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DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016 7:00 AM EDT

TODAY'S TABLE OF CONTENTS

DOI IN THE NEWS:

- + [Senate Moves Toward Final Vote On Energy Spending Bill.](#)
- + [Professor: Exxon Subpoena Illustrates Overextension Of Power By Attorneys General.](#)

EMPOWERING NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES:

- + [Judge Authorizes Seizure Of Property In Alaska Dispute.](#)
- + [State Fishery Sends Proposal Back To Tribes.](#)

TACKLING AMERICA'S WATER CHALLENGES:

- + [Agencies To Work Together On Flood And Habitat Projects In Yolo Bypass.](#)
- + [BOR Announces Laser Light Show Will Begin May 28.](#)
- + [BOR To Hold Jackson Lake Dam Operation Meeting On May 19.](#)
- + [BOR Provides Bighorn Basin Reservoir Outlook Forecast.](#)
- + [Additional Coverage: States Agree To More Drastic Water Cuts.](#)

SECURING AMERICA'S ENERGY FUTURE:

Onshore Energy Development:

- + [Oil, Gas Industry Blasts Regulations As "Federal Overreach".](#)
- + [EPA To Unveil Methane Emission Standards For Oil And Gas Industry On Thursday.](#)
- + [Chamber Files Brief In TransCanada's Lawsuit Against Obama Administration's Executive Action On Keystone XL Pipeline.](#)
- + [Study Fracking Wastewater Can Impact River Nutrient Cycle.](#)
- + [Hydraulic Fracturing Industry Prepares To Battle Tougher Regulatory Climate.](#)
- + [Challenges In Managing Fracking Emissions Explored.](#)
- + [Forest Service's Approval To New Coal Access On Federal Land Criticized.](#)

Offshore Energy Development:

- + [Gulf Coast Communities To See Significant Hike In Oil Revenue By 2018.](#)
- + [Laplace Woman Charged With Tax Fraud For BP Spill Claim.](#)
- + [Additional Coverage: Drillers Relinquish All But One Chukchi Sea Lease.](#)

AMERICA'S GREAT OUTDOORS:

Bureau of Land Management:

- + [BLM Provides Estimates On Growth Of Wild Horse And Burro Herds.](#)
- + [Testimony By BLM Special Agent Could Be Key In Bundy Trial.](#)
- + [House Panel To Hold Hearing On BLM Planning Overhaul.](#)
- + [BLM Plans To Conduct Additional Study Of Year-round Bison Grazing Proposal.](#)
- + [BLM Announces Deflated Helium Sales.](#)
- + [BLM Approves Golden Arrow Exploration Project.](#)
- + ["Seven Magic Mountains" Opens To Public.](#)
- + [Cadiz Water Project Faces More Hurdles.](#)

- + [BLM Offers Reward For Information On Vandalism At Reservoir Fishing And Recreation Area.](#)
- + [Additional Coverage: BLM Ends Nevada Mustang Fertility Project.](#)
- + [Baker, Nevada Back On Track To Replace Leaking Water Tank On BLM Property.](#)

Fish and Wildlife Service:

- + [FWS Plan To Lift Yellowstone Grizzly Protections Met With Opposition.](#)
- + [Federal Government To Dismiss Appeal Of Court Rulings On Permian Basin Species.](#)
- + [Agencies Flooding Restored Wetland Near Dillon Falls.](#)
- + [Work Completed On Indiana's Asian Carp Barrier To Great Lakes.](#)
- + [Two Cities Give Conditional Approval To Rocky Flats Trail Grant.](#)
- + [Additional Coverage: Ammon Bundy Raises Constitutional Arguments In Defense Of Malheur Takeover.](#)
- + [Additional Coverage: Study Casts Doubt On Theory That Legal Hunting Reduces Poaching.](#)

National Park Service:

- + [The "Today Show" Visiting NPS Sites In Celebration Of Centennial.](#)
- + [NPS Ranger Cooks Upscale Meals While Camping.](#)
- + [Cleanup Continues After Fire In Shenandoah National Park.](#)
- + [NPS Pushes For Grizzly Hunting Ban Between Yellowstone, Grand Teton.](#)
- + [NPS Recognizes Grand Canyon Class Of 2016.](#)
- + [Report Says West Virginia National Parks Boost Local Economy.](#)
- + [Railroad Company Pays \\$72,500 For Damage To Indiana Dunes.](#)
- + [Great Basin National Park Receives Dark Skies Designation.](#)
- + [Upper Falls Lock Observation Deck To Reopen In Summer.](#)
- + [Weekend Construction To Close Traffic To Reagan National Airport.](#)
- + [Bear Attacks Sleeping Hiker On Appalachian Trail.](#)
- + [Man Killed In Smokies Motorcycle Wreck.](#)
- + [Man Who Died After Jump In Glacier National Park Identified.](#)
- + [Five Sites In Michigan Added To National Register Of Historic Places.](#)
- + [Additional Coverage: NPS Seeks Corporate Support Of National Parks.](#)
- + [Additional Coverage Of Centennial Initiative.](#)
- + [Additional Coverage: Authorities Identify Death Valley Vandals.](#)
- + [Op-Ed: Crater Lake National Park Being Impacted By Climate Change.](#)
- + [Collections Preservation Center Honors Families Displaced By Great Smoky Mountains National Park Founding.](#)

US Geological Survey:

- + [Old USGS Maps Can Be Considered "Pieces Of American Art."](#)
- + [Additional Coverage: USGS Releases Topographical Map Of Mercury.](#)

TOP NATIONAL NEWS:

- + [Biden Warns Florida Audience About Negative Consequences Of A Trump Win.](#)
- + [Media Analyses: Trump, Ryan Meeting Unlikely To Result In GOP Unity.](#)
- + [Reuters/Ipsos Poll: Clinton Leads Trump 41%-40%.](#)

EDITORIAL WRAP-UP:

- + [New York Times.](#)
- + [Washington Post.](#)
- + [Wall Street Journal.](#)

BIG PICTURE:

- + [Headlines From Today's Front Pages.](#)

WASHINGTON SCHEDULE:

- + [Today's Events In Washington.](#)

LAST LAUGHS:

+ [Late Night Political Humor](#).

DOI in the News:

SENATE MOVES TOWARD FINAL VOTE ON ENERGY SPENDING BILL. [The Hill](#) (5/11, Cama, 884K) reports that the Senate voted Wednesday to end debate and moved to a final vote on the \$37.5 billion energy and water spending bill. Democrats had denied cloture three times “to protest the possibility that Sen. Tom Cotton could force a vote related to Iran’s nuclear program.”

PROFESSOR: EXXON SUBPOENA ILLUSTRATES OVEREXTENSION OF POWER BY ATTORNEYS GENERAL. In a [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/11, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) op-ed, Columbia University law professor Philip Hamburger, author of “Is Administrative Law Unlawful?,” argues that the subpoena demanding Exxon Mobil hand over records concerning its climate change research illustrates a prosecutorial threat to due process and free speech. Because attorneys general are elected officials, there is no judicial supervision when they issue subpoenas. Furthermore, they have the power to bring criminal charges based on information they force from private parties, thereby becoming both grand jury and prosecutor.

Empowering Native American Communities:

JUDGE AUTHORIZES SEIZURE OF PROPERTY IN ALASKA DISPUTE. The [AP](#) (5/11, D'oro, 269K) reports that “a federal judge has authorized the U.S. Marshals Service to seize the property of the losing side of a prolonged power dispute in one of Alaska’s most eroded communities.” However, a spokeswoman for the marshals’ Alaska office said that “no action will be taken in the western Alaska village of Newtok until the winning side files the necessary paperwork.” The article notes that “the former council lost its recognition as the village’s governing body from the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs in 2013” and “they appealed that decision, but the Interior Board of Indian Appeals upheld the bureau’s decision in August.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Fairbanks \(AK\) News-Miner](#) (5/11, 42K) and the [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (5/11, 365K).

STATE FISHERY SENDS PROPOSAL BACK TO TRIBES. The [Seattle Times](#) (5/11, 1.07M) reports, “State Fish and Wildlife submitted their fishing proposal late Wednesday afternoon back to tribal fishery managers, and many in the sport-fishing industry are hopeful that an agreement on the 2016-17 salmon fishing seasons will be announced in the next day or two.” According to the article, “the positive signs in recent days will hopefully end a month-long dispute on how to share the burden of forecasted poor Puget Sound coho and Puyallup River chinook returns.”

Tackling America’s Water Challenges:

AGENCIES TO WORK TOGETHER ON FLOOD AND HABITAT PROJECTS IN YOLO BYPASS. The [Woodland \(CA\) Daily Democrat](#) (5/11, 22K) reports that “fifteen branches of federal, state, and local government have agreed to work together on planning and projects in the Yolo Bypass and Cache Slough region in order to restore wildlife habitat, better manage floods, preserve farmland, improve water supply and quality, and provide economic development and recreation.” According to spokeswoman Nancy Vogel, “this partnership, formalized in a Memorandum of Understanding signed this month, will provide strategic input on the implementation of projects that include strengthening and setting back levees, removing barriers to fish passage, sustaining agricultural operations, and making it easier for salmon to rear on the Sacramento River floodplain.” BOR Mid-Pacific Regional Director David G. Murillo said, “We are very pleased to take part in the signing of this agreement. It affirms a commitment to collaboration and aligns efforts across agencies to achieve outcomes that will help us improve flood conveyance, economic development, habitat, water quality and more in the Yolo Bypass and Cache Slough region.”

BOR ANNOUNCES LASER LIGHT SHOW WILL BEGIN MAY 28. The [Star of Grand Coulee \(WA\)](#) (5/11, 41) reports that “the Laser Light Show’s opening performance for the year will be Saturday, May 28, beginning at 10 p.m., Bureau of Reclamation officials stated last week.” According to the article, “work on the drum gates, which has occupied most of the spring, will be finished in mid-May, which will allow a spillage of water for the Laser Light Show’s background.”

BOR TO HOLD JACKSON LAKE DAM OPERATION MEETING ON MAY 19. The [Jackson Hole \(WY\) News & Guide](#) (5/11, 1K) reports that the BOR will “hold its annual stream flow forecasts and Jackson Lake Dam operation meeting on May 19.”

BOR PROVIDES BIGHORN BASIN RESERVOIR OUTLOOK FORECAST. The [Billings \(MT\) Gazette](#) (5/11, 195K) reports that Bighorn Basin reservoirs and the Wind River are “forecast to be just below or above 30-year averages according to the Bureau of Reclamation’s forecast of the April through July runoff.”

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: STATES AGREE TO MORE DRASTIC WATER CUTS. Additional coverage that as the elevation of Lake Mead drops, “Nevada, Arizona and California are working out a new framework for acceptable reductions in water they receive” was provided by the [Las Vegas Sun](#) (5/11, 213K).

Securing America’s Energy Future:

Onshore Energy Development:

OIL, GAS INDUSTRY BLASTS REGULATIONS AS “FEDERAL OVERREACH”. The [Farmington \(NM\) Daily Times](#) (5/11, 44K) reports that “a pending update of 30-year-old federal rules used to regulate the oil and gas industry took center stage on the opening day of the Four Corners Oil and Gas Conference at McGee Park.” The article notes that “a suite of onshore orders and a rule on venting and flaring proposed by the Bureau of Land Management, and rules on methane emissions proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency are among the multiple regulations that are expected to be finalized by the end of the year.” Kathleen Sgamma, vice president of government and public affairs for the Western Energy Alliance, “opened her remarks during an afternoon presentation by characterizing the new oil and gas rules as ‘federal overreach’ and laying the blame squarely on the Obama administration.” When “asked if Republican presidential front runner Donald Trump showed any promise as a leader who would be sympathetic to issues facing the industry, Sgamma said it was too early to say but that he ‘doesn’t understand public lands.’” However, she said Trump “could be coach-able.”

