

OTHER 1600 PENNSYLVANIA SOURCE OF HUMOR, HEADACHES



WASHINGTON: 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue SE is seen on June 1, 2016. — AP

WASHINGTON: Presidential candidates work for years to move in to 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. For 24-year-old Nicole Berns, moving in was much easier, requiring filling out a three-page form and paying \$500 in fees. Berns' keys aren't for the White House. They're for 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, a 77-unit apartment building that began leasing about a year ago. It is just about 3 1/2 miles from the White House, which has the same numbered address but is at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW on the city's grid system. The addition of an address nearly identical to the nation's seat of power has caused some confusion, but also some amusing opportunities for residents. "I love telling people that I live there. I call it, 'The Other White House,'" said Berns, who recently moved in to the building.

Before the apartment building was built, the lot housed a used car dealership whose address was 1550 Pennsylvania Ave SE. But when developers bought the property they realized that no building had claim to the 1600 Pennsylvania Ave SE address, which also made sense for the location. Figuring it would be fun and a way to get recognition, they successfully petitioned for an address change.

Residents say they often get funny looks or disbelief when they have to give their address or hand over their driver's licenses. Carlos Gutierrez, 39, and other residents said they get asked: "You live at the White House?" The

address has produced headaches for some residents. One early resident of the building, Daniel Perry, 36, said Amazon.com initially wouldn't take orders to the address, though that's since been sorted out. Another resident said even now, she sometimes has difficulty ordering online. A recent order for a pair of summer sandals required calling the company, she said.

Residents have to make sure that anyone sending them mail puts the all-important "SE" after the address. The correct zip code - 20003 - is also key. The White House's ZIP code is 20500. A goof means the mail might eventually get to the correct recipient, but because the president's mail gets extra screening, any resident's mail with an incomplete address could be significantly delayed. Mail mix-ups happen the other way, too. Errant letters for the first family arrive at the building every so often and sit unopened by the residents' mailboxes until the US Postal Service redirects them. There's also what property manager Cameron Mahjoubi calls "prank mail" - letters sent to past presidents including Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe and George Washington. The building itself doesn't provoke any double takes. Its tallest part is six stories high and it's mostly brick. There are no white columns in sight, though an American flag does fly out front. The lobby has an American flag, too: a white-on white mural, with one star added for the District of Columbia. — AP

NEW BLACK PARTY TO CARRY ARMS IN CLEVELAND IF LEGAL

CLEVELAND: The New Black Panther Party, a "black power" movement, will carry firearms for self-defense during rallies in Cleveland ahead of next week's Republican convention, if allowed under Ohio law, the group's chairman said. The plan by the group this weekend comes as police in Cleveland brace for an influx of groups that plan demonstrations before and during the presidential nominating convention. During the attack last week in Dallas that killed five police officers, law enforcement officials said demonstrators carrying rifles led them to initially believe they were under attack by multiple shooters.

Several other groups, including some supporters of presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, have said they will carry weapons in Cleveland. "If it is an open state to carry, we will exercise our second amendment rights because there are other groups threatening to be there that are threatening to do harm to us," Hashim Nzinga, chairman of the New Black Panther Party, told Reuters in a telephone interview. "If that state allows us to bear arms, the Panthers and the others who can legally bear arms will bear arms." Nzinga said he condemned the Dallas shootings.

Officials in Ohio have said it will be legal for protesters to carry weapons at demonstrations outside the convention under that state's "open carry" law, which allows civilians to carry guns in public. "Black power" groups promote defense against racial oppression, with some advocating for the establishment of armed self-defense groups, black social institutions and a self-sufficient economy.

The New Black Panther Party has long called for a separate black nation. But Nzinga said the movement was now focused on protecting black Americans' rights. Academics say the New Black Panther Party remains marginal and largely representative of an older generation, in their 30s and 40s, rather than younger activists drawn to groups such as the anti-racism Black Lives Matter movement.

