

Groton Daily Independent

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Wednesday, Sept. 8

Senior Menu: Oven fried chicken, sweet potatoes, green beans, pears, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Omelets.

School Lunch: Pasta primavera, cooked carrots.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 4 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:30 pm.

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 5:30 p.m.

Groton C&MA: Kid's Club, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Fourth Grade GBB, 3:30 p.m.

Sixth Grade GBB, 6 p.m.



Thursday, Sept. 9

Senior Menu: Baked fish, au gratin potatoes, 3-bean salad, peach cobbler, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Biscuits.

School Lunch: Sloppy joe, tri taters.

Flu Shot at Groton Area, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Northeast Conference Cross Country Meet, 1 p.m. at Webster

Parent-Teacher Conferences, 1:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Third Grade GBB, 5 p.m.

Third through Sixth Grade GBB Skills, 6 p.m.

Groton Lions Club meeting, 6 p.m., at 104 N Main.

Friday, Sept. 10

NO SCHOOL

Senior Menu: Creamed chicken over biscuits, peas and carrots pineapple..

Lake Region Marching Festival, 10 a.m.

JV Football vs. Sisseton at Langford, 7 p.m.

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1440

Why 1440? The printing press was invented around the year 1440, spreading knowledge to the masses and changing the course of history. More facts: In every day, there are 1,440 minutes. We're here to make each one count.

Back Pay Uncertainty

President Donald Trump signaled yesterday that furloughed federal workers may not be guaranteed retroactive compensation when the government reopens, a potential shift from previous policy that covered roughly 750,000 employees.

A draft memo from the Office of Management and Budget states Congress would need to determine whether nonessential workers are paid back once a spending bill is passed. The move deviates from a 2019 law passed during Trump's first term, which guaranteed back pay for federal employees during funding lapses following a five-week shutdown that began in December 2018. The OMB memo argues that while the 2019 law authorizes back pay, it does not appropriate funds for it.

The uncertainty arises as Senate lawmakers remain deadlocked on dueling funding measures, and the government enters its eighth shutdown day. Democrats have tied support for a short-term funding bill to the extension of Affordable Care Act subsidies, which are set to expire this year.

Conversion Therapy

The Supreme Court heard arguments yesterday on whether Colorado's ban on conversion therapy for minors violates free speech. Christian therapist Kaley Chiles challenged a 2019 law—similar to bans in over 20 states—that prohibits licensed mental health providers from attempting to change a minor's sexual orientation or gender identity. Chiles says the law infringes on her ability to counsel minors within a faith-based context.

Conversion therapy, supported by many religious groups but opposed by major medical organizations, aims to have gay or lesbian minors identify as heterosexual and transgender minors identify with their birth-assigned gender. State officials cited studies linking the practice to depression and increased suicide risk, while Chiles' attorneys argued the evidence of harm is inconclusive, pointing to a recent Department of Health and Human Services report.

Conservative justices questioned potential limits on speech, while liberal justices emphasized possible health risks. The court is expected to rule by mid-2026.

Mouse Brain Map

Researchers have used an artificial intelligence model to map a mouse brain in unprecedented detail, revealing previously unknown subregions. The map, published yesterday, will allow scientists to pinpoint more precisely which parts of the brain govern specific functions, behaviors, and diseases.

The AI model, CellTransformer, was built by the University of California, San Francisco, and the Seattle-based Allen Institute using the same underlying framework as tools like ChatGPT. However, instead of evaluating relationships between words, CellTransformer analyzes relationships between neighboring cells. Drawing solely on large datasets, the model identified 1,300 brain regions and subregions, including uncharted areas that may provide insight into movement disorders, memory loss, and other neurological conditions. One researcher compared the advance to moving from a map that only shows continents and countries to one that reveals states and cities.

The team behind CellTransformer says the model can also be used to map other organs, cancerous tissues, and disease progression.

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Sports, Entertainment, & Culture

Twenty-five finalists for the 2025 National Book Awards announced; winners in each of the five categories will be announced Nov. 19.

Thirty original paintings by TV host Bob Ross to be auctioned off to raise funds for public television stations.

Ross' landscape paintings had been notoriously difficult to find on the open market

WNBA Finals continue tonight (8 pm ET, ESPN) with the Las Vegas Aces taking on the Phoenix Mercury in Game 3.

... and MLB Division Series continues; see latest schedule and bracket.

Science & Technology

Nobel Prize in Physics awarded to trio of US-based scientists for 1980s quantum mechanics discoveries that laid the groundwork for digital communications and advanced computing.

Nobel Prize in Chemistry to be announced this morning at 5:45 am ET.

Engineers develop 3D-printed aluminum alloy five times stronger than traditionally manufactured aluminum, potentially enabling lighter aircraft parts; machine learning accelerated search for optimal compositions.

Chinese chipmakers bought nearly \$40B in chipmaking gear from the US and its allies last year—66% jump from 2022—despite US efforts to restrict access.

Business & Markets

US stock markets close down (S&P 500 -0.4%, Dow -0.2%, Nasdaq -0.7%).

Gold soars past \$4K per ounce for first time, signaling investor anxiety; precious metal has gained more than 50% this year.

Intercontinental Exchange, owner of the New York Stock Exchange, to invest up to \$2B in Polymarket, a crypto-based predictive markets platform valued at roughly \$8B.

Tesla unveils two cheaper car models—both with starting price tags below \$40K—amid faltering sales; shares fall 4.5%.

Ford Motor shares fall 6.1% on news aluminum plant fire will likely disrupt production for months.

Politics & World Affairs

Attorney General Pam Bondi testifies before Senate Judiciary Committee in oversight hearing on Justice Department; topics covered include Epstein files, DOJ probes.

US envoy Steve Witkoff and President Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner to arrive in Egypt today as indirect peace talks between Israel and Hamas continue; Israel marked second anniversary of Oct. 7, 2023, attacks yesterday.

First National Guard troops from Texas arrive in Illinois a day after Chicago and Illinois sued the Trump administration for deploying federalized troops

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Groton Area Girls Advance to Second Round with Defensive Gem

The Groton Area girls soccer team punched their ticket to the second round of the Class A playoffs on Tuesday afternoon, edging West Central 1-0 on their home field behind a gritty defensive performance and clutch goal in the second half.

The lone goal of the match came with 31:21 left in the second half when Jerica Locke scored off an assist from her sister, Sydney Locke. From there, the Tigers tightened up their defensive structure and held off a late West Central push to secure the win.

"All three games with West Central came down to a one-goal scenario — which team was going to capitalize the most off their scoring chances," said Groton head coach Matt Baumgartner. "We did what we had to do in our scoring chances today, and we had some stellar saves by Jaedyn Penning to kind of keep it a tight game. Very proud of that."

The defensive tone was evident throughout the night. West Central finished with nine shot attempts, while Groton recorded eight — but one of those was the difference-maker. Penning anchored the Tigers' back line with seven saves in goal. Offensively, McKenna Tietz had one shot, Brenna Imrie added two, Jerica Locke led the attack with three, and Carly Gilbert chipped in two.

The closing minutes tested Groton's composure as daylight faded. "That last 12 minutes was probably some of the most stressful minutes I've dealt with as a coach," Baumgartner said with a laugh. "It was getting chillier, and I was pacing back and forth just watching the play. If they had scored, it was going to be a weird scenario with the refs and the light, so I was happy it ended in 80 minutes."

Baumgartner noted that the team adjusted tactically late, dropping all 10 field players behind the ball to protect the lead. "Sometimes you've got to 'park the bus,'" he explained. "Just take away all the avenues and alleys that they want to occupy and use, and take that away."

With the win, Groton improves to 8-5 on the season and now advances to face top-ranked Dakota Valley on Saturday in the quarterfinals. The two teams split their regular-season meetings. "We'll look back at our second game against them — that was probably our best 80 minutes of soccer this season," Baumgartner said. "We'll use that as our formula for what's next."

Broncs Edge Tigers in Shootout Heartbreaker

The Groton Area boys soccer team saw its season come to a dramatic end Tuesday afternoon, falling 7-4 to Belle Fourche in a first-round playoff thriller held in Groton.

Groton struck first when Carson Zak found the back of the net just 1:48 into the first half. Belle Fourche answered midway through the period as Jackson Kirksey evened the score with 18:19 remaining. The Broncs then took a 2-1 lead into halftime on a goal by Griffen Biehl with 3:03 left in the first half.

The Tigers battled back early in the second half. Ethan Kroll tied the game at 2-2 with 12:59 remaining, and neither team could break through again in regulation, sending the match to overtime.

In the first 10-minute overtime, Belle Fourche went back in front on a goal by Keegan Walker with 6:16 on the clock. But Groton refused to quit. With just 1:23 left in the second overtime, Becker Bosma, assisted by Kroll, knocked in the equalizer to make it 3-3 and send the game to a decisive shootout.

In the shootout, Belle Fourche converted all four of its first four attempts. Groton went 1-for-3, with Logan Olsen netting the Tigers' lone shootout goal. Belle Fourche's accuracy in the shootout secured the 7-4 victory.

Zak led the Tigers with 10 shots on goal, followed by Kroll and Olsen with three each, J.J. Mueller with two, and Axel Abelen with two. Gage Sippel had a strong day in goal, recording 12 saves against 21 Belle Fourche attempts.

Groton Area finishes the season with a 7-6 record, capping off a year that featured strong offensive surges and resilient play down the stretch.

Both games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Avantara Groton, Dacotah Bank, Groton American Legion, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Daily Independent, Harry Implement of Ferney, Lori's Pharmacy, Milbrandt Enterprises and Sun & Sea Travel. Special thanks to JVT for providing our cell service for this broadcast.

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Emerlee Jones
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Drake Peterson
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Becker Bosma
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Jaedyn Penning
(Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton's Events



**Nov. 11: Veteran's Day Program,
2 p.m.**



**Dec. 5: Tour of Trees at Wage
Memorial Library, 3:30-5:30 p.m.**



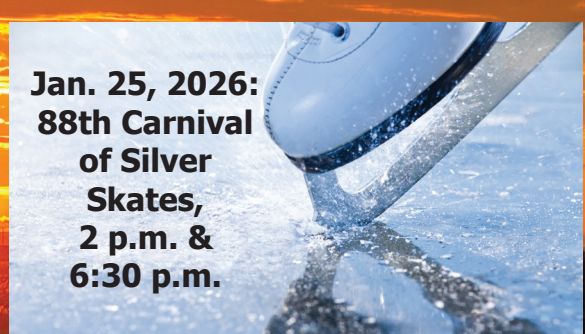
**Nov. 27:
Community
Thanksgiving
at the
Community
Center,
11:30 a.m.
to 1:30 p.m.**



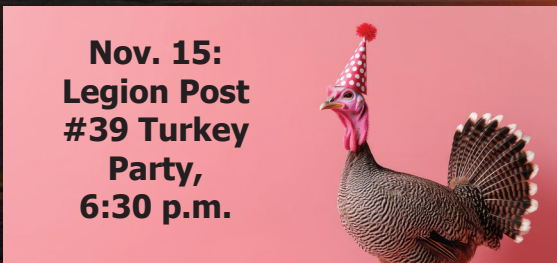
**Dec. 6: Olive Grove Holiday
Party, 6 p.m.**



**Nov. 30: Groton Snow Queen
Contest, 4 p.m.**



**Jan. 25, 2026:
88th Carnival
of Silver
Skates,
2 p.m. &
6:30 p.m.**



**Nov. 15:
Legion Post
#39 Turkey
Party,
6:30 p.m.**



**Jan. 25, 2026:
Groton Robotics
Pancake Feed at
the Community
Center,
10 am. to 1 p.m.**

GROTON

Chamber of Commerce

120 N Main, Groton, SD 57445

605/397-8422 ~ GrotonChamber.com

Groton City Council review budget requests, discusses community projects

By Elizabeth Varin

The Groton City Council got its first look at budget requests for the 2026 fiscal year, with proposals ranging from major infrastructure work to quality-of-life improvements across the community.

Early requests include more than \$120,000 for street resurfacing, a hoop barn to cover the city's salt and sand storage, radar signs along highways 12 and 37, upgrades to the baseball and softball complex, and the city's next phase of wastewater infrastructure improvements.

One of the largest potential projects would rebuild a transmission line entering town, a cost that could approach \$1 million.

More information about the potential purchases and contracts is expected in the coming meetings as the council looks at its 2026 fiscal year budget.

Something new this year could involve in-person discussion about requests made and why they are needed. Councilman Mike Shilhanek asked about having baseball and softball coaches present their needs and have a discussion with the council about the requests.

Mayor Scott Hanlon responded, "we've never done that. It would be good to get them in here to talk about it."

More information will be released as the city gets closer to approving its upcoming budget.

Council members also weighed in on other community topics, including the speed limit north of the golf course, renewal of wine and liquor licenses, and whether the city should assist the Groton Development Corporation with property cleanup efforts.

Representatives of the Olive Grove Golf Course have asked the city to add speed limit signs on Fifth Avenue north of the golf course. The topic of lowering the speed limit in that section of the roadway was also discussed.

The council approved adding a speed limit sign near where the avenue intersects with Highway 12. However, the council members hesitated about lowering the speed limit from the current 25 miles per hour down to 15 miles per hour.

Councilman Mike Shilhanek asked whether the city would be willing to assist the Groton Development Corporation with cleaning up properties on a case-by-case basis.

Shilhanek, who serves as vice president of the economic development board, said the purpose would be cleaning up problem properties and increasing the property values. While the development corporation doesn't currently own any properties in town, the idea would be to purchase or receive donated properties, clean them up and sell them with requirements on time frames to build structures and a review of proposed building plans.

Councilman Brian Bahr said it would be fine to help move things from properties to the city landfill (as long as it's accepted out there), but expressed hesitancy about doing more than that.

Mayor Scott Hanlon agreed.

"For you guys to expect the city to do everything, that might be asking a little much," he said.

City Attorney Chad Locken clarified, though, that the development corporation is not asking the city to do anything right away, and any assistance would be brought to the city on a case-by-case basis.

Shilhanek added that if a property becomes available, the development corporation would create a presentation for the council. They don't want to add liability to the city, but rather see what they can offer to help clean up and increase property values.

Later in the meeting, Shilhanek asked the council to authorize releasing \$50,000 in money from the Groton Community Fund that was earmarked in the 1990s for economic development. That decision was tabled as there would not be a quorum should Shilhanek abstain from the vote.

- The council tabled discussion of renewing liquor and wine licenses for 2026. City Finance Officer

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Douglas Heinrich said there hasn't been a problem with any of the businesses renewing their licenses, which includes The Jungle (package off-sale liquor and retail on-sale liquor), American Legion Post No. 39 (package off-sale liquor and retail on-sale liquor), Ken's Food Fair (package off-sale liquor), Red Horse Inn (retail on-sale liquor), Olive Grove Golf Course (retail on-sale liquor), Dollar General (retail on-off sale wine and cider) and MJ's Sinclair (package off-sale liquor). However, questions came up about the Red Horse Inn licenses, specifically if the liquor license will be used within the next year or if the city should hold on to the liquor license in case another business wants to use it.

- The council opened the only bid received to lease land at the Groton Municipal Airport. Shawn Gengerke proposed leasing the approximately 95 acres of land for \$256.10 per acre for three years.

- The council approved purchasing a SnowWolf plow that attaches to a skid steer and would allow city employees to clear snow from more narrow roadways like alleys in town. The equipment costs \$11,960.

- The council appointed Doug Daly to the city Planning and Zoning Commission for a 5-year term.

- The council accepted a proposal from Soil Technologies, Inc., out of Mobridge to perform soil exploration of the area where the wastewater system improvements will take place.

- The council approved finalized paperwork denying an appeal by Mark Abeln Farms that would allow building storage units at 9 E. Railroad Avenue. The council denied allowing the project to move forward at its Sept. 16 meeting after a public hearing.

- Two events were announced Tuesday evening. The first, Enrich's Winter Gear Distribution, takes place from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, at the Groton Community Center. The other, Pumpkin Fest, takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the city park.



SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

<https://southdakotasearchlight.com>

Rehabilitation task force will pick up prison population talks where lawmakers left off

Group includes membership from in and outside branches of government

BY: JOHN HULT-OCTOBER 7, 2025 12:59 PM

Voices from South Dakota's Legislature, judiciary, schools, law enforcement, mental health, tribal health and nonprofit spheres will pick up and carry on a conversation about rehabilitation and recidivism that began with a lawmaker-led summer study this year.

Unlike that summer study group, whose members twice met to take testimony on repeat offenses and potential responses to them, the Correctional Rehabilitation Task Force is empowered with the authority to hire consultants to study the issue.

Governor Larry Rhoden established the task force through an executive order on Sept. 23. He signed the order on camera, surrounded by lawmakers and reporters, just moments after signing a bill authorizing the state to begin work on a new 1,500-bed, \$650 million men's prison in northeast Sioux Falls.

His office released the list of task force members on Tuesday. Among them is Rep. Greg Jamison, R-Sioux Falls, who co-led the summer study on rehabilitation.

Instead of producing a final report with findings from that group, Jamison said, the plan is to pass along the information gathered so far to the new task force at its first meeting later this month.

"The idea is to hand our baton off to them so the new task force can finish it," Jamison said.

Lt. Gov. Tony Venhuizen, who will lead the task force, confirmed in an email to South Dakota Searchlight that he aims to "find a way to coordinate our work with the summer study," and that the details and dates for meetings are in the works.

From Jamison's perspective, the new group's membership across the executive, judicial and legislative branches and its inclusion of voices from outside the government means a wider range of institutional knowledge. The summer study group and the Project Prison Reset task force that voted to recommend the prison plan both heard from inmates and family members who asked for the inclusion of their perspectives.

Erik Bringswhite will offer a line to that community on the new task force. Bringswhite is founder and leader of a Rapid City-based nonprofit called I Am Legacy to help those returning to their communities from prison.

Bringswhite spent time in federal prison in the early 2000s, and others who work for or volunteer with his group have similar experiences. There are many barriers to reintegration, Bringswhite said, from housing to employment to things as simple – to those who've never been incarcerated, anyway – as getting an ID card or setting up appointments for medication.

"We know what that looks like and where those services are provided," Bringswhite said.

The group has four reentry outreach workers to help on that side, and another four "violence interruptors" who aim to intervene in situations before a felony arrest might occur.

He'd like to see closer collaboration between law enforcement and nonprofits like his on the front end, because "incarceration isn't strengthening our country."

"I'm hoping that this correctional rehabilitation task force is here to disrupt the cycle," Bringswhite said.

On the day Rhoden announced the task force's membership, Stateline published a story on incarceration, based on Bureau of Justice Statistics data from fiscal year 2023. It showed a nationwide increase in imprisonment over 2022, and that South Dakota had the third-highest increase in imprisonment during that time frame, behind Maine and New Mexico.

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That data put South Dakota's federal and state prison population at 3,764. As of Sept. 30 of this year, the South Dakota Department of Corrections was housing 3,839 inmates. The Federal Prison Camp at Yankton, the state's only federal prison facility, listed a population of 495 on its website as of Tuesday.

Members of the South Dakota Correctional Rehabilitation Task Force

- Lt. Governor Tony Venhuizen, Chair;
- Mayor of Sioux Falls Paul TenHaken;
- Judge Pat Pardy, Third Judicial Circuit;
- Senate President Pro Tempore Chris Karr, R-District 11;
- Senator Tamara Grove, R-District 26;
- Senator Joy Hohn, R-District 9;
- Senator Paul Miskimins, R-District 20;
- Senator Ernie Otten, R-District 6;
- Senator Sue Peterson, R-District 13;
- Senator Jamie Smith, D-District 15;
- Representative John Hughes, R-District 13;
- Representative Greg Jamison, R-District 12;
- Representative Chris Kassin, R-District 17;
- Representative Brian Mulder, R-District 11;
- Representative Tim Reisch, R-District 8;
- Representative Tesa Schwans, R-District 9;
- Representative Eric Emery, D-District 26A;
- Representative Kady Wittman, D-District 15;
- Minnehaha County State's Attorney Danial Hagggar;
- Pennington County Sheriff Brian Mueller;
- Southeast Technical College President Cory Clasemann;
- Minnehaha County Jail Warden Mike Mattson;
- State Court Administrator Greg Sattizahn;
- Sioux Falls City Council member Rich Merkouris;
- Founder of I.Am.Legacy Erik Brings White;
- CEO of Great Plains Tribal Leader's Health Board Jerilyn Church;
- Executive Director of SD Council of Mental Health Centers Terry Dosch;
- Sioux Falls School Board Member Dawn Marie Johnson;
- Secretary of Labor and Regulation Marcia Hultman; and
- Department of Corrections Deputy Secretary Brent Fluke.

John is the senior reporter for South Dakota Searchlight. He has more than 15 years experience covering criminal justice, the environment and public affairs in South Dakota, including more than a decade at the Sioux Falls Argus Leader.

South Dakota has third-highest increase amid growing US prison population

Combined state and federal numbers rose 2% between 2022 and 2023

BY: AMANDA HERNÁNDEZ-OCTOBER 7, 2025 12:48 PM

The nation's prison population grew for the second consecutive year in 2023, reversing more than a decade of steady decline.

A new prison population report from the federal Bureau of Justice Statistics, released before the federal shutdown, shows that 1,254,224 people were incarcerated in state and federal prisons on the last day of

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2023 — an increase of 24,081 people from the year before, or about 2%.

It follows a rise in 2022, which marked the first uptick since 2010, when prison populations began a gradual decline after peaking in the mid 2000s.

Even with recent increases, the prison population in 2023 was still about 20% below the 2013 level.

The latest figures show that women remain a small share of the prison population, but their numbers are growing faster than men's.

Between 2022 and 2023, the female prison population rose nearly 4%, from 87,800 to 91,100. The male population increased by nearly 2% during the same period. Thirty-eight states saw growth in their male prison populations, while 41 states reported increases among women.

New Mexico, Maine and South Dakota recorded the highest growth rates in their prison populations.

Seven more populous states — Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, New York, Ohio, Texas and Wisconsin — added more than 1,000 people to their prison rolls during the same period. New Jersey, Alaska and Hawaii had the largest decreases in rates.

The growth comes as prisons are grappling with another demographic shift: a rapidly aging population. In 2023, nearly 1 in 4 prisoners were 50 or older. That trend is expected to continue, some experts say, with projections that by 2030 as much as one-third of the U.S. prison population will be over 50.

Correctional systems, many of which already face staffing shortages and overcrowding, are under growing pressure as prison populations rise. In recent years, some prisoner advocates and state legislators have pushed for measures such as "second look" laws or expanded parole eligibility that would release people deemed low risk for reoffending. Those could include older adults, people with serious medical needs and those convicted of nonviolent offenses.

The idea has gained traction as a way to lower prison operation costs and ease strain on correctional staff, but it remains controversial. Supporters say targeted decarceration can improve safety inside prisons and save taxpayer dollars, while opponents argue it could jeopardize public safety and that such releases may not significantly lower taxpayer costs.

Stateline reporter Amanda Hernández can be reached at ahernandez@stateline.org.

This story was originally produced by Stateline, which is part of States Newsroom, a nonprofit news network which includes South Dakota Searchlight, and is supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity.

Amanda Hernández covers criminal justice for Stateline. She has reported for both national and local outlets, including ABC News, USA Today and NBC4 Washington.

COMMENTARY

Hegseth's own decision may be final, but the Wounded Knee medals debate is not over by CRAIG HOWE

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth announced recently that the Medals of Honor awarded to U.S. soldiers for their actions at Wounded Knee Creek on Dec. 29, 1890, will not be rescinded.

His decision was based on the October 2024 recommendation of a five-member special review panel that voted 3-2 for the medals to be retained. At that time, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin did not announce the panel's vote or his decision.

Hegseth, in announcing his decision, said, "This decision is now final," and said of the soldiers, "their place in our nation's history is no longer up for debate."

Hegseth's decision may indeed be his final one, but his proclamation that the medals will never be rescinded betrays a lack of awareness of how fast attitudes can change. As Defense secretary, he can essentially prevent the medals from being rescinded during his tenure. But his decision is not binding on future secretaries or presidents. His undoing of decisions by his predecessors, such as their removal of Confederate statues, illustrates the temporary nature of such decisions.

Public debate on this issue is entirely beyond the control of Hegseth or any future Defense secretary.

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People will continue to uncover new evidence and propose different interpretations.

Here are some facts we have so far.

When the Department of Defense created the review panel last year, it said there were “approximately 20” Medals of Honor awarded. There is disagreement in historical sources about the exact number, because records associated with some medals are incomplete or unclear.

Thirty-four members of the Army’s Seventh Cavalry, plus one member of the Hospital Corps, died at Wounded Knee Creek or later from wounds suffered there, according to the book “Surviving Wounded Knee” by David Grua. It’s likely that many of them were killed by friendly fire because of how the commanding officer arranged the troops.

The U.S. side consisted of soldiers. The Lakotan side consisted of men, women and children who constituted a village in transit from the Cheyenne River Reservation to the Pine Ridge Reservation. Their leader, Spotted Elk (also known as Big Foot), was gravely ill.

U.S. soldiers separated the men from the women and children. Then the men were surrounded and disarmed. The women, in their lodges, were searched and disarmed.

A deaf Lakotan’s rifle accidentally discharged while soldiers were trying to take it from him. No one was hit by the bullet. In response, the U.S. soldiers fired their rifles at the men, and the Hotchkiss guns atop the adjacent hill were fired indiscriminately into the village.

U.S. soldiers killed children, women and men, even miles from the village. The Hotchkiss guns were relocated several times to fire on Lakotans sheltering in a twisted gully. U.S. soldiers continued shooting until sundown, then left Wounded Knee and returned to Pine Ridge Agency with wounded soldiers and Lakotans.

A blizzard blew in with snow and freezing temperatures on the afternoon of Dec. 31 and raged into the night. The next morning, New Year’s Day, Dakotan physician Charles Eastman asked for and received permission to return to Wounded Knee with about 100 men, including two photographers, to search for survivors. They found 11 children, women and men, who they took back to Pine Ridge.

Civilian contractors were hired by the U.S. government to bury the Lakotan bodies they could find on Jan. 3 and 4, 1891. They were paid \$2 per body. For this reason, we know that they buried 18 children, 44 women and 84 men. They dug a 5-foot-deep, 6-foot-wide and 72-foot-long trench atop the hill where the Hotchkiss guns originally were located. The bodies were thrown into the trench and tramped down. The mass grave was left unmarked.

The names of the persons buried in the trench grave are not known. Survivors of the massacre recalled the names of nearly 200 missing persons. But how many of these include the 146 people buried in the grave is unknown.

On Oct. 25, 1990, the U.S. Congress issued a joint resolution expressing its “deep regret on behalf of the United States” for the Wounded Knee Massacre, and expressed its “commitment to acknowledge and learn from our history, including the Wounded Knee Massacre, in order to provide a proper foundation for building an ever more humane, enlightened, and just society for the future.”

In contrast, Secretary Hegseth appears determined to do exactly the opposite.

Craig Howe, founder and director of the Center for American Indian Research and Native Studies (CAIRNS), earned a Ph.D. in architecture and anthropology from the University of Michigan. He was raised and lives on his family’s cattle ranch in the Lacreek District of the Pine Ridge Reservation and is a citizen of the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

A combative AG Pam Bondi confronts US Senate Judiciary over Trump crackdown

BY: ASHLEY MURRAY-OCTOBER 7, 2025 2:42 PM

WASHINGTON — U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi aimed heated rhetoric at Democratic senators on Capitol Hill Tuesday as she faced questions over the administration’s surge of federal agents to blue cities, as well as a litany of controversial issues surrounding the Department of Justice.

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In one fervid exchange during the routine oversight hearing before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Bondi lashed out at Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin, "I wish you'd love Chicago as much as you hate President Trump."

"And currently the National Guard are on the way to Chicago — if you're not going to protect your citizens, President Trump will," Bondi continued, responding to a question from Durbin on whether she had any conversations with the administration ahead of a deployment of the National Guard to Chicago.

"And by the way so is (FBI) Director Kash Patel and Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche. You're sitting here grilling me, and they're on their way to Chicago to keep your state safe," Bondi said.

"Madam Attorney General, it's my job to grill you," Durbin responded.

Battles with states

Bondi's hearing occurred after a whirlwind weekend of back-and-forth between a federal judge and the Trump administration over whether National Guard troops could be sent to Portland, Oregon, and were necessary to protect federal law enforcement engaged with Immigration and Custom Enforcement protesters.

Illinois is now locked in a legal battle to block troops from coming to Chicago.

Chicago is a month into a federal crackdown. One of the most high-profile raids occurred in the city's South Shore neighborhood on Sept. 30 when dozens of federal agents, including from the FBI, overran a five-story apartment building with helicopters and flashbangs, ziptying adults and children, and detaining some U.S. citizens, according to multiple media reports. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security published a highly produced video of the raid on social media.

Bondi's voice grew hoarse during the hearing as she defended the administration's campaign to arrest "countless" immigrants she described as "illegal aliens."

The attorney general was combative with Democratic senators throughout nearly five hours of questioning — telling Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut, "Don't you ever challenge my integrity" when he asked about DOJ's recently dismissed antitrust lawsuit against American Express.

Bondi later accused Sen. Mazie Hirono of supporting the loose political ideology antifa — which the White House is targeting as a cohesive body — when the Hawaii Democrat questioned a range of issues, including the department's alleged consideration of a compensation fund for pardoned Jan. 6 rioters.

Tom Homan troubles aired

A laundry list of controversial incidents trailed Bondi into the committee room for the oversight hearing — including revelations of FBI agents handing \$50,000 in a restaurant takeout bag to Tom Homan, Trump ally and now White House border czar, ahead of the November 2024 election in exchange for false government contracts.

Bondi declined to answer Democratic Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse when he asked, "What became of the \$50,000 in cash that the FBI delivered evidently in a paper bag to Mr. Homan?"

Whitehouse, of Rhode Island, and other Democratic senators asked if Homan kept the money and if he claimed it on his income tax return.

"The investigation of Mr. Homan was subjected to a full review by the FBI and the DOJ. They found no credible evidence of wrongdoing," Bondi said.

She then accused Whitehouse of corruption and accepting "dark money."

"The questions here are actually pretty specific, so having you respond with completely irrelevant far-right internet talking points is really not very helpful," Whitehouse said.

Comey indictment directed by Trump

Lawmakers from both parties volleyed accusations of the department's "weaponization" against the previous and current administrations.

Bondi's appearance came less than two weeks after a grand jury returned an indictment of former Federal Bureau of Investigation Director James Comey. The indictment swiftly followed the administration's ouster of interim U.S. Attorney Erik Seibert in Virginia after he resisted bringing charges against Comey and New York Democratic Attorney General Letitia James. The administration replaced Seibert with President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer, Lindsey Halligan.

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Days before the Comey indictment, Trump directly appealed to Bondi as "Pam" on his social media platform Truth Social: "What about Comey, Adam 'Shifty' Schiff, Leticia??? They're all guilty as hell, but nothing is going to be done."

Schiff, a California Democrat, sits on the Judiciary Committee. Late in the hearing, Bondi suggested Schiff should "apologize" to Trump for his past efforts in impeachment proceedings during the president's first term. Bondi also attacked Schiff as a "failed lawyer."

Grassley Jan. 6 disclosure

Republicans seethed during the hearing at Monday's disclosure by Committee Chair Chuck Grassley that FBI agents analyzed data on more than half a dozen Republican lawmakers' phones during their 2023 investigation into Trump's efforts to overturn the 2020 presidential election results.

The FBI allegedly sought data from the days surrounding the Jan. 6, 2021 Capitol attack from the phones of Sens. Josh Hawley of Missouri, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, Bill Hagerty of Tennessee, Dan Sullivan of Alaska, Tommy Tuberville of Alabama, Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, Cynthia Lummis of Wyoming and Marsha Blackburn of Tennessee, as well as Rep. Mike Kelly of Pennsylvania.