EPA TO UNVEIL METHANE EMISSION STANDARDS FOR OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY ON THURSDAY. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/11, Harder, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) reports that on Thursday, EPA will unveil the first federal methane emission standards for the oil and gas industry. The rules will require energy companies to install monitoring equipment on new oil and natural gas wells, limit the inadvertent release of methane, and conduct regulator inspections on natural gas infrastructure to check for leaks.

[Bloomberg News](#) (5/11, Dlouhy, 2.07M) reports that although the rules only apply to new and modified wells, “they set the framework for the EPA to impose similar requirements on nearly 1 million existing well and other equipment nationwide.” Oil industry leaders have expressed concerned that the new rules “could shut in some marginal wells and wipe out small, independent producers.”

[Reuters](#) (5/11, Volcovici) reports the regulations are part of the Obama administration’s broader strategy of cutting methane emissions 40 to 45 percent below 2012 levels by 2025.

Study: Bakken Oil Fields Leak 275K Tons Of Methane Annually. The [AP](#) (5/11, MacPherson) reports a new study found oil and gas operations in North Dakota Montana leak up to 275,000 tons of methane annually. Although “a significant amount,” that amount of methane is less than previously believed.

CHAMBER FILES BRIEF IN TRANSCANADA'S LAWSUIT AGAINST OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S EXECUTIVE ACTION ON KEystone XL PIPELINE. The [Washington Post](#) (5/11, Mufson, 9.23M) reports "attorneys general from six states along the proposed pipeline trail and lawyers from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and National Association of Manufacturers filed amicus briefs" in TransCanada's lawsuit claiming President Obama "exceeded his authority in rejecting" the Keystone XL Pipeline proposal. The attorneys general and the U.S. Chamber claim "Obama trampled on the power of Congress and the states to regulate interstate and international commerce." According to the Chamber, the rejection of the permit "has caused harm by costing states jobs, tax revenue and 'billions of dollars of economic activity.'" The group's lawyers adamantly denied President "Obama's 'remarkable assertion' that rejecting the pipeline would be 'a useful bargaining chip'" during negotiations with other countries.

STUDY FRACKING WASTEWATER CAN IMPACT RIVER NUTRIENT CYCLE. The [Washington Post](#) (5/11, Fears, 9.23M) reports that a study by the US Geological Survey suggests fracking wastewater impacts microbes downstream. There was a lower diversity of the life forms downstream, "which could impact nutrient cycling," a building block of life in the creek, the USGS explained in a statement. "Water samples adjacent to and downstream from the disposal facility exhibited evidence of endocrine disruption activity compared to upstream samples," which could harm hormones in mammals, the USGS explained.

HYDRAULIC FRACTURING INDUSTRY PREPARES TO BATTLE TOUGHER REGULATORY CLIMATE. [The Hill](#) (5/11, Cama, 884K) reports that the US hydraulic fracturing industry is prepared for battle in the face of an increasingly tough regulatory environment. Over the past few months, a jury sided against the industry in the \$4.2 million award over allegations of groundwater contamination from hydraulic fracturing. Meanwhile, both Democratic presidential candidates have publicly argued over who would be tougher on the industry if elected. Additionally, the oil and gas industry has "been embroiled in a public fight" with the EPA over its analysis of the effects of hydraulic fracturing on groundwater. Energy In Depth spokesman Steve Everley "said it's important to resist opposition to fracking." He argued, "The reason this is important is because bad information can lead to bad policy, or just bad decisions."

CHALLENGES IN MANAGING FRACKING EMISSIONS EXPLORED. [Newsweek](#) (5/11, McDonald, 751K) published an analysis reporting that for many environmentalists, including Bill McKibben and his 350.org, President Obama's view of natural gas as a fuel to transition the country away from coal is "bunk" because of the emissions of unburned methane from natural gas infrastructure and fracking operations. New regulations intended to address the problem apply only to new infrastructure. McKibben has highlighted a Harvard study that found methane emissions have increased more than 30 percent over the last decade, but Newsweek says that study does not attribute the methane increase to any specific source type. Newsweek says the claim that natural gas is as environmentally harmful as coal "seems highly dubious," given "the myriad significant benefits of reducing coal consumption."

FOREST SERVICE'S APPROVAL TO NEW COAL ACCESS ON FEDERAL LAND CRITICIZED. Ted Zukoski, staff attorney for Earthjustice, writes for [Politico](#) (5/11, 1.93M) that the US Forest Service is "actively pushing policies that undercut" government efforts to combat climate change. Zukoski writes that climate change poses a threat to the lands that the Forest Service is charged with protecting, but the agency "intends to rubber-stamp a plan to open 20,000 acres of roadless Colorado forest to road-building, a move designed to pave the way for mining 170 million tons of coal there." Zukoski argues that the proposal will benefit only a single mine owned by the bankrupt Arch Coal and that significant coal reserves already under lease could preserve mining jobs in the area.

Offshore Energy Development:

GULF COAST COMMUNITIES TO SEE SIGNIFICANT HIKE IN OIL REVENUE BY 2018. The [Mobile \(AL\) Lagniappe Weekly](#) (5/11, 67K) reports that "the legislation governing offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico is getting closer to its second phase, and in anticipation, Alabama's coastal counties are preparing for revenue shares that could more than quadruple in the next two years." On May 9, ONRR program analyst Karen Osborne "briefed the Mobile County Commission on the changes that will occur in" the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act's "second phase." Osborne said, "Right now the leases in the revenue sharing program are in two very small areas known as the '181 area.' That's where the leases are that generated the revenues we've been sharing with states since 2009. Starting in 2017, we start

sharing revenues from every lease issued in the Gulf since the law passed in 2006. That's the majority of the Gulf of Mexico, so it ramps up significantly."

LAPLACE WOMAN CHARGED WITH TAX FRAUD FOR BP SPILL CLAIM. The [AP](#) (5/11) reports Shawanda Nevers of LaPlace, Louisiana has been charged by a federal grand jury "with helping prepare false tax returns and with contempt of court, for allegedly preparing federal tax returns for others after agreeing in federal court never to do so again." Nevers is also charged in the indictment "with forging a federal bankruptcy judge's signature and with bank fraud – a \$128,900 payment for a fraudulent claim that her business, 3LJ's Cafe, had lost money because of the BP oil spill in 2010."

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: DRILLERS RELINQUISH ALL BUT ONE CHUKCHI SEA LEASE.

Additional coverage that drilling companies are abandoning federal offshore leases in the Chukchi Sea was provided by the [Boston \(MA\) Herald](#) (5/10, 559K), [Natural Gas Intelligence](#) (5/11, Subscription Publication), the [Earth Island Journal](#) (5/11, 213), [Grist](#) (5/11, 19K), and [Yahoo! Finance](#) (5/11, Kennedy, 10K).

America's Great Outdoors:

Bureau of Land Management:

BLM PROVIDES ESTIMATES ON GROWTH OF WILD HORSE AND BURRO HERDS. The [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#) (5/11, 464K) reports that "more than 67,000 wild horses and burros now roam public land across the West, an increase of 15 percent from last year, according to estimates released Wednesday by the Bureau of Land Management." The article notes that "that's more than double the number of animals recommended under the agency's own appropriate management levels, which call for no more than 26,715 horses and burros across 10 states." BLM Director Neil Kornze said "his agency has doubled what it spends on horse and burro management over the past seven years, but the population continues to grow both in the wild and in off-range holding facilities, which now house some 46,000 animals." Kornze said, "A number of program reforms are underway, but assistance is needed from our local, state, and federal partners."

Additional coverage was provided by the [Olympian \(WA\)](#) (5/12, 87K), the [Denver \(CO\) Post](#) (5/12, Sonner, 1.07M), the [San Francisco \(CA\) Chronicle](#) (5/12, 3.41M), [Tucson News Now \(AZ\)](#) (5/12, 48K), and the [Emery County \(UT\) Progress](#) (5/12, 8K).

TESTIMONY BY BLM SPECIAL AGENT COULD BE KEY IN BUNDY TRIAL. [E&E Publishing](#) (5/11, Subscription Publication, 705) reports that "as federal prosecutors seek to convict Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy for his role in a near-violent standoff two years ago with the Bureau of Land Management, they'll likely turn to a brawny special agent named Dan Love." According to the article, "Love in 2014 stood feet from hundreds of protesters – many brandishing guns – who were poised to storm BLM's cattle corrals about 7 miles from Bundy's private ranch northeast of Las Vegas." The article says that "testimony from Love, with his eye-level view of the standoff, could be key to the government's successful prosecution of Bundy; his sons Ammon, Ryan, Mel and Dave; and other alleged standoff leaders including Ryan Payne and Pete Santilli."

Additional Coverage: Nevada Rancher Bundy Sues Obama, Reid, Federal Judge Over Criminal Charges. Additional coverage that Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy is suing President Obama, Sen. Harry Reid and others was provided by [Salon](#) (5/11, 1.07M), the [Sputnik News](#) (5/11, 59K), and the [Southern Poverty Law Center](#) (5/11).

HOUSE PANEL TO HOLD HEARING ON BLM PLANNING OVERHAUL. [The Hill](#) (5/11, Cama, Henry, 884K) reports that on Thursday, "a House Natural Resources subcommittee will meet to consider four public lands bills." According to the article, "local officials will testify before another House Natural Resources panel on a Bureau of Land Management draft planning rule."

BLM PLANS TO CONDUCT ADDITIONAL STUDY OF YEAR-ROUND BISON GRAZING PROPOSAL.

The [Great Falls \(MT\) Tribune](#) (5/11, 92K) reports that the BLM says “more study is needed on a proposal by a not-for-profit that wants to graze bison on a BLM grazing allotment in northeastern Montana’s south Phillips County, the agency has announced.” According to the article, “in its initial application for the use of the 13,000-acre Flat Creek Allotment in south Phillips County, the American Prairie Reserve asked to change the type of livestock from cattle to bison and to remove interior fences to allow for year-round grazing of 385 bison.”

BLM ANNOUNCES DEFLATED HELIUM SALES. The [Amarillo \(TX\) Globe News](#) (5/11, 99K) reports that “a helium glut continues to produce deflated sales, according to new numbers from Bureau of Land Management officials.” The bureau announced in May that “it would return \$115 million from crude helium auctions and sales in the 2016 fiscal year.” The article notes that “the same amount was returned in 2015, down about \$100 million from 2014.”

BLM APPROVES GOLDEN ARROW EXPLORATION PROJECT. The [Elko \(NV\) Daily Free Press](#) (5/11, 22K) reports that the Golden Arrow mineral exploration project “can move forward since the Bureau of Land Management approved the venture, which is about 60 miles southeast of Tonopah in Nye County.” The bureau issued a “decision record and finding of no significant impact” for the project’s environmental assessment.

“SEVEN MAGIC MOUNTAINS” OPENS TO PUBLIC. The [Reno \(NV\) Gazette-Journal](#) (5/11, 194K) reports that on Wednesday, “Seven Magic Mountains” was scheduled to be officially open to the public. The land art is “the \$3.5 million work of Ugo Rondinone, a world renowned artist known for his playful, meditative rock sculptures.” According to the article, “because the art is on federal Bureau of Land Management land, the museum and Art Production Fund worked closely with local and state agencies to ensure that all the protocol were followed when placing a behemoth project on public land.”

Additional coverage was provided by [Curbed Los Angeles \(CA\)](#) (5/11, 40K).

CADIZ WATER PROJECT FACES MORE HURDLES. The [Riverside \(CA\) Press Enterprise](#) (5/11, 307K) reports that “now that plans to pump underground water from deep in the Mojave Desert have survived a legal challenge, project developer Cadiz Inc. faces hurdles in delivering the water to customers around Southern California.” Cadiz “must now resolve two key issues before moving the \$225 million project forward.” The company needs the BLM’s “approval to use railroad right of way for a 43-mile pipeline that would carry the water to the Colorado River” and “it needs the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California’s permission to use its Colorado River aqueduct to deliver the desert water to users in Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside counties.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Palm Springs \(CA\) Desert Sun](#) (5/12, 98K).

