

# THE WEEK IN REVIEW

## The West

William Barr complained this week that Apple wasn't giving the FBI adequate support for its investigation into the Saudi terrorist who targeted a US navy base last year. Barr wants Apple to build a backdoor into its software for law enforcement; Apple publicly stated that it will never build a backdoor for any government or agency.

## The East

China's economy faltered even as the yuan rose on the new trade deal and as the US dropped its 'currency manipulator' label. Decreased foreign investment is the suspected culprit, largely prompted by economic doldrums in Europe and elsewhere.

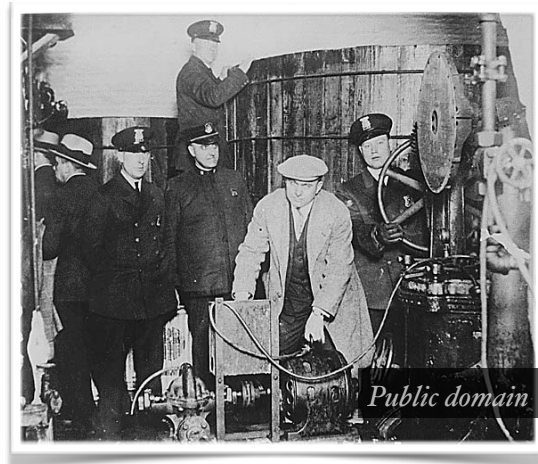
## Focus: Iranian Protests

Despite the wave of support we saw following Soleimani's death, Iranians have taken to the streets again to protest what they see as a lie perpetrated by their government. The regime had originally said it was "impossible" that its military could have shot down the Ukrainian passenger jet with passenger list that was comprised mostly of Iranians; they have since confirmed reports that the military did in fact shoot it down by accident.

## Volume XIV

While this week had a lot of news, it was the calmest week of 2020 so far. US markets continue to break records even as the Chinese economy falters from sanctions as well as decreased businesses investment. We also saw the beginning of the Senate impeachment trial, Cory Booker leaving the primary, new protests in Iran (this time against the Iranian government), and Attorney General William Barr complain that Apple won't build a back door in its software for the FBI. Another Democratic Debate took place this week, but it wasn't really newsworthy (and therefore isn't mentioned below).

### *The 100th Anniversary of Prohibition*



The 18th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified on January 16, 1919 and began on January 17, 1920. That makes today the 100th anniversary of the act, which lasted 13 years. Raise a glass with us for the 21st Amendment!

## Letter From The Editor

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Dear Reader:

With a slower news cycle comes more room for reflection, and that gave us the opportunity to take another step back and look at what we're doing from afar. We have added a new, more personal recipe not repeated from another source, and updated our website to have a much more modern feel. We are still looking at additional changes for later this month!

Continuing with our goal from last week, we also updated our "What's Up This Weekend" section with even more great events while maintaining those that are yet to finish. We are always interested to hear feedback, so feel free to submit your thoughts regarding the events (or section itself) to us!

Your editor,

Chris Sabaitis



## Something Delicious

So I haven't done one of my own recipes in a while, and I decided to change that. This week's feature is a modest sautéed zucchini that will leave you wondering why you've never tried to make this simple dish before. Quick to make—the process takes less than 10 mins—and absolutely delicious, this is a great treat for any occasion.

### Ingredients

- 1-2 zucchinis
- Olive oil
- 1 bay leaf
- Additional spices: dill weed, rosemary, thyme, basil, ginger powder
- 1 lime
- Sea salt
- Pepper

