throws cocktail receptions to get to become better acquainted with Capitol Hill reporters. That doesn't mean the relationship isn't adversarial at times -- it most definitely is. It means building a personal relationship -- getting to know each other as human beings -- is important to both sides. We know Scalise, Paul Ryan, Kevin McCarthy, Nancy Pelosi and Steny Hoyer as politicians, but most of us have had many occasions to talk to them on a personal level, as well.

--**"Photos: Following the aftermath of the congressional shooting" -- 43 pix**
<http://politi.co/2sdsCd0>

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP is getting bipartisan plaudits so far for his strong speech Wednesday, and his visit to Scalise family in the hospital Wednesday night.

HAPPENING TODAY -- Trump is giving a speech and signing an executive order on apprenticeships. Vice President Mike Pence will be in Miami to give the keynote address at the Conference on Prosperity and Security, a gathering focused on Central American political and security issues.

THE HOUSE is out of session after 4 p.m. today. The Congressional Baseball Game is on. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and first pitch is set for 7:05 p.m. at Nationals Park. **More info and tickets here** <http://atmlb.com/2sCV4aM>

--"**The Congressional Baseball Game: A History in Pictures:** How the most bipartisan event in Washington has changed over time" -- **10 pix** <http://politi.co/2rucdng>

THE POLITICS -- "**Democrats wary of reviving gun debate too soon,**" by Seung Min Kim, Burgess Everett and Heather Caygle: "One year ago, Sen. Chris Murphy sprang into action almost immediately after a gun massacre at an Orlando nightclub - accusing Congress of an 'unconscionable deafening silence' and launching a 15-hour filibuster on the Senate floor. But the gun-control advocate who once argued that lawmakers should put forward 'legislative action within an hour of a shooting' was more circumspect on Wednesday after a shooting at a congressional baseball practice in the suburbs of Washington. One tragic incident, he acknowledged, won't move the needle - even one that affected one of their own, House Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.). ...

"[T]he tone among even the most ardent proponents of stricter gun laws was dramatically different. In multiple interviews, several Democratic lawmakers urged that no, today was not the day to revive the dormant gun control debate. It was too soon, it hit too close to home - and lawmakers simply didn't want to stand accused of politicizing a shooting that injured a colleague and friend." <http://politi.co/2t50qZx>

-- **JONATHAN MARTIN** on A18 of the NYT: "**Their Own Targeted, G.O.P. Lawmakers Want Looser Gun Laws, Not Stricter Ones.**" <http://nyti.ms/2s3RtBh>

ON THE HOUSE FLOOR TODAY -- HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER KEVIN MCCARTHY will "offer a resolution to commend the heroic actions of Capitol Police and other first responders, and recognize everyone affected by this tragic incident."

***** **A message from POET - one of the world's largest ethanol producers:** Led by scientists and engineers, POET operates 30 biofuel facilities & America's first cellulosic biofuel plant. We produce a cleaner fuel for millions of drivers, every day. We're POET and we're driving innovation, from the ground up. Learn more [here](#). *****

BEHIND THE SCENES -- FROM KYLE CHENEY, our incredibly versatile House reporter who spent the day in Alexandria reporting on the shooting: "In the course of reporting from Alexandria, I had two eye-opening encounters with witnesses that really

gnawed at me during such a harrowing moment. I arrived at the ballpark less than an hour after the shooting and overheard one witness - a man possibly in his mid-20s -- excitedly describing the incident in vivid detail over the phone. It was still a murky situation at that point, so as soon as he hung up, I asked him if he could repeat to me what he had seen.

"The man immediately tensed up and told me that there was no way he'd talk to the media because he can't stand the press and he thinks we're all complicit in leaking (of what, I'm not sure). I told him I personally hadn't 'leaked' anything but in fact knew and reported on some of the people on the field that morning - and that his information might help provide some clarity at a critical moment. He still refused. A short while later, while holed up in a coffee shop across from the field, I chatted with a young woman who also witnessed the aftermath. She said she took comfort when she found out the assailant had targeted members of Congress - not because she wished them any harm but because it would've been more unnerving, she said, had the violence been random. Both conversations were revealing about some of the sad realities we now live with.

"It's only fair if I also mention that these encounters were exceptions on a day of many kindnesses. Most witnesses were forthcoming with as much detail as they could muster, and I watched as random passersby delivered Gatorade, iced tea and even a bag full of Chick-fil-A to police on the scene. And the police then shared the spoils with journalists, pedestrians and others baking in the Alexandria sun."

