

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
Sent: Thur 10/26/2017 10:26:38 AM
Subject: POLITICO Playbook, presented by Chevron: Playbook's FOUR TRUTHS about tax reform -- BUDGET VOTE TODAY, amid concerns about state and local tax provision -- PELOSI predicts Dem majority if tax reform stumbles -- SPOTTED: JARED at Dulles -- B'DAY: Katy Tur

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Today's POLITICO Playbook presented by Chevron

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

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Driving the Day

POSTCARD FROM GERMANY -- POLITICO Brussels Playbooker Ryan Heath is on stage with John Boehner at American Chamber of Commerce Transatlantic Business Conference in Frankfurt. Boehner told the German audience that Donald Trump is the "least ideological person to ever hold the office," and described the White House as "survival of the fittest." His advice to foreign companies and governments: "engagement works."

Happy Thursday. PRESIDENT TRUMP says the JFK files -- long kept private -- will be unsealed today.

The tax reform debate has been humming along behind closed doors. It's about to go public. Here are some things to keep in mind. **PLAYBOOK'S FOUR TRUTHS ABOUT TAX REFORM:**

-- **THIS TAX PLAN WILL LIVE AND DIE 1 MILLION TIMES.** We've seen it before: legislation gets declared dead as a doornail, and then is revived, brought back to life and passes with much fanfare. Expect ups and downs here. Right now, the issue at hand is the state and local tax deduction. Lawmakers from high-tax states say they don't want to scrap it, and if they don't get assurances, some have threatened that they'll take down the budget. Remember that this process will be like a rollercoaster. Take it with a grain of salt when some random lawmaker opines on the prospects of the bill, or the process. Until Paul Ryan or Mitch McConnell pull the plug, this thing is alive and kicking. **Brian Faler on "Six things that could derail the GOP's tax plans":**
<http://politi.co/2y6H0tq>

-- **IGNORE THE TIMEFRAME.** There really is no deadline to get tax reform done. The

end-of-the-year proclamations are silly, according to most of the people we talk to. This could -- and many think it should -- take time. It's tough (just ask the WSJ's Rich Rubin). It's complicated. Congress is rewriting the entire tax code -- and that affects everyone in the United States. Plenty of lawmakers tell us it SHOULD take something like six months.

-- **A 60-40 PROPOSITION, AT BEST, NOT A DONE DEAL.** At the end of the day, all the senior aides and lawmakers we speak to say that this remains, at best, a 60-40 proposition. Yeah, Republicans feel pretty good about where things are. But that's mostly out of fear of losing their majorities. Many things can stop this process dead in its tracks.

-- **THIS IS UNLIKELY TO BE HUGELY BIPARTISAN.** Some Republicans want you to believe that Democrats are knocking on their doors to vote for whatever they produce. It's not true. They might pick up one or two in the Senate. But this is a Grand Ole' Party production.

HOUSE REPUBLICANS will go to the floor today to try to pass Senate's budget, despite unease from some conservatives about the deficit and debt projections, and misgivings from blue state Republicans about scrapping the coveted state and local tax deduction. GOP leaders canceled a 9 p.m. meeting last night to discuss the state-and-local tax issue -- a sign they feel pretty good. **THE BUDGET** is the first step to tax reform.

-- **THE DETAILS**, from Rich Rubin, Anne Tergesen and Siobhan Hughes in the WSJ: "One option is replacing the [state and local tax] deduction with a tax credit worth between 8% and 20% of a household's property tax payments, with caps for married couples that start somewhere between income of \$250,000 and \$400,000, said Rep. Tom Reed (R-N.Y.). Instead of generating \$1.3 trillion over a decade to offset lower tax rates, as repeal of the state and local deduction would do, he said the idea would yield between \$600 billion and \$1 trillion. Some versions of the credit concept also include mortgage interest." <http://on.wsj.com/2yM1M16>

