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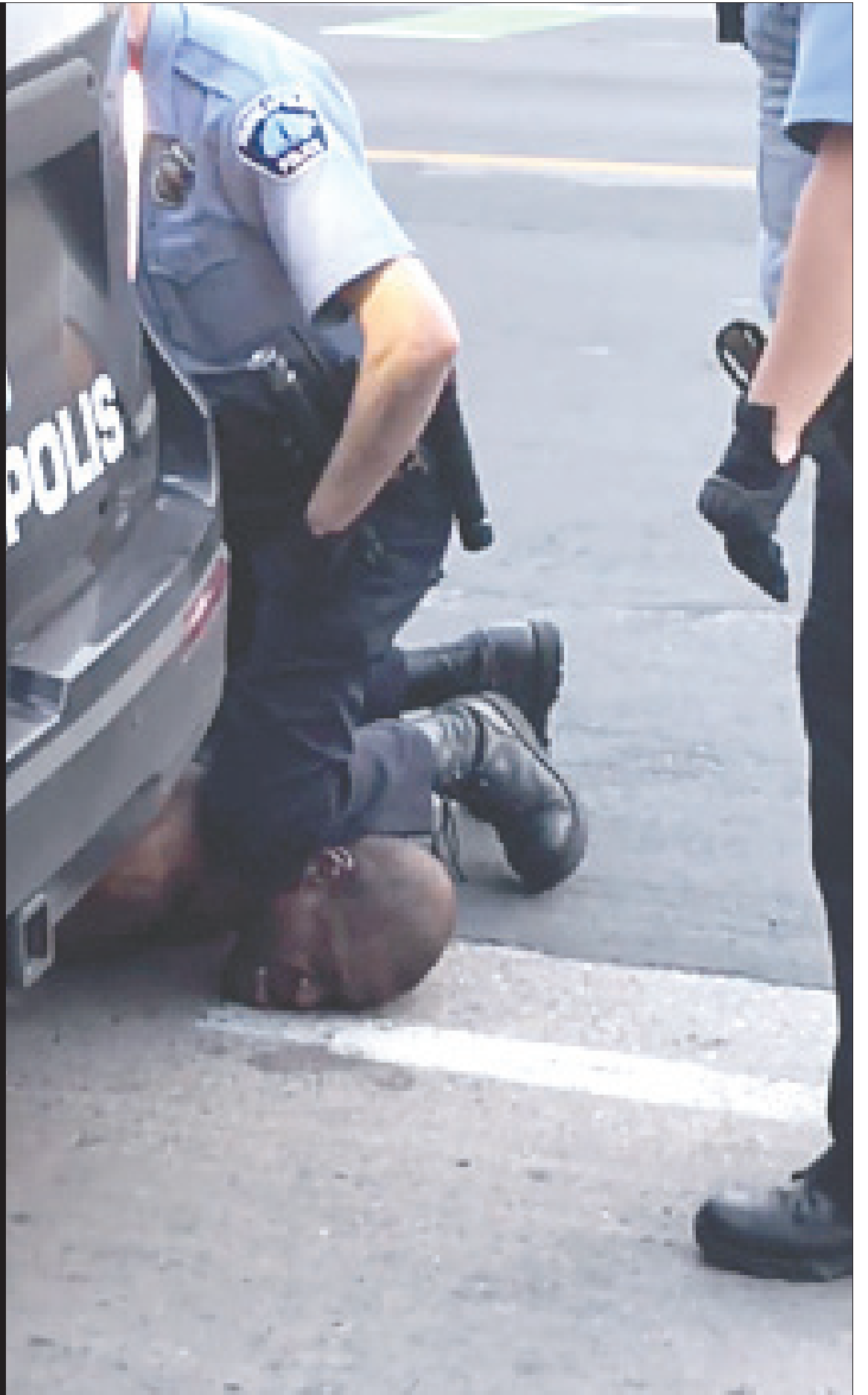
Vol. 27 • No. 21

May 28 – June 3, 2020

Once again 'I CAN'T BREATHE'

**Minneapolis
policeman keeps his
knee on the neck of a
motionless, helpless
and groaning George
Floyd, as bystanders
plead for mercy.**

A female yells,
'His nose is bleeding'
A male says,
'You're stopping his breathing'
Then finally,



'YOU JUST REALLY KILLED THAT MAN, BRO'

Millions of US farm animals to be culled by suffocation, drowning and shooting

Philadelphiaobserver.com

More than 10 million hens are estimated to have been culled due to Covid-19 related slaughterhouse shutdowns. The majority will have been smothered by a water-based foam, similar to fire-fighting foam, a method that animal welfare groups are calling “inhumane”.

The pork industry has warned that more than 10 million pigs could be culled by September for the same reason. The techniques used to cull pigs include gassing, shooting, anaesthetic overdose, or “blunt force trauma”.

In “constrained circumstances”, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), techniques [pdf] might also include a combination of shutting down pig barn ventilator

systems with the addition of CO2 so the animals suffocate.

The ‘depopulation’ comes despite food banks across the US reporting unprecedented demand and widespread hunger during the pandemic, with six-mile-long queues for aid forming at some newly set up distribution centres.

The American meat supply chain has been hit hard by the closure of slaughterhouses, due to Covid-19 infection rates among workers. 30 to 40 plants have closed, which means that in the highly consolidated US system beef and pork slaughtering capacity has been cut by 25% and 40% respectively, according to the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW).

The closures have meant that animals cannot be killed for food and many must instead be culled, or “depopulated” at home.



Almost two-thirds of new coronavirus diagnoses reported in just four countries

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Tedros Adhanom-Ghebreyesus, director-general of the World Health Organization, on Wednesday said that more cases had been reported to the agency in the last 24 hours than any time since the novel coronavirus outbreak began.

“We still have a long way to go in this pandemic,” Tedros said at a briefing in Geneva. “In the last 24 hours, there have been 106,000 cases reported to WHO – the most in a single day since the outbreak began. Almost two-thirds of these cases were reported in just four countries.”

Those four countries, WHO infectious disease epidemiologist Maria Van Kerkhove confirmed to CNN in an email, are: the United States, Russia, Brazil and India.

It is important to note: There can be delays in reporting at many points in the process, so this single-day record does not mean that these 106,000 people were infected, tested or counted in the last 24 hours.

CNN exclusively relies on Johns Hopkins University for its case and death counts, but the world’s preeminent health agency making this announcement today is newsworthy.



US travel-ban for Brazil begins

Philadelphiaobserver.com

President Donald Trump has issued a proclamation suspending entry into the US for any individual who has been in Brazil within 14 days immediately preceding their arrival.

The new travel suspension

begins May 26 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

It’s aimed at limiting the spread of coronavirus coming into the US from Brazil, the country with the second-most cases worldwide, according to Johns Hopkins University.

The proclamation reads in part, “I have determined that it is in the

interests of the United States to take action to restrict and suspend the entry into the United States, as immigrants or nonimmigrants, of all aliens who were physically present within the Federative Republic of Brazil during the 14-day period preceding their entry or attempted entry into the United States.”