Hawley likened the investigation of his colleagues' phones to a "witch hunt" and called for a special prosecutor to "get to the bottom of" alleged Department of Justice activities under former President Joe Biden. "I find this breathtaking," said Sen. John Kennedy of Louisiana.

At Kennedy's urging, Grassley of Iowa said his staff is conducting an investigation of the possible collection of phone data and that he may schedule a separate hearing on the matter.

Trump responded to the disclosure Tuesday morning on Truth Social: "Deranged Jack Smith got caught with his hand in the cookie jar. A real sleazebag!!!"

Bondi also faced scrutiny from Democratic senators who rehashed her promises to release information on the federal probe of the late sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, only to be followed by an FBI memo denying the release of any further case files.

A bipartisan effort is underway in the U.S. House to compel the release of the government's investigative materials.

Ashley Murray covers the nation's capital as a senior reporter for States Newsroom. Her coverage areas include domestic policy and appropriations.

State detective agency boss nominated to lead U.S. Marshals Service in South Dakota

BY: JOHN HULT-OCTOBER 7, 2025 2:31 PM

President Donald Trump has nominated the head of South Dakota's Division of Criminal Investigation to lead the U.S. Marshals Service in the state.

Dan Satterlee was recommended for the job by his boss, South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley, according to a Tuesday news release from Jackley's office. Satterlee's nomination had the support of all three members of the state's congressional delegation, the release says.

Satterlee currently oversees the DCI, the state's investigative policing agency. Its agents assist local law enforcement, particularly in smaller cities and counties that have major crimes like homicides. The DCI also oversees law enforcement training in South Dakota, and is headquartered in the same building as the training facility, the George S. Mickelson Criminal Investigation Center.

Jackley installed Satterlee, a 30-year veteran of the agency, as its leader in 2023.

Satterlee's nomination as U.S. marshal has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee for consideration. If approved there, the nomination would go to the full Senate.

U.S. marshals are responsible for the oversight and movement of federal prisoners in South Dakota, as well as for security on federal properties.

The last confirmed U.S. marshal for the state was Dan Mosteller. The position has been listed as "vacant"

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since January 2024, according to archived web data.

Another law enforcement nomination for South Dakota is pending in the U.S. Senate. Ron Parsons' nomination as U.S. attorney — the top federal prosecutor in the state — was among a batch of nominees that advanced on a procedural vote Monday and is expected to receive a final confirmation vote soon. Parsons would succeed Alison Ramsdell, who was appointed during the Biden administration.

John is the senior reporter for South Dakota Searchlight. He has more than 15 years experience covering criminal justice, the environment and public affairs in South Dakota, including more than a decade at the Sioux Falls Argus Leader.

Trump deployment of troops to Democratic states targets Illinois

BY: JACOB FISCHLER-OCTOBER 7, 2025 11:50 AM

A federal judge will hear arguments Thursday in Illinois over Chicago's lawsuit challenging President Donald Trump's deployment of National Guard troops to the state before deciding whether to block the move, the judge wrote in an order.

In a one-paragraph order, U.S. District Judge April M. Perry, whom Democratic President Joe Biden appointed to the bench, set an 11:59 p.m. Wednesday deadline for the Trump administration to respond in writing to the suit filed by the Democratic leaders of Illinois and its largest city, which they filed Monday morning.

Perry did not immediately grant the restraining order Gov. JB Pritzker and Mayor Brandon Johnson sought to block the deployment at the outset of the case.

Perry said she expected the federal government's response to include evidence about when National Guard troops would arrive in Illinois, where in the state they would go and "the scope of the troops' activities" once there. She set oral arguments for 11 a.m. Central Time on Thursday.

The suit seeks to stop Trump's federalization of Illinois National Guard and mobilization of Texas National Guard troops to the state. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, a Republican, has also agreed to send Guard troops to Portland, Oregon, at Trump's request.

Pritzker and Johnson's complaint calls the federalization of state National Guard troops "illegal, dangerous, and unconstitutional." The Democrats added that the move was "patently pretextual and baseless," meaning it could not satisfy the legal requirements for a president to wrest from a governor control of a state's National Guard force.

Pritzker, appearing at a Tuesday event in Minneapolis with Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz said the federal government has been noncommunicative about the plan for the National Guard troops, but had received "reports" that troops have arrived at a federal facility in the state.

"We don't know exactly where this is going to end," he said. "What we know is that it is striking fear in the hearts of everybody in Chicago."

A federal judge in another case blocked the deployment to Portland after city and Oregon leaders sued to stop it. The federal government appealed that order, and a panel of the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments Thursday, according to a scheduling notice posted Tuesday.

Insurrection Act cited by Trump

Trump has said the extraordinary use of troops, which raises serious legal and constitutional questions about the line between military forces and domestic law enforcement, is necessary to control crime in some Democrat-led cities, including Chicago and Portland.

State and local leaders in those jurisdictions, as well as Los Angeles, have said military personnel are not needed to supplement local police. Pritzker called the proposed deployment to Chicago an "invasion."

Trump indicated Monday he may seek to further escalate the push for military involvement domestically, saying he would have no qualms about invoking the Insurrection Act, which expands presidential power to use the military for law enforcement.

"We have an Insurrection Act for a reason," he told reporters. "If I had to enact it, I'd do that. If people

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were getting killed and courts were holding us up or governors or mayors were holding us up, sure, I'd do that."

Democratic U.S. Sens. Tammy Duckworth and Dick Durbin of Illinois, Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden of Oregon and Alex Padilla and Adam Schiff from California — the three states where Trump has sent troops over the governors' objections — called on Trump to withdraw the troops in a Tuesday statement that warned of the escalating conflict between blue states and the federal government.

"Donald Trump is stretching the limits of Presidential authority far past their breaking point and moving us closer to authoritarianism with each dangerous and unacceptable escalation of his campaign to force federal troops into American communities against the wishes of sovereign states in the Union he is supposed to represent," the senators wrote.

Dems in Congress question raid

Trump's use of National Guard troops is in part a response to protests in Democratic cities over this administration's crackdown on immigration enforcement.

Trump has surged immigration enforcement officers to certain cities. Those agents have pursued sometimes aggressive enforcement, including a Sept. 30 raid on a Chicago apartment building that has been criticized for using military-style tactics.

A group of eight U.S. House Democrats wrote Monday to Attorney General Pam Bondi and Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem calling for an investigation into that raid.

The members were Homeland Security Committee ranking member Bennie Thompson of Mississippi, Judiciary Committee ranking member Jamie Raskin of Maryland, J. Luis Correa of California, Pramila Jayapal of Washington, Shri Thanedar of Michigan, Mary Gay Scanlon of Pennsylvania and Delia Ramirez and Jesús "Chuy" Garcia of Illinois.

"We write to express our outrage over the immigration raid," they said. "Treating a U.S. city like a war zone is intolerable."

J. Patrick Coolican contributed to this report.

Jacob covers federal policy and helps direct national coverage as deputy Washington bureau chief for States Newsroom. Based in Oregon, he focuses on Western issues. His coverage areas include climate, energy development, public lands and infrastructure.

Trump floats plan to deny back pay to furloughed federal workers after shutdown

BY: JENNIFER SHUTT-OCTOBER 7, 2025 11:10 AM

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration may try to interpret a law enacted during his first term in office differently than it did following the last government shutdown, potentially denying back pay to hundreds of thousands of furloughed federal workers.

The change in stance, outlined in a memo from the Office of Management and Budget that was first reported by Axios on Tuesday and confirmed to States Newsroom by a White House official, would drastically change the stakes of the ongoing funding lapse, which began Oct. 1.

President Donald Trump didn't clearly say how he personally views the law during an afternoon press conference in the Oval Office, though he indicated he doesn't intend to provide back pay to all federal workers.

"I would say it depends on who we're talking about," Trump said. "I can tell you this: the Democrats have put a lot of people in great risk and jeopardy. But it really depends on who you're talking about. But for the most part we're going to take care of our people. There are some people that really don't deserve to be taken care of and we'll take care of them in a different way."

Trump said he will likely announce mass layoffs of federal employees in the next week and opened the door to canceling funding approved by Congress if the shutdown persists.

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"I'll be able to tell you that in four or five days if this keeps going on," Trump said. "If this keeps going on it'll be substantial and a lot of those jobs will never come back."

OPM earlier said workers would receive back pay

Reinterpreting the law would go against guidance the Office of Personnel Management released in late September, which stated that after "the lapse in appropriations has ended, employees who were furloughed as the result of the lapse will receive retroactive pay for those furlough periods."

During the 35-day shutdown during Trump's first term, Congress approved a bill titled the Government Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2019 that guaranteed back pay for both exempt and furloughed federal workers. Trump signed the legislation into law himself.

Before the law, Congress typically voted following each funding lapse to ensure back pay for all federal employees.

The Congressional Budget Office projected 750,000 federal workers would be furloughed in the current shutdown.

Democrats on Capitol Hill rebuffed the memo on Tuesday, arguing it is another example of Trump attempting to circumvent the law.

"The letter of the law is as plain as can be—federal workers, including furloughed workers, are entitled to their backpay following a shutdown," Senate Appropriations ranking member Patty Murray, D-Wash., wrote on social media. "Another baseless attempt to try and scare & intimidate workers by an administration run by crooks and cowards."

Maryland Democratic Sen. Chris Van Hollen, who represents a considerable number of federal workers, said during a brief interview he doesn't believe lawmakers need to clarify the law in any way, calling it "crystal clear."

"This is a bill that (former) Senator (Ben) Cardin and I introduced back during that shutdown," Van Hollen said. "And I looked at it again today after the White House comments, and they're blowing smoke. This is part of their effort to scare. So this is all part of their fearmongering. That's what it's about."

'That should turn up the urgency'

Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., asked about the memo during a morning press conference, said he hadn't seen it or spoken with anyone in the White House, but he didn't seem to take issue with its change of course.

"I'm sure there will be a lot of discussion about that. But there are legal analysts who think that is not something that government should do," Johnson said. "If that is true, that should turn up the urgency and the necessity of the Democrats doing the right thing here."

Pressed by another reporter about the principle involved with possibly not adhering to the law, Johnson said he hopes that furloughed federal workers do receive their back pay.

"I can tell you the president believes that as well. He and I have talked about this personally. He doesn't want people to go without back pay," Johnson said. "And that's why he pleaded with Chuck Schumer to do the right thing and vote to keep the government open. We don't want this to happen."

Johnson didn't clarify why — if Trump believes furloughed workers should receive back pay consistent with the 2019 law — the White House budget office prepared a memo stating the opposite.

Johnson's official House website explains that during a shutdown "federal employees will either be furloughed, or in some cases required to work without pay. Under federal law, employees are entitled to back pay upon the government reopening."

Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., said during an afternoon press conference he expects furloughed workers will receive their back pay once the shutdown ends.

"I haven't looked at the memo specifically yet. My assumption is that furloughed workers will get back pay," Thune said. "But that being said, this is very simple — open up the government and this is a nonissue."

The Senate has deadlocked five times on a stopgap government funding bill that passed the House in mid-September. The upper chamber is expected to vote at least one more time this week.

Democrats call for negotiations on shutdown

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Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said during a morning floor speech that Johnson “has become a massive roadblock to progress,” though he didn’t address the possibility of no back pay for furloughed workers.

“Ending this shutdown will require Donald Trump to step in and push Speaker Johnson to negotiate because without the president’s involvement, Speaker Johnson and MAGA Republicans in the House are increasingly dug in,” Schumer said.

House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries, a New York Democrat, said during a morning press conference the White House was incorrect in its new interpretation.

“The law is clear — every single furloughed employee is entitled to pay back. Period. Full stop,” Jeffries said. “The law is clear and we will make sure that that law is followed.”

American Federation of Government Employees National President Everett Kelley wrote in a statement the “frivolous argument that federal employees are not guaranteed backpay under the Government Employee Fair Treatment Act is an obvious misinterpretation of the law.

“It is also inconsistent with the Trump administration’s own guidance from mere days ago, which clearly and correctly states that furloughed employees will receive retroactive pay for the time they were out of work as quickly as possible once the shutdown is over.”

Shauneen Miranda and Ariana Figueroa contributed to this report.

Jennifer covers the nation’s capital as a senior reporter for States Newsroom. Her coverage areas include congressional policy, politics and legal challenges with a focus on health care, unemployment, housing and aid to families.

Tribal traditional healing gets Medicaid reimbursement in 4 states

Tribes and tribal facilities decide which traditional services to offer for Medicaid reimbursement

BY: NADA HASSANEIN-OCTOBER 7, 2025 7:00 AM

CHANDLER, Ariz. — Art Martinez has seen the power of ceremony.

Martinez, a clinical psychologist and member of the Chumash Tribe, helped run an American Indian youth ceremonial camp. Held at a sacred tribal site in Northern California, it was designed to help kids’ mental health. He remembers a 14-year-old girl who had been struggling with substance use and was on the brink of hospitalization.

On the first day of the four-day camp, Martinez recalled, she was barely able to speak. In daily ceremonies, she wept. The other kids gathered around her. “You’re not alone. We’re here for you,” they’d say.

Traditional tribal healing practices are diverse and vary widely, unique from tribe to tribe. Many include talking circles, sweat lodge ceremonies with special rituals, plant medicine and herb smudging, along with sacred ceremonies known only to the tribe.

Martinez and the girl’s counselor saw her mental health improve under a treatment plan combining tribal traditional healing and Western medicine.

“By the end of the gathering, she had broken through the isolation,” Martinez said. “Before, she would barely shake hands with kids, and she was now hugging them, they were exchanging phone numbers. Her demeanor was better, she was able to articulate.”

Indigenous health advocates have long known the health benefits of integrating their traditional healing practices, and studies have also shown better health outcomes.

Now, for the first time, tribal traditional healing practices are eligible for Medicaid coverage in California and three other states under a new initiative. Last October, the federal government approved Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program coverage of traditional healing practices at tribal health facilities and urban Indian organizations in Arizona, California, New Mexico and Oregon.

These were approved under a federal program that allows states to test new pilot health programs and ways to pay for them.

Arizona’s waiver went into effect Wednesday. While California’s waiver currently only covers patients with substance use disorder, like the girl in Martinez’s camp, any Medicaid enrollee who is American Indian or

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Alaska Native is eligible in the other three states. Officials have said California's program will expand to have such coverage in the future.

Under the waivers, each tribe and facility decides which traditional healing services to offer for reimbursement. Services can also take place at sacred sites and not necessarily inside a clinic, explained Virginia Hedrick, executive director of the California Consortium for Urban Indian Health.

"If a healing intervention requires being near a water source — the ocean, creek, river — we can do that," said Hedrick, who is of the Yurok Tribe and of Karuk descent. "It may involve gathering medicine in a specific place on the land itself."

Tribes long had to practice out of sight. The U.S. government's assimilation policies had targeted tribal languages, cultural and religious practices — including healing. It wasn't until 1978, when the American Indian Religious Freedom Act was enacted under President Jimmy Carter, that they regained their rights.

"It was illegal to practice our ways until 1978 ... the year I was born," said Dr. Allison Kelliher, a family and integrative medicine physician, who is Koyukon Athabascan, Dena. "Traditional healing means inter-generational knowledge that have origins in how our ancestors and people lived generationally to promote health, so it's a holistic way of looking at well-being."

Last month, Kelliher and hundreds of others gathered at the National Indian Health Board's health conference on Gila River Indian Community land in Chandler, Arizona. During a panel discussion about the waivers, tribal members discussed how health centers will bill for services, ways to protect the sacredness of certain ceremonies, and how to measure and collect data around the effectiveness of the treatments, a federal requirement under the waivers.

But teasing out those new protocols didn't dull the enthusiasm.

"This is where we really start intersecting the Western medicine as well as traditional healing, and it's exciting," said panelist Dr. Naomi Young, CEO of the Fort Defiance Indian Hospital Board in Arizona.

The Trump administration announced earlier this year that it doesn't plan to renew certain other Medicaid waiver programs approved under the Biden administration. But it hasn't announced any changes around the traditional healing waivers.