BLM OFFERS REWARD FOR INFORMATION ON VANDALISM AT RESERVOIR FISHING AND RECREATION AREA. The [Great Falls \(MT\) Tribune](#) (5/11, 92K) reports that the BLM is “offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for vandalism at Paulo Reservoir Fishing and Recreation Area.” According to the article, “repeated vandalism of the recreation area has occurred since August 2015,” and “as a result, every sign at the site has been shot and needs to be replaced.” BLM spokesman Jonathan Moor said, “It’s costing the American taxpayers some money for repairs on this place people like to go and recreate.”

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: BLM ENDS NEVADA MUSTANG FERTILITY PROJECT. Additional coverage that the BLM has “pulled the plug on a public-private partnership in Nevada” aimed at “shrinking the size of a wild horse herd by using a fertility drug prevalent in the West” was provided by [KJZZ-FM](#) Phoenix (5/11, 8K).

BAKER, NEVADA BACK ON TRACK TO REPLACE LEAKING WATER TANK ON BLM PROPERTY. Thomas Mitchell, a “longtime Nevada newspaper columnist,” writes in the [Elko \(NV\) Daily Free Press](#) (5/11, 22K) that the Bureau of Land Management has granted a permit to replace Baker, Nevada’s “leaking 250,000-gallon water tank that sits on BLM land.” This permit was in jeopardy this past fall when the Interior Department “decided the greater sage grouse would not be listed under the Endangered

Species Act but instead issued thousands of pages of land use restrictions as a means of protecting the bird.” When Baker water district board members met with a BLM representative, they were “hit with a list of demands” needed due to the new grouse regulations. This conflict was resolved when the BLM gave the district an early start date to build the new tank and remove the old one in one season to minimize impact on sage grouse.

Fish and Wildlife Service:

FWS PLAN TO LIFT YELLOWSTONE GRIZZLY PROTECTIONS MET WITH OPPOSITION. [Reuters](#) (5/11, Zuckerman) reports the FWS plans to lift the Endangered Species Act protection of the grizzly bear around Yellowstone National Park due to their rebounding numbers was met with criticism from environmentalists and Indian tribes as the public comment period for the proposal ended on Wednesday. Much of the ire was focused on grizzlies possibly becoming open to trophy hunting under future state management plans. Sportsmen and ranchers contend there are growing bear-human conflicts as grizzlies expand their territories in search of food. Environmentalists fear grizzlies’ recovery could fail if they have to face new pressures of hunting plus the growing effects of climate change. A final decision is expected by the end of the year.

Additional coverage was provided by the [Cody \(WY\) Enterprise](#) (5/11, 20K).

Rocky Mountain States Prepare For Return Of Grizzly Hunts. The [AP](#) (5/11, 1.3M) reports that “hunters soon could be chasing grizzly bears across the ridges of the Rocky Mountains, leaving three states to come up with plans to ensure the iconic species won’t be snuffed out so soon after recovering from threats to their survival.” The animals have been “considered a threatened species since 1975, but wildlife officials say their population has sufficiently recovered to turn over management to Wyoming, Montana and Idaho.” Before the FWS “makes a final decision on Yellowstone grizzlies by March 2017, it is requiring those states to outline what their grizzly bear hunting seasons would look like.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Houston \(TX\) Chronicle](#) (5/11, Volz, Press, 2.19M), the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (5/12, Volz, 269K), [US News & World Report](#) (5/12, 1.15M), [ABC News](#) (5/12, 4.15M), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (5/12, Matt Volz |, Ap, 9.23M), the [Denver \(CO\) Post](#) (5/12, Volz, 1.07M), and the [Daily Mail](#) (5/12, Press, 4.57M).

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO DISMISS APPEAL OF COURT RULINGS ON PERMIAN BASIN SPECIES. The [AP](#) (5/11) reports that the FWS said that the Justice Department filed a motion Tuesday to dismiss its appeal of court rulings that stripped the lesser prairie chicken of federal protection under the Endangered Species Act. Oil and gas groups in the Texas’ Permian Basin had opposed the threatened listing saying it would impede operations and cost companies hundreds of millions of dollars in oil and gas development.

Additional coverage was provided by the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (5/11, 269K), the [Houston \(TX\) Chronicle](#) (5/11), the [Minneapolis \(MN\) Star Tribune](#) (5/11, 1.3M), [US News & World Report](#) (5/11, 1.15M), [ABC News](#) (5/11, 4.15M), and the [Daily Mail](#) (5/11, Press, 4.57M).

AGENCIES FLOODING RESTORED WETLAND NEAR DILLON FALLS. The [AP](#) (5/11, Corrigan, 269K) reports that “federal agencies have started filling an open, grassy area near Dillon Falls like a bathtub.” According to Jason Gritzner, a hydrologist with the Deschutes National Forest, “the goal of the project is to reconnect the river to the flood plain, restoring the natural connection between the wetland and the river – the way they feed one another – and restoring about a third of a mile of badly eroded river banks.” FWS Field Supervisor Bridget Moran said, “They took it from wetland to a dry-farming meadow, and now we’re trying to bring it back.”

WORK COMPLETED ON INDIANA’S ASIAN CARP BARRIER TO GREAT LAKES. The [AP](#) (5/11, 2.19M) reports that “environmental officials are celebrating the completion of a nearly 2-mile-long, 80-foot-wide earthen berm designed to keep Asian carp from reaching the Great Lakes.” According to the article, “the \$4.4 million project at the Eagle Marsh Nature Preserve in Fort Wayne is designed to block floodwaters and prevent carp from crossing from the Wabash River watershed into the Maumee River

watershed, which empties into Lake Erie at Toledo, Ohio.” The article notes that “Eagle Marsh is considered the second-most important spot, after the Chicago Area Waterway System, for stopping the voracious invasive species from reaching the Great Lakes.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (5/11, 269K).

TWO CITIES GIVE CONDITIONAL APPROVAL TO ROCKY FLATS TRAIL GRANT. The [Denver Post](#) (5/11, Aguilar, 1.07M) reports that Broomfield and Jefferson County on Tuesday gave conditional support to a potential Federal Lands Access Program grant that would extend a regional trail into Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge. The grant is contingent upon safe soil testing results. A Fish and Wildlife Service representative said the agency would agree to the testing.

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: AMMON BUNDY RAISES CONSTITUTIONAL ARGUMENTS IN DEFENSE OF MALHEUR TAKEOVER. Additional coverage that Ammon Bundy is defending the takeover of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge on constitutional grounds was provided by [Courthouse News](#) (5/10, 7K).

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: STUDY CASTS DOUBT ON THEORY THAT LEGAL HUNTING REDUCES POACHING. Additional coverage that a new study suggests that “state-sanctioned culls in Wisconsin and Michigan have actually led to more poaching” was provided by the [Washington Post](#) (5/11, Brulliard, 9.23M).

National Park Service:

THE “TODAY SHOW” VISITING NPS SITES IN CELEBRATION OF CENTENNIAL. [Today Show Online](#) (5/11, 1.75M) reports that “it’s the National Parks Service’s centennial anniversary, and to mark the big event, TODAY’s anchors are setting out on some incredible outdoor adventures.” The article says that “Natalie and Jenna hit three beautiful Florida parks on Monday, while Al and Matt went on an journey of their own on Tuesday, heading to White Sands National Monument and Carlsbad National Park.” Next, “Al made his way to Alcatraz Island and Sequoia National Park in California.”

Additional coverage of the NPS Centennial was provided by the [Albuquerque \(NM\) Business First](#) (5/11, Sams), the [Lowell \(MA\) Sun](#) (5/11, 131K) and the [Tampa Bay \(FL\) Times](#) (5/11, 873K).

NPS RANGER COOKS UPSCALE MEALS WHILE CAMPING. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/11, Tan, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) reports National Park Service ranger Christine Vanover discusses the perks of upscale camping, also called “glamping.” Vanover, who works at Lake Mead National Recreation Area in Boulder City, Nevada, writes a food blog about her experiences cooking impressive meals like Korean shortribs and chicken adobo while camping. She brings a foldable grill grate and cast iron pot with her, and plans her meals at least a week in advance. A thermometer is also necessary to make sure everything is the appropriate temperature.

Additional coverage of “glamping” was provided by [ABC News](#) (5/11, 4.15M).

CLEANUP CONTINUES AFTER FIRE IN SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK. The [AP](#) (5/11, 2.19M) reports that “cleanup is ongoing in Shenandoah National Park, more than a week after firefighters contained the second largest fire in the park’s history.” Shenandoah’s Fire Response Team spokeswoman Barb Stewart said that “she is unsure how long the cleanup and recovery process will take.” According to the article, “although the Rocky Mountain fire was declared contained on April 29, crews still had to work on controlling and cooling down any remaining hot spots before the cleanup process could begin.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Minneapolis \(MN\) Star Tribune](#) (5/11, 1.3M), the [Washington \(DC\) Post](#) (5/11, Press, 9.23M), the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (5/11, 269K), the [Daily Mail](#) (5/11, Press, 4.57M), and [WCAV-TV Charlottesville \(VA\)](#) Charlottesville, VA (5/11, 3K).

NPS PUSHES FOR GRIZZLY HUNTING BAN BETWEEN YELLOWSTONE, GRAND TETON. The

[WyoFile](#) (5/11) reports that the NPS said Tuesday “there should be no hunting of grizzly bears in the 24,000-acre John D. Rockefeller Jr. Memorial Parkway between Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks.” In a memo to the FWS, NPS regional director Sue Masica said that “the parkway should be ‘identified’ as a national park unit where grizzly hunting is prohibited.” Her memo said, “NPS is requesting that the Proposed Rule, Conservation Strategy, state management plans and other related documents identify the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway as one of the three national park units in the [Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem] where hunting will not be permitted.”

NPS RECOGNIZES GRAND CANYON CLASS OF 2016. [Grand Canyon \(AZ\) News](#) (5/11) reports that “four years ago, as part of a special centennial outreach, Grand Canyon National Park (GCNP) adopted the freshman class at Grand Canyon School (GCS).” Now, “as the class of 2016 prepares for graduation, the park service is taking a moment to recognize the class, who has made several significant contributions to centennial projects for the National Park Service (NPS).” Environmental Education Specialist Ranger Amala Posey told the students, “It’s been really wonderful to watch you guys over the last four years. To be able to change and grow and see new things. We tried to share some of the most special places at Grand Canyon because when you walk away from this place these memories of the last four years, you will remember every bit of it, every friend, every sunset and every outstanding place that you visited and your jaw dropped. We just want to thank you for being part of that process with us.”

REPORT SAYS WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL PARKS BOOST LOCAL ECONOMY. The [AP](#) (5/12, 269K) reports that the NPS says “southern West Virginia’s three national parks contributed more than \$64 million in benefits to the local economy in 2015.” Economists with the NPS and the USGS “analyzed visitor spending at parks across the nation, including the New River Gorge National River, Bluestone National Scenic River and Gauley River National Recreation Area.” According to the report, “people visiting the three West Virginia parks spent more than \$56 million in nearby communities in 2015.”

RAILROAD COMPANY PAYS \$72,500 FOR DAMAGE TO INDIANA DUNES. The [AP](#) (5/11, 269K) reports that “a railroad company has paid \$72,500 to the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore for damage caused by wildfires sparked by its trains in March 2012.” The federal government claimed “in a civil lawsuit filed in March 2014 that hot cinders from two Indiana Harbor Belt Co. locomotives started a series of wildfires as they passed through western portions of the national park.” The U.S. attorney’s office said “the Indiana Harbor Belt Co. entered a stipulation in February and agreed to the payment.”

GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK RECEIVES DARK SKIES DESIGNATION. The [Salt Lake \(UT\) Tribune](#) (5/11, 415K) reports that the Great Basin National Park is “one of the newest sites in the world to be designated an International Dark Sky Park.” Park superintendent Steven Mietz said, “It is wonderful that Great Basin National Park has officially been designated a dark sky park by the International Dark Sky Association. The park has already committed to protecting and interpreting our uniquely dark skies. This designation will help raise our visibility to audiences around the world.”

