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**From:** Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman  
**Sent:** Fri 8/11/2017 10:34:20 AM  
**Subject:** POLITICO Playbook, presented by the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD):  
SCOOP: Freedom Caucus to file petition TODAY to bring up clean Obamacare repeal -- RUCKER on Trump, DAWSEY and HULSE on Trump/McConnell -- PLAYBOOK ON THE ROAD winners

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Today's POLITICO Playbook presented by the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD)  
08/11/2017 06:30 AM EDT

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## Driving the Day

**Happy Friday! FIRST IN PLAYBOOK -- SOMETHING PRESIDENT TRUMP WILL LIKE.** The conservative House Freedom Caucus will file a petition today to try to force Speaker Paul Ryan to bring up a so-called "clean Obamacare repeal" bill. The legislation passed the House and Senate in the past -- it repeals Obamacare after a two-year transition period. (It failed the Senate this year.) If the discharge petition -- which will get filed during today's pro-forma session -- gets 218 signatures, it will force a floor vote. The Freedom Caucus and conservative outside groups will try to ramp up lots of pressure to force people to sign on. Expect Trump -- itchy for victory, and frustrated with Republican leaders on health care -- to weigh in. He's close with some members of the Freedom Caucus.

**US WEEKLY: SPICER WANTS ON SNL --** "An insider reveals in the new issue of Us Weekly that the New York-born political aide 'is angling' to appear on Saturday Night Live. 'He is asking people about getting on - it was his idea!' ... But now he's ready to get in on the joke. 'He asked someone he knows that is close to a cast member to help him,' explains the insider. 'Yes, he criticized SNL before, but he's changed his tune. He wants to make a cameo!'" <http://usm.ag/2uMOMCI>

### WHAT PRESIDENT TRUMP SAID YESTERDAY ...

**-- HERE'S WHEN WE MAY ASK HIM IF MCCONNELL SHOULD STEP DOWN:** "If he doesn't get repeal and replace done, if he doesn't get taxes done -- meaning cuts and reform -- and if he doesn't get a very easy one to get done, infrastructure -- if he doesn't get them done, then you can ask me that question." ***Note from us: None of this is easy. Especially not with the artificial deadlines the administration has put on***

*him.*

**-- OPIOID CRISIS IS A NATIONAL EMERGENCY:** "It is a serious problem, the likes of which we have never had. You know, when I was growing up they had the LSD and they had certain generations of drugs. There's never been anything like what's happened to this country over the last four or five years."

**-- HE'S CLOSE TO A DECISION ON TROOP LEVELS IN AFGHANISTAN:** "It's a very big decision for me. I took over a mess, and we're going to make it a lot less messy. But that has been a place -- 17 years -- our longest war, I read in one of your columns. And, frankly, it's going to be a decision that's going to be made very soon."

**-- BANNING TRANSGENDER SOLDIERS WAS A "FAVOR" TO THE PENTAGON:** "As you know, it's been a very complicated issue for the military. It's been a very confusing issue for the military. And I think I'm doing the military a great favor."

**-- THANK YOU TO PUTIN FOR EXPELLING U.S. DIPLOMATS:** "I want to thank him because we're trying to cut down on payroll. And as far as I'm concerned, I'm very thankful that he let go of a large number of people because now we have a smaller payroll. There's no real reason for them to go back." ***Note: Putin didn't fire them from the State Department. He just expelled them from Russia. We imagine the payroll hasn't really changed.***

**JOHN HEFFERN**, principal deputy assistant secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs (**@AmbHeffern**): "The State and inter-agency community is thinking about our colleagues in Moscow and Consulates as they prepare for difficult weeks ahead."

**NAHAL TOOSI** and **MADELINE CONWAY:** "A senior U.S. diplomat serving overseas called Trump's remarks 'outrageous' and said it could lead more State Department staffers to head for the exits. 'This is so incredibly demoralizing and disrespectful to people serving their country in harm's way,' the diplomat said. ... 'THANK Putin?' another bewildered State Department official responded. 'I don't have words that are printable to describe my reaction.'" <http://politi.co/2vVnVbl>

**-- TRUMP'S THINKING ON INFRASTRUCTURE:** "I'm not sure that we will bring [Democrats] in. I mean, maybe we'll bring them in, maybe not. I think the infrastructure bill will be bipartisan. In fact, frankly, it may have more support from the Democrats. I want a very strong infrastructure bill."