CDC officials say decisions made by the White House have worsened effects of the pandemic

Philadelphiaobserver.com (CNN)

In the early weeks of the US coronavirus outbreak, staff members in the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had tracked a growing number of transmissions in Europe and elsewhere, and proposed a global advisory that would alert flyers to the dangers of air travel.

But about a week passed before

the alert was issued publicly — crucial time lost when about 66,000 European travelers were streaming into American airports every day.

The delay, detailed in documents obtained by CNN, is the latest example to emerge of a growing sense of disconnect between the CDC and the White House.

In interviews with CNN, CDC officials say their agency’s ef-

forts to mount a coordinated response to the Covid-19 pandemic have been hamstrung by a White House whose decisions are driven by politics rather than science.

The result has worsened the effects of the crisis, sources inside the CDC say, relegating the 73-year-old agency that has traditionally led the nation’s response to infectious disease to a supporting role.



Hundreds demand justice in Minneapolis after police killing of George Floyd

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Police and protesters clashed in Minneapolis on Tuesday evening following a demonstration at the intersection where George Floyd was killed in an altercation with several police officers the day before.

Hundreds of protesters gathered in the city on Tuesday evening to demand justice after Floyd, who was African American, was killed when a white Minneapolis police officer knelt on his neck as he lay on the ground during an arrest. Footage of the

incident showed Floyd shouting "I cannot breathe" and "Don't kill me!"

A large and diverse crowd had gathered at the start of the protest, with some carrying signs reading "I can't breathe" and "Jail killer KKKops" and chanting "Prosecute the police." Activists had blocked traffic for several blocks in every direction, and the crowd spilled out into the streets. News choppers hovered overhead and TV camera operators had found their way on to the roof of the building across the street from where protesters spoke.

The Twin Cities have seen several consecutive years of protests against police killings of black men, and in one case, an unarmed white Australian woman, but the gathering Tuesday was one of the largest the metro area has ever seen.

When asked why they had come, most people spoke about the need for police accountability, before inevitably turning to remembering Floyd's unheeded final pleas. "It could have been my son. It could have been me. It shouldn't be," said a protester carrying a sign saying, "Lock them up".

Norma McCorvey, plaintiff in Roe. v. Wade, said she was paid to speak against abortion

(CNN)

Norma McCorvey, the anonymous plaintiff in the 1973 US Supreme Court case Roe v. Wade, says in a new documentary that she became an anti-abortion activist because she was being paid.

The documentary "AKA Jane Roe" is set to premiere Friday on FX and gives viewers an inside look into McCorvey's journey from abortion rights plaintiff and advocate to anti-abortion campaigner.

Before her death in 2017, McCorvey told the film's director that she hadn't changed her

mind about abortion, but told the director she said what she was paid to say.

"I was the big fish," McCorvey says in the documentary. "I think it was a mutual thing. ... I took their money and they'd put me out in front of the cameras and tell me what to say."

Norma McCorvey (left) and her attorney Gloria Allred stand near the Supreme Court in 1989.

McCorvey became well-known as Jane Roe in the case that legalized abortion in the United States. She was pregnant when the case was filed and gave birth to a girl who was given up

for adoption.

In the aftermath of the case, McCorvey worked in women's clinics but switched sides in 1995. She became a Christian, joined anti-abortion activists and started an outreach group called Roe No More that was dissolved in 2008.

In the documentary, the Rev. Rob Schenck, an evangelical minister who worked closely with McCorvey, said she was "coached in what to say" and was paid because there was concern that she "would go back to the other side."

"What we did with Norma was highly unethical. The jig is up," Schenck said in the documentary.



Warren pivots on 'Medicare for All' in bid to become Biden's VP



Philadelphiaobserver.com

In the thick of primary season, Elizabeth Warren and Joe Biden brawled over "Medicare for All": He called her approach "angry," "elitist," "condescending"; she shot back, anyone who defends the health care status quo with industry talking points is "running in the wrong presidential primary."

Six months later, with Biden the presumptive Democratic nominee and Warren in the running for VP, she is striking a more harmonious chord.

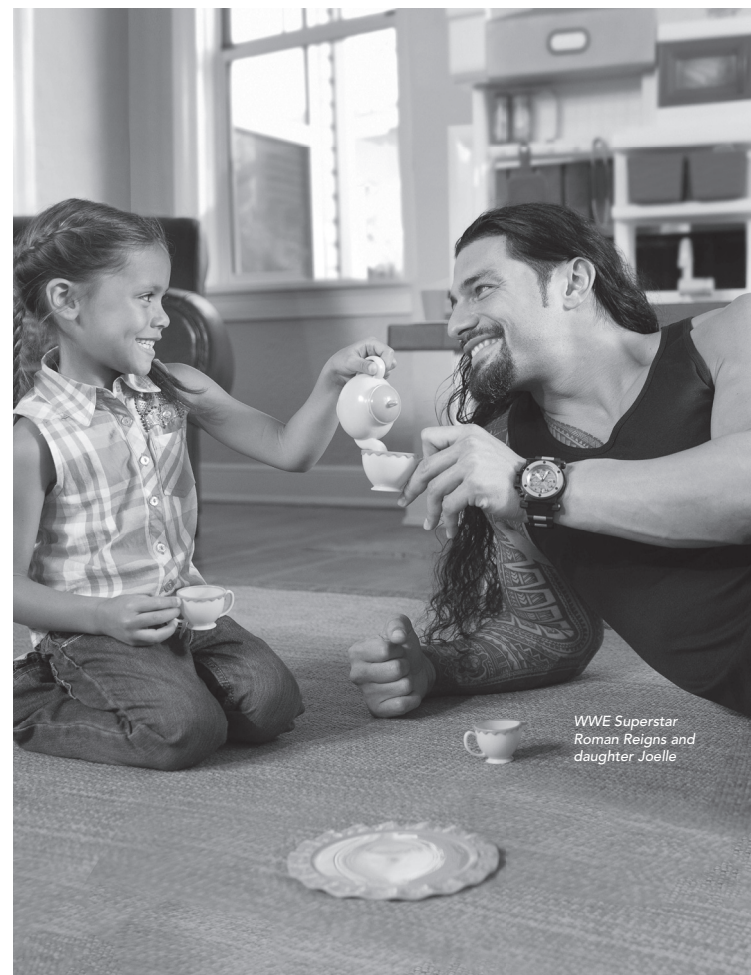
"I think right now people want to see improvements in our health care system, and that means strengthening the Affordable Care Act," she told students at the University of Chicago's Institute of Politics this week, while adding that she still wants to get to single payer eventually.

The shift is the latest public signal Warren has sent Biden's way in recent weeks that she wants the job of vice president — and wants Biden to see her as a loyal governing partner despite their past clashes, which go back decades.

Warren's policy-centered, team-player pitch is counting on Biden caring more about Jan. 20 than Nov. 3, when he makes his vice-presidential pick. In other words, that the current crisis has elevated governing concerns above political ones — and that the times call for someone with her policy chops and, yes, plans.