WAPO SCOOP -- "Special counsel is investigating Trump for possible obstruction of justice, officials say," by Devlin Barrett, Adam Entous, Ellen Nakashima and Sari Horowitz: "The move by special counsel Robert S. Mueller III to investigate Trump's conduct marks a major turning point in the nearly year-old FBI investigation, which until recently focused on Russian meddling during the presidential campaign and on whether there was any coordination between the Trump campaign and the Kremlin. Investigators have also been looking for any evidence of possible financial crimes among Trump associates, officials said. ...

"Five people briefed on the interview requests, speaking on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly, said that Daniel Coats, the current director of national intelligence, Mike Rogers, head of the National Security Agency, and Rogers's recently departed deputy, Richard Ledgett, agreed to be interviewed by Mueller's investigators as early as this week. The investigation has been cloaked in secrecy, and it is unclear how many others have been questioned by the FBI. ...

"The White House now refers all questions about the Russia investigation to Trump's personal attorney, Marc Kasowitz. 'The FBI leak of information regarding the president is outrageous, inexcusable and illegal,' said Mark Corallo, a spokesman for Kasowitz." <http://wapo.st/2rjkqgo>

-- WSJ's Del Quentin Wilber, Shane Harris and Paul Sonne: "The special counsel

also plans to interview Rick Ledgett, who recently retired as the deputy director of the NSA ... While Mr. Ledgett was still in office, he wrote a memo documenting a phone call that Mr. Rogers had with Mr. Trump, according to people familiar with the matter. During the call, the president questioned the veracity of the intelligence community's judgment that Russia had interfered with the election and tried to persuade Mr. Rogers to say there was no evidence of collusion between his campaign and Russian officials."

<http://on.wsj.com/2sD4vXP>

HUFFPOST and **DRUDGE** earlier this morning had pretty much the same banner - **HuffPo**: "BDAY PRESENT FOR PREZ: OBSTRUCTION INQUIRY" ... **Drudge**: "WASH POST BDAY PRESENT TO TRUMP: MUELLER PROBES OBSTRUCTION".

CAN'T STOP, WON'T STOP -- "Manafort still doing international work," by Ken Vogel: "Paul Manafort is at the center of an FBI investigation into ties between President Donald Trump's team and the Russians, but that hasn't stopped him from doing business with international figures and companies, partly by claiming continued access to Trump, according to people familiar with his dealings.

"Manafort in recent weeks has either consulted or worked with a Chinese construction billionaire looking to expand his business overseas and a telecommunications firm interested in regulatory approval from governments in Asia and the Middle East, as well as an investment fund claiming links to the Chinese government, according to documents and interviews.

"Manafort quietly consulted on a proposal under which the Chinese fund - the China Development Fund - would invest \$30 billion or more in the Puerto Rican government's bond debt and possibly the island's critical infrastructure, according to documents and interviews with four people familiar with the negotiations, including a Manafort business partner.

"One of the people, a lawyer involved in the discussions, said Manafort indicated that he could convince the Trump administration to support any resulting deal, because he's remained in contact with Trump's team, and that he played a role in helping to soften Trump's tough campaign rhetoric on China. 'He's going around telling people that he's still talking to the president and -- even more than that -- that he is helping to shape Trump's foreign policy,' said the lawyer involved in the discussions."

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

TARA PALMERI AND KEN VOGEL: "Trump huddled with donors on day of Comey testimony": "On the same day last week that fired FBI Director James Comey delivered his damaging Senate testimony, President Donald Trump's team summoned about a dozen top donors to the White House to rally support for Trump's agenda. The donors -- including Ken Griffin, Doug DeVos, Tom Hicks, Jr., Bekah Mercer, Todd Ricketts, Tom Saunders, Paul Singer and Dick Uihlein -- gathered in the Roosevelt Room on June 8 for a briefing from Trump's legislative director Marc Short, according to a senior administration official and other people familiar with the event.