KNOWING KEVIN BRADY -- RACHAEL BADE: "GOP's beloved taxman about to be 'the most hated guy in Washington'": "House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady has spent the better part of a year crafting a Republican tax reform bill. But on the cusp of the plan's long-awaited unveiling, the House GOP's point man on taxes has had to retool the proposal at least twice in 48 hours. ... And the bill hasn't even been made public yet." <http://bit.ly/2yTdJSr>

-- **PELOSI, BEHIND THE SCENES** -- Heather Caygle and Aaron Lorenzo: "House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) is convinced another GOP crash-and-burn would likely hand Democrats the House next year, so there's no political upside to playing ball. 'You will be in the majority' if Republicans continue to stumble, Pelosi said during a closed-door caucus meeting on Tuesday, according to sources in the room." <http://politi.co/2gK1Szd>

TRUMP'S ADMINISTRATION -- "Mnuchin struggles to earn trust on the Hill," by Nancy Cook: "Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin is the de facto frontman for the administration's proposed overhaul of the U.S. tax system because of his extreme loyalty to President Donald Trump and the scores of tax policy experts and economists at his command.

"But Mnuchin, a former investment banker and movie financier with no prior experience in Washington, hasn't been able to overcome Republicans' suspicion about his Wall Street background and limited conservative credentials. That may complicate White House efforts to influence debate as the details of a tax bill are written."
<http://politi.co/2haCvDZ>

-- **"Tillerson's power play,"** by Nahal Toosi: "A leaked State Department document is alarming diplomats and others who say it shows the accumulation of power among a small and unaccountable group of senior aides to Secretary of State Rex Tillerson. The chart, obtained by POLITICO, illustrates the growing influence of the State Department's Policy Planning Staff, which traditionally has served as an in-house think tank but which Tillerson heavily relies upon for day-to-day decision making.

"Critics already complain that the office -- led by Brian Hook, a powerful Tillerson aide not subject to Senate confirmation - accepts too little input from career diplomats, and the chart, which lays out a method to craft foreign policy, shows no explicit role for them. The chart appears to show a top-down approach in which ideas emanate from the secretary's inner circle rather than bubbling up from diverse sources, including Foreign Service officers in the field. More than half a dozen current and former U.S. officials who have seen the document said it reveals an unusual level of control and oversight by the Policy Planning Staff." <http://politi.co/2xo0MfC>

THE RETIREES ... SEUNG MIN KIM: "Flake won't be 'vindictive' toward Trump agenda: The retiring GOP senator says he won't automatically vote against GOP priorities - but he plans to rev up oversight of the administration": "Sen. Jeff Flake was never shy about his distaste for Donald Trump's politics. But one day after his dramatic retirement speech skewering the president, he told POLITICO that he's not 'vindictive' -- suggesting he won't simply be a knee-jerk vote against Trump's agenda. 'I don't know that it's that different. I'm going to work on issues that I'm for,' the Arizona Republican said of his legislative approach going forward. 'I'm not out [to be] vindictive.'" <http://politi.co/2gFQFMq>

-- **"Corker vows to get answers on Trump's Russia sanctions delay,"** by Elana Schor: "The chief GOP architect of a Russia sanctions package that Congress overwhelmingly approved earlier this year vowed Wednesday to find out why the Trump administration has delayed using its new powers to punish Moscow. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) - an author of the massive sanctions bill that President Donald Trump signed in August - told reporters that 'I'm going to get on the phone with someone' within 24 hours to get details on why the

administration missed the law's Oct. 1 deadline to hit certain Russian entities with new penalties." <http://politi.co/2z7D23Y>

***** **A message from Chevron:** When an endangered butterfly was found near a Chevron refinery, we protected the habitat and still plant the only thing they eat-buckwheat. Watch the video: <http://politi.co/2y4Q3vf> *****

TRUMP FOR YELLEN? From Fox Business Network's Lou Dobbs' interview with Trump -- **TRUMP:** "Tell me who your preference is." **DOBBS:** "I think I -- may I constrain myself?" **TRUMP:** "Yes." **DOBBS:** "Because an ad hoc advisor to the president" **TRUMP:** "No, but I'd love to hear it. You could even cut it out if you want. You don't have to -- I would love to hear you. I only want that from people I respect." **DOBBS:** "I personally believe that Janet Yellen might be worth keeping."

