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INSIDE THIS **EDITION:**



Nunes rejects calls to remove self from Russia-Trump investigation Page 2



New Democratic Party chief Tom Perez asks for staff-wide resignations Page 4



Council appoints Stephen W. Raper interim city manager Page 5



NC Student places in National

By: Doug G. Ware UPI

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The leaders of the Senate Intelligence Committee said Wednesday the panel's investigation can't yet determine whether the Russian government interfered in the 2016 presidential election -- or whether members of President Donald Trump's campaign were complicit in such an effort.

Sens. Richard Burr, R-N.C., and Mark Warner, D-Va., the committee's chair and vice chair, briefed news media on its ongoing investigation -- one of at least three active government investigations into potential efforts by the Kremlin to sway November's vote in Trump's favor. Burr said the committee this week requested to interview 20 people close to the matter, and that five of those interviews have been scheduled.

The only person on that list publicly identified so far is senior White House adviser Jared Kushner, the chairman said.

"The committee will

SENATE INTELLIGENCE PANEL LEADERS PROMISE BIPARTISAN **COOPERATION IN RUSSIA PROBE**



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Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Richard Burr (R) and Vice Chairman Mark Warner answer questions during a news conference Wednesday, a day before the committee begins hearings on Russia's possible interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election. Photo by Mike Theiler/UPI | License Photo

conduct an interview with Mr. Kushner when the committee decides that it's time for us to set a date [after] we know exactly the scope of what needs to be asked," Burr noted.

Burr said Kushner volunteered to be interviewed about his contacts, along with multiple others.

NBC News reported Wednesday that former Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort and associates Carter Page and Roger Stone have also volunteered to testify.

"The mission of the committee is to look at any campaign contacts with

Russian government or Russian government officials that might have influenced in any way, shape or form the election process," Burr said in a joint news conference with Warner.

Hawaii judge strengthens block of immigration order

Viation Art Contest Page 5



Executive Chef Francis Otoo of Ghana prepares for 2017 Em-bassy Chef Challenge Page 6



Costly Las Vegas move could force Oakland Raiders ownership change Page 8



LeBron James demans tougher coaches, slams those using kids for sponsorships Page 9

By: Eric DuVall UPI

A federal judge in Hawaii strengthened the court order he issued banning President Donald Trump's executive order on immigration Wednesday after it was set to expire.

U.S. District Judge Derrick Watson was the first judge to block implementation of Trump's revised immigration order, which bans travel from six majority Muslim countries but the ruling was only a temporary order pending further hearings.

After listening to oral arguments by lawyers from the Hawaii attorney general's office, which filed suit against the Trump administration, and lawyers from the Justice Department defending the travel ban, Watson upped his prohibition from a temporary order to a preliminary injunction. The decision is meant to

prohibit the order from going into effect while the case is being litigated.

Hawaii sued to block Trump's order from being implemented, arguing it discriminated against Muslims and hurt the state's economy, which is heavily dependent on international tourism. The next step is an appeal to the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco, which ruled against Trump's first attempt to restrict travel from the Muslim countries.

The suit is one of three winding its way through the federal courts. A judge in Maryland moved to block a portion of the ban relating to travel, but would have allowed other parts to go forward. A judge in Virginia handed the Trump administration a victory, saying the executive order was within the president's authority. Those cases will next head to the Richmond, has jurisdiction over circuit

President Donald Trump's executive order on immigration was dealt anothewr setback in federal court Wednesday when a judge converted a temporary ban on its implementation into one that would not expire until after the case has finished being litigated. Photo by Kevin Dietsch/UPI | License Photo

Court of Appeals, which and Virginia. Va.,-based Fourth Circuit courts in both Maryland court decisions virtually preme Court.

The conflicting lower wind up before the Su-

guarantee the matter will



Nunes rejects calls to remove self from **Russia-Trump investigation**

By Doug G. Ware UPI

With a political storm swirling around him, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes said Tuesday he will continue to lead the panel's investigation into reputed Russian interference last year in the U.S. presidential election.

Nunes, R-Calif., has been the subject of growing scrutiny over the past week since he announced that members of President Donald Trump's transition team were incidentally caught up in surveillance by the U.S. intelligence community in November, December and January.

Monday, several Democrats called for Nunes' removal from the investigation, citing concerns with his objectivity. Tuesday, the lawmaker said there is not any need to recuse himself from the investigative proceedings.