UPPER FALLS LOCK OBSERVATION DECK TO REOPEN IN SUMMER. The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (5/10, 1.3M) reports that the visitor center deck at Upper St. Anthony Falls will “open to the public on May 28 and remain open through Labor Day weekend.” Mississippi National River and Recreation Area superintendent John Anfinson “worked out an agreement with the center’s owner, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to make the visitor center available despite the closing of the navigational lock last year.”

WEEKEND CONSTRUCTION TO CLOSE TRAFFIC TO REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT. The [Washington Post](#) (5/11, Aratani, 9.23M) reports Reagan National Airport officials say that “weekend construction will close the eastbound Route 233 bridge where traffic enters the airport from Route 1/Jefferson Davis Highway in Crystal City.” According to officials, “the work being done this weekend is part of a larger effort by the National Park Service and the Federal Highway Administration project to resurface roads around the bridge that connects National Airport to Crystal City and ramps to the northbound and southbound George Washington Memorial Parkway.”

BEAR ATTACKS SLEEPING HIKER ON APPALACHIAN TRAIL. The [Knoxville \(TN\) News Sentinel](#) (5/11, 234K) reports that “rangers in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park are investigating a hiker’s report that he was bitten by a black bear while he slept along the Appalachian Trail.” According to park

spokeswoman Dana Soehn, “a 49-year-old thru-hiker told Graham County, N.C., authorities he was sleeping in a tent near the Spence Field Shelter on Tuesday night when a bear bit him on the leg through the tent.” The animal “ran from the area before the hiker or other backpackers saw the animal.”

Additional coverage was provided by [WVLT-TV Knoxville \(TN\)](#) Knoxville, TN (5/11, 49K) and [WUSA-TV Washington \(DC\)](#) Washington (5/11, 77K).

MAN KILLED IN SMOKIES MOTORCYCLE WRECK. The [Knoxville \(TN\) News Sentinel](#) (5/11, 234K) reports that “a 68-year-old Virginia man was killed Wednesday when the motorcycle he was operating collided with a pickup in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, authorities said.” According to park spokeswoman Dana Soehn, “Thomas Bailey of Meadows of Dan, Va., was riding his motorcycle at 1:04 p.m. on Little River Road about 1½ miles of the Sinks when it collided with a Toyota Tundra occupied by an Oregon couple.”

MAN WHO DIED AFTER JUMP IN GLACIER NATIONAL PARK IDENTIFIED. The [AP](#) (5/11, 269K) reports that “authorities have identified a 26-year-old man who died from his injuries after jumping into a shallow pool of water at the base of a waterfall in Glacier National Park.” According to the article, “a release from the park identified the man who died May 4 as Clint Cory Not Afraid, of Browning.”

FIVE SITES IN MICHIGAN ADDED TO NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. The [Detroit Free Press](#) (5/11, 1.03M) reports that the NPS has “added five Michigan sites to the National Register of Historic Places, including a Detroit TV studio which once was home to ‘Sagebrush Shorty’ and ‘Sir Graves Ghastly’ on WJBK-TV.” According to the article, “other structures approved last month by the Park Service for addition to the list included the Pontchartrain Club-Town House Apartments in downtown Detroit and the Professional Plaza Tower, also known as the Hammer and Nail building, on Woodward in Midtown.” The article notes that “two others — the downtown historic district in Clare and Bewabic Park near Crystal Falls on the Upper Peninsula were also included.”

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: NPS SEEKS CORPORATE SUPPORT OF NATIONAL PARKS. Additional coverage that the NPS is “quietly preparing to make fundraising a central activity by aggressively soliciting corporate sponsorships using agency personnel as fundraisers” was provided by the [Nonprofit Quarterly](#) (5/11) .

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE OF CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE. Additional coverage of the Centennial Initiative was provided by the [Fort Collins \(CO\) Coloradoan](#) (5/11, 59K).

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: AUTHORITIES IDENTIFY DEATH VALLEY VANDALS. Additional coverage that “authorities have identified three men who went on a drunken binge in an environmentally fragile area of Death Valley National Park, damaging park property and possibly killing one of the rarest fishes on earth” was provided by the [Santa Rosa \(CA\) Press Democrat](#) (5/11, 170K).

OP-ED: CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK BEING IMPACTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE. In an op-ed for the [Oregonian](#) (5/11, 861K), Brian Ettling, the co-founder of the southern Oregon group for Citizens Climate Lobby, writes that Crater Lake National Park is being impacted by climate change. He argues that “the best solution...to reduce the threat of climate change is for Congress to pass Citizen’s Climate Lobby’s (CCL) carbon fee and dividend proposal.” Ettling urges Rep. Greg Walden “to co-sponsor House Resolution 424 and join the House Climate Solutions Caucus when open membership becomes available.”

COLLECTIONS PRESERVATION CENTER HONORS FAMILIES DISPLACED BY GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK FOUNDING. Columnist Greg Johnson writes in the [Knoxville \(TN\) News Sentinel](#) (5/11, 234K) that the “thousands of Appalachian Americans displaced” by the founding of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park “are barely mentioned” in the park’s history. Yet at the 2009 celebration of the 75th anniversary of the park’s founding, “then-Superintendent Dale Ditmanson sectioned off seats of honor for those families dislodged” and Sen. Lamar Alexander “recognized their painful contributions.” Alexander also spoke at the opening last week of the \$4.2 million Collections Preservation Center in Townsend, which “will house 418,000 artifacts and 1.3 million archival records

from the Great Smoky Mountains area and from four other parks.” Alexander said, “The Collections Preservation Center honors the sacrifice and contribution of those families and their descendants.”

US Geological Survey:

OLD USGS MAPS CAN BE CONSIDERED “PIECES OF AMERICAN ART.” In The [New York Times Magazine](#) (5/11, Vanderbilt, 3.79M), author Tom Vanderbilt writes about he has spent several years collecting United States Geological Survey maps, “treating them as eminently affordable pieces of American art.” Vanderbilt claims the “beauty intrinsic to these maps is the byproduct of an entirely different mode of production, the last gasp of an antiquated way of representing the world.” Larry Moore, a longtime cartographer with the USGS, told Vanderbilt, “Back in the old days, the map was the product, and every map was drawn by hand. There was an assumption that every map would only be made once or twice in a century, so we went to extraordinary expense to make them not only correct but beautiful.” Vanderbilt admits the USGS’ new mapping program, “US Topo,” is likely more precise, but “less aesthetically pleasing.”

ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: USGS RELEASES TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP OF MERCURY. Additional coverage that USGS researchers have “released the first topographical map of Mercury’s entire surface, providing a highly detailed view at the planet’s craters and volcanoes,” was provided by the [Business Insider](#) (5/11, 3.06M).

Top National News:

BIDEN WARNS FLORIDA AUDIENCE ABOUT NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF A TRUMP WIN.

Local TV newscasts in the key battleground state of Florida, as well as print and online outlets, last night and this morning highlighted Vice President Biden’s comments on the presidential race during a visit to Tampa. [Bay News 9-TV](#) Tampa, FL (5/11, 5:02 p.m. EDT, 24K) reported that Biden “appeared before Tampa business leaders to talk trade and the future,” and warned that “the tone of this year’s presidential race” could hurt US prospects in coming years. [WTSP-TV](#) St. Petersburg, FL (5/11, 5:07 p.m. EDT, 39K) showed Biden saying, “That’s true when it comes to talk of building walls or rolling back engagement with Cuba or failing to ratify legitimate trade agreements.” [CNN](#) (5/11, Liptak, 2.4M) indicated that “without naming” him, Biden made it clear that he was referring to statements and proposals put forth by Donald Trump.

Biden’s remarks to “local business leaders and elected officials,” [WUSF-FM](#) Tampa, FL (5/11, Carter, 7K) reported, took place “at an invitation-only event at the University of Tampa,” where the Vice President “spoke of increasing trade opportunities and the importance of investing in infrastructure like Port Tampa Bay and Tampa International Airport.” The [Tampa Bay \(FL\) Times](#) (5/11, Danielson, Guzzo, 873K) reports that Biden also “said leaders of other nations in the Western Hemisphere have responded well to seven years of a US policy of engagement,” and “said they are dismayed by the talk of building walls to keep out immigrants and political discourse that threatens to alienate 55 million Americans of Hispanic descent.” The Vice President “touched on a lot of large issues and themes in his hourlong speech: the expansion of the Panama Canal, the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement, the challenge of responding to climate change, the importance of fighting violence and corruption in emerging economies, the need for open, democratic politics and reliable sources of energy.” [WFLA-TV](#) Tampa, FL (5/11, 5:02 p.m. EDT, 50K) noted that Biden ended “with a strong warning about this election season.” Said Biden, “Progress is still fragile. The opportunities we’ve cultivated could slip away.”

[Politico](#) (5/11, Gass, 1.93M) refers to “a not-so-subtle dig at the policy proposals of Republicans and of their presumptive nominee,” while [WTSP-TV](#) St. Petersburg, FL (5/11, 5:07 p.m. EDT, 39K) said Biden “called out Trump and Republicans saying the level of venom towards Hispanics in this election is dangerous,” and showed him saying, “By insulting partners in the Hemisphere, by tarring all immigrants, some leaders are actively undermining our security and prosperity.” [WCTV-TV](#) Tallahassee, FL (5/11, 5:35 p.m. EDT, 41K) similarly indicated that Biden warned “‘Trump-style’ rhetoric harms US security” and “insisted” that “US interests are damaged when politicians make blanket assessments about immigrants and insult world leaders.”

The [Tampa Bay \(FL\) Business Journal](#) (5/11, Irwin, Subscription Publication, 33K) says that “while Biden’s remarks seemed out of nowhere and instead a subtle message condemning...Trump’s separatist foreign policy, the outgoing VP did weigh in on one of the most historic moves to come out of the Barack Obama White House – normalizing relations with Cuba.” Biden “cautioned there are still areas of disagreement between the two nations, particularly in the ongoing human rights violations occurring in the island nation,” but “lauded the economic development opportunities that exist by opening trade between the two countries.”

[WFLA-TV](#) Tampa, FL (5/11, McCowan, 125K) reported on its website that “US Representative Cathy Castor, D-Fla., University of Tampa President Dr. Ronald Vaughn and Robert Rohrlack spoke before Biden.” Castor “talked about Biden’s comments related to the economic impact of the United States’ improving relationship with Cuba.”

Biden Addresses Decision Not To Run, Predicts Clinton Victory In November. Yesterday morning, Biden was also interviewed on ABC’s “Good Morning America.” [US News & World Report](#) (5/11, Levy, 1.15M) reported that “though he doesn’t regret taking a pass on the 2016 election,” Biden “said he intended to run for the presidency – and considered himself the right man for the job.” The [Daily Intelligencer \(NY\)](#) (5/11, Kirby, 671K) quoted him as saying, “I think I would have been the best president,” but “no one should ever seek the presidency unless they’re able to devote their whole heart and soul and passion into just doing that. ... Beau was my soul. I just wasn’t ready to be able to do that.” [People](#) (5/11, Kimble, 45.28M) reported on its website that “the Vice President is now focusing on his Cancer MoonShot 2020 initiative, which is geared toward dramatically improving cancer treatments and developing a vaccine-based immunotherapy by the year 2020.”

Further commenting on the presidential race and Trump, [VIBE](#) (5/11, 116K) noted the Vice President predicted on ABC, “I think that what is gonna happen here is the constant attack coming from the Republican side” is not “gonna wear well over the next couple months. ... I think he has been underestimated from the beginning, but I also think it’s really very, very early.”