### Directions

1. Cut the zucchini into slim coins (0.25" max), and slice the lime in half. Add some olive oil to the bottom of a large pan and turn on heat to low.
2. Add the zucchini to the pan, making sure that every piece touches the bottom.
3. Add a bit more olive oil to the tops of the zucchini. Squeeze half of the lime over the entire dish. Turn the heat up to 25%.
4. Sprinkle some pepper into the pan, making sure that every piece gets a dash. Throw in a dash of sea salt, not giving as much concern to which zucchini coins are covered.
5. Add in all of the remaining spices, except ginger powder. Note that you can never go wrong with too much rosemary.
6. Turn heat up to 50%; let sit for 3-4 minutes.
7. With a wooden spoon, flip all of the coins. Some might be browning; that is ok.
8. Squeeze the other half of the lime into the dish, and add a dash of pepper, rosemary, and ginger powder. Let sit for 1-2 minutes.
9. Flip all of them again; let sit for 1-2 minutes. They should be browning even more now; if not, let sit for an additional minute. Feel free to start stirring.
10. Once one side begins to look crisp, turn off heat and serve immediately. They are best enjoyed warm! Goes well with some salmon and homemade French fries.

## Finance and Markets

Global stocks advanced this week following the passage of the Us-China trade deal as well as strong earnings reports from financial institutions. The US dollar weakened against other currencies as investors sold dollars to increase their investments in equities and elsewhere. In particular, the yuan rallied as the US removed the 'currency manipulator' designation. On the other hand, US regulators added the Swiss franc to its currency manipulator watch list as officials scrutinize the country for its market policies.

Despite a stronger currency, China's economy has faltered recently despite the new trade deal with the US. In addition to tariffs from the Trump administration, China has also seen reduced interest from other countries dealing with their own economic slowdowns. According to the WSJ, "Nomura economists calculate the trade war, coupled with slower global growth, shaved 1 percentage point off China's 2019 GDP figure."<sup>1</sup>

## Headlines

### *The Senate Trial Begins*

Impeachment refuses to leave the headlines despite polls showing that Americans have largely lost interest in the process. House Speaker formally delivered the Articles of Impeachment to the Senate and announced managers this week, prompting Constitutionally-mandated trial.

The process, which harkens back to the early days of the Republic, saw Chief Justice Roberts administer an oath to all 100 senators that requires them to perform "impartial justice."<sup>2</sup> While there has already been some controversy over how the Senate will conduct the trial, just a simple majority is needed to set and clarify rules over whether to call witnesses, the general procedure, and overall timeline.

### *Cory Booker Drops out of the Primary*

Cory Booker dropped out of the Democratic primary race this week after his campaign struggled to attract the necessary funds to qualify for the next debate and advertise in Iowa. Impeachment and other important duties in the Senate also

called, which took valuable time away from the candidate just weeks before the Iowa caucus.

Despite the end of his campaign, Booker has not ruled out a second appearance as a running mate to whomever wins the primary.<sup>3</sup>

### *Protests in Iran*

In a follow up to last week's report that a Ukrainian airlines passenger jet was shot down by an Iranian missile, the Iranian government confirmed reports that it did in fact shoot down the plane by mistake. According to reports, the system misidentified the passenger jet as a cruise missile and fired in defense. The government originally called such an event "impossible."

Iranians protested against the government for lying to them about the deaths of their fellow citizens, saying the government misinformed and lied to the public. A spokesperson for the regime told warned the protesters to calm down in the aftermath, and told the press, "We didn't lie. Lying is consciously and intentionally faking something to hide the truth."<sup>4</sup>

### *Barr Advocates for Backdoors in Tech*

Attorney General William Barr challenged Apple to coordinate with the FBI this week to help the bureau unlock the phone belonging to the Saudi national who attacked a Pensacola navy base last year. A staunch advocate of backdoors in tech for the government, he lamented that "We should be able to get in [the phones] once we have a warrant that establishes that criminal activity is probably under way."<sup>5</sup>

Apple has long defended its position on encryption, building software that the company itself cannot access. CEO Tim Cook has repeatedly said that he will fight the government on the issue of backdoors or building some other way for law enforcement to gain access. The company is currently gearing up for a legal fight against the government if Barr chooses to bring a lawsuit.