"I'd like to know first what the purpose of that would be," Nunes told a reporter who asked if he planned to recuse himself from probes involving Russia or Trump.

"Other leaders in Congress are calling for your recusal, saying you have a conflict of interest," the reporter answered.

"You guys know the truth of that," the congressman said.

Nunes' committee is currently investigating reports that Moscow attempted to sway the election in Trump's favor, as well as

allegations that members intelligence community in of Trump's campaign may have conspired with the Kremlin to that end. The FBI has been investigating the matter since last summer, bureau director James Comey confirmed to the panel last week.

Nunes also fielded questions about Tuesday's cancellation of an open House hearing that was supposed to feature testimony from former National Intelligence Director James Clapper, former CIA Director John Brennan and former acting Attorney General Sally Yates about matters related to the Russia probe.

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes, R-Calif., attends a hearing to question FBI Director James Comey and NSA Director Mike Rogers during testimony concerning Russia's reported involvement in meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election. Photo by Kevin Dietsch/ UPI | License Photo

March 28 (UPI) -- With a political storm swirling around him, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes said Tuesday he will continue to lead the panel's investigation into reputed Russian interference last year in the U.S. presidential election.

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Dems call for Nunes' removal from Russia-Trump probe

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Calif., attends a hearing to question FBI Director James Comey and NSA Director Mike Rogers during testimony concerning Russia's reported involvement in meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election. Photo by Kevin Dietsch/UPI | License Photo

acting Attorney General Sally Yates about matters related to the Russia probe.

The Washington Post reported that Trump's administration wanted to block Yates' testimony -- a claim denied Tuesday by press secretary Sean Spicer.

"We are aware that former AG Yates intended to speak on these matters, and sought permission from the White House to testify,' Rep. Adam Schiff, the panel's ranking Democrat, said in a statement. "Whether the White House's desire to avoid a public claim of executive privilege to keep her from providing the full truth on what happened contributed to the decision

to cancel today's hearing, we do not know."

"Nothing has been canceled, nothing has been canceled," Nunes said Tuesday morning, before reiterating that the hearing was canceled because his committee has more questions for Comey.

"We have more questions for Mr. Comey. Until Mr. Comey comes in, it's a little tough for us to do depositions and interviews," the chairman said.

Nunes has attracted criticism for his handling of the surveillance information -- first for keeping the information from members of the House Intelligence Committee and then for saying his source provided the classified information on the White House grounds -- fueling speculation that the information may have come from inside the White House. Some Democrats also questioned whether Nunes disclosed classified information to the press.

Monday, Schiff led the calls for Nunes' recusal.

"I believe chairman [Nunes] should recuse himself from involvement in investigation/oversight of Trump campaign & transition," Schiff said in a statement.

'There was no legitimate justification for bringing that information to the White House instead of the committee."

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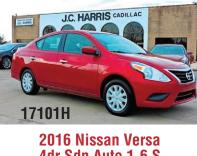


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New Democratic Party chief Tom Perez asks for staff-wide resignations

By Doug G. Ware UPI

The new head of the Democratic National Committee began the longpromised overhaul of the organization on Tuesday, asking for the resignations of all staff members in the first step to rebuild the party after November's demoralizing defeats.

DNC Chairman Tom Perez called for the letters Tuesday, although his interim predecessor had previously asked staff to submit and date them April 15 in anticipation of the leadership turnover.

The move is part of

the committee's restructuring process that was expected after multiple election night defeats, most notably that of presidential nominee Hillary Clinton -- and has been considered imminent since Perez was selected as party chairman in February.

A committee advising Perez on future movements is now interviewing potential staffers, NBC News reported.

"This is longstanding precedent at the DNC and has happened during multiple chair transitions," DNC spokeswoman Xochitl Hinojosa said Tuesday.

"The process was start-

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New Democratic National Committee Chairman Thomas Perez asked for the resignations of all party staffers on Tuesday in the first step of a rebuild of the party after election losses in November. The overhaul has been anticipated since Perez was named party chairman in February. File Photo by T.J. Kirkpatrick/UPI/Pool | License Photo

ed before the election of adamant that we structure DNC staff will be integral the new chair. From the the DNC for future cam- to that effort." beginning, Tom has been paigns. Current and future

The organization has initiated in December.

been running on a reduced staff since layoffs were first

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Trump administration: Healthcare replacement may be revived

By Ed Adamczyk UPI

Another attempt to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act is in the works, after a vote on a bill was abruptly canceled last week, the Trump administration says.

