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Democrat Andrew Yang wants to be president - and give you \$1,000 a month



Inside C2

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Make Today Different

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Biden expands lead over rivals for 2020 U.S. presidential nomination despite lack of support from millennials:

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Former U.S. Vice President Joe Biden has expanded his lead over a wide field of candidates for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination by 5 percentage points since he entered the race in late April, according to a monthly Reuters/Ipsos poll.

The poll released on Wednesday found 29% of Democrats and independents said they would vote for Biden in the state nominating contests that begin next year. That is up from 24% who said so in a poll that ran in late April, days before Biden announced his bid.

Biden led the field among all major demographic groups except millennials (ages 18-37), who favored U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont over Biden 18% to 16%.

To see the full poll results, click here: tmsnr.rs/2W8Jnao

Biden, 76, remains in the strongest position for the top of the ticket despite questions about his age and centrist positions. He also has faced criticism over his unwanted touching of women and his treatment of law professor Anita Hill three decades ago during Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas' confirmation hearing.

The monthly survey showed 29% of women who identify as Democrats and independents said they backed Biden, up 4 points from last month.

And among registered Democrats, those who supported other candidates still listed Biden as a top alternative if their choice dropped out of the race, according to the poll.

"That means that there is not a significant anti-Biden block of voters split between the other candidates," said Chris Jackson, a polling expert at Ipsos.



FILE PHOTO: Democratic 2020 U.S. presidential candidate and former Vice President Joe Biden speaks at a campaign stop in Manchester, New Hampshire, U.S., May 13, 2019. REUTERS/Brian Snyder/File Photo

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Democrat Andrew Yang wants to be president - and give you \$1,000 a month

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Andrew Yang is ready for his closeup next month at the first Democratic presidential debate, when he knows most Americans will have one question: "Who is the Asian man standing next to Joe Biden?"

A woman holds a sign for Democratic 2020 U.S presidential candidate Andrew Yang at a rally in the Manhattan borough of New York, May 14, 2019. REUTERS/Gabriela Bhaskar

The thousands of so-called "Yang Gang" members who braved cold and rain to attend the candidate's rally in New York City on Tuesday evening shouted his name in reply, showing his eclectic campaign is catching on with some voters.

The 44-year-old entrepreneur, philanthropist and self-described nerd launched his long-shot bid more than a year ago, centered on a proposal to give every American \$1,000 a month in cash.

Since then, he has rolled out more than 100 policy ideas, a technocratic approach rivaled in sheer wonkiness perhaps only by that of U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts among the Democratic candidates seeking the 2020 nomination.

"I liked that he was a very policies-first kind of guy," said Chris Nguyen, 28, who attended the rally and is considering backing Yang over U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders, his choice in the 2016 presidential election.

"He wasn't just anti-Trump," Nguyen said of Yang. "He ran on the issues."

Yang's odds of victory remain long against better-known and better-funded candidates such as Biden, a former vice president. Yang is drawing around 1 percent support among voters in national polls, on a par with experienced politicians like U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand of New York and Washington Governor Jay Inslee.



FILE PHOTO: A man walks past a sign board of Huawei at CES (Consumer Electronics Show) Asia 2018 in Shanghai, China June 14, 2018. REUTERS/Aly Song/ File Photo

A native of upstate New York and the son of Taiwanese immigrants, Yang would be the first Asian-American president.

He has embraced social media, and Andrew Yang memes have proliferated on Reddit and Twitter. His campaign received a major boost after a lengthy February interview with comedian Joe Rogan's popular podcast.

Yang's biggest proposal is what's known as a universal basic income, or UBI, a concept that in recent years has gained traction within certain academic circles.

Under his "Freedom Dividend" plan, every adult American would receive \$1,000 a month regardless of income or work status, a cash infusion he says is the best way to combat the destruction of manufacturing and other jobs due to automation. The proposal would be funded by a European-style value-added tax that Yang says would ensure technology companies pay their fair

share.

At the rally, Yang – who often sports a "MATH" hat in a nod to his devotion to numbers – rattled off the industries that were using machines to replace millions of humans: truck driving, retail stores and customer service call centers. "Donald Trump is our president for one simple reason: Automation did away with 4 million manufacturing jobs," mostly in states like Pennsylvania and Michigan that were key to Trump's 2016 victory, Yang said.

Tyler Riley, a 27-year-old from Weehawken, New Jersey, said Yang's argument resonated with him.

"A lot of candidates focus on immigration, but automation is doing a lot more damage to jobs than any immigrants coming into the U.S.," he said.

Yang's platform includes a dizzying mix of standard Democratic fare like Medicare-for-all; voting reform proposals

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Dr. Lai is a board-certified pediatrician who earned her medical degree from The University of Texas School of Medicine in San Antonio and completed her pediatric internship and residency at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. She is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Her special clinical interests include General Pediatrics, caring for newborns, and managing autism, and childhood obesity. She cares for young patients at Kelsey-Seybold's Spring Medical and Diagnostic Center.

