

" I HOPE SOMEONE
GETS

MY MESSAGE.... "

IN
THE UNIVERSE [NOBOS !] !!!

MERRY Christmas

TO ALL!!!

U S S L E D K D T A S R G E G G N O G V
P T H Y O G S T E Y E I P E W D T D G B
N C H T T N J S B E N A G W R M I C E U
T A W S H A V A D G A A T E C D N E S D
W N Y S L O L N E M J G P N Y W S K H C
B D N L S E I R B U R A C F A G E E M M
L Y K J O E B U M X P M A X S S L R H A
Z C S N R R L W Y G N U T C R A C K E R
L A Y R E A O Q N T E M O C Y R U M G M
U N H A E N Z I U B M B J Q Q A A Q U R
S E D E S L P S U G A R P L U M S A H E
T H L T D P O A T Y N R E C J K B O P C
O F S P A O R R T O W S E D U N Q G L N
C R O R R E N S A R Y I H C E P I O O A
K C W D C E O N E C M S M N N F I B D R
I W Z A E R S A E N P V N T T A O D U P
N Y C S F E T E Z R F A R S F W D N R W
G K C H M H R M N W T O R N A M E N T S
S O L E M U P T O T U W E P S P Z R B G
N S L R D S A U M Q S M V Z I C R A V C

BOW

CANDY CANE

CAROLERS

COMET

CUPID

DANCER

DASHER

DONNER

EGG NOG

ELF

FROSTY

GIFTS

GINGERBREAD

NOEL

NUTCRACKER

ORNAMENTS

PRANCER

PRESENTS

REINDEER

RUDOLPH

SANTA

SLED

SNOW

STOCKINGS

SUGARPLUMS

TANNENBAUM

TINSEL

TOYS

TREE

WRAPPING PAPER

WREATH

CHRISTMAS WISH!

I had NO FRIEND TO WISH ME
GREETINGS ONCE AGAIN 2017!
NO I WON'T BE HOME
FOR XMAS OR NEW YEARS
EVE 2018

SANTA BROUGHT NO
PRESENTS

AND AGAIN SANTA AND
HIS RED NOSE REINDEER
DID NOT FLY ME UP AND
AWAY OVER THESE PRISON
ELECTRICIFIED FENCES

HOME!!!

BUT I STILL BELIEVE IN
BOTH OF YOU BEAUTIFUL
"COTS"! LOL

EYES ON 2018!!!

Holiday Tunes

Away in a Manger
 Choir of the Bells
 Dominick the Donkey
 Frosty the Snowman
 Holly Jolly Christmas
 Jingle Bell Rock
 Jingle Bells
 Let it Snow
 Little Drummer Boy
 Little St Nick
 O Holy Night
 Rudolph
 Santa Baby
 Silent Nigh
 Silver Bells
 The Christmas Song
 The First Noel
 Winter Wonderland



S	G	R	D	A	M	A	F	C	I	F	Z	Z	X	F	K	U	H	J	X
W	A	W	A	Y	O	B	R	E	M	M	U	R	D	E	L	T	T	I	L
C	K	M	B	H	P	L	O	D	U	R	J	T	G	J	I	H	Z	N	O
Z	D	W	T	Z	E	D	S	Y	E	L	C	B	Y	R	T	G	C	G	K
G	N	O	S	S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C	E	H	T	I	J	L	L
Q	A	N	K	O	I	D	Y	A	L	F	D	G	I	R	L	N	B	E	D
X	L	S	O	X	Q	R	T	B	T	I	N	W	X	N	E	T	O	B	J
D	R	T	J	T	I	R	H	V	A	A	H	X	I	P	S	N	A	E	W
F	E	I	F	W	V	T	E	C	M	B	E	U	U	B	T	E	S	L	S
N	D	T	U	C	C	H	S	A	Y	A	A	I	N	S	N	L	C	L	Q
B	N	E	V	X	E	G	N	X	I	L	M	T	R	I	I	I	Y	R	W
F	O	L	N	I	A	I	O	Z	T	K	L	I	N	X	C	S	J	O	U
B	W	V	E	S	Y	N	W	K	M	G	F	O	O	A	K	T	E	C	N
G	R	O	K	A	C	Y	M	V	Z	E	U	A	J	Y	S	L	D	K	U
M	E	Q	W	Q	O	L	A	O	H	K	P	I	T	Y	K	B	N	M	Q
G	T	A	P	U	I	O	N	T	S	L	L	E	B	E	L	G	N	I	J
L	N	F	G	C	Z	H	N	S	L	L	E	B	R	E	V	L	I	S	E
I	I	Y	E	K	N	O	D	E	H	T	K	C	I	N	I	M	O	D	S
L	W	B	T	K	S	L	L	E	B	E	H	T	F	O	R	I	O	H	C
U	I	M	U	Y	F	C	J	H	B	X	B	V	R	U	M	Q	C	Y	B

Chicken Scratch NY



CHRISTMAS SUDOKU

This is a fun way to practise your maths and logical skills. Maybe it's difficult to solve the first puzzle but don't give up, it's just a matter of practise. Every 9x9 block must include all letters of C, H, R, I, S, T, M, A and S. That means every block should only contain each of these letters once. The same rules are valid for every row or column. Have fun with this sudoku. Good luck!

CHRISTMAS								
	M		A		R		I	
		T		S		C		
R			I		C			H
A		C		H		I		M
	H		C	I	S		S	
S		I		M		T		C
M			S		T			S
		A		C		R		
	C		M		I		T	

icky, daban

Winter Sudoku

Solve the Sudoku puzzle below by filling in the blank spaces with numbers between 1 and 9. Make sure no numbers appear twice in the same row, column or 3x3 square.

1		4		5			8	9
		8	9					1
5	9		8	1	2		4	7
		9	5			8		
8		2	3		9	7	6	
	4	5		8	1			3
		3	1		6		9	2
2	6		4	9		1		
9	5					4		6

Difficulty: MEDIUM

TELL ON THE MOUNTAIN !!!

HEY YOU ALL (UNIVERSAL NEWS)?

Have You Yet Heard About the
"old"-New gurl IN TINSEL TOWN!

Did You ALL See the First
Black Lady Comedian Host
OF NBC SNL - ever!?

LOVE WORDS !!

Did You ALL hear Black
and BEAUTIFUL!!! MS.
Haddish exclaimed in her
opening shtick:

I am a FINE Woman!!!

SWEET!!
MUSIC TO MY EARS!

O' how my Heart SING!

O' Lordy How LONG!!!

TIFFY HADDISH

Actress, Girls Trip

Girls Trip - Which had the largest opening for a live-action comedy this year and is talk for a sequel - was the break out surprise of 2017, with Haddish serving as the flip-out, fouled-mouthed rule-breaker who's now on everyone's mustcast list. IN 2018 She stars in Kevin Hart's next comedy.

ELLE.COM / THE BOUNDARY BREAKERS
NOVEMBER 2017, P. 82

SEE ALSO: HOT COMEDY TIFFY HADDISH
How The stand up went from
hard times to huge laughs By
ALEX MORRIS Rollingstone.com
11-16-2017 (RS 1300) P. 39 (w/pic)

DIANA THE PEOPLES QUEEN!

"Royal Romance: Prince Harry, Meghan Markle to Wed Next Year." SEE BELOW P2

Harry is QUEEN OF HEART!!!)

Diana's True SON is carrying
ON "Her" Family Tradition, and
To Marry a NON-White Person.

KUDOS! XOXO!!!

PRAYING

I M A G I N E / L E N N O N O

L O V E A N D H A P P I N E S S [A N D " P E A C E ! "] A L G R E E N

/ O F 2

modules have been delayed and the ships' cost grew. Then the Government Accountability Office questioned the ships' survivability in battle.

There are two versions of the littoral combat ship, both capable of topping 50 mph and utilizing steerable waterjets to operate in shallow water.

When all is said and done, the Navy is expected to take delivery of more than two dozen littoral combat ships. A combination of LCS and frigates would comprise more than half of the Navy's deployed surface combatants by 2030, said Lt. Seth Clarke, a Navy spokesman.

The Congressional Research Service said the Navy wants to spend no more than \$950 million per frigate, while Clarke put the target at \$800 million per ship after the first ship.

Working in the ship's favor in terms of affordability: The proposal calls for no new technologies. That's a far cry from littoral combat ships and larger, stealthy Zumwalt-class destroyers that incorporated new designs and technologies that contributed to significant cost overruns.

At Bath Iron Works, a General Dynamics subsidiary, officials examined U.S. and foreign designs to meet Navy requirements and partnered with a Spanish company, Navantia, to utilize an existing design from a Spanish navy frigate, said Dirk Lesko, the shipyard's president.

Bath Iron Works helped to design the Navy's Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigates, the last of which were retired from duty in 2015.

The shipyard's 5,700 workers who currently build Arleigh Burke-class and Zumwalt-class destroyers are eager for the opportunity to build the frigates.

"We know how to build them. We're ready to build more," said Mike Keenan, president of the Machinists Union Local S6, the shipyard's largest union.

Leonardo da Vinci painting sells for record \$450M

Call it the priciest piece of art ever. A once-lost portrait of Christ by the iconic Renaissance man Leonardo da Vinci sold Wednesday at auction for \$450 million, roughly triple its anticipated price and the most ever paid for a creative work of human genius. Salvator Mundi, "Savior of the World," was hammered down at a Christie's auction in New York after a quick tour around the world with stops in Hong Kong, San Francisco and London. The work is believed to be just one of 20 known paintings by da Vinci, who began crafting it around 1500 using a painstaking layering technique that often saw works completed over years. Among da Vinci's other fabled paintings he was also a brilliant inventor. The Last Supper and the Mona Lisa, which, like all of his other works, belong to museums.

Refreshing or Revolting: 2019 Chevrolet Corvette ZR1

This month, Chevrolet showed off the long-awaited 2019 Corvette ZR1. Making 755 hp

and 715 lb-ft of torque from a 6.2-liter supercharged V-8, the new ultimate Corvette can hit a top speed of 210 mph, according to Chevy. At the moment, there's no official price, but considering that the C6 ZR1 came with a base price north of \$100,000, expect the new one to be even pricier. Speaking of the C6, how does the new ZR1's design compare to the old one?

Up front, you get a much more aggressive look this time around. The regular C6 was styled much more conservatively than the C7, so that's to be expected. But Chevrolet also showed a lot more restraint when styling the 2009 ZR1. Compared to the 2019 version's massive air intakes, sharp creases, and generally angry appearance, the previous car's design looks downright tame. Still, they both offer a "power dome" hood cutout.

Out back, Chevrolet made an even bolder change to the ZR1. The previous version got a relatively subtle spoiler, but the new car gets a humongous wing. It's optional, so owners who don't like the look can still skip it, but the new wing makes it clear that this ZR1 is focused on packing as much on-track performance as it can into a street-legal package. In profile, the aggressive aero package and power dome stand out, but soon, you'll be able to buy the ZR1 as a convertible, a major change over the 2009 version.

Inside, buyers will be treated to a much nicer interior than before. That's mostly because the C7 Corvette's interior is a lot more high-end than it was in the C6. As much as we appreciated the C6 ZR1's massive power and incredible performance, the interior was pretty much a sea of cheap plastic. Owners will also have the option of equipping their ZR1 with an automatic transmission if they'd like.

Look for the new ZR1 to be on display at the Los Angeles Auto Show later this month before it goes into production part way through next year.

Jeep Wrangler Pickup Could Get Optional Soft Top

The upcoming Jeep Wrangler-based pickup could also be a convertible. According to a report from Automotive News, Jeeps new truck could receive a retractable soft top that can be lowered or completely removed just like in the Wrangler and Wrangler Unlimited. Sources who knew of the matter told Automotive News that the Wrangler-based pickup will be available as a drop top and will be built alongside the outgoing JK Wrangler and the upcoming JL Wrangler. However, the roof structure and support had to be redesigned in both the JL Wrangler and the upcoming Wrangler-based pickup in order to comply with current safety regulations on roof strength.

Last year, Jeep revealed a truck concept at its annual Easter Safari called the Crew Chief 715, which was essentially a Wrangler pickup. Automotive News notes that the Crew Chief 715 Concept's design cues could influence the production of the Wrangler-based pickup with the exception of the grille

since the truck is expected to utilize the more traditional seven-slot grille found in production Jeep vehicles.

We reported earlier this year that the Wrangler-based pickup could receive a diesel powertrain and a longer frame than the Wrangler Unlimited, and that the gas engines in the JL Wrangler may not find its way to the truck. As with the JK and JL Wranglers, the Wrangler-based pickup will be built alongside its SUV counterparts in FCA's Toledo, Ohio plant.

'X-Files' returns Jan. 3 on Fox

The next installment of the X-Files is near. The 10-episode second installment of Fox's The X-Files event series will premiere Jan. 3 at 8 ET/PT, the network announced Wednesday, followed by Ryan Murphy's crime procedural, 9-1-1. Fox Mulder (David Duchovny) and Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson) return as iconic FBI agents. Mitch Pileggi also returns as FBI Asst. Director Walter Skinner. Additionally, the new season will feature guest star turns from Annabeth Gish, Robbie Amell, Lauren Ambrose, Karin Konoval, Barbara Hershey, Haley Joel Osment and William B. Davis, Cigarette Smoking Man. Along with original series creator Chris Carter, series veteran Glen Morgan serves as an executive producer.

Royal romance: Prince Harry, Meghan Markle to wed next year

LONDON (AP) — Newly engaged Prince Harry and Meghan Markle on Monday lifted the secrecy that had shrouded their 18-month romance, revealing they met on a blind date, bonded during a camping trip under the stars in Botswana and that Harry proposed over a roast chicken dinner at their London home, getting down on one knee to pop the question.

Speaking just hours after the couple's engagement was announced by palace officials acting on behalf of Prince Charles, Harry said he was thrilled when she said yes, and he placed an engagement ring of his own design on her finger that included two diamonds that had belonged to his mother, Princess Diana, set alongside a large central diamond from Botswana.

"Just an amazing surprise," said the 36-year-old Markle, an American actress known for her role in the TV legal drama "Suits." "It was so sweet and natural and very romantic." Did she hesitate? Not if Harry can be trusted. "She didn't even let me finish," the 33-year-old prince said of his betrothed. "She said 'Can I say yes, can I say yes?' And then there were hugs and I had the ring in my finger and I was like 'Can I, can I give you the ring?' She goes, 'Oh yes, the ring.'"

The couple said they plan to marry in the spring, and Harry — fifth in line for the British throne — said he hopes to start a family.

They seemed very much aglow as they sat on a sofa during their first ever joint interview and described their long-distance courtship, with Markle busy filming in Canada and Harry fulfilling royal duties in Britain. They

said they saw each other every two weeks, despite the pressure and put their relationship first.

Markle, whose mother is African-American and whose father is white, said she had been "disheartened" when early press coverage about their relationship focused on her mixed-race background. But she seemed thrilled to be joining the royal family and spoke glowingly about Harry's brother Prince William, his wife Kate and other senior royals.

They will live in Nottingham Cottage on the grounds of Kensington Palace, where Harry proposed and where they will be neighbors with William and Kate. Markle has already brought one of her rescue dogs from Canada, while the other is staying with a friend for now.

Keith Urban Buys Nicole Kidman a \$40 Million NYC Mansion for Broadway Career

Nicole Kidman won't have to worry about staying in a hotel whenever she makes her return to Broadway. That's because her husband, country music star Keith Urban, bought a \$40 million Manhattan mansion for her.

Sources told Australia's Women's Day that Urban spent \$40 million on the mansion that was once owned by Michael Jackson. The Upper East Side home has seven bedrooms, so there's plenty of room for their three young daughters and Kidman's son with ex-husband Tom Cruise, Connor.

"Nicole is keen to do Broadway shows and get into making TV programs and New York is a much better place for them to be than Nashville," a source told Women's Day. According to the Modlin Group, the six-story home was built in 1898. It has plenty of floor space, with 12,745 square feet crammed into a 25-foot by 107.6-foot lot.

"This iconic home boasts 16 rooms with a grand parlor floor encompassing a formal dining room, oversized living room with south west exposures and garden views, and a butler's serving area for entertaining, 7 gracious bedrooms, 8 bathrooms, 2 powder rooms, 1 staff room and 1 staff bathroom," the Modlin Group's listing reads.

The 50-year-old Kidman, who is coming off her Emmy-winning performance in HBO's *Big Little Lies*, has rarely worked on the stage. According to *Broadway World*, she hasn't appeared on Broadway since the 1998 production of *The Blue Room*.

In 2015, she starred in *Photograph 51* in London, which was a smash hit and earned her the Evening Standard Award for Best Actress. There were rumors that she would star in the play on Broadway, but *The Daily Mail* reported in January that she has decided against it to be with her daughters.

Kidman starred as Rosalind Franklin, the female researcher who helped make breakthroughs in DNA research, in *Photograph 51*. The play was written by Anna Ziegler.

"I wanted to do *Photograph 51* on Broadway, that was the plan," Kidman said in January.

"But then I put the plan to my girls and they said nope!"

Pixar's Coco Tops Justice League at Thanksgiving Weekend Box Office

(NEW YORK) — Pixar's "Coco" sang its way to the fourth best Thanksgiving weekend ever with an estimated \$71.2 million over the five-day weekend, a total that easily toppled Warner Bros.' "Justice League."

"Coco" rode strong reviews and an A-plus CinemaScore from audiences to the top spot at the domestic box office. According to studio estimates Sunday, it grossed \$49 million from Friday to Sunday. Centered on the Mexican holiday *Día de Los Muertos* (Day of the Dead), "Coco" has already set box office records in Mexico, where it has made \$53.4 million in three weeks.

After a disappointing debut last weekend, the much-maligned DC Comics superhero team-up film "Justice League" slid to second with \$40.7 million. In the five-day holiday frame, it earned about \$60 million. "Justice League" is faring better overseas, where it has made more than \$300 million.

The two top spots told a familiar tale: Quality is trumping mediocrity at the box office, where Rotten Tomato ratings bear considerable weight and where word-of-mouth spreads lightning quick. "Coco" is Pixar's sixth release to land an A-plus CinemaScore from audiences. The film's Rotten Tomatoes rating, 96 percent fresh, is more than double that of "Justice League" (41 percent).

"In a world where movie going and quality seem to be connected, having a brand that has as consistently as Pixar has delivered on very high expectations definitely makes our work a little easier," said Dave Hollis, distribution chief for the Walt Disney Co., which owns Pixar. "Consumers have really come to expect high quality. This is once again Pixar doing what they do best."

The success of "Coco" came just as reports of sexual misconduct were published regarding Pixar co-founder and Disney Animation Chief Creative Officer John Lasseter. On Tuesday, Lasseter announced that he was taking "a six-month sabbatical." He acknowledged "missteps" and "unwanted hugs" with employees. Disney has said it supports Lasseter's leave of absence. Lasseter has been foundational to the rise of Pixar and the revitalization of Disney Animation. "Coco" is the latest in a long line of hits he's overseen.

After some early blunders (Disney tried to trademark "Día de Los Muertos," sparking a backlash), the studio strove to capture Mexican culture authentically in "Coco," enlisting cultural consultants for their feedback. The film, directed by Lee Unkrich and co-directed by Adrian Molina, is one of the largest U.S. productions ever to feature a largely all-Latino cast.

That makes "Coco" an anomaly in the Pixar canon but also in Hollywood. Hispanics

made up 23 percent of frequent moviegoers last year, but they're seldom catered to. Disney didn't share ethnic demographics for "Coco" ticket buyers but said signs pointed to a high turnout among Latinos.

"Telling great stories that represent the audience is a part of what makes a film successful, especially when you get it right," said Hollis.

Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore, called the film's result a positive story in "a week that was pretty challenging for Pixar."

"The future may lie in content like this, where you're telling stories about real human beings and about diversity," said Dergarabedian. "The Hispanic audience is key to the success of any given box office year, given the frequency and passion for moviegoing."

Still, the most profitable movie currently at the box office might be the Lionsgate family release "Wonder," directed by Stephen Chbosky. Starring Jacob Tremblay and Julia Roberts, the film — which carries a production budget of \$20 million — has made \$69.4 million. It slid just 19 percent in its second week, with \$22.3 million in ticket sales.

A number of specialty releases with Oscar ambitions also hit theaters over the weekend. Of them, Sony Pictures Classics' "Call Me By Your Name" came out with the best per-screen average: \$101,219 in four theaters. Not since "La La Land" has a film so packed theaters in specialty release. The movie, starring Timothée Chalamet and Armie Hammer, is about a young man's coming of age in 1980s Northern Italy.

"Darkest Hour," with Gary Oldman as Winston Churchill, debuted with \$176,000 on four screens. The expanding releases of Greta Gerwig's "Lady Bird" (\$4 million on 791 screens) and Martin McDonagh's "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" (\$4.4 million on 614 screens) also drew crowded theaters.

Less successful was the national rollout of "Roman J. Israel, Esq." with Denzel Washington. Though it bested the other releases with \$4.5 million on 1,665 screens, it's an atypical downturn for one of the movies' most consistently bankable stars. Not since Washington's 2002 directorial debut, "Antwone Fisher," has a film starring Washington performed as weakly nationwide.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "Coco," \$49 million (\$30.7 million international).
2. "Justice League," \$40.7 million (\$72.2 million international).
3. "Wonder," \$22.3 million.
4. "Thor: Ragnarok," \$16.8 million.
5. "Daddy's Home 2," \$13.3 million.

POSTED BY LEON IRBY

3 OF 3

DATED: 12-24-2017

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Five Christmas-trees
are hidden within the field.

Every Christmas-tree
is decorated
with its own set
of seven bulbs.

Every Christmas-tree
is exactly similar
to that shown
next to the field.

All Christmas-trees
have different sizes,
and may have
different orientation.

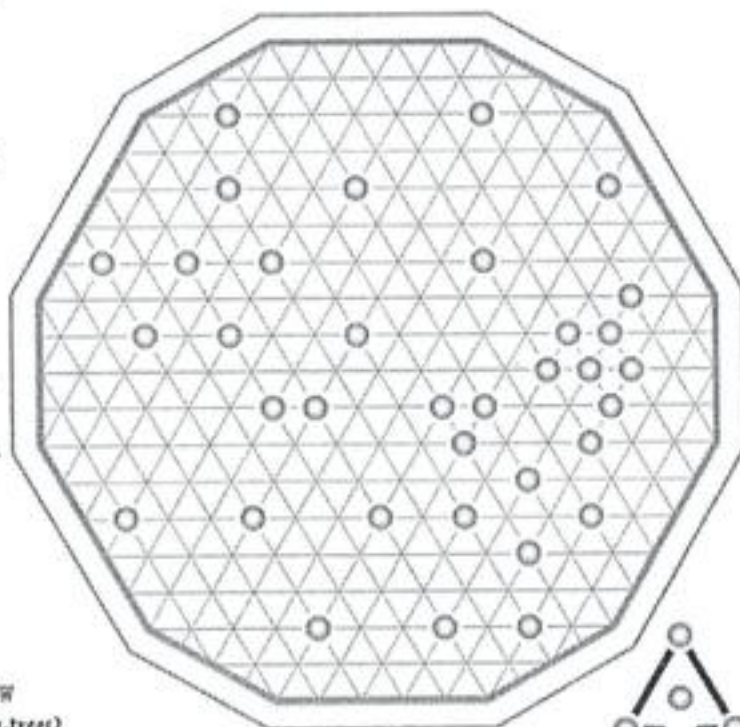
No Christmas-trees
overlap or touch
each other,
even at a corner.

Can you find and show
all the five Christmas-trees?

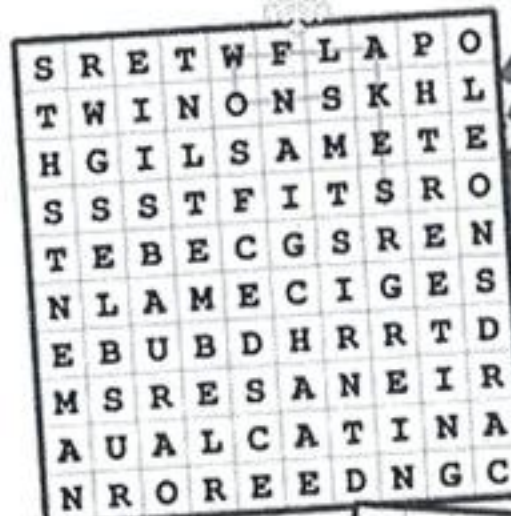
Happy Puzzling!

The Christmas-tree Field

a puzzle by Serhiy Grabarchuk



Copyright © 2005 Serhiy Grabarchuk



RAUBLES
CANDY CANE
CAROLS
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS
CHRISTMAS TREE
DECEMBER
ELVES
GIFTS
GINGERBREAD
GREETING CARDS
HOLLY

MISTLETOE
NORTH POLE
NUTCRACKER
ORNAMENTS
POINSETTIA
REINDEER
ROBIN
SANTA CLAUS
SNOWFLAKES
SNOWMAN
TOY FACTORY
WINTER



Winter Word Search



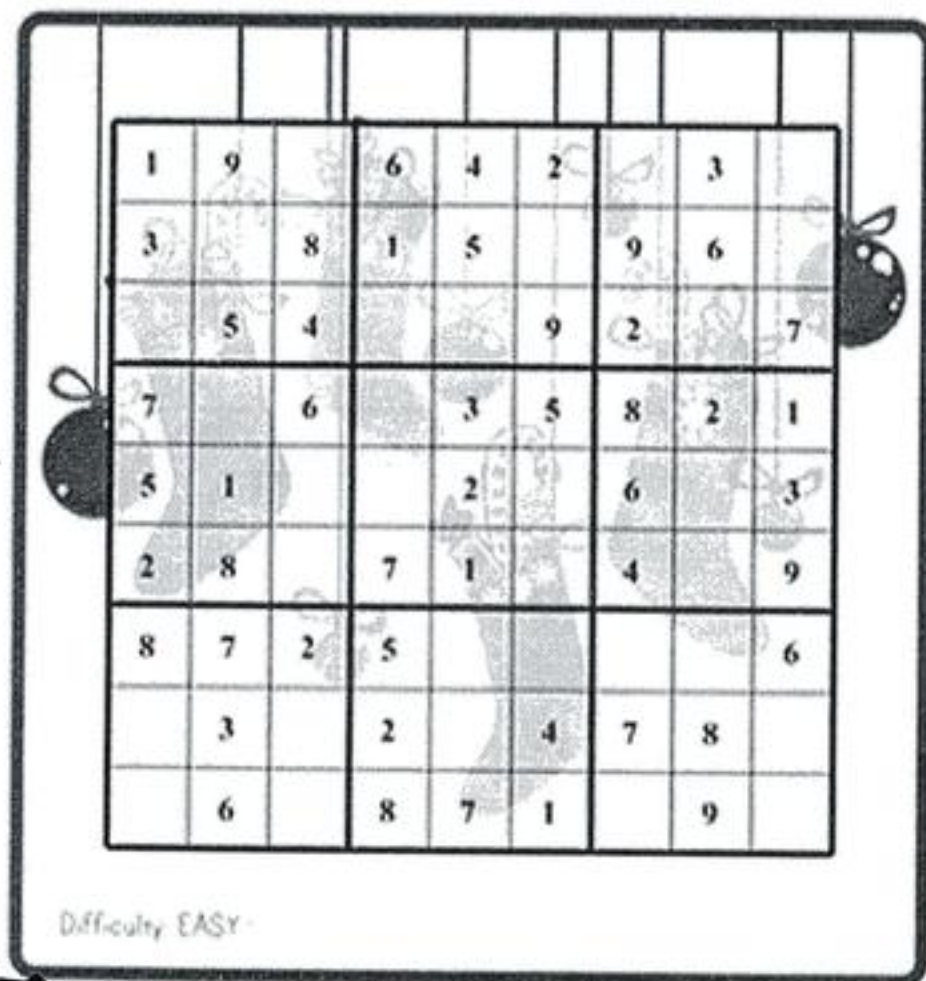
Boots
Coat
Freezing
Gloves
Hat
Ice
Ice Fishing

Ice Skating
Mittens
Scarf
Skiing
Sledding
Snow
Snow Ball

Snow Ball Fight
Snow Flake
Snowboarding
Snowman
Toboggan
Winter

Holiday Sudoku

Solve the Sudoku puzzle below by filling in the blank spaces with numbers between 1 and 9. Make sure no numbers appear twice in the same row, column or 3x3 square.