House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., acknowledged Friday that "Obamacare is the law of the land," referring to the existing healthcare legislation President Donald Trump eagerly presidential campaign.

A House vote on a GOP alternative healthcare plan was scrapped after it became clear it had inadequate support. Both Ryan and Trump said the ACA would remain in force, but Republicans spent the weekend discussing the next step in approving a bill for which they once said had no backup plan, a senior administration official told CNN.

At a Tuesday evening

sought to replace during his reception in the White House for senators and their spouses, Trump said a deal on a new healthcare bill will be pursued soon.

"I know we're going to make a deal on healthcare.

That's such an easy one. So, I have no doubt that that's going to happen very quickly.

I think it will actually, I think it's going to happen, because we've all been promising -- Democrat, Republican -- we've all been promising that to the American people, so I think a lot of good things are going to happen."

Republican leaders in Congress, though, must still unify opposing forces within their ranks, including moderates who believe the original bill went too far in denying support to low- and middle-income Americans seeking to buy health insurance, and conservatives who seek to have elements of Obamacare repealed more fully.





Over the past few months, we have conducted various police-sponsored youth programs. These programs serve to open the lines of communication with our youth and teach them that police officers are also members of our community. We believe these forms of social control are more subtle and beneficial for our youth. Our policesponsored programs are too numerous to list, but they are only limited by the imagination of our departmental personnel and the community. These programs, whether addressing the prevention of future crimes or future victims; will always be a part of our community oriented policing philosophy here at the Wilson Police Department. I want to personally thank all of you for your unwavering support of the Wilson Police Department and our community policing and youth programs.

As we begin our numerous youth and police-sponsored programs for 2017, we look forward to our continued partnerships and strong relationships with our great citizens here in the City of Wilson. None of our efforts would be possible without your support! On behalf of the Wilson Police Department, thank all of you!



Health Insurance vs Healthcare

for most

states, yet

we know

just hav-

ing an in-

surance

card does

Since being sworn in as benefits the consumer. the 45th president of the United States, Trump has worked hard to deliver on the many campaign promises he made to the American people. And despite Democrats and even some Republicans challenging him at every corner, he has pushed forward to implement the people's agenda.

As an evolving business owner, we know first-hand of the negative impacts of affordable care and the soaring costs.

For many medium and small size business owners, they have had to either let people go or stop hiring people due to the mandated healthcare passed by Democrats.

And it's even worse for the individual, forcing some people to cancel their health insurance altogether because of the rising cost of premiums.

Health Insurance is not healthcare. People can afford health care, but they can't afford health insurance.

fordable care doesn't address the number one issue, which is tackling cost.

Affordable care lacks market-based solutions that create competition, which

The ability to purchase healthcare across state lines and greater incentives for younger, healthier people to buy insurance would create a sustainable system, where we all would benefit. However, to do that effectively, we should remove employer not ensure timely treatment. and individual mandates. Medicaid should also be reformed because every state has a different program.

limited to your state because without any level of recompetition keeps the cost form. down and what we don't have now is competition, means based on the environwhich is one of the areas the president's plan seeks to rectify.

This is the beginning of turning back very bad legislation that has had 6 years to unfold.

Much damage has been done and it will take more time and thoughtful correction to get us on the right track. Minority Leader Nancie Pelosi said we had to pass the bill to see what cies through health savings was in it.

Well, it was passed and everyday person and a law that gets in the middle of healthcare provider.



/ILLIAMS

Expanding Medicaid is expanding inferior insurance. We have to reform Med-

icaid, which has become Healthcare should not be a system nearly bankrupt

> Each state has different ment and instead of Washington bureaucrats making the decisions, we should empower each state to make decisions that benefit the needs of their individual state.

> the same. We should block grant Medicaid, allowing states to manage it, and for example, allow individuals to purchase their own poliaccounts (HSAs).

This would give the In its current form, af- what is in it has proven to be power back to the people skyrocketing costs for the and take it away from the government.

> individuals and their private down and quality of ser- Insurance with Health Care. do not want, but are forced 8 TV 28, 10:30 a.m. to 11 vices up, which is why it's Insurance is a purely fiscal Medicaid is the 3rd larg- essential that we reform af-

est bud- fordable care and let the free get item market work for all, not just some and this is something we can do if we successfully repeal and replace affordable care.