Studies have found that incorporating sweat lodge ceremonies and other cultural practices in treatments led to substance use recovery and emotional health, and better quality diets when incorporating traditional foods, according to analyses of research by the National Council of Urban Indian Health.

"When there is an opportunity to braid traditional healing with Western forms of medicine, it's very possible, and the research is indicating, we may get better health outcomes," Hedrick said.

Traditional practices

Decades of historical trauma, such as displacement and forced assimilation in boarding schools — where American Indian and Alaska Native people were forbidden from speaking their languages — are behind their disproportionate rates of chronic illness and early deaths today, tribal health experts say.

Tribes have long offered traditional healing — both outside brick-and-mortar health care settings as well as within many clinics. But health centers have been paying out of pocket or budgeting for the services, said retired OB-GYN Dr. John Molina, director of the Arizona Advisory Council on Indian Health Care and member of the Pascua Yaqui and Yavapai Apache Tribes.

Molina said the new Arizona waiver may help clinics afford to serve more patients or staff more traditional healers, and build infrastructure, including sacred spaces and sweat lodges. For other clinics, "They've been wanting to start, but perhaps don't have the revenue to start it," he said.

"I'm hoping that when people engage in traditional healing services, a lot of it is to bring balance back into the lifestyle, to give them some hope," Molina said.

That's the effect traditional healing practices have had on Harrison Jim, who is Diné. Now a counselor and traditional practitioner at Sage Memorial Hospital in Arizona, Jim, 70, said he remembers his own first all-night sweat lodge ceremony when he returned from a military tour.

"I [felt] relieved of everything that I was carrying, because it's kind of like a personal journey that I went through," he said. "Through that ceremony, I had that experience of freedom."

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Kim Russell, the hospital's policy adviser, who also spoke on the panel about the traditional healing waivers, told Stateline her team hopes to bring on another practitioner along with Jim.

Tribal health leaders have expressed concern about people without traditional knowledge posing to offer healing services. But Navajo organizations, including Diné Hataalii Association Inc., aim to protect from such co-opting as it provides licensures for Native healers, Jim said.

Push in Washington

Facilities covered under the new waivers include Indian Health Service facilities, tribal facilities, or urban Indian organization facilities. In Arizona, urban Indian organizations can get the benefit only if they contract with an Indian Health Service or other tribal health facility.

In Oregon, Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center spokesperson Shanna Hamilton said that while the center can't speak on behalf of other tribes or clinics, many are still in the early stages of developing programs and protocols. She called the waivers a "meaningful step forward in honoring Indigenous knowledge and healing practices."

Meanwhile, in neighboring Washington state, the legislature this session allocated \$165,000 for the state to apply for a waiver by the end of this year.

The Washington State Health Care Authority in a statement to Stateline emphasized that each tribe would determine its own traditional health services available for reimbursement.

Azure Bouré, traditional food and medicine program coordinator for the Suquamish Tribe, a community along the shores of Washington's Puget Sound, called the waivers "groundbreaking."

"We're proving day in and day out that Indigenous knowledge is important. It's real, it's worthy, and it's real science," Bouré said.

On a brisk summer day in 2009, Bouré recalled, she had attended a family camp hosted by Northwest Indian College. It was then she tasted the salal berry for the first time. A sweet, dark blue berry, it's long been used by Pacific Northwest tribes medicinally, in jams, and for dyeing clothing.

"It was just that one berry, that one day, that reignited that wonderment," Bouré said. For her, it unlocked the world of Indigenous plant medicine and food sovereignty, a people's right to the food and food systems of their land.

She got her bachelor's in Native American environmental science and now runs an apothecary, teaches traditional cooking classes, recommends herbs to members with ailments and processes foraged foods.

One day she could be chopping pumpkins or other gourds and the next, cleaning and peeling away the salty-sweet meat from dozens of sea cucumbers harvested by shellfish biologist divers employed by the tribe.

Bouré's grandmother died when her mom was 12 years old. "That's a whole generation of knowledge that she lost," she said. One way she unearths that lost knowledge is by learning tribal medicine and teaching it, and holding on to memories like watching her great-grandmother Cecelia, who wove traditional sweetgrass dolls even when she was blind.

"I think that I come from a long line of healers," she said.

Gary Ferguson, who is Unangaġ (Aleut), is the director of integrative medicine at the Tulalip Health Clinic about 40 miles north of Seattle. He's certified in naturopathic medicine in Washington and Alaska.

His health center already has a variety of integrative medicine offerings, he said, including traditional ones grounded in Coast Salish traditions of the Pacific Northwest. He said he hopes the waivers and continued support for Indigenous ways of healing will help tribes address health disparities.

"These ceremonies and ways are part of that deeper healing," he said.

Editor's note: This story has been updated to correct the spelling of Dr. John Molina's tribe and to include the Washington legislature's funding to apply for a waiver. Stateline reporter Nada Hassanein can be reached at nhasanein@stateline.org.

This story was originally produced by Stateline, which is part of States Newsroom, a nonprofit news network which includes South Dakota Searchlight, and is supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity.

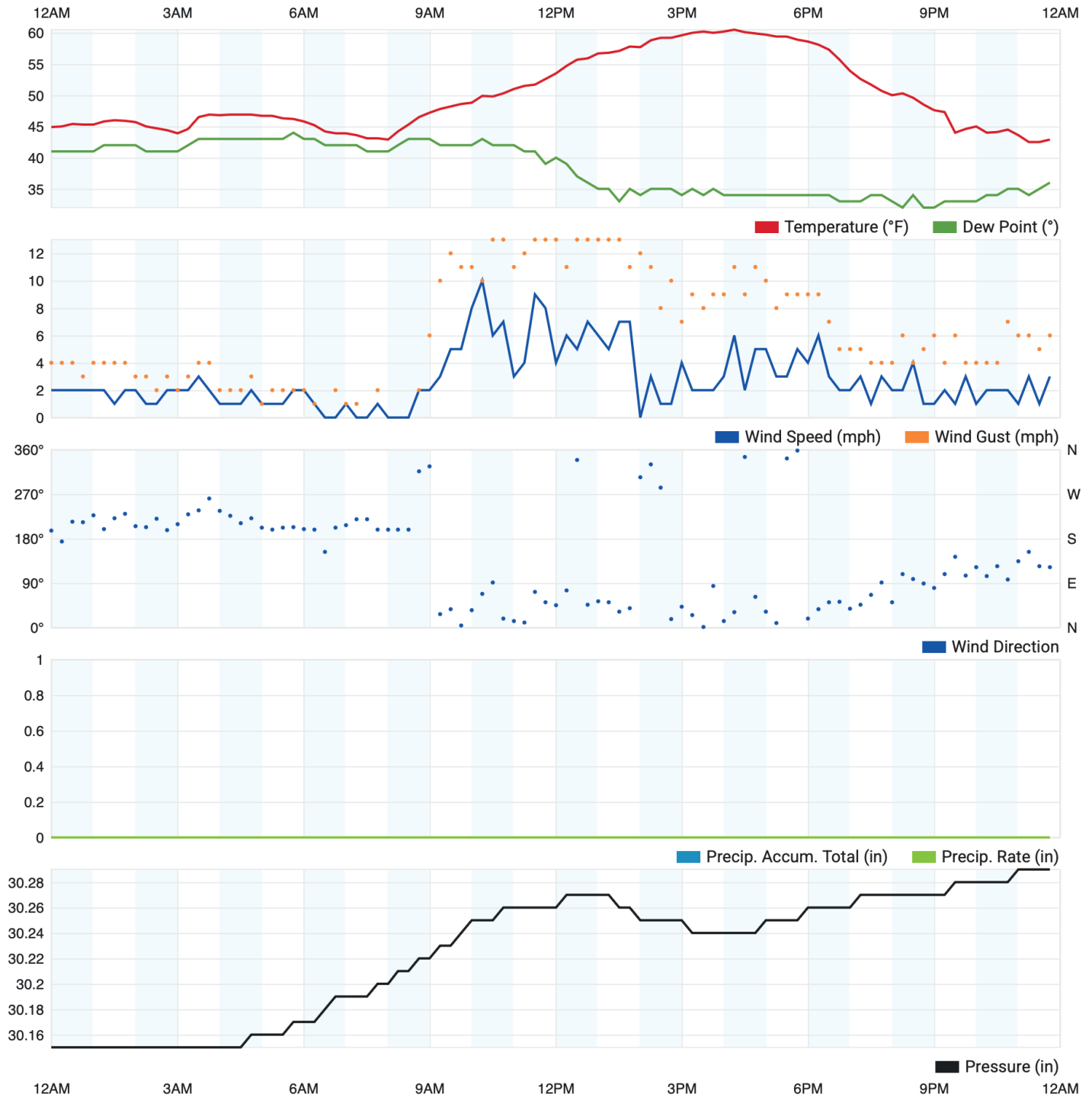
Nada Hassanein is a health care reporter for Stateline with a focus on inequities.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

October 7, 2025



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Today



High: 70 °F

Areas Frost
then Sunny
and Breezy

Tonight



Low: 52 °F

Mostly Clear

Thursday



High: 74 °F

Sunny

Thursday
Night



Low: 45 °F

Mostly Clear

Friday



High: 66 °F

Sunny



Gusty Winds Today and Thursday

October 8, 2025
2:47 AM

Key Messages:



- Southerly winds will increase today with gusts of 30 to 40 mph
 - Strongest winds will be along and west of the James River



Elevated fire danger today for central SD due to the strong winds and drier fuels

- **Avoid outdoor burning, have water handy for farm equipment**
- **Report any fires to local authorities**
- Winds will remain breezy overnight into Thursday with gusts up to 35 mph
 - Diminishing Thursday evening

Maximum Wind Gust Forecast (mph)

	10/8 Wed						10/9 Thu					
	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm
McIntosh	29	35	39	40	37	33	26	23	16	14	18	15
Eagle Butte	26	32	38	38	36	33	29	25	18	15	17	14
Murdo	26	33	40	40	39	37	32	29	24	21	20	18
Mobridge	26	30	37	38	36	33	31	28	23	20	17	15
Pierre	23	30	37	38	38	36	30	26	24	20	17	16
Gettysburg	25	30	36	38	36	33	30	29	28	24	20	17
Kennebec	24	35	43	44	43	38	33	31	29	26	24	21
Eureka	25	30	37	38	35	33	30	28	25	23	20	17
Chamberlain	21	29	37	38	36	35	31	29	28	28	25	23
Miller	23	29	33	36	36	32	31	32	32	32	26	21
Ellendale	17	25	30	31	29	28	28	28	28	28	25	21
Redfield	23	29	33	36	33	30	29	31	32	32	29	22
Aberdeen	20	26	30	31	29	28	28	29	28	29	26	22
Huron	20	25	30	32	30	29	29	29	30	31	29	25
Britton	20	25	29	30	28	30	30	32	32	32	29	23
Clark	23	28	30	32	29	31	32	33	33	36	35	28
Webster	22	26	29	30	26	28	29	31	32	35	32	28
Watertown	18	23	26	28	25	28	29	30	32	35	33	30
Sisseton	17	22	24	24	23	23	23	25	28	29	28	23
Brookings	15	21	25	26	25	26	26	28	30	32	32	30
Milbank	13	18	22	23	22	21	22	23	25	28	28	25
Wheaton	15	21	23	23	23	24	24	25	26	28	26	22



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

Stronger winds today and Thursday with gusts of 30 to 40 mph, highest along and west of the James River. Elevated fire danger for central SD due to the strong winds and drier fuels. Avoid outdoor burning and report fires to local authorities. Winds remain breezy overnight into Thursday, diminishing Thursday evening.

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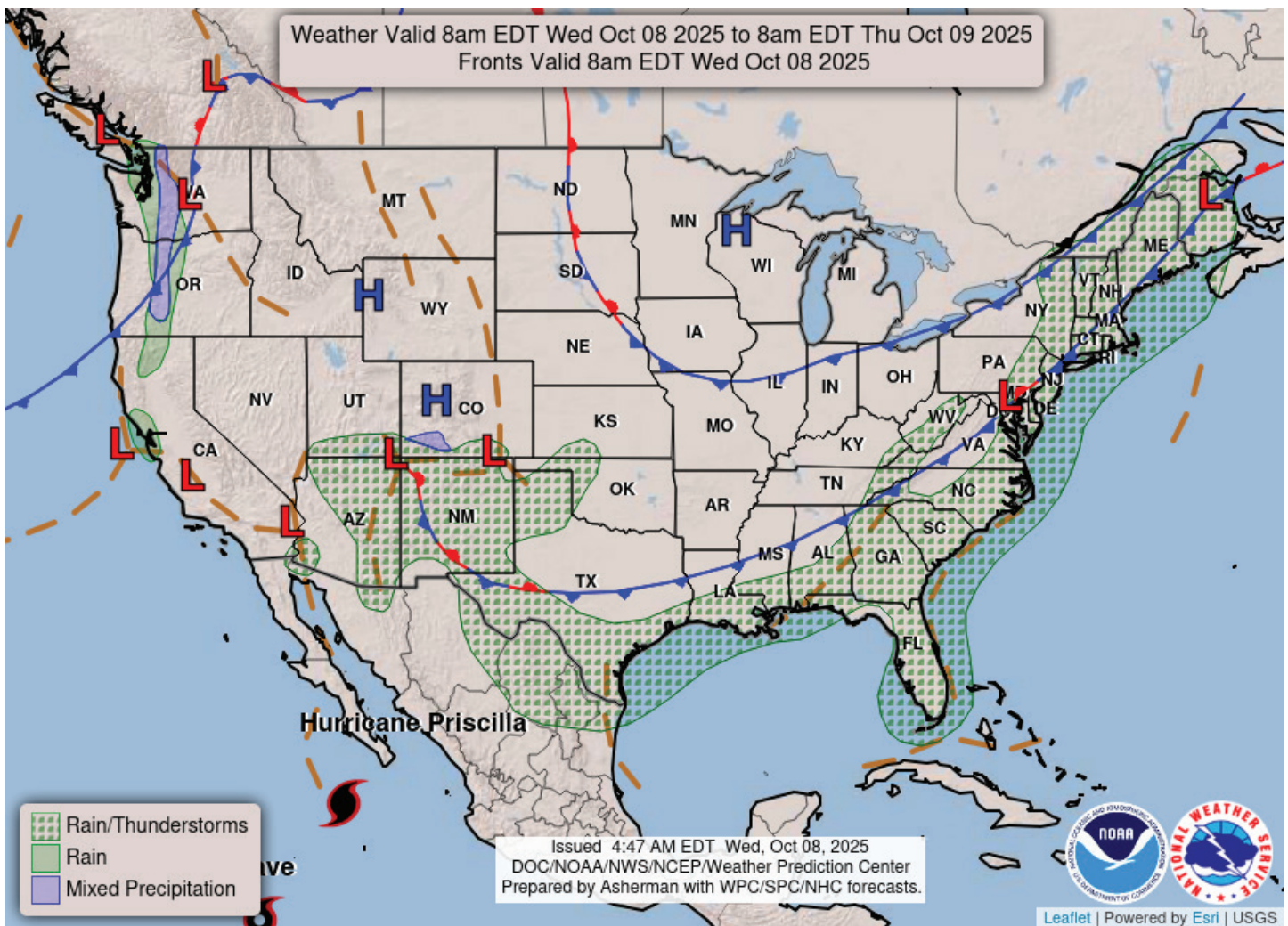
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Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 61 °F at 4:14 PM
Low Temp: 42 °F at 11:27 PM
Wind: 14 mph at 11:28 AM
Precip: : 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 87 in 1936
Record Low: 9 in 1895
Average High: 64
Average Low: 37
Average Precip in Oct.: 0.61
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.00
Average Precip to date: 18.94
Precip Year to Date: 22.92
Sunset Tonight: 6:59 pm
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:40 am



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Today in Weather History

October 8, 1982: October 8th and 9th, 1982, a record-breaking snowstorm (at that time) for so early in the Fall paralyzed the northern Black Hills with three to six feet of heavy, wet snow and 40 to 70 miles an hour. Some snowfall amounts included 41 inches at Galena, 36 inches at Lead, and 23 inches at Deadwood. Five to six feet of snow was typical in the higher elevations. The heavy wet snow caused numerous problems. The roof of a clothing store in Lead collapsed under the snow's weight, and several other businesses were damaged.