The New Black Panther Party was founded in 1989 and adopted a more radical approach than the 1960s Black Panther Party. Members of the original group have denounced the New Black Panther Party as racist, but Nzinga says his movement

includes original Black Panthers. The Southern Poverty Law Center, a hate group watchdog, describes the New Black Panther Party as "a virulently racist and anti-Semitic organization whose leaders have encouraged violence against whites, Jews and law enforcement officers."

The center tracks years of public statements by the New Black Panther Party and other groups. Nzinga denied the group was racist but said it was a fact that Jews control Hollywood and the U.S. media. The center said the group is not known to have carried out any violent attacks. The black shooter in the Dallas killings "liked" the New Black Panthers and other black nationalist groups on Facebook but was not a member.

'There to Protect'

Nzinga said he expected "a couple hundred" members of the New Black Panther Party to participate in and protect a black unity rally - the "National Convention of the Oppressed" - that is scheduled to begin in Cleveland on Thursday evening and end on Monday morning. Nzinga said he and the Panthers plan to leave Cleveland on Sunday, the day before the convention officially opens. "We are there to protect... We are not trying to do anything else," he said. "We are going to carry out some of these great legal rights we have to assemble, to protest and (to exercise) freedom of speech."

Nzinga says his group has grown amid racial tensions in the wake of a series of high-profile police killings of black men in the past two years. The Southern Poverty Law Center says the number of black militant chapters around the country grew from 113 in 2014 to 180 in 2015. The center says there are 892 hate groups total nationwide. It says white hate groups, such as the Aryan Brotherhood, have a much longer track record of carrying out violent attacks than black nationalist groups.

Nzinga said his group has 36 chapters nationwide but declined to reveal membership numbers. "I have people literally calling me saying this is the first time in my life I protested and I loved it," Nzinga told Reuters. "They want to be a part of something. They tried to be a part of the system and the system let them down so they want to be part of a rebellion." — Reuters

CLINTON, THE CANDIDATE WE KNOW SO WELL - AND DON'T

AMBITION TAG HAS DOGGED HILLARY THROUGHOUT HER CAREER

NEW YORK: When she was about 14, Hillary Clinton says, she wrote to NASA volunteering for astronaut training. NASA's reply was simple and definitive: No girls. "It was the first time I had hit an obstacle I couldn't overcome with hard work and determination, and I was outraged," she would write in her book, "Living History". More than a half-century later, and after much hard work, much determination, and most of all, many, many obstacles - some undeniably of her own making - Clinton is no closer to actual space travel. She may have to settle for becoming the first female leader of the free world.

Her journey - more than three decades in the public eye, and counting - has been unlike any seen in American politics: A story of great promise, excruciating setbacks, bitter scandal, stunning comebacks, and especially reinvention - of her own life, and as a result, of the role of women in government. It's one that has fascinated not just her own country, but the world. Think about it: Is any woman more recognizable on a global scale than Hillary Clinton? If Barack Obama was the presidential candidate who seemed to come out of nowhere, Clinton's the candidate who seemed to come out of everywhere.

Americans first knew her as a governor's wife and working mother in Arkansas, then as the nation's first lady - famously claiming an office in the West Wing of the White House, not the East, as half of husband Bill Clinton's "Buy one, get one free" bargain. Touched by scandal from Whitewater to Monica Lewinsky - but also carving out her own political identity - she emerged to become a hard-working senator, the first first lady to gain elected office. We knew her as the presidential candidate who suffered a stinging defeat to Obama in 2008, but proudly claimed "18 million cracks" in the glass ceiling.

Then she reinvented herself again, becoming Obama's secretary of state, traveling almost a million miles to 112 countries. Finally, after much speculation, she announced her second run for the presidency. We knew her so well by then. Or not. Who WAS Hillary Clinton, and why, if we'd been watching her for so long, did we feel like we didn't know her? At least, that's the persistent narrative. Perhaps it's a question of layers. She's had so many different roles, of course we've seen different facets of her. But there's also a sense of impenetrability, exacerbated by her penchant for secrecy - a characteristic that has led to her greatest vulnerability in this election: the email scandal over her use of a private server.