The Massachusetts senator has fired off a barrage of proposals as well as more than 80 Covid-19 oversight letters since January. She drew praise from Biden himself for her questioning of Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin at a Senate hearing this week. She and Biden co-wrote an op-ed focused on oversight of coronavirus relief, and one of her top policy aides recently was appointed to serve on the congressional panel charged with that work.

Warren and Biden's policy teams have also been working closely together particularly on economic policy, according to sources in both camps. Her team has distinguished itself among his advisers on that front.



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There's been a third arrest in the killing of Ahmaud Arbery

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Georgia authorities have arrested a third man in connection to the death of Ahmaud Arbery, the young black man who was shot dead in broad daylight while jogging in a white suburban neighborhood earlier this year.

On Thursday afternoon, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation announced the arrest of William "Roddie" Bryan Jr. 50, who caught the last moments of Arbery's life on his cellphone. He's being charged with felony murder and criminal attempt to commit false imprisonment.

The 30-second video taken by Bryan shows 25-year-old Arbery running down the street and encountering ex-cop Gregory McMichael, 64, and his son Travis McMichael, 34, both white. The McMichaels have claimed that they suspected Arbery of committing burglaries in the neighborhood and decided to pursue him. They claimed that Arbery attacked Travis upon confrontation, and in response, the younger McMichael opened fire, shooting him three times, twice in the chest.

The release of the video in late April sparked protests and jump-started the case, which had been stalled since February with no arrests. But as the weeks wore on, questions about Bryan's role in the shooting and calls for his arrest started to mount.

Civil rights lawyer S. Lee Merritt has argued that Bryan assisted the McMichaels in their pursuit of Arbery and "corralled" him. "We are going to continue to push for the arrest of William Bryan for recording and participating in the ambush of Ahmaud Arbery," S. Lee Merritt, one of the attorneys for Arbery's family, told CNN's Don Lemon.

But the lawyer representing Bryan says his client should be credited with drawing attention to Arbery's case through the video.

"Without Roddie Bryan, there would be no video of the shooting of Ahmaud Arbery," Kevin Gough, Bryan's lawyer, wrote in a statement, according to the New York Times. "Without that video there would be no case. Without purporting to speak for the prosecution, as that would not be my place, we believe Mr. Bryan is not just a witness for the prosecution but a key witness."

Michael Cohen to be released, will serve remaining prison time at home

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Cohen will be released on furlough while he completes the process of being moved to home confinement, the person said.

Cohen was serving a three-year sentence in New York after pleading guilty to lying to Congress, tax charges and two campaign finance charges for facilitating hush money payments to two women who alleged affairs with Trump. Trump has denied having affairs with the women.

The Wall Street Journal was first to report on Cohen's impending release. Cohen's lawyers did not respond to requests for comment.

Cohen's shift to home confinement comes as the Justice Department and the Bureau of Prisons have released scores of nonviolent and vulnerable inmates early as the pandemic grew in the corrections system. Across federal and state prisons, thousands of inmates have tested positive for the virus — many of whom showed no symptoms when they were infected.

As a result, Cohen and dozens of other inmates at Otisville were placed in quarantine after being notified that they would be released and serve the remainders of their sentences in home confinement.

Cohen had anticipated being released earlier this month but his release was delayed as the agency's conditions for early release amid the pandemic were narrowed.

The Bureau of Prisons at first released guidelines that called



for prisoners to have served at least half of their sentence to be considered for potential release.

But days later, BOP reversed that guidance, saying they would prioritize inmates for release who had served more than 50% of their sentence or have served 25% of their sentence with less than 18 months left, without making it a hard-and-fast requirement, according to an internal memo obtained by CNN.

Still, Trump had been irked by reports that Cohen was going to be released early due to the pandemic, multiple people familiar with the President's thinking previously told CNN.

Cohen had been a vocal surrogate for Trump during the 2016 presidential campaign, often sparring with reporters and appearing on television to support

his longtime client. But when pleading guilty, he implicated the President, telling a federal judge that he had made the payments "in coordination with and at the direction of" Trump, who prosecutors identified in court filings as "Individual 1."

The charges against Cohen punctuated a climactic end to a months-long investigation by the US Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, which exposed that he had acted with Trump and his allies, including David Pecker — the CEO of the National Enquirer's publisher, American Media Inc. — to suppress potentially damaging claims against the now-President.

His early release comes in the middle of Trump's reelection campaign and as the President is facing his greatest test: handling the pandemic.

10 years old, tearful, confused after a sudden deportation

Philadelphiaobserver.com

The last time Sandra Rodríguez saw her son Gerson, she bent down to look him in the eye. "Be good," she said, instructing him to behave when he encountered Border Patrol agents on the other side of the river in the United States, and when he was reunited with his uncle in Houston.

The 10-year-old nodded, giving his mother one last squinty smile. Tears caught in his dimples, she recalled, as he climbed into a raft and pushed out across the Rio Grande toward Texas from Mexico, guided by a stranger who was also trying to reach the United States.

Ms. Rodríguez expected that Gerson would be held by the Border Patrol for a few days and then transferred to a government shelter for migrant children, from which her brother in Houston would eventually be able to claim him. But Gerson seemed to disappear on the other side of the river. For six frantic days, she heard

nothing about her son — no word that he had been taken into custody, no contact with the uncle in Houston.

Finally, she received a panicked phone call from a cousin in Honduras who said that Gerson was with her. The little boy was crying and disoriented, his relatives said; he seemed confused about how he had ended up back in the dangerous place he had fled.

Parents and guidance counselors worry about young people who were already experiencing soaring rates of depression, anxiety and suicide before the pandemic.

Hundreds of migrant children and teenagers have been swiftly deported by American authorities amid the coronavirus pandemic without the opportunity to speak to a social worker or plea for asylum from the violence in their home countries — a reversal of years of established practice for dealing with young foreigners who arrive in the United States.



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Editorial

Philadelphia Observer

Old, sick and incarcerated

By Julianne Malveaux,

There were 4623 incarcerated people over 65 in federal prisons during the first week of May. Until May 12, Paul Manafort, Mr. Trump's one-time campaign manager, was one of them. The 71-year-old petitioned the court for release to home confinement because of his age, heart condition, and "fear of coronavirus." Yet the federal correctional institution that housed Manafort had no coronavirus cases, and Manafort had served fewer than two years of his more than seven-year sentence. Recently developed federal guidelines suggest at-home confinement for those at risk who have served more than half of their sentence or have less than eighteen months of jail time left to serve. Manafort meets none of these criteria, but he apparently had enough high-priced lawyers to push his case aggressively.

I'm not as outraged at Manafort's early release as I am disturbed about the other 4622 elderly inmates, most who lack the resources and access that Manafort had. Nearly forty percent

of those incarcerated in federal prisons are African American, many serving very long sentences for drug-related crimes. Many have some of the same underlying medical conditions and "fear of coronavirus" that Manafort had. How many of them will get an early release and the relative luxury of home confinement? The treatment of a wealthy, older white man and a poor, older Black man is vastly different.

