

# The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

SU V1 V2 V3 V4



Snow, windy 32/21 • Tomorrow: Mostly sunny 41/24 B10

Democracy Dies in Darkness

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2017 • \$2

## An abrupt welcome back to winter



KATHERINE FREY/THE WASHINGTON POST

Danielle Disney, who flew back from a Caribbean vacation just as the storm hit, shovels her neighbor's steps as Miles Penn, 2½, and Patti Hanan watch her from their windows in Frederick, Md. The D.C. area was blanketed in snow but avoided the walloping the Northeast received. Story, B1. To view a gallery of photos, go to [wapo.st/winter-storm](http://wapo.st/winter-storm).

## Retired admiral is charged in Navy bribery probe

5 other former high-level officers are arrested in 'Fat Leonard' case

BY CRAIG WHITLOCK

The Justice Department unsealed a fresh indictment Tuesday charging eight Navy officials — including an admiral — with corruption and other crimes in

the "Fat Leonard" bribery case, escalating an epic scandal that has dogged the Navy for four years.

Among those charged were Rear Adm. Bruce Loveless, a senior Navy intelligence officer who recently retired from a key job at the Pentagon, as well as four retired Navy captains and a retired Marine colonel. The charges cover a period of eight years, from 2006 through 2014.

The Navy personnel are accused of taking bribes in the form

of lavish gifts, prostitutes and luxury hotel stays courtesy of Leonard Glenn "Fat Leonard" Francis, a Singapore-based defense contractor who has pleaded guilty to defrauding the Navy of tens of millions of dollars.

The indictment lists page after page of bribes allegedly provided to the defendants including \$25,000 watches, \$2,000 boxes of Cohiba cigars, \$2,000 bottles of cognac and \$600-per-night hotel rooms.

According to the charging doc-

uments, Francis also frequently sponsored wild sex parties for many officers assigned to the USS Blue Ridge, the flagship of the Navy's 7th Fleet, and other warships.

During a port visit by the Blue Ridge to Manila in May 2008, for example, five of the Navy officers attended a "raging multi-day party, with a rotating carousel of prostitutes," at the Shangri-La Hotel, according to the indictment. The group allegedly drank

NAVY CONTINUED ON A2

## Burgers with a side of division

In Germany, a Trump supporter's restaurant is shunned by the left, then embraced by the right

BY ANTHONY FAIOLA

BERLIN — In Germany, he was a California boy made good — a 29-year-old from Fresno whose thriving burger joint in the western city of Essen served up towering plates of greasy American goodness.

Then Nicholas Smith came out on national television as a Trump fan.

What followed — a de facto boycott of his restaurant, followed by its surprise rescue by the German right — suggests how the polarization of the Trump era has gone global.

"I was trying to make a business work," Smith said. "But then it became just about my politics."

Far beyond the United States, President Trump is emerging as a symbol of ideological division. In international right-wing circles, he is becoming as worthy an idol as Russian President Vladimir Putin.

But particularly in places like Europe, where a certain brand of anti-Americanism often lingers just below the surface, Trump's rise has also stirred deep animosity along

GERMANY CONTINUED ON A16



ALEXANDRA ROTH

Nicholas Smith owns Gringo's California Kitchen in Essen, Germany. "I was trying to make a business work," he said. "But then it became just about my politics."

## Trump allies call Ryan's bill 'a trap'

A WARNING TO SCRAP GOP HEALTH-CARE PLAN

Conservative populists say reelection would be at risk

BY ROBERT COSTA AND PHILIP RUCKER

MORE COVERAGE

**New entry ban to face challenge**  
Lawyers and volunteers are mounting a campaign. A3

**U.N. funding:** The White House wants to reduce U.S. payments. A5

**D.C. economy:** Trump's proposed budget cuts spook the region. A16

From headlines at Breitbart to chatter on Fox News Channel and right-wing talk radio, as well as among friends who have Trump's ear, the message has been blunt: The plan being advanced by congressional Republican leaders is deeply flawed — and, at worst, a political trap.

Trump's allies worry that he is jeopardizing his presidency by promoting the bill spearheaded by House Speaker Paul D. Ryan (Wis.), arguing that it would fracture Trump's coalition of working- and middle-class voters, many of them older and subsist-

ing on federal aid.

Vice President Pence and administration officials scrambled Tuesday to salvage the plan amid widespread dissatisfaction in both the Senate and House over the Congressional Budget Office's estimate that 24 million fewer people would be insured in a decade under the Ryan proposal, titled the American Health Care Act.