> Insurance companies have become the "Doctor," controlling what physicians can and cannot do.

> be the intent of healthcare in America.

system that is unsustainable provided. and won't work.

In Canada for instance, it could take weeks and sometimes even months for simple procedures and is evidence that government controlled healthcare doesn't work.

The Canadian govern-No state population is ment spends a significant portion of their GDP on healthcare instead of other necessary needs. This is something that many doubt the American people would stand for because the result could be devastating for many of the programs we as Americans have become accustomed to.

We have allowed the bumedium.

were to need an expensive rise by 24 million. medical treatment.

have any assets to protect ACA individual mandate (i.e. you are poor), there is that the number of unin-NO reason to have health insurance.

This was not supposed to Health Care, not Health Insurance. The benevolent government's role is iden-It is something you see tifying who should qualify in countries such as Canada for free medical care and tor/patient relationship to and Great Britain and it is a what services should be work again, which is exact-

> to pay for high deductible insurance plan is a burden that brings no benefit (no assets to protect) and, since 92% of people spend less than \$5,000 on health care each vear, no free care either.

Insurance for the working poor simply drives up the cost of care. We must allow health insurance to be legal again. Currently, the federal government manager and sole owner of mandates that insurance is packaged a certain way (making it very expensive) and forces its citizens to buy it.

This leads to an overly Competition drives cost reaucrats to confuse Health expensive product that most to buy. According to the a.m., with repeats at 6:30 recent CBO analysis of the p.m. EST.

Its purpose is to protect GOP health plan, the numthe loss of your assets if you ber of the uninsured will

Is it any surprise that Obviously, if you don't with the elimination of the sured will go up?

This simply tells us that If you get sick, you need even when heavily subsidized, the people still don't want it (unless forced to buy it).

We must allow the docly what President Trump is Forcing the working poor attempting to do by repealing and replacing affordable care.

> It won't be a quick fixed and the results won't be immediate, but in due time the American people will be back in control of their healthcare and we'll once again have government out of patient/doctor relationships.

> Armstrong Williams is Howard Stirk Holdings I & II Broadcast Television Stations and Executive Editor of American CurrentSee online magazine. Watch our Right Side Forum every Saturday on NewsChannel

Council appoints Stephen W. Raper interim city manager

Rocky Mount, N.C.-The Rocky Mount City Council is pleased to announce the selection of Stephen W. Raper as interim city manager.

The appointment became necessary after current City Manager, Charles Penny, announced his retirement, effective April 1, 2017.

Raper will assume the responsibilities of city manager until a permanent replacement is named.

Raper, a resident of Rocky Mount, worked as city manager of Rocky Mount from Jan. 1, 1995 to Dec. 31, 2010.

A graduate of the Uniat Chapel Hill, Raper obtained undergraduate and graduate degrees in public

administration, along with 35 years of service in local government in North Carolina and Tennessee.

Raper's first stint with the city of Rocky Mount was in 1975, working his way up from an intern to assistant city manager.

He first started when City Hall was located on NE Main Street.

"Steve Raper is unequivocally qualified to serve in this capacity," says Rocky Mount Mayor David Combs.

"He understands the history and positive aspects of our city, as well as the Developmental Associchallenges. Also, after serving 16 years as city versity of North Carolina manager, Steve is familiar with the city's various departments. The council is more tions identify and develop

than happy to have him in this position and to utilize his expertise."

Combs also noted the two assistant city managers' ability and knowledge of local government.

"Both Tasha Logan Ford and Thomas M. Moton, Jr. are more than qualified to act as interim city manager," notes Combs.

"However, the council strives to provide an equitable process in the event that either of them choose to be a candidate for the position."

The council has hired ates, LLC, based in Chapel



Hill, N.C., for the hiring process. According to their website, the non-profit agency "helps organiza-

leaders, people and programs to achieve superior results." The search for Rocky

Mount's next city manager should take approximately 90 days. The application is cur-

rently on the city's website at www.rockymountnc.gov , and the deadline to apply is March 26, 2017.

NC Student Places in National Aviation Art Contest Artwork advances to international contest in Switzerland

RALEIGH – Green Hope High School student Cameron Fitz is being recognized for placing third at the national level in the 2017 Aviation Art Contest.