TRUMP: "I tell you what, she was in my office three days ago. She was very impressive. I liked her a lot. I mean, it's somebody that I am thinking about. I would certainly think about it. In one way, I have to say ... In one way, I have to say you'd like to make your own mark. ... You like to make your own mark, which is maybe one of the things she's got a little bit against her. But I think she's terrific. We had a great talk. And we're obviously doing very well together, you look at the markets."

HMM ... -- "Trump associate Cohen sold four NY buildings for cash to mysterious buyers," by Peter Stone and Greg Gordon in McClatchy: "Donald Trump's long time business lawyer Michael Cohen may be best known for his aggressive campaign television defenses of the real estate mogul, his role in an abortive effort to build a Trump Tower in Moscow and allegations that he attended a meeting last summer with Russians in Europe. But while serving as a top executive at the Trump Organization for a decade, Cohen himself was a sometime New York real estate wheeler dealer whose companies appear to have netted as much as \$20 million in profit by flipping properties to mysterious buyers." <http://bit.ly/2gFKmZA>

CNN's OLIVER DARCY -- "Five women accuse journalist and 'Game Change' co-author Mark Halperin of sexual harassment": "Veteran journalist Mark Halperin sexually harassed women while he was in a powerful position at ABC News, according to five women who shared their previously undisclosed accounts with CNN and others who did not experience the alleged harassment personally, but were aware of it. 'During this period, I did pursue relationships with women that I worked with, including some junior to me,' Halperin said in a statement to CNN Wednesday night. 'I now understand from these accounts that my behavior was inappropriate and caused others pain. For that, I am deeply sorry and I apologize. Under the circumstances, I'm going to take a step back from my day-to-day work while I properly deal with this situation.'

...

"[W]omen who spoke to CNN say he ... had a dark side not made public until now. The stories of harassment shared with CNN range in nature from propositioning employees for sex to kissing and grabbing one's breasts against her will. Three of the women who spoke to CNN described Halperin as, without consent, pressing an erection

against their bodies while he was clothed. Halperin denies grabbing a woman's breasts and pressing his genitals against the three women." <http://cnnmon.ie/2gCjgm2>

MCCONNELL IN CHARGE -- JOHN BRESNAHAN: "McConnell, Cornyn firmly in charge despite flak from right": "Despite a near constant barrage of attacks from Sean Hannity, Steve Bannon and the Breitbart wing of the GOP, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and other top Senate Republicans remain firmly in charge. There is no threat of a leadership challenge to McConnell or any of the other highest-ranking Republicans, and their support inside the GOP Conference remains rock solid.

"Yet there is also no question that Senate Republicans are feeling the heat from the unhappy GOP base, especially the strongest pro-Trump elements of the party. In response, many Republicans are tying themselves ever closer to President Donald Trump. So while the media, Democrats and even some of their own colleagues - those who are not seeking reelection especially - hammer on Trump's alleged ethical lapses, poor poll numbers, and legislative failures, wrapping yourself in Trump's mantle is the smartest way to survive for party leaders on Capitol Hill." <http://politi.co/2y5rhem>

GOP CIVIL WAR -- "McConnell allies declare open warfare on Bannon," by WaPo's Dave Weigel, Michael Scherer and Bob Costa: "Allies of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell declared open warfare on Wednesday against Stephen K. Bannon, the former White House chief strategist and leader of an insurrection aimed at defeating mainstream Republican candidates in next year's midterm elections. ... [T]he McConnell-allied Senate Leadership Fund (SLF) will highlight Bannon's hard-line populism and attempt to link him to white nationalism to discredit him and the candidates he will support. It will also boost candidates with traditional GOP profiles and excoriate those tied to Bannon, with plans to spend millions and launch a heavy social media presence in some states." <http://wapo.st/2i5svLE>

