

be a very late night. It's a pure tossup. But we're cautiously confident. Both parties have gone all-in here. Any press releases declaring a "moral victory" will be laughed at.

"Around 7:45, the first early vote from DeKalb will come in. That's the Dem county. Will look bad. People read too much into that. Between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m., once we start getting enough of the Election Day vote in, should be a clearer picture. We need a strong Election Day showing out of Cobb County (stronghold for us). Watch Fulton County. Ossoff needs to at least tie Fulton to have a shot."

-- **FROM THE PRESIDENT. @realDonaldTrump at 5:49 a.m.:** "Democrat Jon Ossoff, who wants to raise your taxes to the highest level and is weak on crime and security, doesn't even live in district." ... **at 6:02 a.m.:** "KAREN HANDEL FOR CONGRESS. She will fight for lower taxes, great healthcare strong security-a hard worker who will never give up! VOTE TODAY".

-- **IT'S WORTH NOTING:** Ossoff would hardly be the first person to represent a district they don't live in. There are plenty of members of both parties who, for one reason or another, do not live in the district they represent.

THE BIG PICTURE -- WAPO A18 -- "In Trump's Washington, public business increasingly handled behind closed doors," by Phil Rucker and Ed O'Keefe: "The Senate bill to scale back the health-care law known as Obamacare is being written in secret by a single senator, Republican Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, and a clutch of his senior aides. Officials at numerous agencies of the Trump administration have stonewalled friendly Republicans in Congress - not to mention Democrats - by declining to share internal documents on sensitive matters or refusing to answer questions.

"President Trump, meanwhile, is still forbidding the release of his tax returns, his aides have stopped releasing logs of visitors to the White House and his media aides have started banning cameras at otherwise routine news briefings, as happened Monday. Trump even refuses to acknowledge to the public that he plays golf during his frequent weekend visits to his private golf courses. More and more in the Trump era, business in Washington is happening behind closed doors. The federal government's leaders are hiding from public scrutiny - and their penchant for secrecy represents a stark departure from the campaign promises of Trump and his fellow Republicans to usher in newfound transparency." <http://wapo.st/2sKvWP2>

IVANKA TO THE HILL TO MEET RUBIO, FISCHER ON PAID LEAVE - via Ian

Kullgren and Seung Min Kim in Morning Shift: "Ivanka Trump is scheduled to meet today [on Capitol Hill] with Sens. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) and other members to discuss paid leave and family issues, according to two sources with knowledge of the plans. The meeting comes as the Trump administration pushes its paid leave proposal, which would provide six weeks of leave for mothers and fathers. The White House hasn't found a sponsor yet, though today's meeting would indicate that Rubio and Fischer are two top choices.

"Fischer, for her part, has embraced the idea of paid family leave, but has stopped short of endorsing the White House's vision. She's pushing an incentive plan that would give a two-year tax break to companies that offer at least two weeks of paid leave, an idea she's put forth in previous years. Rubio has embraced that approach, too, saying during his presidential campaign that he would give companies a 25 percent tax credit for offering four to 12 weeks of paid leave."

AND THERE'S MORE -- "At height of Russia tensions, Trump campaign chairman Manafort met with business associate from Ukraine," by WaPo's Roz Helderman, Tom Hamburger and Rachel Weiner: "In August, as tension mounted over Russia's role in the U.S. presidential race, Donald Trump's campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, sat down to dinner with a business associate from Ukraine who once served in the Russian army. Konstantin Kilimnik, who learned English at a military school that some experts consider a training ground for Russian spies, had helped run the Ukraine office for Manafort's international political consulting practice for 10 years. At the Grand Havana Room, one of New York City's most exclusive cigar bars, the longtime acquaintances 'talked about bills unpaid by our clients, about [the] overall situation in Ukraine ... and about the current news,' including the presidential campaign, according to a statement provided by Kilimnik, offering his most detailed account of his interactions with the former Trump adviser." <http://wapo.st/2sQdtkl>

******* A message from Starbucks:** In 2014, Starbucks created the College Achievement Plan to give our partners (employees) the opportunity to earn a college degree from Arizona State University, tuition free. In three years, 710 Starbucks partners have graduated, thousands more are enrolled, and our goal is to help 25,000 partners graduate by 2025: <http://sbux.co/2sboQ3G> *****

FOR TRUMP'S WIN COLUMN -- "Gallup: Public trust in government's counter-terror efforts rebounds," by Jake Lahut: "Seventy percent of Americans feel assured