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**From:** Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman  
**Sent:** Sun 6/18/2017 3:01:46 PM  
**Subject:** POLITICO Playbook, presented by POET: Happy Father's Day -- JAY SEKULOW: Trump is not under investigation -- Scalise update -- WHITE HOUSE week ahead -- KNOWING MARK CORALLO -- SCHUMER's first big test -- WEEKEND READS -- RODAY/MARRE wedding pool report

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Today's POLITICO Playbook presented by POET  
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## Driving the Day

**Good Sunday morning. HAPPY FATHER'S DAY! SPEAKER PAUL RYAN** discusses what he's learning as a father as his kids approach their teenage years.

<http://bit.ly/2rJIO3F>

**FIRST IN PLAYBOOK** -- Speaker Paul Ryan spent the weekend at the Homestead in Virginia for his annual "Team Ryan" summer outing. His message to K Streeters and donors: the Republican agenda is on track. The Wisconsin Republican laid out his preferred timeline for Obamacare repeal bill, saying that it will be done by mid-summer and tax reform will be completed by the end of the year. Ryan said that he expected the Senate to pass their health care bill before the July 4 recess and that would give House Republicans the rest of July to take action. Ryan said he has been talking to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell daily. Ryan also was bullish on infrastructure, telling the group that a series of infrastructure bills will be passed by the end of the year.

**SPOTTED:** Chris Russell, Bob Wood, Chris GIBLIN, David Tamasi, Richard Hunt, Ray Berman, Ed Kutler and Nicole Gustafson.

### STATEMENTS FROM PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP FROM CAMP DAVID --

**@realDonaldTrump** at 6:38 a.m.: "The MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN agenda is doing very well despite the distraction of the Witch Hunt. Many new jobs, high business enthusiasm,.. " ... **at 6:46 a.m.:** "...massive regulation cuts, 36 new legislative bills signed, great new S.C.Justice, and Infrastructure, Healthcare and Tax Cuts in works!"  
**...at 7:02 a.m.:** "The new Rasmussen Poll, one of the most accurate in the 2016 Election, just out with a Trump 50% Approval Rating. That's higher than O's #'s!"

-- **@kylegriffin1:** "For reference (spot the outlier): Gallup 38 ... Economist/YouGov 42 ...

Reuters/Ipsos 40 ... PPP 41 ... Quinnipiac 34 ... Rasmussen 50"

**TAKE NOTE:** Trump had just one surrogate on the Sunday shows: a member of his legal team. Not one Cabinet secretary or adviser talking about policy or politics.

**SUNDAY BEST, PART I -- JAY SEKULOW** tells **CHUCK TODD** on **NBC'S "MEET THE PRESS"** that the president isn't under investigation -- **TODD:** "The president tweeted earlier this week, 'I am being investigated for firing the F.B.I. director by the man who told me to fire the F.B.I. director. Witch hunt.' So let me start with this. When did the president become aware that he was officially under investigation by the special counsel?" **SEKULOW:** "The president is not under investigation by the special counsel. The tweet from the president was in response to the five anonymous sources that were purportedly leaking information to The Washington Post about a potential investigation of the president. But the president, as James Comey said in his testimony and as we know as of today, the president has not been and is not under investigation."

-- **MARCO RUBIO** to **JAKE TAPPER** on **CNN's "STATE OF THE UNION"** -- **TAPPER:** "Some of your Senate colleagues, as you know, are concerned that President Trump is preparing to fire Mueller or Mueller and Rosenstein. How would you react if he did?" **RUBIO:** "Well, first of all, that's not going to happen. I don't believe it's going to happen. And here's what I would say. The best thing that could happen for the president, and the country, is a full and credible investigation. I really, truly believe that. If we want to put all this behind us, let's find out what happened, let's put it out there, and let's not undermine the credibility of the investigation. And so my view on it is that's the best thing that could happen for the president and for the country, and I believe ultimately that's what will happen, irrespective of all the other stuff that's going on out there."

-- **SEKULOW GETS TESTY** under sharp questioning from Chris Wallace on "Fox News Sunday": "I do not appreciate you putting words in my mouth, when I've been crystal clear that the president is not and has not been under investigation."

**SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S WEEK -- MONDAY:** Trump has Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela and his wife to the White House. He will participate in an American Technology Council roundtable at 5 p.m. **WEDNESDAY:** The president is going to Iowa. **THURSDAY:** The Congressional picnic.

**THE BIG SUNDAY READ -- NYT, A1 -- "How Michael Flynn's Disdain for Limits Led to a Legal Quagmire,"** by Nick Confessore, Matt Rosenberg and Danny Hakim: "Mr. Flynn decided that the military's loss would be his gain: He would parlay his contacts, his disdain for conventional bureaucracy, and his intelligence career battling Al Qaeda into a lucrative business advising cybersecurity firms and other government contractors. Over the next two years he would sign on as a consultant to nearly two dozen companies, while carving out a niche as a sought-after author and speaker -- and ultimately becoming a top adviser to President Trump.

**"I've always had that entrepreneurial spirit,"** Mr. Flynn said in an interview in October

2015. In the military, he added, 'I learned that following the way you're supposed to do things isn't always the way to accomplish a task.' But instead of lofting him into the upper ranks of Beltway bandits, where some other top soldiers have landed, his foray into consulting has become a legal and political quagmire, driven by the same disdain for boundaries that once propelled his rise in the military." <http://nyti.ms/2sDrCkx>

**SCALISE UPDATE -- "Hospital says Scalise showing 'signs of improvement' after additional surgery,"** by Rebecca Morin: "[House] Majority Whip Steve Scalise is showing 'signs of improvement' and is 'speaking with his loved ones' following an additional surgery, according to an update provided by MedStar Washington Hospital Center on Saturday. The hospital also downgraded his condition from critical to serious.

**"Congressman Steve Scalise is in serious condition.** He underwent another surgery today, but continues to show signs of improvement,' according to a statement from the hospital, courtesy of the Scalise family. 'He is more responsive, and is speaking with his loved ones. The Scalise family greatly appreciates the outpouring of thoughts and prayers.'" <http://politi.co/2tBoHG5>

-- **TEAM SCALISE** 's video from Thursday's Congressional baseball game  
<http://bit.ly/2rsXeGe>

**FROM TYSON LOBBYIST MATT MIKA'S FAMILY:** "We want to thank the team at George Washington University Hospital for their world-class care, and we continue to be grateful beyond words for the heroic actions of the U.S. Capitol Police this week. In addition, the positive thoughts, prayers and words of encouragement from across the nation have meant the world to Matt and to all of us.

**"Matt has undergone additional surgery** and his physicians have reported positive results. Matt will remain in the ICU through at least this weekend. He continues to communicate with us through notes, and even signed the game ball for the Congressional Baseball Game. Matt especially valued the professionalism of the officers of the Capitol Police, and would appreciate contributions to the Capitol Police Memorial Fund, one of the designated charities at Thursday night's ballgame.

**"While we know there will be difficult** and challenging days ahead for Matt and our family, the physicians and specialists at Matt's side expect a full recovery. This will be our final update pending Matt's discharge from the hospital. We again ask for your understanding and respect of our family's privacy."

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from POET - one of the world's largest ethanol producers:** Led by scientists and engineers, POET operates 30 biofuel facilities & America's first cellulosic biofuel plant. We produce a cleaner fuel for millions of drivers, every day. We're POET and we're driving innovation, from the ground up. Learn more [here](#). \*\*\*\*\*

**FOR YOUR RADAR -- "Navy stops search for 7 missing sailors after bodies found,"** by AP's Mari Yamaguchi in Yokosuka, Japan: "The search for seven U.S. Navy

sailors missing after their destroyer collided with a container ship off Japan was called off Sunday after several bodies were found in the ship's flooded compartments, including sleeping quarters. Vice Adm. Joseph Aucoin, the commander of the Navy's 7th Fleet, described the damage and flooding as extensive, including a big puncture under the waterline. The crew had to fight to keep the ship afloat, he said, and the ship's captain is lucky to have survived." <http://apne.ws/2sGAXc0>

**BLAST FROM THE PAST -- KNOWING MARK CORALLO: "Meet the man managing Trump's biggest crisis yet,"** by Eliana Johnson, Josh Dawsey, and Josh Gerstein: "Veteran GOP operative Mark Corallo is known for accepting tough crisis-management cases, but even he wasn't daredevil enough to accept the job an embattled President Trump considered him for last month: White House communications director. Instead, Corallo chose to stay outside the building, becoming the top spokesman for Trump's personal lawyer Marc Kasowitz.

**"In his new role, he finds himself handling** the White House's defense against independent counsel Robert Mueller's probe into Russian interference in the presidential election, which has expanded to include inquiry into whether Trump himself tried to obstruct the investigation. Corallo had never met Trump or Kasowitz before taking the job but is now routinely in the West Wing several times a week, strategizing with a temperamental and media-obsessed president who sees himself as his own best spokesman.