Prisons are a breeding ground for the coronavirus. Prisons are overcrowded with social distancing an impossibility since an average cell, about five feet by five, does not allow six feet of distancing. Recent studies show that the COVID-19 germs from a loud conversation or a cough linger for minutes, sufficient time to infect another person. The notorious Riker's Island prison has eight times the COVID-19 infection rate of the New York City rate. Infection is not a possibility, but a near-certainty. Prison infections are so widespread that some activists describe them as "death camps."

Older people don't commit violent crimes (although they

commit financial crimes and perjury). Releasing those over 65 who were convicted of drug crimes and other nonviolent crimes saves money and has little social cost. But incarceration is an economic driver for some communities. Federal prisons employ tens of thousands of people. In some isolated communities, these prisons are a significant source of employment. Releasing prisoners early may cause layoffs. Is this why we insist on keeping so many people locked up for such long periods?

Parole was eliminated in federal prison in the mid-1980s, allowing "good behavior" only after 85 percent of a sentence has been served. But Manafort, citing "fear of coronavirus," ended up serving less than a quarter of his sentence. Can an old Black man get the Manafort treatment and serve the rest of his sentence in a cushy condo in Northern Virginia? Manafort had a lot less to fear, at his minimum-security prison, than a Black inmate might.

Other countries have reacted to coronavirus crowding by releasing inmates in the tens of thousands. According to David Anderson of

the International Legal Foundation, Iran released more than half of its prisoners – 100,000 of 189,000. Palestine is holding emergency court sessions to allow inmates to petition for release. Other countries seem to understand that COVID-19 and crowding don't work and are releasing prisoners.

Meanwhile, our country, in Anderson's words, is "addicted to punishment." In keeping nonviolent inmates incarcerated, we are "prioritizing punishment over public health." The inmates aren't the only ones at risk. Correctional officers, lawyers, and visiting family members are also vulnerable. We are so committed to getting a "pound of flesh" from those incarcerated that we refuse to consider the high costs of incarceration.

Consider the case of former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. Convicted of perjury, obstruction of justice, and other crimes, Kilpatrick was sentenced to 28 years for his crimes. He is not scheduled to be released until 2037! While Kilpatrick certainly deserved to be convicted, a 28-year sentence is excessive. Recently an inmate at his Oakdale, Louisiana prison



died from the coronavirus. I'm sure Kilpatrick is as frightened of the coronavirus as Manafort is. He is not likely to be allowed home confinement.

Unless there is intervention, Kilpatrick will be eligible for Social Security before he is released! What is the purpose of such a long sentence? How much does it cost to incarcerate someone for 28 years? Is it worth it?

The coronavirus magnified our nation's inequality. Manafort is out after less than two years' incarceration. Thousands who are old and poor remain incarcerated and vulnerable to coronavirus. Our criminal injustice system is in dire need of reform.

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I'm an NHS doctor – and I've had enough of people clapping for me

Philadelphiaobserver.com

I work for the NHS as a doctor. I don't work "on the frontline" because there isn't one; I'm not in the army and we aren't engaged in military combat. But I do work as a consultant on a ward where we have had Covid-19, and colleagues of mine have been very unwell. The requirement to be constantly vigilant and to manage the infection risk makes work more difficult, more stressful, and at times more tragic.

Obviously I carry on going to work – it is my job, one that I enjoy and am being well paid for. I am pleased to have a reason to leave the house. I have a very decent and secure income so count myself extremely lucky.

It would, however, be nice to have clarity about many things, from testing to isolation to proper

use of personal protective equipment (PPE). It would also be nice to have worked for the past 10 years in an adequately funded NHS, staffed by people listened to by the government. It would be nice to see appropriate remuneration for the low-paid staff holding the service together, to see that the value of immigrants to the NHS is appreciated, and to have a health service integrated with a functioning social care service.

What I don't find nice, and I really don't need, is people clapping. I don't need rainbows. I don't care if people clap until their hands bleed with rainbows tattooed on their faces. I don't even (whisper it) need Colonel Tom, lovely man as he clearly is.

I know many of my colleagues appreciate the clapping, saying that they feel moved and grateful, that the coming together of



the community to support the NHS warms the heart. There are others, like me, whose response is that it is a sentimental distraction from the issues facing us.

Even those who liked it at the beginning are becoming wary of the creeping clapping fascism, the competition to make the most obvious and

noisiest display, the shaming of non-clappers. Some argue that it unites us, that we're all in this together. But when, for whatever complex reasons, we hear that poorer areas have double the death rate, with people from ethnic minorities disproportionately affected, I think: are we really in this together? Maybe

people should clap a bit louder in inner-city Birmingham than in Surrey.

Are we still allowed to complain about poor resources and potentially unsafe working conditions now we've had clapping, rainbows, free doughnuts and a centenarian walking round his garden for us? How dare we?



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On the scene

By Audrey J. Bernard

Geoffrey Mac wins Bravo's Project Runway Season 18th



Project Runway judges: (L-R) Christian Siriano, Serena Williams, Karlie Kloss, Nina Garcia, Elaine Welteroth, Brandon Maxwell

Bravo's Project Runway is the premium fashion show that viewers tune into weekly to see "aspiring fashion designers compete for a chance to break into

the industry in this reality competition. Each week, a designer is eliminated from the competition after exhibiting their work in front of a judges' panel consisting of

host **Karlie Kloss**, judges **Nina Garcia, Elaine Welteroth**, and **Brandon Maxwell** and fashion designer and mentor **Christian Siriano** who gives the designers



advice during each show. And, after weeks of grueling fashion contests in which a designer is eliminated and the remaining designers go on to the next round, **Geoffrey Mac** emerged as the 2020 winner of Bravo's Project Runway. With his win, the fashion designer takes home a \$250,000 cash prize, his very own feature in ELLE magazine, a career-changing mentorship with the Council of Fashion Designers of America (CFDA), and another \$50,000 courtesy of sponsor Pilot FriXion Erasable Gel Ink Pens. The final show was a real cliffhanger with the final four contestants — **Guadarrama, Mac, Nancy Volpe-Beringer, Victoria Cocieru** — still in the running to advance to New York Fashion

Week and ultimately take home the quarter-million dollar prize and CFDA mentorship. And after a jaw-dropping final show, Mac was crowned the actual winner of "Project Runway" Season 18. In the finale, guest judge **Serena Williams** praised the designer's jackets, revealing her love for all things outerwear despite, while Welteroth went wild over his oversized, Rick Owens-esque pieces. The best feedback however came from his father, whose career in the military served as inspiration for Mac in the competition. Mac told Siriano that he would be taking a much-needed break before building his brand and establishing his label. *(Photos courtesy Bravo)*



Geoffrey Mac wins Project Runway 2020





Bruno Mars and his band were in the midst of a Las Vegas residency at the MGM Park Theater when operations were shuttered because of the coronavirus pandemic. Bruno Mars has pledged \$1 million to MGM employees amid the coronavirus outbreak. (AP Photo-Paul Sancya)

