

and Gardner, who reduced taxpayer liabilities ahead of the storm despite political cheap shots. Now Florida needs to move on tort reform before the next big one hits.

Called Sarcoidosis

Medical conclusion Joseph New York's medical examiner determines that killed Joe Rago. Sarcoidosis Research.

Details to which is on immune cells organs, nodes. It and 40 severe perma-s death with the n, nor is

there a known cure, though corticosteroids are sometimes used to relieve the symptoms if sarcoidosis is properly diagnosed. The disease is unusual enough, however, that it often goes undetected and patients can be ill without knowing it. Readers who want to know more can consult numerous medical websites, including the Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research.

New York police found Joe dead in his apartment on July 20 after they were alerted by Dow Jones security when he didn't come to work. Many of our readers have wondered what happened to a seemingly healthy 34-year-old, and the medical examiner's summary is now a definitive public record.

Joe was a brilliant journalist who died too young, but we were fortunate to have worked with him and benefited from his intelligence, his curiosity and a wit that informed and enlightened readers and all of us who knew him as a friend.

Franken Standard

confirmed Supreme Court Justice that he doesn't like. Perhaps he thinks the late Justice Scalia wrote too well and was too intelligent to be Mr. Franken's idea of a judicial model.

Blue slips were once reserved for nominees with ethical baggage, but Mr. Franken wants to use them for the crime of admiring the wrong people. Mr. Trump was elected in part on an explicit

promise to appoint judges in the mold of Antonin Scalia, so the Franken standard preemptively disqualifies any Trump nominee. Chairman Grassley needn't stand for such nonsense. The blue slip has been around since 1917, but only a few Judiciary Chairmen have chosen to treat it as an absolute veto. Democratic Senator Ted Kennedy gave home state senators a "reasonable" deadline to return slips, and then put it to a committee vote on whether to proceed if they weren't returned. Democrat Joe Biden reserved the right to ignore blue slips so long as an Administration consulted with home state Senators. Republican Strom Thurmond gave Members a mere seven days to return slips, then sometimes voted on nominees even over blue-slip objections.

Mr. Grassley has authority under Senate rules to suspend the blue-slip tradition on a case-by-case basis, and Mr. Franken's abuse deserves to become his first example. The Iowa would also be justified in setting a time limit for returning a slip, since Mr. Franken also exploited the tradition by dragging out his decision on the Stras blue slip for months.

Stras career [reference] ed that

registered under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. They believed that by following the rules, this country, into which they arrived as children and for all intents and purposes is their home country, would accept them as legal immigrants.

Now, President Trump has announced he will terminate the DACA program and threatens to begin deportations within six months. The Dreamers who trusted President

to bolster their voting base. BARRY BRANAGAN Casa Grande, Ariz.

The parents of the young people in question committed the violation, and they should bear some consequence for jumping the queue to get special consideration for their children. They should not benefit in any way, directly or indirectly.

STEVE DONOHUE North Augusta, S.C.

Bitcoin Can Be a Competitive Store of Value

Regarding Andy Kessler's "The Bitcoin Valuation Bubble" (op-ed, Aug. 28): Is Bitcoin or other cryptocurrency a currency, a commodity or a security in an underlying business?

There is nothing underpinning the value of traditional currencies today other than the good faith of central banks that back them. If central banks or governments choose to disfranchise currency bills, they lose all value. This happened in India when certain rupee bills were rendered worthless. The reason this system works is because everyone puts their trust in central banks, and it is this trust that forms the backbone of a legitimate currency. If people choose to trust a different mechanism for currency, such as cryptocurrency, that will work equally well.

Market forces determine the price of currency which can be measured relative to other currencies. The volatility in cryptocurrency pricing is perhaps indicative of a new form of currency with low penetration. Cryptocurrencies have already achieved initial adoption by a fairly significant number of people. As they convert the next wave of adopters, the

The CFPB, Arbitration and Immunity for Wells Fargo

Ted Frank and the Competitive Enterprise Institute ("Congress Can Rescind the CFPB's Gift to Trial Lawyers," op-ed, Sept. 7) are trying their best to hide the truth about the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's rule on forced arbitration. The real gift is to consumers who have been bilked again and again by big banks and predatory payday lenders. We just learned that Wells Fargo defrauded millions more customers than it originally told us. Without the CFPB's rule, none of those millions would ever get their day in court. In fact, Wells Fargo has cited its arbitration clause to avoid ever being held accountable in a court of law. It's easy to demonize advocates who help consumers get justice. It's harder to justify giving banks a "get out of jail free" card, which is what Mr. Frank is proposing the Senate do. Any vote to kill the CFPB's rule should be called what it really is: The Wells Fargo Immunity Act.

F. PAUL BLAND Executive Director, Public Justice Washington

volatility will subside.

Cryptocurrencies aren't commodities because they don't have an alternate use. People own them as a store for value.

We may very well be in a cryptocurrency pricing bubble, but no one knows. We are looking for past patterns to figure out one that fits cryptocurrencies the best. It doesn't matter whether cryptocurrency is a currency or a business. It has proved to be a store for value, and the market is open for you to buy it at a price. Some market pundits will be right, and some will be wrong regarding the bubble.

AKSHAY SINGH Dallas

The main reason that Visa and Mastercard are able to charge their outrageous fees is because the service they provide is incredibly valuable. So using their market value as a proxy for Bitcoin is instructive.

This logic breaks down if brutal competition does indeed lead to prices for payment processing falling over time as competitors break the existing Visa/Mastercard duopoly. But remember, cryptocurrencies (like all currencies) are "network effect" phenomena, which means that Bitcoin or another such cryptocurrency will likely "win" as the dominant blockchain-based payment system. This will return the "industry" to oligopoly-type economics, just as Visa/Mastercard have today.

Gold isn't a medium of exchange, but it is an \$8 trillion asset. Bitcoin only needs to capture a slice of that to become much more valuable.

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Pepper ... And Salt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