**"I think I will be more help to the president** on the outside than I would have been on the inside," Corallo told POLITICO." *With cameos from Karl Rove, David Ayres and Ed McFadden* <http://politi.co/2seOZjF>

-- **FLASHBACK:** Corallo speaking to Isaac Doveve in May about Trump staff: "They're hostages." <http://politi.co/2rKcOMS>

**SCHUMER'S FIRST BIG TEST -- "Democrats to step up attacks on GOP's Obamacare repeal effort,"** by Burgess Everett: "Democratic senators are planning to hold the Senate floor until at least midnight on Monday to thrash Senate Republicans for refusing to hold committee hearings on their health-care overhaul, according to several people familiar with the plan. The round of speeches is being organized by Sens. Patty Murray of Washington state and Brian Schatz of Hawaii.

**"But on the more weighty question** of whether to object to the GOP's committee hearings or refusing to allow routine business in the Senate regarding nomination votes or uncontroversial matters, the party has made no final decision. While the party's liberal wing is demanding that Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York and his team shut the Senate down, Schumer has made no decision and often tries to forge consensus in his caucus before executing party strategy.

**"Though several sources on the party's left** believe Schumer may be open to the idea, Democratic leaders have been resistant to procedural obstruction thus far. They

believe blocking unrelated matters could shift the spotlight from Republicans' secretive process to Democratic obstruction. And it could set expectations high among the party's base that Democrats can stop the repeal, when in reality if Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) has the votes the party will be powerless to stop him."

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

-- **IT'S WORTH NOTING:** Since assuming the top Senate leadership job after the 2016 election, Schumer has made it his leadership style to govern by consensus. Depending on how the Obamacare repeal effort plays out, this could be test for how he'll appease his frustrated left flank while not overplaying his hand.

### THE JUICE ...

-- **Community Catalyst Action Fund** is launching a seven-figure TV and radio ad buy targeting Republican senators in Alaska, Maine, Nevada and West Virginia on Obamacare repeal. The TV ads, produced by GMMB, will run for the next two weeks and feature a mother whose son has chronic asthma and requires frequent trips to the doctor. The radio ad, also produced by GMMB, and digital ad component are part of the "Keep Care at Home" campaign, which is focused on Medicaid cuts, and will also include events in each state. **The TV ads** <http://bit.ly/2tgIz3j> ... **The radio ad** <http://bit.ly/2seKt4W>

**THE LATEST IN GEORGIA -- TOO CLOSE TO CALL: "Georgia special election hurtles toward nail-biting finish,"** by Steven Shepard: "As the most expensive House race in history rushes toward the finish line Tuesday, the latest public polls are unanimous: The Georgia special election between Democrat Jon Ossoff and Republican Karen Handel is too close to call. The race for the suburban Atlanta seat, closely watched for clues about the shape of the 2018 midterm elections, appears to be within a few percentage points - with perhaps the slightest edge to Ossoff, the 30-year-old Democrat seeking to wrest away a traditionally Republican seat in the first major election of Donald Trump's presidency. ... The current state of play: Of the six public polls conducted in June, Ossoff leads in five of them - and hits the 50-percent mark in each of the five - with the fifth showing a tie." <http://politi.co/2rt57uY>

-- **NYT's ALEX BURNS and JONATHAN MARTIN: "High-Stakes Referendum on Trump Takes Shape in a Georgia Special Election"** <http://nyti.ms/2rEqr50>

**SUNDAY BEST, PART II -- JOHN DICKERSON** speaks to **SEN. MARCO RUBIO (R-FLA.)** on **CBS'S FACE THE NATION -- DICKERSON:** "The president has called the investigations a witch hunt. What's your opinion of that?" **RUBIO:** "Well, I know he feels very strongly about it. My advice to the president is what I communicated publicly. The way I've tried to communicate to everyone on this issue. And that is this. It is in the best interest of the president and the country to have a full investigation. If I were the president, I would be welcoming this investigation. I would ask that it be thorough and completed expeditiously and be very cooperative with it. That's what ultimately I anticipate they will do. That's in the best interest of the president. I really believe that. I

think it's in the best interest of our country that we have a full-scale investigation that looks at everything so that we can move forward."

**DICKERSON:** "So regardless of what you may think about James Comey's firing as FBI director, you think it should be investigated?" **RUBIO:** "Well, I just think it's important to answer questions. Because otherwise, if people have any doubts, it undermines confidence in our system of government, in our elections, in our leaders. As I said, the best thing that can happen for the president and for America is that we have a full-scale investigation that is credible, that it reaches its conclusion one way or the other so that we can move on. But at the same time be knowledgeable. We have to know everything the Russians did and how they did it so that we can prevent this from happening in the future."

**RUBIO** talks with **CHUCK TODD** on **NBC's "MEET THE PRESS"** -- **TODD:** "The more the administration tries to soften the sanctions in the House, at any point, do you understand, if some people see that as circumstantial evidence in this probe?" **RUBIO :** "I could understand how some people would make that argument. I could also tell you though that I personally believe that at the core of the resistance is not the president. And I don't think the president himself has a problem with additional sanctions on Russia. I think the concern actually comes from the State Department and for the following reason: they argue that they are trying to get the Russians to be more cooperative on a number of fronts and that this could set us back. It's a legitimate argument, I've thought about it, I don't agree with it. And you saw the majority of my colleagues didn't agree with it this week."

**POWER PLAYBOOKER - DAVID PETRAEUS** to PBS NewsHour's Judy Woodruff on why Americans should support staying engaged in Afghanistan: "This is a generational struggle. This is not something that is going to be won in a few years. We're not going to take a hill, plant the flag and go home to a victory parade. We need to be there for the long haul but in a way that's sustainable. You know we've been in Korea for 65-plus years because there's an important national interest for that. We were in Europe for a very long period of time, still there of course, and actually with a renewed emphasis given Russia's aggressive actions." **Video** <http://bit.ly/2rF21IN>

## Playbook Reads

**PHOTO DU JOUR:** President Donald Trump, first lady Melania Trump and their son Barron Trump, board Marine One on the South Lawn of the White House on June 17 en route to Camp David in Maryland. | Carolyn Kaster/AP Photo

**THE BIG QUESTION AHEAD OF TRUMP'S TECH SUMMIT -- "CEOs Have Access to Trump, but Do They Have Clout?,"** by WSJ's Vanessa Fuhrmans and Peter Nicholas: "When tech industry executives gather at the White House Monday,

brainstorming ways to modernize government will be on the agenda. But on display will be President Donald Trump's evolving relationship with America's corporate chieftains. Some 300 business leaders have met with Mr. Trump since he took office promising the nation's top executives a direct line to the Oval Office and a chance to shape economic policy.

**"The discussions have helped** the president project an image of CEO-in-chief as he awaits a major legislative victory and have given CEOs a voice in initiatives like the administration's push to expand apprenticeship programs. But corporate leaders are learning about the limits of their clout. Hopes for an overhaul of the corporate-tax code this year are fading, some executives and corporate lobbyists say, as the White House and lawmakers struggle to reach consensus on a plan that could get through Congress. Mr. Trump's move to quit the Paris climate accord has been a stinging lesson for some that White House face time doesn't always translate into influence."

<http://on.wsj.com/2rEU8p8V>

**WHAT K STREET IS READING -- "Republicans debating remedies for corporate tax avoidance,"** by Reuters' David Morgan: "President Donald Trump and Republican leaders in Congress will soon confront a complex challenge for tax reform: how to limit U.S. corporate tax avoidance schemes that take advantage of low tax rates in foreign countries. Congressional and administration staff have begun to examine options to address profit-shifting schemes that include so-called transfer pricing, earnings stripping and tax inversions. A decision on how to handle these in tax legislation could come before Congress leaves town for its one-week July 4 recess on June 29, officials and lobbyists said." <http://reut.rs/2seHWaU>

**WAP0'S ABBY PHILLIP -- "Milwaukee Sheriff David Clarke rescinds acceptance of Homeland Security post":** "Late Friday, Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke Jr. formally notified Secretary of Homeland Security John F. Kelly that he had rescinded his acceptance of the agency's offer to join DHS as an assistant secretary," said Craig Peterson, an adviser to Clarke. "Sheriff Clarke is 100 percent committed to the success of President Trump and believes his skills could be better utilized to promote the president's agenda in a more aggressive role." <http://wapo.st/2sDJaNA>

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from POET - one of the world's largest ethanol producers:** Led by scientists and engineers, POET is a biofuels company built from innovation. POET operates 30 biofuel facilities across eight states & America's first cellulosic biofuel plant. Across the country, we support 40,000 renewable energy jobs producing a cleaner fuel for millions of drivers, every day. Inside the Beltway, we advocate for pro-biofuel policies to remove barriers to consumer fuel choices with a Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) fix, support a strong Renewable Fuel Standard, and open new markets for U.S. exports and trade. We are securing a cleaner future for all of us. We are POET and we're driving innovation, from the ground up. Learn more [here](#). \*\*\*\*\*

**MORE ON MEGYN KELLY -- "Unedited Putin Interview Reveals A Missed Opportunity For Megyn Kelly and America,"** by Yashar Ali in HuffPost: "As Megyn

Kelly and NBC News face a firestorm over her interview with InfoWars' Alex Jones, unedited footage from her recent interview with Russian President Vladimir Putin shows a nervous Kelly who asked the authoritarian leader softball questions and failed to hold him accountable on key topics. Most troubling, Kelly devoted precious time in her short interview to a question that led one former CIA Russia analyst to say that it sounded as if Putin had written the question himself.