Difficulty EASY

PRAYING FOR MERCY FOR DR. BILLCOSBY
Ph.D

RETRIAL SET FOR 2018

UPDATE

UPLIGHTING SIGNS !!!

Last month, 2017, Jerry Seinfeld
Guesting on CBS LATE SHOW Refused to
Join with Host Stephen Colbert in de-
NOUNCING DR. COSBY.

He still maintained Dr. Cosby Comedy
ALBUM was the BEST and INFLUENCED him
the most!

Additionally Actor and Director
Jodie Foster earlier this month told
Mr. Colbert, on his show, she felt
Hollywood "ME TOO" cases should be
handled like South Africa's TRUTH
AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION!

Later this month it was AN-
NOUNCED Prof. Anita Hill will head

Such commission.

PRAYING FOR MERCY! AND
FORGIVENESS!!!

Ratie Lee: For Matt Lauer in "Me Too"
Sexual Allegations. NBC. COM TO DAY
10: A.M. HOUR 12-29-2017, Wed.

PRAYING FOR BILL COSBY

ON! This Forgiveness Spirit is catching

ONLY WHEN AMERICA'S Dad Started
TO "COME ON ALL" WAKE-UP did he
become a Threat to America!

PRAYING!!!

#STRANGE FRUIT/LADY DAY

DATED: 12-24-2017

2 of 2

PICTURE SUDOKU

Fill in the blanks using same pictures as the above set has.
When you finish, there should be only one of each picture in a row
and in a column.



ANSWER: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

Hidden Pictures®

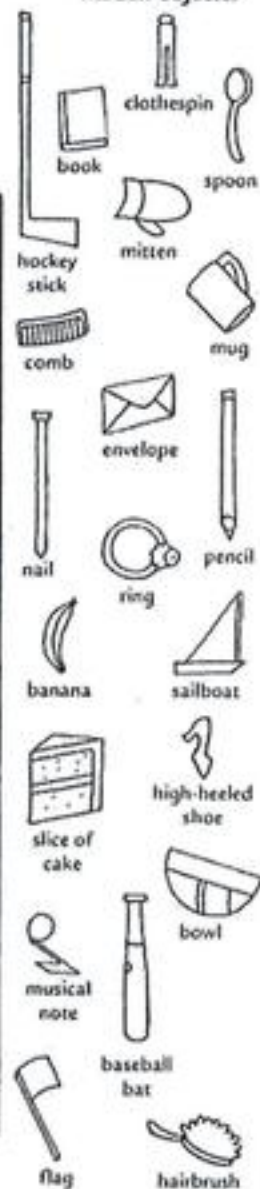
Decorating for the Holidays

By Sally Springer



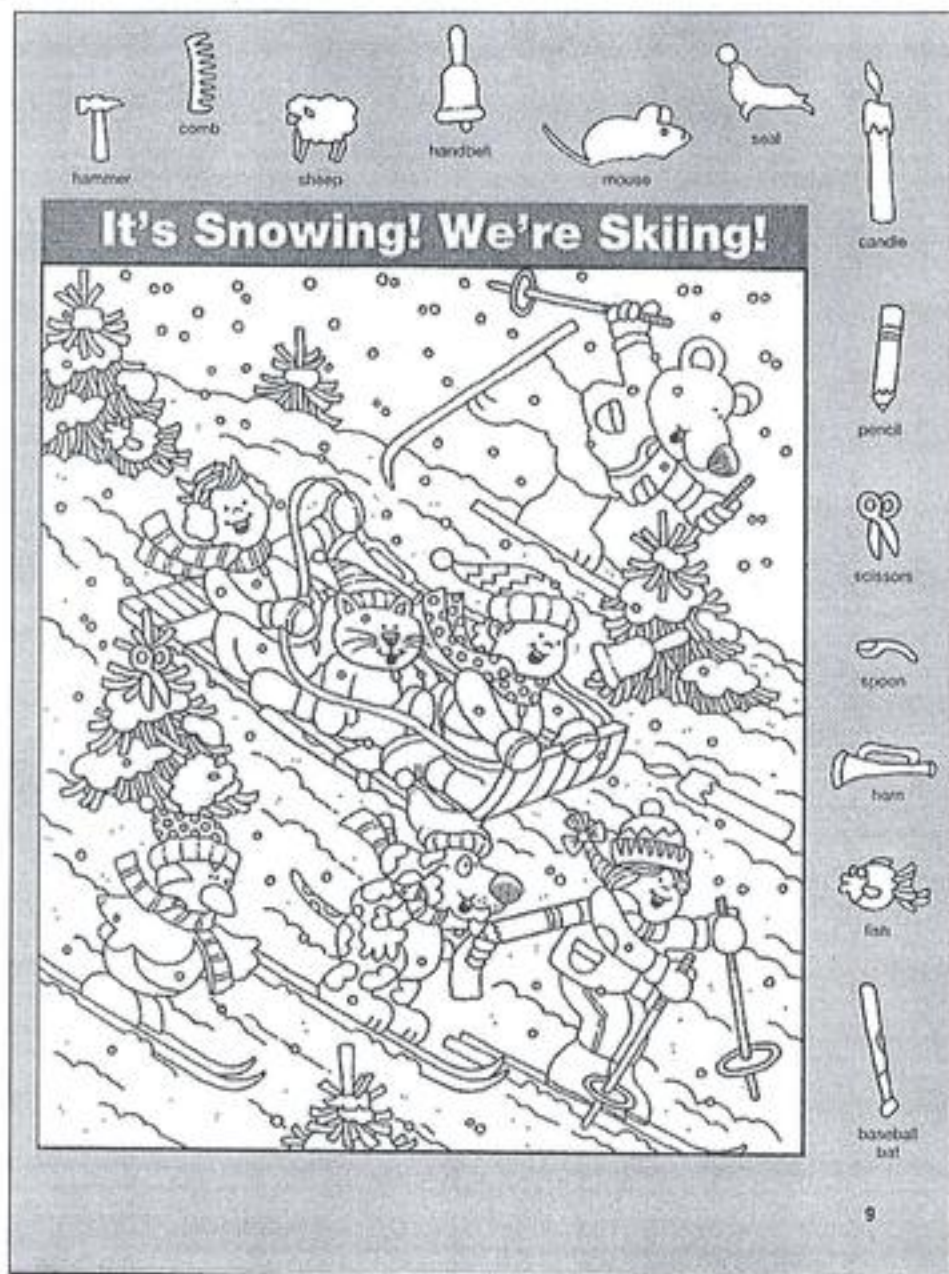
In this big picture, find the baseball bat, bowl, mug, mitten, hockey stick, comb, slice of cake, high-heeled shoe, spoon, musical note, nail, clothespin, pencil, ring, book, banana, sailboat, flag, envelope, and hairbrush.

Can you find these hidden objects?



Highlights

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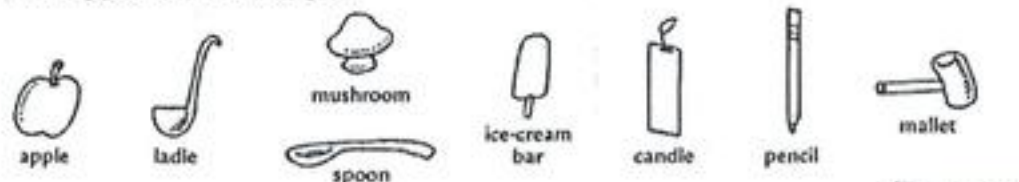
www.Highlights.com
Hidden Pictures®

Snowy Feast

By R. Michael Palan



In the big picture, find these objects.



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Highlights
 for children

OUR NEW BLACK PRINCE 2017

NATE PARKER

UNIVERSAL HERO

NO EXISTING LABEL
CAN CONTAIN HIS
LIMITLESS HUMILITY!!!!

ACTOR! WRITER! DIRECTOR! PRODUCER!
ETC.!

Mr. Nate Parker attempted [Like movie
Black Director, etc. before him!] attempt
to with great risk his own money and
juice on the line to bring a Real Black
man, a new image, to the huge silver
screen [Thereby into the universal con-
sciousness!!!!] in the personification of
Liberation Fighter and Preacher, viz, Mr.
NAT TURNER in his starring movie "
THE BIRTH OF A NATION, (2016).

However, the infamous Hollywood
"WHITE SUITS" blocked this revolution of
the universal mind!!

BIG TIME!!!!

1 of 4

IN the same ole TIM CROW way!
sending out Tyler Perry in his Auntie
Mammy movie, Seesample page , Below
To drain the intended Moviegoer at The
BOX OFFICE.

HIGH TECH LYNCHING !!!
AND TV NEGROES like Gabriel
Union, ironically she was one of
Mr. Parker's Co-stars - SEE NPR.ORG
MORNING EDITION FRI. 10-20-2017, AND
SUNNY HOSTIN, ABC.COM / THE VIEW, ETC.,
TO mislabel and castrate yet another
INNOCENT by Judicial Trial Process
as a Rapist.

IT'S NEW LYNCHING SCHEMES

DIT. JURY Verdict Not guilty.
Public opinion says. Still Guilty!!

EVEN though "White" Co-host
questioned it! SO-called Lawyer Hostin
Literally exclaimed he is still Fair Game!

The NEW LYNCH Mob stole his Good Name and Profession, aka, Job and Ran Mr Parker out of TINSEL TOWN.

WAIT! CAN HE MAKE
HIS NOBLE COME BACK !!!?

CYNTHIA PARKER

HOT TOPIC

HOT MEL GIBSON SECOND CHANCE
IN MOVIE "DADDY'S HOME"!

Nate Parker Not Found guilty of
anything. Hasn't had a Hollywood
Job since Birth of a Nation 2015.

ACCESS HOLLYWOOD.COM 11-7-2017
TUES!

PRAYING!!

Boo 2! A Madea Halloween 'outscapes' 'Geostorm' with \$21.7M

Communications Commission that was later overturned.

"That won't happen this time," he said.

Timberlake has won 10 Grammys, and the Tennessee native also has won four Emmys. He said the best Super Bowl performances have spoken to the mood of the nation.

"What I really want to do is take the opportunity to put together a performance that feels like it unifies," Timberlake said. "I feel like that would be the ultimate accomplishment, and then the icing on the cake is at some point within that 12 minutes that everybody is shaking their booty."

'Boo 2! A Madea Halloween' outscapes 'Geostorm' with \$21.7M at the box office
LOS ANGELES — It was a spooky weekend at the box office for nearly everyone but Tyler Perry.

Perry's comedy sequel *Boo 2! A Madea Halloween* scared up a healthy \$21.7 million in its first weekend in theaters, but the waters were rough for other new movies, including the disaster epic *Geostorm*, firefighter drama *Only the Brave* and crime thriller *The Snowman*.

Made for a reported \$25 million, Perry's film drew a mostly older and female audience, who gave it an A-minus on *CinemaScore*. *Boo 2!* did a little less business than the first film, which opened to \$28.5 million last year. "Given that it's a sequel, its performance is at the higher end of our expectations," says David Spitz, who heads up domestic distribution for Lionsgate.

The studio anticipates the film will hold well into next weekend because of Halloween, but it also will face some competition with the horror picture *Jigsaw*.

But a slight drop for a sequel hardly compares with the catastrophe of *Geostorm*, a long-delayed \$120 million disaster epic starring Gerard Butler that only managed to open with \$13.3 million for second place. *Geostorm*, which marks the directorial debut of *Independence Day* producer Dean Devlin, was shot in late 2014. Lousy test screenings resulted in \$15 million of reshoots, pushing back the release more than a year and a half. But the reshoots didn't seem to help the final product, which has been widely panned by critics and shunned overall by audiences. Those who did turn out gave it a B-minus on *CinemaScore*.

Another possibly too-timely film, *Only the Brave*, about the Granite Mountain Hotshots who took on the June 2013 Yarnell Hill fire, also failed to attract sufficient audiences. The film starring Josh Brolin, Jeff Bridges, Miles Teller and Jennifer Connelly opened in fifth place with \$6 million.

Despite good reviews, it opened behind two holdovers — the *Groundhog Day*-like horror hit *Happy Death Day*, which landed in third place with \$9.4 million, and Harrison Ford and Ryan Gosling's *Blade Runner 2049*, which took in \$7.2 million for fourth in its third weekend.

The Snowman, starring Michael Fassbender and based on the Jo Nesbø book, also failed

to make a splash. The critically derided movie debuted in eighth place with \$3.4 million.

Director Tomas Alfredson has been widely acknowledging the film's shortcomings and confusing plot, saying he didn't have time to shoot the entire script. Audiences gave it a deathly D on *CinemaScore*.

Things looked a little brighter for the weekend's limited releases. Both playing in four theaters, the Colin Farrell and Nicole Kidman film *The Killing of a Sacred Deer* took in \$114,500 and Todd Haynes' children's adventure *Wonderstruck*, starring Julianne Moore, earned \$68,800.

"As great as September was, October has been really scary," says Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore. Dergarabedian says releasing a quality film isn't a sure path to success.

"Even well-reviewed movies like *American Made*, *Only the Brave* and *Blade Runner 2049* are having trouble gaining traction," he says.

The industry will be looking to the big event films like *Thor: Ragnarok* (out Nov. 3), *Justice League* and *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* to get the year back to even.

"Trying to figure out audiences and what they want is the key to the future. Audiences are voting with their presence or absence at the movie theater," Dergarabedian says. "They're staying away now, but that might change in two weeks."

Matt Kenseth, Kyle Larson among eliminated drivers as Martin Truex Jr. wins again

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Highlights of Sunday's Hollywood Casino 400, the final race of the second round of the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series playoffs, at Kansas Speedway:

WINNER: Martin Truex Jr. was already safely into the Round of 8 of the 2017 playoffs, but his No. 78 Toyota was better than everyone else Sunday. Truex overcame a restart penalty early in the race and the death of one of his crew members on Saturday to win the second-round elimination race. Truex becomes the first driver to sweep both Kansas races since they began running twice at the track in 2011. The victory was the fourth in a row for Truex on a mile-and-a-half track and his seventh overall this season. "I can't say enough about all these guys on this Furniture Row (team). Really proud of them," Truex said. "We raced with a heavy heart today after losing Jim (Watson) last night. Want to send condolences to the family. He was a heck of a guy and a great worker."

"Excited to get another one here this week. It's really Furniture Row's home track. We got the one in the spring after so many heartbreaks, and it didn't look like it was going to happen today but we just persevered."

ELIMINATED: Former champion Matt Kenseth was one of four drivers eliminated Sunday in what may be his last season racing

in the Cup Series. Kenseth, who began his full-time Cup career in 2000, will be replaced at Joe Gibbs Racing next season and does not have a ride next season. Chip Ganassi Racing teammates Kyle Larson and Jamie McMurray were also eliminated. Larson's day ended early when his No. 42 Chevrolet blew an engine, while McMurray was caught up in a multicar crash in stage 3. Roush Fenway Racing driver Ricky Stenhouse Jr., who also crashed Sunday, did not advance, either.

CRUSHED: Kenseth was disqualified from the race with 70 laps to go when his No. 20 Toyota team was penalized for having more than six crew members over the wall while on the caution clock. Kenseth, the 2003 series champion, was in contention to advance to the third round, but was caught up in a multi-car wreck triggered by the No. 77 Furniture Row Racing Toyota of Erik Jones on Lap 197.

Jones is replacing Kenseth in the No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota next season. Teams are allowed six men to repair a car on pit road following a crash, but once the seventh crew member was over the wall, Kenseth was black flagged, ending his chances at advancing. A seventh member is allowed on pit road to assist the driver, but crew chief Jason Ratcliff said the sixth and seventh men each were carrying a tire.

JOHNSON SPINS OUT: Defending champion Jimmie Johnson, on the edge to reach the Round of 8, spun out with 80 laps remaining, putting his chances to advance in peril. Johnson lost control of his No. 48 Chevrolet, his right quarterpanel struck the wall and he went spinning across the infield grass before going to pit road for repairs. Six laps later, Johnson lost control and hit the wall again and slid down the race track in a plume of smoke, causing another caution. **STENHOUSE STRUGGLES:** Stenhouse Jr., who was 11th in the standings and 22 points behind the cutoff line, cut a tire on the 174th lap and hit the wall. Stenhouse was in a must-win situation to advance to the third round. **STAGE TWO:** Denny Hamlin, who began the race in fifth place, 21 points ahead of the cutoff line, won the second stage and picked up 10 valuable playoff points. He was followed by Kevin Harvick, Brad Keselowski, Kenseth, Kyle Busch, non-playoff driver Jones, Jamie McMurray, Ryan Blaney, Chase Elliott and Johnson. Keselowski, who is already assured of advancing to the Round of 8 after winning at Talladega last week, and Hamlin were penalized for speeding through pit road and sent to the back of the field.

STAGE ONE: Kyle Busch, who entered the race ninth in the standings and seven points below the cutoff line to advance to the Round of 8, picked up 10 valuable points by winning the first stage. Busch led 39 laps for his 14th stage win of the season. Contending playoff drivers constituted the top nine finishers in the stage. Behind Busch were Harvick, Blaney, Kenseth, Hamlin, Johnson,

BY: LEON IRBY 4 of 4 DATE: 12-24-2017

Elliott, McMurray and Martin Truex Jr. Kasey Kahne was 10th.

ENGINE ISSUES: Kyle Larson, who entered the race third in the standings and 29 points ahead of the cutoff line, pulled into pit road with a blown engine on the 66th lap and fell to 37th place during the first stage, crippling his chance to advance to the third round. Larson won four races this season, tied for second-most in the series.

TRUEX PENALIZED: When the race resumed following a competition caution at 30 laps, pole-sitter and race leader Truex was penalized for a re-start violation — going inside the white line — and was sent to the back of the field. It appeared Harvick, who was running second, also dipped inside the line behind Truex but was not penalized because he wasn't in the front row.

SENT TO THE BACK: Blaney, who had qualified third, started at the rear of the field after his time was disallowed. NASCAR determined the package tray on Blaney's No. 21 Ford did not maintain its original shape. Blaney entered the elimination race in the seventh position, two points head of the cutoff.

TRUEX TEAM IN MOURNING: Truex's No. 78 Furniture Row Toyota carried a decal with the initials of James Watson, a crew member who died of a heart attack on Saturday night.

Justin Thomas birdies second hole of playoff to win CJ Cup

JEJU, South Korea — Justin Thomas beat Australia's Marc Leishman on the second playoff hole Sunday to win the inaugural CJ Cup in South Korea and cap his breakout year on the PGA Tour.

Thomas sealed his fifth PGA title in 2017 — and his first of the new 2017-18 PGA season — when he birdied the second extra hole and Leishman made bogey after finding the water.

The pair went to a sudden-death playoff after completing the first U.S. PGA Tour regular-season event in South Korea tied at 9-under 279.

Thomas, who shared the overnight lead with Scott Brown, fell behind when he had a double bogey on the 550-yard par-5 No. 3 hole.

"I just kept telling myself it was a bad golf swing," Thomas said. "It wasn't a mental error or wasn't a wrong judgment that we made but just a bad golf swing at a pretty bad time but I knew you are going make bogeys out here today."

Thomas regained the lead and looked set for the win in regulation until he bogeyed No. 17, a 195-yard par 3 hole. But he made amends with a birdie at the last to join Leishman in the playoff.

"I really played some great golf after the third hole but it's just such a long day with these conditions," Thomas said.

Thomas said he is looking forward to some time off after his breakout season.

"I'm so excited to not do anything," Thomas said. "I officially have nothing left in the tank at this moment."

Leishman, who ended a 5-year drought on the PGA Tour when he won the Arnold Palmer Invitational in March, then added the BMW Championship in September, looked to have slipped out of contention when he made bogeyed the 5th, 7th and 8th holes to tumble down the leaderboard. But he birdied No. 9, No. 12 and No. 14 to join Thomas at 9-under then finished bogey-birdie to get in the playoff.

Doping scandal roils another sport:

Dogsledding

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Cycling. Baseball. Track. Horse racing. Now dogsledding has become the latest professional sport to be engulfed in a doping scandal, this one involving the huskies that dash across the frozen landscape in Alaska's grueling, 1,000-mile Iditarod.

The governing board of the world's most famous sled dog race disclosed Monday that four dogs belonging to four-time Iditarod champion Dallas Seavey tested positive for a banned substance, the opioid painkiller tramadol, after his second-place finish last March.

It was the first time since the race instituted drug testing in 1994 that a test came back positive.

Seavey strongly denied giving any banned substances to his dogs, suggesting instead that he may have been the victim of sabotage by another musher or an animal rights activist. He accused the Iditarod of lax security at dog food drop-off points and other spots.

Race officials said he will not be punished because they were unable to prove he acted intentionally. That means he will keep his titles and his \$59,000 in winnings this year. But the finding was another blow to the Iditarod, which has seen the loss of major sponsors, numerous dog deaths, attacks on competitors and pressure from animal rights activists, who say huskies are run to death or left with severe infections and bloody paws.

Top 25 Football: Sooners Escape Kansas State

Manhattan, Kan. — Rodney Anderson ran 22 yards for the go-ahead score with 7 seconds remaining, Baker Mayfield threw for 410 yards and accounted for four touchdowns and No. 9 Oklahoma rallied for a wild 42-35 victory over Kansas State on Saturday night. Anderson finished with 147 yards rushing for the Sooners (6-1, 3-1 Big 12). They trailed 21-10 at the break proceeded to shred the overmatched secondary of the Wildcats (3-4, 1-3) in the second half.

It was the Sooners' nation-leading 14th consecutive true road victory, and it extended their run of dominance in Manhattan. They haven't lost to the Wildcats in their home stadium since 1996.

No. 1 Alabama 45, Tennessee 7

Tuscaloosa, Ala. — Bo Scarbrough had two fourth-down touchdown runs and Alabama continued its domination of rival Tennessee. The Crimson Tide (8-0, 5-0 Southeastern Conference) improved to 11-0 in the traditional Third Saturday in October game under coach Nick Saban while dealing another blow to the slumping Volunteers (3-4, 0-4) and embattled coach Butch Jones.

No. 5 Wisconsin 38, Maryland 13

Madison, Wis. — Jonathan Taylor ran for a touchdown and broke the 1,000-yard mark for the season, Alex Hornibrook passed for two scores and Wisconsin stayed unbeaten. Taylor finished with 126 yards on 22 carries. Playing in his seventh game at Wisconsin (7-0, 4-0 Big Ten), Taylor tied a major college football record shared by five other backs for fewest games by a freshman to get to 1,000 yards.

No. 8 Miami 27, Syracuse 19

Miami Gardens, Fla. — Malik Rosier threw for 344 yards and two touchdowns, and Travis Homer's 33-yard touchdown run with 2:48 left helped Miami beat Syracuse for its 11 straight victory.

It was the third consecutive down-to-the-end game for Miami (6-0, 4-0 Atlantic Coast Conference), which is off to its best league start since joining the ACC in 2004.

The Hurricanes needed last-second plays to beat Florida State two weeks ago and Georgia Tech last week. This one was nearly as dramatic.

No. 10 Oklahoma State 13 Texas 10 (ot)

Austin, Texas — Ramon Richards intercepted Sam Ehlinger's pass in the end zone in overtime, after Matt Ammendola kicked a field goal for Oklahoma State. The Cowboys (6-1, 3-1 Big 12) scored the winning points on a 34-yard field goal by Ammendola on the first possession of OT. He missed a 29-yard attempt in the fourth quarter.

Though the field goal came first, Richards didn't realize the game ended with his play.

No. 14 Virginia Tech 59 North Carolina 7
Blacksburg, Va. — Josh Jackson threw three touchdown passes and Virginia Tech scored on fumble, interception and punt returns. Off last week, Virginia Tech looked rested and focused and played that way, scoring in all three phases in the first half and bolting to a 35-0 halftime lead. Virginia Tech scored twice on defense, getting the first score of the game on defensive tackle Ricky Walker's 12-yard fumble return.

No. 18 Michigan State 17, Indiana 9

East Lansing, Mich. — Brian Lewerke threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Felton Davis with 5:59 remaining for Michigan State. On the next possession, the Spartans forced an Indiana punt — one of 17 the teams combined for. Then LJ Scott ran 18 yards for a touchdown for Michigan State, which may have actually helped the Hoosiers because it gave them the ball back with 1:49 remaining and a chance to tie it.

No. 20 Central Florida 31, Navy 21

A DRUM MAJOR
FOR UNIVERSAL JUSTICE!
AWARD!!!

THE HONORABLE COLIN KAEPERNICK

Kneeling

Like Sitting on a BUS SEAT
can and did UPEND the old-
Disorder posing in the guise
of Social Justice and Universal
Order!

Kudos, Love and Support
To our No. 1 Brother — COLIN
KAEPERNICK!

SEE: DR. Martin Luther King Jr.
1967 SPEECH at NYC RIVERSIDE CHURCH
DEMOCRACY NOW.COM

EDGE OF SPORTS/Dave Zirin

COLIN KAEPERNICK

Shouldn't have to Beg
to Play in the NFL

By refusing to SPEAK out about
his desire to Play, he's defending
the PRINCIPLE that he deserves a job
ON the merits.

For The Rest of the Story go to: Dave
Zirin Email edgeofsports@gmail.com or
See past columns and podcasts at edgeof-sports.com

EDGE OF SPORTS/Dave Zirin

#SAMEASABOVE...

SEE: ALSO BELOW ARTICLE 'p. 3 of 3

"Anthem a channel for Protest
SINCE SONG'S ORIGIN" Jeff KAROUB
ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Anthem a channel for protests since song's origins

JEFF KAROUB
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETROIT - When football players kneel during the national anthem, Mark Clague sees the continuation of a tradition as old as the song itself.

The University of Michigan musicology professor and expert on "The Star-Spangled Banner" said the song has been a channel for protest since at least 1844, three decades after Francis Scott Key wrote the lyrics during a pivotal battle against the British in the War of 1812.

Since that time, the lyrics have occasionally been rewritten or expanded to push for the end of slavery, for women's rights and to call attention to other social issues that shaped a growing nation.