-- NYT'S JONATHAN MARTIN and JEREMY PETERS: "As G.O.P. Bends Toward Trump, Critics Either Give In or Give Up" <http://nyti.ms/2iAJlpK>

-- @davidmackau: "Q: Should you be more civil? Trump: Press makes me more uncivil than I am... I went to an Ivy League college. I'm a very intelligent person".
<http://bit.ly/2yTWMr7>

TRUMP'S THURSDAY -- Trump will discuss the opioid crisis. He will also meet with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt.

-- FOR YOUR RADAR: "Vice President Pence to visit Israel and Egypt in December," by AP's Ken Thomas and Jill Colvin: "The vice president's trip is expected to take him to Israel during Hanukkah, where he'll discuss the prospects for a Middle East peace agreement in separate meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. Pence is also expected to address U.S. policy toward Iran and highlight Israel's space program -- a favorite issue." <http://bit.ly/2zQYAyP>

ABOUT THAT OPIOID ANNOUNCEMENT ... -- "Senior health officials in the dark about Trump's opioid declaration," by Sarah Karlin-Smith and Brianna Ehley: "Top federal health officials responding to the opioid epidemic still don't know what President Donald Trump will say when he makes a highly anticipated announcement about the crisis Thursday afternoon. 'We don't have information about what the announcement will be, and so I can't comment on it. I honestly don't know,' Assistant HHS Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use Elinore McCance-Katz told POLITICO on Wednesday while appearing at a House Energy and Commerce Committee hearing on the federal response to the epidemic.

"She said the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, which is responsible for federal treatment programs, has not been collaborating with the White House in the run-up to the the announcement, which is expected to include a formal declaration that the epidemic is a federal emergency. CDC Principal Deputy Director Anne Schuchat was similarly out of the loop. A spokesperson for the DEA said she had no information but added that the agency will be involved 'to an extent.'" <http://politi.co/2gFa5kE>

-- "Trump to declare public health emergency for opioids, a partial measure to fight drug epidemic," by USA Today's Gregory Korte: "President Trump will order his health secretary to declare the opioid crisis a public health emergency Thursday - but will stop short of declaring a more sweeping state of national emergency, aides said. ...Trump will sign a presidential memorandum ordering Acting Secretary of Health and Human Services Eric Hargan to waive regulations and give states more flexibility in how they use federal funds, said four senior officials responsible for crafting the administration's new opioid policy." <https://usat.ly/2yNbsZq>

Playbook Reads

PHOTO DU JOUR: Ivanka Trump leaves after speaking at a news conference promoting an expanded child tax credit on Capitol Hill on Oct. 25. | Pablo Martinez Monsivais/AP Photo

CONGRATS! KATIE PUDWILL, POLITICO's director of communications, was named to PR News's 2017 List of Rising PR Stars 30 & Under. <http://bit.ly/2iyD9P5>

FIRST IN PLAYBOOK - WHAT STEVE BANNON told **KEITH KOFFLER** for his upcoming biography of him, "Bannon: Always the Rebel" (out Nov. 13) - the publisher says Bannon gave 10 hours of interviews for the book: "Populist nationalism is the winner of what we're doing now. It is on the right side of history. The only debate going forward will be: Will it be [British Labor Party leader] Jeremy Corbyn's and Bernie Sanders views of populism or Donald Trump's view and [Indian Prime Minister] Modi's

view of populism -- whether it will be a culturally right and economically conservative or whether it will be socialistic." **\$18.29 on Amazon** <http://amzn.to/2yNWm5E>

JARED WATCH -- "Kushner will take a diminished role on Trump's China trip," by Annie Karni and Andrew Restuccia: "[A]s Trump heads to Asia for the first time as president next month -- a trip that will include a high-stakes reunion with a newly empowered Chinese President Xi Jinping on his home turf -- Trump's son-in-law is expected to see his diplomatic role greatly diminished.

