

while nothing ever happened between him and [Ann] Coulter, she was responsible for him meeting the other blonde Republican It Girl who would become his wife. He was familiar with Kellyanne from her television punditry spots. But inspiration struck one day in the late 1990s when he spotted her on the cover of a society magazine. He called Coulter and asked for an introduction. ...

"He courted her with trips to his Hamptons beach rental and tickets to baseball playoffs. And at some point, Kellyanne remembers telling a friend: 'I find that his near-constant presence doesn't annoy me.' Their wedding, at Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia was a decadent affair. The cake was so big it had to be cut into pieces to fit in the door. ... There has been no official nomination announcement, but the Conways hope to close this month on an \$8 million home in the District." <http://wapo.st/2pLw1wP>

FBI AGENTS FOR ROGERS -- "FBI agents group endorses Mike Rogers for FBI director," by Rebecca Morin: FBI Agents Association "President Thomas F. O'Connor said in a statement that Rogers, who was formerly chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, 'exemplifies the principles that should be possessed by the next FBI Director.' 'It is essential that the next FBI Director understand the details of how Agents do their important work,' O'Connor said. 'Mike Rogers' background as a Special Agent, veteran of the armed forces and former member of Congress sets him apart as someone capable of confronting the wide array of challenges facing our help ensure that the Bureau remains the world's premiere law enforcement agency.'" <http://politi.co/2qjtfAR>

WHAT THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION IS READING (AND SHARING) -- "Signs of oil boomlet in North Dakota after pipeline finished," by AP's James MacPherson in Bismarck, North Dakota: "More than two years after the state's unprecedented oil bonanza fizzled to a lull, North Dakota -- the nation's No. 2 oil producer behind Texas -- is experiencing a sort of boomlet that has pushed daily production back above 1 million barrels daily. ... Industry officials and others say the uptick comes from a bump in crude prices, regulatory certainty with the more drill-friendly Trump administration, better technology, and the prospect of nearly half of the state's crude coursing through the disputed Dakota Access Pipeline, which could open markets abroad where top prices are typically fetched." <http://apne.ws/2pwkgyM>

SNEAK PEEK -- JEFFREY TOOBIN with the Comment in The New Yorker's Talk of the Town section, "Firing Comey Was a Grave Abuse of Power: In 1974,

Republicans put country before Party and told Nixon it was time to go. Today's G.O.P. seems unlikely to live up to its predecessor's example" (print headline: "The Silent Majority"): "Republicans alone have the power to impose limits on this Presidency or to end it altogether. To date, however, no one in the leadership, or even in the rank and file, has displayed the courage to live up to the example set by the honorable Republicans of the past. Daily, and conspicuously, Trump proves the danger of his continued service. His party's stalwarts won't be able to say that they weren't warned."

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

BENJAMIN WITTES in the NYT, "What We're Losing in James Comey": "Full disclosure: James Comey is a friend. I won't pretend to neutrality about him. He is a highly honorable and decent person, and I have no doubt that he made the many judgments for which people loathe him in good faith. ... First, Mr. Comey is without subtext. He's the only truly subtextless man I've met working in senior levels of government in Washington. If you want to know why he's doing something, you just ask him - in an open congressional hearing, in a news conference, in the Q. and A. at a speech at a college. ... Second, Mr. Comey has an unfailing instinct to fall on every grenade. This is a highly unusual trait in Washington, a town where lots of people dodge responsibility for everything. ... Third, Mr. Comey is genuinely fixated on independence and doing the right thing." <http://nyti.ms/2pJWieG>

EVEN FOOD & WINE MAGAZINE IS COVERING COMEY! - "James Comey's 9-Year-Old Neighbor Baked Him Chocolate Chip Cookies," by Rebekah Lowin: "As reported by WUSA Channel 9 ... Comey's 9-year-old neighbor, Abby Grace, decided to take matters into her own hands after seeing a large crowd of reporters waiting at the end of his driveway. ... Naturally, she had to do something-and fast. So she got to work baking some chocolate chip cookies, likely with the help of her parents, and, armed with a dozen of them, she walked over to his home. ... She began by introducing herself at the front door...and even went so far as to shake hands with Comey's security detail."

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

--THE NOTE WITH HER COOKIES READ: "We are proud to be your neighbor and thank you for all you have done for America. Love: Abby Grace." **See the note**

<http://on.wusa9.com/2rfB5ez>

THE RUSSIA INVESTIGATION -- SHOT on NYT A1, "Richard Burr Leads Russia Inquiry, Whether He Likes It or Not," by Matt Flegenheimer: "[T]he unobtrusive Mr. Burr is shrugging into a spotlight he never expected and does not especially seem to