Bruno Mars supports MGM employees

One of the hottest acts in Las Vegas is **Bruno Mars** and his band! Mars who has performed limited shows at The Park Theater at Park MGM since 2016 is giving back to the city he performs in by donating \$1 million to the MGM Resorts Foundation to support MGM employees impacted economically by the coronavirus. "With the closures across Las Vegas, Bruno wanted to show his appreciation to the amazing employees who help make these shows possible in hopes that we'll all be out of this situation and having fun together again very soon," stated a rep for Mars. "With the closures across Las Vegas, Bruno wanted to show his appreciation to the amazing employees who help make these shows possible in hopes that we'll

all be out of this situation and having fun together again very soon." The money will go toward The MGM Resorts Foundation's Employee Emergency Grant Fund & Children's Medical Support Fund, which helps employees who have been laid off or furloughed due to the coronavirus crisis. "We consider Bruno Mars as part of the MGM family and appreciate what he is doing to help our employees and their families during these uncertain times," said **Bill Hornbuckle**, Acting CEO and President of MGM Resorts International. "We recently expanded the eligibility requirements for the fund to help as many employees as we can who are impacted by the crisis, and this donation will help us expand our reach even further."

Stephen and Ayesha Curry donate food to schools

The Golden State Warriors point guard **Stephen Curry** and his wife, **Ayesha Curry** are providing more than one million meals to students in Oakland, California who cannot attend schools because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The popular couple's Eat. Learn. Play. Foundation have partnered with the Alameda County Community Food Bank and Oakland Unified School District on the initiative. "We know the world is changing before our eyes in terms of dealing with the spread of coronavirus and we just found out that the Oakland Unified School District is closing the doors for the foreseeable future, so we want to intercede on behalf of the kids that rely

on the daily services and try to help anyway we can," Steph said. "The statistics are really staggering. At least 18,000 kids rely on at least two meals a day from the school system, so we want to make sure that we rally around everyone and ensure that these kids are not wondering where their next meal is coming from," Ayesha added. The rest of the Warriors have also pledged a \$1 million donation to a disaster relief fund for Chase Center employees who won't be working games due to the suspension of the NBA season over the coronavirus spread. The suspension is having a big impact on the pay of thousands of hourly employees at basketball arenas across the country.



Stephen Curry and Ayesha Curry



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Health

Howard University opens free COVID-19 testing site for underserved communities

Philadelphiaobserver.com

The coronavirus pandemic has disproportionately affected the Black community and Howard University is stepping up to ensure that vulnerable groups in Washington, D.C. have access to adequate testing and resources amid the public health crisis. The historically Black university recently opened a free COVID-19 testing site to provide health care for individuals living in underserved communities, the institution reported.

The implementation of the testing clinic—located in Northeast Washington, D.C.—was a collaborative effort led by the HBCU and Bank of America. The financial institution awarded the Howard University Faculty Practice Plan with a \$1 million grant to further the school's mission of making coronavirus testing accessible to communities that have been hit the hardest by the pandemic. The testing site, which officially opened on May 5 and will operate for the next three months, is located at the Benning Road Center. Free testing is available four days a week.

Dr. Hugh E. Mighty, who serves as Howard University's vice president of clinical affairs, says the effort is designed to eliminate socio-economic barriers surrounding access to health care for diverse communities. "We want to eliminate the obstacles so more people can be tested because we believe everyone should be tested," he said in a statement. "We want to screen our community neighbors in the areas where there are higher incidents of hypertension, heart disease and diabetes because those pre-existing conditions are linked to the higher incidents of coronavirus that we've seen in African American communities." Howard University President Wayne A. I. Frederick added the clinic will be instrumental in significantly reducing the spread of COVID-19 among vulnerable communities.



Today @HUprez17 and @MayorBowser gathered at the new Benning Road Clinic COVID-19 testing site to announce its expansion to 4 days a week. Armstrong Williams, founder of Howard Stirk Holdings Broadcast and Capital Medical Supply, Inc. donated 30,000 masks. [https://newsroom.howard.edu/newsroom/article/12516/president-wayne-i-frederick-an ...](https://newsroom.howard.edu/newsroom/article/12516/president-wayne-i-frederick-an...)



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On the run Rwanda genocide suspect nabbed in French hideout



(GIN) –

Twenty-six years after financing the Rwandan genocide, wealthy businessman and most wanted fugitive, Felicien Kabuga, was nabbed in an upscale French hideout.

It was a relief for prosecutors of the Rwandan Genocide tribunal who feared the 84 year old Kabuga could die a free man. He stands accused of masterminding the slaughter of 800,000 Rwandans, mainly minority Tutsis but also political opponents among the Hutus, over a period of 100 days, from April to July 1994, in a murderous campaign of ethnic violence.

Clues to Kabuga's whereabouts came to light after an intelligence-sharing meeting between investigators from France,

Britain and Belgium, as well as the UN and Europe's Europol law enforcement agency. "We realized... that the trail from his children protecting their father converged on Asnières-sur-Seine, where he lived under an assumed name," said Col. Eric Emeraux, head of a French police unit combating crimes against humanity.

"We also discovered one of his children was renting an apartment there."

Because the coronavirus lockdown had paralyzed many intelligence operations across parts of Europe, time was freed up to focus on the man accused of being the economic backer of the genocide.

A former tea and coffee tycoon with 28 known aliases, Mr. Kabuga is alleged to have used his personal fortune to buy pro-

tection from a corrupt official in the office of Kenyan president Daniel arap Moi.

The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda said it had evidence that Mr Kabuga either visited or resided in Kenya, but successive Kenyan governments allegedly refused to hand over the wanted suspect.

"We need to know the story of his life as a fugitive, who helped and protected him, his connections to the wider diaspora and the role of his children — all this might be a by-product of the trial," said British journalist Linda Melvern.

Called the "preventable genocide", the killings in Rwanda exposed a "disgraceful" failure of the international community as the U.N. ordered its blue helmeted troops to evacuate foreigners — but not intervene to save the Tutsis from slaughter.

Kabuga, now confined to La Sante Prison in central Paris, appeared this week in court in a wheelchair, dressed in jeans and wearing a face mask. Prosecutors are seeking his transfer to U.N. custody for trial in international courts.

After his arrest Valerie Mukabayire, the leader of the Rwanda widows' group Avega, told the BBC: "Every genocide survivor is happy he is arrested. Everyone has been waiting for this news. It is a good thing that he is going to face justice."



Shakespeare's Globe theater faces permanent closure due to Covid-19 lockdown

(CNN) —

William Shakespeare's Globe theater, the famous London playhouse where the playwright's shows were performed, faces permanent closure as a result of coronavirus lockdown measures, the theater and UK politicians have warned.

Lawmakers on Monday warned the UK government that the historic theater — which has been closed since March due to coronavirus restrictions — was faced with "insolvency and closure" as a result of Covid-19 lockdown's impact on its finances.

The original Globe theater was

built by Shakespeare's company, the Lord Chamberlain's Men, in 1599, but was destroyed by fire in 1613.