"Kushner's shrinking role on the international stage is seen by some White House officials as another sign of Trump's new chief of staff, John Kelly, standardizing a previously unorthodox power structure. Other White House aides say it's evidence of a lean administration finally filling out and now running at full power. Kushner, they say, was moving away from the China portfolio pre-Kelly, dropping responsibilities he held as recently as April, when he helped plan Xi's visit to Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida." <http://politi.co/2gIj2NI>

--**SPOTTED: JARED KUSHNER** walking through Dulles terminal A around 3:15 p.m. yesterday.

-- **LOCAL NEWS: "David Rubenstein, Private Equity Titan, Passes the Torch,"** by NYT's David Gelles and Michael J. de la Merced. <http://nyti.ms/2gGr3PR>

ON RUSSIA -- "Trump-Linked Company Reached Out to WikiLeaks on Hacked Emails," by WSJ's Rebecca Ballhaus: "The chief executive of a data-analytics firm that worked for President Donald Trump's campaign reached out to WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to offer help organizing the Hillary Clinton-related emails the website was releasing, according to a person familiar with the effort.

"The outreach by the CEO of the firm, which is partly owned by a major Trump donor and has close ties to a Trump adviser, came as Mr. Trump was publicly cheering the leaks of his Democratic rival's emails and some supporters were seeking to unearth further messages. In an email sent in late July 2016 and recently reviewed by the person, Cambridge Analytica CEO Alexander Nix told other employees at the firm and Rebekah Mercer, a top Republican donor, that he had recently reached out to Mr. Assange to offer help better indexing the messages WikiLeaks was releasing to make them more easily searchable." <http://on.wsj.com/2iA2jwH>

GEOFFREY KABASERVICE in Politico Magazine -- **"The Deep Roots of Jeff Flake's Break With Trump:** Republican elites were always wary of the GOP base, for their own survival. But now, the restive, angry conservative grass roots are running the party": "[I]n the long view of history, there's nothing particularly surprising about the party's current chaos. It's a logical consequence of the conservative grass roots' takeover of the GOP. Over the past half-century, many Republicans had warned party leaders to keep their distance from the base, seeing it as something like the One Ring in The Lord of the Rings--too powerful and dangerous to be controlled. Now, the predictions of those

Cassandras are coming true and the conservative movement is destroying the Republican Party from within." <http://politi.co/2gKrbkJ>

***** **A message from Chevron:** This is a story about DOERS, butterflies, and buckwheat. In '75, the endangered El Segundo Blue butterfly was found near a Chevron refinery. We protected the habitat and planted the only thing they eat-buckwheat. We're still planting and keeping an eye on our littlest neighbor. Watch the video: <http://politi.co/2lfOXGX> *****

HARASSMENT WATCH -- "Brookings Cuts Ties With Literary Giant Accused Of Sexually Harassing Female Employees," by BuzzFeed's John Hudson: "The Brookings Institution has severed ties with Leon Wieseltier, a prominent figure in the literary world and a senior fellow at the think tank, following a wave of accusations from women who accused him of sexual harassment and unwanted advances. After initially suspending Wieseltier, Brookings President Strobe Talbott sent out a memo to employees on Wednesday afternoon saying he is no longer employed at the think tank, three employees told BuzzFeed News." <http://bzfd.it/2iCdwwB>

-- **"Blogger amends vow to publish list of 'Shi**y Media Men,'"** by Michael Calderone and Jason Schwartz: "A right-wing blogger and filmmaker who promised to publish the names of male journalists who were cited by female colleagues as sexual harassers on the list of 'Shi**y Media Men' told POLITICO on Wednesday that he was holding back, calling the men on the list and consulting with his lawyer.