Fitz, 17, placed second in this year's state competition, sponsored by the N.C. Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation. Fitz's artwork was sent to Switzerland, where it will now compete in the international contest.

"Cameron's artwork is an impressive representation of the theme 'Beyond the Clouds," said Division of Aviation Director Bobby Walston.

"We are proud to see a North Carolina student advance to the international

contest."

The artwork for the national competition was judged for originality, creativity and use of the theme.

Winners will receive ribbons and a framed reproduction of their artwork.

The national competition's panel of judges included former U.S. Representative to Fédération Aéronautique Internationale and former NASA Education Coordinator Debbie Gallaway, educator and artist Margaret Finch, National Aeronautic Association Director of Awards and Events Stephanie Berry, and Smithsonian Institution National Air & Space Museum Specialist and Photographer Carolyn

Russo. The top finishers in each category of the national contest include:

JUNIOR

First Place: Katherine Lee, New Jersey Second Place: Gabriel Sanedrin, California

Third Place: Oliver Chen, New York

INTERMEDIATE

First Place: Sophia Shin, California

Second Place: Jennifer Meng, Michigan Third Place: Kelly

Xu, Texas SENIOR

First Place: Sky Waters, Minnesota

Second Place: Mira Hirabayashi, California Third Place: Cameron

Fitz, North Carolina



This artwork submitted by Cameron Fitz, of Cary, placed third at the national level in the 2017 Aviation Art Contest.

Butterfield Statement on Republican Delay

WASHINGTON, DC -Congressman G. K. Butterfield (NC-01) today released the following statement after Republicans delayed a House vote on their healthcare bill:

"Donald Trump boasts about his ability to close a deal, but today he failed because Americans know they deserve better.

House Republicans spent the last seven years criticizing the Affordable Care Act rather than working to make it better. This hastily constructed proposal would hurt millions of American families. It's time to listen to the outcry from the American people and build on what's working. "The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office has already told us that nearly twothirds of Americans believe that fewer people will have health insurance under the Republican repeal bill.

Following Republicans' failure to put their bill on the House Floor today, Republicans should heed the calls of the majority of Americans and abandon this bill that will dismantle the ACA, cripple Medicaid, and put the future of Medicare in peril."



Executive Chef Francis Otoo of Ghana prepares for 2017 Embassy Chef Challenge

By Ora Ofori TheAfricanDream.net

Come May 24, 2017, executive Chef Francis Otoo will make his fourth appearance at the 'Embassy Chef Challenge'.

The over 6ft tall Ghanaian chef saw the Media Preview Dinner event hosted by the Indonesian Embassy in Washington, DC as a great warm up for the May.

On Wednesday March 22, 2017, Chef Otoo joined four other chefs at the Indonesian embassy to show off their culinary skills as they tantalized the taste buds of high ranking diplomats and ambassadors from his home country of Ghana and countries like Peru, Indonesia, Afghanistan and Belgium.

The menu of Chef Otoo at the Media Preview Dinner was 'Aponkye Nkrakra' or goat light soup, a very popular and well liked Ghanaian delicacy eaten with 'Fufu' which is made from pounded cassava, yams and or plantains.

For the occasion, Chef Otoo chose yams, which he boiled (to a specific temperature) without pounding and toned down on the spice in the soup.

Ambassadors, Diplo-

mats, organizers of Embassy Chef Challenge, Events DC, other special guests and the media present had a lot of good things to say about the Ghanaian chef's 'Aponkve Nkrakra'.

TheAfricanDream.net noticed the gentle spicy kick to the chef's meal, the juicy taste the goat meat brought to it and the toned-down spice with the tenderly boiled yam.

Jan Du Plain of Passport DC said she "could live with [this Ghanaian chef's dish] anytime."

In an interview with TheAfricanDream.net after his presentation, the executive Chef said he was happy about the responses received, "to me, it is not just about the taste only, the way food is presented in general is also very important, when people see your meal and the look of it makes them want to taste it then that's a win, it's even more glorious when they commend you for the deliciousness."

Chef Francis Otoo made his first appearance at the Embassy Chef Challenge in 2010, two years after it begun in 2008, since then he has participated in 2015, 2016, and will again represent the Ghana Embassy in Washington, DC, where



he has been the head chef since 2002.

His Excellency Budi Bowoleksono; Ambassador at the Indonesia embassy in Washington, DC and his wife Reshanty played hosts of the 2017 Media Preview Dinner.