"These people said that Trump himself stopped by the briefing to greet the donors, while Vice President Mike Pence, White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus and presidential counselor Kellyanne Conway also spent time at the event. ... A White House spokesperson did not respond to a request for comment on the donor briefing. But a senior administration official said that topics covered during the briefing included healthcare, tax reform, the confirmation of Supreme Court justice Neil Gorsuch, pending judicial nominations, the Paris accord and the Saudi arms sale. '[It was a] 'here's what we see as the legislative calendar and how you can be helpful' type of meeting,' the official said." <http://politi.co/2rtB8HL>

COMING ATTRACTIONS -- "Jeh Johnson to testify publicly in House Russia probe," by Austin Wright: "Former Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson is set to testify publicly next Wednesday before the House Intelligence Committee as part of its investigation into Russia's election meddling, according to a congressional source. Johnson appeared earlier this week before the Senate Intelligence Committee, but the session was closed." <http://politi.co/2sCSeCE>

IMPORTANT READ -- MEGYN KELLY SPEAKS -- NYT'S JIM RUTENBERG: "Megyn Kelly, Alex Jones and a Fine Line Between News and Promotion": "Where's the line between covering a scoundrel as a news figure and giving him a promotional platform? The question has consumed Megyn Kelly this week, after she showed a trailer Sunday night of her coming feature on NBC about Alex Jones, the conspiracy theorist who has questioned whether the Sandy Hook school massacre truly happened and asserted that Sept. 11 was an inside job....

"What we do as journalists is we shine a light on those with power, those with influence, those who have become culturally relevant,' she said. 'Of course, it's upsetting to know that doing that causes any upset to the Newtown families, many of whom I know well. But I have to do my job.'... 'As journalists, we don't get to interview only the good guys - that's not journalism,' ... 'It's going to be very difficult for us to keep an eye on the more controversial figures of our time if we never talk to them.'" <https://nyti.ms/2tmhgmj>

THE JUICE ...

-- **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR. PRESIDENT:** Trump celebrated his 71st birthday with dinner at the White House before going to visit Scalise in the hospital, per a pool report. Eric, Donald Jr., Ivanka and Jared Kushner, their kids and Tiffany were all there.

-- **ISAAC DOVERE** is reporting that Lambda Legal is opening up a D.C. office and plans to raise an additional \$25 million over the next few years in an effort to ratchet up the fight against the Trump administration. Sharon McGowan, who was until January a top attorney in the Justice Department's civil rights division under President Barack Obama, is running the office. <http://politi.co/2sdDcRd>

-- **SPOTTED:** Chris Ruddy, Rep. Peter King (R-N.Y.) and Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) having an animated conversation in the lobby of Trump Hotel on Tuesday night.

-- **SENATE LEADERSHIP FUND** reported dropping \$443,104 to boost Sen. Luther Strange's (R-Ala.) candidacy. ... The **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** reported \$153,491 in spending on behalf of Karen Handel in Georgia.

Playbook Reads

PHOTO DU JOUR: President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump talk with Dr. Ira Y. Rabin after visiting MedStar Washington Hospital Center in Washington on June 14 where House Majority Whip Steve Scalise was taken after being shot in Alexandria, Va., during a Congressional baseball practice. | Pablo Martinez Monsivais/AP Photo

THE ALLEGED SHOOTER -- "James Hodgkinson's long descent into rage: 'Nobody really knew anything about him,'" by Lorraine Woellert, Josh Meyer and Alan Greenblatt: "James T. Hodgkinson lived a seemingly comfortable existence back home. He had a wife, friends and a pool where he hosted parties. How and why his life ended on a blood-soaked field halfway across the nation remains largely a mystery to investigators trying to piece together his life. Anger, plain and simple, seemed to be one driver. A man prone to aggressive outbursts, Hodgkinson had grown increasingly angry at the political order in recent years, lashing out online against President Donald Trump and other Republicans. ...

"Hodgkinson was no stranger to law enforcement. He had a lengthy arrest record and seemed prone to violent fits. Most recently, he had been warned about shooting a high-powered gun in the vicinity of his neighbors' houses. ... In April 2006, he was arrested on firearms and battery charges after he allegedly punched his girlfriend in the face and pulled a 12-gauge shotgun on a witness, Joel Fernandez, who had attempted to intervene." <http://politi.co/2s4g6Ot>