**"In the full, unedited discussion**, obtained by HuffPost, Kelly repeatedly fails to interrupt the Russian president while he rambles in his responses. She also asks Putin questions he can easily dispute. The last question Kelly asked Putin, which was not aired, was startling in its pandering. 'We have been here in St. Petersburg for about a week now. And virtually every person we have met on the street says what they respect about you is they feel that you have returned dignity to Russia, that you've returned Russia to a place of respect. You've been in the leadership of this country for 17 years now. Has it taken any sort of personal toll on you?'" <http://bit.ly/2rsxPwo>

**MEDIAWATCH -- "The Danger of Ignoring Alex Jones,"** by Charles J. Skyes in the NYT: "When Mr. Jones was merely a marginal figure on the paranoid right, the case could plausibly be made that he was better left in obscurity. But now that, at least according to Mr. Jones, the president of the United States has praised him and thanked him for the role he played in his election victory, it's too late to make that argument. We can't keep ignoring the fringe. We have to expose it." <http://nyti.ms/2rsZ61q> ... **Charlie Sykes is an MSNBC contributor**

**TV TONIGHT** -- MSNBC will air a special edition of "The Point with Ari Melber" at 5 p.m. for the 45th anniversary of the Watergate break in. The show features Tom Brokaw, Dick Cavett, former Watergate special prosecutors and never-before-seen documents from the Justice Department's Watergate Special Prosecution Force.

**BONUS GREAT WEEKEND READS**, curated by Daniel Lippman:

--**"Young Men Are Playing Video Games Instead of Getting Jobs. That's OK. (For Now),"** by Peter Suderman in Reason in the July 2017: "A military shooter might offer a simulation of being a crack special forces soldier. A racing game might simulate learning to handle a performance sports car. It's a simulation of being an expert. It's a way to fulfil a fantasy. That fantasy is one of work, purpose, and social and professional success." <http://bit.ly/2twpXdC>

--**"Can Democrats Fix the Party?"** by Rolling Stone's Tim Dickinson: "Trump's victory exposed the party establishment as utterly broken - now Dems hope to rebuild in time for a 2018 comeback." <http://rol.st/2rAh2eF>

--**"What Makes a Glass House the Ideal Home for a Communist Gynecologist,"** by Cody Delistraty in JStor: "The windows in the waiting area are high, allowing light to enter, but also arranged so that infertile women waiting for the doctor weren't forced to see the Dalsace children playing in the backyard." <http://bit.ly/2syDZhu>

--"**The Ideal Iceland May Only Exist in Your Mind,**" by Taffy Brodesser-Akner in Afar magazine: "But you can, and should, still go in search of it." <http://bit.ly/2tBnmzi>

--"**Vatican tailors, cobblers try to adapt to Francis's 'papal athleisure,'"** by Claire Giangravè in Cruxnow: "Pope Francis's emphasis on simplicity and frugality is a hit all around the world, but it's produced just a bit of backlash among fashion-conscious Italians, including an exclusive club of tailors and shoemakers who outfit pontiffs -- some of whom are a little nostalgic for the days when being pope also meant dressing to the nines." <http://bit.ly/2sBCccz>

--"**The Fake Hermit,**" by Natalia Portinari in piaui: "Thomas [Pynchon] was very thin and very handsome, like a Romeo kind of guy. He was like an Italian lover, very, very sexy. He wasn't interested in money. He had a very dry sense of humor, so that's why we got along so well. He never hurt my feelings. He tried to be a hippie, but it wasn't easy for him. He was a hard worker." <http://bit.ly/2roGnnU>

--"**What Duck Sex Reveals about Human Nature,**" by Johann Grolle in Der Spiegel: "Copulation in most birds is achieved by a cloacal kiss, just an apposition of orifices. This is the essential reason why birds are so beautiful. Since they have the freedom of choice, females exhibit aesthetic preferences. And, as a result of these preferences, males developed amazingly elaborate ornaments." <http://bit.ly/2sC9W9A>

--"**How the U.S. Triggered a Massacre in Mexico,**" by ProPublica's Ginger Thompson, co-published in NatGeo: "There's no missing the signs that something unspeakable happened. Entire blocks lie in ruins. In March 2011 gunmen from the Zetas cartel swept through like a flash flood, demolishing homes and businesses and kidnapping and killing dozens, possibly hundreds, of men, women and children. The destruction and disappearances went on in fits and starts for weeks." <http://bit.ly/2sHUo43>

--"**If Israel were smart,**" by Sara Roy on Gaza in the London Review of Books: "[A]most half the labour force [do not] any means to earn a living. Unemployment - especially youth unemployment - is the defining feature of life. It now hovers around 42 per cent (it has been higher), but for young people (between the ages of 15 and 29) it stands at 60 per cent. Everyone is consumed by the need to find a job or some way of earning money. 'Salaries control people's minds,' one resident said." <http://bit.ly/2roQAR5>

--"**Philip Roth's Newark,**" by Steven Malanga in City Journal: "The city at its peak and in its decline are the novelist's two greatest characters." <http://bit.ly/2sa9tu0> (h/t ALDaily.com)

--"**A reckoning for our species': the philosopher prophet of the Anthropocene,**" by Alex Blasdel in The Guardian: "Timothy Morton wants humanity to give up some of its core beliefs, from the fantasy that we can control the planet to the notion that we are

'above' other beings. His ideas might sound weird, but they're catching on."  
<http://bit.ly/2rF51QB> (h/t Longform.org)

--"**What It Would Really Take To Sink A Modern Aircraft Carrier**," by Robert Farley in Jalopnik: "Even a supersonic cruise missile can take twenty minutes to reach its target area at maximum range, and a carrier maneuvering at high speed can move ten miles in the same period of time. A massive aircraft carrier can move surprisingly fast for something weighing over 100,000 tons, with a top speed of more than 30 knots, or about 35 miles an hour, which is what you get when you go for nuclear power."  
<http://bit.ly/2roV3Dy>

--"**After Oranges**," by Wyatt Williams in Oxford American, discussing "Oranges," by John McPhee: "Fifty years later, Oranges reads as an agile survey of world history, a vivid period piece of changing American foodways, and an early classic by a master just beginning to find his form ... Today, no one is quite sure if Florida's oranges will survive"  
<http://bit.ly/2tbvwPw> (h/t TheBrowser.com)

## Playbookers

**WEEKEND WEDDINGS - Zack Roday**, press secretary for Team Ryan, and **Alleigh Marre**, who does press for HHS, got married on Saturday with the ceremony and reception at Rust Manor House in Leesburg, Virginia. The bride came down the aisle to "At Last," and the wedding was officiated by Zack's childhood friend and Best Man Ben Horwitz. The couple met on Gov. Scott Walker's campaign in Wisconsin. **Pics**  
<http://bit.ly/2sHijAK> ... <http://bit.ly/2rEL5Cb> ... <http://bit.ly/2sE16r1>

--**SPOTTED**: Gov. Scott and Tonette Walker, Matt Gorman and Annie Clark, Jesse Hunt and Kim Kaiser, Ian and Elsie Prior, Chris and Andrea Grant, Jake Kastan, Kevin Seifert, Betsy Ankney, Eli Miller, Jason Heath, Alexandra Clark and Scott Dillie, Bryant Avondoglio and Ellie Krust.

--"**Cathryn Clüver, Tom Ashbrook**" - N.Y. Times: "The bride, 41, is the founding executive director of the Future of Diplomacy Project at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the Harvard Kennedy School. She graduated from Brown and received a master's in European studies from the London School of Economics and a master's in public administration from the Harvard Kennedy School. ... The groom, 61, is the host of the NPR talk show 'On Point,' a daily program produced at WBUR in Boston. He graduated from Yale. He is the author of 'The Leap,' which chronicles his time as an internet entrepreneur, after a career as a journalist." *With pic*  
<http://nyti.ms/2soxxYq>

- "**Stephanie Sy, David Ariosto**": "Ms. Sy, 40, is a New York-based special on-air news correspondent for PBS and the host of Carnegie Council's 'Ethics Matter' interview series, a public affairs program that is shown periodically on PBS. She graduated from

the University of Pennsylvania. ... On June 26, Mr. Ariosto, 36, will begin working as a supervising producer of 'All Things Considered,' the NPR news program. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and received a master's degree in public policy from George Mason University. ... The couple met in June 2015, at Al Jazeera America, where the bride was a news anchor and the groom an on-air reporter." **With pic** <http://nyti.ms/2sMcBgR>

--"**Sara Randazzo, Christopher Kirkham**": "The bride, 31, is a legal reporter at The Wall Street Journal in Los Angeles. She graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles. ... The groom, 33, is also a reporter at The Journal in Los Angeles, covering the casino and hotel industries. He graduated from Northwestern, where he also received his master's degree in journalism. ... The couple were introduced through mutual friends in New York in November 2011." **With pic** <http://nyti.ms/2seYvDG>

**SPOTTED** at the going-away party last night (with a live band) in DC for Paul Wood and Ruth Sherlock, who is leaving in two weeks to become NPR's new Beirut correspondent (she was previously U.S. editor at The Telegraph): Susannah Cunningham, Merrit Kennedy, Susannah Wellford, Thomas Gibbons-Neff, Emily Lenzner, Suzanne Kianpour, John Hudson, Nihal Krishan, Vivek Jain, Matt Rosenberg, Karoun Demirjian, Diaa Hadid, Athena Jones, Karen Attiah.