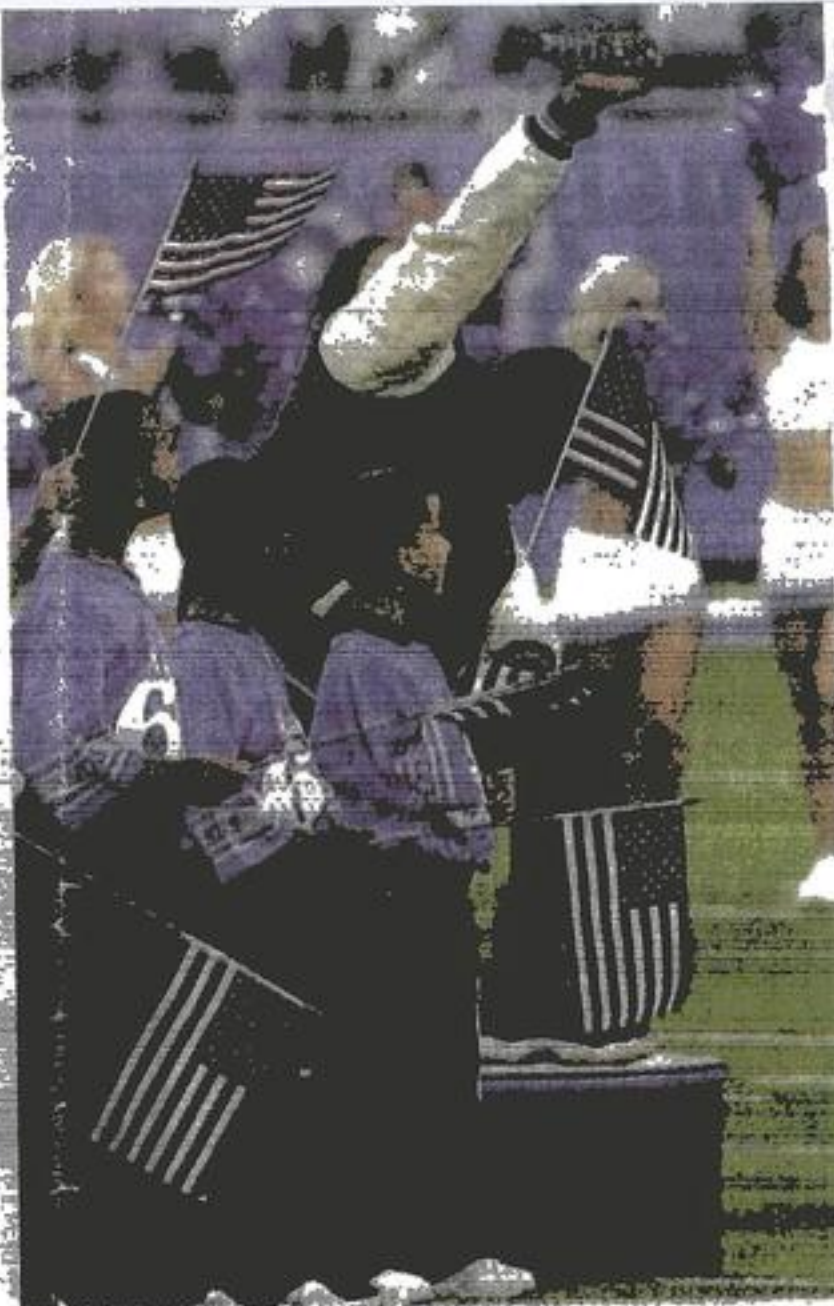
"The song becomes a vehicle for commenting on what it means to be American," he said.

Former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick began taking a knee during the anthem in the 2016 preseason to make a statement about social inequality and police treatment of blacks in the United States. After President Donald Trump suggested that NFL owners should fire athletes who protest during the song, more than 200 players knelt or took other action during last weekend's games. Some fans booed in response.

The players' actions were "very much in keeping with past protests," Clague said. In the days of slavery, the words were changed to begin with "Oh Say, Do You Hear" as an abolition song. During the civil rights movement, the anthem was sung by protesters alongside "Lift Every Voice and Sing," the black national anthem.

Other versions were tailored to advocate for women's suffrage, Prohibition and labor rights.

The durable yet mutable nature of the song is among its more intriguing aspects. The slower, statelier version performed today started life as a more upbeat victory song, Clague notes, and the tune synonymous with American patriotism came a few decades earlier from a musician's club in England. The tune had been married to many other lyrics even before Key's.



National anthem singer Rico Lavelle bends to his knee, bows his head and raises his fist after singing the anthem before the Lions-Falcons game on Sept. 24. The sight of football players kneeling during the national anthem is the continuation of a tradition nearly as old as the song itself. University of Michigan musicology professor Mark Clague says "The Star-Spangled Banner" has been a channel for protest since at least the 1840s.

CARLOS OSORIO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anthem

Continued from Page 1A

No official version exists. A 1931 law simply states that the composition "known as The Star-Spangled Banner is designated the national anthem of the United States of America."

Clague sees the song as a national symbol, no less than the Constitution or the flag. And it's "a living document" that can change — "the same way the Constitution can change by amendment or the flag can change by adding a star."

"It's the role of these symbols to help us live in the present to deal with the challenges of our time," he said. "It's a misuse of the anthem to treat it as inviolate. It was always political. It is always changing. Patriotic symbols can't function if they can't respond to the current social moment."

Rick Robinson has a "great love" for the anthem, calling it "one of the last bits of common culture." Yet the classical bassist, who was only the second black musician in the Detroit Symphony Orchestra when he joined the century-old institution in 1989, also supports the players' "soft protest" as the song plays.

It's possible, Robinson reasons, to hold both ideas in his heart.

"Whenever I play it in the DSO or any other orchestra, I tear up sometimes, and I sing along when I hear it

30f3

MY DREAM TEAM TICKET 2020
FOR US PRESIDENT

JENNIFER LAWRENCE
AND
VP

SHALLENE WOODLEY

NOT REPUBLICAN!
NOT DEMOCRAT!
THE NEW PEOPLES PARTY:
THE REAL

DATED: 12-24-2017

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS !!!

No. 23

2017

LEBRON JAMES

THANK YOU and WE HONOR YOU
FOR MANIFESTING !-AND FOR
BRINGING SPORTS SUPER STARS
[e.g. Jackie Robinson; Ali,
etc. !!!] Back Home Away
from Michael Jordan's Nihilism!!

POWER!!!

TO PLAY FOR THE PEOPLES ✓
UNIVERSAL TEAM!!!

^{SS}
#PUT ME IN COACH I'M READY TO PLAY ^{SS}

#PITY THE FOOL!!

FATHER OF THE YEAR 2017

MR. TYRESE GIBSON

FATHER! ACTOR! ACTIVIST!
SOUL MAN!!!

A TIME!!!

ON VIDEO WEEPING A FATHER'S
DEVOTION AND LOVE for his Precious
10-YEARS-OLD BLACK Daughter!!!

He ultimately WON JOINT
CUSTODY!!!

AND IN SO doing these WONDER
-FUL THINGS Manifest PROOF IN
LIVING COLOR (IRL) BLACK FATHERS
DO LOVE THEIR beloved children!!

TYRESE IS FATHER OF THE YEAR
2017

SEE: TMZ.COM TMZTV.COM

11-20-2017, MON.

DATED: 12-24-2017

HIGH TECH LYNCH MOB!!!

COREY FELDMAN

ACTOR/SINGER/

CRUSADER FOR JUSTICE!!!

UPDATE: 11-05-2017 Post:

ON Monday, 12-18-2017, ON Dr. OZ, com T.V. Show Mr. Feldman and Dr. OZ did an update show and with highlighting of an actual TAPE RECORDING OF Detectives vigorously attempting to coerce him into setting his beloved friend and mentor Superstar MICHAEL JACKSON - UP ON False charges of child Molestation.

Furthermore, of them IGNORING Mr. Feldman's personal proof, of a Real Hollywood Child Rapist!!

MIRROR IMAGE

The picture on the right looks like the Mirror Image of the one on the left, but there are ten differences. Can you spot them all?

Solution on page 126



The answers to the diagram, indicated by the words C, PARTS are given

1. Little dog
2. ———-cont
3. Forecasts
4. Docking
5. Partner c
6. Light rin
7. Canter
8. Quick kis
9. Bestow
10. Inlet
11. Fuel sou
12. As well
13. Hoist
14. Boundary
15. Color qu
16. Big book
17. Boat trai
18. ——— up f
19. Stable m
20. Terrible s

Place the left word, a 5-letter

1. M O D I
- I —
- — R

THE SHADOW

Can you find the picture that matches the silhouette shown?
Answer and explanation on page 128



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



arrange the
other letter
column B.
column A

on page 123

velist Levin

's cry

opper

ak bread

wless

shop

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lete

nstrong

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g topper

na item

l enricher

icet

ck race

sessed

t lever

e color

l circuit

THE LADIES OF THE HOUR 2017

UPDATE:

IF YOU HAD A CHOICE OF COLORS
WHICH ONE WOULD YOU CHOOSE?
— CURTIS MAY FIELD

AVA DUVERNAY
Proudly Chose "BLACK"

PBS.ORG / FINDING YOUR ROOTS ENCORE:
12-12-2017, TUE. FIRST BLACK
First to Direct a Film Nominated
For the Academy Award for
Best Picture 2015

Rachel DOLEZAL

MISLABELED as white at BIRTH;
Later CONSCIOUSLY chose to be a BLACK
HUMAN BEING!!

NBC.COM / TODAY 4-12-2016, Wed. 7:00
A.M. ET. Savannah Guthrie Interview

NO REGRETS OF IDENTIFY-
ING AS BLACK !!!

"RACE AND RACHEL DOLEZAL"

RACHEL DOLEZAL

A BEAUTIFUL BLACK LADY
BY CHOICE

"NOV. 14, 2017, Today, ON I-A, ORG Radio
SHOW, NPR, ORG, I heard Author Calvin
Harris Hawkins his New Book "BUNK,"
which is about Various famous HOAXS
He harshly criticized Soul Sista Rachel
Dolezal Choice of Black.

First every DAMN FOOL KNOWS there
exist NO such thing as Literal "Race!"
It's HUMAN RACE.

Next I am so DAMN tired of these
"Mouth piece" Mouth off... Mouthing off
establishment "BS"!

Why, NO criticism of all those NEGROES
passing for White."

PREVIOUS POST

JUST A STATE OF MIND !!!

Showing What "COLOR" is Really
All About, i.e., "MIND" !!!

And these two "BLACK" Ladies
KNOW THEIR OWN CONSCIOUS
"MIND"

#SO YOU CRITICS MIND YOUR OWN DAMN BUSINESS!

Aleksander Barkov scored in regulation and the shootout for the Panthers. Roberto Luongo stopped 40 shots, plus two more in the tiebreaker.

Jamie Benn had two goals for Dallas, and Remi Elie also scored. Tyler Seguin had a goal in the shootout.

Kari Lehtonen made 26 saves during his first start in four games. Alexander Radulov added two assists for the Stars and has at least one point in nine straight games.

Wild 3, Flyers 0

St. Paul, Minn. — Devan Dubnyk posted his third straight shutout with 30 saves and Nino Niederreiter scored 12 seconds into the game for Minnesota in a win over Philadelphia.

Dubnyk's third shutout of the season stretched his scoreless streak to 195:05, breaking his mark of 183:16 set last season for the longest in team history. Dubnyk has stopped the last 103 shots he's faced.

Eric Staal and Jason Zucker each scored an empty-net goal for Minnesota, which has won a season-best three straight.

Predators 6, Capitals 3

Nashville, Tenn. — Mattias Ekholm and Kevin Fiala each had a goal and an assist to lead streaking Nashville past Washington for its fifth straight victory.

Craig Smith, Nick Bonino, Filip Forsberg and Miikka Salomaki also scored for Nashville. Pekka Rinne made 26 saves, and 12 players had at least one point for the Predators.

Penguins 5, Sabres 4 (ot)

Pittsburgh — Sidney Crosby ended a long goal drought and assisted on Conor Sheary's game-winner 16 seconds into overtime as Pittsburgh beat Buffalo.

Crosby scored his sixth of the season, Sheary had a pair of goals and Patric Hornqvist added one for Pittsburgh.

Crosby set up the game-winner from behind the net to Sheary in front. Penguins defenseman Kris Letang also assisted for his 400th NHL point. He became the 12th player in franchise history to reach 400 points and joined Hall of Famer Paul Coffey as the only defensemen in team history to reach the milestone.

Crosby went 12 straight games without a goal when he had 17 assists from Nov. 23 to March 24, 2012. He missed 60 games with concussion-like symptoms that season.

NHL Roundup

Chicago — Artem Anisimov scored three times in the third period against his former team, Nick Schmaltz had three assists and the Chicago Blackhawks cooled off the New York Rangers with a 6-3 victory Wednesday night.

Alex DeBrincat, John Hayden and Jonathan Toews also scored for Chicago, which had dropped three of four. Duncan Keith had two assists and Corey Crawford made 25 saves, helping the Blackhawks bounce back from an ugly 7-5 loss to New Jersey on Sunday.

New York had won six in a row — the longest winning streak in the NHL this season — and it carried a 1-0 lead into the final minute of the second period. But the

Blackhawks grabbed control with four goals in 6 minutes, 6 seconds, capped by Anisimov's power-play slam through Henrik Lundqvist's legs at 5:14 of the third.

Red Wings 8, Flames 2

Detroit — Anthony Mantha and Andreas Athanasiou each scored twice and Detroit routed Calgary.

Gustav Nyquist, Dylan Larkin, Justin Abdelkader and Luke Glendening also scored for the Red Wings. They raced out to a 4-1 lead in the first period.

Micheal Ferland and Johnny Gaudreau scored for the Flames in the opener of a six-game trip.

NHL Roundup

Montreal — Derek Stepan and Christian Fischer scored power-play goals in the third period and the Arizona Coyotes rallied to beat the Montreal Canadiens, 5-4, on Thursday night for their first regulation victory of the season.

Brad Richardson, Christian Dvorak and Tobias Rieder also scored for the Coyotes, and Antti Raanta made 33 saves. Arizona snapped a five-game losing streak to improve to 3-15-3.

Brendan Gallagher, Paul Byron, Joe Morrow and Shea Weber scored for the Canadiens, and Charlie Lindgren stopped 27 shots.

With the Coyotes down 4-3 in the third period, Stepan got Arizona level for the third time in the game with a wrist shot from the crease at 4:54 following a failed clearance by Jordie Benn. Gallagher was in the box for tripping.

Arizona scored again on the power play at 10:10, this time with Weber penalized for slashing, when Brendan Perlini's shot ricocheted off Fischer's stick and in. Rieder made it 3-3 with 51 seconds left in the second, but Weber answered back 40 seconds later.

The Coyotes scored five goals for the first time this season. They had a combined five goals in their previous four games.

Islanders 6, Hurricanes 4

New York — Johnny Boychuk scored the tiebreaking goal on a slap shot with 4:25 remaining and New York rallied to defeat Carolina.

Mathew Barzal had a goal and two assists, and Nick Leddy, Josh Bailey and Cal Clutterbuck each had a goal and an assist to help the Islanders remain one of two NHL teams without a regulation loss at home this season at 6-0-2. Jordan Eberle added an empty-netter, Anders Lee had two assists and Thomas Greiss finished with 28 saves.

Maple Leafs 1, Devils 0

Toronto — William Nylander scored with 2.2 seconds left in overtime and Frederik Andersen made 42 saves in Toronto's win over New Jersey.

The Maple Leafs have won five straight to improve to 13-7-0.

Corey Schneider stopped 24 shots for New Jersey. The Devils dropped to 11-4-3.

Toronto star center Auston Matthews was on the ice for the optional morning skate, but sat

out his fourth straight game with an upper-body injury.

Lightning 6, Stars 1

Tampa, Fla. — Steven Stamkos had two goals and two assists, Andrei Vasilevskiy made 27 saves to beat his mentor, Ben Bishop, and Tampa Bay beat Dallas.

Vasilevskiy was Bishop's backup in Tampa Bay for parts of three seasons until Bishop was dealt to Los Angeles last February.

Bishop holds the Lightning career wins record with 131, while Vasilevskiy has gone 26-5-3 since taking over the starting role.

This was Bishop's first game against Tampa Bay since the trade.

Penguins 3, Senators 1

Ottawa — Patric Hornqvist and Jake Guentzel each scored in the second period and Pittsburgh held on for a win over Ottawa.

Riley Sheahan scored into an empty net at 19:29 of the third for the Penguins. Matt Murray made 21 saves and faced just 12 shots over the final two periods.

Jean-Gabriel Pageau scored in the third period for the Senators, who won their previous two games. Craig Anderson turned aside 26 shots.

Wild 6, Predators 4

St. Paul, Minn. — Jason Zucker scored with 2:55 left and Minnesota scored four goals in less than six minutes in the third period to beat Nashville.

Jared Spurgeon scored twice and Eric Staal had a goal and two assists for Minnesota, which won its fourth straight.

On the winner, Mikko Koivu fought off a defenseman into the left corner and centered to Zucker in front. With two defenders nearby, Zucker sent a backhand shot past Pekka Rinne for his eighth goal in five games.

Spurgeon added an empty-net goal. Matt Dumba and Nino Niederreiter also scored.

Reunited: Mother, son meet 44 years after adoption

BURLINGTON, Vt. — When her son was born, and for the next 44 years, Barbara Berry called him Jeremy.

She would think of him every year on his birthday, would remember the three days she held him at the Elizabeth Lund Home in South Burlington, before she placed him for adoption.

They finally met again Friday in a downtown Burlington hotel. His name, after all these years, is Jason Sargent.

"There's something inside of you that just, it's not settled. It's just not," Berry said in an interview, her eyes welling with tears, just minutes before she would meet her son. "A part of me is somewhere, and I just wanted to know where it was."

Sargent grew up in Underhill, attended Mount Mansfield Union High School and graduated from Saint Michael's College. He always knew he was adopted but had not begun to search for his birth mother until his niece died last year. He wanted to tell his birth mother that he was OK, and that she made the right decision.

Karonn Davis scored 10 points for Coppin State, which is playing three road games in four days.

No. 13 Notre Dame 105, Chicago St. 66
SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Sophomore guard T.J. Gibbs survived a scary second-half fall to score a career-high 23 points for Notre Dame. Gibbs hit the court hard with 11:59 remaining in the second half but stayed in the game for the Irish (3-0). He finished 8 of 11 from the field, including 4 of 7 from beyond the 3-point arc, and added three assists before taking a seat on the bench with 5:47 remaining.

Bonzie Colson had 15 points and nine rebounds, and fellow senior Matt Farrell added 18 points and four assists. Fred Sims Jr. led Chicago State (1-3) with 19 points and Jelani Pruitt had 16.

No. 15 Xavier 80, Wisconsin 70
MADISON, Wis. — Trevon Bluiett scored 25 points, including back-to-back 3-pointers in a decisive run over the final 1:47, to help Xavier pull away late in one of the Gavitt Tipoff Games.

J.P. Macura added 20 points for the Musketeers (3-0).

Ethan Happ led Wisconsin (2-1) with 21 points and eight assists.

Bluiett took control in the closing minutes, scoring 10 of Xavier's final 14 points. His 3 with 1:47 left bounced high off the rim before falling through the hoop to put Xavier up for good, 69-66.

NBA roundup

New York • LeBron James had 23 points and 12 assists, Kyle Korver scored 19 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter to spark a huge comeback, and the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the New York Knicks 104-101 on Monday night.

James also had a technical foul after a first-quarter altercation with Frank Ntilikina and Enes Kanter, which seemed to charge up the Knicks as they built what became a 23-point lead late in the third quarter.

New York led by 15 after three but the Cavs surrounded James with plenty of perimeter shooting and the Knicks couldn't contain them. Cleveland tied it on Channing Frye's 3 with 2:15 to go before James made it 100-97 on another 3 with 1:23 left.

PELICANS 106, HAWKS 105 • At New Orleans, Darius Miller hit four 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, when he scored 14 of his 21 points, and New Orleans overcame a sloppy performance to beat struggling Atlanta.

DeMarcus Cousins had 22 points and 16 rebounds, and Anthony Davis added 13 points, 10 rebounds and four blocked shots for the Pelicans, who have won five of six. E'Twaun Moore tied a career high with 24 points for New Orleans.

errant pass toward Tyler Cavanaugh sailed out of bounds with 3.2 seconds to go.

BUCKS 110, GRIZZLIES 103 • At Milwaukee, Giannis Antetokounmpo had 27 points and nine rebounds to lead Milwaukee over Memphis.

Khris Middleton and John Henson had 17 points apiece as the Bucks won their third straight.

Tyreke Evans scored 14 of his 27 points in the fourth quarter for the Grizzlies, and Dillon Brooks added 19 points. Evans scored nine consecutive points to pull Memphis into an 84-all tie early in the fourth quarter.

LAKERS 100, SUNS 93 • At Phoenix, Jordan Clarkson scored a season-high 25 points and Los Angeles pulled away late to beat Phoenix.

Devin Booker had 36 points, his second consecutive game of at least 35, for the Suns. Lakers rookie Lonzo Ball, coming off his first career triple-double on Saturday night, did not play in the fourth quarter, when the Lakers pulled out the victory. He had seven points on 3-of-10 shooting, five rebounds, five assists and four turnovers in 28 minutes.

WIZARDS 110, KINGS 92 • At Washington, John Wall had 21 points and nine assists, Marcin Gortat scored 18 and Washington defeated Sacramento for its third straight win.

After losing to the Mavericks 113-99 in the opener of a four-game homestand, the Wizards outscored the Lakers, Hawks and Kings by an average of 111-94.

Wall was 8 of 9 from the field, including 4 for 4 from 3-point range. In two games against the Kings, he has 40 points and is 9 for 10 from long distance. In his other 10 games, he is 5 for 32.

Kyrie Irving returns, Boston Celtics win 13th straight over Brooklyn Nets

NEW YORK (AP) -- Kyrie Irving returned to the lineup and scored 25 points while wearing a mask, and the Boston Celtics beat the Brooklyn Nets 109-102 on Tuesday night for their 13th straight victory.

The Celtics remained unbeaten since an 0-2 start heading into their showdown Thursday in Boston against the NBA champion Golden State Warriors.

Irving missed one game with a minor facial fracture after he was hit by teammate Aron Baynes on Friday. He fiddled with the mask frequently, but it didn't seem to affect his play much. He made a jumper with 3:40 left after the Nets had closed within four points and drove for another basket about 35 seconds later.

Joe Harris scored 19 points and Rondae Hollis-Jefferson had 16 points and nine rebounds for the Nets.

NBA roundup

MILWAUKEE — Khris Middleton scored 27 points, Giannis Antetokounmpo added 21 and the Milwaukee Bucks beat the Detroit Pistons 99-95 on Wednesday night for their fourth straight victory.

Milwaukee blocked 16 shots, two shy of the team record set in 1980 at Detroit.

Eric Bledsoe had 12 points, all in the second half, to help the Bucks halt Detroit's five-game winning streak. Milwaukee had lost four straight before starting its win streak.

WIZARDS 102, HEAT 93: John Wall scored 27 points, Bradley Beal had 26 and Washington won at Miami.

HAWKS 126, KINGS 80: Dewayne Dedmon scored a career-high 20 points and had 14 rebounds, and Atlanta led by 31 points in the first half at home.

TIMBERWOLVES 98, SPURS 86: Karl-Anthony Towns had 26 points and 16 rebounds on his 22nd birthday, and Minnesota won at Minneapolis to stop a 12-game losing streak to San Antonio.

THUNDER 92, BULLS 79: Russell Westbrook had 21 points and seven assists, and Oklahoma City won at home for its third straight victory.

KNICKS 106, JAZZ 101: Tim Hardaway Jr. scored 26 points, including a key 3-pointer with 32.9 seconds left, to help New York rally late at home.

RAPTORS 125, PELICANS 116: DeMar DeRozan scored 25 points as Toronto won at New Orleans.

CAVALIERS 115, HORNETS 107: LeBron James scored 31 points, and Kevin Love had 22 points and 10 rebounds as Cleveland won at Charlotte, North Carolina.

PACERS 116, GRIZZLIES 113: Darren Collison scored a season-high 30 points, Victor Oladipo had 21 and Indiana built an early lead before holding off a late rally at Memphis, Tennessee.

NBA scores

Celtics beat Warriors for 14th straight win

It didn't look good early for the Celtics, but a huge third-quarter run led by Jaylen Brown got Boston back in the game and then Kyrie Irving did what Kyrie Irving does in the fourth quarter to lead his team to its 14th straight win.

Rockets drop 90 points ... in a half

Um, what? The Suns scored 65 points in the first half ... and they were down by 25. That's because the Rockets scored 90 points in the half -- yes, 90. It was the first time an NBA team scored 90 points in the first half since, well, 1990. Chris Paul played in his first game since opening night, and James Harden had 33 in the first half en route to 48 in the game.

NHL Roundup

Montreal — Zach Werenski scored 1:09 into overtime, lifting the Columbus Blue Jackets over the Montreal Canadiens, 2-1, on Tuesday night.

Josh Anderson had a goal 2:29 into the game for Columbus, and Sergei Bobrovsky made 28 saves, allowing only a goal to Paul Byron early in the third period.

Charlie Lindgren, making his fifth consecutive start for Montreal, stopped 23 shots. Werenski beat him with a wrist shot to the roof of the net on his glove side.

Panthers 4, Stars 3 (so)

Sunrise, Fla. — Jonathan Huberdeau had two power-play goals and Vincent Trocheck scored the winner in a shootout to lift Florida over Dallas.

134. Gossip Columns

P A P A R A Z Z I P S H T E L R A T S O W M S
 E U L U G O M S H O L G M J B E S N U B S B T
 S O B N E A W O L H O A O U N U E P L V E E O
 L O R L N G L L W A R B S S O L L A L L E T P
 A S T S I L D E S S E R D T S E B C E I S I S
 I P I O Y C S A L L T D A F I I N C T D T I T
 T O S W H L I K L A S E E R H C P O S H N W O
 N Y O O O P U S S I I O J I T M S E E O G R H
 E O C M O N E W T T H N O E V A I U C S O I S
 D Y I R E D C A R P E T E N T O B O R M N W N
 I L A N O I T A T U P E R D T A M L U G H I O
 F N L C M T E R E N S T E S D M V R O O E I O
 N N I E H R E H T E G O T N E E S I S I P R C
 O E T O P T L E W R S C A N D A L I R A D L Y
 C I E X P O S E T P D A T I N G N E R P S S T

BEST DRESSED LIST
 BRAWL
 CELEBS
 CONFIDENTIAL
 DATING
 DENIAL
 EXPOSÉ
 GOSSIP
 HOLLYWOOD
 HOT SPOTS

ITEM
 "JUST FRIENDS"
 LEAK
 LIMO
 MANSION
 MOGUL
 MOVIE DEAL
 NIGHTCLUB
 "NO COMMENT"
 PAPARAZZI

PHOTOS
 PLASTIC SURGERY
 PRENUPTIALS
 PRIVATE JET
 PUBLICIST
 RED CARPET
 REPUTATION
 RUMOR
 SCANDAL
 SEEN TOGETHER

SNUBS
 SOCIALITE
 "SOURCES TELL US ..."
 SPLIT
 STARLET
 TABLOIDS
 TELL-ALL
 TYCOONS
 WHO'S IN
 YACHTS

ANSWER, PAGE 296

136. Bad Ideas for Movie Sequels

This grid contains titles of movie sequels that—thank goodness!—were never made. It's up to you to determine what those titles are. To do so, use the list of clues below, which give hints to the titles of the original movies. (To help, we've put these originals in alphabetical order: ignore the "The" at the start of any titles.) If you want the word list, you'll find it on page 252.

H T N E E T R U O F E H T Y A D I R F O U R T H M A N A S M
N H D B E S U R S T N E M D N A M M O C N E V E L E E E E A
N I N E A N D T H R E E Q U A R T E R S W E E K S Y V V L G
O R U L M E I G H T Y E A R I T C H T I S S X T W E O L D N
F T L A E W O V E G R S R H E N I N Y T R O F I N T T E N I
S E V E N D A Y S E I G H T N I G H T S H E C T S U U W A F
P E C S T N E M E L E H T X I S K O H F O S H N E O S T C I
E N T H F O U R C O I N K S I N T H I E O S F O U N T S N C
T A N T T W O E Y E D J A C K S T A R I E U N S N E O N E E
S N T H R E E F O R T H E R O A D W D N W H R I T M E A E N
Y G A G N D T H E E I G H T D L W A S R F S A A N E D E T T
T R S I X E A S Y P I E C E S A C E T R O U N D M N T C N E
R Y H E V E F O S E C A F R U O F O R E W O R L D I I O E I
O M N E I S E I B A B O W T D N A N E M R U O F G N G H V G
F E T C B E N O D N A N O I L L I M E N O Y O N E D A O E H
Y N S F I V E W E D D I N G S A N D T W O F U N E R A L S T

1988 John Cusack; baseball
1997 Bruce Willis; sci-fi
1970 Jack Nicholson
1982 Nick Nolte, Eddie
Murphy
1933 Ruby Keeler;
backstage musical
1994 Hugh Grant, Andie
MacDowell
1980 First of a horror series
1960 Yul Brynner, Steve
McQueen; western

1986 Mickey Rourke, Kim
Basinger
1980 Jane Fonda, Lily
Tomlin, Dolly Parton
1960 (original) Frank
Sinatra, Dean Martin
1961 Marlon Brando;
western
1940 Victor Mature; cave-
men (1966 remake with
Raquel Welch)
1957 Director: Ingmar
Bergman

1955 Marilyn Monroe, Tom
Ewell
1998 Harrison Ford, Anne
Heche
1984 Molly Ringwald
1999 Bruce Willis, Haley
Joel Osment
1956 Charlton Heston;
Bible epic
1949 Orson Welles;
espionage
1935 Director: Alfred
Hitchcock

1986 Steve Martin, Chevy
Chase, Martin Short
1957 Joanne Woodward,
Joanne Woodward,
Joanne Woodward
1987 Tom Selleck, Steve
Guttenberg, Ted Danson
1957 Henry Fonda, Lee J.
Cobb
1949 Gregory Peck, Dean
Jagger; WWII flyers
1967 Audrey Hepburn,
Albert Finney

ANSWER, PAGE 297

UPDATE:

IN DEFENSE
OF

OMAROSA

IRL

BLACK WONDER WOMAN!!!