The Ambassador, himself a chef, said the culinary art "is not only about food, culinary can bring people together, culinary is a beautiful universal language... it is also a very effective tool of diplomacy."

Chefs Creig Greenridge from Barbados and Claude Tayag of the Philippines walked away with the Judge's Choice and the People's Choice awards respectively at the 2016 Embassy Chef Challenge.

The 2017 Embassy Chef Challenge; a signature event of Passport DC's Cultural Tourism DC, will feature some 24 countries with Africa's participation jumping to four as Kenya,

Morocco and Tunisia make their debut appearances alongside veteran participant Ghana.

Find out more about the Embassy Chef Challenge: an annual fundraising benefit featuring international tastings, awards, entertainment, and a silent auction at www.culturaltourismdc.

PirateFest to Host Unique Food Trucks and Performances From Around the World

GREENVILLE, N.C.— Dig into a wide variety of food from food trucks at the 11th annual PirateFest sure satisfy all your cravings.

Dank Burrito, from Morehead City, NC, will provide an array of inventive burritos and tacos from their award-winning food truck.

If one burrito isn't enough, get your pirate booty over to Anita's food truck for authentic Mexican food.

Mouth-watering food will be available right off the grill from Four Corners, Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church, Hot Diggity Dog Concessions, Mr. Mongolian, Party in a Pita, Shep's Farm to Truck and Skylight Inn BBO.

All will offer cooked to order food served hot and fresh.

Want a taste of the sea? Tim Earley Seafood and Basnight's Lone Cedar food trucks will be serving fresh seafood from Eastern North Carolina coastal waters.

What a better way to celebrate the pirate life than to indulge in the food of the sea?

Don't miss your chance to get your hands on these

staples of coastal seafood. Greenville's beloved restaurants Sup Dogs, Villa Verde and Mellow Mushroom will also be in attendance with food trucks on site.

Ready for dessert? Cleanse your palette with a variety of tasty desserts from Duck Donuts, Kona Ice, The Funnel Cake Factory. Batter Up Concessions, Wright Sister Concessions, Coastal Concessions, Dixieland Kettlecorn Co., Sparky's Snowballs, M&L Concessions and DP&C Concessions.

These are your go-to festival vendors to feed your sweet tooth cravings.

The Main Stage, located at the corner of 4th and Evans will boast cultural performances all day long. Find the schedule of practical entertainment here. 10:40am: Motley

Tones 11:00am: Suavemente

11:15am: Indian Association

11:45am: NC Academy of Dance Arts

12:10pm: Turkish Music Chorus

12:40pm: Blue Voyage **Turkish Pop Music**

1:30pm: Psylo Joe

5:15pm: Skullduggery

Jewelry store's 'throw rocks at girls' billboard irks locals

By Ben Hooper UPI

A North Carolina jewelry store apologized to anyone offended by a billboard bearing a controversial message: "Sometimes, it's OK to throw rocks at

girls."

The billboard, which featured the words surrounded by precious stones, sparked a backlash on social media when it was erected by Spicer Greene Jewelers in Asheville.

lead to a culture of violence against women. Also, children will not see the humor in this billboard.

All they will see is, 'It's OK to throw rocks at girls," resident Shannon Page wrote on the Face-"Small steps like this book group WAX, West



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- Target of Greenville
- Minges Bottling Group



Asheville Exchange.

The owners of the store, Eva-Michelle Spicer, 28, and her husband, Elliot, 27, apologized for any offense caused by the billboard. "I'm truly sorry that it offended anybody, that was not our intention," Eva-Michelle Spicer, whose parents previously owned the store under a different name, told WLOS-TV.

"The billboard was intent to be a nostalgic thought of a childhood teaching, that it's not OK to throw rocks at girls. It's not OK to throw rocks at anyone.

It saddens me that it was taken that way, because it certainly wasn't intended."

The owners said they will donate 10 percent of sales through Sunday to Helpmate, a local domestic violence shelter.

Helpmate Director April Burgess-Johnson said the billboard reinforces confusion surrounding love and abuse.

"So what we need to do is draw clear and distinct lines that even in a joking manner, we're not gonna mix an expression of love and an expression of violence.

Those are very separate and different things: one of which is very sweet, the other of which is very dangerous," Burgess-Johnson said.