In the same interview, the [New York Post](#) (5/11, Rosenbaum, 3.35M) reports Biden “spoke highly of Hillary Clinton.” Said Biden, “I feel confident that Hillary will be the nominee and I feel confident that she’ll be the next president.” The [New York Daily News](#) (5/11, Good, 3.76M) runs a similar story. The [Washington Times](#) (5/11, Boyer, 269K) reports that the White House “downplayed Wednesday...Biden’s prediction,” saying “he was merely handicapping her primary race with Sen. Bernard Sanders.” Said press secretary Josh Earnest, “I don’t think that he was doing much more than just making an observation about the math of the race, particularly as it relates to the delegate count.”

MEDIA ANALYSES: TRUMP, RYAN MEETING UNLIKELY TO RESULT IN GOP UNITY. As Donald Trump prepares to Meet Thursday with Republican Party officials, including House Speaker Ryan, media reports are universally pessimistic about whether the meetings will result in the party unity GOP officials are hoping to achieve.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (5/11, Mascaro, 4.12M) says Thursday’s meetings are “looking more like a showdown than a kumbaya moment for the party’s presumed presidential nominee.” According to the Times, “expectations are low” that the meetings “will have much influence over Trump’s reality-TV-style showmanship or result in any consequential pivots in his policies.” [McClatchy](#) (5/11, Lightman, 43K) says while Republicans will urge Trump to “give us solid reasons to support you,” many “are muttering they have little choice.” Their dilemma is that “they have nowhere else to turn, and they’ve spent years frothing to see Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton not only defeated but also humiliated.” Lawmakers, McClatchy adds, are “alternately dismayed by their likely nominee’s lack of allegiance to the conservative cause and largely resigned and hopeful that he will be.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/11, Reinhard, Peterson, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) says the small group of lawmakers who backed Trump early in his campaign now have his ear and are at the forefront of his efforts to unify the party. Hallie Jackson reported on [NBC Nightly News](#) (5/11, story 6, 2:20, Holt, 16.61M) that Ryan met Wednesday with lawmakers who support Trump, and according to “sources in the room,”

there was “tension, arguing, the longer Ryan waits to endorse Trump, the more divided the party gets.” On [The CBS Evening News](#) (5/11, story 5, 1:05, Pelley, 11.17M), Major Garrett reported that Ryan “said an alliance with presumptive nominee Donald Trump cannot and will not be rushed.”

[Reuters](#) (5/11, Holland, Cornwell) says Ryan told reporters Wednesday that he is trying “to be as constructive as possible, to have a real unification,” but said bringing the party together after the contentious primary season will take time. Reuters casts Ryan’s comments as an indication that Thursday’s meeting will not yield instant results. [Bloomberg Politics](#) (5/11, Litvan, 529K) says while Ryan is facing pressure from Republicans to endorse Trump in the interest of party unity, “most say any reconciliation will likely take some time.” Ryan “is finding plenty of support from other lawmakers who said they share the speaker’s goal of binding Trump to conservative policy stances,” and he is “already dismissing the notion that Thursday’s highly anticipated meetings will yield any actual endorsement of Trump.”

The [New York Times](#) (5/11, Steinhauer, Martin, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) says Ryan’s decision on Trump “will echo well beyond this campaign season when he anticipates rebuilding his party’s post-Trump brand, possibly with the speaker himself at the top of the 2020 presidential ticket.” According to Ryan associates, he is “motivated by his concern for protecting his House majority, something that was not even in question until Mr. Trump became the presumptive nominee.” While analysts “say the majority is safe for now, some of the most endangered House Republicans come from districts where Mr. Trump could be particularly damaging to their prospects.”

Meanwhile, the [AP](#) (5/11, Peoples, Beaumont) reports Trump “brush[ed] off his Capitol Hill critics even as he prepared to sit down with them,” saying Wednesday that he “doesn’t need support from House Speaker Paul Ryan or other leery Republican leaders.” Trump told Fox News, “If we make a deal, that will be great. ... And if we don’t, we will trudge forward like I’ve been doing and winning all the time.” The [Washington Post](#) (5/11, Fahrenthold, 9.23M) says Trump and Ryan will “striv[e] for party unity after Ryan refused to endorse Trump’s presidential bid,” but at “the time of Ryan’s greatest power, Trump is turning the party against the very reforms that Ryan sought power to achieve,” and their meeting “seems unlikely to settle such differences.” Dan Balz writes in the [Washington Post](#) (5/11, Balz, 9.23M) that while the goal of Thursday’s meetings “is to hasten the process of unifying a fractured party,” in reality, “Trump and those party leaders are likely never to fully achieve that result.” Balz calls Trump “an unpredictable presidential candidate” adding that the “reassurances he might try to offer in the face-to-face meetings...could easily be washed away by his determination to keep running the way he has run throughout the primaries, as a political provocateur of no fixed ideology.”

A [New York Times](#) (5/11, Flegenheimer, Eder, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) analysis reviews Trump’s visits to Capitol Hill since the 1980s, saying his “navigation of Washington’s corridors of power appears all too familiar in hindsight – fusing showmanship, a reductive approach to ethnicity, shape-shifting policy rationales and gleeful name-dropping into the political currency required to get what he wanted, or at least make headlines trying.” While his “forays into the arcana of congressional panels have received little attention during his presidential bid,” the Times says that during the visits, Trump “foretold several campaign motifs: a frustration with the pace of government, scattershot policy prescriptions, predictions of impending doom.”

Poll: 44% Of GOP Voters Disapprove Of Ryan’s Performance As Speaker. [The Hill](#) (5/11, Neidig, 884K) reported in its “Ballot Box” blog a Public Policy Polling poll released Wednesday shows that “nearly half of Republican voters disapprove of Paul Ryan’s performance as House speaker.” According to the poll, “40 percent of GOP voters are happy with Ryan’s stint as speaker so far, while 44 percent disapprove.” Ryan’s numbers are worse among all voters, with “just 30 percent” approving of his performance, and 48% disapproving.

Milbank: Trump Is Palin’s “Political Progeny.” In his [Washington Post](#) (5/11, Milbank, 9.23M) column, Dana Milbank calls Donald Trump Sarah Palin’s “political progeny,” arguing that she is, “politically, the Mother of Trump.” Milbank goes on to lay out similarities between the two including the “attacks on the media,” the “demonization of a supposed ‘establishment,’” the “racist responses among supporters,” and the “portrayal of President Obama as something other than American.”

REUTERS/IPSOS POLL: CLINTON LEADS TRUMP 41%-40%. In an exclusive, [Reuters](#) (5/11, Kahn) reports a Reuters/Ipsos poll released Wednesday shows Donald Trump running almost even with Hillary Clinton among likely voters. According to the poll, Clinton has the support of 41% of likely voters, while 40% backed Trump, and 19% were undecided.

Clinton Campaign Bracing For Tight Race Against Trump. With a new Quinnipiac University poll showing Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump “virtually tied in key battleground states,” [Politico](#) (5/11, McCaskill, 1.93M) reported Clinton’s campaign “claims it is bracing for a ‘very right’ (sic) race.” Clinton press secretary Brian Fallon told MSNBC’s Andrea Mitchell, “We’ve planned for this. After the contests on April 26 where we had decisive victories in many of those Mid-Atlantic states, we began undertaking general-election preparations because we need to be ready to wage what we think will be a very tight general-election contest.”

In a piece for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/11, Rove, Subscription Publication, 6.27M), Karl Rove argues that while the attacks between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump make headlines, the race will come down to the ability of both candidates to articulate their main qualities while undercutting those of their opponent. According to Rove, Clinton is stressing her experience and disposition, while Trump is casting himself as a needed agent of change, and both arguments play well with voters.

Politico Analysis: Quinnipiac Battleground Polls Elicit Predictable Reactions. A [Politico](#) (5/11, Shepard, 1.93M) analysis examined the “sniping” which “began in earnest” following Tuesday’s release of Quinnipiac University polls “in three key battleground states showing Donald Trump running neck-and-neck with Hillary Clinton.” While “pro-Trump Republicans celebrated the results,” Democrats “began attacking the methodology of the surveys.” The reaction, Politico said “played out predictably — the first salvos of the battle over public polling that will play out over the next six months.” The polls “created a stir because the landscape they portrayed in three important swing states — Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania — was more competitive than national polls of a Clinton-Trump match-up have indicated.”

WTimes Analysis: Distrust Of Clinton Prompts Democrat Pessimism About November. A [Washington Times](#) (5/11, Wolfgang, 269K) analysis says Hillary Clinton “has earned a level of distrust that’s almost unprecedented for a major political party presidential nominee,” and cites new polling which “shows voters rate Donald Trump as more honest than Mrs. Clinton, underscoring deep questions that have been swirling for decades” around Clinton. According to analysts, “there’s little she can do to truly change the narrative, especially when presumptive GOP nominee Mr. Trump begins his own blistering assault over the summer.” AS a result the Times notes, there is “renewed pessimism within the party about her prospects in the fall.”

In his “Talking Points Memo” segment on [Fox News’ The O’Reilly Factor](#) (5/11, 767K), Bill O’Reilly said Clinton’s campaign “is drifting” as Trump is “rising in the polls.” O’Reilly argued that Bernie Sanders “rattled” Clinton, adding that to defeat Trump, she is “going to have to come out of the left wing precincts and appeal to independent voters.” According to O’Reilly, “If she truly believes that she is the right person to run this country, then Hillary Clinton should talk to all Americans, not just ideological soul mates.”

Editorial Wrap-Up:

NEW YORK TIMES. “A Nightmare Court, Worthy Of Dickens.” The [New York Times](#) (5/11, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) editorializes that a new class-action lawsuit alleges that backlogs in the Bronx’ criminal courts have led to such extreme delays that they violate the Constitution. Such delays — the “wait for a jury trial on a misdemeanor charge is 827 days” — force defendants to miss work, lose wages, and sometimes even their jobs. Many defendants plead guilty “simply to avoid having to wait years for a trial.” New York must increase its budget for the city’s criminal courts, and judges shouldn’t force defendants to show up at every court appearance. Furthermore, the state must implement a “smarter law” to require prosecutors bring a case to resolution in 60 to 90 days, “even if the delay is caused by court congestion.”

“Nepal’s Destructive Politics.” The [New York Times](#) (5/11, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) editorializes that instead of helping those affected by last year’s earthquake, Nepalese Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli’s government has been focused on “revenge politics and paranoia.” That includes the government’s decision May 3 to invoke the valid work visa of Canadian citizen Robert Penner for anonymous complaints that Penner was “spreading unnecessary messages about Nepal” on Twitter. The Times says Penner had tweeted about a Human Rights Watch report on the deaths and injuries of protesters who were demonstrating against Nepal’s new Constitution. Penner’s lawyer has filed an appeal with Nepal’s Supreme Court, and the Times say a ruling that is “firmly on the side of freedom of expression could help salvage Nepal’s democracy.”

“Time To Put The Squeeze On Pakistan.” The [New York Times](#) (5/12, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) in an editorial says that “Pakistan deserves much of the blame” for troubles in Afghanistan, accusing it of being “a duplicitous and dangerous partner for the United States and Afghanistan.” It also says that Pakistan is “the key” to negotiations with the Taliban, which the Times says, is “the only hope for long-term peace.” It cites positively efforts by Sen. Bob Corker, and President Ashraf Ghani of Afghanistan to put pressure on Pakistan, but concludes that the situation will only improve “if the American government finds a way to convince Pakistan to stop fueling the war.”

“A Medicare Option For The Uninsured.” The [New York Times](#) (5/12, Subscription Publication, 14.18M) in an editorial says that with 33 million Americans still lacking health insurance, the US must address the problem. It suggests consideration of the idea that Americans under 65 be allowed to “buy into Medicare before they become eligible for it at 65.” Hillary Clinton has endorsed the idea, as have others. It suggests that the government could further subsidize the cost in the way that it does “lower-income people on the health exchanges.” The Times says the idea would be difficult to get through Congress and would face opposition from “doctors and hospitals.” Still, the paper says “it is important to talk about what could be done to expand health coverage and make premiums more affordable.”