DON'T HATE MS. OMAROSA, BECAUSE
SHE BLACK AND SO BEAUTIFUL AND
INTELLIGENT AND STRONG AND
HER OWN WOMAN [NOT BOUGHT!!!]!!

"Hating the Beautiful" by Rebecca Mead
WWW. ALLURE.COM

COVER

[PITY THE PRETTY! THE BACKLASH
AGAINST BEAUTIFUL WOMEN]
BEAUTY!!!

MISREPRESENTATION.ORG FILM
BY JENNIFER SIEBEL NEWSOME
THE JEFF PROBST SHOW.COM
5-16-2013 TUES.

UPDATE:

IF??!

IF

Robin Roberts,

Who got her ABC. Com GMA
Anchor Job to Advocate:

"GAY Civil Rights"

Whom married a White Woman

Can "SPEAK for ALL Black Folks"

aka "Black Community" !!! 12-14-2017

HELL!!! Then Why can't I?
"HELLO" FELICIA !!!

WELCOME BACK HOME!!! IRL!

We Black People, The "Gross Roots"!!!

are Ecstatic to see and Root for a

Beautiful Black Lady earn a Living

[Ef. Obama purported got \$26 Million
for his Book ?!]

IF

THAT'S WHAT A LADY — OMAROSA
SAY!!

The BLACK COMMUNITY IRL - Eagerly
anticipate your "Speak For Yourself"
your "own voice"! INSIDE ... UNIQUE
Journey with the current White Res-
ident !!!

#T.S.ELIOT

#GMA WHYSHE LEAVING ROLE WITH TRUMP ADMINISTRATION
12-14-17 (7:32-42 A.M. CT SEGMENT)

IF

Wendy Williams . com

Whoopi Goldberg

SUNNY Hostin

[A LOVELY PUERTO RICAN?!!]

ABC.com / THE VIEW

12-14-2017, Thurs, 10:AM, CT,

SHERYL UNDERWOOD

CBS.com / THE TALK

SAME, Id. at 1:PM, CT.

AND EVERY DAMN Black Face ON TV
CAN SPEAK FOR THE Black COMMUNITY—
O'Lord! Why can't I!!!

NONE OF THE African Americans [Wendy and Whoopi: DON'T call me that!]
I am valuable Labeled as: "Black"!!!]
ON TV shows were elected or selected
as "Leaders" by the Black COMMUNITY!

Your APPARENT ENVY! Jealousy! and
Malicious hatred of the Beautiful! Strong!
and Independent AMAROSA, a Black
Woman; a Sista is outrageous and
UNforgivable!!!

Why, President Trump's Tweet
was more kinder and gentler when
wishing her well!!!

Being House Negroes, as you
surely are — your powerless "words"
give your "Masters" permission to
likewise to attack this COMELY African
Queen:

E.g. NBC.COM / TONIGHT JIMMY
FOLLOW; 12-14-2017, at 10:35 p.m.

ACCESS HOLLYWOOD.COM 12-14-2017.
Co Host KITT HOOPER; Let's hope she finds
her people like Whoopi said.

LIKE MALCOLM X SAID

The Black Community say with
Malcolm X [TO MIKE WALLACE] you'd be
shocked at what my Black Community
IRL "VOICE" is saying!!!

G O F G

THE REAL NEW NEWS !! 2017

43. Sept. 13

Lana Waithe, Star and Writer for Netflix's Master of None, is the first black woman to win a Comedy-Writing EMMY.

SOURCE: NEWS FEED

50 TIMES WOMEN SLAYED IN 2017
BY KAYLA WEBLEY ADLER MARIE CHAIRE.
Com Holiday 2017

IRL

Ms. Waithe in her Celebratory "Victory" speech exclaimed her "EMMY" as being given to the First ONLY gay [Not Black !!!] [openly gay] Woman!!!

26 MAY | SIXTEEN YEAR-OLD GIRL
SCOUT-LUERE MYSLIKOVA STARES
DOWN A RIGHT-WING PROTESTER
AT A MAY DAY COUNTER PROTEST
IN THE CZECH CITY OF BRNO;
"I WASN'T AFRAID,"
MYSLIKOVA SAYS.

49. Oct. 4 SAN JUAN MAYOR
CARMEN YULIN, WHO WAS CRITICAL
OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S RE-
SPONSE TO HURRICANE MARIA,
WEARS A T-SHIRT EMBLAZONED
WITH "NASTY AFTER PRESIDENT
TRUMP USED THE WORD IN A
TWEET BASHING HER, "WHAT IS TRULY
NASTY IS THAT ANYONE WOULD TURN
THEIR BACK ON THE PUERTO RICAN
PEOPLE." CRUZ SAYS."

When I grow-up I want to be
Strong! Brave! Intelligent and Heroic
Like the "Wonder Women"!!!

DID Y'ALL HEAR: THAT'S WHAT PEOPLE SAY!!

GMA NEWSTICKER:~ MISS AMERICA
CEO ACCUSED OF FAT SHAMING
WINNERS OVER E MAIL~
ABC NEWS.COM
12-22-2017, FRI. 7: A.M. CT
IF!!!

IF! This is what They Say
About MISS AMERICA BEAUTY
QUEENS: WHAT MUST THEY SAY
about these:

Oprah?

Whoopi?

ABC.COM/THE VIEW

Sheryl UNDERWOOD?

CBS.COM/THE TALK

Leslie Jones?

NBC.COM/SNL

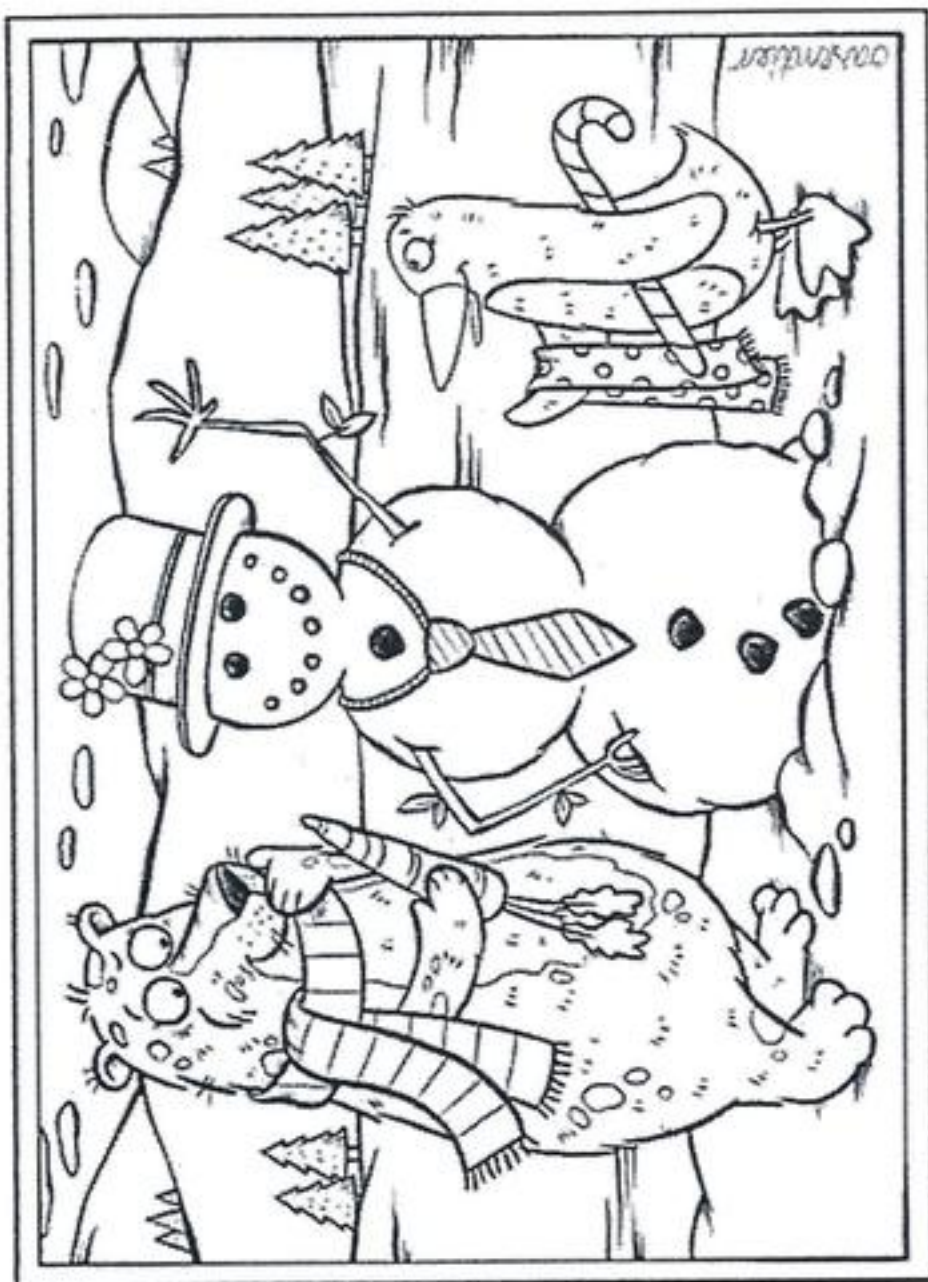
Bev. ?

Pagesix TV.COM

Wendy Williams

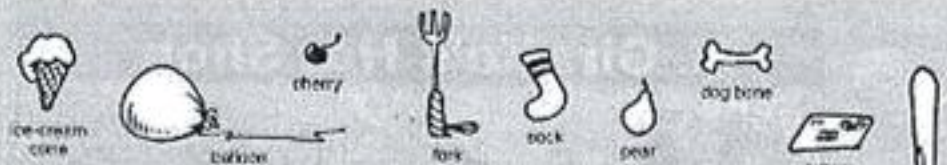
Wendy Williams Show.COM
etc.

DATED: 12-22-2017



Find the differences!





A Wintry Friend



www.Highlights.com

Hidden Pictures®

Sleigh Ride Home

By Charles Jordan



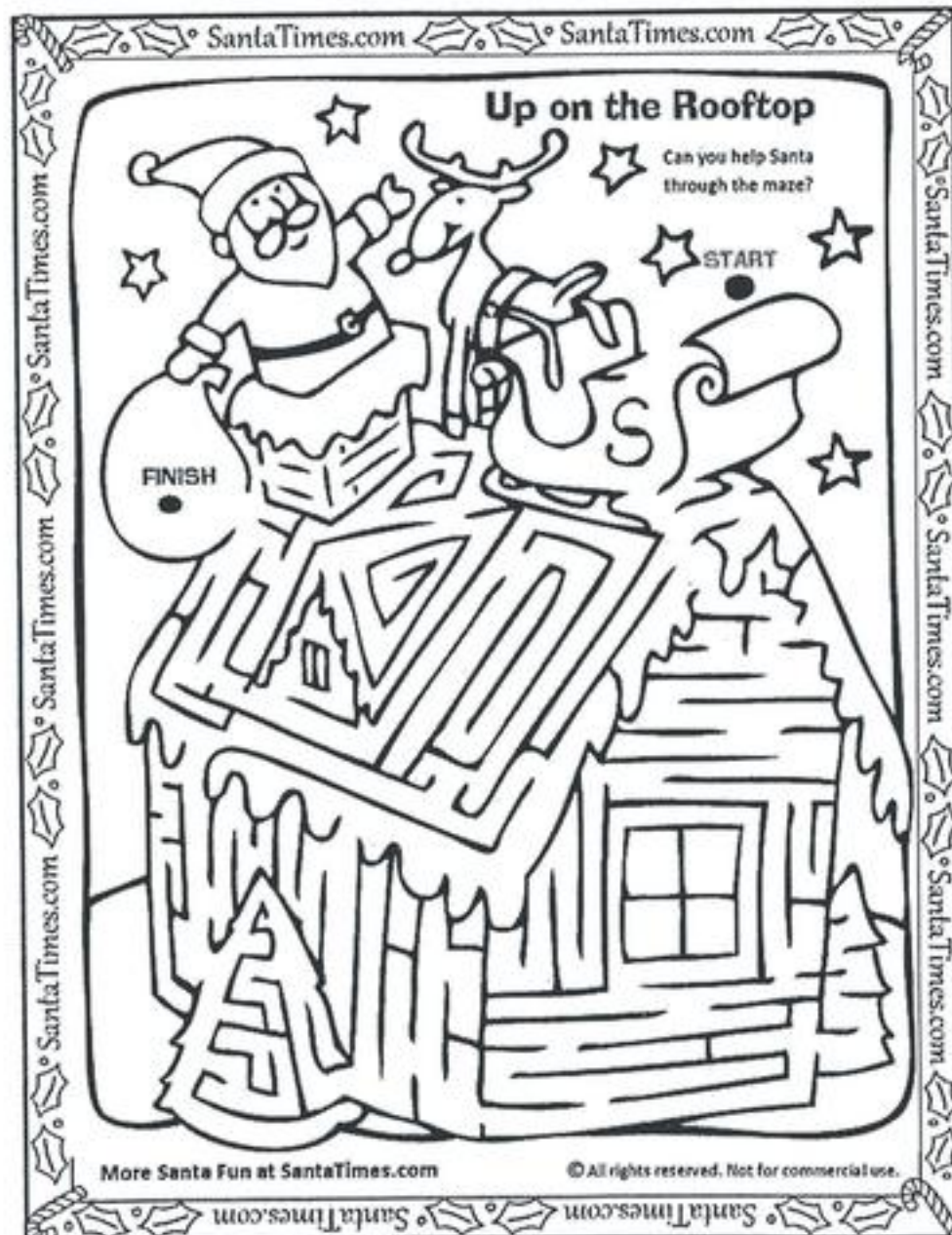
In the big picture, find these objects.





1. Can you find these?

candy • angel • hair dryer • ray gun • snow globe • book • mp3 player • spinning top • joystick • bag



www.Highlights.com

Hidden Pictures®

Evergreens

By Charles Jordan



In the big picture, find these objects.



mallet



musical note



bell



mitten



paint brush



cup



eyeglasses



slice of pie



crayon



bicycle pump



kite



umbrella

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Highlights
for Children

IT'S NOT TRUMP, IT'S US: From
the guy who literally wrote the
book [as in the DSM] on mental
health disorders comes Twilight
of American Sanity: A Psychiatrist
Analyzes the Age of Trump

[William Morrow]. Allen Frances,
MD, a renowned clinician who in
February scolded other mental
health professionals for publicly
diagnosing Donald Trump with
Narcissistic Personality Disorder
they're not supposed to do that
kind of thing], is now scolding us
for our selfishness, our denial and
our wishful thinking at the expense of
our children's, country's, and planet's
future. We've brought this president
upon our selves, he writes. Trump is
sort of a plot point in our existential
survival: His presence will either spur
us to reform ourselves and our society—
or it will speed along our demise. Part
Political rant Trump, Tribalism, and the
attack on Democracy" is one chapter title,
Part Self help ("Why we make such bad

ALABAMA POLITICS 2017

12-12-2017

SHOUT-OUT OUTSIDE THE BARS

TO: CHARLES BARKLEY

12-12-2017, Ala SEN. JONES (D) VICT-
ORY NIGHT!

KEEPING IT REAL!

Thank You for the most eloquent
OF ALL statement related to
This election!

I am Rich! Now all do something
for these people.

ZRL! KUDOS!

12-24-2017

ALABAMA SENATE RACE
12-12-2017

Did you see ABC.COM / THE VIEW
CO-HOST SUNNY HOSTIN, in her \$ Million
Job, ON 12-13-2017, 10: A.M., shouting
out kudos and T.V. Praise to the
Black female Voters, who gave 90
percent to winning Democratic can-
didate SEN. JONES.

SO WHAT ARE THEIR
VICTOR SPOILS!!!

AS ALWAYS HOSTIN NEVER SAID
WHAT THE BLACK VOTERS WILL GET FOR
THEIR DOWN VOTE.

#DNC CHAIR THOMAS PREZE

How LONG!

DATED: 12-24-2017

RINGING-OUT DANGER!!! RED HOT
WARNING!!!

TO ALL! GOOD CITIZENS
OF OUR UNIVERSE!!!

DID YOU ALL HEAR!

RIGHTWING SCHEMING
AGAINST THE COMMONWEAL

This month of December 2017, the State of Wisconsin Legislature Passed the Necessary ACT To join with other States to Conven a Constitutional Convention For the Purported purpose to write A BALANCE BUDGET AMENDMENT.

Two Thirds (2/3) of the fifty (50) States are Required.

Per Radio Host Jay Jordan (WPR.org), as of 9-13-2017, Three Additional states are needed. It's thirty-eight (38) states for To Ratify.

SEE: FOR ILLUMINATION WPT.ORG

"HERE AND NOW", FRI, @ 7:30 P.M.

WHAT ABOUT US!!!

I pray The Wise People are
Rushing to block this Rightwing
C.e.g. KOCH BROS.; MERCER, TRUMP-
EDD etc. [] from USURPING ALL WE
THE PEOPLE [U.S.] CONSTITUTION FOR THE
FEW 1% !!!

I HOPE WE DON'T GET FOOLED AGAIN / THE WHO
THEREVOLUTION WILL NOT BE TELEVISED / GILLS. HERON

ELECTION YEAR 2017 THE TWO DUMB DUMBER

No. 1 GA 6th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

The Democrats (DNC) running a Candidate for Georgia (GA.) 6th District to Replace a Republican Congressman, whom does NOT EVEN LIVE in the District.

AND WASTING REPORTEDLY \$40 million ON this fools endeavor!

President Trumped TWEETED the WINNING MESSAGE: DOESN'T LIVE IN DISTRICT!

Following Day ABC.com NEWS/GMA Reporter Reported that the Democrat Lost because he didn't LIVE in the DISTRICT.

SEE: Rep. (D. Ohio) TIM RYAN ELLECT ASSESSMENT ON NBC.COM / MEET THE PRESS SUN. 6-25-2017. 10:00 A.M.

NASTY TOO!

No. 2

Alabama U.S. Senate Campaign
With Republican Candidate Roy Moore.
An alleged Child Molestor.

Nonetheless, he lost by just
22,000 VOTES!

SEE: Peter Montgomery ELLEN
ASSESSMENT ON DEMOCRACY NOW,
COM MON. 12-11-2017 / ELECTION
12-12-2017

2 of 2 12-24-2017

IF THE PRICE IS RIGHT!

FAKE TWO "PROFILE
IN COURAGE" !!!

SEN. Bob Corker
(R. TN.)

AND

SEN. Jeff Flake
(R. AZ.)

Each Verbally Criticize US President Trumped!

But when it's TIME TO ACT
they both VOTE IN HIS WAY ONLY!!!

#POLITICSASUSUAL!!!

DATED: 12-24-2017

HOT TOPIC !!!

'WHO DESERVES THE NATIONAL TV
SPOTLIGHT' NPR.ORG/ON POINT
RADIO.COM 6-19-2017 MON. 9: A.M. CT.

A WORD TO THE FOOL !!

The Fake Brave FREE Speech, FIRST
AMENDMENT, Advocates in Commercial Mass
media like Megyn Kelly, NBC TODAY, Anderson
Cooper, CNN, Bill Maher, etc.

DIVIDE THE PEOPLE, NOT PERFECT
THE UNION !!!

There are ONLY two TYPES, C.i.e. Demo-
crats and Republicans!!!] allowed on these
T.V. Propaganda Programs!

One is represented by the Likes of
Mr. Alex Jones, who preaches hatred
against targeted vulnerable Groups!
Likewise, the other one Wendy Williams
Show.COM.

THE PEOPLES VOICES BANNED

Like Mr. Louis Farukhan, whom called and they came a million men to Washington, D.C. ...

And Mr. Noam Chomsky "1928 U.S. Linguist, Philosopher, and Political activist"
[Quoted from www.warnerbooks.com]
Intellectual Rebel! Mentor!

SEE DEMOCRACYNOW.COM/NOAMCHOMSKY
4-26-2017 Wed.

Why, because they Advocate for the
"more perfect" "UNIVERSAL" "UNION" - ON behalf
of the oppressed peoples, and Critique the
Capitalist World governments, and expose
their SINS!

#WHATABOUTUS/PINK

BILL MAHER
REAL TIME

THE DEVILS ADVOCATE
BY STEPHEN RODRICK

IS Bill Maher the defender the
First Amendment needs, or as Mug
facitor of all he claims to despise.
ESQUIRE.COM / COVER STORY AUGUST 2017,
P. 58

Mr. Rodrick is old-modern-day
genius! The best piece since the Reign
of Saints in the Land, viz, Norman
Mailer, James Baldwin, Amira Baraka, etc.
I COMMEND IT
IT'S MORE THAN WORTH YOUR READ!

BUT THERE IS EVEN MORE!!!
Maher wears Thin on 'Real Time'
BY ROB PATTERSON SEE at Email Orca@
PRISMNET.COM

12-24-2017

HAIL CAESAR !!!

JAN. 01, 2018 A.D.

AL FRANKIN

HE IS HONORABLE
SNL

U.S. SENATOR
[D. MN.]

CAESAR Was Not Ambitious
But The Democrats were
Overly Ambitious, Indeed!

Let us PRAY

They LIVE to Regret

This FOOLISH! FOUL ACT:

CHARACTER ASSASSINATION!!!

WAR ON FRIENDS!!!

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.

DATED: 12-23-2017

LONDON VEHICLE TERROR

The NRDC had filed a lawsuit in federal court last month, asking the court to stop the federal government from violating the law by freezing the bumblebee's listing.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which is part of the Department of the Interior, originally placed the bee on the list because of a dramatic population decline of 87% over the past 20 years. It's now the first bee of any type in the continental U.S. to receive the designation. (In September, the Obama administration designated seven species of bees in Hawaii as endangered.) Named for the rust-colored marks on its back, the bee was once common and abundant across 28 states from Connecticut to South Dakota. Today, the species is only found in small, scattered populations in 13 states. Bees are responsible for pollinating most of the plants that require insect pollination to produce fruits, seeds and nuts. Like other bees, rusty patched bumblebees pollinate important crops such as tomatoes, cranberries and peppers.

The special designation is made under the Endangered Species Act for species at risk of becoming extinct throughout all or a portion of their range. The status helps protect and conserve habitats and punishes people or companies found in violation.

People can help boost the rusty patched bumblebee population by growing a garden or adding a native flowering tree or shrub to yards and minimizing pesticide use, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said.

Leaving some areas of the yard unmowed in summer and unraked in fall can also help since bumblebees need a safe place to build their nests and overwinter. Additionally, try leaving some standing plant stems in gardens and flower beds in winter, the agency suggested.

'Soldier' of ISIS carried out London terror attack; Utah man among fatalities
LONDON — A British man described by the Islamic State as one of its soldiers was named by police Thursday as the terrorist who unleashed a one-man wave of murder and mayhem on the city's famous Westminster Bridge and Parliament square, killing three and injuring dozens.

Khalid Masood, 52, has a lengthy rap sheet but no known terror convictions, police announced.

An American tourist was among the fatalities in Wednesday's carnage, his family said Thursday. The Islamic State, also known as ISIS, claimed responsibility for the attack, calling Masood its "soldier."

Eight people were arrested on suspicion of preparation of terrorist acts, and police said the investigation was continuing. Masood, fatally shot by officers at the scene, had a "range" of previous convictions for assault, possession of offensive weapons and other offenses, London Metropolitan Police said in a statement.

"Masood was not the subject of any current investigations and there was no prior

intelligence about his intent to mount a terrorist attack," the statement said.

Masood plowed his car into a crowd on the iconic Westminster Bridge before ramming his vehicle into a gate outside Parliament and fatally stabbing a police officer, authorities said.

The fatalities included a Utah man on a trip with his wife to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary, his family confirmed Thursday. Kurt Cochran's wife, Melissa, was hospitalized with serious injuries in the attack.

"A great American, Kurt Cochran, was killed in the London terror attack," President Trump tweeted. "My prayers and condolences are with his family and friends."

Also killed were Keith Palmer, 48, the police officer with 15 years of service, and Aysha Frade, a British mother and schoolteacher. Before Masood was publicly identified, Prime Minister Theresa May said the attacker was British-born and known to security officers. She said the man had been investigated by MI5, the domestic security agency, "some years ago" regarding concerns about violent extremism.

"He was a peripheral figure. The case is historic — he was not part of the current intelligence picture," she said, adding there was "no prior intelligence of his intent or of the plot."

The prime minister said the best response to the attack was "millions of acts of normality." "This country will not be cowed by these terrorists," she said.

May's call was heeded. Tourists streamed across Westminster Bridge on Thursday, hours after it was reopened to pedestrians and traffic. Stuart Elliott, 62, and his wife Vilma Elliott, 59, from Newcastle in northern England, were in London celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary. They traveled to the British capital Thursday morning.

"We were shocked, definitely," said Stuart Elliott, a gas technician. "But life just carries on."

"It was all booked for us to come," his wife added.

Hundreds of people gathered Thursday as dusk fell in Trafalgar Square in central London for a vigil to remember the victims. Speakers included Home Secretary Amber Rudd and Sadiq Khan, the mayor of London. Many people lit candles.

Ken Hooper, 62, a retired police officer with Surrey Police, a county just south of London, wiped away tears following the ceremony.

"The whole thing is absolutely despicable," he said. "I came here to pay my respects.

We'll go on for their sakes. It's unbelievable. We'll all pull together and they won't win. When a police officer is killed, it's awful to hear. It's like family."

Chris Kay, 31, a seminars manager in the legal industry who works nearby, said when the attack happened, "the first thing that went through my mind is how is this city going to

react. Hopefully it will bring everyone together and make us stronger."

Mike Kelly, 64, a retired teacher, travelled from the county of Kent, south of London, specifically for the vigil.

"I came because when I heard the prime minister this morning say 'we are not afraid,' I thought 'she's quite right!'"

He said his son is a detective in the Metropolitan Police and is working on the investigation. He applauded the emergency services for their response, and said he would continue as normal.

"These people won't prevail," he said.

British media reported the car used in the attack — a gray Hyundai i40 — was rented in Birmingham, a city of more than 1 million people about 125 miles northwest of London. Anti-terrorism forces swept into the city, and seven of the suspects were arrested there.

Queen Elizabeth II said she and her husband, Prince Philip, would not be able to officially open New Scotland Yard, the London police headquarters, as planned Thursday "for very understandable reasons."

"My thoughts, prayers, and deepest sympathy are with all those who have been affected by yesterday's awful violence," she said in a message to Craig Mackey, the acting commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

Of the 40 people injured in the incident, 29 required hospitalization and five remained in critical condition late Thursday. May said 12 Britons were taken to hospitals. The others include three French teenagers, two Romanians, four South Koreans, one American, one German, one Pole, one Irish, one Chinese, one Italian and two Greeks, she said.

Three police officers were injured as they returned from an event to recognize their bravery, May said, adding two were in serious condition.

Both houses of Parliament resumed normal operations Thursday. A minute's silence to honor the victims was held shortly after 9:30 a.m. local time. The crime scene and surrounding area remained cordoned off and police asked people to steer clear of the areas close to Parliament. A candlelit vigil will be held in Trafalgar Square later Thursday, the office of London's mayor announced.

"We are not afraid," May said in her address to Parliament. "Our resolve will never waiver in the face of terrorism. And we meet here, in the oldest of all Parliaments, because we know that democracy — and the values it entails — will always prevail."