The roofs of at least three trailer homes also collapsed. The combination of high winds and heavy snow broke tree branches (causing extensive timber damage), power lines, and telephone poles. The damage was done to 40 miles of power lines, including 30 broken power poles. Some residents were without power for five days. The city of Deadwood was without electricity and water for at least three days.

1871: The Great Chicago Fire burns much of the city to the ground, fanned by strong southwest winds. An estimated 250 were killed. On the same night, forest fires swept through Peshtigo, Wisconsin. An estimated 1,500 to possibly as many as 2,500 died as gale-force winds push flames across town. Severe drought blamed for tinder-dry conditions.

1878: An estimated F3 tornado struck Monticello, Iowa, around 5:30 pm. The Catholic Church was demolished, along with several homes. The business portion of the town was comparatively uninjured. While no lives were lost, 11 people were injured. The German Church in Richland township was destroyed, along with other buildings in the surrounding county. A wind and hail storm occurred during the evening hours in Sigourney, Iowa, causing considerable damage. Fences and shade trees were blown down, and much glass was broken by hail, which fell in large stones.

1901 - A deluge at Galveston, TX, produced nearly twelve inches of rain in about a six hour period. The rains came precisely thirteen months after the day of the famous Galveston hurricane disaster. (David Ludlum)

1919: An intense tornado moved through the town of Hoisington, 11 miles north of Great Bend, Kansas. It damaged or destroyed 60 homes which resulted in \$200,000 in damages. Business papers and canceled checks were found at Lincoln, 55 miles to the northeast.

1946: A minimal Category 1 hurricane made landfall over Bradenton, Florida, before tracking north-northeast across Tampa Bay. The storm was the last hurricane to make direct landfall in the Tampa Bay area.

1982 - An unusually early snowstorm hit the northern Black Hills of Wyoming and South Dakota. The storm produced up to 54 inches of snow, and winds as high as 70 mph. The snowfall was very much dependent upon topography. Rapid City, 20 miles away, received just a trace of snow. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Unseasonably cold weather prevailed from the Upper Mississippi Valley to the southeastern U.S. Thirty cities reported record low temperatures for the date, including Madison WI with a reading of 22 degrees. The low of 28 degrees at Evansville IN was the coolest of record for so early in the season. Hot weather continued in the southwestern U.S. Phoenix AZ reported a record high of 104 degrees and a record tying 116 days of 100 degree weather for the year. Tucson AZ established an all-time record with 72 days of 100 degree weather for the year. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Snow was reported across parts of northern New England. Two inches blanketed Mount Snow VT. Warm weather continued in the northwestern U.S. The afternoon high of 80 degrees at Stampede Pass WA exceeded their previous record for October by seven degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Morning lows in the 20s were reported from the Northern Plains to the Upper Great Lakes. International Falls MN and Marquette MI reported record lows of 22 degrees. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed in central California as the Oakland Athletics won the American League pennant. San Luis Obispo CA reported a high of 99 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

Speaking Through Sickness

God may sacrifice our comfort now to give us what is best in light of eternity.

Acts 9:1-22: Saul's Conversion

9 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. 3 As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

5 "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. 6 "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

7 The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. 8 Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. 9 For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

10 In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

11 The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. 12 In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

13 "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. 14 And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

15 But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. 16 I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

17 Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, 19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul in Damascus and Jerusalem

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. 20 At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. 21 All those who heard him were astonished and asked, "Isn't he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn't he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?" 22 Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

We all need the encouragement, comfort, and peace that comes through God's grace. Our daily devotionals, known as Seeds of Hope, have been a means through which thousands of people have experienced this grace. Each devotional comes from God's Word and we pray this good "seed" finds good soil in your heart. Our aim is that the Seeds of Hope will be a great source of daily encouragement to you and that God will use them to draw you near to Him

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We never enjoy illness or affliction. After all, what good could come from such a thing? God would never allow us to get sick, would He? The answer, surprisingly, is yes. Suffering is one of the realities of living in a fallen world, so we shouldn't be surprised when it comes our way. In fact, God can use times of distress to get our attention.

Think about the apostle Paul. When we hear his name, we recall the missionary who spread the gospel during the first century. But this wasn't always the case. When we are first introduced to him, he is known as Saul, an enemy of Jesus and the church (Acts 9:1-2). So how did God get his attention?

The book of Acts explains how the Lord appeared in a brilliant flash of light that only Saul could see. After revealing Himself, Jesus left him blind for three days. Saul was brought low, having to be led into town by hand, totally at the mercy of others.

What went through the man's mind during those days of blindness? No doubt Saul's thoughts were fixed on Christ. God's primary goal is our ultimate good, not our comfort or short-term happiness—He wants what is best for us in light of eternity. If you experience hardship, do pray for healing, but also pray to discern God's message to you in your ailment (Psalm 119:50).

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WINNING NUMBERS

MEGA MILLIONS

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.07.25

17 26 33 45 56 19

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$575,000,000

NEXT DRAW: 2 Days 17 Hrs 8 Mins
42 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LOTTO AMERICA

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.06.25

3 11 21 25 32 6

All Star Bonus: 3x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$4,320,000

NEXT DRAW: 16 Hrs 23 Mins 42
Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LUCKY FOR LIFE

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.07.25

8 32 42 44 46 8

TOP PRIZE:

\$7,000/week

NEXT DRAW: 16 Hrs 38 Mins 42
Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

DAKOTA CASH

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.04.25

11 16 24 26 32

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$41,000

NEXT DRAW: 16 Hrs 38 Mins 41
Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

DOUBLE PLAY

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.06.25

9 21 37 40 52 5

TOP PRIZE:

\$10,000,000

NEXT DRAW: 17 Hrs 7 Mins 41
Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.06.25

28 29 32 66 67 3

Power Play: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$223,000,000

NEXT DRAW: 17 Hrs 7 Mins 41
Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

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Upcoming Groton Events

08/09/2025 Groton Legion 30th Anniversary Celebration
08/07/2025 Groton Firemen Summer Splash in the GHS Parking Lot 7:30-8:30pm
08/11/2025 Vitalant Blood Drive at the Community Center 3:30-6pm
08/23/2025 Glacial Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course
09/05/2025 Homecoming Parade 1pm
09/06/2025 Lion's Club Fall Citywide Rummage Sale 8am-3pm
09/06-07/25 Groton Airport Fly-In/Drive-In, Groton Municipal Airport
09/07/2025 Couples Sunflower Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 10am
09/07/2025 9th Annual Doggie Day at the Swimming Pool 3-5pm
10/10/2025 Lake Region Marching Band Festival 10am
10/11/2025 Pumpkin Fest at the City Park 10am-3pm
10/31/2025 Downtown Trick or Treat 4-6pm
10/31/2025 United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat 5:30-7pm
11/15/2025 Legion Post #39 Turkey Party 6:30pm
11/27/2025 Community Thanksgiving 11:30am-1:30pm Community Center (Thanksgiving)
11/30/2025 Snow Queen Contest, 4 p.m.
12/06/2025 Olive Grove Holiday Party and Silent Live Auction Fundraiser

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News from the Associated Press

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Aberdeen Central def. Tea, 25-19, 25-12, 25-22
Arlington def. Deuel, 28-26, 25-17, 25-17
Beresford def. Flandreau, 25-13, 25-15, 25-21
Bison def. McLaughlin, 25-13, 25-18, 25-10
Bridgewater-Emery def. Sioux Falls Lutheran, 25-23, 25-17, 25-20
Burke def. Avon, 25-12, 25-11, 25-20
Canistota def. Menno, 25-13, 25-23, 18-25, 25-12
Canton def. Sioux Falls Christian, 25-16, 25-15, 25-13
Castlewood def. Florence-Henry, 25-16, 25-21, 25-19
Chester def. Tri-Valley, 25-5, 25-12, 25-12
Clark-Willow Lake def. Great Plains Lutheran, 25-23, 25-14, 25-19
Crazy Horse def. Tiospaye Topa, 25-15, 26-24, 25-16
DeSmet def. Iroquois-Lake Preston, 25-17, 25-12, 25-17
Dell Rapids def. Vermillion, 25-18, 25-19, 25-9
Deubrook def. Milbank, 25-9, 25-19, 25-19
Elk Point-Jefferson def. Viborg-Hurley, 25-23, 25-10, 25-11
Estelline-Hendricks def. Waverly-South Shore, 25-16, 25-16, 25-18
Ethan def. Wessington Springs, 25-21, 25-17, 25-20
Faith def. Belle Fourche, 27-25, 25-15, 10-25, 25-18
Flandreau Indian def. Wilmot, 20-25, 25-11, 25-14, 16-25, 15-11
Freeman def. Bon Homme, 18-25, 25-11, 25-23, 25-23
Hamlin def. Sioux Valley, 25-18, 25-20, 25-21
Hanson def. Parker/Marion, 25-17, 25-16, 11-25, 25-18
Harding County def. Lead-Deadwood, 25-13, 25-19, 21-25, 25-19
Herreid-Selby def. Gettysburg, 25-12, 25-10, 25-13
Highmore-Harrold def. Sully Buttes, 25-9, 20-25, 25-21, 25-13
Huron def. T F Riggs High School, 25-9, 25-19, 25-19
Ipswich def. Faulkton, 17-25, 25-16, 25-18, 13-25, 15-11
Kadoka def. Lyman, 20-25, 25-22, 25-21, 22-25, 17-15
Kimball-White Lake def. Chamberlain, 21-25, 25-17, 25-21, 25-20
McCook Central-Montrose def. Howard, 25-11, 27-25, 25-7
Miller def. Mt. Vernon/Plankinton, 25-21, 25-16, 25-23
North Central def. Leola-Frederick High School, 25-15, 25-10, 25-16
Northwestern def. Aberdeen Christian, 25-20, 25-14, 25-14
Oldham-Ramona-Rutland def. James Valley Christian School, 25-15, 25-19, 25-20
Parkston def. Platte-Geddes, 25-16, 25-17, 22-25, 25-17
Rapid City Christian def. Chadron, Neb., 25-18, 25-17, 25-21
Sioux Falls Jefferson def. Brookings, 25-22, 25-18, 25-11
Sioux Falls Lincoln def. Sioux Falls Washington, 25-15, 25-23, 24-26, 24-26, 15-11
Spearfish def. Sturgis Brown High School, 25-18, 25-16, 25-12
Sunshine Bible Academy def. Sanborn Central-Woonsocket, 25-16, 25-11, 25-11
Timber Lake def. Lemmon High School, 25-10, 25-5, 25-9
Wagner def. Scotland, 25-6, 25-15, 25-13
Wall def. New Underwood, 25-15, 25-17, 25-16
Warner def. Hitchcock-Tulare, 19-25, 25-10, 25-23, 25-23

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Watertown def. Sioux Falls Roosevelt, 22-25, 25-15, 25-18, 25-20

Webster def. Tiospa Zina, 25-6, 25-17, 25-13

Western Christian, Iowa def. Harrisburg, 19-25, 24-26, 25-21, 25-17

White River def. Todd County, 26-24, 29-27, 21-25, 25-21

Winner def. Gregory, 25-9, 25-21, 25-13

Some high school volleyball scores provided by Scorestream.com, <https://scorestream.com/>

Israeli military intercepts another flotilla heading to Gaza and detains scores of activists

By MELANIE LIDMAN and RENATA BRITO Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — The Israeli military intercepted a nine-boat flotilla trying to break Israel's naval blockade of Gaza early Wednesday in the Mediterranean Sea and detained scores of activists on board, the flotilla organizers and the Israeli Foreign Ministry said.

The ministry said the 145 activists taking part in the Freedom Flotilla Coalition & Thousand Madleens to Gaza, were in good health and were being brought to shore in Israel for processing. They are then expected to be deported.

The interception came after nearly 450 activists from a previous flotilla — including European lawmakers and climate activist Greta Thunberg — were intercepted on more than 40 boats last week trying to reach Gaza with a symbolic amount of humanitarian aid.

While most of the activists of the Global Sumud Flotilla have been deported, six of its activists — from Norway, Morocco and Spain — remain detained in Israel, lawyers representing them said late Tuesday.

The organizers of this latest flotilla decried the new detentions on Wednesday as "arbitrary and unlawful."

The activists on board the nine-vessel group included doctors, politicians, lawmakers from Turkey and Denmark. A passenger list posted on the flotilla's website also shows two Israeli citizens aboard their largest boat, the Conscience. The flotilla was carrying some food and medical aid destined for Gaza hospitals.

"Another futile attempt to breach the legal naval blockade and enter a combat zone ended in nothing," the Foreign Ministry wrote on X.

Organizers said the fleet was intercepted around 120 nautical miles off the coast of Gaza. Cameras aboard the vessels, one large passenger ship and eight smaller sailboats, broadcast the interceptions live. The boats could be seen being approached by fast-moving ships and then boarded by Israeli troops, who then cut off the broadcast. Activists also said an Israeli helicopter flew over them. No injuries were reported.

Turkey strongly condemned and called Israel's latest interception in international waters an "act of piracy." Its Foreign Ministry said Wednesday it was a serious violation of international law and accused Israel of escalating tensions and undermining peace efforts.

Turkey has launched diplomatic efforts to secure the immediate release and safe return of its citizens and was coordinating with other countries regarding the status of other activists, the statement said.

The interceptions last week of the Global Sumud Flotilla drew widespread condemnation and sparked large protests in several major cities and a one-day strike across Italy.

Some of the deported activists had described mistreatment at the hands of Israeli guards, claims that Israel denies.

The flotillas to Gaza came amid surging criticism of Israel's conduct in Gaza, where its offensive in the war against Hamas has laid waste wide swaths of territory and killed tens of thousands of people.

Israel and Hamas are currently in the third day of indirect negotiations in the Egyptian resort city of Sharm Al-Sheikh, along with high-level leaders from international delegations, including the United States, Egypt, Qatar, and Turkey.

The war was triggered by the Hamas-led attack on southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023. The militants killed some 1,200 people that day, while 251 others were abducted. Forty-eight hostages are still held in Gaza — around 20 believed to be alive.

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Israel's ensuing campaign has killed more than 67,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which does not differentiate between civilians and militants in its toll. The ministry, which is part of the Hamas-run government and whose figures are viewed by experts as the most reliable estimate, has said women and children make up around half the dead.

Israel has maintained varying degrees of blockade on the Gaza Strip since Hamas seized power in the coastal territory in 2007, saying it is necessary to contain the militant group. Critics deride the policy as collective punishment.

After the war started, Israel tightened the blockade but eased up later under U.S. pressure. In March, it sealed the territory off from all food, medicine and other goods for 2 ½ months, contributing to Gaza's slide into famine.

Flotilla activists say they want to break Israel's blockade and establish a humanitarian corridor by sea, given the little aid that reaches Gaza by land. They have vowed to try again.

Priscilla nears major hurricane status in Pacific as new tropical storm swirls in the Atlantic

MIAMI (AP) — Hurricane Priscilla neared Category 3 status on Tuesday in the Pacific as a new tropical storm strengthened in the Atlantic, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said.

Just off the west coast of Mexico, Priscilla was spinning with maximum sustained winds around 105 mph (169 kph) and moving northwest at 9 mph (15 kph). It was centered Tuesday night about 185 miles (295 kilometers) southwest of the southern tip of Baja California, forecasters said.

On Tuesday, outer bands of the hurricane were extending across the Mexican state of Baja California Sur. In the Atlantic Ocean, Tropical Storm Jerry maintained top winds of 50 mph (85 kph) early Wednesday. It was centered about 950 miles (1,530 kilometers) east-southeast of the northern Leeward Islands while moving west-northwest at 23 mph (37 kph).

Forecasters said Jerry is expected to strengthen into a hurricane in another day or two. Swells from Jerry were expected Thursday to reach the Leeward Islands with the core of the storm moving near or north of the northern Leeward Islands late Thursday and Friday.

