

**COME ON ... -- "Donald Trump Talked Michael Flynn Into White House Job -- and Wants Him Back in the Administration,"** by The Daily Beast's Lachlan Markay,

Asawin Suebsaeng, Kim Dozier and Jana Winter: "Trump doesn't just hope that Flynn will beat the rap. Several sources close to Flynn and to the administration tell The

Daily Beast that Trump has expressed his hopes that a resolution of the FBI's investigation in Flynn's favor might allow Flynn to rejoin the White House in some capacity-a scenario some of Trump's closest advisers in and outside the West Wing have assured him absolutely should not happen. Those sources said Trump didn't believe Flynn should be under investigation in the first place. 'Trump feels really, really, really bad about firing him, and he genuinely thinks if the investigation is over Flynn can come back,' said one White House official." <http://thebea.st/2qZofS4>

**NO LOVE LOST -- "Republicans shove Chaffetz on his way out,"** by Rachael Bade:

"A handful of top Republicans have a message for outgoing Rep. Jason Chaffetz: It's time to relinquish the House Oversight Committee gavel. Several senior GOP lawmakers are quietly encouraging Chaffetz to step down from his chairmanship soon, even though the Utah Republican doesn't plan to resign from Congress until June 30.

While his retirement announcement Thursday said nothing about his future work, Chaffetz has told lawmakers he'll be heading to Fox News.

**"But GOP insiders say** Chaffetz has been reluctant to let go of his panel's leadership before he leaves Congress -- and now he's thrown himself into the thick of the Russia scandal that's consuming Washington. It's made for an uncertain transition at the committee and a sore subject for House Republicans. 'If the chairman is on his way out... he should step down and allow the Steering Committee to move immediately to appoint a new chairman,' said Rep. Steve Womack, an Arkansas Republican who sits on the Steering panel, which selects committee chairmen. 'Sooner, not later.'"

<http://politi.co/2q2Vq55>

**THE RESISTANCE -- "Dem super PAC to air late TV ads in Montana special election,"** by Alex Isenstadt: "With the Trump White House reeling, national

Democrats are looking to capitalize - and making a late investment in next week's special election for a Montana congressional seat. House Majority PAC, the principal Democratic outside group focused on House races, is purchasing \$25,000 of TV airtime in the state. The buy is a small one; the candidates and parties have so far spent over \$8 million on the Montana race. But it underscores how Democrats are making a late play in the contest.

**"National Democrats**, wary of wasting money on a conservative seat seen as a reach, have largely stayed out of the race, which pits Republican technology executive Greg Gianforte against Democratic musician Rob Quist. Until now, House Majority PAC hadn't spent anything, while the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee spent only around \$280,000 on commercials. Republican outside groups, meanwhile, have combined to air over \$4 million of ads." <http://politi.co/2pZxgtb>

**HOW DETROIT IS BEATING ITS BLIGHT:** Land banks are the Swiss Army knives of urban reclamation efforts, wielding an array of powers to make abandoned, tax-foreclosed properties useful again. In the latest installment of POLITICO Magazine's "What Works" series, we visit the city of Detroit, which went from a robust city of 1.8 million in 1950 to barely a third of that size today. Learn how Mayor Mike Duggan's administration created the largest land bank in the U.S., taking control of 98,000 properties to help his city rebound from bankruptcy and an unprecedented level of decline. <http://politi.co/2pZPjiE>

**NERDCAST PODCAST:** A week of damaging leaks on President Donald Trump's interactions with Russian diplomats and former FBI Director James Comey have once again pulled the focus away from Republicans' legislative agenda. POLITICO's Scott Bland, Charlie Mahtesian, Eliana Johnson and Ken Vogel discuss on the latest episode of POLITICO's Nerdcast - plus, Elena Schneider joins to preview next week's special House election in Montana. **Listen and subscribe** <http://apple.co/2qA91oh>

#### **THE PLAYBOOK INTERVIEW: GEOFF MORRELL**

**Geoff Morrell** -- a veteran Washington operator -- is leaving the U.S. for London as he takes on a new role at BP as group head of communications and external affairs. Morrell will report to BP's Group Chief Executive Bob Dudley. "It will be a big change for our family, but one we're looking forward to," D.C. native Morrell said of his upcoming move to London.

**Morrell joined BP in 2011** as the company was facing a series of investigations and lawsuits related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. His hire was widely seen as a signal that the company was taking a more aggressive approach inside the Beltway. Morrell joined the company after serving as deputy assistant secretary of defense for public affairs and Pentagon press secretary to Defense Secretary Robert Gates. Prior to that he covered the White House for ABC News. Mary Streett, a former Clinton administration official and regulatory attorney who has been at BP for the past three years, will take over for Morrell in Washington.