Brexit has a start date: Britain to trigger Article 50 legislation next week

LONDON — Prime Minister Theresa May will trigger the legislation that begins Britain's withdrawal from the European Union on March 29, the British government announced Monday. The move comes nine months after Britain voted to leave the 28-nation bloc.

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3-24-2017

stolen. They identified him as Sean Patrick Keoughan, 29, of Roanoke, Va.

The incident is the latest of several, including one that took place earlier Saturday, in which someone jumped a low metal barrier just outside a White House fence after jumping over bicycle-rack-style barricades on Pennsylvania Avenue. The man then stood "yelling nonsensical statements," according to a police report. Police identified him as William Bryant Rawlinson, 58, of Silver Spring, Md.

On March 10, a California man breached an outer perimeter fence and scaled a vehicle gate to enter the south lawn of the White House. The man was on the presidential grounds for more than 16 minutes before Secret Service agents discovered his presence, officials said last week. He was carrying a backpack with two cans of pepper spray and a letter to the president, among other items.

Utah Congressman Jason Chaffetz, chairman of the House Oversight Committee, said the intruder rattled a door handle and looked through a window before being apprehended. The intruder jumped three separate fences: a 5-foot perimeter fence near the Treasury Building, an 8-foot vehicle gate and another 3½-foot fence near the East Wing.

The Secret Service said the fence jumper scaled the first barrier at about 11:21 p.m. ET and wasn't arrested until 11:38 p.m.

The Washington Metropolitan Police Department identified the man as Jonathan Tran, 26, of Milpitas, Calif. He was charged with entering or remaining in restricted grounds while using or carrying a dangerous weapon.

President Trump was in the residence at the time but was not threatened, the Secret Service said.

The UN says Norway's the happiest country in the world. The US didn't crack the top 10

The United Nations' annual ranking of the happiest nations in the world released Monday, and apparently it's a good time to live in a cold European nation.

Norway took the top spot, while the U.S. slipped from 13th to 14th. Rankings were based on six factors: income, social support, life expectancy, "freedom to make life choices," generosity and perceptions of corruption.

The report acknowledged Norway's win was close. The top four countries (including Denmark, Iceland and Switzerland) are typically so close that tiny changes any of the key factors mentioned above lead to entirely different rankings.

The UN report argues Norway became the happiest country "in spite of" its oil-based wealth. Instead of relying on the boom and bust cycles of many other oil-based economies, Norway has produced its oil slowly and "invested the proceeds for the future rather than spending them in the

present," in addition to its strong social factor scores.

The top 10 (scores out of 10)

1. Norway (7.537)
2. Denmark (7.522)
3. Iceland (7.504)
4. Switzerland (7.494)
5. Finland (7.469)
6. The Netherlands (7.377)
7. Canada (7.316)
8. New Zealand (7.314)
9. Australia (7.284)
10. Sweden (7.284)

An entire chapter of the 184-page report was devoted to the paradox that the U.S.' gross domestic product is on the rise in recent years, but happiness is falling.

"America's crisis is, in short, a social crisis, not an economic crisis."

—Jeffrey D. Sachs, UN report

The report argues that while American politics is largely focused on restoring the "American Dream" via economic shifts, happiness would increase by focusing on social ills.

The bottom 5 (scores out of 10)

151. Rwanda (3.471)
152. Syria (3.462)
153. Tanzania (3.349)
154. Burundi (2.905)
155. Central African Republic (2.693)

Other notable results from the rankings include Germany taking 16th, the United Kingdom taking 19th, and France ranking 31st overall. The report also found the biggest source of unhappiness in wealthier countries is mental illness.

Mich. teenager to give away most of \$500,000 lottery win

LANSING, Mich. — A Michigan teenager who won \$500,000 in an instant lottery game plans to give away most of his winnings, state lottery officials said.

The 19-year-old man, who claimed his prize on Friday and asked to remain anonymous, told lottery officials he planned to invest \$5,000 of the prize money and give the rest to his parents.

"My parents have done so much for my sister and me," he said, in a lottery bureau release. "Helping them takes a big weight off of their shoulders and mine."

The man bought the ticket at a Sunoco gas station outside of Lansing. He said he bought the only remaining Golden Wild Time ticket and scratched it off in the store.

"... At first, I thought they were playing a trick on me until I saw how excited they were about the ticket," he said.

The Golden Wild Time game was launched in August. Tickets are \$10 each. More than \$18.5 million in prizes remained on Friday, including 45 \$10,000 prizes, lottery officials said.

Earth sizzles to 2nd-warmest winter since records began nearly 140 years ago

The planet sizzled to its second-warmest winter on record, failing to oust the 2015-

2016 season from the top spot, federal scientists announced Friday.

The global temperature for the months of December, January and February soared to 1.6 degrees above average this winter, according to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration data. That's a huge amount in climate science, where records are often broken by hundredths or tenths of degrees.

Still, this winter was nowhere close to the past season's record, when the planet sweltered to a tremendous 2 degrees above average.

Last month also marked the second-warmest February on record for the planet, trailing only 2016, NOAA said. It became the 41st consecutive February and the 386th consecutive month with above-average temperatures. The most recent cooler-than-average month dates back to July 1985. NOAA's global climate records began in 1880.

Separate analyses of global temperatures from NASA and the Japan Meteorological Center, concurred with NOAA's assessment. The latest data is not unexpected. The past three years — 2014, 2015 and 2016 — each set warm records for the globe, according to NASA.

Much of the U.S., southeastern Canada and most of central and eastern Russia experienced the most intense warmth this February. NOAA reported last week that the U.S. broiled to its second-warmest February on record.

The poles also experienced extreme warmth: Arctic sea ice in February melted to 455,600 square miles below average, the smallest area for that month since records began in 1979. That's 15,400 square miles less than the previous record set just last year, according to an analysis by the National Snow and Ice Data Center.

Antarctic sea ice also tallied a February record low, the data center said.

Trump relents: Bumblebee to be listed as endangered species

It's official: A bumblebee is now on the endangered species list for the first time, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced Tuesday.

"The Trump administration reversed course and listed the rusty patched bumblebee as an endangered species just in the nick of time," said Rebecca Riley, senior attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). "Federal protections may be the only thing standing between the bumblebee and extinction," she said.

In early January, the service, under President Obama, had directed the rusty patched bumblebee to be added to the list and scheduled the official date for Feb. 10. But President Trump issued an order temporarily freezing all new federal regulations a day before the species was set to receive its newfound protective status.

Now, the wait is finally over.

6-14-2017

Asia expressed alarm about the rise of terrorism in the region and pledged closer cooperation, especially in conducting coordinated sea patrols in the Sulu Sea around Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Terrorism is the region's "biggest security concern," said Singapore's defense minister, Ng Eng Hen.

He told the forum that the Philippines is becoming a magnet for extremists: "All of us recognize that if not addressed adequately, it can prove a pulling ground for would-be (extremists) who can launch attacks from there."

At the same conference, Indonesia's defense minister, Gen. Ryamizard Ryacudu, said around 1,200 ISIS operatives are in the Philippines, including 40 from Indonesia.

"The terrorism threat in this region has evolved into an unprecedented immediate level of emergency," he said. "The death group's area of operation has gone global." In 2016, ISIS officially recognized Isnilon Hapilon, the head of a faction of the Abu Sayyaf militant group, as leader of its Southeast Asia regional operations and vowed to create a wilayat, or Islamic State province, in Mindanao.

Hapilon was the target of the botched military raid that triggered a siege by Abu Sayyaf militants and the Maute group, which also pledged allegiance to ISIS in Marawi on May 23. Hapilon is on the FBI's Most Wanted Terrorists list, with a \$5 million reward for his capture.

About 500 militants have seized large parts of Marawi while burning buildings, cutting power and communications lines and taking hostages. The fighting has killed at least 58 government troops, 29 civilians and 138 militants, according to the Philippine military. The ISIS-linked militants still control parts of the central city and have as many as 2,000 hostages, the military said. Rohan Gunaratna, head of the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research, said the Philippines has long underestimated the ISIS threat, noting the militant group "wants to capture and control territory and govern territory."

"You can say Marawi is a game changer in the fight against terrorism in this region," Gunaratna said. "It demonstrated to all the countries in the region what (ISIS) can do. They thought this business of running cities is something in the Middle East — they never thought it could happen in Asia."

3 U.S. soldiers killed by Afghan army soldier in insider attack

An Afghan army soldier turned his weapon on U.S. servicemembers Saturday, killing three and injuring another in eastern Afghanistan.

The Afghan soldier was killed during the attack, said Attahullah Khogyani, spokesman for the provincial governor in Nangarhar province. Afghan officials initially said two servicemembers had been killed, but U.S. officials later said a third had died.

SELF-DRIVING CARS

"On my way here I was informed that U.S. servicemembers were killed and wounded in an attack in Afghanistan," Vice President Mike Pence said during remarks at an event in Wisconsin on repealing Obamacare, according to ABC News.

"The president and I have been briefed; the details of this attack will be forthcoming. But suffice it to say, when heroes fall, Americans grieve. And our thoughts and prayers are with the families of these American heroes," he added.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the shooting in a statement by spokesperson Zabiullah Mujahid, who said a person loyal to the terror group infiltrated the Afghan army "just to attack foreign forces."

The attack occurred in Achin district, where U.S. special forces have been fighting alongside Afghan troops against Islamic State and Taliban militants, Khogyani said, according to Reuters.

Achin has been the scene of worsening violence in recent months as U.S. special forces and elite Afghan commandos intensify their efforts against ISIS loyalists in the region, a group known as ISIS Khorasan or ISIS-K, according to the *Military Times*.

Saturday's attack also comes as the Trump administration debates sending up to 5,000 additional American troops to Afghanistan to the help break what senior military leaders have declared a stalemate.

Such insider attacks have happened before in Afghanistan. In March, another Afghan soldier was killed after he opened fire on foreign forces at a base in Helmand province, wounding three U.S. soldiers.

GM says it's ready to mass produce self-driving cars

LAKE ORION, Mich. — General Motors said Tuesday it has finished making 130 self-driving Chevrolet Bolt test vehicles, an achievement that the automaker says will help put it at the forefront of the race to develop and deploy autonomous cars. CEO and Chairman Mary Barra said GM is the only automaker currently capable of mass-producing self-driving vehicles.

"The autonomous vehicles you see here today are purpose-built, self-driving test vehicles," Barra said before several hundred employees gathered at the plant in Lake Orion, Mich., Tuesday. "The level of integration in these vehicles is on par with any of our production vehicles, and that is a great advantage. In fact, no other company today has the unique and necessary combination of technology, engineering and manufacturing ability to build autonomous vehicles at scale."

The self-driving version of the Chevrolet Bolt is the second generation of vehicles capable of handling nearly all road situations on their own without driver intervention. They are equipped with the latest array of equipment, including cameras, radar, sensors and other hardware designed and built by GM and its suppliers.

The new version of the self-driving Bolts must still be driven with a person behind the

wheel who is alert and ready to take control if necessary.

The automaker had already built about 50 Bolt autonomous vehicles that were retrofitted with the specialized sensors needed to drive themselves. That gives the automaker a total of 180 vehicles it can test and refine.

GM began testing the first generation of its self-driving Bolts last June in Detroit, Scottsdale, Ariz. and San Francisco. Barra said testing of the new version of the self-driving Bolts will begin soon.

GM began making the second-generation Bolt in January and now has enough vehicles to test and learn from, said Andrew Farah, chief technical officer for the self-driving Bolt. Farah said GM wants to learn from this version of the vehicle before it begins making more of them.

The white Bolt displayed by GM on Tuesday can be easily spotted as an autonomous test car because of a roof rack with silver and black modules and cameras, side-mounted articulating white radar units that look like two small boxes stacked on top of each other that are used to monitor cross traffic and extra cameras mounted on the front.

"There are even a couple of cameras that are dedicated just to seeing traffic lights to make sure you don't run red lights," said Kyle Vogt, CEO of Cruise Automation, a self-driving car software company that GM acquired for \$581 million in 2016.

GM has been aggressively working to put together the pieces of the puzzle it needs to be a leader when it comes to driverless vehicles.

In addition to the Cruise Automation acquisition, GM invested \$500 million in ride-hailing app Lyft and announced plans to deploy self-driving Bolt through the company's network.

GM is also in the process of hiring 1,163 additional engineers and other employees to Cruise Automation and is moving the company to a new headquarters in San Francisco.

And earlier this year, GM Chief Financial Officer Chuck Stevens vowed that the automaker would run its autonomous vehicle development like a Silicon Valley start-up, sinking \$600 million annually, or \$150 million per quarter into the effort.

CEO Elon Musk says Tesla may need more plants

SAN FRANCISCO — With four electric vehicle models either on sale or in development, Tesla CEO Elon Musk said Tuesday that the growing brand may be required to build at least three and "possibly as many as 10 or 20" new factories to keep up with expected demand. Tesla's first mid-priced car, the Model 3, is due to start deliveries later this year. At Tuesday's shareholders' meeting, Musk talked about the next vehicle in development, the Model Y, crossover, and predicted that it will see the highest demand of any Tesla when it arrives in 2019. It's a bold prediction given the more

4 of 12

Conservative Party after a disastrous election wiped out May's majority in Parliament. The ballot-box humiliation has seriously — and possibly mortally — wounded May's leadership just as Britain is about to begin complex exit talks with the European Union. Downing St. chiefs of staff Nick Timothy and Fiona Hill, who departed Saturday, formed part of May's small inner circle and were blamed by many Conservatives for the party's lackluster campaign and unpopular election platform, which alienated older voters with its plan to take away a winter fuel allowance and make them pay more for long-term care.

In a resignation statement on the Conservative Home website, Timothy conceded that the campaign had failed to communicate "Theresa's positive plan for the future," and missed signs of surging support for the opposition Labour Party.

Some senior Tories had made the removal of Hill and Timothy a condition for continuing to support May, who has vowed to remain prime minister. May's party won 318 seats, 12 fewer than it had before May called a snap election, and eight short of the 326 needed for an outright majority. The main opposition Labour Party surpassed expectations by winning 262.

Conservative legislator Nigel Evans said the departure of the two aides was "a start," but there needed to be changes to the way the government functioned in the wake of the campaign.

He said the Conservative election manifesto — which Hill and Timothy were key in drafting — was "a full assault on the core Tory voters, who are senior citizens."

"It was a disaster," he said. "Our manifesto was full of fear and the Labour Party's manifesto was full of promises."

Martin Selmayr, senior aide to European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, responded to the resignations by tweeting the word "bauernopfer" — German for the sacrifice of a pawn in chess.

May called the early election when her party was comfortably ahead in the polls, in the hope of increasing her majority and strengthening Britain's hand in exit talks with the EU.

Instead, the result has sown confusion and division in British ranks, just days before negotiations are due to start on June 19.

May wanted to win explicit backing for her stance on Brexit, which involves leaving the EU's single market and imposing restrictions on immigration while trying to negotiate free trade deal with the bloc. Some say her failure means the government must now take a more flexible approach to the divorce.

The Times of London said in an editorial that "the election appears to have been, among other things, a rejection of the vague but harshly worded prospectus for Brexit for which Mrs. May sought a mandate."

It added that "the logic leading to Mrs. May's departure from Downing St. is remorseless."

The Downing St. resignations came as May worked to fill jobs in her minority government and replace ministers who lost their seats on Thursday. Her weakened position in the party rules out big changes, and May's office has said that the most senior Cabinet members — including Treasury chief Philip Hammond, Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson and Home Secretary Amber Rudd — will keep their jobs, but she is expected to shuffle the lower ranks of ministers.

May announced the party would try strike a deal with Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party, an alliance that is fraught with difficulties. May's office said Conservative Chief Whip Gavin Williamson was in Belfast Saturday for talks with the DUP "on how best they can provide support to the government."

The DUP, whose 10 seats would allow the government to get measures through Parliament, is a socially conservative pro-British Protestant group that opposes abortion and same-sex marriage and once appointed an environment minister who believes human-driven climate change is a myth.

The DUP was founded in the 1970s by the late firebrand preacher Ian Paisley, and in the 1980s was a key player in the "Save Ulster from Sodomy" campaign, which unsuccessfully fought against the legalization of gay sex.

Ruth Davidson, the Conservative leader in Scotland, said she had asked May for assurances that there would be no attack on gay rights after a deal with the DUP.

Northern Ireland is the only part of the U.K. in which same-sex marriage is illegal.

"It's an issue very close to my heart and one that I wanted categoric assurances from the prime minister on, and I received (them)," said Davidson, who is engaged to be married to her female partner.

DUP Leader Arlene Foster recently denied the party was homophobic.

"I could not care less what people get up to in terms of their sexuality. That's not a matter for me," she said. "When it becomes a matter for me is when people try to redefine marriage."

A deal between the government and the DUP could also unsettle the precarious balance between Northern Ireland's British loyalist and Irish nationalist parties.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn, riding a wave of acclaim for his party's unexpectedly strong showing, called on May to resign.

Newspaper headlines saw her as just clinging on. "May fights to remain PM," said the front page of the Daily Telegraph, while the Times of London said: "May stares into the abyss." But she seems secure for the immediate future, because senior Conservatives don't want to plunge the party into a damaging leadership contest.

"I don't think throwing us into a leadership battle at this moment in time, when we are about to launch into these difficult negotiations, would be in the best interests of the country," Evans said.

ISIS expands foothold in Southeast Asia with Philippine siege

SINGAPORE — As the Islamic State loses territory in Iraq and Syria, fears mount that the militant group is gaining a stronghold in the Philippines and elsewhere in Southeast Asia.

The Philippines has become the epicenter for the Islamic State, or ISIS, as it expands into the region where more than 60 groups have pledged allegiance to ISIS, according to the Singapore-based International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research. ISIS has been clear about its intentions to turn to Southeast Asia as one of its major sites for operations, drawing recruits from the Philippines and the Muslim-majority countries of Indonesia and Malaysia.

Historically, al-Qaeda had links to extremist groups in Southeast Asia, but ISIS has been connected to several recent attacks, including a May suicide bombing that killed three police officers at a Jakarta bus station and a September bombing in the Philippine city of Davao that killed 14.

The drawn-out siege by militants in the city of Marawi is exposing the vulnerability of the Philippine military, which could undermine the region's security, analysts say. Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte declared martial law May 24 in Mindanao, the southern island where Marawi is located, citing the rising threat of ISIS.

"I think Marawi is showing the absolute limits of what the armed forces of the Philippines is capable of," said Zachary Abusa, professor of national security strategy and a Southeast Asia expert at the National War College in Washington, D.C. "After years and years of U.S. counterterrorism assistance, I think we should be very concerned."

The United States began the Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines to assist Philippines counterterrorism efforts in 2002 but ended the operation in 2015.

The U.S. Embassy in Manila acknowledged Saturday that U.S. special forces are assisting the Philippine military in the ongoing fight to retake Marawi. The U.S. help was limited to surveillance and technical support, according to the Philippine military.

The Philippines has become a destination for militants from around the region, analysts say, especially after ISIS released a video in June 2016 advising potential recruits to head for Mindanao if they couldn't make it to Syria or Iraq.

"The Philippine groups actually control territory," Abusa said. "There's just been this slow and steady trickle of foreigners into Mindanao the past few years."

Dozens of foreigners have been fighting alongside the Filipino militants in Marawi, with several Malaysians and Indonesians as well as a Chechen, Yemeni and Saudi among those reported killed.

At a security forum held recently in Singapore called the Shangri-La Dialogue, defense ministers from around Southeast

also shut courts and the stock market, leaving skyscrapers dark and empty, and the financial hub's normally bustling streets eerily quiet. Low-lying areas flooded and large waves surged over sea-front promenades swamping some buildings and vehicles.

Airlines canceled 450 flights and ferry operators halted commuter services and routes to the nearby Chinese gambling center of Macau. Hato weakened as it headed toward the western side of mainland China's Pearl River Delta, a densely populated area. China's official Xinhua News Agency reported that thousands of people were evacuated from parts of the mainland coast ahead of the storm's arrival as a precaution.

Spanish police intensify efforts to capture suspect behind attacks

BARCELONA, Spain — Authorities in Spain searched Saturday for a member of an Islamic extremist cell that staged vehicle attacks in Barcelona and a seaside resort, focusing on links with his Moroccan comrades, a missing imam believed to have radicalized them and a house that blew up days ago.

Catalan police said the manhunt was centered on Younes Abouyaaquoub, a 22-year-old Moroccan suspected of driving the van that plowed into a Barcelona promenade packed with pedestrians Thursday, killing 13 people and injuring 120. Another attack early Friday killed one person and wounded five in the resort of Cambrils.

But the investigation was also focusing on a Moroccan imam who is thought to have radicalized the cell and was believed to have died on the eve of the Barcelona attack, police said.

Even with Abouyaaquoub still at large, Spanish Interior Minister Juan Ignacio Zoido declared the cell "broken" after five members were killed by police early Friday in a shootout, four were in custody and one or two were killed in a house explosion Wednesday. He said there was no new imminent threat of attack.

The manhunt spanned Spain and southern France, with Spanish police searching nine homes in the northeastern town of Ripoll, where most of the suspects lived, and two buses in northwest Catalonia.

Across the Pyrenees, French police carried out extra border checks on people coming from Spain.

Police also conducted a series of controlled explosions Saturday in the town of Alcanar, south of Barcelona, where the attacks were planned in a rental house that was destroyed Wednesday by an apparently accidental blast. Authorities had initially thought it was a household gas accident, but took another look Friday and returned on Saturday.

Initially, only one person was believed killed in the Wednesday blast. But officials said DNA tests were underway to determine if human remains found there Friday were from a second victim.

A police official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said investigators believed a

Moroccan imam, Abdelbaki Es Satty, might have been the second victim of the house explosion.

Police on Friday searched his home in the northern town of Ripoll. A search warrant seen by The Associated Press authorized police to extract any terrorism-related "weapons, ammunition, explosives, instruments, documents or papers" found. Es Satty wasn't there, and the president of the mosque where he preached, Ali Yassine, said he hadn't seen him since June, when he announced he was returning to Morocco for three months.

In a notice Saturday posted on that Ripoll mosque, members of the Muslim community denounced the vehicle attacks and offered their sympathy to the families of the victims. The Islamic State group initially claimed responsibility for the Barcelona attack. In a new statement Saturday, it also claimed the attack early Friday in Cambrils, in which five extremists mowed down people along the boardwalk before police killed them. Authorities said the two attacks were related and were the work of a large terrorist cell that had been plotting for a long time from the house in Alcanar, 125 miles down the coast from Barcelona.

The name of the lone suspect at large, Abouyaaquoub, figures on a police list of four main suspects sought in the attacks. All on the list hailed from Ripoll, a quiet, upscale town of 10,000 about 62 miles north of Barcelona.

The list was issued throughout Spain and into France, according to a Spanish official and a French police official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the document.

The French official said Spain had also flagged a Kangoo utility vehicle that was believed to have been rented in Spain by a suspect in Thursday's Barcelona attack that might have crossed the border.

Also named on the list is 17-year-old Moussa Oukabir, whose brother Driss reported his documents stolen to police in Ripoll. Ripoll's mayor confirmed the documents were found in one of the vehicles used in the attacks.

The brothers were born and raised in Ripoll, where the family's first-floor apartment was searched Friday. No one was home.

Neighbors said they were shocked by the news of Moussa Oukabir's alleged involvement. One teenager, who identified himself only by his first name, Pau, said they played together when they were younger and he was "a good boy."

The sheer size of the cell recalled the November 2015 attacks in Paris, in which trained Islamic State attackers struck the national stadium, a Paris concert hall and bars and restaurants nearly simultaneously. Since then, the extremist group has steadily lost ground in its self-declared caliphate in Iraq and Syria, most recently with its defeat in Mosul.

"This shows there is no correlation between what is happening over there with Daesh and

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the operational capacity of the group," said Jean-Charles Brisard, a French security analyst, using another name for the group. The attacks unnerved Spain, a country that hasn't seen an Islamic extremist attack since 2004, when al-Qaida-inspired bombers killed 191 people in coordinated assaults on Madrid's commuter trains. Unlike France, Britain, Sweden and Germany, Spain has largely been spared, thanks in part to a crackdown that has netted about 200 suspected jihadis in recent years.

But Spain decided to maintain its terrorist threat alert at level 4, declaring Saturday that no new attacks were imminent. Interior Minister Juan Ignacio Zoido said the country would nevertheless reinforce security for events that draw large crowds — like concerts and sports events — and popular tourist sites.

Islamic extremists have made a habit of targeting Europe's major tourist attractions in recent years. Rented or hijacked vehicles have formed the backbone of a strategy to attack the West and its cultural symbols. Barcelona's Las Ramblas promenade, which was struck Thursday, is one of the most popular attractions in a city that swarms with foreign tourists in August.

The dead and wounded in the two attacks came from 34 countries. The Catalan emergency service said 54 people remained hospitalized Saturday, 12 of them in critical condition.

Spain's King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia visited attack victims Saturday and spoke with the medical staff of Barcelona's Hospital del Mar. The royal couple talked with one family in which two children and their father were recovering.

The 14 people killed in the attacks spanned generations — from age 3 to age 80 — and leave behind devastated loved ones.

They included Francisco Lopez Rodriguez, 57, who was killed with his 3-year-old grand-nephew, Javier Martinez, while walking along the Las Ramblas promenade. His wife Roser is recovering from her wounds in a hospital.

"We are a broken family," niece Raquel Baron Lopez posted on Twitter.

U.S., South Korea start military drills amid 'second war' threats from Pyongyang
SEOUL — The U.S. and South Korea started their annual joint military exercises

Monday amid threats from Pyongyang that the drills could spark a "second Korean war."

North Korea's official government newspaper *Rodong Sinmun* warned against "reckless behavior driving the situation into the uncontrollable phase of a nuclear war." The newspaper said Sunday that North Korea possessed missiles capable of striking the U.S. mainland "from anywhere and anytime as it pleases."

"The (Korean Peoples Army) is keeping a high alert, fully ready to contain the enemies. It will take resolute steps the moment even a slight sign of the 'preventive war' is spotted," the article said.

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The military drills, called Ulchi Freedom Guardian, are held every summer and have long been viewed by North Korea as a preparation for war. The North vows a strong military response to the exercise each year. The exercises come after North Korea threatened to launch four ballistic missiles toward the U.S. territory of Guam, although tensions have appeared to ease in recent days.

Ulchi Freedom Guardian is a "computer simulated defensive exercise designed to enhance readiness, protect the region and maintain stability on the Korean peninsula," the U.S. Defense Department said.

The 11-day exercise will involve 17,500 American troops and roughly 50,000 South Korean service members, according to the Pentagon and South Korea's Defense Ministry. The number of U.S. troops has been reduced from last year's 25,000. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said Sunday that the reduction simply reflects a need for fewer troops and is not a result of tensions with North Korea.

United Nations Command forces from seven countries — Australia, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, New Zealand, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom — are also participating. South Korean President Moon Jae-in said Monday that the exercise was a "defensive drill" and that North Korea shouldn't use it "as a pretext for aggravating the situation."

"North Korea must understand that it is because of its repeated provocations that South Korea and the U.S. have to conduct defensive exercises, which in turn keeps the vicious cycle going," he said during a Cabinet meeting, according to the South Korean Yonhap News Agency.

A strong showing of top U.S. military brass is on hand for the exercises. Adm. Harry Harris, head of Pacific Command; Gen. John Hyten, commander of the U.S. Strategic Command; and Lt. Gen. Samuel Greaves, director of the U.S. Missile Defense Agency, have arrived in Seoul to view drills and meet with their South Korean counterparts.

Their visits come on the heels of a trip to South Korea last week by Marine Gen.

Joseph Dunford, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Both China and Russia proposed last month a halt on the exercises in exchange for a freeze on North Korean missile tests. However, Dunford last week emphasized that the military drills were "not currently on the table as part of the negotiation at any level."

Tensions have remained high on the Korean Peninsula as North Korea has conducted 12 missile tests in 2017, and as President Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un have engaged in a war of words. In July, North Korea successfully launched two intercontinental ballistic missiles, which it claims could reach the U.S. mainland.