A tropical storm watch was issued for Barbuda and Anguilla, St. Barthelemy and St. Martin and Sint Maarten.

In the Pacific, a tropical storm watch was in place for Baja California Sur from Cabo San Lucas to Cabo San Lazaro due to Hurricane Priscilla.

The government of Baja California Sur canceled classes at all educational centers starting Tuesday in Los Cabos and La Paz as a preventive measure. It also set up a dozen shelters in Los Cabos for people living in areas at risk.

Parts of southwestern Mexico could get up to 4 inches (10 centimeters) of rain from Priscilla through Wednesday, bringing a flash flooding risk to Michoacán and Colima states, forecasters said.

Priscilla was forecast to weaken starting Wednesday, the hurricane center said. A major hurricane is defined as Category 3 or higher and wind speeds of at least 111 mph (180 kph).

Swells from Priscilla were reaching the coast of Mexico. Life threatening surf and rip currents were likely, forecasters said.

Farther out in the Pacific, Tropical Storm Octave was weakening about 750 miles (1,205 kilometers) southwest of the southern tip of Baja California. Its maximum sustained winds were 45 mph (75 kph) and it was moving east-southeast at 7 mph (11 kph).

A divided Israel marks 2 years since Oct. 7 attack while war persists in Gaza and hostages languish

By ALON BERNSTEIN and MELANIE LIDMAN Associated Press

REIM, Israel (AP) — Thousands of people converged on southern Israel on Tuesday to mourn the dead

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as the nation marked two years since Hamas' Oct. 7 attack plunged the region into a devastating war, while Israel and Hamas pressed on with indirect peace talks in Egypt.

The main memorial event in Tel Aviv, organized by the bereaved families, was separate from a ceremony that the government will hold on the anniversary next week according to the Hebrew calendar. The split reflects deep divisions over Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's leadership, which many blame for the failure to secure a ceasefire that would free the remaining hostages held by the militants.

In the Gaza Strip, where Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed tens of thousands of people and razed entire towns and cities, those who can are fleeing another Israeli invasion of Gaza City while others are sheltering in place. Many are unable to make the arduous and costly journey south.

The worst attack in Israel's history

It's been two years since thousands of Hamas-led militants poured into southern Israel after a surprise barrage of rockets. They stormed army bases, farming communities and an outdoor music festival, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, including women, children and older adults.

They abducted 251 others, most of whom have since been released in ceasefires or other deals. Forty-eight hostages remain inside Gaza, around 20 of them believed by Israel to be alive. Hamas has said it will release them only in exchange for a lasting ceasefire and an Israeli withdrawal. Netanyahu has vowed to continue the war until all of the captives are returned and Hamas has been disarmed.

The attack set in motion a cascade of events that led Israel into combat with Iran and its allies across the region, including Lebanon's Hezbollah, which suffered major losses. The United States joined Israel in attacking Iran's military and nuclear program in a 12-day war in June.

Israel has killed several top militants as well as Iranian generals and nuclear scientists, and it has vastly depleted the military capabilities of its enemies while seizing control over most of Gaza as well as parts of Lebanon and Syria.

But the failure to return the hostages has left the country deeply divided, with weekly mass protests against Netanyahu. Israel is more isolated internationally than it has been in decades.

A memorial at the scene of a massacre

Nearly 400 Israelis were killed and dozens abducted from the Nova music festival in the border community of Reim. Over the last two years, it has emerged as a memorial site, with portraits of the kidnapped and the fallen.

Thousands of people visited throughout the day to share memories of relatives and friends who were killed, weaving through hundreds of photos encircling the spot where the DJ booth stood.

Many gathered before sunrise, playing the same track of music that was playing two years ago, stopping for a moment of silence at 6:29 a.m. — the exact time the attack began. People embraced and spoke of their loss.

"We don't need a specific day, because we live this every day anew," said Alon Muskinov, 28, who was at the festival and lost three of his closest friends.

Yehuda Rahmani, whose daughter Sharon — a police officer at the festival — was also among those killed, said he visits the Nova site every day. He drinks his morning coffee next to a photo of his daughter at the last place where she was alive.

To this day, Rahmani keeps hoping he will run into a survivor who could tell him about his daughter's last moments. He is angry at the government for not launching an inquiry into security failures of that day.

"When you don't know what happened, it makes it so much harder," he said.

Israeli artillery and the boom of explosions in Gaza echoed across the Nova site as smoke billowed over the Strip. The Israeli military said a rocket was launched from northern Gaza in the morning, but no damage or injuries were reported.

Israeli forces have arrested at least 35 people in the occupied West Bank, east Jerusalem and elsewhere since Monday, according to a group representing Palestinian prisoners. The Israeli military did not immediately confirm the arrests but said "regular counterterrorism activity" was underway.

In Tel Aviv, dozens gathered at a memorial site that was set up in a city square.

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Shay Dickmann, whose aunt was killed in Kibbutz Be'eri and whose cousin, Carmel Gat, was taken hostage by Hamas and killed 11 months later, said everyone wants the war to end.

"There is a deal on the table, there is an opportunity to end this war and bring everybody back home," she said. "We all deserve it."

Israel and Hamas discuss Trump peace plan

In neighboring Egypt, in the resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, Israel and Hamas held a second day of indirect talks to discuss U.S. President Donald Trump's peace plan.

The war has already killed over 67,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, part of the Hamas-run government, which does not say how many were civilians or combatants. It says women and children make up around half the dead, and many independent experts say its figures are the most reliable estimate of wartime casualties.

Israel's offensive has displaced around 90% of Gaza's population of some 2 million, often multiple times, and restrictions on humanitarian aid have contributed to a severe hunger crisis, with experts saying Gaza City is experiencing famine.

Ghassan Abu Rejeila said the war has stripped Gaza of everything that gives life meaning, whether it's a family gathering or a decent meal. "We've lost the beautiful moments. Our life has become hell upon hell. Every day, there is killing, strikes, death, martyrdom."

Maha Shbeir, a doctor at Nasser Hospital, said the last two years have felt like decades.

"I've seen cases of children, elderly people, women, cases of amputation, burns, head injuries," she said. "I don't know how we will recover in the future from them, from those scenes that we've seen."

Experts and major rights groups have accused Israel of genocide, and the International Criminal Court is seeking the arrest of Netanyahu and his former defense minister for allegedly using starvation as a method of war.

Israel vehemently denies the allegations, saying it is waging a lawful war of self-defense and taking extraordinary measures to avoid harming civilians. It blames Hamas for the death and destruction in Gaza because the militants are deeply embedded in populated areas.

Hamas portrayed the Oct. 7 attack as a response to decades of Israeli land seizures, settlement construction and military occupation. But the attack has exacted a catastrophic toll on the Palestinians, whose dream of an independent state appears as distant as ever despite recent moves by major Western countries to recognize one.

National Guard troops are outside Chicago and could be in Memphis soon in Trump's latest deployment

By ERIN HOOLEY and CHRISTINE FERNANDO Associated Press

ELWOOD, Ill. (AP) — National Guard troops are positioned outside Chicago and they could be in Memphis by Friday as the Trump administration pushes ahead with an aggressive policy toward big-city crime whether local leaders support it or not.

National Guard members from Texas had settled in at an Army Reserve center in Illinois by early Wednesday, despite a lawsuit and vigorous opposition from Democratic elected leaders. Their exact mission was not clear, though the Trump administration has an aggressive immigration enforcement operation in the nation's third-largest city, and protesters have frequently rallied at an immigration building outside Chicago in Broadview.

The president has called Chicago a "hell hole" of crime, although police statistics show significant drops in most crimes, including homicides.

In Memphis, Tennessee, police Chief Cerelyn Davis said a small group of commanders were already in the city, planning for the arrival of Guard troops.

Republican Gov. Bill Lee has said troops will be deputized by the U.S. Marshals Service to "play a critical support role" for local law enforcement, though that role hasn't been precisely defined yet.

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President Donald Trump's bid to deploy the military on U.S. soil over local opposition has triggered a conflict with blue state governors. Illinois and Chicago are urging a federal judge to stop "Trump's long-declared 'War'" on the state. A court hearing on their lawsuit is scheduled for Thursday. In Oregon, a judge over the weekend blocked the Guard's deployment to Portland.

Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker has predicted that National Guard troops from the state would be activated, along with 400 from Texas. He has accused Trump of using troops as "political props" and "pawns," and said he didn't get a heads-up from Washington about their deployment.

The Associated Press saw military personnel in uniforms with the Texas National Guard patch at the U.S. Army Reserve Center in Elwood, 55 miles (89 kilometers) southwest of Chicago. Trucks marked Emergency Disaster Services dropped off portable toilets and other supplies. Trailers were set up in rows. Extra fencing was spread across the perimeter.

The nearly 150-year-old Posse Comitatus Act limits the military's role in enforcing domestic laws. However, Trump has said he would be willing to invoke the Insurrection Act, which allows a president to dispatch active duty military in states that are unable to put down an insurrection or are defying federal law.

The Federal Aviation Administration ordered flight restrictions over the Army Reserve Center for security reasons until Dec. 6.

Armed Border Patrol agents making arrests near famous landmarks has amplified concerns after an immigration crackdown that began last month. Agents have targeted immigrant-heavy and largely Latino areas.

Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson signed an executive order Monday barring federal immigration agents and others from using city-owned property as staging areas for enforcement operations.

Since starting his second term, Trump has sent or talked about sending troops to 10 cities, including Baltimore; the District of Columbia; New Orleans; and the California cities of Oakland, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Most violent crime around the U.S. has declined in recent years. In Chicago, homicides were down 31% to 278 through August, police data shows. Portland's homicides from January through June decreased by 51% to 17 this year compared with the same period in 2024.

In Portland, months of nightly protests at a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility continued on Tuesday night. In June, police declared a riot, and there have been smaller clashes since then.

An appeals court has scheduled arguments for Thursday in the government's bid to deploy the Guard in Portland.

Oregon Democratic Gov. Tina Kotek said Tuesday she told Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem there's "no insurrection" in the state.

Portland Police Chief Bob Day said Tuesday that the department needs to work more closely with federal agents as it looks put more officers at the ICE facility.

Noem told Fox News on Tuesday that she told Portland Mayor Keith Wilson that if the city did not boost security at the ICE building, get backup from local law enforcement, and take other safety measures then "we were going to send four-times the amount of federal officers here."

A federal judge in September said the administration "willfully" broke federal law by putting Guard troops in Los Angeles over protests about immigration raids.

A veteran defense lawyer turned judge will oversee the case against ex-FBI director James Comey

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — Michael Nachmanoff has built a quiet reputation in the federal courthouse in northern Virginia — a onetime public defender turned judge known for methodical preparation and a cool temperament. On Wednesday, he'll find himself at the center of a political storm: presiding over the Justice Department's prosecution of former FBI director James Comey.

Confirmed to the bench by President Joe Biden in 2021, Nachmanoff was randomly assigned to the case after a Virginia grand jury indicted Comey last month on charges including obstruction of a congressio-

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nal proceeding. The assignment instantly drew Donald Trump's attention. The president, long fixated on Comey, blasted him as a "Dirty Cop" and derided Nachmanoff as a "Crooked Joe Biden appointed Judge" while celebrating the charges as "JUSTICE FOR AMERICA!"

Despite the political noise, lawyers who know Nachmanoff say he is unlikely to be swayed.

"Whatever his personal politics are, I do not think that they will enter the courtroom," said longtime Virginia defense attorney Nina Ginsberg, who has tried cases before him. "He's confident enough in his ability to judge fairly that I don't think he's going to be influenced by politics or the media coverage."

Nachmanoff, 57, came to the bench after more than a decade as the Eastern District of Virginia's top federal public defender, where he argued and won a Supreme Court case that helped reduce racial disparities in crack cocaine sentencing. He served six years as a magistrate judge, handling some politically tinged cases. In 2019 he oversaw the first appearances of Lev Parnas and Igor Fruman, associates of Trump ally Rudy Giuliani, releasing them on \$1 million bonds. More recently, he refused to block the CIA from firing Dr. Terry Adirim, a Pentagon physician targeted by Trump allies over the COVID-19 vaccine mandate.

"He was an aggressive advocate, the kind of lawyer who left no stones unturned," Ginsberg said of the judge. She said he conducts his courtroom in an even-handed, respectful manner.

Timothy Belevetz, a defense lawyer and former federal prosecutor in the Eastern District of Virginia, said Nachmanoff was "always a worthy adversary."

"He's been around the courthouse for years and years and years," Belevetz said. "He's very well-respected. He's very smart, he'll give parties a fair shake, he listens to the arguments."

Comey was charged late last month with lying to Congress. Days earlier, Trump appeared to urge Attorney General Pam Bondi to prosecute the former FBI director and other political enemies.

Comey himself has acknowledged the political backdrop but expressed confidence in the court system. In a video after his indictment, he said: "My heart is broken for the Department of Justice but I have great confidence in the federal judicial system, and I'm innocent. So let's have a trial."

The clash between Trump and Comey has been building for years. Trump fired the FBI director in 2017, just months into his first term, as the bureau investigated Russian interference in the 2016 election. Since then, the former president has repeatedly called for Comey's prosecution and, in the days before the indictment, publicly pressed Bondi to act.

For lawyers who've worked with Nachmanoff, that kind of political noise is unlikely to matter. They point to his long record of independence and constitutional rigor. "Federal public defenders are renowned for their fidelity to the Constitution and due process," said Lisa Wayne, executive director of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

She said the White House should welcome Nachmanoff's involvement as a safeguard "against the appearance of partisan political attacks."

Bob Ross paintings to be auctioned to support public TV stations after federal funding cuts

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Thirty paintings created by the bushy-haired, soft-spoken Bob Ross will soon be up for auction to defray the costs of programming for public television stations suffering from cuts in federal funding.

Ross, a public television stalwart in the 1980s and '90s, "dedicated his life to making art accessible to everyone," said Joan Kowalski, president of Bob Ross Inc. "This auction ensures his legacy continues to support the very medium that brought his joy and creativity into American homes for decades."

Bonhams in Los Angeles will auction three of Ross' paintings on Nov. 11. Other auctions will follow in London, New York, Boston and online. All profits are pledged to stations that use content from distributor American Public Television.

The idea is to help stations in need with licensing fees that allow them to show popular programs that include "The Best of Joy of Painting," based on Ross' show, "America's Test Kitchen," "Julia Child's French Chef Classics" and "This Old House." Small and rural stations are particularly challenged.

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As desired by President Donald Trump, Congress has eliminated \$1.1 billion allocated to public broadcasting, leaving about 330 PBS and 246 NPR stations to find alternative funding sources. Many launched emergency fund drives. Some have been forced to lay off staff and make programming cuts.

The beloved Ross died in 1995 of complications from cancer after 11 years in production with "The Joy of Painting." His how-to program was shown on stations around the U.S. and around the world. The former Air Force drill sergeant known for his calm demeanor and encouraging words enjoyed a resurgence in popularity during the lockdowns of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ross spoke often as he worked on air about painting happy little clouds and trees, and making no mistakes, only "happy accidents."

The thirty paintings to be auctioned span Ross' career and include landscapes depicting serene mountain vistas and lake scenes, his signature aesthetic. He created most of the 30 on-air, each in under 30 minutes, which was the span of a single episode.

Bonhams sold two early 1990s mountain-and-lake scenes of Ross in August for \$114,800 and \$95,750. The auctions of the 30 paintings soon to be sold have an estimated total value of \$850,000 to \$1.4 million, Bonhams said.

Trump-backed Van Epps and Democrat Behn win Tennessee primaries for US House special election

By JONATHAN MATTISE Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Matt Van Epps, a former commissioner in Gov. Bill Lee's administration who was endorsed by President Donald Trump, and Democratic state Rep. Aftyn Behn won their crowded primary races Tuesday and will face off in December in a special election to replace a GOP congressman who left office this summer.

Van Epps clinched victory with the presidential endorsement that came after in-person early voting ended. Eleven Republicans were on the ballot for the seat vacated by former U.S. Rep. Mark Green.