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Editor's Choice



72nd Cannes Film Festival - Screening of the film “Bacurau” in competition - Red Carpet Arrivals - Cannes, France, May 15, 2019. Cast members Silvero Pereira, Udo Kier and Barbara Colen pose. REUTERS/Stephane Mahe



Migrants are seen outside the U.S. Border Patrol McAllen Station in a makeshift encampment in McAllen



72nd Cannes Film Festival - Screening of the film “Les Miserables” in competition - Red Carpet Arrivals - Cannes, France, May 15, 2019. International top model Alessandra Ambrosio poses. REUTERS/Stephane Mahe TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



72nd Cannes Film Festival - Screening of the film “Les Miserables” in competition - Red Carpet Arrivals - Cannes, France, May 15, 2019. Jury Member of the 72nd Cannes Film Festival Elle Fanning. REUTERS/Eric Gaillard TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



A cat sits inside a flight test facility at the Antonov aircraft plant in Kiev, Ukraine May 15, 2019. REUTERS/Valentyn Ogirenko TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



A Ludwig van Beethoven sculpture overlooks the Muensterplatz square as a worker sets up one of hundreds of Beethoven plastic sculptures designed by German conceptual artist Ottmar Hoerl to mark the 250th birth anniversary of German composer, who was born in the city, in Bonn, Germany May 15, 2019.



72nd Cannes Film Festival - Photocall for the film “A Brother’s Love” (La femme de mon frere) in competition for the category Un Certain Regard - Cannes, France, May 15, 2019. Director Monia Chokri poses.



A protester holds a placard as she takes part in a demonstration calling for an end to Israel’s policy towards Gaza and a boycott of the 2019 Eurovision Song Contest as the first semi final of the contest begins in Tel Aviv

If you ever thought the meals at a nursing home were bland and dull, the team of culinary experts at Houston Transitional Care are shattering that perception with every meal they prepare. Cooks Bryce Barbabosa and Erick Arevalo are not your typical dietary team for a skilled nursing facility. They represent a “Rare find: Avant-Garde Cuisine At Skilled Nursing Facility” for the guests while in rehabilitation. They offer the most palatable meals for all, as well as those with special diets. Debuting now is the Springtime menu which includes items such as Spinach Salad with almonds and strawberries, fresh Gazpacho, Tex-Mex taco bowls, and Peruvian chicken just to name a few.



When Barbabosa and Arevalo were asked what makes them most happy about the work they do at Houston Transitional Care, they both agreed it was the “free style” aspect of their work and their ability to apply their skills to a variety of meal preparations on a daily basis. Linda Woltman, dietary director, gives these young men the freedom to create delicious food combining their talents. Both Barbabosa and Arevalo share a sense of humor, even sarcasm at times, which lends to the chemistry they have in the kitchen even though their backgrounds are quite different. Bryce received training at the Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Austin. There he was taught the “hands on”

“Baby Boomers” Are Seeking Out Medical Care In Settings That Offer Medical And Lifestyle Benefits

Avant-Garde Fine Dining Cuisine At A Skilled Nursing Facility? Yes-Right Here In Houston



Cooks Bryce Barbabosa and Erick Arevalo present avant-garde cuisine at Houston Transitional Care. Front entry 8550 Jason St., Houston, TX 77074 in the Sharpstown area.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

French style of cooking. Meanwhile Arevalo stated his experi-



ence started at a young age cooking at home and then learning culinary skills from a variety of chefs during his time cooking at the Revival Market. Arevalo enjoys preparing traditional Mexican dishes, including a great variety of the taco. Menus may include dishes like Pho, Vietnamese noodles, Indian curry, Italian, Peruvian, or a fusion of any mentioned. Rest assured the meals will be fresh, innovative, and pleasing to the palate, even for our guests requiring a pureed diet.



A skilled nursing facility is a facility or distinct part of an institution whose primary function is to provide medical, continuous nursing, and other health and social services to patients who are not in an acute phase of illness requiring services in a hospital, but who require primary restorative or skilled nursing services on an inpatient basis above the level of intermediate or custodial care in order to reach a degree of body func-

tioning to permit self care in essential daily living.



The café at Houston Transitional Care.

A skilled nursing facility meets any licensing or certification standards set forth by the jurisdiction where it is located. (1) A skilled nursing facility may be a freestanding facility or part of a hospital that has been certified by Medicare to admit patients requiring subacute care and rehabilitation; (2) Provides non-acute medical and skilled nursing care services, therapy and social services under the supervision of a licensed registered nurse on a 24-hour basis.



Houston Transitional Care is a four-star rated skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility. For more information about their services, please visit their website at www.Houston-TC.com. (Courtesy <https://www.chron.com/> and Houston Transitional Care)

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Federal prosecutors charged 60 physicians and pharmacists last Wednesday with illegally handing out opioid prescriptions in what they say is the biggest crackdown of its kind in U.S. history.