"Blogger Mike Cernovich had announced his intention to publish the list 'in a few minutes' after obtaining it on Saturday and later identified two journalists on it and the accusations against them. The list contains the names of more than 70 men in media who were alleged to have committed acts ranging for 'creepy' direct messages to rape, according to women who added their names as the list was passed around in the wake of the Harvey Weinstein scandal." <http://politi.co/2zR6OHA>

MEDIAWATCH -- YASHAR ALI PROFILE -- "Who Is Yashar? The long, unusual, political story behind the man who's breaking all kinds of news these days, from Fox News to Harvey Weinstein," by BuzzFeed's Steven Perlberg: "[H]is previous career [was as] a major fundraiser for Hillary Clinton's 2008 campaign and an aide to former San Francisco mayor and current California lieutenant governor Gavin Newsom. Now, he says, he is focusing on reporting ... People close to the 37-year-old describe him as a driven, wealthy Renaissance man who gets obsessed with various topics and finds a way to succeed at them - and they aren't surprised that his new interest happens to be journalism.

"Other Democratic officials are dumbfounded by Yashar's career change, and they wonder how someone could develop sources in the entertainment, media, and intelligence communities seemingly overnight (though Yashar's reporting largely hasn't been disputed). ... In recent months, Yashar's time in media has caught the eye of editors who have tried to court the reporter for a full-time job. He is in early talks with

one major network, according to a person familiar with the matter. He has also been approached by BuzzFeed News." <http://bzfd.it/2izWf7y>

-- **"Bill O'Reilly May Wind Up at Sinclair Broadcasting,"** by NBC News' Claire Atkinson: Bill O'Reilly, the former Fox News anchor, has been negotiating for a position with the Sinclair Broadcast Group, the nation's largest television-station owner, according to two sources familiar with the talks. Sinclair, known for its conservative commentary, is continuing with the talks despite the sexual harassment cases that cost O'Reilly his job at Fox this year ... Last week, The New York Times reported that O'Reilly had settled a \$32 million sexual harassment claim against him by a former legal analyst, Lis Wiehl. The sources said the news does not appear to have sidelined the talks. 'They took a pause but it didn't really change anything for them,' one of the sources said." <http://nbcnews.to/2lfevUu>

-- **"Ronan Farrow is working on another Weinstein exposé,"** by Page Six's Oli Coleman: "We're told that Farrow's making calls to potential sources for another New Yorker article to follow his blockbuster exposé on sexual harassment claims against the movie mogul. ... [An] insider said the piece may focus on the movie company's culture, which allowed Weinstein to prey on women for years." <http://pge.sx/2i6OmCL>

HOT JOB - NYT LOOKING FOR JUSTICE DEPARTMENT REPORTER - "On any given day, this beat is at the center of stories on mass shootings, major policy developments on civil rights, terrorist plots and more. But it is also rich with enterprise potential about drugs, guns, violent crime, prisons, terrorism and national security. We are looking for someone with aggressive instincts who will keep The Times ahead on spot news as it unfolds and deliver enterprise that surprises and enlightens our readers." <http://bit.ly/2h9r3lr>

Playbookers

SPOTTED: Elliott Broidy eating lunch yesterday at the Trump Hotel with Rep. Steve Pearce (R-N.M.), who is the only declared Republican so far running for governor of New Mexico ... Bill Murray dining last night at a corner table of Le Diplomate. He ordered a seafood tower.

SPOTTED at a discussion on Trump and American politics at Walt Whitman High School: Dana Milbank, Ashley Parker (a Whitman alum), Jennifer Rubin, Michael Steel, Brian Walsh, and Sara Just.

OUT AND ABOUT -- RUPERT MURDOCH hosted a party last night at Charlie Palmer Steak to toast Laura Ingraham's new Fox News show. **SPOTTED:** Ivanka Trump, Jerry Hall, Sens. Rand Paul (R-Ky.), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.), Ted Cruz (R-Texas) Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.), Todd Young (R-Ind.), Roger Wicker (R-Miss.) and Richard Burr (R-N.C.), Reps. Bill Flores (R-Texas), Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.), Bill Johnson (R-Ohio),

Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.), Virginia Foxx (R-N.C.), Garret Graves (R-La.), Ted Yoho (R-Fla.) and Scott Taylor (R-Va.), Jack Abernethy, Suzanne Scott, Jay Wallace, Bill Sammon, Dennis Kucinich, Bill Bennett, Newt Gingrich, Bret Baier, Shannon Bream, Chris and Lorraine Wallace, Ed Henry, Jennifer Griffin, Catherine Herridge, Chris Stirewalt, Katie Pavlich, Michael Calderone, Gillian Turner, Leacy Burke.