Trump warned that North Korea would face "fire and fury like the world has never seen" if Pyongyang kept threatening the U.S.

Kim backed off the plan to fire missiles in the vicinity of the western Pacific island of Guam last week, saying he would watch "the foolish and stupid conduct of the Yankees" before deciding whether to approve plans to launch the weapons, North Korean state media reported.

That prompted Trump to tweet that the North Korean leader made a "wise and well reasoned decision."

With code name, how Toyota-Mazda set off secret race for 4,000-job plant

One of the biggest potential job-creating bonanzas in the country, a giant new auto plant proposed by Toyota and Mazda, began in secret with a mysterious code name.

Now it has become a full-blown race among states to try to reel in the \$1.6-billion project that will create 4,000 good-paying direct jobs and thousands of other indirect jobs.

The two Japanese automakers recently issued a blind request for proposals to states in the Midwest, mid-Atlantic and South, according to two people familiar with the plans who were not authorized to speak publicly because the process was confidential.

Told only that an unidentified employer was weighing its options for a massive project under the code name Project Mitt, state economic development officials delivered preliminary proposals, including potential tax incentives, job training programs and infrastructure investments.

When the Japanese automakers publicly revealed their joint venture two weeks ago, they made it clear they had not yet picked a site. State economic development offices are now in high gear.

No fewer than a dozen states are believed to have a shot at landing the automotive factory, which automotive industry researchers say could create several times as many jobs at nearby employers.

Job-creating projects of this magnitude are rare — it would be only the fourth U.S. assembly plant in a decade when it opens in 2021 — so Toyota and Mazda are expecting contenders to roll out the red carpet for their 50-50 joint venture.

Also making the project a plum, Toyota, in particular, takes "a very long-term view" that should keep its giant plant in place for half a century or more, said Ron Harbour, an expert on auto manufacturing sites who works for consultancy Oliver Wyman.

"You have to be able to say you've got the workforce, you've got the land, you've got the transportation systems and rail spurs, community college and education and a place where people want to live," said Kristin Dzielick, director of industry, labor and economics at the Center for Automotive Research. "Once you've got all that, tax incentives come into play."

But unlike the recent contest to land smartphone components manufacturer Foxconn's first U.S. plant — which Wisconsin won after delivering a massive

incentives package — tax breaks might not be enough to seal the deal.

Access to a dependable labor force, a vibrant community and enough contiguous land close to power and transportation infrastructure could make the difference, said Bradley Migdal, senior managing director and business incentives expert at Cushman & Wakefield.

Toyota, which hired commercial real estate firm Jones Lang LaSalle to help manage the process, declined to discuss states under consideration.

"We are just beginning the discovery process," Toyota said in a statement. "As we solidify our plans, we will share more information about the selection process."

Mazda spokesman Jeremy Barnes, in an email, said, "I do know that no decisions have been made at this time, and that all options remain on the table."

Volkswagen to revive popular microbus as electric vehicle

Seeking to reignite Americans' love affair with the microbus, Volkswagen Group said Saturday that it would bring the beloved vehicle back to its lineup.

Although it won't hit dealerships until 2022, VW said it would make the I.D. Buzz as a production vehicle after the concept version stole the spotlight at the Detroit auto show in January.

Designed as a throwback to the old microbus that was among the most recognizable Volkswagens in the German brand's 1960s hippie heyday, the I.D. Buzz will be available in North America, Europe and China.

It seeks to capitalize on a trend on social media of young adults promoting their road trips in old-school vans under the hashtag #vanlife.

"After the presentations at the global motor shows in Detroit and Geneva, we received a large number of letters and emails from customers who said, 'please build this car,'" Volkswagen brand CEO Herbert Diess said in a statement.

The company made the announcement at an annual car show in Pebble Beach because "the microbus has long been part of the California lifestyle," Diess said.

The vehicle will get semi-self-driving capability, VW said. And the company said it would make a commercial van version of the vehicle called the I.D. Buzz Cargo, which would compete in a flourishing segment against models such as the Ford Transit and Ram ProMaster.

With its batteries and electric motor positioned underneath the floor, the vehicle has a "massively spacious interior and great proportions," VW bragged.

It "looks like a compact commercial van on the outside, even though it offers the generous interior space of a large SUV," Diess said.

Mercedes-Benz debuts new concept with '30s flair

Mercedes-Benz has introduced a concept car intended to show the brand at its elegant best.

According to a statement from American Airlines, the American Eagle regional flights use the Bombardier CRJ aircraft, which has a maximum operating temperature of 118 degrees. Tuesday's forecast for Phoenix included a high of 120 degrees, and the flights that are affected were to take off between 3 and 6 p.m. MT.

Customers affected were told to contact American Airlines for rebooking options or to request a refund.

Extreme heat affects a plane's ability to take off. Hot air is less dense than cold air, and the hotter the temperature, the more speed a plane needs to lift off. A runway might not be long enough to allow a plane to achieve the necessary extra speed.

American Airlines alerted travelers on Saturday about the heat wave and recommended they change any flights scheduled to arrive or depart between 3 and 6 p.m. Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. The flight changes would be free of charge. This is reminiscent of Phoenix's record-setting high temperature of 122 degrees on June 26, 1990, which grounded some airlines for the day. Larger jets, such as Airbus and Boeing, aren't expected to be affected by this week's heat.

Stoked! 511 California surfers paddle out to set record

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Southern California surfers are stoked after setting a Guinness World Record for largest surf paddle-out.

The record became official Tuesday after 511 surfers formed a circle and held hands for one minute while floating off Huntington Beach. The Orange County Register says the group contended with morning fog, strong currents and large waves.

The paddle-out was conceived as a way to celebrate surfing making it into the Olympic summer games for the first time in 2020. The newspaper says it was also to plant a seed: If Los Angeles gets the nod for the 2024 or 2028 Olympics, Huntington Beach wants to host the surfing event.

Oregon joins states where roadkill can be harvested for food

SALEM, Ore. (AP) — A bill recently signed into law in Oregon allows drivers who crash into deer and elk on the road to harvest the animals' meat for food.

It's not as rare as you might think.

About 20 other states also let people take meat from animals killed by vehicles. And advocates say roadkill can be high-quality, grass-fed grub.

Washington state began allowing the salvaging of deer and elk carcasses a year ago.

In Pennsylvania, people can take deer or turkeys that are killed on the road if they report the incidents to the state Game Commission within 24 hours.

In Oregon, Gov. Kate Brown signed the roadkill measure with little fanfare last week after lawmakers passed it without a single "nay" vote.

Georgia inmates who saved deputy's life get shorter sentences

The six Georgia inmates who jumped into action and saved the life of a deputy who passed out will get a reward of shorter sentences, the sheriff said Tuesday.

"Anytime we have a trustee or inmate crew, that goes beyond normal duties, we cut them some extra time off," Polk County Sheriff, Johnny Moats, said.

The Polk County officer, who was not identified in reports, collapsed and was unconscious, WXIA reported. The inmates noticed the medical emergency and quickly removed his shirt, opened his bulletproof vest and performed chest compressions, while another inmate called for an ambulance.

"When he started breathing, it was just real heavy and real fast," one of the inmates told the station. The officer's family provided the inmates with lunch and desserts for their action.

"When that happened, in my opinion, it wasn't about who is in jail and who wasn't," the inmate said. "It was about a man going down and we had to help him."

Sheriff Moats stated that he would take off about one-fourth of the inmates' sentences for their heroic actions. In addition, the inmates are being treated to homemade lunch and desserts prepared by the officer's family, Fox 5 Atlanta reported.

The deputy suffers from chronic Chiari malformation, which causes fluids to not flow properly. The high humidity reportedly may have contributed to his collapse.

New restrictions set on visiting Peru's famed Machu Picchu

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Travelers wanting a glimpse of Peru's famed Machu Picchu will be restricted to visiting during morning or afternoon tours in a move aimed at conserving the site's archaeological splendor. The new rules go into effect in July and will allow about 3,600 visitors to enter the ancient Incan citadel from 6 a.m. to noon and an additional nearly 2,700 people to explore during the afternoon.

Previously, travelers could spend the entire day taking in the world-renowned site.

The changes are a result of a 2015 study by a U.S. archaeologist and recommendations from UNESCO on how best to ensure that Machu Picchu isn't hurt by rising numbers of tourists.

Visitors will also be required to use a guided tour.

Driver killed after he rams police vehicle with car carrying explosives on Champs-Elysees

PARIS — A man on the radar of French authorities was killed Monday after ramming a car carrying explosives into a police vehicle in the capital's Champs-Elysees shopping district, prompting a fiery blast, officials said. France's anti-terrorism prosecutor opened an investigation.

No police officers or passers-by were hurt, the Paris police department said. It is unclear why the attacker drove into police, though

officials said the incident was apparently deliberate.

Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said the man was killed after an attempted attack on a police convoy, saying that shows the threat is still very high in the country and justifies a state of emergency in place since 2015. He said he will present a bill Wednesday at a Cabinet meeting to extend the state of emergency from July 15, its current expiration date, until Nov. 1.

He says the current situation in France shows a new security law "is needed" and the measure would "maintain a high security level."

Two police officials told The Associated Press that a handgun was found on the driver, who they said was badly burned after the vehicle exploded. They identified the man as a 31-year-old man from the Paris suburb of Argenteuil who had an "S" file, meaning he was flagged for links to extremism.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to reveal details of the incident, the second this year on the city's most famous avenue, which is popular with tourists from around the world.

An attacker defending the Islamic State group fatally shot a police officer on the Champs-Elysees in April, days before a presidential election, prompting an extensive security operation.

On Monday, police cordoned off a broad swath of the Champs-Elysees after the latest incident, warning people to avoid the area. Interior Ministry spokesman Pierre-Henry Brandet said the incident was apparently deliberate.

Police "pulled an individual out of the vehicle who had struck the car in front (of the convoy)," Brandet told reporters. "Large numbers of police converged on the scene, firefighters to extinguish the fire."

A man could be seen lying on his stomach on the ground immediately after the incident, wearing a white shirt and dark shorts.

Hours later, access to the avenue remained blocked, while bomb squads combed the area.

Visitors to a nearby Auguste Rodin exhibit were confined inside the Grand Palais exhibit hall for an hour after the incident.

Victoria Boucher and daughter Chrystel came in from the suburb of Cergy-Pontoise for a Paris visit and weren't afraid to go to the famed avenue.

"We were better off inside than outside," Chrystel said. But both agreed as the mother said, "unfortunately we now are used to this." "The show must go on," the daughter said in English. "They won't win."

London's Grenfell Tower was covered in insulation banned in other countries, official says

Insulating panels added to the Grenfell Tower during an energy-efficiency renovation are banned in the U.S., U.K. and Germany on large buildings, a top-ranking British official said Sunday, questioning whether the panels played a major role in a fatal high-rise fire.

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parts and it is similar," said Jeremy Kinney, curator of aviation for the Air & Space Museum. "The typeface of the print is true to the period. It's amazing that something like that survived. Things like that were usually fuel fodder and ended up in the furnace." Giacomo "Jack" Destefano, director of the Paterson Museum, further confirmed the box as coming from the Wright factory, which manufactured the engine in the Spirit of St. Louis plane flown by Charles Lindbergh in 1927.

"These crates were used to ship parts back and forth to Europe," said Destefano. "Anything from that period is very sought after."

Several museums as well as New York City auction houses have expressed interest in the artifact, Porus said. However, the museums have advised Porus to get the box independently appraised and insured first. Porus said he is debating what to do with his find: keep it, lend it, sell it or donate it. "I still don't know what I'm going to do," Porus said. "I think I want to show it for a while. And who knows? It could be my ticket to Bora Bora."

Couple gets back nearly \$100K accidentally donated to Goodwill

ZANESVILLE, Ohio — An associate at Goodwill Industries thought she had found a duffel bag full of play money last week while sorting a box of housewares. On closer inspection, employees realized the money was real — and there was a lot of it. Nearly \$100,000 in hundred dollar bills was accidentally donated when a woman dropped off a box of clothes at the Maple Avenue Goodwill store.

"The money was found in a duffel bag that was in a box full of clothes," said Janelle Schaffer, a store manager at Goodwill on Maple Avenue. "Thank goodness she asked for a receipt when the lady dropped the donation off so we had her contact information."

Schaffer said in addition to the large amount of cash, a last will and testament as well as some other legal documents was located in the duffel bag.

Betsy Lyons and Barb Claypool were sorting through a large box of housewares when Claypool opened the bag.

"I just laughed and said, 'Look at all my money I found,'" Claypool said. "I thought it was play money. Then Betsy came over and said we needed to take that to the office."

Lyons, who has worked at Goodwill for eight years, said she too thought the money was fake at first — at the very least counterfeit.

"When I realized the money wasn't fake it was kind of scary," Lyons said. "I thought what if someone comes back looking for it." Schaffer said she immediately began calling the number left by the donor. After repeated attempts failed, she contacted the police department.

Schaffer finally made contact with the donor, Lynette Leckrone of Lewisville, who was unaware the money was missing.

Dan Leckrone, husband of the donor, said he had withdrawn the money from the bank and put the it in the trunk of the car where he thought no one would find it.

"We are moving closer to Wheeling and we have been saving to buy a house," Leckrone said. "We were taking the money to deposit it in another bank where we were moving to. We had our trunk full of clothes and things we wanted to get rid of but we don't have a Goodwill near where we live so we took the things to Zanesville where we have family."

Leckrone said he and his wife didn't know the money — \$97,004 to be exact — was missing until they got home and started listening to all of the calls on their answering machine.

"We picked the money up at the police department and took it straight to the bank," Leckrone said. "We are so thankful to everyone that we got our money back."

Michelle Cogswell, central manager, said something like this has never happened in the 18 years she has worked for Goodwill Industries.

"We find the occasional \$100 bill or \$50 bill but that's about the most that is found," Cogswell said. "When I heard they found \$100,000, I thought they meant \$1,000." Goodwill Industries is a non-profit organization that provides job training, employment placement services and other community-based programs for people who have barriers preventing them from otherwise obtaining a job, according to Cogswell. Used clothing, furniture, appliances and housewares are donated to Goodwill internationally and sold in retail stores across the globe.

"Since October we have found about \$1,200, mostly in change in pockets and purses, etcetera," Cogswell said. "So that kind of puts it in perspective how big this is."

Schaffer said she was still a little shocked by the incident, but not surprised by the actions of Lyons and Claypool.

"We have some honest, loyal employees," Schaffer said. "I'm very proud of them."

Fisherman finds 36-year-old message in a bottle and tracks down sender

It was June 10, 1981.

MTV didn't exist yet. It was set to launch later that summer. Anticipation was high for the summer blockbuster set to release later that week: *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. Grolsch beer, in its dark brown bottle and swing top, was riding a wave of summer popularity.

It was a stifling hot summer day in Fernandina Beach, Fla. As temperatures climbed towards 99°, a brown glass bottle sailed through the air and landed in the Amelia River, just off the Atlantic Coast. Inside, a handwritten letter with a simple request from a simpler time:

"This bottle was set adrift off Fernandina Beach, Florida on the 10th of June, 1981. To the finder I would appreciate it if you would respond as to where, when and found by

whom. My permanent address is as follows on the back. Thanks, Douglas H. Stephens" A Chamblee, Ga. address was captured in perfect blue ink on the back side of the ripped-off white paper. It stayed there for 36 years.

June 17, 2017.

Ryan Burchett was fishing at his favorite spot on Little St. Simons, Ga., with family and friends. The group was walking along the shore looking for seashells when Burchett saw a glimmer of brown glass.

"I knew it looked a little different," he said. "When I held it up to the sun, I could see a note inside." He popped the top, but the swing top separated from the cork. It fell to pieces, with the note still trapped inside.

"I thought, 'How in the world am I going to get this out?'" he said. But he had to know what that note said. Eventually, he was able to wrap the paper around a stick and pull it out. When he saw the note was more than three decades old from a beach about 40 miles away, he was shocked.

"I think it probably landed near Little St. Simons years ago, and has been sitting at the bottom all this time," he said.

He was determined to follow through on that simple request, but wasn't sure where to start. A quick search showed the Chamblee address listed had been bought and sold several times since the 1980's. A friend suggested he harness the power of social media.

There was just one problem: Ryan Burchett wasn't on Facebook.

A mutual friend suggested he ask the Southeast Adventure Outfitters in town to post the note. They did. More than 1500 shares and hundreds of comments, tags, and connections later, Burchett made a phone call to the man behind the message: Douglas Stephens.

Stephens hadn't seen the photos of his long-ago message in a bottle. He too, is not on Facebook.

"Incredible," Burchett describes the conversation he had with Stephens. The two men shared memories of Little St. Simons and Amelia Island, where Stephens had vacationed growing up.

Every pair of hands that touched this bottle wanted to make one thing clear: it's a great story, but not one they want people to repeat. "Don't throw stuff in the ocean," Burchett said. "It stays there forever."

The two men connected by a handwritten request, an old beer bottle, and (reluctantly) by social media will meet in person later this summer. Burchett wants to return the piece of memorabilia.

It takes them both back to that hot summer on the coast. When summer vacations were chronicled by torn pieces of paper instead of Facebook posts.

It's so hot in Phoenix, they can't fly planes
PHOENIX — The extreme heat forecast for Phoenix on Tuesday has caused the cancellation of 20 American Airlines flights out of Sky Harbor International Airport.

U.S. HOUSE PASSING LAW ALLOWING FOR...

Fukushima nuclear plant was left leaking radiation after it was hit by an earthquake in 2011.

The Fukushima nuclear plant was destroyed in March 2011 by a 9-magnitude earthquake and the subsequent tsunami, exposing enormous amounts of radioactive material. The huge tsunami washed huge fishing boats ashore in the Shishiori district of fishery port city Kesennuma, Miyagi Prefecture flattening cars and buildings.

Japan is located in the ring of fire, a geographical area of high geological activity. Due to tectonic plate tension, the region, which stretches from South America to Oceania, experiences regular volcanic and earthquake activity.

Around 90 per cent of the world's biggest earthquakes and more than 80 per cent of the biggest volcanoes take place on the Pacific ring.

This latest quake comes after a huge earthquake struck near North Korea, according to the South Korea's meteorological agency.

The 5.4 magnitude rocked the coast near Pohang in South Korea in the sea of Japan. The earthquake shook buildings and caused books to fall from shelves sending tremors as far as Seoul – kilometres away from where it struck.

At least four people have been injured, disaster officials confirmed.

The quake occurred at around 2.29pm local time and a series of aftershocks were felt soon after, the Korea Meteorological Administration said.

Mark Zastrow, who lives in Seoul, tweeted: "Woah, earthquake in Pohang and just felt it in Seoul, a few seconds after I got the alert on my phone."

According to a US Geological Survey (USGS) chart the intensity, tremors would have been felt in North Korea.

The Latest: US designation on NKorea could come next week BEIJING (AP) —

The Latest on China's responses to tensions over North Korea's nuclear program (all times local): The White House says President Donald Trump will announce his decision on whether to name North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism "in the first part of next week." Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders is declining to preview the announcement, which has been anticipated for weeks. White House officials had previously said the decision would come by the end of Trump's recent trip to Asia. North Korea was previously designated as a sponsor of terror, but was removed from the list in 2008. Trump has faced pressure from congressional lawmakers to re-list the country amid its advancing nuclear missile program, though some fear it could increase already heightened tensions on the Korean peninsula.

U.S., Israeli Reform Jewish Leaders Roughed Up at Western Wall by Security Guards Rabbi Gilad Kariv, executive director of the Reform movement in Israel,

was detained for questioning by police after the incident, which he described as "one of the most violent" he ever witnessed at the Jewish holy site. About 150 Reform Jews, both from Israel and overseas, arrived at the Western Wall in the morning to participate in a special prayer and Torah-reading service in honor of four new rabbis scheduled to be ordained by the movement at a special ceremony on Thursday evening. The delegation included the entire board of governors of the Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem, which ordains Reform rabbis in Israel. This new crop of rabbis – two men and two women – includes the 100th to be ordained by the Reform movement in Israel. Participants in the morning event first held a prayer service at the temporary egalitarian plaza located at the southern side of the Western Wall. Carrying eight Torah scrolls with them, they then proceeded to the upper plaza of the Western Wall – an area designated for national ceremonies. Security guards tried to stop them, and a scuffle broke out. "Many of those holding Torah scrolls were hit and punched by the guards," said Kariv. "I saw Rabbi Rick Jacobs taking the brunt of the blows."

All the security guards at the site are employees of the Western Wall Heritage Foundation, the Orthodox-run organization that administers it.

The group participants ultimately broke through the guards and held a Torah reading service at the upper plaza that included women. They sang Hatikvah, the Israel national anthem, at its conclusion.

"While I was holding the Torah scroll, an ultra-Orthodox man came at me from behind and tried to grab it out of my hand," Hoffman told Haaretz. "I shouted for help, and some of my colleagues came and were able to pull him off me."

Hoffman said she witnessed a security guard threaten to spray Jacobs with mace if he proceeded ahead with his Torah scroll. "He held the bottle 10 centimeters from Rick's nose," she recounted.

A year ago this month, a similar confrontation broke out when a delegation of Reform and Conservative rabbis, mainly from North America, broke through a security barrier at the Western Wall carrying Torah scrolls. They were protesting the failure of the Israeli government to follow through with its commitment to create a new egalitarian space at the Western Wall, where men and women could pray together. Eight months later, the government voted to officially suspend the plan.

Kariv said this was the first time he was ever detained for questioning by police at the Western Wall. "It was all done very politely," he reported, "and I told the policeman who questioned me that he should feel free to arrest me so that we can fight this out in court. He obviously didn't take up my offer." Reform Jews, Kariv added, have no intention of forfeiting their right to read from the Torah at the Western Wall. "The nice words our

prime minister repeats every time he appears before Jews abroad will not heal the great rift that has been created with Diaspora Jewry because of the Western Wall," he said.

Asked to comment, Rabbi Shmuel Rabinowitz, the chief custodian of the Western Wall and the executive director of the Western Wall Heritage Foundation, denied that violence had been used against the delegation of Reform Jews. "It is a lie," he said in an email. "The violence was used against employees of the Western Wall Heritage Foundation, and this is documented in photos."

He said the group that came to the Western Wall on Thursday morning was simply trying to create a provocation that would draw media attention. "When we understood they intended to physically push their way through and violate regulations at the site, we used our judgment and acted in order to avoid bloodshed," he said.

Rabinowitz added that his foundation had filed a complaint with police against the Reform movement leaders.

Self-driving bus crashes two hours after launch in Las Vegas

A driverless shuttle bus crashed less than two hours after it was launched in Las Vegas on Wednesday.

The technical leader of Ford's autonomous car project speaks about what it's like to be driven by a driver-less car, and how big a deal self-driving vehicles will really be.

The city's officials had been hosting an unveiling ceremony for the bus, described as the US' first self-driving shuttle pilot project geared towards the public, before it crashed with a semi-truck.

According to the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, the human driver of the other vehicle was at fault, there were no injuries, and the incident caused minor damage.

The oval-shaped shuttle -- sponsored by AAA, the *Review-Journal* added -- can transport up to 12 passengers at a time. It has an attendant and a computer monitor, and uses GPS and electric curb sensors instead of brake pedals or a steering wheel.

The crash follows the US House passing the *Self Drive Act* in September, which if passed by the Senate would exempt car manufacturers from various federal and state regulations, allowing for the eventual deployment of up to 100,000 test vehicles a year.

Under the Act, states would still decide whether or not to permit self-driving cars on their roads. However, the federal government could permit a car manufacturer to bypass certain federal safety rules, as well as some state regulations.

The Las Vegas crash is not the first time self-driving vehicles have been involved in a collision. In March, Uber halted its self-driving vehicle tests in the US following a collision in Arizona. An Uber spokesperson later said all tests had been paused for the ride-hailing service to complete an investigation.

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more about 24 hours of gory, laborious work to separate and then reconnect vertebral bones, jugular veins, the trachea, esophagus and other neck structures. The recipient will be helped to breathe, and blood pumped around the body, with machines. The patient will be kept in drug-induced coma for an unspecified recovery time.

Michael Sarr, a former surgeon at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and the editor of the academic journal *Surgery*, said Canavero's procedure radical because doctors "have always been taught that when you cut a nerve the 'downstream side,' the part that takes a signal and conducts it to somewhere else, dies. The 'upstream side,' the part that generates the signal, dies back a little — a millimeter or two — and eventually regrows. As long as that 'downstream' channel is still there, it can regrow through that channel, but only for a length of about a foot."

This is why, he said, if you amputate your wrist and then re-implant it and line the nerves up well you can recover function in your hand. But if your arm gets amputated at the shoulder, it won't be re-implanted because it will never lead to a functional hand.

"What Canavero will do differently is bathe the ends of the nerves in a solution that stabilizes the membranes and put them back together. The nerves will be fused, but won't regrow. And he will do this not in the peripheral nerves such as you find in the arm, but in the spinal chord, where there's multiple types of nerve channels," Sarr said. There has been some success using Canavero's proposed technique on mice and dogs. In one example, a dog walked after six weeks, albeit with an awkward gait. "Based on the classic thinking about how nerves regenerate it was unbelievable," said Sarr.

Canavero said Friday that his team has "rehearsed" his technique with human cadavers in China, but there are otherwise no known human trials. He said the 18-hour operation on two corpses showed it was possible to reconnect the spinal chord and blood vessels. Before the full transplant takes place, two brain-dead patients will undergo the surgery.

Most medical experts say it's a long shot, but even if it the operation works the biggest obstacle may not be the science itself, but whether it should happen at all.

"There are too many risks at this point to go ahead with it," said Assya Pascalev, a biomedical ethicist at Howard University in Washington. "We don't have enough data with animal models, sufficient published and peer-reviewed results, and particularly data about mobility and morbidity on the animals that have had the procedure."

Pascalev said that any groundbreaking procedure — especially its first iteration — is almost certain to face objections and skepticism and requires quite a major leap of faith.

Defiant Mugabe Refuses To Step Down As Zimbabwe's President

Zimbabwe's sidelined President Robert Mugabe, who has been under house arrest since a military takeover earlier this week, is refusing to step down, creating a potential crisis over his succession.

The military staged what it insists was not a coup, but rather a "bloodless correction," on Wednesday, saying its aim was not to target Mugabe himself, but the "criminals around him who are committing crimes." Several senior officials have been detained in the wake of the army's move, according to the BBC.

Even so, negotiations are underway to get Mugabe, who has ruled the former British colony since it gained independence 37 years ago, to voluntarily resign. At 93, he is insisting that he be allowed to serve out his term until elections next year.

But in an indication of how much things have changed in recent days, NPR's Ofeibea Quist-Arcton reports that the ruling ZANU-PF party, long viewed as Mugabe's personal fiefdom, is meeting Friday to work on a draft resolution that could lead to his impeachment next week.

Journalist Jeffrey Barbee tells *Morning Edition* that in the past few days, Zimbabwe has been "surviving on rumors."

"There's almost no security on the streets.

Everything is quiet," he says.

Since his government was toppled, Mugabe has been holed up with his wife, Grace, in his "Blue Roof" compound in the capital, Harare. Despite his house arrest, Mugabe's motorcade on Thursday was seen leaving his home and proceeding to State House, where he was photographed meeting with military chief Constantino Chiwenga — the man who staged Wednesday's takeover — as well as South African ministers sent to help mediate the crisis.

Later, Mugabe arrived at a university graduation ceremony in Harare to deliver a speech, his first public appearance since the takeover.

The army's takeover came a week after Mugabe sacked Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa to make room for his wife to assume leadership of the ruling party and the country's presidency.

After his removal, Mnangagwa, 75, who had been locked in an intraparty factional feud with Mugabe, fled to South Africa, where he vowed to challenge the president's authority.

Magnitude 7.3 Earthquake In Iran-Iraq Is The Deadliest Of 2017

The border region between Iran and Iraq experienced the deadliest earthquake to date in 2017. The 7.3-magnitude earthquake is estimated to have killed between 530 and 580 people and injured another 7,460.

Most of the reported casualties are in Iran's western province of Kermanshah, nearby the epicenter of the earthquake. Search efforts are underway in the region, with rescue workers digging through rubble in an attempt to find any missing people.