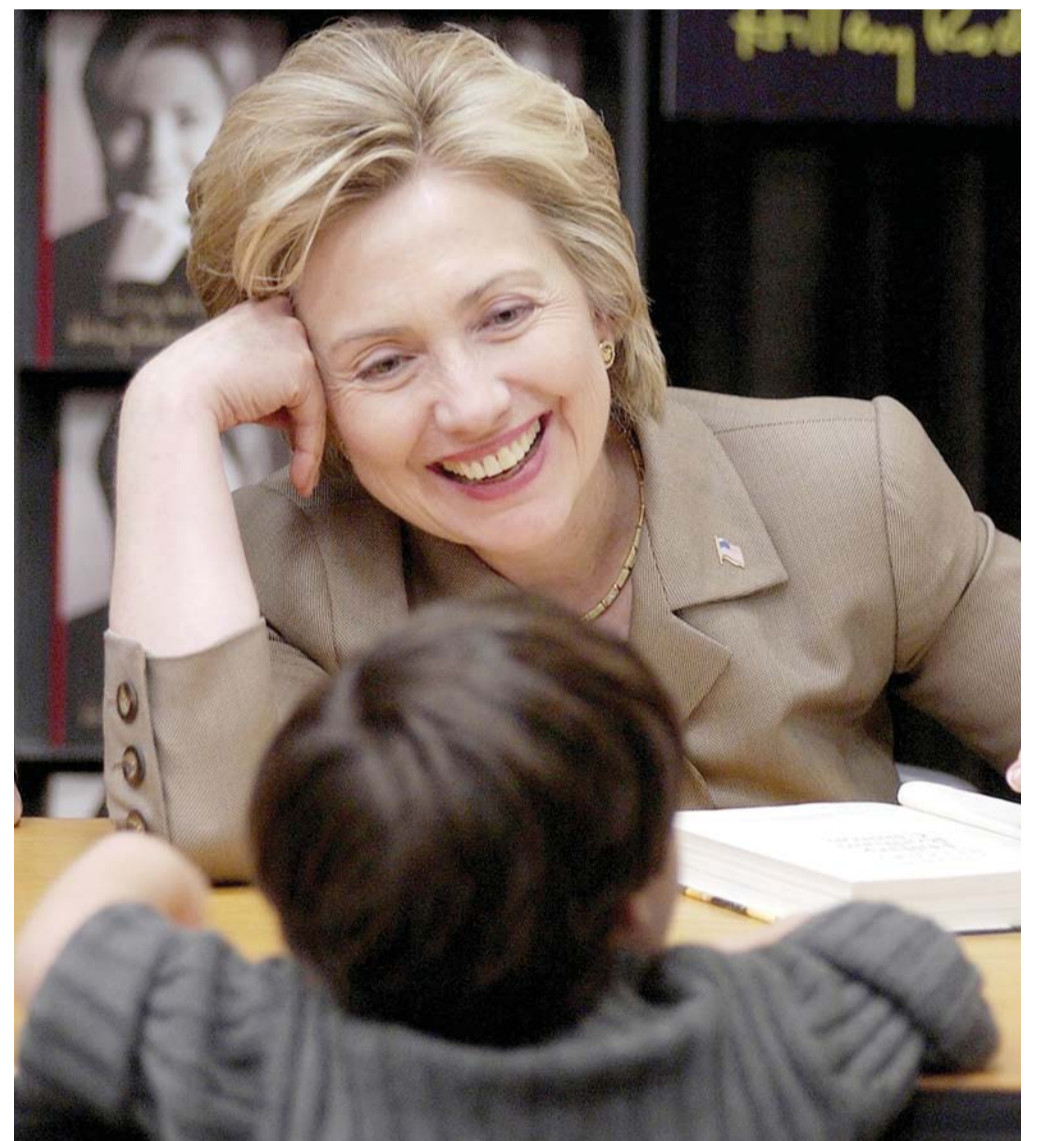
For the last 14 years, and 20 overall, Americans polled by Gallup have named Clinton their most admired woman in the world. But consider some other titles attached to her over the years: Lady Macbeth. Washington insider. Robotic. Wildly ambitious. Congenial liar. (Or Donald Trump's current favorite, "Crooked Hillary.") But also: Feminist heroine. Glass-ceiling breaker. The most prepared in the room. The most qualified presidential candidate ever. Loyal friend. Witty companion. Mom. Grandma. "It's an amazing life," says biographer Carl Bernstein, who wrote a 600-page book on her and says he still struggles to define her. "You could not make any of this stuff up." There have been polarizing figures in politics before, but it's hard to imagine any have been called as many things - wildly divergent things - as she. Does everyone simply have their own version of Hillary Clinton?