Some of the doctors are accused of trading drugs for sex, giving prescriptions to Facebook friends without proper medical exams and unnecessarily pulling teeth to justify writing pain pill prescriptions. The list of indicted medical professionals includes podiatrists, orthopedic specialists, dentists, general practitioners and nurse practitioners. Prosecutors said the specialties and methods varied among the accused, but the result in every case was the same: People addicted to pain medication received dangerous amounts of opioids, including oxycodone, methadone and morphine.



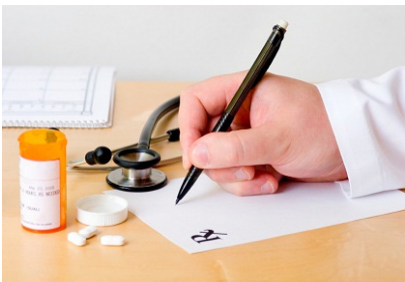
They said the illegal prescriptions put as many as 32 million pain pills in the hands of patients. A special strike force from the U.S. Department of Justice began making arrests early last Wednesday, primarily in rural areas across Appalachia, which has been especially hard hit by addiction to heroin and pain medication. Most of the defendants face charges of unlawful distribution of controlled substances involving prescription opioids. Authorities say they gave out about 350,000 improper prescriptions in Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia and Alabama. Prosecutors described the doctors involved as drug dealers, rather than medical professionals, and said they were seeing a total of about 28,000 patients at the time of their arrests. "If so-called medical professionals are going to behave like drug dealers, we're going to treat them like drug dealers," said Brian Benczkowski, an assistant attorney general.

60 Doctors, Pharmacists Charged In Largest U.S. Opioid Prescription Bust



Amy Hess, FBI Executive Assistant director, speaks during an Appalachian Regional Prescription Opioid Strike Force press conference on Wednesday, April 17, 2019, in Cincinnati. The Appalachian Regional Prescription Opioid Strike Force announced that they have charged 60 individuals, including 53 medical professionals, with crimes related to illegal distribution of opioids and other dangerous narcotics. (Photo/The Enquirer)

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



The defendants are accused of writing or filling prescriptions outside the course of medical practices and prescribing them despite having no legitimate medical reasons to do so, he said. **Strike force a first-of-its-kind effort** The Appalachian Regional Prescription Strike Force included more than 300 investigators from jurisdictions in all five states. Though targeting illegal prescriptions was a priority, federal officials say it wasn't the only goal. In a first-of-its-kind effort, the federal criminal investigators are linking with public health to try to guide those who received the rogue prescriptions to addiction treatment, said Benjamin Glassman, the U.S. Attorney

for the Southern District of Ohio. Glassman said authorities recognize that closing clinics and arresting those who ran them won't solve the addiction problems of the patients who received the prescriptions. In effort to help, he said, a public health official will be stationed at every clinic affected by the arrests. The hope is that "when these facilities are taken down, there are resources in place to give the best possible chance for those victims to get proper treatment," Glassman said. "Opioids are the public health and safety crisis of our lifetime," he said. "This innovation, I hope, will be a road map for the future."



U.S. Attorney Benjamin C. Glassman, of the Southern District of Ohio, speaks during an Appalachian Regional Prescription Opioid Strike Force press conference on Wednesday, April 17, 2019, in Cincinnati. The Appalachian Regional Prescription Opioid Strike Force announced that they have charged 60 individuals, including 53 medical professionals, with crimes related to illegal distribution of opioids and other dangerous narcotics.

How the strike force worked the investigation

The strike force, which was created to attack the opioid epidemic late in 2018, worked a two-part investigation. **First:** They used data analytics including prescription data monitoring programs from the states and Medicaid billing to identify potential offenders. **Then:** They followed up with undercover operations and traditional, boots-on-the-ground law enforcement to zero in on suspects.

"We wanted to move quickly," Benczkowski said. The investigation by 300 agents went from January to Wednesday. Federal prosecutors said the impact of illegal prescriptions is especially devastating to rural communities, where patients often have limited options when seeking medical help. If the doctor those patients see is peddling illegal prescriptions, prosecutors said, the damage to small towns can be dramatic. The arrests Wednesday removed many doctors who "are simply white-coated drug dealers," said J. Douglas Overbey, U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of Tennessee.



Undercover operations and traditional, boots-on-the-ground law enforcement were key elements of the strike force.

The range of schemes included sending patients across state borders to see another general practitioner, writing prescriptions at different intervals rather than the originally prescribed number of days, and having patients fill prescriptions at different pharmacies. The Appalachian region has been hard hit by the opioid epidemic. Ohio was second in the nation for overall overdose deaths and Kentucky ranked fifth in 2017. West Virginia was first, CDC data show. Last year, as part of a nationwide healthcare fraud enforcement action, federal officials announced charges against 162 people for their alleged roles in prescribing and distributing opioids and other narcotics. Across America, almost 218,000 people died from overdoses related to prescription opioids from from 1999 to 2017, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Overdose deaths involving prescription opioids were five times higher in 2017 than in 1999. (Courtesy msn.com)

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