**FASCINATING -- NOT ONE QUESTION** on two major issues Trump will have to confront in the next two months: the looming government shutdown and lifting the nation's borrowing cap.

**-- NYT rundown of Trump's back-and-forth with the press** <http://nyti.ms/2vsAAQV> ... **Video of his whole 20-minute presser with the pool** <http://bit.ly/2vLcymI> ... **His other**

**7-min. press availability yesterday** <http://bit.ly/2uw3n5R>

**PHIL RUCKER in Bedminster: "When you put this guy in a cage and think you're controlling him, things like this happen":** "Midway through President Trump's second media availability in a single afternoon here Thursday, his press secretary, Sarah Huckabee Sanders, held up a sign signaling to the boss that it was time to drop the curtain on the show. 'One more question,' it read. The president either did not see her plea or opted to disregard it, because he kept answering questions - for 20 minutes straight, after having already fielded them for seven minutes in the earlier session. This was Trump in his element: At his luxurious private golf club here in Bedminster, the cameras trained on him, his vice president and national security advisers looking on admiringly, he parried queries - at times even gleefully - like a tennis player.

**"Engaging with people -- journalists, advisers, friends and even foes -- is Trump's lifeblood.** His Oval Office has felt like a busy train station, with people breezing in and out to share a juicy tidbit or to solicit the president's opinion on a pressing issue or to chew over something in the news. He likes to watch cable television news shows with other people, sometimes only through the phone. ... 'This is what General Kelly will learn very quickly, which is when you put this guy in a cage and think you're controlling him, things like this happen,' said one Trump confidant, who requested anonymity to speak candidly. ... Kellyanne Conway, counselor to the president, said Trump in recent days has been restless to share his thoughts on what she termed 'one of the juiciest, newsiest periods of his presidency.'" <http://wapo.st/2vp6mzM>

**ATTN. TRUMP:** Mattis gets a tour of Amazon HQ with Jeff Bezos.  
<http://dailym.ai/2uLVkkP>

**CARL HULSE on the TRUMP/MCCONNELL feud:** "Mr. McConnell's original point was that the president was still learning how things work in Washington. By publicly berating the man who should be his most indispensable ally on Capitol Hill, Mr. Trump may have affirmed Mr. McConnell's point." <http://nyti.ms/2wOr0au>

**JOSH DAWSEY, "Behind the Trump-McConnell feud:** The president ratcheted up his feud with the Senate majority leader, signaling again that he's willing to sacrifice the appearance of unity to get what he wants": "Increasingly, these people say, the president is prepared to cast himself as an outsider - and Congress as an 'insider' Washington institution. He has reminded advisers his poll numbers are higher than Congress' and that he ran against Washington -- and wants bills to sign -- and will blast his own party if he doesn't get them. ... McConnell's advisers have been amazed at the president's unwillingness to sell the health care bill publicly, his lack of policy knowledge, his seemingly unending appetite for chaos and his inability to control warring factions of aides, who complicate delicate negotiations by saying different things to different people.

**"The two men have talked from time to time** on the phone, but the conversations have often been brief, and Trump often disregards McConnell's advice. McConnell has

told people after meeting with Trump in the White House that it is difficult to keep the president on topic and that he wanders around verbally in a way that McConnell -- a man who does not see the purpose in unnecessary words -- doesn't understand."

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

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD)** : If you know only one fact about rising drug costs, know this one: drug makers set prices for prescription drugs. To help manage nearly double-digit price increases, employers, unions and government programs use PBMs to negotiate lower net prices to help curb costs for employers and patients. Learn more at [affordableprescriptiondrugs.org](http://affordableprescriptiondrugs.org) \*\*\*\*\*

**PACIFIC DAILY NEWS** (Guam newspaper) -- **"Don't look at the flash or fireball" -- Guam Homeland Security releases fact sheet in light of North Korea threats**: "The advice includes tips such as: 'Do not look at the flash or fireball -- It can blind you' and 'Take cover behind anything that might offer protection.'

**"Lie flat on the ground and cover your head.** If the explosion is some distance away, it could take 30 seconds or more for the blast wave to hit,' the sheet states. Homeland Security says residents should prepare an emergency supply kit and a family emergency plan. During an imminent missile threat, authorities recommend taking cover as quickly as possible under a concrete structure or below ground after an attack warning is issued. People should also avoid going outside for at least 24 hours to avoid any possible radioactive material, unless otherwise told by authorities."