WASHINGTON POST. *“Police Use Tasers With Increasing Frequency – And Some Lethal Results.”* The [Washington Post](#) (5/11, 9.23M) editorializes that Maryland “disturbingly” has no standards for the police use of Tasers, meaning each department’s policies can vary. Furthermore, police are increasingly overusing Tasers; in Maryland black men accounted for 64% of the roughly 3,000 suspects shot with the stun guns over a three-year period ending in 2014, according to the Baltimore Sun. One example is was the April 2013 arrest of Anthony Howard, a black man high on cocaine, who was shot by white officers with Tasers nine times for a total of 37 seconds, “more than twice the elapsed time recommended by Taser’s guidelines.” Howard died during the incident, and Montgomery County police reportedly withheld videos of the incident they obtained from neighbors of Howard’s family, “prompting them to drop legal action.” The Post calls on law enforcement to “answer hard questions about whether they engaged in a coverup of the circumstances surrounding Howard’s death.”

“In The Philippines, A Dangerous Strongman.” In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (5/11, 9.23M) writes that “notwithstanding his bluster about flag-planting, the Philippines’ president-elect, Rodrigo Duterte could...undermine US efforts to deter China’s attempts to enforce its far-reaching territorial claims.” Noting comparisons between the Philippine leader and Donald Trump, the Post concludes that “responsible people in both countries can only hope that Mr. Duterte is not soon matched with an American counterpart.”

“The GOP Congress Must Stop Hurting The Zika Fight.” The [Washington Post](#) (5/11, 9.23M) editorializes that it’s “long past time” for the GOP-controlled Congress to deliver the emergency funding needed to fight the virus “that, if unchecked, could ruin thousands of young lives.” Vital measures to prevent Zika’s spread, like “warning the public, creating and scaling up diagnostics, and carrying out spraying and other prophylactic measures,” take time to prepare, as does vaccine development. However, the time to begin preparing “was yesterday,” and any further funding delay is “time that is being lost on Capitol Hill.”

WALL STREET JOURNAL. *“The Hiroshima Speech Obama Won’t Give.”* In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/11, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) provides a speech that President Obama is unlikely to give when he visits Hiroshima, but one the Journal welcomes him to use. The speech would have

Obama say that a nuclear-free world is not possible, and that achieving such a world through diplomatic means has backfired. Countries expected to give up their nuclear weapons are incapable of keeping their word, especially when threatened with punishment should they break it.

“Saved By The Superdelegates.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/11, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) says that if the race for the Democratic nomination didn’t include superdelegates, Sen. Bernie Sanders could well be on his way to the White House. The Journal says that since March 1, Sanders has won more delegates than Hillary Clinton, and it’s possible that he could surpass her in the delegate count should Sanders will the remaining 10 primary and caucus contests. The Journal adds, however, that because of the superdelegates overwhelmingly lining up behind Clinton, Sanders has little chance of winning the Democratic nomination.

“Protecting Big Business.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (5/11, Subscription Publication, 6.27M) editorializes that the Federal Trade Commission, in its successful challenge to the merger of Office Depot and Staples, sided not with consumers but with big companies such as Amazon, Costco and Wal-Mart when it argued that the merger would harm big companies that buy in bulk. US District Judge Emmet Sullivan agreed with the agency, finding “a reasonable probability that the proposed merger will substantially impair competition in the sale and distribution of consumable office supplies to large Business-to-Business customers.” The Journal decries the failure of a proposed deal that would have benefited both companies and would not have harmed other firms.

Big Picture:

HEADLINES FROM TODAY’S FRONT PAGES.

Wall Street Journal:

[Macy’s Reignites Retail Worries](#)

[Brussels Attacks Could Have Been Much Worse, Investigators Say](#)

[In Brazil, Senators Line Up to Unseat the President](#)

[Private Lenders Remodel the Mortgage Market](#)

New York Times:

[2020 Election Complicating 2016 For Ryan](#)

[Pushed To Unite, Trump Declares He Has Mandate](#)

[US Ponders: Who Imprisons ISIS Fighters?](#)

[Power Struggle Propels Congo Into New Crisis](#)

[Algorithms With Agendas And The Sway Of Facebook](#)

[Hedge Funds Reach For Hard Hats In Year Of Collapsing Mergers](#)

Washington Post:

[An Animated Case To Redraw The Lines](#)

[More In DC Are Lacking A Home](#)

[Senators Poised To Impeach Rousseff](#)

[Ryan Built A GOP Pillar. And Trump Tore It Down.](#)

[Md. Alleges Fraud In Deals With Victims Of Lead Paint](#)

[Islamic State Strikes At Baghdad](#)

Financial Times:

[Household Income Tumbles In Majority Of US Cities This Century](#)

[Britain Was Tipped Off Over Swiss Bank Years Before US Exposed Vast Tax Fraud](#)

Washington Times:

[Clinton Distrust Renews Democrats’ Pessimism About General Election](#)

[Donald Trump Campaign ‘Complete Opposite’ Of RNC’s 2016 Blueprint](#)

[North Carolina Bathroom Law Fate Hinges On Definition Of ‘Sex’](#)

[Dilma Rousseff Loyalists Decry ‘Coup’ As Brazilian Lawmakers Debate Impeachment](#)

[DC Metro 'Finances Worse Than Operations.' Privatization On The Table](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Texas-Fertilizer Plant Explosion Investigation; Massachusetts-Mall Stabbing Rampage; South Carolina-Police Officer Charged; Colorado-Planned Parenthood Attack Ruling; Politics-Trump's Tax Returns; Severe Weather; Iraq-ISIL Attacks; FBI Director-ISIL; Texas-High School Football Stadium Controversy; Prince Investigation-Minnesota Doctor; NYC-Crane Collapse Lawsuit; Queen Elizabeth-Candid Moment; Transportation-Hyperloop Test.

CBS: Iraq-ISIL Attacks; FBI Director-ISIL; Severe Weather; Texas-Fertilizer Plant Explosion Investigation; 2016 Politics-Trump/Ryan Meeting; 2016 Politics-Trump's Tax Returns; South Carolina-Police Officer Charged; Missouri-New Ferguson Police Chief; Prince Investigation-Minnesota Doctor; Autism Study-Folic Acid; Canada Wildfire; FBI-Russian Doping Scandal; Transportation-Hyperloop Test.

NBC: Texas-Fertility Plant Explosion Investigation; Colorado-Planned Parenthood Attack Ruling; Severe Weather; Massachusetts-Mall Stabbing Rampage; South Carolina-Police Officer Charged; 2016 Politics-Trump's Tax Returns; Queen Elizabeth-Candid Moment; FDA-Healthy Eating Definition; Transportation-Hyperloop Test; San Francisco-Sinkhole Rescue.

Network TV At A Glance:

Texas-Fertilizer Plant Explosion Investigation – 7 minutes

2016 Politics- 6 minutes, 55 seconds

Severe Weather – 5 minutes, 50 seconds

Iraq-ISIL Attacks – 4 minutes, 55 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: 2016 Politics-Trump's Tax Returns; Oklahoma-Armed Suspect Killed; Chicago-Opium Seized At Airport; Zika Virus-Florida Governor.

CBS: 2016 Politics-Trump/Ryan Meeting; Texas-Fertilizer Plant Explosion Investigation; Freddie Gray Case-Second Officer's Trial; Los Angeles-Grim Sleeper Case; Missouri-Death Row Inmate Executed; SpaceX Capsule Returns; Wall Street.

FOX: Clinton Email Investigation; 2016 Politics-Trump/Ryan Meeting; 2016 Politics-Trump's Tax Returns; Massachusetts-Mall Stabbing Rampage; Severe Weather; Tennessee-Missing Girl; Chicago-Mass Shooting; Transportation-Hyperloop Test; Wall Street.

NPR: Clinton Email Investigation-FBI Director; Minnesota-ISIL Trial; Philadelphia-Amtrak Train Derailment Investigation; Wall Street; Google Bans Payday Loan Ads; Canada Wildfire.

[Washington Schedule:](#)

TODAY'S EVENTS IN WASHINGTON.

White House:

PRESIDENT OBAMA — No public events scheduled.

VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN — Unavailable.

MICHELLE OBAMA — Office of the First Lady conducts press preview of tomorrow's State Dinner for Nordic leaders, showing sample place settings and answering questions on background. This event is open press to credentialed media, but space is limited.

DR. JILL BIDEN — Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden leads Presidential Delegation to the Invictus Games' Closing Ceremony at Champion Stadium, with UK's Prince Harry also attending.

US Senate: 9:00 AM Dem Sen. Jon Tester meets SCOTUS nominee Merrick Garland – Democratic Sen. Jon Tester meets US Supreme Court nominee Merrick Garland on Capitol Hill, in order to 'ask him tough questions and review his qualifications for appointment to the highest court in the land' (9:00 AM EDT). Later, Sen. Tester holds press conference call with Montana reporters to discuss the meeting (11:15 AM EDT). Location: Rm 311, Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://tester.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenatorTester>. Contacts: Marnee Banks Sen. Tester Communications Director

press@tester.senate.gov. Montana reporters interested in joining the call should RSVP to Luke Jackson 406.702.5484 Luke_Jackson@tester.senate.gov to get the call-in information.

9:00 AM Senate Governmental Affairs subcommittee hearing on due process in administrative hearings – Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management Subcommittee hearing on ‘Examining Due Process in Administrative Hearings’, with testimony from Social Security Administration Deputy Commissioner for Disability Adjudication and Review Theresa Gruber; Social Security Administration Buffalo, New York, Office of Disability Adjudication and Review Administrative Law Judge Marilyn Zahm; and Office of Personnel Management Associate Director for Human Resources Solutions Joseph Kennedy. Location: Rm 342, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://hsgac.senate.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SenateHSGAC>. Contacts: Senate Committee on Homeland Security 1 202 224 2627.

9:30 AM Closed markup hearing on ‘National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017’. Location: Rm 222, Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://armed-services.senate.gov/>. Contacts: Senate Armed Services Committee 1 202 224 3871.

10:00 AM Senate Judiciary Committee Executive Business Meeting – Executive Business Meeting, with agenda including ‘S. 247, Expatriate Terrorist Act’, ‘S. 2348, Rapid DNA Act of 2015’, ‘S. 2577, Justice for All Reauthorization Act of 2016’, and ‘S. 2840, Police Act’, and the nominations of Ronald Russell to be US District Judge for the District of Utah, Inga Bernstein to be US District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Stephanie Gallagher to be US District Judge for the District of Maryland, and Suzanne Mitchell and Scott Palk to be US District Judges for the Western District of Oklahoma. Location: Rm 226, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://judiciary.senate.gov/>. Contacts: Senate Judiciary Committee press 1 202 224 7703.

10:00 AM Nominations hearing considers Susan Beard to be Department of Energy Inspector General. Location: Rm 366, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC www.energy.senate.gov. Contacts: Senate Energy Committee 1 202 224 4971.

10:00 AM Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on America’s role in the world – Hearing on ‘Examining America’s Role in the World’, with testimony from former Secretary of State James Baker III; and former National Security Advisor Thomas Donilon. Location: Rm 419, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://foreign.senate.gov/>. Contacts: Senate Committee on Foreign Relations 1 202 224 4651.

1:00 PM Senate Dems attend Congressional ceremony for Lao and Hmong-American veterans of the Vietnam War – Lao-American and Hmong-American veterans of the Vietnam War and their families mark the 40th anniversary of the mass crossing of the Mekong River by tens of thousands of political refugees and their families fleeing genocide, military attacks, and re-education camps, with Democratic Sens. Amy Klobuchar, Sheldon Whitehouse, Al Franken, and Tammy Baldwin, Lao and Hmong Veterans Association Minnesota Chapter President Pang Mang Thao, CPPA Executive Director Philip Smith, and Lao Veterans of American Institute’s Peter Vang. Includes performance from the ‘Hmong Angels’ dance troupe, who perform traditional Lao and Hmong dances in honor of the veterans and refugees who died, and to thank US Congress, govt., and the American people for granting them political asylum. Location: Rm 217, Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC centerforpublicpolicyanalysis.org <https://twitter.com/CPAInfo>. Contacts: Philip Smith Center for Public Policy Analysis info@centerforpublicpolicyanalysis.org 1 202 543 1444.