In a victory speech, the Republican nominee said the endorsement "made the difference, and I will never forget it." He pledged to work with Trump on issues ranging from illegal immigration enforcement to providing care for veterans.

"In Congress I'll stand shoulder to shoulder with President Trump to advance our America First agenda," Van Epps said.

Behn, a social worker and community organizer from Nashville, said her win proved that "authenticity, energy, organizing power consistently outperformed corporate money and poll-tested messaging."

"Tonight, Tennessee sent a message," Behn told a room of supporters. "And that message is: Women still fight. Organizers can still win. And Democrats in the Deep South aren't done yet."

The Dec. 2 general election could gauge the popularity of Trump's aggressive second-term agenda, especially with suburban Republican voters.

The seat is one of three districts that GOP lawmakers drew as safely red in 2022 by dividing left-leaning Nashville. Its voters elected Green by 21 percentage points in 2024 and by nearly 22 points in 2022.

Van Epps, who lives in Nashville, leaned into his military experience on the campaign trail, including as a Tennessee Army National Guard lieutenant colonel and as an Army Special Operations helicopter pilot. Among the competitors he defeated were state Reps. Jody Barrett and Gino Bulso.

Trump's backing followed Van Epps' prior endorsements from Gov. Lee, Green and U.S. Rep. Jim Jordan.

On Tuesday night the president said in a post on his social media platform, Truth Social: "Congratulations to Matt Van Epps on his great victory in Tennessee. He will be a GREAT Congressman!!!"

Democrats attacked Trump policies

Behn bested fellow state Reps. Bo Mitchell and Vincent Dixie and businessperson Darden Copeland in the Democratic primary.

One of her focuses has been on women's reproductive health rights, including as a plaintiff in a lawsuit against a Tennessee law banning adults from helping minors get an abortion without parental permission.

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A judge halted the provision's enforcement.

She also has pushed for the elimination of the state's tax on groceries by instituting a tax she says would close loopholes for large corporations.

She said Tuesday that people are "hungry for something real" and "tired of begging for crumbs and not being allowed at the table."

On the campaign trail, the Democratic candidates attacked the legislation Trump dubbed the "Big, Beautiful Bill," in addition to his tariffs.

District includes Nashville, rural areas, suburbs

The 7th Congressional District spans 14 counties, bordering both Kentucky and Alabama. Along with parts of Nashville, it includes rural areas, wealthy suburbs and part of a military installment, Fort Campbell.

Outside groups spent more than \$3.1 million on the race, almost all on the GOP side, with about \$1.1 million opposing Barrett.

The Republican contenders praised Trump and expressed staunch opposition to anything perceived as liberal or "woke."

The special election offered state House members an enticing chance to run for Congress without forfeiting their seats or running simultaneous races.

Of its nine seats in the U.S. House, Tennessee currently has one Democrat, Rep. Steve Cohen of Memphis. Republican redistricting in 2022 allowed the GOP to flip another Democratic seat that was drawn to include only part of Nashville.

Hundreds of hikers rescued from Mount Everest after severe snowstorm

BEIJING (AP) — About 900 hikers, guides and other staff who were stranded by a weekend snowstorm on the Chinese side of Mount Everest have reached safety, state media said late Tuesday.

A severe storm struck the area Saturday night, cutting off access to where the hikers were staying in tents at an altitude of more than 4,900 meters (16,000 feet).

In all, 580 hikers and more than 300 guides, yak herders and other workers were stranded. About 350 hikers were able to descend by noon Monday and the rest had arrived by Tuesday, state media said, citing the local government.

Some hikers reportedly had hypothermia, and the official Xinhua News Agency said about a dozen of them were escorted to a meeting point by teams with food, medicine, heating and oxygen supplies.

The scenic area at Mount Everest in China's Tibet region has been temporarily closed. The 8,850-meter (29,000-foot) peak, the world's highest, straddles the border with Nepal.

The storm struck during a weeklong holiday that ends Wednesday. Many Chinese travel at home and abroad during the holiday, which marks the anniversary of the start of Communist Party rule in China on Oct. 1, 1949.

In Nepal, a South Korean climber died in a weekend storm near the summit of Mera Peak, a 6,476-meter (21,250-foot) Himalayan mountain south of Everest.

Early-season snowstorms hit at least two other areas in western China over the weekend, killing one person and stranding motorists on an icy and snowy highway near a scenic hiking spot.

More than 200 people were evacuated from a remote and rugged valley in the Qilian Mountains in Qinghai province. One person died of hypothermia and altitude sickness.

The area is undeveloped, and authorities later warned people against entering without permission, citing the difficult terrain, unpredictable weather and an average altitude of more than 4,000 meters (13,000 feet).

In northwest China's Xinjiang region, the Kanas scenic area was closed after a snowstorm Sunday that stranded motorists on a nearby highway. The road had been cleared by Monday, state media said.

Raleigh, Suarez, Crawford homer and Mariners top Tigers 8-4 for a

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2-1 lead in the AL Division Series

By LARRY LAGE AP Sports Writer

DETROIT (AP) — The Seattle Mariners are on the brink of a spot in the AL Championship series for the first time in 24 years.

Cal Raleigh hit a two-run homer, Eugenio Suarez and J.P. Crawford had solo shots and Seattle beat the Detroit Tigers 8-4 on Tuesday night to take a 2-1 lead in the AL Division Series.

The Mariners are within a win of their first AL Championship Series since 2001. Their first chance to advance is on Wednesday afternoon in Game 4 at Comerica Park and if necessary, another opportunity awaits on Friday back in Seattle for a decisive Game 5.

"The Seattle Mariners deserve where we're at right now," Suarez said.

Detroit manager A.J. Hinch said not to count his team out after it showed resolve following a historic collapse in the regular season and bounced back by eliminating Cleveland in an AL Wild Card series, then won Game 1 against Seattle.

"We've had to play more and more back-against-the-wall-type games," Hinch said. "I know our guys are going to be ready."

Seattle's Logan Gilbert gave up one run on four hits while striking out seven and walking none over six innings.

"Can't say enough about what Logan did," Mariners manager Dan Wilson said. "Just an incredible outing. He had everything going."

Raleigh, who had a major league-high 60 homers during the regular season, hit a 391-foot, two-run homer to left-center in the ninth to make it 8-1.

The offensively challenged Tigers were limited to four hits and one run through eight innings before suddenly generating some offense in the ninth against Caleb Ferguson, who allowed three runs on three hits and a walk without getting an out.

Spencer Torkelson hit a two-run double and Andy Ibanez followed with an RBI single.

All-Star closer Andres Munoz entered with one on and no outs and ended Detroit's comeback hopes with a flyout and game-ending double play.

Detroit's Jack Flaherty lasted just 3 1/3 innings, allowing four runs (three earned) on four hits and three walks.

Seattle scored two runs in the third after starting the inning with three hits and a walk.

Victor Robles led off with a double and scored on an error, which was credited to left fielder Riley Greene for an errant throw that could have been fielded on a bounce by catcher Dillon Dingler.

"A little bit of a breakdown all the way around," Hinch said.

Randy Arozarena's RBI single put the Mariners ahead 2-0 in the third.

Suarez sent a 422-foot shot to left in the fourth to make it 3-0. Raleigh's two-out RBI single in the inning gave Seattle a four-run cushion.

The Tigers were hoping their first home game in two-plus weeks might make them more comfortable at the plate, but it didn't help and they lost an eighth straight at Comerica Park.

Detroit finally scored in the fifth on Kerry Carpenter's fielder's choice on what was potentially an inning-ending double play. Crawford's throw from second base pulled first baseman Josh Naylor off the bag and he didn't secure the ball in his glove, allowing Dingler to score.

Crawford's homer in the sixth restored Seattle's four-run lead.

The Tigers allowed the Mariners to score a second unearned run in the eighth inning after Carpenter dropped Victor Robles' fly in right field, allowing Luke Raley to advance to third and to score on Crawford's sacrifice fly.

Up next

Detroit RHP Casey Mize and Seattle RHP Bryce Miller are expected to start Game 4 on Wednesday.

National Guard members from Texas are in Illinois in Trump's

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latest move to send troops to cities

By ERIN HOOLEY and CHRISTINE FERNANDO Associated Press

ELWOOD, Ill. (AP) — National Guard members from Texas were getting settled at an Army Reserve center in Illinois on Tuesday, the most visible sign yet of the Trump administration's plan to send troops to the Chicago area despite a lawsuit and vigorous opposition from Democratic elected leaders.

Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker, who has accused President Donald Trump of using troops as "political props" and "pawns," said he didn't get a heads-up from Washington.

The Associated Press saw military personnel in uniforms with the Texas National Guard patch at the U.S. Army Reserve Center in Elwood, 55 miles (89 kilometers) southwest of Chicago. Trucks marked Emergency Disaster Services pulled in and out, dropping off portable toilets and other supplies. Trailers were set up in rows. Extra fencing was spread across the perimeter.

The Guard's exact mission was not immediately clear, though the Trump administration has an aggressive immigration enforcement operation in the nation's third-largest city, and protesters have frequently rallied at an immigration building outside Chicago in Broadview. The president repeatedly has described Chicago in hostile terms, calling it a "hell hole" of crime, although police statistics show significant drops in most crimes, including homicides.

Trump's bid to deploy the military on U.S. soil over local opposition has triggered a conflict with blue state governors. Illinois and Chicago are urging a federal judge to intervene and stop "Trump's long-declared 'War'" on the state. A court hearing on their lawsuit is scheduled for Thursday. In Oregon, a judge over the weekend blocked the Guard's deployment to Portland, Oregon.

Illinois: We don't need troops

Pritzker had predicted Monday that Illinois National Guard troops would be activated, along with 400 from Texas. Texas Republican Gov. Greg Abbott posted a picture on social media showing troops boarding a plane and declared, "ever ready."

Pritzker said he "literally canceled everything" Saturday in anticipation of a call from Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth.

"They have not picked up the phone and called me. Not once," Pritzker said Tuesday at a gathering of business, cultural and political leaders in Minneapolis.

The nearly 150-year-old Posse Comitatus Act limits the military's role in enforcing domestic laws. However, Trump has said he would be willing to invoke the Insurrection Act, which allows a president to dispatch active duty military in states that are unable to put down an insurrection or are defying federal law.

The Federal Aviation Administration ordered flight restrictions over the Army Reserve Center for security reasons until Dec. 6.

Robert Hartley, 62, who works at Raceway Pizza & More near the site, said he has doubts about putting the Guard on duty.

"I think the president might be overstepping his boundaries," Hartley said.

Months of tension

The sight of armed Border Patrol agents making arrests near famous landmarks has amplified concerns from Chicagoans already uneasy after an immigration crackdown that began last month. Agents have targeted immigrant-heavy and largely Latino areas.

Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson signed an executive order Monday barring federal immigration agents and others from using city-owned property, such as parking lots, garages and vacant lots, as staging areas for enforcement operations.

In Memphis, Tennessee, meanwhile, police Chief Cerelyn Davis said Guard troops could arrive by Friday. She said a small group of commanders were already in the city, working on planning and logistics.

Republican Gov. Bill Lee, who supports the effort, has said the troops will be deputized by the U.S. Marshals Service to "play a critical support role" for local law enforcement, though that role hasn't been precisely defined yet.

A broad military strategy

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Since starting his second term, Trump has sent or talked about sending troops to 10 cities, including Baltimore; Memphis; the District of Columbia; New Orleans; and the California cities of Oakland, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Most violent crime around the U.S. has declined in recent years. In Chicago, homicides were down 31% to 278 through August, police data shows. Portland's homicides from January through June decreased by 51% to 17 this year compared with the same period in 2024.

In Portland, a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility has been the site of nightly protests for months, peaking in June when local police declared a riot, with smaller clashes occurring since then. Over the weekend, larger crowds gathered outside the facility, and federal agents fired tear gas.

An appeals court has scheduled arguments for Thursday in the government's bid to overcome a lower court's rulings and deploy the Guard in Portland.

Oregon Democratic Gov. Tina Kotek said she met Tuesday with Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem and told her there's "no insurrection" in the state.

"Oregon is united against military policing in our communities," Kotek said.

Portland Police Chief Bob Day said Tuesday that the department needs to work more closely with federal agents as it looks put more officers at the ICE facility.

"We've been trying to coordinate that with the federal response because we have differing policies, differing expectations around procedures," he said.

Noem told Fox News on Tuesday that she told Portland Mayor Keith Wilson that if the city did not boost security at the ICE building, get backup from local law enforcement, and take other safety measures then "we were going to send four-times the amount of federal officers here."

A federal judge in September said the administration "willfully" broke federal law by putting Guard troops in Los Angeles over protests about immigration raids.

Gaza peace talks appear to gain momentum on the war's anniversary

By SAMY MAGDY and DAVID RISING Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Peace talks between Israel and Hamas resumed at an Egyptian resort city on Tuesday, the two-year anniversary of the militant group's surprise attack on Israel that started the war that has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

The second day of indirect negotiations at the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh is focused on a plan proposed by U.S. President Donald Trump last week that aims to bring about an end to the war.

Khalil al-Hayya, a senior Hamas official, told Egypt's Qahera TV that Hamas wanted guarantees of a lasting ceasefire as part of any deal to return the remaining 48 hostages, around 20 of them believed by Israel to be alive.

It appeared to be his first public appearance since an Israeli strike targeting him and other top Hamas leaders in Qatar last month killed six people, including his son and office manager.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has accepted Trump's plan, which calls for the immediate release of the hostages. The plan also calls for Gaza to be placed under international governance and for Hamas to be disarmed, elements the militants have yet to accept.

Netanyahu's office said Tuesday that Israel was "cautiously optimistic," framing the talks as technical negotiations over a plan that both sides already had approved.

The plan has received widespread international backing, and Trump told reporters Monday that he thought there was a "really good chance" of a lasting deal.

In a sign the talks were gaining momentum, Qatar said its prime minister and top diplomat, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, would travel to Egypt on Wednesday to join the negotiations. Trump's Mideast envoy Steve Witkoff and the president's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, as well as top Netanyahu adviser Ron Dermer, are also expected to join the talks then.

Trump's peace plan

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The plan envisions Israel withdrawing its troops from Gaza after Hamas disarms, and an international security force being put in place. The territory would be placed under international governance, with Trump and former U.K. Prime Minister Tony Blair overseeing it.

In a statement issued Tuesday, Hamas reiterated its longstanding demands for a lasting ceasefire and a full Israeli withdrawal from Gaza but said nothing about disarmament.

The war began on Oct. 7, 2023, when Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel and killed around 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducted 251. Most have since been released in ceasefires or other deals.

The ensuing war has killed at least 67,160 Palestinians and nearly 170,000 wounded, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, and left the territory in ruins.

The ministry does not differentiate between civilians and combatants, but says around half of the deaths were women and children. The ministry is part of the Hamas-run government, and the United Nations and many independent experts consider its figures to be the most reliable estimate of wartime casualties.

A growing number of experts, including those commissioned by a U.N. body, have said Israel's offensive in Gaza amounts to genocide — an accusation Israel vehemently denies.

On Tuesday, thousands of Israelis gathered at an area attacked by Hamas two years ago to pay tribute to loved ones who were killed and kidnapped. An explosion echoed across the fields following the launch of a rocket in northern Gaza. No damage or injuries were reported.

In Gaza City, residents said Israeli attacks continued until early Tuesday. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

A promise of humanitarian relief

Ahead of the resumption of talks, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the hostilities have created "a humanitarian catastrophe on a scale that defied comprehension."

Trump's proposal "presents an opportunity that must be seized to bring this tragic conflict to an end," Guterres said in a statement.

Egypt and Qatar, which have been mediating between the sides for most of the war, are facilitating the latest talks. Majed al-Ansari, a spokesman for Qatar's Foreign Ministry, said Monday's talks went on for around four hours.

Witkoff and Kushner are expected to join the talks on Wednesday, according to a U.S. official who was not authorized to brief reporters because the trip has not yet been formally announced. Dermer, Netanyahu's top adviser, was also heading to Egypt on Wednesday, according to an Israeli official speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

Part of the plan is to surge humanitarian aid into Gaza, where more than 2 million Palestinians are facing hunger and, in some areas, famine.