**BIRTHDAYS**: Dina Powell ... WaPo's Fred Barbash ... Charlie Herman ... Joanne Lipman, chief content officer at Gannett and editor in chief of USA Today ... Niall Stanage, WH columnist at The Hill, is 43 ... David Wood (Mr. Beth Frerking), Pulitzer winner ... Kate Knudson ... Rep. Jerry McNerney (D-Calif.) is 66 ... Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY) is 68 ... Nick Johnston, editor at Axios, is 4-0 (h/t Bill McQuillen) ... Megan Mitchell ... Bipartisan Senate alumni birthday: former Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-WVa.) is 8-0 and former Sen. Mike Johanns (R-Neb.) is 67 ... David Drucker, senior political correspondent at Washington Examiner, is 46 ... Romney alum John Whitman, now press secretary for Texas Gov. Greg Abbott ... HFA alum John McCarthy, COS for Rep. Brendan Boyle (D-Penn.), (h/ts Fran Holuba, Anastasia Dellaccio and Ben Chang) ... Millie Harmon Meyers, public affairs at the U.S. Mission to the UN (h/t Ben) ... Geri M. Joseph is 94 ... Kenneth Lipper is 76 ... Blair Efron is 55 (h/ts Jewish Insider) ... DOT alum Ajashu Thomas ... Clare Bresnahan, executive director of She Should Run (h/t Jill Bader) ... Politico Europe's Blanca Renedo is 29 ... Kevin Landrigan, legendary New Hampshire political correspondent ... HFA and GSG alum Chris Allen ... Bob Scutari ...

... **Will Kinzel**, managing director of gov't affairs at Delta ... Jennifer Carignan ... Politico's Claire Okrongly and Shannon Rafferty ... LifeZette's Jim Stinson (h/t Jon Conradi) ... BuzzFeed's Mary Ann Georgantopoulos ... Bert Gomez, Univision's SVP of federal and state gov't relations... Tom Readmond ... Michael Van Der Galien ... former Hardballer Jeremy Bronson, now creator of "The Mayor," airing this fall on ABC ... former CNNer Meryl Conant Governski, now an associate at Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP ... Zach Wilkes ... Jason Kello ... Daniel Epstein is 33 ... Levi Drake ... Max Stahl is 3-0 ... Lisa Barron ... AJ Goodman ... Ron Rosenblith ... Dick Mark ... Debbie Shore (h/ts Teresa Vilmain) ... country singer Blake Shelton is 41 (h/t Kurt Bardella) ... Sir Paul

McCartney is 75 ... Dizzy Reed (Guns N' Roses) is 54 (h/ts AP)

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from POET - one of the world's largest ethanol producers:** Led by scientists and engineers, POET is a biofuels company built from innovation. POET operates 30 biofuel facilities across eight states & America's first cellulosic biofuel plant. Across the country, we support 40,000 renewable energy jobs producing a cleaner fuel for millions of drivers, every day. Inside the Beltway, we advocate for pro-biofuel policies to remove barriers to consumer fuel choices with a Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) fix, support a strong Renewable Fuel Standard, and open new markets for U.S. exports and trade. We are securing a cleaner future for all of us. We are POET and we're driving innovation, from the ground up. Learn more [here](#). \*\*\*\*\*

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**To:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman  
**Sent:** Fri 6/30/2017 11:42:44 AM  
**Subject:** POLITICO Playbook, presented by the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD): What JOE and MIKA said about POTUS -- TRUMP calls for repeal, and later replace -- WHO'S IN JARED's 'circle of trust' -- SPOTTED at Carol Lee's party at Trump hotel

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Today's POLITICO Playbook presented by the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD)  
06/30/2017 07:39 AM EDT

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

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## Driving the Day

**BULLETIN -- THE PRESIDENT SAYS HE'S SENDING "FEDERAL HELP" TO CHICAGO** -- statement at **6:48 a.m.**: "Crime and killings in Chicago have reached such epidemic proportions that I am sending in Federal help. 1714 shootings in Chicago this year!" ... **TRUMP** also said this on Twitter at **6:37 a.m.** : "If Republican Senators are unable to pass what they are working on now, they should immediately REPEAL, and then REPLACE at a later date!"

-- **THIS WAS THE GOP LEADERSHIP'S ORIGINAL PLAN!** But now, many Republicans would be opposed to this. First, there are procedural issues. And second, ripping out the health care system without a replacement is not an option for most conservatives, who spent much of the winter calling for a simultaneous repeal and replace.

**SCOOP** - first posted on POLITICO Pro at 7:51 p.m. Thursday: "**Trump's trade plan sets up global clash over 'America First' strategy,**" by Andrew Restuccia and Nancy Cook: "In a bid to keep his campaign promise to crack down on unfair trade practices, President Donald Trump is weighing trade restrictions on steel imports from countries like China, according to two administration officials. ... The president's advisers are coalescing around a tailored approach that would target the steel imports of individual countries." <http://politi.co/2s97FyZ>

**Good Friday morning and happy getaway day. JOE SCARBOROUGH and MIKA BRZEZINSKI** appeared on "Morning Joe" at the top of the 7 a.m. hour to respond to the president's tweets about them. Before they came on, they played a clip of Ivanka decrying "viciousness."

-- **MIKA:** "I think it's been fascinating and frightening and really sad for our country." ... "I'm fine. My family brought me up really tough. This is absolutely nothing -- for me personally. But I am very concerned as to what this once again reveals about the president of the United States."

-- **JOE:** "We're ok, the country's not." ... "He, for some reason, takes things so much more personally with women. He's so much more vicious with women." ... "He attacks women because he fears women."

-- **MIKA:** "Big picture: my father just passed away. My mother had two heart attacks. My daughter just lost a friend. Those are the things I'm really worried about."

**JOE** said they got calls from ambassadors saying "we stand by you, we stand by Mika, we stand by the show, this is shocking, we don't even know how to respond to this as a country, we don't know how to deal with this guy."

-- **WILLIE GEIST** at the top of the 6 a.m. hour: "Mika's smart, she's strong, she makes people in power uncomfortable and she fears absolutely no one." ... **DONNY DEUTSCH** on the president, who Willie noted has known Deutsch for years: "He's a pig. He's a vulgar pig."

**JOE** and **MIKA'S WAPO OP-ED -- POSTED AT 5:10 A.M. -- "Donald Trump is not well"** -- "President Trump launched personal attacks against us Thursday, but our concerns about his unmoored behavior go far beyond the personal. America's leaders and allies are asking themselves yet again whether this man is fit to be president. We have our doubts, but we are both certain that the man is not mentally equipped to continue watching our show, 'Morning Joe.'

**"The president's unhealthy obsession with our show** has been in the public record for months, and we are seldom surprised by his posting nasty tweets about us. During the campaign, the Republican nominee called Mika 'neurotic' and promised to attack us personally after the campaign ended. This year, top White House staff members warned that the National Enquirer was planning to publish a negative article about us unless we begged the president to have the story spiked. We ignored their desperate pleas.

**"Mr. Trump claims that we asked to join him** at Mar-a-Lago three nights in a row. That is false. He also claimed that he refused to see us. That is laughable.

**"The president-elect invited us both to dinner on Dec. 30.** Joe attended because Mika did not want to go. After listening to the president-elect talk about his foreign policy plans, Joe was asked by a disappointed Mr. Trump the next day if Mika could also visit Mar-a-Lago that night. She reluctantly agreed to go. After we arrived, the president-elect pulled us into his family's living quarters with his wife, Melania, where we had a pleasant conversation. We politely declined his repeated invitations to attend a New Year's Eve party, and we were back in our car within 15 minutes. Mr. Trump also claims that Mika

was 'bleeding badly from a face-lift.' That is also a lie.

-- **OTHER HIGHLIGHTS:** Mika didn't have a face-lift but had "a little skin under her chin tweaked, but this was hardly a state secret. Her mother suggested she do so, and all those around her were aware of this mundane fact." ... "During the height of the 2016 presidential campaign, Joe often listened to Trump staff members complain about their boss's erratic behavior, including a top campaign official who was as close to the Republican candidate as anyone." <http://wapo.st/2stqLPvv>

-- **ANY GUESSES** on who the campaign official "as close to the Republican candidate as anyone" is? When the president reads that, he won't be pleased with, well, the "campaign official ... as close to the Republican candidate as anyone." **Take our anonymous Playbook poll and we'll share the results in Power Briefing later today:** <http://bit.ly/2tsxLAI>

**WELL**, if the president punches back at people who hit at him, he'll probably bring out a bazooka for this one.

**MAKE NO MISTAKE** ... Trumpworld enjoys this war with the media. It satisfies his electoral base. It does absolutely nothing for Washington, which he needs to keep happy in order to pass legislation and govern, which is now his job.