The store addressed the controversy in a post on its official Facebook page:

"To whom we have offended with our recent billboard, please accept our apologies. We do not condone violence of any kind toward any being. We are humble enough to realize when we make a mistake and humble enough to realize the context in which we are speaking. We did not intend to cause controversy and our billboard communicated something we did not intend. We intended the billboard as a play on words to encourage the loving act of gift giving and are deeply saddened that it offended anyone."

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Costly Las Vegas move could force Oakland Raiders ownership change

By Frank Cooney, The Sports Xchange UPI

PHOENIX -- After more than 40 years of pursuit, the Oakland Raiders finally received what they sought from the National missioner Pete Rozelle and Football League -- approval to move the franchise. with a 31-1 vote.

This is long after the historic 1980s legal sparring on the subject, featuring team owner Al Davis, com-



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famed anti-trust attorney Joe Alioto. Sadly, they are all gone. Left to savor the apparent victory are Davis' son,

Mark, and Al's beloved widow, Carol. So, they should toast the

moment. Viva Las Vegas! Right?

Maybe not. Time will tell.

While the blush of accomplishment dominated the moment Monday, future actions could reduce the big announcement here this week to more of a Mirage in the Desert.

There is distinct danger of a surprise twist to the ending, which could conceivably include Mark Davis losing controlling interest as managing general partner of the Raiders.

Team executives and others involved in the situation told The Sports Xchange they fear that the fast-paced approval to move is an elaborate



setup that could put Davis in jeopardy of eventually losing the team if he is unable to handle the burden of about \$1.25 billion in debt.

Mark Davis and team

president Marc Badain did not respond to requests to discuss this specific situation.

But at least four knowledgeable sources with vested interests in the situation were eager to express concerns. One prominent participant, a long-time close friend of the Davis family, revealed that Davis was "warned about" these worries.

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LeBron James demands tougher coaches, slams those using kids for sponsorships

By Alex Butler UPI

Before he goes into playoff mode and mutes his social media activity, LeBron James wanted to give a lecture to coaches.

The Cleveland Cavaliers superstar went on a Twitter rant Sunday night regarding how sports leaders need to be tougher.

He started the spiel after being named one of Fortune's World's Greatest Leaders.

"Humbled, but this goes to the parents raising, teachers educating & partners supporting my kids.

You're THE leaders. #StriveForGreatness," James tweeted.

"Man if it wasn't for Big Frank, Bruce Kelker, Willie Earl, @CoachDambrot @CoachDruJoyce I wouldn't be the player/ man I am today!

As a kid...they showed toughness and stayed on me every single day! Never sugar coded nothing, told me to real and lit me up when I wasn't applying..."

"Reason I'm saying this is I believe this is a major part of the reason why kids don't succeed as much because the leaders, coaches, etc. won't get on them because their afraid of losing the kid, or losing the sponsorship that comes with the kids, or have their own agenda on how much they can benefit in the long run from the kid not realizing they're cheating the [expletive] out of the kid.



We as kids don't know...?

"We need to be pushed, kicked, loved, then pushed and kicked again cause that's what brings and breads the hunger inside of us!

Whoever u are out there please stop worrying about u and if u really care for the kid give them the guidance as my Coaches, mentors did for me!"

"Can't stand for it anymore because of I and will die right now for my Sport and for SPORTS in general. #JustMyOpinion."

The Cavaliers [47-25] battle the San Antonio

Reeves

Spurs at 8 p.m. Monday at the AT&T Center. James, a four-time NBA MVP, is averaging 26.1 points and career highs in assists [8.8] and rebounds [8.4] for the Cavaliers.

From August 2015 through July 2016, the Le-Bron James Family Foundation provided \$7.000 in groceries to families through its Cling It! Program.

It also served 7,000 meals to kids and families at LIFF family gatherings. The foundation includes more than 1,000 Akron Public School students from 39 different APS

elementary and middle schools.

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La Voz Latina

Compañía de efectos especiales crea un auto que se eleva y conduce sobre el tráfico

By UPI

Una compañía de efectos especiales creó un SUV que utiliza el sistema hidráulico para subir varios pies y conducir sobre el tráfico de California, pero desafortunadamente, es único.

Thinkmodo, la firma de efectos especiales detrás del vídeo viral de 2014 "Devil Baby Attack", creó un vehículo que se asemeja a un Jeep Cherokee Wagon SUV, pero con una característica adicional, y es que permite al conductor apretar un botón para que el vehículo suba varios pies en el aire y ensanche la posición de sus ruedas para conducir sobre otros carros en un atasco de tráfico.