The earthquake damaged the main hospital in the town of Sarpol-e Zahab that is being used to treat the thousands of wounded victims. In addition, it is estimated that 70,000 people in total will need some sort of shelter as a result of the earthquake's damage. Unfortunately, the damage was widespread given most of the homes in the Kurdish mountains are made from mud bricks and are not best suited to withstand an earthquake.

The earthquake triggered multiple major landslides as a result of the shaking, making rescue efforts more difficult in the mountainous region. In addition, many people were forced to sleep outside or in incomplete buildings as nighttime temperatures dropped below freezing.

The Iran-Iraq Earthquake Geologic Setting

The earthquake on the border of Iran-Iraq struck in a populated region where more than 1.8 million people live. The earthquake struck the border region at 9:18 pm local time 30 km southwest of Halabja and nearby the border between Iran and Iraq.

The earthquake focus was fairly shallow at 11.8 miles below the surface of the Earth. The earthquake was a result of the collision of the Arabian and Eurasian plates.

The Arabian plate is moving northward by a few centimeters per year, colliding into the Eurasian plate and producing the beautiful Zagros Mountains. This collision between two continental plates switches from a subduction to a strike-slip setting depending on specific location. In the region where the earthquake took place, the two plates are sliding against one another.

The compressional forces and friction induced from the two plates rubbing against one another have caused several major earthquakes in the region. This specific earthquake was a result of a reverse fault, where rocks are compressed and thrust up above nearby rocks. This fold and thrust belt, which has formed the Zagros Mountains, triggered a M7.8 earthquake in 1978 which killed at least 15,000 people.

Further to the south where the boundary between the plates is a subduction has experienced major earthquakes and tsunamis. In 1945 a magnitude 8.0 earthquake produced a tsunami that combined killed more than 4,000 people.

The recent Iran-Iraq earthquake was felt as far away as Turkey, Israel, and Kuwait. While the death toll continues to rise, it is already the deadliest earthquake in the world in 2017 and the deadliest to strike Iran since 2012. Unfortunately, earthquakes will continue to occur in this region as the Arabian plate continues to push up against the Eurasian plate. Hopefully, preparation is underway to learn from this tragic event and rebuild stronger and better than before.

Huge earthquake strikes Japan coast near Fukushima NUCLEAR plant within Ring of Fire

An earthquake has hit Japan off the coast of Fukushima

"LINCOLN TO STUDY DRIVERLESS VEHICLE POSSIBILITIES"

A Koch representative did not answer questions about why the company was interested in media but said Monday said that the investing arm, Koch Equity Development, was making a "passive financial investment" that doesn't include board or management representation. Combined, the media companies posted \$4.8 billion in revenue last year. Meredith says together they will have 135 million readers and 60 million paid subscribers. Meredith says the deal strengthens its appeal to advertisers as the media industry consolidates, and it may buy more properties. But the company will also evaluate whether to sell any magazines after the Time acquisition closes.

Meredith also expects to cut \$400 million to \$500 million in costs in the first two years of operation as a combined company, which potentially means layoffs.

Time is trying to shift to a digital strategy, but it has struggled. It posted two straight years of annual losses and its revenue has declined since it split off from Time Warner in 2014. Analysts expect a return to profit in 2017, however. Meredith has fared better. Meredith will pay \$18.50 per share in cash for Time's nearly 100 million outstanding shares.

Meredith shares climbed 11.9 percent to \$68.25 in afternoon trading, while Time stock added 9.3 percent to \$18.48.

Airbus to sell 430 planes to Phoenix-based Indigo for \$49.5B

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Airbus signed a \$49.5 billion deal on Wednesday to sell 430 airplanes to the Phoenix-based private equity firm that owns Frontier Airlines, striking the European aerospace firm's biggest deal ever at the Dubai Air Show.

Meanwhile, Boeing reached an agreement with low-cost carrier FlyDubai to sell 225 Boeing 737 MAX 10 aircraft — a deal valued at \$27 billion. The biennial air show closes on Thursday.

"It's ended up going out on a high," airline analyst John Strickland of JLS Consulting said. "It shows once again the importance of this part of the world to the big airplane manufacturers."

The Airbus deal with Indigo Partners will split 273 A320neos and 157 A321neos among Denver-based Frontier, JetSMART of Chile, Volaris of Mexico and Wizz Air of Hungary, all ultra-low-cost airlines associated with Indigo.

The A320neo and the A321neo are twin-engine, single-aisle planes popular among airlines because of their reduced fuel consumption.

The surprise announcement came after Airbus on Sunday suffered the embarrassment of believing it had struck a major deal with the state-owned carrier Emirates to sell its A380 double-decker jumbo jet, only to see Boeing sit on the podium with the airline and sign a \$15.1 billion deal.

"Just to clarify: This is not an A380 press conference," joked John Leahy, Airbus' sales chief, at the start of the announcement. A320neos list for \$108.4 million apiece and A321neos at \$127 million. Airlines and manufacturers negotiate lower prices for big deals like these, something Indigo's managing partner Bill Franke was quick to stress afterward.

"Here's hoping," he told reporters. "Their objective is to sell aircraft at the best possible and our objective is to buy aircraft at the best possible price. I've known Mr. Leahy for 25 years. Sometimes he wins, sometimes I win." Asked if he won this round, Franke said: "That'll be a good question."

Airbus' previous biggest-ever sale came in August 2015, when it sold 250 A320neos to Indian budget airline IndiGo, a deal estimated to be worth \$26 billion at list prices. IndiGo and Indigo Partners are separate firms with separate management.

Shares in Airbus rose on the news, closing 2.4 percent higher at 85.58 euros in Paris. Franke is a pioneer of the cheap ticket and high fee airline business that has spread overseas and is growing in the United States. Such carriers offer low base fares but add fees to stow a carry-on bag, get an assigned seat and for other extras. That's led to soaring customer complaints against Frontier.

President Donald Trump also came up in Franke's conversation with journalists on Thursday, as Franke said the American leader would be happy to know the A321neos purchased by Indigo would undergo final assembly in the Airbus plant in Mobile, Alabama.

Shortly after, FlyDubai and Chicago-based Boeing Co. announced their \$27 billion deal. FlyDubai said the planes would bring the low-cost carrier's total fleet on order up to 320. FlyDubai has begun to code-share flights with Emirates. Both are owned by Dubai's government.

The Boeing 737 MAX 10, a twin-engine, single aisle plane capable of carrying 230 passengers, has a list price of \$124.7 million. They'll complement FlyDubai's fleet of Boeing 737s and keep them a Boeing-only shop, something Airbus no doubt had hoped to change.

"Today marks the next chapter in FlyDubai's success story," FlyDubai CEO Ghaith al-Ghaith said.

Until Wednesday, the only major deal announced at the Dubai Air Show came on Sunday, when long-haul carrier Emirates purchased 40 Boeing 787-10 Dreamliners in a \$15.1 billion deal.

That deal also saw Emirates CEO and Chairman Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum bring up the 787-10 buy's ability to create jobs. Trump himself promoted that during a February visit to the South Carolina plant that builds the carbon-fiber, 330-seat plane.

Airbus, which is based in Toulouse, France, has pinned hopes of continuing production of its A380 double-decker jumbo jet on

Emirates, the world's largest operator of the aircraft. Reports circulated before the air show that a major A380 sale would be coming.

Airbus employees even filled a news conference on Sunday, expecting the A380 sale, instead to find state-owned Emirates making the deal with Boeing in front of Dubai's ruler, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

Strickland said that while the massive Airbus sale Wednesday likely took months to negotiate, it still helped Airbus save face at the air show.

"It would have been great relief," the analyst said.

Emirates now relies solely on the Airbus 380 and the Boeing 777 for its flights, making it the largest operator of both. It has 165 Boeing 777s in its fleet today and took possession of its 100th A380 earlier this month.

The Emirates' snub came up at the news conference Wednesday, when a reporter asked Airbus if another deal could be coming.

"I think you've got to walk over to the chalet with Emirates on the door and ask them," Airbus' Leahy said.

Lincoln to study driverless vehicle possibilities

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The city of Lincoln has signed a nearly \$100,000 contract with an engineering consultant to study how the city could one day implement driverless vehicles. HDR Inc.'s study will examine the latest technology, describe a potential pilot project, provide business models for future service, and study insurance and potential law changes, the Lincoln Journal Star reported. "We want to be proactive and not reactive," said Lonnie Burklund, assistant director of transportation for the Public Works and Utilities Department. "We want to have some documentation and a thorough analysis of what does this new technology mean for Lincoln. We want to be able to future-proof our own system and be ready for this potential wave of the future."

Though the city didn't secure a \$50 million Smart Cities grant to create a citywide driverless shuttle service in 2016, city officials are still determined to be in the forefront of the driverless car movement. "Technology in this area is changing so rapidly, we wanted to get our arms around what is the latest and greatest," Burklund said.

The study will help guide city officials as they upgrade intersections through the Green Light Lincoln project, Burklund said.

"I am hoping we can sort of future-proof our signal upgrades ... learn how vehicles will talk to each other, how they will talk with the infrastructure," Burklund said.

The study will focus on what's needed to create a driverless downtown shuttle, Burklund said. While there isn't state funding available for driverless vehicle projects, the city hopes to become a pilot project by

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working with the private sector or through public-private partnerships, she said. "After all, Lincoln is the Silicone Prairie. We have some smart folks here, at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, at local firms," Burklund said.

The study is expected to finish by spring.

Meat-loving Arby's buying Buffalo Wild Wings

NEW YORK (AP) — Meat-centric sandwich chain Arby's said Tuesday that it's buying Buffalo Wild Wings for about \$2.4 billion, making it the latest casual restaurant chain to be taken private.

Buffalo Wild Wings, which serves chicken wings in a sports bar-like atmosphere, has reported falling sales as it and other casual restaurants lose customers to cheaper and faster chains. In the most recent quarter, it reported a 2.3 percent sales drop at its established restaurants.

Other chains that have been taken private this year include Panera Bread, which was bought in July for more than \$7 billion by JAB Holding Co., and sit-down chain Ruby Tuesday Inc., which agreed last month to be sold to private-equity firm NRD Capital for \$146 million.

Atlanta-based Arby's said Buffalo Wild Wings will operate as an independent brand. Analysts said the two chains seemed to be a good match for each other.

"They both appeal to men," says Bonnie Riggs, a restaurant industry analyst at NPD. Both are also popular among families with kids, she says.

Arby's Restaurant Group Inc. said it would pay \$157 for each share of Buffalo Wild Wings, a 7 percent premium to its Monday closing price of \$146.40. The companies value the transaction at \$2.9 billion, when debt is included.

Arby's is majority owned by private equity firm Roark Capital Group, which also has investments in Hardee's, Jimmy John's and other chains.

The deal still needs the approval of Buffalo Wild Wings shareholders, but is expected to close during the first few months of next year.

Shares of Buffalo Wild Wings Inc., which is based in Minneapolis, rose \$9.20, or 6.3 percent, to \$155.60 in Tuesday trading.

Tax bill advances, final Senate vote uncertain

WASHINGTON (AP) — A key Senate committee advanced a sweeping tax package to the full Senate on Tuesday, handing Republican leaders a victory as they try to pass the nation's first tax overhaul in 31 years.

The Senate Budget Committee voted 12-11 to advance the bill as two committee Republicans who had said they were considering voting against the measure — Bob Corker of Tennessee and Ron Johnson of Wisconsin — backed the legislation. President Donald Trump personally lobbied Republican senators at the Capitol on Tuesday and the bill passed with little fanfare

other than a few protesters who tried to disrupt the vote. All 11 Democrats were opposed.

The White House celebrated the vote.

"The momentum driving our shared priorities of job growth, economic competitiveness, and fiscal responsibility through tax reform is undeniable," White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said in a statement. As a sweetener for some Republicans, the budget committee added a provision to the tax bill that would allow oil drilling in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Drilling in the refuge has long been a contentious issue, pitting environmentalists against those who want to increase domestic oil production.

The bill still faces hurdles in the Senate with at least six senators raising sometimes contradicting concerns.

It got a boost Tuesday when Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, won support to amend the bill to allow homeowners to deduct at least a portion of their local property taxes on their federal tax returns.

The current Senate bill repeals the entire state and local tax deduction, which helps more than 43 million families reduce their federal tax bills. Collins said Trump and Senate GOP leaders agreed to amend the bill to allow homeowners to deduct up to \$10,000 in property taxes, which is similar to a provision in the House-passed bill.

When asked if she is now more likely to support the bill, Collins said that is a "fair assumption."

Johnson has complained that the package doesn't cut taxes enough for business owners who report business profits on their individual tax returns. Corker said he is concerned that the package will add to the federal government's \$20 trillion debt. After Trump's meeting with Senate Republicans, Corker said, "I think we're getting to a very good place on the deficit issue."

Corker and other deficit hawks want the package to include a "trigger" that would automatically increase taxes if the legislation fails to generate as much revenue as they expect.

An estimate by congressional analysts says the Senate tax bill would add \$1.4 trillion to the budget deficit over the next decade. GOP leaders dispute the projection, saying tax cuts will spur economic growth, reducing the hit on the deficit.

Many economists disagree with such optimistic projections. The trigger would be a way for senators to test their economic assumptions, with real consequences if they are wrong.

The provision, however, is drawing opposition from some Republicans.

"I am not going to vote to automatically implement tax increases on the American people," said Sen. John Kennedy, R-La. **Prosecutors say Chinese cyber firm was front for hackers**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Three Chinese nationals are accused of operating a cybersecurity firm that used phishing scams and malware to steal data from international corporations.

A federal indictment unsealed Monday in Pittsburgh says the trio's targets included Siemens AG, Moody's Analytics in New York and Trimble Inc. in Sunnyvale, California.

The indictment says they ran a company called Boyusec offering cybersecurity services to Chinese businesses. The men are accused of sending phony emails that look legitimate in order to hack into corporate computers across the world. Prosecutors say they concealed their identities and locations using aliases and valid credentials stolen from victim computer systems.

They are charged with crimes dating to 2011. But with no extradition treaty with China, the chances are slim they will be brought to the U.S. to face them.

Navy wants small warships that pack a bigger punch

BATH, Maine (AP) — The Navy's fast-and-maneuverable littoral combat ship was criticized for lacking enough firepower and armor to survive a maritime battle. The Navy is addressing those concerns with a new class of small-but-powerful frigates that will pack a bigger punch.

The Navy asked this month for concept proposals for multi-mission warships that would be bigger and more heavily armed — and slower — than the littoral combat ships. They would be capable of shooting down airplanes, attacking other ships and countering submarines.

"The Navy has decided that speed is less important than having a warship with sufficient weapons to defend itself," said Loren Thompson, a defense analyst with the Lexington Institute.

The Navy, which wants to build 20 frigates, is seeking an affordable design, and its directive calls for shipbuilders to use an existing design to expedite the process. The aggressive timetable calls for conceptual proposals next month. The first two ships are to be procured in 2020 and 2021.

Large Navy shipbuilders like Maine's Bath Iron Works and Mississippi's Ingalls Shipbuilding are among a half-dozen defense contractors expected to bid on the work. Smaller shipyards like Fincantieri Marinette Marine in Wisconsin and Austal USA in Alabama are also expected to compete.

The proposal marks a new direction for the Navy at a time when the Trump administration has vowed to increase the size of the fleet. The Navy has a goal of 355 ships.

It addresses lessons learned from the littoral combat ships, which were supposed to be an affordable way of countering post-Cold War threats including pirates and swarm boats. The Navy envisioned speedy ships that could be transformed with mission modules to serve different roles. But the mission

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AUTONOMOUS CARS IRL

SUVs to make it look like a Star Wars fighter -- complete with jets, stubby wings and a working R2 droid poking out of the roof. It also had another Rogue, one of the 5,000 being dressed up with Star Wars badging that fans can actually buy.

Nissan's goal was to score another publicity coup around one of the biggest movie promotions it has ever done.

Nissan is making a big marketing bet through its tie-in with the latest Star Wars installment, including a huge TV ad campaign. It's all part of the automaker's go-big-or-go-home promotion strategy, staking its ad dollars on the biggest sports or entertainment events rather than a series of smaller ones.

"We have one goal for this: To drive awareness for Rogue," says Jeremy Tucker, Nissan's vice president for marketing communications.

The compact SUV was already well-positioned. Rogue has become Nissan's bestselling model in the U.S. It set another record in November alone, with sales up 18% compared to the same month last year.

"Rogue is on fire" when it comes to sales, Tucker says.

When Nissan's Rogue-Rogue One TV campaign, produced with help from Lucasfilm, made its debut last month, traffic to Nissan's website spiked 300%.

Yet it all came together with an effort that, in the ad worlds, is akin to the leap to hyperspace.

Tucker, a former Disney executive, says when the name of the movie was announced last spring as Rogue One, he immediately saw the possibilities for Nissan because of the Rogue SUV.

He was on the phone to Disney within 24 hours, Tucker says. And the whole Nissan team joined in. "All got behind this vision," he says.

But it was a huge undertaking, involving not only TV ads, but cross-promotion across all aspects of Nissan's operations -- from displays for dealerships to creating the Rogue One vehicles with help from the manufacturing side. It culminated in the debut of the Rogue One Rogue at the Los Angeles Auto Show last month.

"I think this is the most breakthrough and integrated campaign Nissan has done in its history," Tucker says. "We did it in four months. We had to hit the ground running." And they're not done. When the movie hits theaters next week, Nissan will still be promoting its involvement with appearances on ABC's Jimmy Kimmel Live! and Good Morning America, Tucker says. Plus, he says the Rogue One SUVs have attracted interest among buyers, many of whom so far are big Star Wars fans.

"People are showing up in costume when they buy it," he says.

Six hot car technology trends to watch in 2017

Will your next car talk to traffic lights? Are diesel engines on their last gasp? Have

electric vehicles charged into the mainstream?

Those are some of the questions new technologies and vehicles may answer in 2017.

The auto industry's present is starting to sound a lot like science fiction, thanks to technologies with names like V2X communications, smart infrastructure and e-axes.

Some of what's on the horizon:

Cars that talk to each other

Cadillac CTS sport sedans will offer a revolutionary system in 2017 that allows them to share information about driving conditions like weather, speed, sudden braking, accidents and more. It's the beginning of what is called vehicle-to-vehicle, or V2V, communication, a wi-fi-like technology that will eventually be standard on every new car.

"It increases drivers' awareness of what's beyond their line of sight," said Sam Abuelsamid, Navigant Research senior analyst.

It's also key to "platooning," which will allow packs of vehicles to drive close together at high speed without slowdowns or accidents.

New life for diesel cars

Chevrolet and Mazda will test America's appetite for diesel cars and SUVs in 2017. Diesel sales plummeted when the technology's prime purveyor, Volkswagen, got caught up in an emissions-cheating scandal.

"We don't know what consumer demand for diesels (is), because the largest traditional provider can't sell them," IHS Automotive senior analyst Stephanie Brinley said.

Diesel powered versions of the popular Chevrolet Cruze compact sedan and Mazda CX-5 family crossover SUV could show whether the technology -- which delivers high fuel economy and excellent performance -- has a future in the U.S.

Autonomous vehicles in the real world

Fiat Chrysler is building an intriguing part of the future in its Windsor, Canada, assembly plant, which will produce about 100 autonomous Chrysler Pacifica plug-in hybrid minivans as part of Google's vehicle development project.

Google won't sell any of the self-driving minivans to the public, but they will rack up countless miles testing the technology's readiness and safety in the ultimate family vehicle.

Google chose the Pacifica as its production-vehicle test bed in part because the minivan's size makes it ideal to carry the myriad sensors autonomous driving requires. The Pacifica's height also makes it a tall platform to give sensors the best possible view of the van's surroundings.

Tesla gets some big competition on electric cars

Demand for electric cars will face a crucial test this year, as the Chevrolet Bolt brings a

new level of affordability and practicality to the technology.

The Bolt's EPA-rated range of 238 miles on a single charge and base price just under \$30,000 after tax incentives should put the roomy, zero-emission hatchback in competition not just with other environmental heroes, but family vehicles like the Honda Accord, Hyundai Sonata and Ford Escape. Other electric cars, including the Kia Soul and Volkswagen e-Golf, are increasing their ranges dramatically, though not nearly to the Bolt's level. And don't forget Tesla's eagerly awaited Model 3, its first mid-priced model, which aims to challenge the Bolt for the longest range at the best price.

"Electric cars are getting better thanks to more energy-dense batteries," said Bill Visnic, Society of Automotive Engineers editorial director.

48 volts strike like lightning

How does a hybrid car that costs a mere \$500 more than a base-model sound to you? Shock absorbers that turn the energy generated when a wheel hits a pothole into more miles per gallon? Super-fast heated seats and steering wheels?

That and more is on the horizon as automakers adopt 48-volt electric systems. Excluding hybrids, modern vehicles use 12-volt systems. The more powerful 48-volt units enable a range of features for more comfort, better performance and improved fuel economy, but at a lower cost and with less risk than hybrids' 300-volt systems. The Bentley Bentayga luxury SUV is the only vehicle currently sold in the U.S. with 48-volt features, including an adaptive suspension. Look for that to change soon.

Electrifying axles for fun and fuel economy

How do automakers simultaneously meet soaring demand for SUVs and rising fuel economy standards? Suppliers are lining up to sell them electrically powered axles. Already available on the Volvo XC90, BMW i8 and plug-in hybrids and the Toyota RAV4 hybrid, e-axes, as they are called, will show up on a number of new vehicles soon, including the Mitsubishi Outlander plug-in hybrid.

Adding a rear e-axle to a front-wheel drive vehicle can improve performance, handling, and foul-weather ability at lower cost and with less fuel consumption than conventional four-wheel-drive systems. Expect to see more of them, particularly as 48-volt electric systems become more common.

"It's a rare fusion of technologies that can simultaneously offer engineering benefits and give buyers some of today's most desirable features," SAE editorial director Visnic said.

Review: Alfa Romeo Giulia aims for Ferrari-like panache

In a crowded field of stylish luxury sedans, Alfa Romeo may have found a slightly devious way to help the highest-performance version of its new 2017 Giulia sedan stand out.

It hints at the look and feel of Ferrari. Just a tad, but enough to make the point.

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Oil prices have jumped well above \$50 per barrel after the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and several non-member states agreed to slash oil output, pointing to higher costs for U.S. motorists.

Fuel typically slumps during the low-demand winter months, but the opposite has occurred since OPEC's output-cutting deal Nov. 30 assured investors that oil's global glut would soon ease. After non-OPEC countries, including Russia, struck a deal Saturday to slash nearly 600,000 barrels per day, gas prices continued their upward trajectory. Gas averaged \$2.21 per gallon nationwide Monday morning, according to GasBuddy. That was up 3.8 cents from November's average and up 19.8 cents from a year ago. But if it heads to \$3 a gallon, it could have major impact on family budgets. For those driving 12,000 miles a year, the difference can add up. Using last month's average of 24.9 miles per gallon among new cars, as found by the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, the additional cost would be \$381 at today's gas prices compared to \$3 a gallon.

Any sustained increase in gas prices could prove costly for the horde of Americans who abandoned fuel-efficient cars for sport-utility vehicles and pickup trucks as gas prices languished.

"With this era of low gas prices, many Americans were trading in their vehicles, selling their vehicles, buying new vehicles that have been less fuel-efficient," DeHaan said. "If gas prices do start to inch up there's a lot of Americans that bought a new vehicle in the last two years during this climate of low gas prices, so it may affect them more." Indeed, the University of Michigan study found fuel economy has fallen from 0.6 mpg from its peak of 25.5 miles per gallon in August, 2014. The gas prices increases will catch some by surprise.

"Something we have not seen very often is that gas prices have been rising during the month of December," said Patrick DeHaan, senior petroleum analyst at GasBuddy.com. "I think we'll continue to see prices picking up."

The "normal seasonal rally" in the spring — when prices often tick upward as motorists increase mileage and refineries conduct maintenance — could lead to prices in the high \$2 range, DeHaan said.

He said he doesn't expect gas to hit a nationwide average of \$3 at any point in 2017, although it's "becoming more of a possibility."

Still, with the world yet awash in plentiful oil inventory, gas would need an unexpected burst of rocket fuel to go higher than \$3 per gallon in 2017.

"There's no question that 2017 is gonna be more expensive than 2016," said Tom Kloza, analyst at the Oil Price Information Service. "But it's impossible to make a case for it to be anywhere near as expensive as, let's say, 2011, 12, 13 and 14, when we regularly saw prices go above \$3."

To be sure, though, gas prices are still affordable by historical standards. DeHaan projected the national average for gasoline would be about \$2.40 by the end of 2016. About 20% of gas stations nationwide are still selling fuel for less than \$2, Kloza said. Gas prices nationally have averaged about \$2.11 per gallon so far in 2016, according to OPIS.

Kloza predicted that prices could average somewhere in the range of \$2.40 to \$2.50 for 2017.

"We are not talking about a fuel apocalypse," he said.

If there's a ceiling on gas prices, it might be because U.S. shale oil producers and Canadian oil sands companies are poised to speed up production with oil prices ticking upward.

An increase in North American oil production could easily offset any decrease in production among OPEC countries and the other countries that signed on to slash production. OPEC countries agreed to reduce production by about 1.2 million barrels per day while non-OPEC countries, including Russia, agreed to lower production by nearly 560,000 barrels per day.

It's put up or shut up time now, though. OPEC countries are notorious for cheating their own quotas to squeeze out more revenue.

"Everything we've dealt with so far is promises as opposed to results," Kloza said.

"They tend to overpromise and under deliver."

McDonald's waffle fries? Yes, please

Could McDonald's be challenging Chick-fil-A's waffle fry excellence?

The American burger behemoth's Canadian outpost says it's offering waffle fries during the holidays, an announcement that caught the attention of the restaurant's fans.

Company spokesman Adam Grachnik said the waffle fries and the rest of a new holiday menu is available in the majority of the company's 1,400 Canadian restaurant locations until the end of the year or until supplies last. Also on the holiday menu are a salted caramel latte, a potato rosti and bacon burger and a turtle sundae with pecans. Grachnik didn't specify whether the fries will make their way to the United States.

Reports: Suit alleges Prudential link to Wells Fargo scandal

Three employees of Prudential Financial Inc. have charged in a lawsuit that they were threatened with termination for trying to report alleged fraudulent sales of life insurance policies through Wells Fargo & Co. to low-income customers with Hispanic surnames, according to media reports. The three claimed in the suit filed in New Jersey state court that many of the customers did not know what they had purchased and that there were "a large number of similarities" between the way Wells Fargo employees opened bogus bank accounts without customers' knowledge and the way Prudential's "MyTerm" policies

were sold by the bank, *The New York Times* reports.

The policies were allegedly targeted at people who could not otherwise obtain life insurance and could only be bought at self-service kiosks at Wells Fargo branches or online using Wells Fargo credit cards or bank accounts, according to the complaint.

In some cases, policies were opened and closed within a month or two and then reopened, the suit charges.

Sometimes monthly fees were withdrawn from the accounts, according to evidence in the lawsuit, *Reuters* reports.

"When we started peeling back the onion, everywhere we looked, it stunk," said Darron Smith, one of the plaintiffs, the *Times* reports. When investigators reviewed tapes of calls to Prudential's customer service line, they found complaints from Wells Fargo customers about policies they did not remember buying, *The Times* reports. Many of the customers did not speak English and needed a Spanish interpreter, the plaintiffs said in the lawsuit, according to the newspaper.

The three would-be whistleblowers worked for the company's corporate investigations division and claimed in the lawsuit that executives ignored their reports of the alleged abuses for fear of alienating Wells Fargo as a business partner. They also claimed they were escorted from the building and have a threat of "imminent termination" hanging over their heads, Bloomberg reports.

Wells Fargo has acknowledged that its bankers may have created millions of fraudulent accounts. It has fired more than 5,000 employees over five years, refunded customers and agreed to pay fines totaling \$185 million. Chief Executive Officer John Stumpf resigned in wake of the scandal and the company still faces numerous lawsuits by former employees, customers and investors. Prudential spokesman Scot Hoffman said the company had been monitoring its business with Wells Fargo since last year and expanded its review of how its insurance product was sold after the San Francisco-based bank was fined in September, according to Reuters. "We anticipate reviewing this matter with our regulators in due course," Hoffman said in a statement.