-- **@rickklein:** "Kellyanne says she wants 'a full conversation about policy' now. @GMA"

**THE MEDIA** was covering health care policy obsessively until the president raised this issue. The conversation in the Capitol remains squarely focused on whether Republicans will be able to pass their repeal and replace bill.

**THE DUSTUP** is a battle of Acela corridor titans. Whatever Trump - or anyone - thinks about "Morning Joe," its relevance is unquestionable. It has a steady stream of elected officials and top-notch journalists every weekday - which is why Trump probably gets tweaked when it doesn't skew in his direction. Most of his barbs, as we've seen, are reserved for elite media, which he simultaneously blasts and courts.

**BUT, BUT, BUT ...** This feud isn't really registering outside of D.C. and New York. **AROUND THE COUNTRY -- MEH --** A number of newspapers send their front pages to Playbookland overnight. Only a few papers this morning displayed Trump's vulgar remarks.

**WHAT AMERICA CARES ABOUT MORE THAN THIS ... THE STATE** (Columbia, South Carolina): "He delivered a giraffe, saved a sea lion - and now, Riverbanks' Krantz is retiring" <http://politi.co/2twFzSA> ... **THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH:** "Water rate limit may halt Pickaway plan" <http://politi.co/2u5NzqM> ... **CHARLOTTE OBSERVER:** "ISIS investigations underway in N.C." <http://politi.co/2uqRrlu> ... **DES MOINES REGISTER:** "TORNADOES LEAVE THEIR MARK ON IOWA" <http://politi.co/2stognV> ... **CINCINNATI ENQUIRER:** "SOCCER'S MR. CLUTCH" <http://politi.co/2sYmQhq>

-- **ARIZONA REPUBLIC** teased the Trump/"Morning Joe" feud on the lower right-hand side of A1 with the headline, "Insults by Trump again grab attention" <http://politi.co/2stxngT> ... **LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL**, recently purchased by Sheldon Adelson's family, featured the story prominently as a centerpiece. They screenshotted the tweets. **HEADLINE:** "Trump tweets draw fire from both sides ... Attacks on media critics lead to calls for civility" <http://politi.co/2u5GCWu>

**MAGGIE HABERMAN** and **GLENN THRUSH** wrote the lead story on A1 of the NYT with the headline: "TRUMP'S TAUNTS AIMED AT TV HOST PROMPT REBUKES ... GENDER-ORIENTED BARBS ... New Charges of Sexism, Even From Fellow Republicans" **Story** <http://nyti.ms/2t7ZAM4> ... **A1 PDF** <http://nyti.ms/2uqvJy7>

**N.Y. DAILY NEWS -- "HUMILIATION"** <http://nydn.us/2truCS1>

**IMPORTANT GRAPH FROM WAPO'S JENNA JOHNSON AND ABBY PHILLIPS:** "[B]y going after a powerful female journalist's appearance and mental health, Trump not only distracted the country from his legislative agenda for a full news cycle, but also added yet another data point to the argument that he treats women differently from men." <http://wapo.st/2sYb9Hq>

-- **TARA PALMERI: "White House council for women and girls goes dark under Trump** : The administration is evaluating whether to keep the office, created under President Barack Obama to focus on gender equity." <http://politi.co/2uqZkaK>

**PUTTING IT INTO CONTEXT -- "Trump, Mika Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough: A Roller-Coaster Relationship,"** by NYT's Liam Stack: <http://nyti.ms/2sY0M6z>

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD):** A new study found that pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) reduced spending in Medicare Part D by 58 percent in 2014, driving down costs for the government, taxpayers, and beneficiaries. The study forecasts that PBMs will save \$1,800 per Medicare beneficiary, per year over the next ten years. Learn more at [affordableprescriptiondrugs.org](http://affordableprescriptiondrugs.org) \*\*\*\*\*

**TRUMP'S FRIDAY -- THE PRESIDENT** is speaking to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and then will have South Korean President Moon Jae-in at the White House for a meeting and a public statement. Trump and the first lady head to Bedminster, New Jersey, at 4 p.m.

**HAPPENING NEXT WEEK -- TRUMP TO EUROPE -- "Angela Merkel Sets Collision Course With Trump Ahead of G-20,"** by NYT's Melissa Eddy in Berlin: "A combative Chancellor Angela Merkel set herself on a collision course with President Trump and his 'America first' agenda on Thursday, predicting 'very difficult' talks over climate change and trade when she hosts a summit meeting of 20 global leaders next week.

**"Speaking before Parliament on a day when she also gathered** European Union leaders in Berlin to form a common front, the German leader made no bones about the 'obvious' disagreement with the United States. 'Whoever believes the problems of this world can be solved by isolationism and protectionism is making a tremendous error,' Ms. Merkel said, in what will most likely be her final address before Parliament before closing out her third term in office." <http://nyti.ms/2uq4tjc>

-- **"Long anticipated Trump-Putin meeting raises worries,"** by Michael Crowley: "President Donald Trump plans to sit down with Vladimir Putin next week, pursuing warmer relations with the Russian leader despite multiple investigations into his campaign's alleged ties to the Kremlin. The expected meeting in at the annual G-20 summit in Hamburg, confirmed Thursday by National Security Adviser H.R. McMaster, will be the first between Trump and Putin after more than a years of intense scrutiny of their relationship. The two men have spoken on the phone twice since Trump took office.

**"It is unclear what messages Trump might deliver** to Putin at a time of high tension between Washington and Moscow over Russia's interference in the 2016 election and its military presence in Ukraine and Syria. But many national security experts and Russia hawks inside the Trump administration are concerned that a president who has spoken for months about the prospect of a friendship with Putin might be too eager to please his strong-willed Russian counterpart." <http://politi.co/2t6HR7M>

**THE HEALTH CARE CONUNDRUM -- "Dazed GOP bolts Washington in health care disarray,"** by Burgess Everett, Seung Min Kim and Sarah Karlin-Smith: "Senate Republicans skipped town on Thursday afternoon facing stiff internal opposition to their health care proposal and a July 4th recess where critics will pummel their effort to repeal Obamacare. Though the Senate whirred to life with deal-making between Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and his members, senators were dazed by the up-and-down week and nowhere near a plan that could get 50 votes. The GOP is planning to write new language to be analyzed by Friday, but were far from reaching a broad agreement as senators had hoped.

**"In some ways, we're going around in circles** but I think we're getting closer on some elements,' said Sen. Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.). 'This is complex.' And there's no guarantee that time back home will make things better. 'Our members seem to have too much information and are almost in mental lockdown,' said one Republican senator, who was perplexed at where the party goes from here. 'I can't imagine going home for 10 days is helpful.'" <http://politi.co/2u2w8XZ>

**NEXT STEPS:** "The best party leaders could hope for was to send a collection of new proposals to the Congressional Budget Office to analyze over the recess, which would likely include maintaining Obamacare's so-called net investment income tax that levels a surcharge on some high-income earners. The money would then be used to help low-income people afford health care."

-- **TRUTH TALK:** The longer the Senate bill is out there for review and the more senators hear from constituents that they don't like what's in the bill, the harder it is going to be to pass it.

**TURN OF THE SCREW -- "GOP Operative Sought Clinton Emails From Hackers, Implied a Connection to Flynn,"** by WSJ's Shane Harris: "Before the 2016 presidential election, a longtime Republican opposition researcher mounted an independent campaign to obtain emails he believed were stolen from Hillary Clinton's private server, likely by Russian hackers. In conversations with members of his circle and with others he tried to recruit to help him, the GOP operative, Peter W. Smith, implied he was working with retired Lt. Gen. Mike Flynn, at the time a senior adviser to then-candidate Donald Trump. ...

**"What role, if any, Mr. Flynn may have played** in Mr. Smith's project is unclear. In an interview with The Wall Street Journal, Mr. Smith said he knew Mr. Flynn, but he never stated that Mr. Flynn was involved. Mr. Flynn didn't respond to requests for comment. A Trump campaign official said that Mr. Smith didn't work for the campaign, and that if Mr. Flynn coordinated with him in any way, it would have been in his capacity as a private individual. The White House declined to comment." <http://on.wsj.com/2trcaZk>

**KNOWING JARED -- "Inside Jared Kushner's circle of trust,"** by Annie Karni: "In his former life as a Manhattan real estate developer and newspaper owner, Jared Kushner often lunched with Alan Patricof, a venture capitalist and Democratic fundraiser with a decades-long allegiance to the Clintons. Patricof, 81, fit the profile of a typical Kushner friend - a wealthy patrician New Yorker old enough to be his father, whom Kushner sought out for advice (see: Rupert Murdoch, Joel Klein and Ron Perelman). ...