THE BIG PICTURE -- "How an Annual Ballgame Has Kept Congress Civil," by Ben Strauss for Politico Magazine: "What might seem like just a bunch of middle-aged men reliving their high school glory, has become in recent years a meaningful tribute to the painfully nostalgic notion of old-fashioned bipartisanship in an increasingly divided nation. And so while one baseball team -- this one made up of Republican Congressmen and Senators -- covered behind fences and trees to save their lives, their ostensible opponents -- a group of Democratic lawmakers -- gathered in a dugout 10 miles away in Northeast Washington. They stood arm in arm, and prayed for their colleagues." <http://politi.co/2sviQpp>

-- **"Obama reaches out to Sen. Flake after shooting,"** by Elana Schor: "Former President Barack Obama reached out to Sen. Jeff Flake Wednesday morning in the

wake of the shooting at the GOP's congressional baseball game practice to extend his 'best wishes and prayers' for the victims, the Arizona Republican said."

<http://politi.co/2t4QeQM>

***** **A message from POET - one of the world's largest ethanol producers:** Led by scientists and engineers, POET is a biofuels company built from innovation. POET operates 30 biofuel facilities across eight states & America's first cellulosic biofuel plant. Across the country, we support 40,000 renewable energy jobs producing a cleaner fuel for millions of drivers, every day. Inside the Beltway, we advocate for pro-biofuel policies to remove barriers to consumer fuel choices with a Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) fix, support a strong Renewable Fuel Standard, and open new markets for U.S. exports and trade. We are securing a cleaner future for all of us. We are POET and we're driving innovation, from the ground up. Learn more [here](#). *****

GARRETT GRAFF in POLITICO Magazine, "How Congress Failed to Plan for Doomsday: What would happen if some crazed gunman or terrorist massacred Congress? We don't really know-and that's bad news for our democracy": "One idea floated was that each member of Congress should designate his or her own list of successors in case of incapacitation-with those successors serving until either the next regular election or the member regained the ability to hold office. Several states, including Delaware and Texas, had passed similar bills during the 1950s and 1960s at the height of the Cold War to reconstitute their state legislatures following a nuclear attack. Two former House speakers, Thomas Foley and Newt Gingrich, endorsed that 'expeditious path' to solving the congressional continuity issue and preserving the House's directly elected 'legitimacy.'" <http://politi.co/2rjrgfy>

FOR YOUR RADAR -- "Turkish Guards Will Be Charged in Embassy Protest, Officials Say," by NYT's Nick Fandos: "Law enforcement officials plan to announce charges Thursday against a dozen members of the Turkish president's security detail for their involvement in a brutal attack on protesters outside the Turkish ambassador's residence here last month, two American officials said on Wednesday. ... The police planned to announce the charges at a news conference on Thursday morning." <http://nyti.ms/2s3N6GE>

NOT THE ONION -- "Rodman gives Kim the gift of Trump: 'The Art of the Deal,'" by AP's Eric Talmadge in Pyongyang: "Dennis Rodman has delivered a message from President Donald Trump to North Korea -- sort of. On Thursday, the former NBA player gave the country's sports minister a copy of Trump's book 'The Art of the Deal,' a present intended for North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. It wasn't signed by Trump, who was Rodman's boss for two seasons of the 'Celebrity Apprentice' reality TV show. Rodman has said his visit has nothing to do with the White House." <http://apne.ws/2rz07EJ>

MEDIAWATCH -- GABE SHERMAN in NYMag, "Fox News Is Dropping Its 'Fair & Balanced' Slogan": "As Fox News moves further into the post-Roger Ailes era, the network is shedding one of its most iconic elements. According to network executives,

Fox News has abandoned the marketing slogan 'Fair & Balanced.' ... [One] executive explained that the tagline was 'too closely associated with Roger.' Fox executives have been instructed by management to market the network by its other tagline: 'Most Watched. Most Trusted.' It is hard to overstate the significance of what shedding 'Fair & Balanced' means for Fox News. (It would be like the New York Times giving up 'All the News That's Fit to Print.')

Ailes invented the slogan when he launched the network in 1996, and over the years it became a quasi-religious doctrine among Fox's anchors and viewers. ... In the annals of modern advertising, 'Fair & Balanced' will be considered a classic." <http://nym.ag/2sdxEWZ>

Playbookers

SPOTTED last night at the Third Annual Sandy Hook Promise Gala at the Mellon Auditorium: The three co-chairs: Sen. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) and Rep. Elizabeth Esty (D-Conn.). Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) and Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine), who were honored for the Toomey-Manchin bill and No Fly No Buy, respectively. Emcees were Sandy Hook parents Mark Barden and Nicole Hockley, who replaced Megyn Kelly after she interviewed Alex Jones, the media figure who alleges the massacre is a hoax. **ALSO SPOTTED:** Sen. Pat Toomey (R-Pa.), House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-Md.), Rep. Jim Himes (D-Conn.), Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas), Rachel Kelly, Joe Dunn, David Bonine, Cynthia Pullom, Ian Rayder, Lou Constantino, Francis Creighton, Cindy Brown, Bruce Heiman, Liz Allen and Nasim Fussell.