2:00 PM Closed Briefing: Intelligence Matters. Location: Rm 219, Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://intelligence.senate.gov>. Contacts: Senate Select Committee on Intelligence 1 202 224 1700.

US House: 9:00 AM House Oversight Committee latest hearing on TSA management – Hearing on ‘Examining Management Practices and Misconduct at TSA: Part II’, with testimony from Transportation Security Administration Administrator Peter Neffenger; and Department of Homeland Security Inspector General John Roth. Location: Rm 2154, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://oversight.house.gov/> Contacts: House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform 1 202 225 5074.

9:00 AM Closed Business Meeting, to consider access request to committee documents. Location: HVC-304, US Capitol, Washington, DC <http://intelligence.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/HouseIntelComm>. Contacts: House Select Intelligence Committee intelligence.hpsci@mail.house.gov 1 202 225 4121.

10:00 AM House Financial Services subcommittee hearing on US vs. UK affordable housing models – Housing and Insurance Subcommittee hearing on ‘The Future of Housing in America: A Comparison of the United Kingdom and United States Models for Affordable Housing’, with testimony from Housing Partnership Network President and CEO Thomas Bledsoe; Coventry University (UK) Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations Professor of Community Cohesion Dr. Harris Beider; Urban Institute Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center Neighborhoods and Youth Development Initiative Director Susan Popkin; University of Baltimore School of Law Community Development Clinic Director Jaime Alison Lee; San Diego Housing Commission President and CEO Richard Gentry; and Cambridge Housing Authority Executive Director Gregory Russ. Location: Rm 2128, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://financialservices.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/FinancialCmte>. Contacts: House Committee on Financial Services press 1 202 226 0471.

10:00 AM House Energy subcommittee markup hearing concludes – Energy and Power Subcommittee markup hearing concludes on ‘HR 4775, the Ozone Standards Implementation Act of 2016’ and ‘HR 4979, the Advanced Nuclear Technology Development Act of 2016’ * Began yesterday. Location: Rm 2123, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://energycommerce.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/HouseCommerce>. Contacts: House Energy and Commerce Committee 1 202 225 2927.

10:00 AM House Infrastructure subcommittee hearing on the cost of federal disaster response – Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management Subcommittee hearing on ‘Controlling the Rising Cost of Federal Responses to Disaster’, with testimony from Republican Rep. Carlos Curbelo; Federal Emergency Management Agency Deputy Administrator Joseph Nimmich; National Emergency Management Association President Brian Koon; National Institute of Building Sciences Multihazard Mitigation Council Chair Kevin Mickey; National Association of Counties President Sallie Clark; and The Travelers Companies Vice President for Catastrophe Strategy & Analysis Eric Nelson. Location: Rm 2167, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://transportation.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/Transport>. Contacts: House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure 1 202 225 9446.

10:00 AM House Veterans’ Affairs Committee hearing on preventing suicide – Hearing on ‘Combating the Crisis: Evaluating Efforts to Prevent Veteran Suicide’, with testimony from Veterans Health Administration Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Patient Care Services Maureen McCarthy, Chief Consultant for Mental Health Services Dr. Harold Kudler, and National Director for Suicide Prevention Dr. Caitlin Thompson; Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America Research Director Dr. Jackie Maffucci; Veterans Health Council Executive Director Thomas Berger; Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors Chief External Relations Officer for Suicide Prevention and Postvention Kim Ruocco; and Disabled American Veterans National Legislative Director Joy Ilem + written submission from Centerstone Military Services. Location: Rm 334, Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://veterans.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/HouseVetAffairs>. Contacts: House Committee on Veterans Affairs 1 202 225 3527.

10:00 AM House Natural Resources subcommittee legislative hearing – Federal Lands Subcommittee legislative hearing, with testimony from bipartisan Reps. Lois Capps, Dana Rohrabacher, Greg Walden, and Kristi Noem; Bureau of Land Management Acting Assistant Director of National Landscape Conservation System & Community Partnerships Abbie Jossie; and Crooked River Ranch Fire and Rescue Fire Chief Richard Hoffmann. Location: Rm 1324, Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://naturalresources.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/NatResources>. Contacts: Julia Slingsby House Natural Resources Committee Press Office julia.slingsby@mail.house.gov 1 202 226 9019.

10:00 AM House Technology subcommittee hearing on FDIC data breaches – Oversight Subcommittee hearing on ‘FDIC Data Breaches: Can Americans Trust that Their Private Banking Information Is Secure?’, with testimony from FDIC CIO and Chief Privacy Officer Lawrence Gross, Jr., and Acting Inspector General Fred Gibson. Location: Rm 2318, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC

<http://science.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/HouseScience>. Contacts: House Committee on Science, Space and Technology 1 202 225 6371.

10:00 AM House Judiciary task force hearing on 'executive overreach in foreign affairs' – Executive Overreach Task Force hearing on 'Executive Overreach in Foreign Affairs', with testimony from Northwestern Law School Professor Eugene Kontorovich; American University Washington College of Law Professor Stephen Vladeck; and Heritage Foundation Senior Research Fellow Steven Groves. Location: Rm 2141, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://judiciary.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/HouseJudiciary>. Contacts: House Judiciary Committee 1 202 225 3951.

10:00 AM Tax Policy Subcommittee 'Member Day Hearing on Tax Legislation'. Location: Rm 1100, Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://waysandmeans.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/WaysandMeansGOP>. Contacts: House Committee on Ways and Means press 1 202 226 4774.

10:00 AM House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on economic engagement with Iran – Hearing on 'Terrorism, Missiles and Corruption: The Risks of Economic Engagement with Iran', with testimony from Financial Integrity Network Chairman Juan Zarate; Foundation for the Defense of Democracies Executive Director Mark Dubowitz; and Center for a New American Security Energy, Economics and Security Program Director Elizabeth Rosenberg. Location: Rm 2172, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://www.hcfa.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/HFACrepublicans>. Contacts: House Foreign Affairs Committee 1 202 225 5021.

10:00 AM House Homeland Security subcommittee hearing on terrorist financing trends – Counterterrorism and Intelligence Subcommittee hearing on 'Following the Money: Examining Current Terrorist Financing Trends and the Threat to the Homeland', with testimony from George Mason University Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center Director Dr. Louise Shelley; Foundation for the Defense of Democracies Vice President for Research Dr. Jonathan Schanzer; and The Antiquities Coalition Chairman and founder Deborah Lehr. Location: Rm 311, Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, DC homeland.house.gov <https://twitter.com/HouseHomeland>. Contacts: House Homeland Security Committee 1 202 226 8417.

11:00 AM House Small Business Committee hearing on manufacturing – Hearing on 'The New Faces of American Manufacturing', with testimony from actor John Ratzenberger; Elite Aviation Products President and CEO Dustin Tillman; Lanier Technical College President Dr. Ray Perren; and BlueGreen Alliance Executive Director Kim Glas. Location: Rm 2360, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://smallbusiness.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SmallBizGOP>. Contacts: House Small Business Committee 1 202 225 5821.

11:30 AM GOP Rep. Paul Ryan press briefing following Donald Trump meeting – House Speaker Paul Ryan holds weekly press briefing, following his meeting with presumptive 2016 Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump. Location: HVC Studio A, US Capitol, Washington, DC www.speaker.gov <https://twitter.com/SpeakerRyan>. Contacts: Ashlee Strong House Speaker press ashlee.strong@mail.house.gov 1 202 225 0600 Michael Ricci House Speaker press michael.ricci@mail.house.gov 1 202 225 0600. Access through HVC 117.

12:00 PM Dr. Phil at Congressional briefing on opioid addiction and the child welfare system – 'Dr. Phil Show' Dr. Phil McGraw briefs Members of Congress on the effects of opioid addiction on the child welfare system, and the increase of placements to the foster care system * Briefing co-hosted by several congressional caucuses including the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, Senate Caucus on Foster Youth, Congressional Social Work Caucus, Congressional Mental Health Caucus, the Congressional Crime Prevention and Youth Development Caucus, the Bipartisan Taskforce to Combat the Heroin Epidemic, and Rep. Lloyd Doggett in coordination with the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute. Location: HVC-215 Capitol Visitor Center, Washington, DC fosteryouthcaucus-karenbass.house.gov. Contacts: Carrie Kohns Office of Rep. Karen Bass 1 202 225 7084.

12:00 PM House expected to vote on Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Reduction Act – House of

Representatives meets for legislative business, with agenda expected to include completion of consideration of 'HR 5046 – Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Reduction Act of 2016' * Administration has welcomed Congressional efforts to combat the opioid epidemic but expressed concern that 'HR 5046' and related bills would do little to help without the necessary resources. Location: Washington, DC <http://www.house.gov/>. Contacts: House of Representatives Press Gallery 1 202 225 3945. 10:00 a.m. for Morning Hour debate and 12:00 p.m. for legislative business.

12:30 PM Bi-partisan group of Representatives on ISIS, Congress – Bipartisan coalition of Congressional leaders will unveil strategies to require the Constitutionally-mandated vote on an authorization for the use of military force (AUMF) against ISIL. As the NDAA and DOD Appropriations bill move to a full House debate, Members will call on Congress to actively debate the ISIL threat, the cost and consequences of war and the need for a comprehensive counter-ISIL strategy. Participants: Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA), Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC), Rep. Jim McGovern (D-MA), Rep. Scott Rigell (R-VA), Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY), Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT), Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA); et al. Location: House Triangle. Contacts: TBD. RSVP with James Lewis at james.c.lewis@mail.house.gov.

12:30 PM National Center for Policy Analysis Financial Crisis Summit – National Center for Policy Analysis Financial Crisis Summit: Can We Prevent the Next Credit Crisis?, with the NCPA Financial Crisis Initiative bringing together banking, business, and academic experts to explore the causes of the 2008 financial crisis and answer the question 'can we prevent the next credit crisis?'. Participants include Republican Rep. The Honorable Jeb Hensarling, former American Bankers Association Executive Vice President Diane Casey-Landry, American Enterprise Institute's Peter Wallison, Cato Institute's George Selgin, Arizona State University's Marianne Jennings, University of Texas at Dallas' Richard Bowen, Competitive Enterprise Institute's John Berlau, and The Citadel's Richard Ebeling. Location: Rm 2167, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC www.ncpa.org <https://twitter.com/NCPA>. Contacts: Catherine Daniell NCPA media catherine.daniell@ncpa.org 1 972 308 6479.

1:00 PM House Democrats hearing on Zika crisis funding – House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee hearing on 'The Zika Public Health Crisis: the Urgent Need for the President's Emergency Funding Request'. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Committee Co-Chairs Rosa DeLauro and Donna Edwards, Democratic Rep. Nita Lowey, and other House Democratic Caucus members hear from public health experts and community leaders – New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu, NIH National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Dr. Anthony Fauci, and CDC Principal Deputy Director Dr. Anne Schuchat. Location: HVC-210, US Capitol, Washington, DC <http://www.democraticleader.gov/> <https://twitter.com/NancyPelosi>. Contacts: Drew Hammill House Minority Leader press Democratic. Leader@mail.house.gov 1 202 226 7616. Camera crews must RSVP to Taylor Griffin at taylor.griffin@mail.house.gov.

2:00 PM House Oversight Committee hearing on Washington, DC, home rule – Hearing on 'D.C. Home Rule: Examining the Intent of Congress in the District of Columbia Home Rule Act of 1973', with testimony from Government Accountability Office Managing Associate General Counsel Edda Emmanuelli Perez; former Greenstein Delorme and Luchs partner Jacques DePuy; Council of the District of Columbia Chairman Philip Mendelson; former District of Columbia Attorney General Irvin Nathan; and Mayer Brown partner Brian Netter. Location: Rm 2154, Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://oversight.house.gov/>. Contacts: House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform 1 202 225 5074.