<http://bit.ly/2hQCqrS> ... **The fact sheet** <http://bit.ly/2vVm1Zb>

**HILL PROBES -- "Trump's longtime secretary scrutinized by Russia investigators,"** by ABC's Benjamin Siegel: "Congressional investigators want to question President Donald Trump's longtime personal secretary as part of their ongoing probe into a controversial meeting between Trump campaign officials and a Russian lawyer promising dirt on Hillary Clinton, ABC News has learned.

**"Rhona Graff, a senior vice president at the Trump Organization** who has worked at Trump Tower for nearly 30 years, has acted as a gatekeeper to Trump. She remains a point of contact for the sprawling universe of Trump associates, politicians, reporters and others seeking Trump's time and attention, even now that he's in the White House."

<http://abcn.ws/2vpKtAB>

**SCOOP -- "Manafort switching legal team as feds crank up heat on him,"** by Josh Dawsey: "Former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort is changing his attorneys as a federal investigation heats up into his financial transactions, according to people familiar with the matter. Manafort's case will now be handled by Miller and Chevalier, a boutique firm in Washington that specializes in complicated financial crimes among other issues, these people said. A spokesman confirmed the change. ... Kevin Downing, a former senior Department of Justice official known for his work representing clients and firms facing complex financial investigations, will be working on the case. ... Manafort is cutting ties with WilmerHale, the firm that has represented him in the matter

so far. His former lawyer there, Reg Brown, led the congressional investigations practice." <http://politi.co/2uMhIQa>

**BOOMERANG -- "Breitbart's war on McMaster bites Bannon,"** by Tara Palmeri: "The attacks on McMaster have put Bannon in an especially awkward position with his new boss, retired Marine general John Kelly, who has been increasingly defensive of McMaster, a longtime friend and fellow general, according to interviews with 10 administration officials and people close to the White House. McMaster, who pushed Bannon off the National Security Council principals' committee, hasn't spoken to Bannon in weeks, one senior administration official said." <http://politi.co/2uuRb9q>

**DEPARTURE LOUNGE -- "Four Top Cybersecurity Officials Are Leaving U.S. Government,"** by Kevin Collier in his BuzzFeed debut: "Four senior cybersecurity officials are stepping down from their U.S. government positions, raising concerns that an exodus of top leaders may make the federal government more vulnerable to hacking. Two of those resigning - Sean Kelley, the chief information security officer for the Environmental Protection Agency, and Richard Staropoli, the chief information officer for the Department of Homeland Security - had been in their jobs for just a few months. The other two, Rob Foster, the Navy's chief information officer, and Dave DeVries, the director of information security and privacy at the Office of Personnel Management, are departing agencies for which computer security is a top priority." <http://bzfd.it/2voYHBu>

**LATE-NIGHT BEST - "Weekend Update: Anthony Scaramucci FaceTimes the Show (Bill Hader)" -- 3-min. video** <http://bit.ly/2uMqfgL>

**TRUMP'S FRIDAY -- THE PRESIDENT** is participating in a workforce and apprenticeship discussion at his country club in New Jersey and he will meet with U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley.

## Playbook Reads

**PHOTO DU JOUR:** President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence speak with reporters before a security briefing at Trump National Golf Club in Bedminster, N.J., on Aug. 10. | Evan Vucci/AP Photo

**HOT DOC -- "Here's the Memo That Blew Up the NSC:** Fired White House staffer argued 'deep state' attacked Trump administration because the president represents a threat to cultural Marxist memes, globalists, and bankers," by Foreign Policy's Jana Winter and Elias Groll: "The author of the memo, Rich Higgins, who was in the strategic planning office at the NSC, was among those recently pushed out. ... In the meantime, however, the memo had been working its way through the Trump White House. Among those who received the memo, according to two sources, was Donald Trump Jr. ... [who] gave the memo to his father, who gushed over it, according to sources. In a

comedy of errors, Trump later learned from Sean Hannity, the Fox News host and close friend of the president, that the memo's author had been fired. Trump was 'furious,' the senior administration official said. 'He is still furious.'" <http://atfp.co/2uuM6xO>

**A BREAK IN PRECEDENT -- SEUNG MIN KIM: "White House vs. Democrats in tense standoff over judge picks":** "Trump's judicial nominees are ignoring key Senate Democrats as they vie for lifetime appointments to the bench -- a break from longstanding practice that diminishes the minority's power to provide a check against ideologically extreme judges. The brewing tension between the White House and the Senate over filling an unusually high number of judicial vacancies is impeding the pace at which Trump installs lifetime appointees to the federal bench -- so far one of the president's few major victories, with his legislative agenda largely stymied in Congress." <http://politi.co/2vL6Hhe>

**ANOTHER VIEW -- "Rep. Rohrabacher wades into Google's firing of controversial memo's author,"** by L.A. Times' Sarah D. Wire: "Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Costa Mesa) took Google to task Thursday for firing a male employee, James Demore, who circulated a memo within the company arguing women are biologically incapable of doing a man's job in Silicon Valley.

