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## What's News

### World-Wide

- ◆ **The Treasury levied** what Trump called its largest ever sanctions on North Korea, targeting shipping and trading firms. **A1**
- ◆ **The FBI and local police** were warned by callers of the accused Florida gunman's violent behavior in the weeks before the school shooting. **A1**
- ◆ **Florida GOP leaders** backed raising the age for gun purchases to 21. **A6**
- ◆ **A former Trump aide** previously indicted by Mueller pleaded guilty to two charges and will cooperate in the Russia election probe. **A4**
- ◆ **The U.S. said** it would open its embassy in Jerusalem in May and is weighing an offer from GOP donor Adelson to help pay for a new facility. **A8**
- ◆ **Saudi Arabia** backed down under U.S. pressure and let Pakistan be placed on a terror-financing watch list. **A14**
- ◆ **Syrian rescue workers** said the regime's assault on rebel-held Ghouta has killed over 250 people. **A14**
- ◆ **The U.S. flu epidemic** appears to have peaked, the CDC reported. **A2**
- ◆ **Japan approved** a drug that its maker says can kill the flu virus in 24 hours. **B4**

### Business & Finance

- ◆ **Geely's chairman** has accumulated a 9.7% stake, valued at around \$9 billion, in Germany's Daimler, the biggest Chinese investment yet in the West's auto industry. **A1**
- ◆ **Huawei faces** mounting pressure from the U.S., which sees it as a cybersecurity threat, even as allies embrace the Chinese telecom firm. **B1**
- ◆ **Chinese regulators** seized control of Anbang and the insurer's former chairman was charged with fraud. **B1**
- ◆ **General Mills** is paying some \$8 billion for pet-food maker Blue Buffalo in an effort to spur U.S. growth. **B1**
- ◆ **Dropbox filed** for what is set to be one of the biggest tech IPOs of recent years. **B1**
- ◆ **The Dow and S&P 500** rallied, erasing their losses for the week. The industrials climbed 347.51 points, or 1.4%, to 25309.99. **B12**
- ◆ **Citigroup plans** to issue \$335 million in refunds to some card customers after failing to cut their rates. **B10**
- ◆ **Several firms cut** ties to the NRA, bowing to pressure from social-media users. **B4**
- ◆ **Royal Bank of Canada** said earnings were lifted by its capital-markets unit. **B10**

## Inside NOONAN A13

### Billy Graham, the Ecumenical Evangelist

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Some teachers and staff members at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School returned on Friday for the first time since a former student killed 17 people at the Parkland, Fla., school on Feb. 14. Classes are expected to resume on Wednesday.

## 'I Know He's Going to Explode'

### Calls to FBI, 911 show increasing alarm over accused gunman's violent behavior

In the weeks before last week's mass shooting at a Florida high school, those close to the 19-year-old charged in the

By Del Quentin Wilber, Scott Calvert, Jon Kamp and Joseph De Avila

attack told authorities of his escalating rage, violent outbursts and threats to kill others. A January call to the Federal

Bureau of Investigation tipline by an unidentified woman warned that she was concerned that Nikolas Cruz would "get into a school and just shoot the place up," according to a transcript of her call with a bureau tipline operator reviewed by The Wall Street Journal.

"I know he's—he's going to explode," she said. More recently, she said, Mr. Cruz "switched it to he wants to kill people."

The FBI last week acknowledged receiving such a call, which it said was from a person close to Mr. Cruz. But the transcript, and the stark nature of the caller's precise warnings about Mr. Cruz's disturbing ac-

Students launch a movement after shooting..... **A6**  
State's GOP leaders support raising age for purchases... **A6**  
Some companies end partnerships with NRA .... **B4**

tions and volatile temperament, previously hasn't been made public.

Just weeks before the call to the FBI tipline, Mr. Cruz himself called 911 after a violent episode at the house where he was living. Punches had been thrown, household items broken, and he fled to a nearby park.

"I kind of got mad and I started punching walls and

stuff," Mr. Cruz told the dispatcher, his voice trembling during a 5½ minute call in late November, according to police records released this week. "The thing is I lost my mother a couple weeks ago, so like, I'm dealing with a bunch of [inaudible] right now."

These calls and others are the latest evidence of Mr. Cruz's fragility and the fears those close to him raised to authorities about his volatile temperament and fixation on guns. Such concerns had come to the attention of the school district, the state social-service agency, two local sheriff's departments and the FBI.

Yet through a combination of Please see CRUZ page A6

## China Mogul Takes 9.7% Daimler Stake

By William Boston and Robert Wall

BERLIN—The billionaire chairman of Chinese car maker Zhejiang Geely Holding Group Co. has accumulated a 9.7% stake, valued at about \$9 billion, in Germany's Daimler AG, the biggest overseas investment yet by China Inc. in the West's automotive industry.

The move by Li Shufu, referred to by associates as Chairman Li, is his most ambitious so far as he tries to create a global Chinese auto maker that can compete with industry heavy hitters Volkswagen AG, Toyota Motor Corp.

and General Motors Co. Geely bought the Volvo car brand in 2010 and has more recently acquired stakes in car makers in Britain and Malaysia.

Mr. Li's investment in Daimler will likely give him a seat on the board and an inside perspective on Daimler's premier Mercedes-Benz car brand—the company widely credited with inventing the automobile. Still, it is too early to say if the move is the first step in a more strategic alignment of Daimler and Geely Automotive that would give Geely access to Daimler's advanced technology in electric vehicles and self-driving cars.