The Ambition Thing

"Saturday Night Live" has been turning out versions for a good 25 years. Each actress spoofing Clinton - there have been nine, including Miley Cyrus rapping in a bandeau - has put her spin on the part. But there's been one constant: ambition, pure and unadulterated. "No, MINE!" blurted out Amy Poehler's Hillary, alongside Tina Fey's Sarah Palin, in agonized disbelief that John McCain's running mate was still in the race but she wasn't. Recently, Kate McKinnon has perfected a wackier, more manic ambition. In a recent scene where Clinton herself gamely played a bartender, the fake Hillary asked Huma Abedin, her aide, "Why won't the people just let me LEAD?"

Comedy aside, the ambition tag has dogged Clinton, 68, throughout her career, as if it were a bad quality rather than a necessity in high-stakes politics. The satirical website The Onion captured the irony in a 2006 headline: "Hillary Clinton Is Too Ambitious To Be The First Female President." That gets a knowing laugh from Melanne Vermeer, Clinton's chief of staff from her first lady years. "If a guy is described as ambitious, it's a noble attribute - he wants to put himself ahead," says Vermeer. "But if a woman is ambitious, it's not an attribute, it's a negative, a pejorative. It's not proper somehow."

Former Rep Patricia Schroeder thinks the ambition factor is - unfairly - key to Clinton's challenges connecting with the electorate. "We still don't like a woman who is showing ambition, especially for that level of a job," says Schroeder, who famously



DALLAS: In this Dec 4, 2003 file photo, Sen Hillary Rodham Clinton talks with Maximilian Chow-Gillette, 3, while signing her book "Living History" in Dallas. — AP

explored her own presidential candidacy decades ago. "It's: 'I'd like her if she weren't so damned ambitious. How come she wants all that power?'"

Champion for Women

At her college graduation in 1969, Hillary Rodham was already blazing a trail: The senior from Park Ridge, Illinois, was the first student chosen to address a Wellesley commencement. She delighted many classmates when she delivered an on-the-spot rebuke to the previous speaker, a U.S. senator whose comments the grads found condescending to women. At Yale Law School, where she met Bill Clinton, she developed a keen interest in children's rights, which she pursued in post-graduate work.

It's been a particular frustration to Clinton's campaign that young Democrats haven't responded

more enthusiastically, with many attracted to the populist message of Bernie Sanders (six years her senior). There's a sense that millennials are too young to remember her efforts on behalf of social justice, particularly for women and girls on a global scale. "Young people today want to be part of something bigger... but they don't understand how much she shares those aspirations of theirs," Vermeer says.