**"The 3,000-word memo that's caused a hubbub** among one of California's more prominent industries and across the country contends men fundamentally have a higher drive for status than women and says the company has a bias toward liberal thought over conservative thought. It states that the company's diversity initiatives should be replaced with 'ideological diversity' policies. Rohrabacher joined the conversation, saying on Twitter he's troubled by the firing. He tweeted: 'You shouldn't lose your job for telling the truth!' and 'The mistreatment of conservatives and libertarians by tech monopolies is a civil rights issue.'" <http://lat.ms/2wOtpSN>

**IVANKA INC. -- "Ivanka Trump Brand to Open NY Store in Second Stab at Retail,"** by Bloomberg's Lindsey Rupp and Taylor Cromwell: "The first daughter's brand will open a store in Trump Tower on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue, according to signage in the building. The location is slated to debut later this year, giving the tourists who throng to the site a chance to buy Ivanka Trump merchandise. It's unclear what products will be sold at the store or when exactly it will open: A sign promised a fall 2017 debut, but representatives for the brand declined to give specifics. The shop would represent Ivanka Trump's second foray into branded stores. She previously opened a fine jewelry boutique on the Upper East Side of Manhattan in 2007, before moving to the SoHo neighborhood in 2011. That location shut down in 2015." <https://bloom.bg/2uMdAu9>

**--"Kushner fined for late financial report,"** by McClatchy's Anita Kumar and Ben Wieder: "Jared Kushner, who has spent months divesting pieces of his vast business empire to serve in the White House, was slapped with a fine by the Office of Government Ethics for late reporting of a financial transaction, according to a newly released document. Another 17 White House staffers ... filed their required personal financial disclosure statements late, according to data compiled by American Bridge

21st Century ... Reince Priebus ... was four days late. Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders was 23 days late. And Omarosa Manigault ... received a 32-day extension but still missed her deadline by eight days. ... Under federal law, when those who are required to file financial disclosure statements are more than 30 days late doing so they must pay a fine of \$200, payable to the U.S. Treasury." <http://bit.ly/2vsrvYA>

**MARK PRESTON** talks to **GEORGE SHULTZ** -- "The wise man Trump should listen to" <http://cnn.it/2uvZhL1>

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD):** Pharmacy benefit managers negotiate the lowest net price for prescriptions on behalf of employers and other health care purchasers; however, the list price - the important starting point for those negotiations -- continues to rise, at a rate of nearly ten percent in 2016 alone. Increased competition, faster reviews of generics and biosimilars and ending anti-competitive practices can also bring down the cost of medications for patients. Learn more at [affordableprescriptiondrugs.org](http://affordableprescriptiondrugs.org) \*\*\*\*\*

**MEDIAWATCH** -- "CNN severs ties with Jeffrey Lord," by CNN's Brian Stelter: "CNN severed ties with Jeffrey Lord on Thursday, hours after he ignited controversy by tweeting the words 'Sieg Heil!' at a prominent liberal activist. 'Nazi salutes are indefensible,' a CNN spokesperson said in a statement. 'Jeffrey Lord is no longer with the network.' Lord said his tweet was misunderstood. He said he was mocking fascists, not acting like one. 'I love CNN, but I feel they are caving to bullies here,' he said in a telephone interview shortly after the network's decision was announced." <http://cnnmon.ie/2voGtQB>

**FUTURE OF NEWS -- FOR BEN SMITH -- "BuzzFeed News' Twitter Live Daily Morning Show to Debut in September,"** by Variety's Todd Spangler: "Here comes a social-media-spiked version of 'Good Morning America' for millennials: BuzzFeed News will bow its morning show -- live-streamed daily on Twitter -- on Sept. 25. The weekday show, 'AM to DM,' will run 8-9 a.m. ET on the Twitter account of @BuzzFeedNews. The program will be hosted by Saeed Jones, BuzzFeed News' executive editor of culture and BuzzFeed Books editor Isaac Fitzgerald. The show will be produced by Cindy Vanegas-Gesuale, a veteran of Fox Business Network, CNN and Huffington Post.