OUT AND ABOUT -- On the near 45th anniversary of the Watergate break-in (June 17, 1972), Steve Clemons held a discussion last night at the Watergate Hotel titled "Watergate Then and Now," where Steve interviewed Scott Stossel, Jennifer Rubin, McKay Coppins and Thomas Mallon. **SPOTTED** : Rakel and Jacques Cohen, Jeff David, Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.), Kevin Baron, Sally Quinn, Quinn Bradley, Harris Wofford, Matthew Charlton, Yael Luttwak, James Barbour, Kathy Gilsinan, Will Hiley, Robb Harleston, Ron Christie, Neil Munro, Jed Shein, Annie Groer, David and Danielle Frum, Tomica Tillemann, Indira Lakshmanan, Allen Abel, Kevin Chaffee, Grover Norquist, Michael Mael, Gary Silversmith, U.K. Ambassador Kim Darroch, Armanda Downes, Max Neuberger.

OUT AND ABOUT IN NYC -- **The Hudson Institute** Wednesday night hosted its spring reception in New York at the home of Joe and Marlene Ricketts. UN Ambassador Nikki Haley sat down with Hudson CEO Ken Weinstein for an off-the-record chat about her role as U.S. Ambassador to the UN. Haley said she told Trump "I'm not going to be a talking head or a wallflower" when he offered her the job. On Jim Mattis, she said "I think he's the coolest guy I've ever met ... other than (her husband) Michael."

SPOTTED: Joe and Marlene Ricketts, Todd Ricketts, Silvie Legere, Paul Singer, BofA's Jeffrey Peek, Annie Dickerson, Angela Meyers, Ed Cox, Deputy UN Ambassador Jon Lerner, Hudsonians Ken Weinstein, John Walters, Scooter Libby, Walter Russell Mead,

Chris DeMuth

SPOTTED at a Greenberg, Quinlan, Rosner party last night for new COO Lindsey Reynolds (longtime COO of the DNC) and new partners Elizabeth Sena and Kristi Lowe: Anna Greenberg, John Hagner, Al Quinlan, Lauren Dillon, Jeremy Rosner, Dan Sena, Earl Fowlkes, Jeremy Baker, and Maureen Garde.

SPOTTED Tuesday night aboard the super yacht of philanthropists John Evans and Steve Wozencraft for New America's Bretton Woods II at Sea event where attendees discussed how to address global risks through strategic investments in social impact and development: Canada's UN Ambassador and Canadian PM Justin Trudeau's confidant Marc-Andre Blanchard, top World Bank official Aly Rahim, Bretton Woods II director Tomicah Tillemann, Facebook's Craig Mullaney, Sovereign Investor Institute chairman Scott Kalb, Edelman's Peter Segall, Georgetown Dean Joel Hellman, and representatives from the White House, State Department and USAID.

TRANSITIONS -- LIZ JOHNSON has joined U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement as director of its office of public affairs, where she will direct the agency's global communications efforts. She was previously the communications director for former Sen. Kelly Ayotte (R-N.H.) and most recently served as spokeswoman for Supreme Court nominee Neil Gorsuch during the Senate confirmation process. ... **Jessica Jennings**, formerly with the Dem Convention and HFA, is the new director of communications at the University of Maryland. She's been working with Indivisible since their launch post-election and was previously press secretary at the British Embassy in Washington.

... **Briannon Gillis** has recently joined Emergent BioSolutions as PAC manager on the government affairs team. Previously she was a PAC fundraiser for Sens. Chuck Schumer, Dianne Feinstein, and Mark Udall, Reps. Paul Tonko, Matt Cartwright, Bonnie Watson-Coleman, Tom Suozzi, and Louise Slaughter, as well as finance director for Kathleen Matthews. ... **Henry Darwin** has been hired to serve as chief of operations for the EPA. He previously was COO for the Doug Ducey administration since August 2015. ... **Julie Kearney**, VP of regulatory affairs for the Consumer Technology Association, was picked yesterday as the new president of the Federal Communications Bar Association.

