JUMANJI
A GAME FOR THOSE WHO SEEK TO FIND
A WAY TO LEAVE THEIR WORLD BEHIND
YOU ROLL THE DICE TO MOVE YOUR TOKEN
DOUBLES GETS ANOTHER TURN TO THE FIRST PLAYERS REACH THE END WINS

ADVENTURERS BEware:
DO NOT BEGIN UNLESS YOU INTEND TO FINISH
THE EXCITING CONSEQUENCES OF THE GAME WILL VANISH ONLY WHEN A PLAYER HAS REACHED JUMANJI AND CALLED OUT ITS NAME
WE YEARN TO SEE THESE NUMBERS BOOM,
BUT LATELY THEY BRING ONLY GLOOM
GDP Growth Slowed Significantly in the Third Quarter of 2021

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Consumption Stagnated After a Strong Start to 2021

2021Q3: $13.7 trillion, 1.6 percent

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Investment is the Lone Bright Spot for this Quarter

2021Q3: $3.6 trillion, 11.7 percent

Billions of Chained 2012 Dollars

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Government Spending Has Not Changed Outside of Earlier Stimulus

2021Q3: $3.4 trillion, 0.8 percent

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Imports Grew While Exports Shrunk in the Third Quarter

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

2021Q3: -$1.3 trillion

Billions of Chained 2012 Dollars

Net exports of goods and services

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Maryland Experienced Strong Growth in Q1 and Q2

2021Q2: $371.9 billion, 6.1 percent annual growth

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis
Consumer Sentiment Recently Hit the Lowest Point in Ten Years

Source: University of Michigan
Shelves devoid of merchandise, what still remains is overpriced.
Inventory for Cars Cannot Keep Up With Demand

New and used motor vehicle prices have increased 20.2 percent over the same time period.

Source: Federal Reserve Economic Data
Smaller Inventory Issues Extend Across All Retail

Retail Inventory to Sales Ratio

Source: Federal Reserve Economic Data
Pandemic Disruptions Exist at All Points of the Supply Chain

- Factory closures/staffing shortages due to COVID
  - Low global vaccine availability
- Shipping delays
- Retail shortages
  - Meat
  - Pharmaceuticals
  - Computer chips
  - Wood pulp for paper and cardboard

Source: The Atlantic
LIKE A BALLOON, BUT NOT AS FUN,
WHAT ONCE BOUGHT TWO, NOW JUST BUYS ONE
Gasoline Prices Have Increased Steadily for the Past Year

Source: Federal Reserve Economic Data
Local Home Prices Have Moved Upwards
Consumer Prices Are Increasing Both Nationally and Locally

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
Beware the Hidden Forms of Inflation

**Shrinkflation** – Products are downsized and sold at the same price
  - Most frequently seen with grocery items (cereal, juice, toilet paper)

**Skimpflation** – Service quality is reduced, often due to lower staffing levels
  - Longer delivery times
  - Reduced room service and breakfast quality in hotels
  - Fewer available staff at bars and restaurants

Source: National Public Radio
SCHEDULES STRAINED, STORES IN DISARRAY, AS WORKERS SEARCH FOR BETTER PAY
National Unemployment and Underemployment Are Still Recovering

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Job Openings Are Again Outnumbering Persons Looking for Work

Thousands of Persons/Jobs

Unemployed Persons

Job Openings

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
The Same is True in Maryland Despite Higher Unemployment

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
People Are Quitting Their Jobs at a Record Rate

Quits Rate, Seasonally Adjusted

United States
Maryland

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Wages in 2021 Have Decreased Even as Inflation Rises

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Labor Force Participation is Lower Than Pre-Pandemic

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
According to PwC, 65 percent of employees are looking for a new job.

Which of the following are top reasons why you are looking for a new job?

1. Pay
2. Benefits
3. Career advancement opportunities
4. Flexibility

Source: PwC
It triggers droughts and whips up storms, as year by year the weather warms.
Warming Weather Has Led to a Longer Growing Season

Source: Environmental Protection Agency
Coastal Flooding in our Region Has Become More Frequent

Source: Environmental Protection Agency
Wildfires in the United States are Increasing

Losses and damages for the 2021 wildfire season are forecasted to total $70-90 billion.

Sources: Accuweather, Environmental Protection Agency
TOO BUSY SQUABBLING, MAKING THREATS, TO SPARE A THOUGHT FOR ALL OUR DEBTS
Partisanship in Washington, DC

• Partisanship in recent decades has led to increased difficulty with passing annual budgets and raising the debt ceiling.

• To avoid running out of funds, Congress has delayed the fight on the debt ceiling to December 3 to avoid a default and shutdown.

Source: Washington Post
Cost of a Government Shutdown

• In the case of a government shutdown, federal agencies won’t have the funding to perform all of their regular duties.

• The last government shut down lasted 35 days and it was estimated that around $3 billion in economic activity was lost in that time.

• A default would result in global economic fallout and a likely recession.

Source: Washington Post
News and Politics in Social Media

• A study conducted by MIT found that false news is 70 percent more likely to be retweeted on Twitter than true news.

• During the 2020 election, fake news on Facebook was six times the level of engagement as true news.

• According to Pew Research, 48 percent of U.S. adults regularly get news from social media.

Sources: MIT, Pew Research, Washington Post
CONSTRUCTION CRANES ARE IN THE VIEW, WATCHING TOWSON GROW ANEW
TU and Commercial Development in the Heart of Towson

- Over $1.7 billion in public and private development is currently taking place within a quarter mile of Towson’s campus.
- More investment per square foot than anywhere else in Maryland.
- TU has supported this growth through investment and strategic partnerships.

Source: Towson University
Towson Row

- $350 million mixed use destination covering more than 1 million SF of new development, including:
  - the Armory,
  - 401 Washington office,
  - student housing, and
  - new retail spaces.

Source: Engage TU
The Armory

- The **21,000 SF** former National Guard Armory, currently leased by TU, includes:
  - Free co-working space,
  - The StarTU Accelerator,
  - ATHENA PowerLink® Baltimore,
  - TEDCO,
  - Baltimore County Small Business Resource Center, and
  - Starbucks!

Source: Engage TU
401 Washington

- Purchased by TU for roughly $7.5 million
- About a half-mile from the main campus and across from the Armory
- 130,000 SF office building occupied by TU divisions including:
  - The Office of Technology Services (OTS),
  - Strategic Partners & Applied Research (SPAR), and
  - University Advancement.

Source: Baltimore Sun
Circle East

- Located in the center of Downtown Towson less than a mile from Towson Row
- Over **240,000 SF** of retail space, four parking garages, and an apartment complex (Avalon)

Source: Circle East
FIFTY EXPERTS, EACH ONE POLLED, FIFTY DIFFERENT FUTURES TOLD
Vaccination Rates in Maryland are Higher Than Across the United States

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Remote Work Prefers to Work Remotely or in a Hybrid Model

- Approximately 21 percent of workers cannot work from home due to the nature of their work.

- Of those who can work remotely, the majority, 56.4 percent, would like to spend at least 3 days working from home.

Source: PwC
Jobs Are Expected to Recover, Relative to Previous Forecasts

Source: REMI
Gross State Product Will Take Longer to Fully Recover

Source: REMI

Billions of 2012 Dollars

COVID-Era GSP Forecast
Pre-COVID GSP Forecast
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