**"AM to DM' will follow a traditional morning-show format** , delivering the day's top stories from staff reporters providing news and commentary on politics, social issues, technology, business and entertainment. But it will have some unique twists, given the nature of the medium: The show will feature 'everyday Twitter heroes' who have captured the spotlight and focus on what people are saying on Twitter live, as it happens during the broadcast. Also planned are regular segments with guest 'newsmakers and notables' discussing current trends, personalities -- and the best jokes from the twittersphere." <http://bit.ly/2wOqTMm>

**Playbookers**

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**PLAYBOOK ON THE ROAD** -- Thanks to everyone who sent us photos of themselves reading Playbook during your travels this month! **Robb Watters**: "Reading it in Simi Greece!" **Pic** <http://politi.co/2vLby1X> ... **Steve Clemons** of The Atlantic: "Reading Politico Playbook on the aboriginal art floor of the Alice Springs, Australia airport! Alice Springs, of course, is the destination city made famous by the acclaimed film, 'Priscilla: Queen of the Desert'" <http://politi.co/2uwl05y> ... **Robert Allbritton**: "From your Publisher - 6 time zones west of you ... on The Big Island. Nice and relaxing" <http://politi.co/2vV8Ck1> ... **Ben Chang**: "Greetings from Montana! Was able to pull up Playbook at this spot in Glacier National Park..." <http://politi.co/2uuAxXJ> ... **Shannon Gacke and Ben Mordechai**: "Habari from Zanzibar, Tanzania! We've made sure to read Playbook every time we've had wifi for our past two months in Tanzania!" <http://politi.co/2vsRS0r>

-- *See the whole slideshow with the rest of the entries, including Brian O. Walsh in Venice and other readers in Germany, Vietnam, Ballycastle, Northern Ireland, Paradise Valley, Ariz., on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, Island Lake near Duluth, Minn., and Pinconning, Michigan* <http://politi.co/2vLby1X>

--**REMINDER: THE GRAND PRIZE**: Participating Playbookers will automatically be entered into a drawing to win a signed cartoon by POLITICO's Pulitzer winning cartoonist Matt Wuerker. Email photos to Daniel at [daniel@politico.com](mailto:daniel@politico.com). Or, Tweet them to [@playbookplus](https://twitter.com/playbookplus) with the hashtag #PlaybookLoyal. We'll feature the best five pictures every Friday in August.

**SPOTTED** : Andy Surabian, a deputy to Steve Bannon; Steven Cheung, a former UFC executive and current White House communications aide; and Jack Hunter, editor of Rare.us at the DC Improv yesterday with legendary WWE announcer Jim Ross.

**SUNDAY SO FAR -- ABC's "This Week"**: Martha Raddatz reports live from the frontlines of the nuclear threat in Seoul ... Anthony Scaramucci. Panel: Alex Castellanos, Matthew Dowd, and Cokie Roberts.

-- **CNN's "State of the Union"**: James Clapper. Panel: Nina Turner ... Michael Caputo ... Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.) ... Bill Kristol

-- **NBC's "Meet the Press"**: Kara Swisher. Panel: Helene Cooper, Rich Lowry, Joy Reid, Amy Walter

-- **CBS' "Face the Nation"**: Leon Panetta ... San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer, Gary, Indiana Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson, Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price, and Mayor of New Orleans, Mitch Landrieu. Political panel: Molly Ball, Mike Duffy, Ed O'Keefe and Ramesh Ponnuru ... Discussion on North Korea: David Ignatius and Michael Morell

-- **"Fox News Sunday"**: Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.). Panel: Newt Gingrich, Donna

Edwards, Tom Rogan, Marie Harf

--**CNN's "Inside Politics"** with John King: Michael Shear, Margaret Talev, Karoun Demirjian, Manu Raju

**TRANSITIONS** -- Arkansas Attorney General **Leslie Rutledge** has been named chairman of the Republican Attorneys General Association. ... The Network Branded Prepaid Card Association has named **Ben Jackson** as their new COO. He most recently spent eight years at Mercator Advisory Group. ... **Anna McEntee** has left Fox News to join Rep. Virginia Foxx's (R-N.C.) office as her communications director. ... **Tom Strong-Grinsell**, formerly of the Clinton campaign, will now be assistant to Fred Hochberg, formerly the chairman and president of the Export-Import Bank.