The investment wasn't made directly by the company, which has bought into a series of foreign car companies in recent years as it simultaneously ramps up and upgrades its domestic car business, but by Mr. Li himself, according to a filing in Germany late Friday.

Daimler said it welcomed the investment as a "vote of confidence" in its future. The German car maker didn't say whether Mr. Li would get a board seat, but said it looked forward to discussing the investment with him.

The acquisition is the latest in a series of methodical bets that Mr. Li has made in his quest to transform Geely,

once derided as the maker of low-cost, low-quality cars not fit for world markets, into China's first global automotive player.

Mr. Li's investment in Daimler is also another milestone for China. Within little more than a decade, China has evolved from a nation of bicycles to become the world's largest automotive market, with sales of 27.4 million new light vehicle last year. That compares with 17 million new Please see CHINA page A2

- ◆ U.K.'s use of Huawei technology raises U.S. concerns..... **B1**
- ◆ China's 'heavy hand' on Anbang rattles some analysts..... **B1**

## Sanctions Tighten On North Korea

By Ian Talley and Michael R. Gordon

WASHINGTON—The Trump administration levied what it called its largest ever North Korea sanctions package, hitting dozens of shipping and trading companies as it seeks to choke off foreign-currency flows to the nuclear-armed state.

Among the targets: nearly 60 companies and ships and one individual it says are helping North Korea evade an international ban on coal exports and restrictions on fuel imports. That trade has helped support Pyongyang's weapons programs, including its efforts to build missiles that can hit the continental U.S.

Friday's action is part of a broader U.S. "maximum pressure campaign" aimed at forcing Pyongyang to abandon its atomic ambitions. After a series of North Korean weapons tests, the U.S. convinced the United Nations Security Council to ratchet up global sanctions against the heavily militarized nation.

"We imposed today the heaviest sanctions ever imposed on a country before," President Donald Trump said in a speech Friday at the Conservative Political Action Conference in Maryland. "If the sanctions don't work, we'll have to go to phase two," he said later in the day without elaborating.

Mr. Trump said that alternatives "may be a very rough thing, it may be very, very unfortunate for the world." The administration has long made Please see KOREA page A8

## Probe Advances



**GUILTY PLEA:** Richard Gates became the third Trump associate to cooperate in Mueller's investigation. **A4**

## What's The Most Useful Form of Cash? (Hint: It's not a \$100 Bill)

It's great for tipping, getting attention and what one fan calls 'clean living'

By Michael M. Phillips

It usually goes like this: Nathan Broshear orders beers and when it comes time to tip, he slides a \$2 bill onto the bar.

The bartender does a double-take and says something about how he didn't know they still printed these things. Then he folds the note carefully into his own wallet. Mr. Broshear never has to wait long for a second round.

"If you order two beers, you're probably going to drop \$2 in a tip anyway," Mr. Broshear says. "But if you drop a \$2

bill in, the person feels like they got a \$5 or \$10 tip. But it still only cost me two dollars."

The country is divided into two camps when it comes to twos: Those who are barely aware \$2 bills still circulate, and those who live the \$2 bill lifestyle.

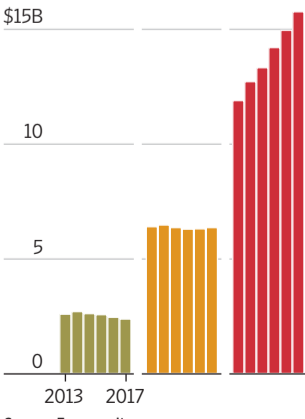
Mr. Broshear, firmly in the second camp, marvels at the deuce's efficiency. "I only have to get a single bill out," he says.

Pause. "Why is that funny?" The U.S. issued \$2 notes from 1862 to 1966, and then re- Please see BUCKS page A7

## Feeding Fido Is Big Business

General Mills is paying around \$8 billion for Blue Buffalo, a top brand in the growing premium pet-food market. **B1**

U.S. sales of dog and cat food



## Buffett Loads Up On Treasury Bills

By Nicole Friedman and Daniel Kruger

Berkshire Hathaway Inc. shareholders will look to Warren Buffett's annual letter on Saturday for clues of what the conglomerate plans to do with more than \$100 billion in cash.

There is little mystery about who is getting that money: Uncle Sam. Berkshire has used its mounting cash pile to become one of the world's largest owners of Treasury bills after struggling to find big companies to buy in recent years.

The Omaha, Neb., conglomerate held \$109 billion in cash as of Sept. 30, up from \$86 billion at the end of 2016 and more than double what it had at the end of 2006. Nearly all

of that was invested in short-term bills, according to Mr. Buffett. Berkshire typically buys about \$4 billion in Treasury bills every Monday at government auctions, or about 4% of what the Treasury is selling, Mr. Buffett said on CNBC in January.

Other large American corporations such as Apple Inc., Microsoft Corp. and Alphabet Inc. are also sitting on large piles of cash and face the same dilemma of what to do with it. It's not always clear how all of that cash is invested, but some firms tend to invest in higher-yielding assets such as short-term corporate bonds.

Berkshire prefers to hold Treasury bills because they would provide more liquidity Please see CASH page A2