Hoffman, in an emailed statement to Bloomberg, denied the plaintiffs' claims of wrongful termination.

"These former employees were terminated for appropriate and legitimate reasons that were entirely unrelated to Prudential's business with Wells Fargo and Prudential's decision to examine sales of the MyTerm product," he said.

Nissan hits red carpet for 'Rogue One: A Star Wars Story'

HOLLYWOOD -- When it came to cool, it was hard to beat encountering a full-size mockup of an X-Wing fighter on the red carpet at the Saturday night premiere of *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*.

But just as surprising was the contribution from Nissan. It dressed up one of its Rogue

FUTURE FLYING CAR !!!

ATLANTA (AP) — Coca-Cola's profit fell 55 percent in the most recent quarter, as the world's biggest beverage maker continues to restructure its business.

The company, which Fanta, Sprite and Smartwater, is in the process of selling off its bottling businesses to independent companies that will bottle its sodas and other drinks. Instead of bottling, Coca-Cola is focusing on marketing its brands and selling syrups and concentrates to the bottlers. The change means less revenue for Coca-Cola, but fewer costs.

Coca-Cola earned \$550 million, or 13 cents per share, for the three months ending Dec. 31. A year ago the Atlanta-based company earned \$1.24 billion, or 28 cents per share. Earnings, adjusted for one-time costs and asset impairment costs, came to 37 cents per share. That's a penny better than what analysts polled by Zacks Investment Research anticipated.

Total revenue dropped to \$9.41 billion from \$10 billion, dragged down partly by a strong dollar, acquisitions and divestitures. Still, this managed to beat the \$9.1 billion in revenue that analysts surveyed by Zacks were calling for.

Global sales volume dipped 1 percent, with a 4 percent drop in Latin America and 1 percent increases in both North America and Europe.

Shares of Coca-Cola Co. slipped nearly 2 percent to \$41.23 in premarket trading Thursday.

Coca-Cola's No. 2 executive, James Quincey, is preparing to succeed CEO Muhtar Kent in May. Quincey is expected to oversee a critical period of transformation for Coke, which has also been cutting costs to please shareholders.

Kellogg could lay off more than 1,100

BATTLE CREEK, Mich. — Kellogg (K) could lay off more than 1,100 employees because of its decision to use grocers' warehouses rather than directly deliver many of its foods to store shelves. The company said Wednesday it plans to begin exiting its direct store delivery network in favor of retailers' warehouses in the second quarter of this year. As a result, the company will close 39 of its distribution centers. Those sites average about 30 full-time workers, Kellogg spokeswoman Kris Charles said. That's the equivalent of about 1,170 jobs. Closures are expected to be completed by the fourth quarter of this year. The change comes as the grocery industry itself is changing: Online sales of staples are increasing and national retailers such as Walmart and Target have focused more on food sales.

McDonald's testing snow crab sandwich
McDonald's is classing up the joint by introducing a snow crab sandwich, which is being served at four San Francisco Bay Area restaurants. It's at least the second attempt by the burger maker to tap into the Bay Area food scene for inspiration. In May, the

company unveiled the made-to-order Gilroy Garlic Fries, made with garlic from Gilroy, California. The garlic fries were served in four restaurants in South Bay. If successful, the snow crab sandwich could pose a threat to the old McDonald's standard: The everlasting Filet-O-Fish. The sandwich was created with the help of local chef Ryan Scott, who has appeared on Top Chef and The Rachel Ray Show among others. It consists of crab meat mixed with celery and seasoned mayo on romaine lettuce and tomato, atop a sourdough bun.

Uber hires a NASA expert to help develop flying cars

SAN FRANCISCO — George Jetson, your ride is on its way.

Uber has hired a NASA expert to build out its vision for flying cars Monday. Mark Moore, a 30-year veteran of the space agency with expertise in using electric motors to get a vehicle airborne, will help the ride-hailing giant execute on an expansive white paper it released last fall on developing VTOL (vertical take-off and landing) vehicles.

"Uber continues to see its role as a catalyst to the growing developing VTOL ecosystem," Nikhil Goel, Uber's head of product for advanced programs, said in a statement. "We're excited to have Mark join us to work with companies and stakeholders as we continue to explore the use case described in our white paper."

Moore said he was leaving NASA Langley Research Center a year before his retirement benefits start to throw his lot in with Uber CEO Travis Kalanick because he was convinced that no other company was in a "stronger position to be the leader for this new ecosystem and make the urban electric VTOL market real," he told Bloomberg. Uber's long treatise on flying cars, which Moore consulted on, suggested the company was aiming its sights not on building a prototype but rather on developing the technology that would be integral to such a craft.

That includes figuring out how to guarantee battery life and limit noise pollution. Air space regulation issues aside, the ultimate goal of a VTOL project is to shorten commutes in the world's most congested cities.

"Just as skyscrapers allowed cities to use limited land more efficiently, urban air transportation will use three-dimensional airspace to alleviate transportation congestion on the ground," the Uber white paper reads. "A network of small, electric aircraft that take off and land vertically, will enable rapid, reliable transportation between suburbs and cities and, ultimately, within cities."

Uber isn't flying solo in this quest. Google co-founder Larry Page has invested \$100 million in two companies — Zee.Aero and Kitty Hawk — pursuing VTOL projects, according to Bloomberg. Other market entrants include Joby Aviation, Terrafugia and AeroMobil, a Slovakian company that has been testing its car-sprouts-wings prototype since 2014.

The technological feasibility of flying vehicles aside, the biggest issue for the transportation initiative would seem to be regulatory. The Federal Aviation Administration already has its hands full grappling with evolving drone rules. Companies such as Amazon have been testing drone delivery programs. The FAA's first comprehensive drone regulations took effect in August, allowing flights of drones weighing up to 55 pounds up to 400 feet in the air in uncrowded areas during the day within sight of the pilot. But drone operators are now concerned that a general rolling back of federal regulations by the Trump administration will negatively impact their ability to fly.

That said, Uber officials pointed out in the white paper that dense urban areas such as Sao Paulo, Brazil, already use air space for helicopter flights operating under visual flight rules, an approach that VTOLs could also take.

But hurdles remain for Moore and others working in the space. And self-driving car efforts also are siphoning off financial and human capital.

Uber sounded an excited if cautious note in its white paper: "There are promising initiatives underway, but they will play out over many years and their pace may ultimately bottleneck growth."

Toyota unveils special edition RAV4, Tundra, Sequoia

CHICAGO — Toyota revealed new sport packages for its Tundra pickup and Sequoia full-size sport-utility vehicle on Thursday at the Chicago Auto Show along with an adventure package for its popular RAV4 SUV. The 2018 Tundra TRD Sport is available on 4x4 and 4x2 models of the Tundra crew cab in CrewMax and double cab configurations. The sport package includes 20-inch silver alloy wheels with black accents, LED headlights with black bezel and daytime running lights, mesh grille in the same color as the body. Toyota did not release pricing. More details: Sequoia TRD Sport. Toyota said the Sequoia TRD Sport will be available on 4x4 and 4x2 models that are equipped with a 5.7-liter, 8-cylinder engine. On the sport package, the Sequoia's handling is enhanced with specially tuned Bilstein shocks and anti-sway bars on the front and rear.

Dow, S&P 500, Nasdaq blow past old records

Stocks were in rally mode Thursday as all three of the major indexes jumped to new all-time closing highs. The Dow Jones industrial average jumped 118 points, or 0.6%, to 20,172.40. Up by the same percentage were the S&P 500 and the Nasdaq composite -- to their new highs of 2307.87 and 5715.18, respectively. Investors weighed earnings from a batch of companies, including Twitter, Kellogg and Viacom. Energy stocks led the gainers as the price of crude oil headed higher. Utilities were down the most. Benchmark U.S. crude gained 66 cents, or 1.3%, to \$53.00 a barrel in electronic

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trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange, while Brent crude, the benchmark for international oil prices, added 40 cents to \$55.52 a barrel.

Special report: Automation puts jobs in peril

Part 1

Welcome to the Automation Revolution

BALTIMORE — The patter of automated machinery fills the air inside wire-basket manufacturer Marlin Steel's bustling factory in a rugged industrial section of this city.

Maxi Cifarelli, 25, of Baltimore, peers through safety goggles at a flat screen, her left knee bent and heel resting on her chair. Two years after earning a fine arts degree from Towson University with a specialty in interdisciplinary object design, she now spends her work days working with a personality-free machine with a name to match: a computer numerical control, or CNC, router.

With automation poised to sweep through the economy, some fear that it will kill more jobs than it creates.

But Cifarelli's experience is the opposite. She befriended automation, instead of fighting it, and she has a job because of it.

"I haven't named it," she said, peering over at the robotic machinery. "I should name it."

Cifarelli is one of 33 employees at Marlin Steel, which has undergone a transformation. Employees used to make wire baskets by hand. Now automation has taken over. High-tech machines do most of the work — and the plant needs workers willing to adapt their skill sets to survive in a rapidly changing economy.

Automation has allowed Marlin Steel to thrive, but across the country, workers feel threatened. Donald Trump catapulted into the White House by giving voice to those fears and promising to save American factories and jobs by rewriting trade deals, taxing imports and removing regulations.

Futurists have warned for years that automation will take your job. Now it's happening, albeit in pockets, at manufacturers, warehouses and even some labor-intensive white-collar professions. As the political debate rages over how to inject fresh energy into the American economy with Trump taking office, automation presents perhaps the greatest threat to the American economy.

But it may also reflect its greatest opportunity if workers take the Cifarelli route and embrace robotics, artificial intelligence and automation. Either way, it's poised to accelerate — and if not here, then in foreign countries that will reap the benefits while the American economy suffers a competitive disadvantage.

About 49% of worker activities can be turned over to some sort of machine or robot, increasingly helped along by artificial-intelligence software, according to consultancy McKinsey.

About 58% of CEOs plan to cut jobs over the next five years because of robotics, while

16% say they plan to hire more people because of robotics, according to a PricewaterhouseCoopers survey.

As artificial intelligence programs proliferate, automation won't be confined to the factory floor. Positions that involve a substantial amount of predictable work, such as data processing, could succumb to automated software and artificial intelligence.

McKinsey counted more than 70 entire professions in which at least 90% of activities can be automated, ranging from mail clerks to ophthalmic lab technicians, tire-repairers, butchers, food preparers and bakers.

But many Americans don't think they need to adapt, with 80% saying their job definitely or probably will exist in its current form in 50 years, according to the Pew Research Center.

"We often think about automation as applying to front-line, low-wage, low-skill activities and jobs — and what we've discovered is there are some activities that are high-wage, high-skill that are actually very susceptible to automation," said Michael Chui, a McKinsey Global Institute partner in San Francisco who studies the issue. "Almost every job in the economy has a significant percentage of activities that can be automated."

The professional service robot industry expects to sell a third more units from 2016 through 2019 — 333,200 in all — than it sold in the past 17 years, says the International Federation of Robotics. They could be used in place of professionals, whether it's medicine, agriculture, hospitality or even the supermarket down the street.

Consider:

—**Restaurant workers.** In fast-food, San Francisco-based Momentum Machines already makes a hamburger-flipping robot. Several chains are gradually introducing self-ordering stations.

—**Shelf stockers.** In stores, San Francisco-based Bossa Nova Robotics has developed a robot that is checking shelf inventory in a test at Lowe's, the home-improvement chain.

—**Journalists.** Automated Insights has created a software suite called WordSmith that writes thousands of automated stories every month, including Minor League Baseball game accounts and earnings reports for the Associated Press, basketball game recaps for Yahoo! Sports and financial content for dozens of other clients.

—**Bookkeepers.** Accountants — perceived as a steady 9-to-5 job with an average salary of \$67,190 in 2015, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics — are poised for a total makeover. About one in five people in the finance and insurance sector primarily perform data processing — and about 85% of that work can be automated, McKinsey estimates.

Predictability

"The basic gist of it is the more certainty your job entails the more likely is to be automated out," said Mary (Missy) Cummings, a Duke University professor and director of the Humans and Autonomy Lab.

In other words, the more predictable your daily routine is, the more likely your job is to go away.

It's already happening. Walmart announced plans in September to cut 7,000 bookkeeping and store accounting positions as it automates cash management and centralizes the process at its headquarters.

In accounting, nimble firms will transition their focus to advising clients based on insights gleaned from automated data. Audits may go from an annual process to a continuous action. Software will increasingly handle the "high-volume, routine, non-judgmental" activities in real time, said Bill Brennan, audit transformation leader for PricewaterhouseCoopers.

PwC is now hiring employees for its auditing business with backgrounds in science, technology and engineering.

"We need those individuals to help us as we get into data analysis, analytics, data security, cloud computing. The future employee is going to have a combination of those skills," Brennan said.

Cifarelli knows. At Marlin Steel, her college-level education pays off in production work. Pecking periodically at a computer mouse, she delivers detailed instructions, programming the machine to carve small canyons in wood to hold wire that is later welded together with automated equipment to make precision wire baskets, accurate to within 2/1000ths of an inch.

She's bonded with her CNC, which she has come to think of as a robot companion.

"I need the robot to ensure consistency," Cifarelli said. "Over the past year, I've become really accustomed to the sounds and the movements of it. I can really predict what's gonna happen. We're kind of a team." For Marlin Steel, the problem was straightforward: Automate or die. In the early 2000s, factory workers at the 48-year-old company were forming the big metal baskets typically seen in bagel shops by hand-bending wire at a rate of 300 bends per hour in a grueling manual process.

"They all had huge right arms," Marlin Steel CEO and owner Drew Greenblatt said.

"Our entire business model blew up and we were hemorrhaging," Greenblatt said. "China was exporting baskets into Manhattan for cheaper than I could buy the steel."

To fight back, the company purchased robotic wire-forming machines and other automated equipment to manufacture precision wire baskets and other metal products for customers that required a higher-quality product, such as Boeing, General Motors, Harley-Davidson and Disney.

Because of automation, Marlin Steel nearly doubled its workforce over the last decade to 33 employees and boosted pay from minimum wage when Greenblatt acquired the company to at least \$15 per hour today, with some employees making more than \$30.

"It's only viable because my employees are like on steroids," Greenblatt said. "All of a sudden they're super productive and it's because we've given them the tools — it's

Harley-Davidson recalls 57,000 motorcycles for oil-line defect

Harley-Davidson is recalling about 57,000 motorcycles worldwide because an oil line can come loose, spewing oil into the path of the rear tire.

The recall covers certain 2017 Electra Glide Ultra Classic, Police Electra Glide, Police Road King, Road King, Road King Special, Street Glide, Street Glide Special, Road Glide and Road Glide Special motorcycles built from July 2 through May 9.

Milwaukee-based Harley said a clamp on an engine oil cooler line may not have been installed correctly. The company said it has nine reports of oil lines coming off. The problem caused two crashes and one minor injury.

Dealers will inspect the clamps and fix them free of charge. The recall is expected to start Tuesday.

"This is a voluntary recall in the interest of customer safety," Harley said in a statement. Separately, federal regulators said last summer that they were investigating complaints from Harley-Davidson owners who said their motorcycle brakes failed without warning.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said the investigation covered 430,000 motorcycles with model years from 2008 through 2011. The investigation stemmed from bikes with an anti-lock braking system, according to NHTSA. Riders reported that the brakes did not work, causing one driver to crash into a garage door. Government regulators said they received 43 complaints, three reports of crashes and two reports of injuries.

Regulators said it was possible that some riders who experienced brake failure did not change the motorcycle's brake fluid every two years as recommended by Harley. It was not a motorcycle product safety recall. Harley said it was aware of the investigation and that it was cooperating with regulators.

Toyota flying car? Automaker pursues 'aerial solutions,' backs start-up

It would be a truly Olympic feat.

A start-up backed by Japanese automaker Toyota revealed a rudimentary prototype of a flying car, aiming to whisk a driver through the air to light the Olympic torch in Tokyo in summer 2020.

Although the start-up is not officially collaborating with Toyota, the automaker confirmed to USA TODAY that it is exploring "aerial solutions" on its own in early-stage research. And some of its employees are aiding the start-up on a voluntary basis.

Toyota described its own flying car ambitions as "in the very early stages" and said "nothing has been decided yet about commercialization."

Still, the involvement of the world's second-largest automaker reflects a serious step forward for flying cars amid a swirling debate over whether they're realistic at all.

"Within Toyota, we are advancing broad research and development on ways of transportation — including aerial solutions — that can lead to a prosperous society in the future," the company said in a statement. To be sure, the start-up venture, dubbed Cartivator Resource Management, got off to a sputtering start Saturday. Using aluminum framing, eight propellers and sensors to fly — and cushioned by basketballs attached to the bottom of its frame — Cartivator's Sky Drive vehicle flew to eye level for several seconds before crashing back to the earth and suffering damage.

Further flight attempts were abandoned. Needless to say, this was not a day of flight that will go down in history alongside the Wright brothers.

Still, the company, which got nearly \$400,000 from Toyota, deemed the liftoff a success and said it's charting a path toward manned flight in 2019.

Project leader Tsubasa Nakamura said in a blog post that Cartivator would reveal a redesigned prototype in November.

"I really appreciate Toyota group companies, and other companies or individuals supporting us so far," he said. "We are able to accelerate our development because of this support."

Cartivator's formation places the company in direct competition with many other high-profile flying-car ventures, including efforts by Google co-founder Larry Page and ride-hailing app Uber.

AeroMobil released its flying car for consumer orders. As expected, the price tag will be hefty and you'll have to wait for a while before it comes home with you.

Start-ups taking a crack at flying cars include Netherlands-based PAL-V and Slovakia-based AeroMobil, which are accepting orders for flying cars that would require a runway and a pilot's license. Massachusetts-based Terrafugia and Germany's Lilium Aviation are developing cars that take off and land vertically.

Toyota's entry into the flying car space could take the race to a new stratosphere.

The company said it "shares the same desire" as Cartivator to ignite the Olympic flame in 2020 using the flying car.

But the company's entry into the space also renews the debate over whether flying cars are feasible at all.

Tesla CEO Elon Musk is a skeptic. The billionaire innovator, who doubles as CEO of SpaceX with dreams of colonizing Mars, said recently in an interview at TED Talks that he likes flying things but that flying cars aren't doable.

"There is a challenge with flying cars in that they'll be quite noisy, the wind force generated will be very high," he said. And from a practical perspective: "If something's flying over your head and there's a whole bunch of flying cars going all over the place, that is not an anxiety-reducing

situation," Musk said. "You're thinking, 'Did they service their hubcap, or is it going to come off and guillotine me?'"

Consumers are worried, too. About 83% say they're very concerned or moderately concerned about the overall safety, according to a recent survey by Michael Sivak and Brandon Schoettle of the University of Michigan's Transportation Research Institute. Count Uber among the companies that are taking flying cars seriously. Despite legal roadblocks in Uber's development of autonomous cars, the company recently pledged to demonstrate a working flying vehicle that takes off and lands vertically at the 2020 World Expo in Dubai.

"Urban aviation is a natural next step for Uber," chief product officer Jeff Holden said in April.

Hatchback cars stage a comeback

While cars sales plummet and buyers switch to SUVs, the underappreciated hatchback body style is enjoying a minor renaissance as a rush of new models go on sale.

In 2017, compact and subcompact car sales are down 25%. But hatchbacks in those classes have risen 16%. A rush of new models will test the strength of that demand. "Hatchbacks are the nugget of hope for the small car segment," Ford sales analyst Erich Merkle said.

It's been a truism in the auto industry for decades that Americans don't want hatchbacks. The body style never seemed to recover from the bad first impression it made long ago with models like the Chevrolet Chevette, Dodge Omni and Ford Pinto. Weak sales of more recent vehicles like the Dodge Caliber, Honda Crosstour and VW Golf seemed to support the theory.

Through it all, Ford kept the faith. Its persistence may be paying off.

"Ford's been in the hatchback small car sector since we introduced the Fiesta in 2010 and the Focus hatch shortly thereafter," Merkle said. "They've both been strong. Hatchbacks account for about a quarter of industry small car sales. The Fiesta and Focus outperform that significantly at 1/3 and 40% respectively.

Chevrolet, Honda, Hyundai and Subaru all have new hatchbacks, in addition to longstanding players like the Golf and Mazda 3.

"They're currently enjoying their own little renaissance," buying guide website KBB.com's editors wrote in a recent comparison of several hatchbacks. "With this year's introduction of the Chevrolet Cruze Hatchback, Honda Civic Hatchback and Toyota Corolla iM, compact car shoppers now have nine hatchbacks from which to choose.

"You don't have to give up the efficiency and affordability of a mainstream compact car to get SUV-like cargo versatility."

That versatility has long made hatchbacks a favorite in Europe, where hatchbacks' combination of modest overall length and

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according to organizers, while police estimated the turnout at 18,000. Last year, the numbers were 125,000 and 21,800, respectively.

People held up their lit cellphones — some with pictures of candles showing on the screen — as a band played upbeat songs to rally the crowd, and activists gave speeches about the importance of getting young people to attend.

"I don't want this part of history to become blurred," said office worker Emily Yu, 42, who attended the gathering in Victoria Park. "It was really a massacre of people. Those young people came out and did all they could for freedom and democracy but didn't achieve it."

Eloise Wu, 36, who works for a nongovernmental organization, said: "We don't want to let people think we've forgotten, as if with the passing of time it's like, 'Oh, this never really happened.' No. Every year we remember."

In Taiwan, dozens of people gathered at Taipei's Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall on Sunday night, observing three minutes of silence as they remembered the victims of the crackdown.

In her posts, Taiwanese President Tsai also called on Beijing to allow a pro-democracy activist from Taiwan who was detained in the mainland in March to "come home." Lee Ming-che, detained on suspicion of conducting activities harming China's national security, has previously conducted online lectures on Taiwan's democratization and managed a fund for families of political prisoners in China.

Relations between Beijing and Taiwan have been near an all-time low since Tsai, whose Democratic Progressive Party has advocated for Taiwan's formal independence, took over as president a year ago. Since then, Beijing has cut off contacts with Taiwan's government and discouraged mainlanders from visiting the island as tourists.

The authoritarian Communist Party rulers in Beijing insist that Taiwan and the Chinese mainland are part of a single Chinese nation and have vowed to take control of the island by force if necessary.

Seattle City Council OKs tax on soda, sugary drinks

SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle City Council on Monday approved a new tax on soda and other sugary beverages as way to raise millions for healthy food and education programs.

The ordinance calls for a tax of 1.75 cents per ounce to be paid by distributors of beverages such as Pepsi and Coke, sports drinks, energy drinks and other sweetened drinks. The tax excludes diet drinks.

Supporters such as public health advocates and community groups cheered after the measure passed on a 7-1 vote. They say it would cut down on the consumption of sugary drinks that have little nutritional value

and are linked to obesity, diabetes and other health problems.

Businesses and labor groups spoke out against the tax, saying it would hurt small businesses and cost jobs. Other critics called it regressive, saying it would affect low-income consumers the most.

Seattle joins a handful of other cities nationwide that have a soda tax. Last month, voters in Santa Fe, New Mexico, resoundingly rejected a soda tax proposal, but Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Oakland, California, have approved taxes on sugary beverages.

Councilman Tim Burgess, who sponsored Seattle's measure, said there's incontrovertible evidence that sugary drinks have negative health outcomes and that people of color are disproportionately targeted. "Liquid sugar has zero nutritional benefits," he said.

Mayor Ed Murray proposed the idea in February to raise millions for programs that promote access to healthy food and help address education disparities between white and minority students.

Jennifer Cue, president of Seattle-based Jones Soda, said the company believes in the intention of the funds. But Cue said it wasn't fair to target one industry.

Keep Seattle Livable for All, a coalition of businesses, said in a statement Monday that "this job-killing tax that will drive up costs and further increase income inequality in Seattle."

Some of the money raised by the tax would also go to job retraining and placement programs for workers adversely impacted by the tax.

Community groups backed the measure because it would direct money to programs aimed at helping working families that can't afford healthy foods.

Some people spoke in favor of the tax but recommended that the council consider including diet drinks as a matter of fairness. The mayor revised his initial plan to include diet sodas after a racial-equity analysis showed they tend to be favored by wealthy people and white people.

Still, Tammy Nguyen, an organizer with the community group Got Green, said "this is a significant a victory by and for working families throughout Seattle because the new law puts closing the food security gap as the number one investment priority for the tax revenue."

Sears is closing 66 more stores

Sears Holdings is closing 66 more stores in its drive to bring its Sears and Kmart stores back to profitability, a source close to the chain said Tuesday. The closing will include 49 Kmart stores and 17 Sears stores, with most closing by September. The new closures expand the list of 180 shutdowns the embattled U.S. retailer announced earlier this year. News of the latest round of closures was first reported by Business Insider. Sears Holdings, the parent company of Sears and

Kmart, had no immediate comment on closings. Lists of the 180 Sears and Kmart stores closing: The financial woes of the Illinois-based company whose name has been a trusted retailing icon for generations of Americans have deepened dramatically in recent months.

He bought a \$1,000 stock, reaped \$2 million — and gave it to wildlife charity Call it his swansong.

A Chicago man who bought \$1,000 in stock about 70 years ago has turned the resulting \$2 million over to a wildlife charity that has bought a preserve they have named after him. Russ Gremel, now 98, was in his late 20s when he decided to put some of his hard-earned money into a then-small Chicago drugstore chain called Walgreens.

He told the *Chicago Tribune* that he figured the people would always need medicine and women would always need makeup.

Now the results of that stock-picking savvy have been invested in a nearly 400-acre wildlife refuge about 100 miles west of his home.

According to the Tribune, Gremel approached the Illinois Audubon Society about a possible donation in 2015. It turned out that the society had been keeping an eye on the 395-acre property, which the group bought for \$2.1 million in December 2016. "It's incredibly generous," society executive director Jim Herkert told the paper. "It's allowing us to protect a really valuable and important piece of property and fulfill one of Russ' wishes that we could find a place where people could come out and experience and enjoy nature the way he did as a kid."

The large stash of cash results in part from Gremel's simple lifestyle. He has lived for almost 95 years in the same house, which he inherited from his parents.

"I'm a very simple man," Gremel told the *Tribune* as he smoked a pipe on his front porch. "I never let anybody know I had that kind of money."

A graduate of Northwestern University's law school, he practiced what he calls "Abraham Lincoln law," but, having set aside most of his earnings, gave it up at age 45 and retired. "You're not going to die at 70 years of age," he told the *Tribune*, "and say, 'what if?'" Instead, he devoted himself to the simple life — and the Boy Scouts.

More than a dozen of those attending the preserve's opening on Sunday, according to news website *SaukValley.com*, were Eagle Scouts Gremel had mentored, ranging from teens to a 72-year-old who came to honor Gremel's 60-plus years in the scouts.

"Every one of us here has been touched by Russ," said Francis O'Byrne, who joined Gremel's troop in 1971. "There's story after story after story; it's a ripple effect."

"Don't be afraid to step up, don't be afraid to try something new," he told the crowd.

"Don't be afraid to be yourself."

THE DOCTORS IN

THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH

TOO MANY COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT DONALD JOHN TRUMP'S MENTAL HEALTH!

HOWEVER, MY FOCUS IS DRAWN TO HIS EXCESS BODY WEIGHT, ESPECIALLY AT HIS STOMACH AREA, AND NO KNOWN MEDICAL ASSESSMENT AND PHYSICAL THERAPY RX.

RISK OF HEART DISEASE!!!

LOOK AT HOW THE PRESIDENCY AGE ITS OCCUPANTS!

I WORRY TRUMPEDO LIKE PRES. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER HAVING HEART ATTACKS!

TRAGIC CASE HISTORIES:

CHICAGO CITY MAYOR HAROLD WASHINGTON.
SAN FRANCISCO CITY MAYOR ED LEE.

PBS. ORG/NEWS HOUR 12-11-2017 6:PM ET.