**"In his first six months in Washington,** he's developed a new circle of advisers - one that's more political - while leaving some of his earlier confidants behind. He's discreet about who he calls upon for outside advice in his White House role. But some of the new additions to his cadre are people like former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, and Sen. Ted Cruz's former campaign manager, Jeff Roe, whose data-driven primary campaign caught his attention.

**"The shift from his old life in New York** to his current political reality is one Kushner wasn't necessarily prepared for when he moved his family to Washington to join his father-in-law's administration. 'This is not what he expected,' said one associate who speaks with him regularly. Most surprising to the new-to-politics senior adviser, according to multiple people with ties to Kushner, is the snakepit environment of the West Wing, and the backbiting from rival colleagues." ***With cameos by Ken Kurson, Jamie Gorelick, Sen. Bob Corker, Steve Schwarzman, Ron Dermer, Yousef Al Otaiba*** <http://politi.co/2t7eIJG>

**COMING ATTRACTIONS -- "Centrist Republicans mobilize against draft GOP budget,"** by Rachael Bade and Sarah Ferris: "Centrist House Republicans are lining up to oppose a draft GOP budget curbing entitlement spending - and threatening to vote

against the plan if they don't get a bipartisan deal to increase spending caps. Tuesday Group co-chairman Charlie Dent (R-Pa.) is gathering signatures on a letter asking Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) to intervene in House Budget Chairwoman Diane Black's plan to curb \$200 billion in mandatory spending in the GOP budget.

**"The Tuesday Group letter** - which sources say has about 20 signatories so far - warns that the Tennessee Republican's proposal is 'not practical' and 'could imperil tax reform,' according to a draft letter obtained by POLITICO. The letter also encourages GOP leaders to work with Democrats to reach a budget agreement setting higher spending levels for fiscal 2018 - something the letter suggests could be paired with a vote to raise the debt ceiling." <http://politi.co/2t6bs1p>

-- **WHY THIS MATTERS:** Congress needs to pass a budget to do tax reform. If they don't, tax reform is practically impossible. Conservatives are squeezing Paul Ryan from the right. And moderates are now pushing him from the middle.

**FOR YOUR RADAR -- "U.S. plans to sell Taiwan about \$1.42 billion in arms,"** by Reuters' David Brunnstrom and Arshad Mohammed: "The United States plans to sell Taiwan \$1.42 billion in arms, the first such sale under the administration of Donald Trump and a move sure to anger China, whose help the president has been seeking to rein in North Korea. U.S. State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert told reporters the administration had told Congress of the seven proposed sales on Thursday." <http://reut.rs/2tshGKS>

-- **AP/BEIJING** : "Beijing has strongly protested a U.S. plan to sell \$1.4 billion worth of arms to Taiwan and demanded that the deal be canceled. Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang on Friday said Washington should immediately stop the sale to avoid harming relations with Beijing. He said the deal would severely damage China's sovereignty and security interests and runs contrary to Washington's commitment to a 'one-China' policy." <http://bit.ly/2tr1mdY>

## THE JUICE ...

-- **KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON** is being nominated as the next NATO ambassador. "Hutchison's nomination to be the U.S. representative to the military alliance comes amid scrutiny of the organization from Trump. The president demanded in May that NATO member nations spend more on defense, saying that it was unfair to American taxpayers if they don't meet commitments to do so." <http://politi.co/2tqNoc4>

-- **@JimPressOffice** (Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner's account): "A fun moment between friends: @SpeakerRyan gives the Dean his belated birthday gift on the Speaker's Balcony! #WI05" <http://bit.ly/2sXvjRG>

--**"Here's the Audio of Donald Trump's Private RNC Fundraiser at His Own Hotel,"** by The Intercept's Ryan Grim and Lee Fang: <http://bit.ly/2trpwF5>

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## Playbook Reads

**PHOTO DU JOUR:** Former President Barack Obama greets a staffer during his visit to Prambanan Temple in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on June 29. | N. Agung Nugroho/AP Photo

**IN MIDTOWN WEST -- "CBS News President Tells Staff 'Evening News' Anchor Transition Didn't Go Smoothly, Hurt Morale,"** by Hollywood Reporter's Jeremy Barr: "In late May, it came out that after six years as anchor of the CBS Evening News, Scott Pelley would be vacating the chair. In an employee town hall Thursday morning, CBS News president David Rhodes was asked if he thinks the rocky transition has hurt company morale.

**"I absolutely do. And I'm concerned about it,' he said** , according to someone who viewed the event. 'Transitions are difficult. We've had some very smooth ones while I've been here, and this one wasn't one of the smoothest. And I'm concerned about that. It didn't go the way that I wanted it to go.'" <http://bit.ly/2sYqeJ1>

**-- THE QUESTION OF THE SUMMER:** Who does CBS choose as its next evening news host?

**SHOT -- "Administration Moves to Carry Out Partial Travel Ban,"** by NYT's Gardiner Harris, Mike Shear and Ron Nixon: "The Trump administration moved aggressively on Thursday to fulfill one of the president's most contentious campaign promises, banning entry into the United States by refugees from around the world and prohibiting most visitors from six predominantly Muslim countries. Freed by the Supreme Court to partly revive President Trump's travel ban, administration officials said the American border would be shut to those groups unless specific individuals can prove they have close family members living in the United States, or are coming to attend a university or accept a job offer.

**"Officials said those exceptions would be defined narrowly.** In a lengthy cable sent to embassies and consulates around the world, officials said that extended family connections would not be enough to evade the president's ban on entry. Parents, including in-laws, are considered 'close family,' but grandparents are not, for instance. Stepsiblings and half-siblings will be allowed, but not nieces or nephews. Late Thursday, the Trump administration added people who are engaged to be married - who originally were not considered to be close family members - to the list of sufficient connections." <http://nyti.ms/2tsD3Mv>

**CHASER -- HAWAII, AGAIN -- "Hawaii challenges Trump stance on Supreme Court travel ban ruling,"** by Josh Gerstein: "The State of Hawaii is asking a federal judge to rule that the Trump administration's latest plan to carry out President Donald Trump's travel ban executive order defies the ruling the Supreme Court issued on the

subject just four days ago. In a new court filing, lawyers for the state and for a Hawaii Imam say guidance the Trump administration issued Thursday takes too narrow a view of what family relationships qualify to exempt a foreigner from the travel ban and would deny admission to refugees who should be exempt from the ban due to their connections to a U.S. refugee aid agency.

**"This Court should clarify as soon as possible** that the Supreme Court meant what it said, and that foreign nationals that credibly claim connections with this country cannot be denied entry under the President's illegal Order,' Hawaii Attorney General Douglas Chin and private counsel Neal Katyal wrote in a motion filed Thursday with U.S. District Court Judge Derrick Watson." <http://politi.co/2ssCKNa>

**WHAT CHRIS COX IS READING -- "Federal judge blocks new California gun control law requiring disposal of large-capacity magazines,"** by L.A. Times' Patrick McGreevy: "Many California firearm owners were given a reprieve Thursday from making a tough decision after a federal judge temporarily blocked a key provision of the state's gun control laws approved last year in the wake of the San Bernardino terrorist attack. At the request of attorneys for the National Rifle Assn., U.S. District Judge Roger T. Benitez issued a preliminary injunction blocking a law that requires Californians to dispose of large-capacity ammunition magazines by Saturday or face fines and possible jail time." <http://lat.ms/2s7DEzn>

**\*\*\*\*\* A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD):** A new study projects pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) will save Medicare Part D \$896 billion over ten years. PBMs drive savings for taxpayers and seniors by negotiating discounts from drug manufacturers; by encouraging the use of lower cost, clinically equivalent drugs; and by providing clinical programs that improve health outcomes. Learn more at [affordableprescriptiondrugs.org](http://affordableprescriptiondrugs.org) \*\*\*\*\*

**MICHAEL KRUSE in the July/Aug. issue of POLITICO Magazine, "How Gotham Gave Us Trump:** Ever wonder how a lifelong urbanite can resent cities as much as Donald Trump does? First you have to understand '70s and '80s New York": "For Trump, as inhospitable as he found the city on the street, the parlors of high society were equally problematic-and he created a refuge. It was some 600 feet in the sky, where the faucets were gold, the baseboards were onyx and the paintings on the ceiling, he would claim, were comparable to the work of Michelangelo in the Sistine Chapel. At the top of Trump Tower, biographer Tim O'Brien told me, he could live 'at a remove from the city and its amazing bloodstream of ideas and people and culture'- 'encased,' added fellow biographer Gwenda Blair, 'within this bubble of serenity and privilege.'" <http://politi.co/2t7O8QT>

**FIRST PERSON -- "Present at the Destruction: How Rex Tillerson Is Wrecking the State Department:** I worked in Foggy Bottom for 6 years. I've never seen anything like this," by Max Bergmann in POLITICO Magazine: "I recently returned to Foggy Bottom for the first time since January 20 to attend the departure of a former colleague and career midlevel official - something that had sadly become routine. ... As I made the

rounds and spoke with usually buttoned-up career officials, some who I knew well, some who I didn't, from a cross section of offices covering various regions and functions, no one held back. To a person, I heard that the State Department was in 'chaos,' 'a disaster,' 'terrible,' the leadership 'totally incompetent.' ...