El único vehículo "Hum Rider" fue creado para promover el Hum de Verizon Telematic, que cuenta con un dongle colocado en el puerto OBD de un automóvil para proporcionar diagnósticos, asistencia en carretera, localización, rastreo de velocidad, entre otras características. El Hum Rider pesa alrededor de 8.500 libras, casi el doble de un Jeep Cherokee estándar, e incluye más de 300



El Hum Rider, creado para promover la nueva plataforma Hum de Verizon, conduce sobre autos detenidos en California. Captura de pantalla: Hum Rider / YouTube

pies de líneas hidráulicas. Un video publicado en YouTube muestra el SUV

en acción en una calle de Lancaster, California. "En muchos aspectos, [el Hum de conducción ordinaria y lo trando con ese carro loco

Rider es] un poco de metáfora, teniendo la experiencia

que lo hace extraordinario. Más lo que estamos ilus-

que conduce sobre otros", dijo el VP de Marketing de Verizon, Jay Jaffin.

Niños gemelos son descubiertos haciendo una fiesta a la hora de dormir

un rato, no queríamos mo-

escuchando a los niños por de nuevo", dijo Balkin. Los padres dijeron que



Una pareja de Nueva York compartió el video de sus dos hijos gemelos trepando para salir de sus cunas y celebrar una fiesta de baile.

By UPI

Jonathan y Susana Balkin dijeron que su sistema de vigilancia estaba grabando el dormitorio de los gemelos idénticos Andrew y Ryan, de dos años de edad, cuando los niños decidieron salir de sus cunas para divertirse el 13 de marzo.

"Mi esposa y yo oímos muchas risas y juegos así que solo nos quedamos lestarlos porque se estaban divirtiendo mucho", dijo Jonathan Balkin a Global News.

"Terminamos espiándolos por un rato en la cámara sólo para asegurarnos de que no se estaban metiendo en problemas", dijo Balkin a Today de NBC.

"Después decidimos, que era hora de intervenir y ponerlos en la cama. Eso no funcionó muy bien."

"Justo cuando limpiamos su habitación y los volvimos a meter en las camas, ellos comenzaron a los chicos a menudo les gusta jugar después de haber sido puestos a la cama alrededor de las 7:30 p.m. pero por lo general se calman después de una hora

Dijeron que el incidente del 13 de marzo fue inusual porque la fiesta de gemelos continuó hasta después de las 10 de la noche.

Balkin dijo que Susana y él eventualmente tuvieron que quitar las luces de noche de los chicos.

"A ellos no les gusta eso, entonces por lo gen-



Un par de niños de Nueva York fueron filmados teniendo una fiesta ruidosa en su dormitorio cuando se suponía que estaban dormidos. Captura de pantalla: NBC Today

eral se calman, porque una vez que se han apagado las luces no pueden ver nada para jugar", dijo. Los padres dijeron que son muy conscientes de la tendencia de sus hijos a salir de sus cunas, por lo que se aseguraron de que todos los muebles en su

habitación estén atornillados en su lugar y las estanterías estén vacías para evitar que los gemelos se hagan daño.

Rescatan a un pequeño gato que estaba atrapado en una pared

Los bomberos rescataron a un gatito que estaba atrapado en la pared de la casa de un extraño en Florida.

Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue compartió fotos del gatito después de que el equipo de rescate cortara un agujero en la pared para liberarlo.

El Jefe de Bomberos Adjunto Timothy Heiser dijo a ABC News que los bomberos lograron rastrear al gato, arrastrándose por

la casa y escuchando sus maullidos.

"Ellos tienen una cámara de imagen térmica ... y fueron golpeando a lo largo de la pared, se las arreglaron descubrir exactamente dónde estaba el gato", dijo.

El gatito, a quien los socorristas apodaron "Wallee" fue trasladado a un refugio de animales local donde será colocado para adopción.

"La madre del gato probablemente lo llevó al ático para mantenerlo seguro o dar a luz arriba allí y éste se puso a vagar," dijo Heiser.

"Tenemos muchos de estos, los refugios están sobrecargados, así que muchos de nuestros chicos los adoptan, gatos y perros, un chico tiene un loro, es bastante gracioso, mi pobre madre tiene muchísimos gatos.