Audience members watch a production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in Shakespeare's Globe theatre on the Southbank of the River Thames on July 16, 2013 in London, England.

A replica of the playhouse was built in 1997 just meters from the original site on the banks of the River Thames, with historical records used for guidance.

The theater is almost identical in appearance to the original, but with modern features such as a concrete theater pit and roof-based sprinklers.

UN leader calls for global ceasefire on Africa Day

(GIN) –

Africa Day will go virtual this year with a star-studded benefit concert hosted by English actor Idris Alba, an online how-to video for jollof rice, and a U.N. call for a global ceasefire issued by the Secretary General, Antonio Guterres.

African countries have "demonstrated commendable leadership" battling the COVID-19 pandemic, he said in a Monday message, "but more nations across the continent where conflict prevails should heed the UN call for a global ceasefire to push back the deadly virus."

Africa Day is observed annually on May 25 to commemorate the founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which was created on May 25, 1963 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The OAU is the precursor of the African Union (AU) and is observed as an official national holiday in Ghana, Gambia, Guinea, Namibia, Zambia, Mali, Mauritania, Lesotho and Zimbabwe.

Besides celebrating Africa's decolonization, Africa Day is also a time of sober reflection on how African countries can consolidate peace and democracy on the continent.



Africa faces a myriad of daunting challenges that seek solutions.

The U.N. leader welcomed support for his global ceasefire call which reflects the African Union's 2020 theme: "Silencing the Guns: Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development."

"Armed groups in Cameroon, Sudan and South Sudan have responded to the call and declared unilateral ceasefires. I implore other armed movements and governments in Africa to do likewise," he said.

"I also welcome the support of African countries for my call for peace in the home, and an end to all forms of violence, including against women and girls."

A musical extravaganza — online-hosted by Idris Elba and Trevor Noah is intended to raise funds for the World Food Program and the Unicef response to Covid-19 in Africa. Stars include: Angélique Kidjo, Burna Boy, Salif Keita, Davido, Tiwa Savage, Fally Ipupa, Diamond Platnumz and Sauti Sol.

Finally, a mouth-watering how-to video by Vongai Mapfo — a self-described Shona girl — shows YouTube viewers how to make jollof rice for Africa Day and the whole family.

Comments include this from Olive Rooney: "im deff going to ask my mom to make this.. it looks nice!"

Koalas headed for 'local extinction' at planned NSW Shenhua coalmine site

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Koalas on the site of the planned Shenhua Watermark coalmine in New South Wales are heading towards local extinction "even before the mine commences", according to company documents.

Meeting minutes for the mine's koala technical working group say there has been a steep drop in koala populations at the mine site in the Liverpool Plains.

Experts who sit on the working group have raised concerns the clearing of habitat for the project will accelerate this decline at a time when the species is under pressure as a result of bushfires, drought and chlamydia.

The Environmental Defenders Office has written to the state government on behalf of the Lock the Gate Alliance, asking it to suspend the approvals process for Shenhua's koala management plan because the full impact of the project on the threatened species "cannot be adequately assessed" until the damage to koala populations and habitat in NSW caused by the bushfires is fully understood.

The EDO has also asked the federal environment minister, Sus-



san Ley, to use her powers to step in for other threatened species, including the regent honeyeater and the swift parrot, both of which lost habitat in the fires and were species considered in the original federal assessment of the mine.

Site of planned Hunter coal plant is endangered bird's only NSW breeding area

But Ley has no power in relation to the koala because it was not listed as a threatened species under national environment law when the project was declared a controlled action that required federal environmental approval in late 2011. The koala was listed as a vulnerable species just four months later.

Culture

Former White House butler who served 11 presidents dies of coronavirus

Philadelphiaobserver.com

A former White House employee who worked with 11 presidents from Dwight Eisenhower to Barack Obama died over the weekend after contracting the coronavirus. He was 91.

Wilson Roosevelt Jerman, who appeared alongside the Obamas in a photograph published in former first lady Michelle Obama's bestselling memoir "Becoming," retired in 2012 following 55 years of service.

He began his White House career in 1957 as a cleaner, gaining promotion to the role of butler during the Kennedy administration, his granddaughter, Jamila



Jerman just chill'in

Garrett, told FOX 5 DC on Wednesday.

Garrett described her grandfather as a "loving and genuine man" who was "always about service" and "really authentic."

The father of five "always taught us that there will be obstacles in your life, they will not disappear," Garrett added, noting his advice to "keep pushing forward."



Jerman with the Obamas



Jerman with family

Howard University graduate becomes Air Force Thunderbirds' first Black female officer

Philadelphiaobserver.com

With the coronavirus pandemic taking over all aspects of our lives, the country has been using several methods to show our appreciation to front line healthcare workers and associates. The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds are doing their part by performing flyovers to honor these workers during the coronavirus pandemic.

According to NBC 4 Washington, one of the team's newest members is a Howard University graduate and its first black female officer.

This year is Captain Reemashay Nelson's first season with the squadron. The regular shows have temporarily been placed on hold due to the coronavirus pandemic, but the Thunderbirds have been conducting flyovers across D.C., Baltimore, and Atlanta to pay special tribute to people on the front lines battling the pandemic.

"I know a small percentage of African American officers, specifically female officers in the Air Force. So to be in a position that is visible, to show little girls that this is attainable, to let them know they can do anything they put their mind to, is an absolute honor," Nel-

son tells NBC 4 Washington.

Nelson has spent eight years in the Air Force, serving mostly overseas. She says her best decision was the chance to attend Howard University.

"To be around people who look like me and instill a self-confidence in who I am, and walk into the world knowing where I come from, and where we can go, is invaluable," Nelson said.

Nelson's position is a highly selective one. She is only one of 12 Thunderbirds. Since the team's inception in 1953, only 332 officers have made the cut.



Breast Cancer Research Foundation raises over \$5.2 million

Nile Rodgers and CHIC's exhilarating performance of "We Are Family" rocked viewers as they closed out the evening at the Virtual Hot Pink Party to benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF) on Wednesday, May 20, 2020. The first-ever Virtual Hot Pink Party raised more than \$5.2 million to support BCRF's global legion of leading scientists pursuing high-impact breast cancer research that is saving lives — even in the midst of the current global crisis as breast cancer does not stop for COVID-19!

The inaugural Virtual Hot Pink Party was live-stream providing the chic crowd with a very special viewing experience. The virtual platform brought comfort to generous donors who support BCRF's vital work star-studded program raised funds for life-saving research will not be put off for any reason. BCRF is the highest rated breast cancer organization in the U.S. Visit www.bcrf.org to learn more.

The excellent program opened with **Norbert Leo Butz** singing "Something's Coming" from *West Side Story* followed by a stunning Broadway tribute to breast cancer survivor and current *Hamilton* star **Mandy Gonzalez** that featured **Lin-Manuel Miranda, Laura Benanti, Krysta Rodriguez, Tituss Burgess, Tommy Kail, Alex Lacamoire, Judy Kuhn, James Monroe Iglehart, Sierra Boggess**, and many more friends and cast members from *In The Heights*. Gonzalez herself offered a stunning performance of "Breathe" from *In The Heights*.

