



FDA CHIEF RESIGNS

DR. MARTY MAKARY IS RESIGNING AFTER A ROCKY 13-MONTH TENURE THAT DREW COMPLAINTS FROM PHARMA EXECS, VAPING LOBBYISTS, ANTI-ABORTION ACTIVISTS, AND OTHER TRUMP ALLIES. **C1**

WASHINGTON

Trump asserts authority over public spaces in D.C.



President Donald Trump visits the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool in Washington last week. *Mark Schiefelbein, Associated Press*

From repainting the Lincoln Memorial pool to eyeing a public golf course, the president is reshaping the capital in his own image.

Steven Sloan *Associated Press*

A federal judge weighing the future of an expansive Washington park insisted last week she had no intention of becoming Amy Poehler, the actress who spent seven seasons memorably playing the head of a local parks and recreation department.

But President Donald Trump might be interested in the role.

Shortly after the United States and Iran exchanged fire on Thursday, Trump made a quick jaunt to the National Mall to review the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool that he ordered repainted a color he describes as “American flag blue.”

The project has been on his mind lately. During an hour-plus speech Monday to small-business owners, Trump spent about nine minutes talking about the paint job, detailing the granite floor and boasting that he whittled the renovation’s cost to \$1.9 mil-



Trump ordered that the Reflecting Pool be repainted a color he described as “American flag blue.” *Julia Demaree Nikhinson, Associated Press*

lion from what, he said, was an initial \$350 million estimate.

But the project, which also includes repair work, will now cost \$13.1 million, according to a Monday report by the New York Times, citing federal records.

A Virginia firm was awarded a no-bid

contract for the project, the newspaper also reported. A spokeswoman for the Interior Department told the newspaper that the higher price “reflects the effort necessary to expedite the timeline” ahead of celebrations for the nation’s 250th anniversary. That urgency was also cited as the reason the government did not seek competing bids for the work.

Trump’s next project might be East Potomac Park, home to an affordable, accessible public golf course with views of the Washington Monument.

The Republican president has talked of transforming it into a posh “U.S. Open-caliber course.” Signs were posted last week warning of a disruption, and preservation advocates took the government to court as debris dumped there from the White House East Wing demolition tested positive for lead.

Last week, the nonprofit that operates the course said it would continue managing the space until the National Park Service begins a “historic restoration.”

Meanwhile, the White House told a planning agency that it would cost taxpayers at least \$7.5 million to follow through on Trump’s plan to paint the granite Eisenhower Executive Office Building white.

And that was just one week in Washington’s extreme makeover.

SEE WASHINGTON, A2

TRENTON

3 injured in shooting outside smoke shop

Surveillance video captured the moment chaos erupted outside NJ Weedman’s Joint early Sunday morning.

Rebecca Heath *NJ.com*

Three people were injured early Sunday in a shooting on the rear patio of NJ Weedman’s Joint, a popular Trenton restaurant and smoke shop, officials said.

Police responded around 4:10 a.m. to Capital Health Regional Medical Center, where the victims were being treated for gunshot wounds.

The victims, a 31-year-old woman, a 32-year-old woman and a 34-year-old man, suffered non-life-threatening injuries and were later released from the hospital, authorities said.

Ed “NJ Weedman” Forchion, owner of the Joint and a marijuana activist, said several hundred patrons were gathered on the patio for a typical weekend night of music and partying when a man began acting erratically and in a confrontational manner. Staff members asked the man, whom they had not seen at the venue before, to leave the property.

Forchion said the man pushed women on his way out. After waiting outside briefly, he apologized and asked to stay, but staff did not allow him back in.

A short time later, Forchion said someone fired multiple shots into the crowd, leaving customers wounded. One woman was shot in the ankle, another woman was shot in the elbow and a man was struck in the shoulder.

Forchion said surveillance footage later identified the shooter as the same man who had been asked to leave.

Surveillance video Forchion posted on YouTube captures the moment the shots rang out. One victim, who was shot in the elbow, can be seen with a bloodied arm in the restaurant’s kitchen. Another victim, who suffered a gunshot wound to the shoulder, is seen lying on the ground outside as a nearby patron renders aid.

In the YouTube video, Forchion also points to the location — behind a fence in the yard next door about 40 feet away — where the shooter appeared to have stood while firing into the crowd.

SEE TRENTON, A2

TRANSPORTATION

NJ Transit, Sherrill announce efforts to improve service

New app, cleaner buses among the changes governor hopes will make your commute better.

Larry Higgs *NJ.com*

Gov. Mikie Sherrill and NJ Transit officials unveiled a plan Tuesday to address issues such as dirty buses, malfunctioning elevators and escalators, poor signage and dim lighting that have long frustrated riders.

The first improvement is a redesigned NJ Transit mobile app, which is now available for download, Sherrill said at Newark Penn Station.

Other improvements include the availability of WiFi on the agency’s newest buses, an eventual expansion of WiFi to trains and the rollout of NJT LiveView, which will use GPS to give rail riders more accurate information about train arrivals and locations.

“People want a system that is safer, cleaner, easier to navigate and reliable,” Sherrill said. “New Jersey is the most innovative state, and it should have transit that reflects that.”

The plan includes investments in cleaner buses and trains and upgraded stations. It promises enhanced safety initiatives through a new Real Time Crime Center and an upgraded mobile app.

“It starts with the NJ Transit app,” Sherrill said at Newark Penn Station.

The app was due to get its first important

test early Wednesday, when 40,000 FIFA World Cup train tickets were to go on sale at midnight, said Kris Kolluri, NJ Transit CEO.

App upgrades include improvements to MyLightRail to get more accurate information.

Similar upgrades are proposed to the app’s My Bus feature, which is currently only 75% accurate. The goal is to get it to 99%, Kolluri said.

An upgraded NJ Transit website will be launched this summer.

Future information improvements will come when NJ Transit’s next-generation platform, NJT LiveView, debuts. It promises real-time GPS-enabled arrival information, service updates and customer **SEE TRANSPORTATION, A2**



SOMERSET COUNTY

Kids must pay to play

Students in one of New Jersey’s wealthiest towns will start paying fees to play sports and participate in clubs — but a lesser amount than proposed. **A6**

NATION & WORLD

New hantavirus case

A Spanish passenger evacuated from the cruise ship at the center of a hantavirus outbreak has tested positive for the virus, Spain’s health ministry announced Tuesday. **C3**