-- **The American Association of Political Consultants** held its "Karaoke in the Capital" last night that benefits Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation. Mikayla Bouchard and Carl Hulse took the "Best in Show" award with their rendition of Darius Rucker's "Wagon Wheel." **SPOTTED:** Jordan Lieberman, Scott Goodstein, Kelly Gibson, Patrick Walling, Joe Sandler, Melissa Cressey, John Hlinko, Michael Turk and Patrick McGill.

BIRTHDAY OF THE DAY: **Katy Tur**, NBC News correspondent, anchor of MSNBC Live at 2 p.m. and author of "Unbelievable: My Front-Row Seat to the Craziest Campaign in American History". She's celebrating with "a long drive through the desert with Tony."

How she got her start in journalism: "I was an editorial assistant at KTLA. It's a fancy title that means you get to fetch coffee and beg to be sent out to shadow the reporters."

Read her Playbook Plus Q&A: <http://politi.co/2yT3gXd>

BIRTHDAYS: Hillary Rodham Clinton is 7-0 ... NYT White House correspondent Mark Landler ... Caren Bohan, deputy U.S. elections editor at Reuters ... Paula Faris ... Tom Johnson ... Nico Pitney, political director for NowThis ... Jef Pollock, president of Global Strategy Group (h/t Jesse Ferguson) ... Frank Lavin ... Jeff Rubin, comms director at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy (h/t TWI Comms/Dev staff) ... Rep. Emanuel Cleaver II (D-Mo.) is 73 ... Scott Jennings, former Bush 43 WH and McConnell insider, now principal at RunSwitch Public Relations in Lexington, Kentucky, and a CNN contributor, is 4-0 ... Richard Yamada ... Phil Blando ... Max McGloin ... Mark Rozell ... Ilia Rodriguez ... Aakash Kumar ... Jessica Church of the National Women's Law Center and a Hillary alum, is 27 (h/t Zack Hubbard) ... Morgan Corr ... Cotton Puryear is 54 ... WaPo's Dani Feldman ...

... **Catherine Sullivan**, managing director at Burson-Marsteller (h/t Bennett Richardson) ... Betsy Hoover, founding partner at 270 Strategies ... Politico's Clement Rousseau ... NARAL's national comms director Kaylie Hanson Long and SVP for campaigns and strategy Sasha Bruce ... Kristin Lynch, press secretary for Sen. Booker and former Colorado press guru with Rep. Jared Polis (D-Colo.) and HFA (h/ts James Owens and Kurt Bardella) ... Sasha Cohen (h/t Jewish Insider) ... Christine Stineman ... GPG's Aleta Greer ... Bianca Brosh, digital producer/editor at the Today show ... Beth Ver Steeg ... Aiden O'Connell of LCV ... Simon Boehme ... Molly Fitzgerald ... Jake O'Donnell ... Shilpa Pesaru ... Megan Lubin ... Katrina Coleman ... Kerri Forrest ... Nancy Pearson ... Graham Link ... Brian Cragin ... John Grady ... Nick Gwyn ... Jill Salyers ... Sam Speth ... Andrea Roper ... Perry Apelbaum ... Jerry Crawford ... Michael Sabbath ... Adam Klaus ... Caroline Cunningham ... Kirk Fabel (h/ts Teresa Vilmain)

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refinery. We protected the habitat and planted the only thing they eat-buckwheat. We're still planting and keeping an eye on our littlest neighbor. Watch the video:

<http://politi.co/2y7rSHn> *****

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