**"As I walked through the halls once stalked by diplomatic giants** like Dean Acheson and James Baker, the deconstruction was literally visible. Furniture from now-closed offices crowded the hallways. Dropping in on one of my old offices, I expected to see a former colleague-a career senior foreign service officer-but was stunned to find out she had been abruptly forced into retirement and had departed the previous week. This office, once bustling, had just one person present, keeping on the lights. This is how diplomacy dies. Not with a bang, but with a whimper. With empty offices on a midweek afternoon." <http://politi.co/2u5GOoD>

**VALLEY TALK -- "Twitter is looking for ways to let users flag fake news, offensive content,"** by WaPo's Elizabeth Dwoskin: "Twitter is exploring adding a feature that would let users flag tweets that contain misleading, false or harmful information, according to two people familiar with the company's projects. The feature, which is still in a prototype phase and may never be released, is part of the company's uphill battle against rampant abuse on its platform. It could look like a tiny tab appearing in a drop-down menu alongside tweets, according to the people." <http://wapo.st/2snAnQU>

**MEDIAWATCH -- "Greta Van Susteren out at MSNBC after six months,"** by Hadas Gold: "MSNBC has parted ways with anchor Greta Van Susteren after just six months on air, as her show failed to live up to the network's ratings expectations. An MSNBC executive said the decision to remove the former Fox News host was purely for business reasons, based on ratings.

**"MSNBC and Greta Van Susteren** have decided to part ways. Greta is a well-regarded television veteran and one of only a few broadcasters who can say they've hosted shows at all three major cable news networks. We are grateful to her and wish her the best,' MSNBC president Phil Griffin said in a memo to staff on Thursday afternoon. 'Please join me in wishing Greta well as she departs. We have enjoyed having her on our air and we're thankful to her and the show team.'" <http://politi.co/2sW01L0>

-- **@oliverdarcy:** "BuzzFeed is launching an opinion section. @tomgara will be editor. More details in this memo @BuzzFeedBen just sent out to staffers" <http://bit.ly/2tssEAf>

--**JAKE TAPPER** has won the Radio Television Digital News Association's 2017 John F. Hogan Distinguished Service Award, which "recognizes an individual's contributions to the journalism profession and freedom of the press." <http://bit.ly/2twBSw2>

**Playbookers**

**SUNDAY SO FAR -- NBC's "Meet the Press":** Sen. Tom Carper (D-Del.) ... Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-La.) ... Malcolm Gladwell. Panel: Hugh Hewitt, Kasie Hunt, Katty Kay, Eugene Robinson

--**CBS' "Face the Nation":** Sen. Mike Lee (R-Utah). Panel with four authors who've written books about presidents: Peter Baker, John Farrell, Lynne Olson and Sally Mott ... "City of Ghosts" director Matthew Heineman, and Syrian journalist Abdalaziz Alhamza. Political panel: Lanhee Chen, Michael Graham, Ezra Klein and Ruth Marcus

- **ABC's "This Week":** Ohio Gov. John Kasich

--**"Fox News Sunday":** John Roberts is subbing for Chris Wallace. Panel: Kim Strassel, Gerald Seib, Marie Harf, Charles Hurt

--**CNN's "State of the Union":** Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) ... Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.). Panel: Jason Kander, Karine Jean-Pierre, Rep. Marsha Blackburn, Scott Jennings

--**CNN's "Inside Politics"** with John King: Julie Pace, Perry Bacon, Sara Murray, Phil Mattingly

**SPOTTED IN ASPEN** at a dinner last night hosted by David Bradley and Comcast: Chris Matthews, Andrea Mitchell, Dafna Linzer, Steve Clemons, Bob Cohn, Evan Osnos

**SPOTTED** last night at Carol Lee's WSJ going away party at the Trump hotel (she's heading to NBC News): Maureen Dowd, Sean Spicer, Ashley Parker, Philip Rucker, Jon Karl, Jeff Mason, WSJ D.C. bureau chief Paul Beckett, party organizer Julie Mason, Margaret Talev, Peter Nicholas, Julie Davis, Brianna Keilar, Eli Stokols and Josh Dawsey

**SPOTTED** yesterday at the Nats-Cubs game (the Cubs won 5-4): CLF President Corry Bliss, Team Ryan's Kevin Seifert and Jake Kastan, and Boehner alum Barry Jackson

**SPOTTED** last night at the National Press Club for a party celebrating Peter Baker's new book "Obama: The Call of History": Susan Glasser, Jeff Ballou, Christi Parsons, Carol Lee, Michael Shear, Betsy Fischer Martin and Jonathan Martin, Julie Hirschfeld Davis, Tony Blinken and Evan Ryan, Isaac Doveve, Steve Scully, Alexis Simendinger, Margaret Talev, Nicole Rabner, Heidi Crebo-Rediker, Diana Farrell, Jeff Bieber, Suzanne Struglinski, Lindsay Underwood, Lisa Matthews

**OUT AND ABOUT IN NYC --** Fresh from addressing the European Parliament in Brussels (<http://mikebloom.bg/2sjt1Ck>), Mike Bloomberg last night hosted the official launch party for the newly redesigned Bloomberg Businessweek under editor Megan Murphy. ***Pic of Bloomberg, Murphy and John Micklethwait in front of a giant iPhone replica with a live touch screen featuring the magazine's new daily app***

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

--**SPOTTED:** Reto Gregori, Kirsten Powers, Jim Aley, Howard Chua-Eoan, Yvette Vega, Hilary Rosen, Matt Winkler, Tammy Haddad, Juleanna Glover, Richard Haass, Stephanie Ruhle, Laura Zelenko, Iva Zoric, Jason Schechter, Ryan Williams (*pic of him with Bloomberg*: <http://bit.ly/2s8E7kX>), Evelyn Farkas, Jed Sandberg, Al Mayers, Ashley Bahnken, Jason Kelly, Edmund Lee, Jacki Kelley, Keith Grossman, Chitra Wadhvani, Mike Dukmejian, Ty Trippet, Harry West, Robert Vargas, Stu Loeser, Sara Fischer, Christine Taylor, Andrew Benett, Mitchell Moss, Deirdre Quinn, King Chong, Donna Faircloth, Susan Mercandetti, Chris Taylor, Jon Banner, Patty Harris.

**TRANSITIONS -- Karen Anderson** is leaving Results for America to join the University of Chicago's Becker Friedman Institute for Research in Economics, where she will help UChicago economists with the communication and dissemination of their research.

**HILLARY ALUMNI -- Oren Shur**, the Clinton campaign's former director of paid media and a DGA alum, has joined SKDKnickerbocker as SVP and political director.  
<http://politi.co/2tretMa>

**BIRTHWEEK (was yesterday):** BerlinRosen's Rob Duffey ... **(was Wednesday):** Leslie Peterson

**BIRTHDAY OF THE DAY: David Frum**, senior editor at The Atlantic, is 57. He's celebrating "in the little village of Wellington, Ontario, where my family has been spending summers for almost three decades." How he thinks the Trump presidency is going: "Mostly sinister, sometimes ludicrous." Read his Playbook Plus Q&A:  
<http://politi.co/2t7ROC7>

**BIRTHDAYS:** IRS Commissioner John Koskinen is 77 ... Purple Strategies' Kyle Plotkin, former CoS to Bobby Jindal (hat tip: Bobby) ... Alina Selyukh Pickeral, technology reporter at NPR and host of the All Tech Considered blog ... Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-Va.) is 6-0 ... Brian Stewart, media relations director at MoveOn.org ... Paul Cheung, director of visual journalism at NBC News digital ... Creative Coalition CEO Robin Bronk (h/t Tammy Haddad) ... Luke Jackson, press secretary for Sen. Jon Tester in Montana, is 26, celebrating by drinking IPA and listening to "Wagon Wheel" (the right version) on repeat (h/t Lauren Passalacqua) ... Luke Carter, director of data science at Y2 Analytics, is 25 (h/t Jack Appelbaum) ... John Legittino, CEO and co-founder of Advoc8, who celebrated last week with friends at U2 (h/ts Josh Sharp, Sara Murray, and Ryan Williams) ... Kara Wheeler, MetLife political affairs manager and an RNC and Hill alum, is 3-0 (h/t boyfriend Jon Adame, filing from Rosemary Beach, Florida) ...