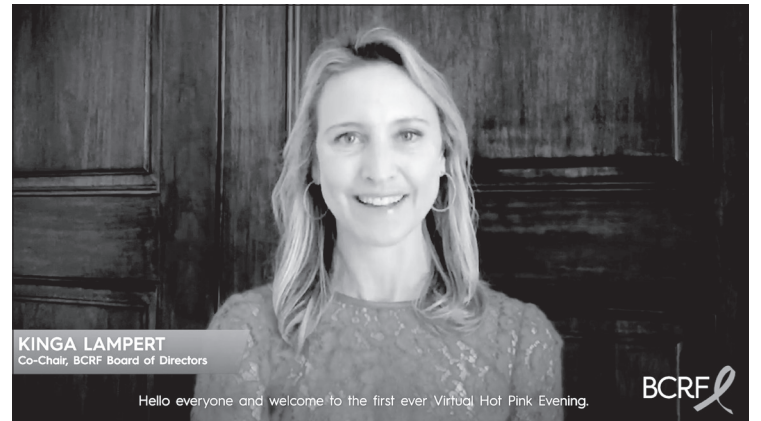
Rachael Ray celebrated her friend **Gretta Monahan**, who was diagnosed with breast cancer one year ago with a heartfelt message: "When I was a young woman, 'breast cancer' were the two scariest words a woman could hear because there was so little hope and now there's so much hope. I know that because of my friend Gretta. She shared her entire experience so that every woman could know, step by step, what she was going through as it was happening. I applaud her in every way there is."

Professional ballet dancer **Maggie Kudirka**, who is currently undergoing treatment for stage IV metastatic breast cancer shared, "I'm that one woman in a hundred thousand to be diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer before the age of twenty-five. Since the COVID crisis occurred, cancer patients got a new, new normal," said Kudirka as she described her experience. "We as a community are in uncharted waters and we'll get through this together."

The star-studded program also featured a special message from **Sir Elton John**. "I'm always honored to support the incredible work of BCRF," said Sir John to attendees. "Until the day that we can all celebrate the end of breast cancer, I want you to know, I stand with all of you. For all those treating patients, caring for a loved one who is sick, grieving for someone



Myra Biblowit, President & CEO, BCRF



Kinga Lampert, Co-Chair, BCRF Board of Directors



Nile Rodgers performs

who has left us too soon, or valiantly fighting the disease, you are not alone. Stay strong. We are in this together."

The program also included appearances by **Elizabeth Hurley, Karlie Kloss, Edie Falco, Rachael Ray, Gretta Monahan, Amy Robach, Joan Lunden, Deborah Norville, Anne Thompson**, and many more. **Steven Tabakin** served as director and executive producer of the program.

Judy and Leonard A. Lauder and Anthony von Mandl served

as Honorary Co-Chairs for the evening. Kinga Lampert and Aerin Lauder were Lead Co-Chairs. Event Co-Chairs included Sandra Brant, Patsy and Patrick Callahan, Cindy and Rob Citrone, Mary-Ann and Fabrizio Freda, Roslyn Goldstein, Marjorie Reed Gordon, Dee and Tommy Hilfiger, Donna Karan, Shelly and Howard Kivell, Terri and Jerry Kohl, Michael Kors, Jane Lauder, Jo Carole and Ronald S. Lauder, Laura and Gary Lauder, Lori Kanter Tritsch and William P. Lauder, Adrienne and Dan Lufkin, Patricia Quick, Bryan Rafanelli, Lois Robbins and Andrew Zaro, John Rosenwald, Jeanne Sorensen Siegel and Herbert J. Siegel, Arlene Taub, Lizzie and Jonathan Tisch, Ingrid Vandebosch and Jeff Gordon, Vera Wang, Candace King Weir, and Nina and Gary Wexler.

The event's Underwriters included ascena retail group inc., Kinga and Edward Lampert, and von Mandl Family Foundation; Benefactors included Firmenich, Roslyn & Leslie Goldstein, Hearst, and Leonard & Judy Lauder Fund; Visionaries included Jody & John Arnhold, The Estée Lauder Companies Inc., Kendra Scott, Terri and Jerry Kohl, William P. Lauder & Lori Kanter Tritsch, Lufkin Family Foundation, Rafanelli Events, Jeanne Sorensen Siegel



(L-R) Sierra Boggess, Krystal Joy Brown, and Aubin Wise perform



(L-R) James Monroe Iglehart and Tituss Burgess perform

& Herbert J. Siegel, Marilyn & Jim Simons, and Candace King Weir. **(Screensgrab images by Getty Images for BCRF)**



Mandy Gonzalez and the Broadway Company of "In The Heights" perform

Reel

Discover the secrets that set Shaker Heights ablaze: Kerry Washington and Reese Witherspoon star in 'Little Fires Everywhere'



"Little Fires Everywhere" producers & stars Reese Witherspoon, Kerry Washington



Scene from "Little Fires Everywhere" with Kerry Washington, Reese Witherspoon

Hulu's original series, "Little Fires Everywhere," available now on Digital platforms which features deleted scene from Episode 2. Based on **Celeste Ng's** 2017 bestseller, "Little Fires Everywhere" follows the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and an enigmatic mother and daughter who upend their lives. The story explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, the ferocious pull of motherhood – and the danger in believing that following the rules can avert disaster. The cast includes **Reese Witherspoon** (Elena Richardson), **Kerry Washington** (Mia Warren), **Joshua Jackson** (Bill Richardson),

Rosemarie DeWitt (Linda McCullough), **Jade Pettyjohn** (Lexie Richardson), **Jordan Elsass** (Trip Richardson), **Gavin Lewis** (Moody Richardson), **Megan Stott** (Izzy Richardson), **Lexi Underwood** (Pearl Warren), and **Huang Lu** (Bebe Chow). The series is produced by Reese Witherspoon's Hello Sunshine, Kerry Washington's Simpson Street and ABC Signature Studios, a part of Disney Television Studios. Hello Sunshine and ABC Signature served as studio co-production partners on the project. **Liz Tigelaar** (Life Unexpected, Casual) is creator, showrunner and executive producer. The series is also executive produced by

Reese Witherspoon, Kerry Washington, **Lauren Neustadter**, **Pilar Savone** and **Lynn Shelton**. Author **Celeste Ng** serves as producer. (Photos courtesy Disney)

About Disney Media Distribution:

Disney Media Distribution is a business unit within Disney's Direct-to-Consumer and International (DTCI) segment that manages content licensing and marketing for domestic multichannel subscription distribution; global direct-to-consumer platform content distribution; broadcast licensing for local ABC stations; global syndication of television and film studio content; and in-home content through digital platforms, multichannel distributors and physical retail sales. Media distribution operations deliver an extensive portfolio of content from The Walt Disney Studios, Walt Disney Television