Trump — who has not yet fully used the bully pulpit of the presi-

RYAN CONTINUED ON A6

## Sen. Inhofe's influence over the EPA snowballs

Ex-aides in position to reshape agency he's long condemned

BY JULIET EILPERIN AND BRADY DENNIS

For more than a decade, Sen. James M. Inhofe has raged against the scientific consensus that humans are fueling climate change, calling it "the greatest hoax" ever perpetrated on Americans. The Oklahoma Republican has blasted the Environmental Protection Agency as an "activist organization" that has unfairly burdened everyone from farmers to fossil-fuel companies.

Now the man critics once dismissed as a political outlier has an



Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.) has said that human-perpetrated global warming is a "hoax."

unprecedented opportunity to shape the nation's energy and environmental policies. And he has helped populate the upper ranks of the agency he has derided with several of his closest confidants.

At least half a dozen former aides to Inhofe — and counting — have been hired into top positions at the EPA and the White House. The chief of staff and deputy chief of staff to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, a fellow Oklahoman and longtime friend of Inhofe, spent

EPA CONTINUED ON A4

## Trump paid \$38 million in taxes in '05, filing says

BY PHILIP RUCKER AND DREW HARWELL

President Trump paid \$38 million in federal taxes in 2005 on income of \$153 million and reported a \$105 million write-down in business losses, according to a copy of his tax return first revealed Tuesday night on MSNBC.

Trump paid an effective tax rate of 25 percent and saved millions of dollars in additional taxes by claiming the losses, according to the document, the first two pages of which were obtained by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist David Cay Johnston and first shared on "The Rachel Maddow Show."

The return shows that Trump

paid \$36.5 million in income tax, of which about \$31 million was in the form of an "alternative minimum tax," a supplemental tax designed to cut down on filers with excessive deductions. He also paid about \$1.5 million in Medicare and Social Security taxes.

The document offers a rare snapshot of Trump's personal finances, considering he has refused to disclose his tax returns to the public. The White House issued a statement chastising MSNBC for reporting on Trump's taxes — "totally illegal," read the statement — but also confirming top-line numbers from the return and defending Trump.

TAXES CONTINUED ON A7

## IN THE NEWS



DYLAN MARTINEZ/REUTERS

**Last-minute decisions** Just before voters went to the polls in the Netherlands, as many as 40 percent of them were still undecided. A8

**Trade secret?** The FDA won't specify where a product linked to an E. coli outbreak was sold because of its reading of an obscure rule. A11

**THE NATION** Al Gore said "there is a realistic chance" that President Trump won't bail on the Paris climate agreement. A16

**THE WORLD** François Fillon, the leading French conservative candidate for president, was formally placed under investigation on suspicion of embezzling and misusing public funds. A8  
**Ukraine said** it may bar Russia's contestant from the Eurovision Song Contest on the grounds that she illegally toured Crimea after Russia annexed it in 2014. A9

**The European** Court of Justice ruled that employers can prohibit the Muslim headscarf in the workplace. A10  
**Aid deliveries** have all but stopped for hundreds of thousands of Syrians living under siege, a medical group said. A10

**THE ECONOMY** The Federal Reserve is expected to set a faster pace of interest rate increases that may test President Trump's economic agenda. A11  
**New mothers** aren't getting any more paid parental leave than they did 10 years ago, data shows, even as some

companies make headlines for giving parents extended time off. A12

**THE REGION** Metro's poor planning of its SafeTrack maintenance surge added to the surge's cost and to commuters' headaches, a federal report said. B1  
**Washington's** cherry blossoms survived a frigid weekend and a snowfall, but can they weather the remaining cold spell? B2  
**White nationalist** Richard Spencer's non-profit group has lost its tax-exempt status for not filing financial returns for three years. B3  
**A Maryland man** who successfully fought his homeowner's associa-

tion over a \$500 mailbox mandate says his \$35 mailbox was vandalized. B4

**The University** of the District of Columbia is falling behind on its plan to overhaul course offerings, the Office of the D.C. Auditor said. B6

**OBITUARIES** Richard H. Solomon, a top U.S. diplomat who helped end a bloody conflict in Cambodia and was an authority on China, died at 79. B6

**STYLE** President Trump's budget is expected to cut public broadcasting funding, but PBS and NPR have seen similar threats in the past. C1

## INSIDE



**FOOD** Souper-duper Making real chicken soup takes less time than you might think. E1

**STYLE** A new Glenn Beck The former tea party leader tells his fans to reach out to liberals. C1

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