... **Uber's Evangeline George**, a Team Pelosi alum, is 3-0, headed to Palm Beach with friends for the weekend (h/t Tom Manatos) ... Dan Judy, Vice President with North Star Opinion Research in Old Town (h/t John Celock) ... Laura Turanchik ... Bob McBarton ... Josefina Carbonell ... Robyn Shapiro ... Ward Carroll, U.S. Naval Institute's director of outreach ... Emily Sabbath ... Roxanne Conlin ... Alexandra Acker-Lyons, a Democracy

Alliance alum and founder of AL Advising, a philanthropic and political consulting firm ... Dan Leistikow ... Rachael Gorlin ... Kenzie Bok ... Norm Sterzenbach ... Jake Vilsack (h/ts Teresa Vilmain) ... photographer Gregory Beals ... Will Cappelletti, investment strategist at Chevron and a Don Rumsfeld alum ... Jake Stafford ... Montana Rep. Ellie Boldman-Hill Smith ... Douglas Waller is 68 ... Elizabeth Blackney ... David Alan Grier is 61 ... Mike Tyson is 51 ... Lizzy Caplan is 35 ... Michael Phelps is 32 (h/ts AP)

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD):** A new study estimates that Medicare Part D costs would be 58 percent higher without pharmacy benefit managers' (PBMs') clinical tools and price negotiations with drug manufacturers and pharmacies. The study shows PBMs significantly lower premiums and out-of-pocket costs for Medicare beneficiaries. In fact, PBMs are projected to save Medicare Part D \$896 billion over the next decade. Thanks to PBMs, Medicare Part D continues to drive savings and value for taxpayers and beneficiaries, ensuring that more than 39 million American seniors can access the prescription drugs they need. Learn more at [affordableprescriptiondrugs.org](http://affordableprescriptiondrugs.org) \*\*\*\*\*

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## **Daily Environment Report**

July 13, 2017 - Number 133

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### Leading the News

#### *Budget*

##### Appropriations Bill Advances With Cuts for EPA, Interior

A spending bill with cuts for environmental and public lands agencies was approved July 12 by a House subcommittee, over Democratic objections that the cuts were too big.

#### *Water Resources*

##### Drought Bill Passes House, Draws Ire of Top California Democrats

The Republican-led House July 12 passed a bill that would streamline water project permitting and take other actions to alleviate drought in California, but the state's top Democrats see it as a threat to state sovereignty and are vowing to kill it in the Senate.

### News

#### *Air Pollution*

##### Ozone Standards Delay Illegal, Advocates Argue in Lawsuit

Postponing decisions under the EPA's new ozone pollution limits for a year is illegal, a dozen environmental and public health groups said in a lawsuit.

#### *Air Pollution*

##### Senate Panel Votes to Reauthorize Diesel Grant Program

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee approved bipartisan legislation to reauthorize a popular federal clean air program that targets emissions from older diesel engines.

#### *Biotechnology*

##### App Links Chinese Farmers With Pesticide-Dropping Drones

Chinese farmers can now order drone-sprayed pesticides and fertilizers via a smartphone app.

### ***Biotechnology***

#### **Genetically Modified Soybean to Get EU Okay Despite Split Vote**

A genetically modified soybean will soon be allowed to be imported into the European Union, despite an inconclusive vote of the bloc's member countries July 12 and a negative European Parliament opinion, the European Commission told Bloomberg BNA.

### ***Brownfields***

#### **Senate Brownfields Bill With Added Liability Relief Advances**

New bipartisan brownfields legislation in the Senate could let some entities off the hook for contaminated site cleanup, while allowing more parties to become prospective site purchasers.

### ***Budget***

#### **Energy Innovation Agency Told to Work on Despite Budget Cuts**

The Energy Department's program to invest in innovative energy technologies should keep working even though it's in line for elimination, a House appropriator said.

### ***Chemical Security***

#### **Chemical Safety Board Avoids Funding Cut in House—For Now**

House lawmakers' decision to leave the U.S. Chemical Safety Board's funding flat in fiscal 2018 is a small reprieve after the White House proposed eliminating the agency earlier this year.

### ***Chemicals***

#### **EPA to Release New Chemical Control Rules Within Month: Official**

The EPA will release new chemical control rules within the next month, clearing part of the logjam of company requests to register new chemicals, an agency official told Bloomberg BNA July 12.

### ***Climate Policy***

#### **Australian States Seek Zero Carbon Emissions Absent Federal Plan**

Another Australian state has committed to net-zero greenhouse emissions by 2050, meaning most of the country's economy now operates under that goal despite the absence of a federal policy.

### ***Climate Policy***

#### **EU, the Number 20 in G-20, Finds Its Voice as U.S. Waffles**

At global summits, national leaders like Donald Trump, Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping, or Angela Merkel typically get the bulk of the attention. During last week's Group of 20 meeting in Hamburg, a more faceless entity—the European Union—took the lead, especially on trade and climate change.

### ***EPA***

#### **Senate Environment Panel Approves EPA Enforcement Nominee**

A Senate committee narrowly approved the nomination of Susan Parker Bodine to serve as EPA's assistant administrator for the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

### ***Endangered Species***

#### **Interior Picks Hint at Lesser Focus on Endangered Species**

President Donald Trump's picks to fill open spots at the Interior Department may indicate

endangered species protections will be less of a priority, according to environmental advocates.

### ***Energy***

#### **Bill to Boost Carbon Capture Tax Credit Resurfaces in Senate**

The recent collapse of high-profile carbon capture project at Mississippi's Kemper plant isn't deterring Senate lawmakers from pushing forward with a new policy to provide an incentive for that technology.

### ***Energy***

#### **Nuclear Regulatory Commission Nominees Clear Senate Panel**

Two nominees for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission cleared the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee June 29.

### ***Energy***

#### **Trump Picks Banker, Executive as Energy Undersecretaries**

President Donald Trump's pick to be the Energy Department's third-ranking official is an energy attorney and executive at an energy company in which billionaire Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. has a controlling stake.

### ***Food***

#### **General Mills Dodges Label Suit Over Pesticide Residue**

General Mills, Inc. July 12 dodged would-be class suits alleging it deceptively labels Nature Valley granola products as "natural" when they contain trace amounts of the weedkiller chemical glyphosate (In re General Mills Glyphosate Litig., D. Minn., No. 16-2869, 7/12/17).

### ***Fuel Efficiency***

#### **Australia Drive for Stricter Fuel Efficiency Angers Automakers**

The Australian government is considering a fuel efficiency standard for new light vehicles that has angered the association representing companies including Toyota, Volkswagen and Ford, but pleased climate advocacy groups.

### ***Hazardous Waste***

#### **Tennessee Hazardous Waste Handler Admits to Testing Fraud**

An Oak Ridge, Tenn.-based manufacturing company admitted July 11 to fraudulent hazardous material certifications for devices it shipped and agreed to pay \$500,000 in remediation and fines.

### ***NAFTA***

#### **Texas Lawmaker Sees NAFTA Labor Provisions Attracting Votes**

A vote on a modernized North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) will attract more Democrats than past trade deals since NAFTA 2.0 will contain upgrades to labor and environmental provisions, Rep. Will Hurd (R-Texas) said. "There's going to be a labor section in NAFTA," Hurd said, adding that pro-trade Democrats who view labor and environment as critical pieces in trade deals will "probably be happy with it." The pre-election rhetoric on NAFTA was in line with ...

### ***Natural Resources***

#### **Utah's National Monument Stance Sends Trade Show to Colorado**

Utah's perceived hostile stance against federal public lands designation spurred The North Face, Patagonia, REI and other outdoors recreation companies to urge a retailer association to move three major trade shows from Salt Lake City to Denver, an officer for The North Face told Bloomberg BNA.

### ***Oil & Gas***

#### **Billion-Barrel Mexican Find Could Spur Rush on Next Oil Auctions**

A billion-barrel crude discovery in Mexico could be just the lure the country badly needs to boost investment from oil majors as it lacks the wherewithal to reverse years of sagging output.

### ***Pipeline Safety***

#### **Transportation Agency to Audit Pipeline Safety Research**

The Department of Transportation is reviewing its communications on pipeline safety and use of outside research through an audit, it announced July 12.

### ***Regulatory Policy***

#### **House Panel Moves to Repress 'Back-Room' Rulemaking**

"Sue and settle" rulemaking by federal agencies, carried out without public input or knowledge, would be abolished under a bill approved by a House panel July 12.

### ***Renewable Energy***

#### **Solar Power Gets \$46 Million Boost From Energy Department**

The Energy Department awarded \$46.2 million in research grants to improve solar energy technologies and reduce costs to 3 cents per kilowatt-hour by 2030.

### ***Shareholder Activism***

#### **NRG to Shed Up to \$4 Billion of Assets on Elliott Pressure**

NRG Energy Inc., the U.S. power generator facing pressure from billionaire investor Paul Singer, rose the most in almost nine years after announcing plans to shed as much as \$4 billion of assets.

### ***Toxic Torts***

#### **Correction**

A story that ran in Daily Environment Report July 12 on a proposed class settlement involving a 2014 chemical spill into West Virginia's Elk River incorrectly said the settlement had been approved. The story has been corrected and reflects concerns the court said would have to be addressed prior to approval.

### ***Vehicle Fuels***

#### **Markup on Ethanol Boost Could Come Before August Recess**

A committee vote on legislation to boost ethanol sales could take place before the August recess, a spokeswoman for Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), the chief ethanol proponent in the Senate, told Bloomberg BNA.

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