**BIRTHWEEK (was yesterday):** Wood Foster, onetime chair of the Minnesota State Bar Association (hat tip: stepdaughter Maggie Severns, who was on time) ... Politico's Farnaz Mansouri ... Politico Europe's Jan Cienski ... **(was Tuesday):** George Paul Tzamaras, senior director of comms for the American Immigration Lawyers Association, turned 57

**BIRTHDAY OF THE DAY:** NYT opinion columnist **Charles Blow** is 47. He's celebrating "in New Orleans, in my home state of Louisiana, at the National Association of Black Journalists' annual convention." **A fun fact about Charles:** "My tiny hometown, Gibsland, La., is the place where Bonnie and Clyde were killed. Fewer than 1,000 people live there, but they have two Bonnie and Clyde 'museums' (I use that very loosely), and each year on the anniversary of killings, there is a 'festival' in the center of town, complete with a mock shootout." Read his Playbook Plus Q&A:  
<http://politi.co/2wA4fYM>

**BIRTHDAYS:** David Brooks is 56 ... David Rubenstein is 68 ... Rob O'Donnell, founder of 38 Paces and Obama WH alum ... Politico's Toby Eckert and Michael Roberts ... Bush 43 admin alum Jim Wilkinson, now chairman and CEO of TrailRunner International ... Pamela Lynne Sorensen ... Chris Berry, SVP at iHeartMedia ... CNN WH producer Liz Landers... Rep. Dan Kildee (D-Mich.) is 59 ... Rep. Billy Long (R-Mo.) is 62 (h/t Matt Brooks) ... Fred Smith, CEO and founder of FedEx, is 73 ... DCCC's Brian Krebs ... Mollyann Brodie ... Mark Chou ... Greg Michaelidis, founder and director of the Security Awareness Lab and a DHS alum (h/t Todd Breasseale) ... Ilana Drimmer, booker for "Meet the Press" (h/ts Betsy Fischer Martin and Olivia Petersen) ... Marissa Secreto, COS to Steve Case at Revolution ... Alex Siciliano, comms director for Sen. Gardner ... Meghan Dubyak, Georgetown spox and AVP for comms .... WaPo's Lyndsey Layton ... Alli Adams ...

... **CNN's Rachel Smolkin** and Waffa Munayyer ... Chad VonLuehrte, co-founder and partner at Harbinger, is 38 ... Kedrin Simms Brachman is 4-0 ... Jackie Norris ... Chris Lisi, strategic comms consultant, adjunct at GWU, former Hill staffer, celebrating with Vince and the kids (h/ts Jon Haber) ... Emily Akhtarzandi, The Atlantic's DC head of media and managing director of AtlanticLIVE, celebrating by relaxing on the north coast

beaches of Egypt (h/t Patrick Garrigan) ... Jamie Bennett is 24 ... Philip Scrannage ... Yelena Shuster ... Kimberly Scott ... Kimberly Burns ... former Sen. Tim Hutchinson (R-Ark.) is 68 ... Pete Larkin is 54 ... Jillian Gates ... Drew Trojanowski ... Drew Davidsen ... Pamitha Weerasinghe ... John Kohler ... Chris Berry ... Shelley Epstein ... Thad Huguley ... John Files ... Sam Myers Jr., senior director for partnerships and development at Huge ... Tom Miller ... Melissa Silverstein ... Albert Morales ... Connie Hutchison (h/ts Teresa Vilmain) ... Sara Ginzberg ... Kimberly Scott ... Hulk Hogan is 64 ... Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak is 67 ... actress Viola Davis is 52 (h/ts AP)

**\*\*\*\*\* A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD) :**

The high prices that drug makers set for prescription drugs can put financial strain on patients, employers, unions and others who provide health care coverage to more than 50 percent of Americans. Pharmacy benefit managers negotiate the lowest net price for prescriptions on behalf of employers, unions and government programs. But, as list prices - the starting point for those negotiations -- continue their nearly double-digit increases, the effects ripple throughout the system. The key to ensuring greater access and affordability lies in fostering greater competition. Facilitating faster reviews of generics and biosimilars, identifying off-patent drugs with little or no generic competition, and ending anti-competitive practices that keep safe, effective alternatives out of the market are also key to abating rising drug costs for patients. Learn more at [affordableprescriptiondrugs.org](http://affordableprescriptiondrugs.org) \*\*\*\*\*

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