--"**Emily's List taps a Washington outsider as executive director**," by WaPo's Philip Rucker: "Emily Cain, who helped lead fellow Democrats to the majority in the Maine House of Representatives in 2012, has been tapped to try to do the same for Democrats nationally at the helm of Emily's List, which works to elect pro-choice Democratic women to offices ranging from city councils to the presidency." <http://wapo.st/2t4xW2b>

WELCOME TO THE WORLD -- Becca Ginsberg Rutkoff, head of D.C. and regional communications for Google (and a birthday girl today), and **Robby Rutkoff**, VP for corporate social responsibility at Guggenheim Partners, welcomed their first child, Henry Langer Rutkoff late Monday night. Henry, Mom and Dad are home from the hospital and

eating like champs. **Pics** <http://bit.ly/2sCOiSI> ... <http://bit.ly/2ryHOPX>

BIRTHDAY OF THE DAY: Dana Bash, CNN's chief political correspondent. How she's celebrating: "My birthday falls on my son's last day of kindergarten this year. It's a half day, which means I get to spend most of it with him. What could be better?" **Read her Playbook Plus Q&A:** <http://politi.co/2s4msxq>

BIRTHDAYS: Adam Jentleson, former deputy chief of staff for Harry Reid now senior strategic advisor at CAP Action ... Dan Schwerin (hat tip: brother Josh) ... Sarah Hurwitz (h/t Michael Kikukawa) ... Becca Ginsberg Rutkoff, Google comms. maven ... Ryan Chittum, reporter for International Consortium of Investigative Journalists ... Fox News star Marie Harf, the pride of Granville, Ohio and former senior advisor for strategic comms. to Secretary Kerry (h/t Steve Clemons) ... Alyssa Farah, comms director and senior adviser for the House Freedom Caucus, is 28 (but actually ageless) ... AP's Evan Vucci ... Johnny Hallyday ... former House Majority Whip Tony Coelho, now an advocate for the disabled, is 75 ... ABC News digital journalist Ali Rogin is 3-0 ... Politico's Brian Faler ... Reps. Adam Smith and Rick Larson (D-Wash.) are both 52 ... Rep. Jim Bridenstine (R-Okla.) is 42 ... NYT's Clifford Levy is 5-0 ...

... **MSNBC producer William Rabbe** ... Joseph Brazauskas, staff director for the subcommittee on environment for the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, is 35, celebrating by playing the Pizza Party game and Mall Madness over happy hour on Friday night with friends (h/t Kristina Baum) ... former Rep. Todd Tiahrt (R-Kans.) is 66 ... former Rep. Tony Coelho (D-Calif.) is 75 ... Jamie Greenheck, global managing director of food, beverage and ag at FleishmanHillard ... Susan Toffler, a CNN alum ... former Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell is 63 ... Tim Wilson is 36 ... Sara Libby ... Abigail Wuest ... Jana Plat ... David Dreyer ... Deborah Lukovich ... Sue Grady (h/ts Teresa Vilmain) ... former Va. Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling is 6-0 ... Morgan Feist ... Steven Stafford ... Karen Townsend ... Nick Luna ... Scott Monaghan is 6-0 ... Jim Belushi is 62 ... actress Helen Hunt is 54 ... Courteney Cox is 53 ... Ice Cube is 48 ... Neil Patrick Harris is 44 (h/ts AP)

***** **A message from POET - one of the world's largest ethanol producers:** Led by scientists and engineers, POET is a biofuels company built from innovation. POET operates 30 biofuel facilities across eight states & America's first cellulosic biofuel plant. Across the country, we support 40,000 renewable energy jobs producing a cleaner fuel for millions of drivers, every day. Inside the Beltway, we advocate for pro-biofuel policies to remove barriers to consumer fuel choices with a Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) fix, support a strong Renewable Fuel Standard, and open new markets for U.S. exports and trade. We are securing a cleaner future for all of us. We are POET and we're driving innovation, from the ground up. Learn more [here](#). *****

SUBSCRIBE to the Playbook family: **POLITICO Playbook** <http://politi.co/1M75UbX> ... **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> ... **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/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.