Scene from "Little Fires Everywhere" with Kerry Washington, Lexi Underwood

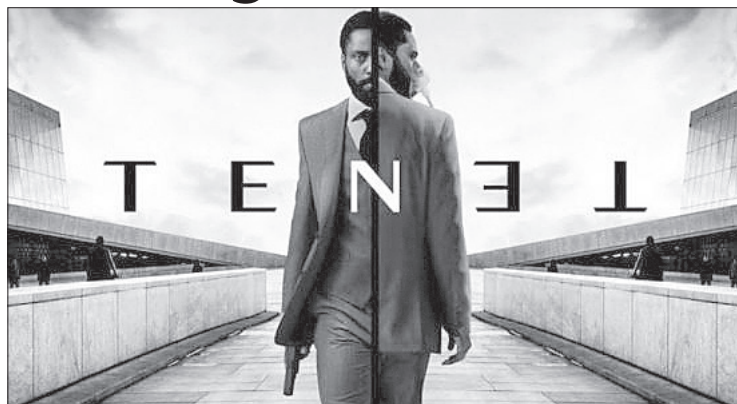
and ESPN. It also operates Movies Anywhere, the only app that brings purchased digital movie collections together from across digital platforms.



The kids of "Little Fires Everywhere"

John David Washington stars in international caper, 'Tenet'

Warner Bros. Pictures presents **Christopher Nolan's** highly anticipated movie "Tenet" written and directed by Nolan and **Mike Jones** and produced by **Emma Thomas** and **Christopher Nolan** and executive produced by **Thomas Hayslip**. The action epic evolves from a world of international espionage and unfolds in something beyond real-time. Armed with only one word – Tenet – and fighting for the survival of the entire world, the Protagonist (John David Washington) journeys through a twilight world of international espionage on a mission that will unfold in something beyond real-time. Nolan utilizes a mixture of IMAX® and 70mm film to bring the story to the screen. "Tenet" was filmed on location across seven countries. The international cast is led by **John David Washington** with **Robert Pattinson**, **Elizabeth Debicki** and **Michael Caine** along with **Kenneth Branagh**, **Aaron Taylor-Johnson**, **Clémence Poésy**, **Fiona Dourif**, **Himesh Patel**, **Martin Donovan**, **Andrew Howard**, **Carina Velva**, and **Yuri Kolokolnikov**. Nolan's behind-the-scenes creative team includes director of photography



John David Washington stars in "Tenet"



John David Washington in Scene from "Tenet"



Scene from "Tenet" with John David Washington, Robert Pattinson



Scene from "Tenet" with John David Washington, Robert Pattinson

Hoyle van Hoytema, production designer **Nathan Crowley**, editor **Jennifer Lame**, costume designer **Jeffrey Kurland**, vi-

sual effects supervisor **Andrew Jackson**, and special effects supervisor **Scott Fisher**. The score is composed by **Ludwig**

Göransson. Warner Bros. Pictures presents a Syncopy Production, a Film by Christopher Nolan, "Tenet." Warner Bros. Pictures is distrib-

uting "Tenet" worldwide and has slated the film for a **July 17, 2020** release. (Photos courtesy Warner Bros.)

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Sports

Big Fella fights Covid19

By Andrew Rosario

The death count from the Coronavirus/Covid19 pandemic will reach more than 100,000 very soon. It has taken the lives of the young, old, rich, poor and individuals who for the most part have led a very healthy life. The major sports teams are still trying to figure out when they resume (if they do) their seasons. As the weather begins to get warmer, people are gathering outdoors in parks, beaches and boardwalks. Some are practicing social distancing and wearing masks. Other aren't as seen from this past Memorial Day weekend.

It was revealed last week the New York Knicks and Georgetown University legend Patrick Ewing was diagnosed with Covid19. Ewing had to spend the weekend in the hospital but fortunately was released this past weekend. Patrick Ewing, Jr released a statement saying, "I want to thank all of the doc-

tors and hospital staff for taking care of my father during his stay, as well as everyone who has reached out with thoughts and prayers to us and since his diagnosis."

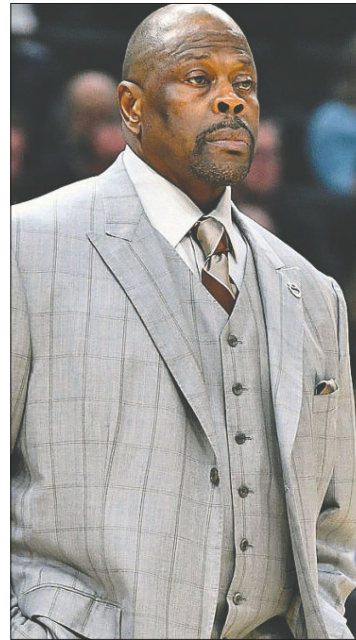
Patrick Ewing's days at Georgetown and as a member of the New York Knicks have been well documented. He won a college championship under head coach John Thompson and went to the NBA Finals against the Houston Rockets and San Antonio Spurs only to come up short. The battles between the Knicks and Chicago Bulls were epic. For 6 of 7 years. Michael Jordan was Patrick and the Knicks main nemesis.

As Patrick Ewing's career was coming to an end, it was clear it would not end in New York. Management and Ewing could not resolve their differences and in 2000 he was traded to the Seattle SuperSonics. In 2001, Ewing returned to MSG and was given a video tribute to a standing ovation that seemed to last forever. Scoring 12 points in

32 minutes, his revenge fell short as they lost 101-92. Ewing went on to play two more years with Orlando and Washington before retiring in 2002.

Wanting to stay in the game, Ewing would be an assistant coach for the Houston Rockets and Orlando Magic as they advanced to the NBA Finals only to lose to the Los Angeles Lakers. The then Charlotte Bobcats hired Ewing as an assistant in 2013 becoming interim head coach for the remainder of the season as head coach Steve Clifford underwent heart surgery.

Frustrated at not being given an opportunity to get a NBA head coaching job, Ewing decided to return to his Alma Mater as head coach of Georgetown. 2017 saw the Hoyas go 15-15, 5-13 in the Big East and did not make the NIT or NCAA postseason. Georgetown improved the following year going finishing 19-14, 9-9 in the Big East leading to a NIT berth. This past March, after getting out to



Ewing Home After Covid19
Photo: Special to the NY Beacon

a big lead in the first game of the Big East tournament against St. John's, they collapsed watching the Johnnies score 23 straight

points in the 75-62 loss. The next day, after the first half of the St. John's, Creighton game, the tournament and the NCAA (March Madness) was cancelled due to the pandemic. The NBA cancelled all games the night before with the NHL following shortly.

Sports is slowly coming back. Baseball is being played in Asia. Soccer in Europe, Nascar in Charlotte. Golf took place this past weekend as Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson, Peyton Manning and Tom Brady raised \$20 million for the Covid19 relief fund. All events without fans in attendance.

MLB, NHL and the NFL are still figuring out how they will get their leagues going with some MLB and NBA teams opening their facilities for practices.

The New York Times recently published all of the names of the individuals who have succumbed to the Coronavirus/Covid19 pandemic. Fortunately, Hall of Famer Patrick Ewing was not on the list.



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