2:00 PM House Natural Resources subcommittee hearing on BLM draft Planning 2.0 Rules – Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee oversight hearing on 'Local and State Perspectives on BLM's Draft Planning 2.0 Rule', with testimony from Humboldt County (NV) Commissioner Jim French; Trout Unlimited Sportsman's Conservation Project Senior Policy Director Corey Fisher; and Wyoming County Commissioners Association Executive Director Pete Obermueller. Location: Rm 1324, Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, DC <http://naturalresources.house.gov> <https://twitter.com/NatResources>. Contacts: Julia Slingsby House Natural Resources Committee Press Office julia.slingsby@mail.house.gov 1 202 226 9019.

2:30 PM Dem Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee introduces 'Stop Infant Mortality and Recidivism Reduction Act of

2016' – Democratic Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee introduces 'HR 5130, the Stop Infant Mortality and Recidivism Reduction Act of 2016' via press conference with other Members of Congress, Ebony Lawson and her daughter (who was born while Ebony was a participant in the Prison Nursery Program in New York), National Organization of Women President Terry O'Neill, and International CURE President Charles Sullivan. Location: Rm 234, Cannon House Office Bldg., Washington, DC www.jacksonlee.house.gov <https://twitter.com/JacksonLeeTX18>. Contacts: Michael McQuerry Rep. Jackson Lee media Mike. McQuerry@mail.house.gov 1 202 225 7080.

3:00 PM House Rules Committee hearing – Hearing on 'S. 524 – Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016'. Location: H-313, US Capitol, Washington, DC <http://www.rules.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/RulesReps>. Contacts: House Committee on Rules. Rs@mail.house.gov 1 202 225 9191.

Other: Thursday, May. 12 Under Secretary of State Gottemoeller hosts US-China Security Dialogue – Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Rose Gottemoeller hosts the US-China Security Dialogue. Location: State Department, Washington, DC www.state.gov <https://twitter.com/StateDept>. Contacts: State Department Office of Press Relations 1 202 647 2492.

7:00 AM Enroll America State of Enrollment Conference – Enroll America third State of Enrollment Conference – 'Getting America Covered' – bringing together nearly 700 attendees from 46 states, including state and federal govt. officials, enrollment assisters, hospitals and other providers, insurers, community and faith-based organizations, and other members of the enrollment coalition to share best practices, discuss lessons learned, explore new research, hear from enrollment leaders, and plan for new challenges and opportunities. Day one includes opening plenary with Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell, Tenet Public Affairs SVP Daniel Waldmann, Enroll America Anne Filipic, former CMS Deputy Administrator Cindy Mann and Blue Shield of California SVP for Consumer and Senior Markets Ken Wood. Other speakers today include Joaquin Castro, with White House Chief of Staff Denis McDonough speaking tomorrow. Location: Renaissance Washington Hotel, 999 9th St NW, Washington, DC www.enrollamerica.org <https://twitter.com/EnrollAmerica>. Contacts: Paydon Miller Enroll America PMiller@EnrollAmerica.org 1 215 370 1960.

9:00 AM Donald Trump meets Paul Ryan, Mitch McConnell, and Reince Priebus in Washington, DC – Presumptive 2016 Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump in Washington, DC, to meet Republican Senate leaders, House Speaker Paul Ryan, and Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus * Schedule includes meetings with Speaker Ryan, House GOP leaders, and Chairman Priebus at the RNC Building, 310 1st St SE (9:00 AM EDT), and with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Senate GOP Leadership, NRSC Bldg., 425 2nd St NE (11:45 AM EDT) * A statement from Speaker Ryan's office said that he has invited Trump to 'begin a discussion about the kind of Republican principles and ideas that can win the support of the American people this November'. The invite came after Rep. Ryan said in an interview that he was 'not ready' to endorse Trump for president * Trump holds 1,135 delegates – 102 short of ensuring the Republican nomination. His victory in Indiana last week led Ted Cruz and John Kasich to drop out of the Republican presidential race. Location: Washington, DC www.donaldjtrump.com <https://twitter.com/realdonaldtrump>. Contacts: Hope Hicks Make America Great Again hhicks@donaldtrump.com 1 212 715 6785 1 203 273 0226.

10:00 AM AG Lynch speaks at DoJ Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month observance – Department of Justice annual Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month observance program, including introductory remarks from Attorney General Loretta Lynch. Location: Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC <http://www.usdoj.gov> <https://twitter.com/TheJusticeDept>. Contacts: DoJ press press@usdoj.gov 1 202 514 2007.

10:00 AM Heritage Foundation co-hosts event on the future of US-India defense cooperation – 'Helping Secure Asia's Future through Enhanced US-India Defense Partnership' event hosted by Heritage Foundation and Observer Research Foundation, examining what the future of US-India defense cooperation holds, with opening remarks from Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia Dr. Amy Searight followed by panel discussion featuring US Naval Postgraduate School Department of National Security Affairs Professor Dr. Paul Kapur, Center for Strategic and International Studies Chair in US-India Policy Studies Rick Rossow, and Heritage Foundation Asian Studies Center

Senior Fellow Lisa Curtis. Location: Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Ave NE, Washington, DC
www.heritage.org <https://twitter.com/Heritage>. Contacts: Heritage Foundation media
HeritagePress@heritage.org 1 202 675 1761.

10:00 AM Agriculture Secretary Vilsack speaks on climate-smart agriculture and forestry – Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack delivers keynote at Center for American Progress on enhancing climate-smart agriculture and forestry in US, announcing a ‘major’ new investment in conservation practices that improve soil, water, plant, animal, air, and related natural resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestlands. Followed by a panel discussion featuring Land O’Lakes President and CEO Chris Policinski, Weyerhaeuser Senior Vice President for Corporate Affairs Timothy Punke, and Environmental Defense Fund Senior Director of Agricultural Sustainability Suzy Friedman. Location: CAP, 1333 H St NW, Washington, DC www.americanprogress.org <https://twitter.com/amprog>. Contacts: Liz Bartolomeo
lbartolomeo@americanprogress.org 1 202 481 8151.

11:00 AM GOP Reps. Forbes and Goodlatte introduce VISA Act – Republican Rep. J. Randy Forbes announces introduction of the Visa Integrity & Security Act of 2016 (VISA Act), to ‘strengthen the visa process to better combat immigration fraud and future terrorist attacks’, via press conference with House Committee on the Judiciary Chairman Bob Goodlatte. Location: House Radio and Television Gallery, Washington, DC <http://forbes.house.gov> https://twitter.com/Randy_Forbes. Contacts: Hailey Sadler Office of Rep. J. Randy Forbes Hailey. Sadler@mail.house.gov 1 202 225 6365.

2:00 PM Interior Secretary Jewell at annual Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Ceremony – Department of Interior Annual Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Ceremony, held to celebrate National Police Week, with Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell among participants. Location: Bison Bistro, 1849 C St NW, Washington, DC <http://www.doi.gov> <https://twitter.com/Interior>. Contacts: Department of the Interior press
interior_press@ios.doi.gov.

6:00 PM National Center for Missing & Exploited Children Hope Awards – National Center for Missing & Exploited Children Hope Awards, honoring individuals whose efforts have contributed to making the world a safer place for children. Honorees include Facebook, Beau Biden (in memoriam), and sextortion survivor Ashley Reynolds, with guests including actor Bryan Cranston, TV host and children’s advocate John Walsh, ABC News Anchor TJ Holmes, abduction survivors Carlina White, Alicia Koazakiewicz and Katie Beers, NCMEC President and CEO John Clark and Board Chair Manus Cooney. Location: The Ritz-Carlton, 1150 22nd St NW, Washington, DC www.ncmec.org <https://twitter.com/MissingKids>. Contacts: NCMEC press media@ncmec.org 1 703 837 6111.

Last Laughs:

LATE NIGHT POLITICAL HUMOR.

Jimmy Kimmel: [Referring to Tuesday’s West Virginia Democratic presidential primary] “[Sen. Bernie] Sanders won the primary last night. For a guy with no chance of winning, he sure does seem to win a lot. He wins like every week. Hillary Clinton could lose all the remaining primaries and she’ll still get the nomination. At this point, Bernie has a better chance of being drafted by an NBA team than being the nominee.”

Jimmy Kimmel: “[Donald] Trump took time this morning to give Bernie a nickname. He tweeted, ‘I don’t want to hit Crazy Bernie Sanders too hard yet because I love what he’s doing to Crooked Hillary. His time will come.’ Now, that’s ‘Lying Ted,’ ‘Little Marco,’ and ‘Crooked Hillary’ and the new nickname, ‘Crazy Bernie.’ It’s like the Spice Girls. Everybody has a little name.”

Jimmy Kimmel: “But a lot of Republicans, including Paul Ryan, who’s the Speaker of the House, and Ted Cruz are saying they’re not ready to support Donald Trump. What do you have to do to get ready to support someone? Is it like getting bikini ready? Do you have to [be] shaved or waxed in certain places?”

Jimmy Kimmel: “A new [Public Policy Polling] poll...showed that many Trump supporters tend to believe

in conspiracy theories. Sixty-five percent of those who support Donald Trump think Obama is a Muslim. Fifty-nine percent think he was not born in the United States. Twenty-seven percent think vaccines cause autism. Twenty-four percent think Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia was murdered. And seventeen percent think he was murdered by OJ. Trump does particularly well among voters who are looking for a candidate who 'tells it like it is' and especially among voters who don't care what 'it is,' actually is."

Stephen Colbert: "Before we go any further, right off the bean, I have to take a moment right now to congratulate a friend of the show, Stephen Curry, for being named the NBA MVP. Well deserved. Because he won unanimously, all 131 votes. Yet, somehow, Hillary Clinton was still awarded half the delegates."

Stephen Colbert: "I think Steph Curry should be our next president. Think about it. He plays for the Warriors. That's military experience. He's a job creator, because it takes three people to cover him. And he's ready to debate Donald Trump, because he already has plenty of experience slamming round, orange objects."

Jimmy Fallon: "And yesterday on 'Good Morning America,' Joe Biden said that he's confident that Hillary Clinton will be the Democratic nominee. Then he said, 'Of course, I also bet against the Mighty Ducks in all three movies, so what do I know?'"

Seth Meyers: "Donald Trump won last night's Nebraska Republican primary with 61 percent of the vote, which is impressive until you remember he's the only one left running."

Seth Meyers: "Donald Trump also dominated last night's West Virginia Republican primary with 76 percent of the vote. Trump told the press that he did really well with black voters, but it turned out they were just coal miners."

Seth Meyers: "Bernie Sanders beat out Hillary Clinton in last night's West Virginia Democratic primary. Said Hillary, 'That's still going on? Oh, man!'"

Seth Meyers: "A new poll shows Hillary Clinton just one point ahead of Donald Trump nationally. And now Canada is thinking about building a wall."

Seth Meyers: "Donald Trump said this morning that he will not be changing his tone as he gears up for the general election, and said, 'You win the pennant, and now you're in the World Series. You gonna change?' Well, it depends. Did you win the pennant because you're really good or because your division stinks?"

Seth Meyers: "Donald Trump today compared his campaign rallies to Broadway theater, even though nobody who's been to one has been to the other."

Seth Meyers: "Vice President Joe Biden said in a new interview that he had initially hoped to enter the Democratic primary race, and said, 'I would have been the best president.' Which was pretty awkward, 'cause Obama was standing right there."

Seth Meyers: "Donald Trump told the Associated Press yesterday that he had whittled down his list of possible running mates to five or six people. 'Five or six people' is also the phrase Trump uses to describe his kids."

Conan O'Brien: "NASA scientists have discovered over 1,200 planets that are possibly habitable, where humans could live. In other words, if Donald Trump does become president, Canada is not your only option, ladies and gentlemen."

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