## What's up this weekend?

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### [Dvořák's Symphony No. 9](#)

**Where** David Geffen Hall, NY Philharmonic

**When** January 15-21, 2020; various times

**What** “This first of Gustavo Dudamel’s two weeks at the Philharmonic features Dvořák’s beloved “postcard” from the New World — a cascade of beguiling melodies, majestic horn calls, and an expression of homesickness for his native Bohemia. The Orchestra also performs Ives’s mini philosophy lesson about man’s eternal search for meaning and the New York Premiere of Esteban Benzecry’s Piano Concerto evoking, in the composer’s words, “humans and their connections with their internal and external universes, in a world before our civilization, where times were governed by planetary and agricultural cycles.” ” —*the website*

### [K2 Friday Night Tour](#)

**Where** The Rubin

**When** January 17, 2020; 7pm

**What** “Much of the art from the Museum’s collection is centuries old, but it provides fresh perspectives on our world today. Take a guided tour to learn more about the beautiful and thought-provoking objects in our galleries. Open your mind to new ideas while accessing art through conversation and up-close observation with a trained educator. Tours last approximately 45 minutes. Reservations are not required...” —*the website*

### [Winter Jazzfest](#)

**Where** Various Venues—check out the website for more!

**When** January 8-18, 2020

**What** “Winter Jazzfest is the annual New York home to the exciting and forward-thinking contemporary jazz music being made today. It attracts a unique, deeply engaged, discerning audience, a diverse range of cultural enthusiasts and music fans from across North America and over 20 countries. The festival also plays host to attendees of the annual Association of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP), who attend Winter Jazzfest in order to discover new talents.” —*the website*

### [The Exponential Festival](#)

**Where** Brooklyn: Bushwick, Clinton Hill, Fort Greene, Williamsburg, Sunset Park

**When** January, 2020

**What** “Exponential is the only month-long January festival dedicated to New York City-based emerging artists working in experimental performance. The participants in this multi-artist, multi-venue festival are

committed to ecstatic creativity in the face of commercialism. Exponential is driven by inclusiveness and a diversity of artists, forms, and ideas coupled with utopian resource-sharing, mentoring and the championing of risky, rigorous work in eclectic fields to keep theatre kicking.” *-the website*

### *The Truth Has Changed*

**Where** Newman Theater

**When** January 11-19, 2020

**What** "THE TRUTH HAS CHANGED traces the arc of misinformation and propaganda in America from 9/11 to Trump. As a reporter and eyewitness on the frontlines of so many of the key moments that have changed this country and changed the world, Josh Fox has many stories to tell. From 9/11 and the Iraq war, to the advent of fracking and the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill, to the relentless smear campaigns against climate scientists, to the fight for 100% renewable energy, to the 2016 presidential campaign, to Standing Rock, Josh has had a front row seat to history unfolding.” *-the website*

## Further Reading

<https://waitbutwhy.com/2014/06/taming-mammoth-let-peoples-opinions-run-life.html>

- ✦ Wait But Why never fails to impress. This article is perfect for the entrepreneur as can be surmised from the title, *Taming the Mammoth: Why You Should Stop Caring What Other People Think*. It is a great read even if you tend to stay away from self-help articles.

<https://time.com/5763768/toi-700-d-goldilocks-planet/>

- ✦ TOI 700d is the most recent planet found to be in the Goldilocks zone of its star. The best part? It's only 100 light years away.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/how-the-u-s-and-china-settled-on-a-trade-deal-neither-wanted-11578931635>

- ✦ A WSJ exposé on the recent trade deal between the US and China.

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## Citations

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.wsj.com/articles/chinas-economic-growth-slows-to-6-1-as-trade-and-business-confidence-suffer-11579236022>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/16/us/politics/impeachment-trump.html>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2020/01/cory-booker-ends-his-run-president/604813/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.wsj.com/articles/iran-warns-protesters-as-it-grapples-with-unrest-over-plane-crash-11578921377>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.wsj.com/articles/barrs-encryption-push-is-decades-in-the-making-but-troubles-some-at-fbi-11579257002>