A key moment in Clinton's political journey - and a defining personal moment - came in 1995, when as first lady she spoke at a UN Congress on women in Beijing, declaring, "Human rights are women's rights, and women's rights are human rights." It was a time when Clinton was searching for a new identity, having failed to reform health care back home. But even she had no idea the impact those simple words would have. — AP

10 INMATES ESCAPE IN CANCUN BEACH RESORT

MEXICO CITY: Ten inmates escaped in Mexico's Caribbean beach resort of Cancun late Tuesday by jumping the prison wall, in the latest jailbreak to hit the country's scandal-plagued penitentiary system. The inmates beat a guard and jumped the wall, the Quintana Roo state government said in a statement. It cited witnesses as saying at least three of the escapees fled in a taxi in which they changed their clothes. "Personnel from all of the security agencies of the state are conducting an intense and broad operation to catch the prisoners," state Governor Roberto Borge said. Searchers included police and soldiers.

A state public security spokeswoman said on condition of anonymity that the escape took place at around 9:10 pm and that some of the inmates are considered "highly dangerous". The city is a popular destination for American tourists but the prison is away from the hotel district. It is located in a densely populated residential area, with one wall facing a busy road. The government said security was stepped up around the prison as well as on highways and at taxi stands and bus stations.

Local media reported that the convicts belong to two drug gangs and that they took advantage of confusion during a prison fight to escape. Two other prisoners escaped from the Cancun penitentiary in Oct 2015 while a fight left four injured

in June. But Cancun has been spared from the drug cartel violence that has plagued other parts of the country.

Prison Problems

Mexican prisons are notoriously overcrowded, violent and often controlled by gangs. A report by the National Human Rights Commission found that inmates govern themselves in 71 state prisons across the country. In February, 49 inmates were killed in a massive brawl in the northern city of Monterrey. Mass prison breaks are not uncommon. Last month, three inmates escaped during a riot and fire in a prison just outside Mexico City that left several prisoners and police officers injured.

The biggest escape took place in Sept 2012 in a prison in the northern border town of Piedras Negras, when 131 inmates bolted through the front door. In Nov 2013, seven inmates escaped from a prison in the northern state of Tamaulipas after six prisoners were killed during a fight. But the most famous jailbreak was perpetrated by one man, Sinaloa drug cartel kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, who escaped from the country's top security prison near Mexico City in July 2015 through a 1.5-km tunnel built by his henchmen. Guzman had previously escaped from another prison in 2001, reportedly by hiding in a laundry cart. He was recaptured in January. — AFP



WESTFIELD, Indiana: Campaign supporters await the arrival of presumptive US Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump during a campaign rally at Grant Park Event Center. — AFP

TRUMP TAKES NARROW LEAD OVER CLINTON IN FLORIDA

WASHINGTON: Republican presidential hopeful Donald Trump has overtaken his opponent Hillary Clinton in the battleground state of Florida, with the race too close to call in two other swing states, a new poll showed yesterday. "Donald Trump enters the Republican Convention on a small roll in the three most important swing states in the country," said Peter Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University poll. Trump was leading 42-39 percent in Florida, compared to a 47-39 Clinton advantage in a June 21 poll.

In Ohio, Clinton and Trump were tied at 41 percent, while in Pennsylvania, Trump had 43 percent support over Clinton's 41 percent. Those are slight changes from June 21, when they were tied 40-40 in Ohio and Clinton had a 42-41 lead in Pennsylvania. Since 1960, no candidate has won the US presidency without winning at

least two of these three battleground states. The latest Quinnipiac University poll was conducted from June 30 to July 11, amid an FBI investigation into Clinton's use of a private email server while secretary of state.

On July 5, FBI Director James Comey said he would not recommend criminal charges against Clinton, but called her "extremely careless" in her handling of classified data. "While there is no definite link between Clinton's drop in Florida and the US Justice Department decision not to prosecute her for her handling of emails, she has lost ground to Trump on questions which measure moral standards and honesty," Brown said in a statement. The poll surveyed voters over the phone and has a margin of error of 3.1 percentage points in Florida and Pennsylvania, and 3.2 percentage points in Ohio. — AFP