



BUSINESS TICKER



FREELAND

TRADE DEAL LOOKS DIM

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has said privately he won't make compromises with Canada in high-stakes talks to revamp the North American Free Trade Agreement, the Toronto Star reported Friday.

The report raises doubts about whether the two countries can quickly reach a deal to keep Canada in the 24-year-old trading bloc, along with the United States and Mexico.

The report, and the dim picture it offered of the U.S.-Canada negotiations, appeared to dishearten Wall Street, where traders sent stock prices falling in the wake of the report.

On Monday, the United States and Mexico reached a preliminary agreement to replace NAFTA with an arrangement intended, among other things, to shift more auto manufacturing to the United States.

Canada was pointedly not part of that deal. Its top trade envoy, Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland, rushed to Washington on Tuesday to try to negotiate Canada's way back into a new version of the 24-year-old NAFTA.

"We are looking for a good deal, not just any deal," Freeland said Friday, "and we will only agree to a deal that is a good deal for Canada. We are not there yet."



FORD WON'T SELL CHINESE VEHICLE

Ford Motor announced Friday it has killed a plan to sell a Chinese-made small vehicle in the United States because of the prospect of higher U.S. tariffs.

The decision came as President Donald Trump is escalating a trade battle with China, threatening to impose duties on another \$200 billion in Chinese goods. The White House has already imposed duties on Chinese-made vehicles of up to 25 percent.

The president is reportedly evaluating a proposal to impose tariffs on all imported vehicles on national security grounds. It is not known what security problems imported vehicles pose.

The Chinese vehicle that would have been sold here is called Focus Active, a smaller crossover. It would have launched in the U.S. next year.



STOCKS STEADY IN LIGHT TRADING NEW YORK (AP)

Stocks hardly budged Friday as trading was very light ahead of the Labor Day holiday in the U.S. on Monday.

The S&P 500 index was down for most of the day but inched up 0.39 points to close at 2,901. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 22.10 points, or 0.1 percent, to 25,964.

The Nasdaq composite rose 21.17 points, or 0.3 percent, to 8,109.54. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks gained 8.40 points, or 0.5 percent, to a record high of 1,740.75.

New coffee shop off to strong start



One of the great things about living on Planet Earth is there's coffee. If not for coffee, glorious coffee, I'd probably still be in bed right now.

There's a new coffee shop in McMinnville and it's located in the most well-traveled place in town — inside Walmart. Seattle's Best Coffee opened Tuesday and has been swamped with customers ever since.

"We haven't really had any down time," said manager Kali McClure. "We've had customers all the time. It's been busy."

Perhaps the neatest thing about the cup of coffee you buy at Seattle's Best is the beans are ground and then percolated after you order. It results in a short wait of about a minute, but the results are noticeable.

"You can't get a cup of coffee that's any fresher," said employee Jacki Dewey.

There's also a customer reward card that pays quick dividends. After every five drink orders, you get your sixth drink free. In my opinion this is far better than the customer reward programs where you have to make 10 purchases before getting one free.

If coffee is not your cup of tea, Seattle's Best offers iced tea and frozen drinks that are like slushes. I had a sample of the caffe vanilla frozen treat and can report it was absolutely delicious. I've always been a black coffee guy, but I can see myself becoming regularly acquainted with the caffe vanilla.

There's also a frozen raspberry lemonade which is a hit with kids and adults alike.

"The frozen drinks have been among our best sellers," said employee Terisia Williams, who added that will likely change as the seasons change. "We've already been getting some requests for pumpkin spice."

The Seattle's Best customers seem pleased with the drinks. One lady was gushing about the tea, while David Hall didn't take long to wolf down a chocolate-covered pretzel. David made the pretzel disappear so quickly, I thought he was doing some type of magic trick.

Other sweet-tooth items include rice crispy treats and cake pops.

Seattle's Best is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day. If there's one thing I noticed, it's that 9 a.m. is a little late to be opening a coffee shop. Kali says she is aware of that.

"We've had a bunch of



Employees of Seattle's Best Coffee include, from left, Terisia Williams, team leader Kali McClure, and Jacki Dewey. The coffee shop opened Tuesday on the grocery side of Walmart and has received strong business.

customers tell us they'd like us to open earlier," said Kali. "That's something I've already talked to corporate about and we're going to try and do. We're open to suggestions. I'm going to place a suggestion box on the counter and we want to hear what people have to say."

Seattle's Best Coffee is located as soon as you walk in the front door of Walmart on the grocery side.

BROOKE HALE NOW LICENSED CONTRACTOR

Brooke Hale is diving into business as a licensed contractor and has opened Sparrow Construction. She can build homes and another specialty is in-ground swimming pools. If you're thinking about a pool for next summer, you may want to get on the waiting list now because Brooke already has two lined up for May.

Brooke says she will start construction on her first home this week in the new Hickory Creek Estates subdivision on Vervilla Road near its intersection with Tom Grissom Road. James and Judy Hancock own the development and Brooke says she will be working closely with them to build what could be as many as 50 homes.

"I'm a licensed nurse, but I'm sad to say that's really not my passion," said Brooke. "My passion is in residential building and I've built five of our own homes over 11 years. I can squeeze a penny, that's for



David Hall finds delight eating a chocolate-covered pretzel Friday at Seattle's Best Coffee. David said the coffee shop offers "a refreshing break from shopping."

sure and I'm going to be focused on giving people as much house as I can for the money. I know what it means to be on a budget and I also like nice things so I'm ready to help people get the best house they can for their money."

Brooke says getting her contractor's license was a chore. She said it required trips to Nashville to pass about five hours of testing on two separate days. Then she had to complete a 15-page application. She said the board meets every other month and she gained approval in July.

For insurance purposes, her building limit is \$500,000. That should be enough to accommodate the needs of most folks in this area.

As the contractor, Brooke isn't going to be sawing boards and hammering nails. Rather her job will be managing the job site, handling the budget, lining up subcontractors, and ensuring all building codes are followed.

"When I'm done, I want people to say, 'She really did a good job for us,'" said Brooke.

As for the swimming pool aspect of the business, Brooke says she installed her own pool behind her house before swim season and loves the results. She said the pool is a magnet for activity, drawing people together.

She went with a salt water option instead of chlorine and says she's glad she made that choice.

She says she's going to install a gas heater so she can still utilize the pool in the winter.

"You'd be surprised how fast the water can heat up," said Brooke. "If you know you're going to be using the pool over the weekend, turn the heater on Friday morning and you'll be fine."

Brooke says she picked the name Sparrow Construction because of one of her favorite Bible verses in the Book of Matthew. "It says a sparrow can't fall to the ground without our Father knowing," said Brooke of the verse. "Are we not worth more than a sparrow?"

If you're interested in a new home or a new pool, Sparrow Construction can be reached at (931) 205-0417.

VIOLA ADDS HAIR CARE

The cozy town of Viola used to have its own store and its own gas station right there on Town Square. Those two luxuries are gone, but Adeana Myers has added a new convenience. She's opened Floyd's Hair Parlor just off the square and she's open five days a week.

If the name sounds familiar that's because Floyd's gets its name from "The Andy Griffith Show." They even have the same slogan, "Best clip joint in town." The slogan is hard to dispute because it's also the only clip joint in Viola.

"This building used to be a barber shop at one time," said Adeana. "It's 125 years old."



Brooke Hale has passed her certification to become a licensed contractor and has opened Sparrow Construction. She can install in-ground pools and build homes up to \$500,000. She can be reached at 205-0417.