California fire captain enlists motorists to lift downed chopper after hearing trapped medic groan

By HALLIE GOLDEN and AUDREY McAVOY Associated Press

Just minutes after a medical helicopter crashed onto a California highway, Sacramento Fire Capt. Peter Vandersluis found himself directing an impromptu response team of about 15 drivers to lift the wreckage off a paramedic trapped underneath.

When Vandersluis shouted "lift," they raised the aircraft. When he ordered "hold," they kept it elevated. "Just out of instinct — the people were there willing to help, and they didn't hesitate and followed my exact commands," Vandersluis told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "And we were able to lift it up with ease."

The paramedic, as well as a nurse and pilot on board, were taken to hospitals in critical condition after Monday evening's crash on State Route 50 east of downtown Sacramento. The aircraft had departed a hospital after dropping off a patient when it experienced an "in-air emergency" and went down just after 7 p.m. The conditions of the three weren't immediately known Tuesday.

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Vandersluis was supervising the first fire engine crew to reach the crash, and he knew it would take too long for additional rescue teams to arrive.

"Once I heard the woman groan, I made the decision to essentially yell out and get the bystanders to help lift the helicopter off of her," Vandersluis said.

A firefighter tried to pull the paramedic out only to find she was trapped by her seat belt. The firefighter scooted underneath, cut the seat belt and rescued her. The ad hoc team raised the aircraft in about 30 seconds. By the time the firefighter extracted the paramedic, less than a minute had passed.

The group gently lowered the aircraft to the ground after the paramedic was safely removed.

Vandersluis said he has never led a group of civilians in an emergency response situation before. But he noted his job is to lead the men and women he works with on a daily basis. His training and nearly 20 years of experience as a firefighter told him what to do.

His engine had been responding to a motorcycle accident just nearby in the westbound lanes of the same highway when the helicopter crashed. The engine drove against traffic to the scene and got there in minutes.

Some drivers were already out of their cars trying to assist when the firefighters arrived.

Aimee Braddock was among those who helped. She told KCRA-TV that she rushed to the crash site after seeing the helicopter plummet to the pavement.

"As soon as I saw that everybody was moving to try to push the helicopter out to help the first responders get to the passenger, I just ran over and got in the line of people and was just pushing it as much as I could," Braddock recounted. "Then we held it for several minutes, so the first responder could get the person out."

Firefighters said they didn't confirm the helicopter caught fire. White smoke billowed out of the aircraft when it crashed, but Vandersluis said it was released by an onboard fire extinguisher system.

No one on the highway was injured, something Capt. Justin Sylvia with the Sacramento Fire Department called "mind blowing" given that the helicopter crashed in the center of the highway.

"People reported that they basically saw the helicopter kind of going down quickly. So all the traffic slowed down," Sylvia said.

The National Transportation Safety Board and the Federal Aviation Administration said they were investigating the crash of the Airbus EC-130 T2.

The aircraft was a REACH Air Medical helicopter, according to the company, which said in a statement that they "are keeping all those impacted in our thoughts and prayers."

"We are in the process of determining the details of this situation, as well as the condition of the REACH crew involved, who were all taken to area hospitals," the company's statement said.

Sacramento City Councilwoman Lisa Kaplan was on a ride-along with law enforcement responding to the crash and said there were plumes of white smoke coming out of the downed helicopter.

"It's really sombering and sobering. I am up flying with sheriff pilots that do this day in and day out. And it really makes you grateful for every day and grateful for our officers and our medical pilots," she said.

Trump says Canadians will travel to the US again after a trade deal is worked out

By ROB GILLIES Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump predicted that Canadians will travel to the United States once again after a trade deal is reached.

Trump told reporters in the Oval Office while meeting with Prime Minister Mark Carney on Tuesday that he understands why many Canadians are refusing to visit.

Trump's talk of making Canada the 51st state to avoid tariffs has infuriated Canadians, who are canceling trips to the U.S. in big numbers. There's been a 23% drop in Canadian visits to the U.S. in the first seven months of the year versus the same period in 2024, according to Canada's national statistical office.

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"I understand that. Look, I understand that," Trump said before predicting Canada and the U.S. would ultimately reach a deal.

"It's something that will get worked out. There's still great love between the two countries but you know American people want product here, they want to make it here," Trump said. "We are competing for the same business. That's the problem. That's why I keep mentioning one way to solve that problem. There's a very easy way."

Trump has often said that Canada could avoid tariffs by becoming the 51st state. The repeated jabs about the U.S. acquiring Canada have alienated Canadian travelers.

"The people of Canada, they will love us again," Trump said. "Most of them still do. If you say only 25%. I assume a lot of them. I think they love us."

"It's not bad. They'll come back," Carney told Trump.

Carney made his second visit to the Oval Office ahead of next year's review of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement and as one of the world's most durable and amicable alliances has been fractured by Trump's trade war and annexation threats.

Trump said he was open to extending the free trade agreement with Mexico and Canada through a renegotiation or seeking "different deals."

The free trade agreement was enacted during Trump's first term, and it allows the majority of Canadian and Mexican goods to be shipped to the U.S. without tariffs. But Trump has made it clear since returning to office that he wants to reshape the relationship, and he expressed ambivalence over the process as long as he feels like he's able to improve America's position.

"We could renegotiate it, and that would be good, or we can just do different deals," he said. "We're allowed to do different deals if we want. We might make deals that are better for the individual countries."

Carney entered the visit hoping to find some relief on sector-specific tariffs. Trump has some sector-specific tariffs on Canada, known as Section 232 tariffs, that are having an impact. There are 50% tariffs on steel and aluminum imports, for example.

After the meeting, Dominic LeBlanc, the minister responsible for Canada-U.S. trade, described the talks as "successful" and "positive" on trade issues, though he noted the conversation would continue. He said Canada was looking to get a deal done quickly on steel and aluminum.

There is fear in Canada over what will happen to the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, which is critical to Canada's economy. More than three-quarters of Canada's exports go to the U.S.

Trump showed a fondness for Carney — something he didn't have toward Carney's predecessor, Justin Trudeau — but noted there was a "natural conflict" between the two countries, a point to which the prime minister politely disagreed.

"We want Canada to do great," Trump said. "But you know, there's a point at which we also want the same business."

Asked why the U.S. and Canada had failed to reach a deal on trade, Trump said it's a complicated situation.

"We have natural conflict," he said. "We also have mutual love."

Carney said he wouldn't use the word "conflict."

"There are areas where we compete, and it's in those areas where we have to come to an agreement that works. But there are more areas where we are stronger together, and that's what we're focused on."

The U.S. president made a joking reference to a "merger" between the two countries at the top of his remarks Tuesday.

Relations with Canada's southern neighbor and longtime ally are at a low point.

"We've had ups and downs, but this is the lowest point in relations that I can recall," said Frank McKenna, a former Canadian ambassador to the United States.

"I talk every day to ordinary citizens who are changing their vacation plans, and I talk to large business owners who are moving reward trips away or executive business trips," McKenna said. "There is an outright rebellion."

Government shutdown drags on as health care compromise remains elusive

By MARY CLARE JALONICK, LISA MASCARO and KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — To hear party leaders talk, the seventh day of the government shutdown sounded a lot like the first. Democrats are seeking negotiations on expiring health care subsidies while Republicans say they won't discuss it, or any other policy, until the government reopens.

The two sides are also offering starkly different visions of the Affordable Care Act and how to deal with the expanded premium assistance that will soon expire for millions of people — Democrats want the aid extended, while Republicans insist the subsidized health care system is broken and must be cut back.

"Democrats' position has not changed," said Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer. "We want the same thing that a majority, an overwhelming majority, of Americans want, which is to end this shutdown and halt the health care crisis that will send premiums spiking for tens of millions of people."

House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., met with Senate Republicans on Tuesday and said the party is "100% united," which he said is "a good place to be in."

It's unclear how the impasse will end, even as hundreds of thousands of federal workers are going unpaid and many government services are slowed or suspended. Democrats believe the public is on their side as they fight to keep the COVID-era subsidies, but health care is also one of the most intractable issues in Congress — and a real compromise is unlikely to be easy, or quick.

There are some Republicans in Congress who want to extend the aid as millions of people who receive their insurance through the ACA marketplaces are set to receive notices that their premiums will increase at the beginning of the year. But many GOP lawmakers are strongly opposed to any extension — and see the debate as a new opportunity to try to reform the program.

"If Republicans govern by poll and fail to grab this moment, they will own it," wrote Texas Rep. Chip Roy, a Republican, in a letter published in The Wall Street Journal over the weekend. He encouraged senators not to go "wobbly" on the issue.

"The jig is up, the pandemic is over and my colleagues shouldn't blink in any other direction," Roy wrote.

A long history of health care fights

Republicans have been railing against the Affordable Care Act, former President Barack Obama's signature health care law, since it was enacted 15 years ago. But while they have been able to chip away at it, they have not been able to substantially alter it as a record 24 million people are now signed up for insurance coverage through the ACA, in large part because billions of dollars in subsidies have made the plans more affordable for many people.

Now, some of them see the Democrats' fight as their chance to revisit the issue — putting Republican congressional leaders and President Donald Trump in a complicated position.

"I am happy to work with Democrats on their Failed Healthcare Policies, or anything else, but first they must allow our Government to reopen," Trump wrote on social media Monday night, walking back earlier comments saying there were ongoing negotiations with Democrats.

Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., told reporters Monday that "there may be a path forward" on ACA subsidies, but stressed, "I think a lot of it would come down to where the White House lands on that."

Some GOP senators argue, though, that the only path forward is to overhaul the law. "The whole problem with all of this is Obamacare," said Florida Sen. Rick Scott.

Johnson said there were ongoing talks about "pretty dramatic changes" to the law that Congress might consider once the government reopens.

Bipartisan talks face difficulties

The Senate has now rejected a House-passed bill to extend government funding until mid-November five times, with Democrats denying Republicans the votes to pass it unless they win concessions on health care.

With leaders at odds, some rank-and-file senators in both parties have been in private talks to try to find a way out of the shutdown. Republican Sen. Mike Rounds of South Dakota has suggested extending the subsidies for a year and then phasing them out. Senate Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Susan

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Collins, R-Maine, has suggested pushing ahead with a group of bipartisan spending bills that are pending and then securing a commitment to discuss the health care issue.

But many Democrats say a commitment isn't good enough, and Republicans say they need deeper reforms — leaving the talks, and the U.S. government, at a standstill.

Maine Sen. Angus King, an Independent who caucuses with Democrats, voted with Republicans to keep the government open. But he said Monday that he might switch his vote to "no" if Republicans do not "offer some real solid evidence that they are going to help us with this crisis" on health care.

Republican Sen. Markwayne Mullin of Oklahoma said his party is "not budging," however.

"First and foremost, before we can talk about anything, they need to reopen the government," Mullin said.

Some Republicans urge action on health care

Still, some Republicans say they are open to extending the subsidies — even if they don't like them — as it becomes clear that their constituents will face rising costs.

"I'm willing to consider various reforms, but I think we have to do something," said Republican Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri. He said Congress should address the issue "sooner rather than later" before open enrollment begins Nov. 1.

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., said she is "not a fan" of Obamacare but indicated she might vote to extend it.

"I'm going to go against everyone on this issue because when the tax credits expire this year my own adult children's insurance premiums for 2026 are going to DOUBLE, along with all the wonderful families and hard-working people in my district," she posted on social media Monday evening.

High stakes for federal workers

With both sides digging in, the shutdown could go on for some time, leaving federal workers without their regular paychecks. And the White House is now suggesting that Trump may block back pay if the government reopens.

Trump signed legislation into law in 2019 that ensures back pay for federal workers during any government funding lapse. But a White House memo with the rationale for no back pay is under consideration.

Johnson told reporters Tuesday that he doesn't know the details of the memo, but "if that is true, that should turn up the urgency and the necessity of the Democrats doing the right thing here."

Democrats pushed back on the White House rationale. "Federal workers, including furloughed workers, are entitled to their back pay following a shutdown," said Washington Sen. Patty Murray, the top Democrat on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The White House also said Tuesday that it will use tariff revenue to bolster the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, which is facing funding shortages because of the shutdown.

Press secretary Karoline Leavitt said in a post on X that Trump has "identified a creative solution to transfer resources" from tariffs the administration has imposed on U.S. trading partners. She did not provide details of how such funding transfers might work.

Bondi dodges questions as she clashes with Democrats over claims she's weaponized Justice Department

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER, ERIC TUCKER and STEPHEN GROVES Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Pam Bondi repeatedly deflected questions as she sought during a combative congressional hearing on Tuesday to defend herself against growing criticism that she's turning the law enforcement agency into a weapon to seek vengeance against President Donald Trump's political opponents.

Democrats sought to use the hearing, coming on the heels of the indictment of former FBI Director James Comey, to warn of what they view as the politicization of a department that has long prided itself on remaining independent from the White House.

Bondi brushed aside with seeming disdain questions about her tumultuous tenure, flatly refusing to an-

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swer time and again as Democrats pressed her on politically charged investigations, the firings of career prosecutors and other matters. Her refusal to engage on the questions meant little if any fresh insight was offered about her actions and decisions, with Bondi instead opting to respond to Democrats' attacks by echoing conservative claims that President Joe Biden's Justice Department — which brought two criminal cases against Trump — was the one that had been weaponized.

"They were playing politics with law enforcement powers and will go down as a historic betrayal of public trust," Bondi said of the Biden Justice Department. "This is the kind of conduct that shatters the American people's faith in our law enforcement system. We will work to earn that back every single day."

The hearing split early along deeply partisan lines, with Republicans repeatedly leaping to her defense to highlight the criminal cases against the president that they say show the institution she inherited was deeply politicized. They pointed to revelations from a day earlier that the FBI had analyzed phone records of several Republican lawmakers as part of an investigation into Trump's efforts to overturn his 2020 election loss to Biden, a Democrat.

"This is an outrage, an unconstitutional breach and ought to be immediately addressed by you and Director Patel," Sen. Chuck Grassley, the Republican chairman of the committee, told Bondi, referring to FBI Director Kash Patel.

Democrats, meanwhile, accused Bondi of destroying the department's credibility and eroding its long-standing independence from the White House as the Republican president publicly calls for the prosecution of his political foes.

"What has taken place since January 20th, 2025, would make even President Nixon recoil," Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, the top Democrat on the committee, said of the president who resigned to avoid being impeached in connection with the Watergate scandal. "This is your legacy, Attorney General Bondi. In eight short months, you fundamentally transformed the Justice Department and left an enormous stain in American history. It will take decades to recover."

Democrats press Bondi on her pledge not to play politics

The hearing marked Bondi's first before the panel since her confirmation hearing last January, when she pledged to not play politics with the Justice Department — a promise Democrats pounced on as they pressed the attorney general on whether she can withstand political pressure from the White House.

Sen. Amy Klobuchar, a Minnesota Democrat, reminded Bondi of that commitment and asked her if she thought she had upheld it. Bondi replied that she believed she absolutely had.

"I pledged that I would end the weaponization also of the Justice Department and that America would once again have a one tier system of justice for all," Bondi said. "And that is what we are doing."

Bondi set the tone for the hearing at the outset, repeatedly snapping with a raised voice at Durbin and deflecting questions from him by pointing to the murder rate in Chicago and asserting that lawmakers from his party were responsible for shutting the government down.

"You're sitting here grilling me, and they're on their way to Chicago to keep your state safe," Bondi said, referring to Patel and Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche.

"Madam Attorney General," Durbin replied, "it's my job to grill you."

Bondi refuses to answer questions about Comey and other matters

She refused repeatedly to discuss matters, including a bribery investigation into Trump border czar Tom Homan that was shuttered under the Trump administration. That drew the ire of Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, a Rhode Island Democrat, who accused Bondi of responding with "far-right internet talking points."

She also declined to say whether she talked to the president about the case against Comey, who was charged last month with lying to the Senate Judiciary Committee when he said he had not authorized anyone else at the FBI to be an anonymous source in news reports about a particular investigation. His indictment came just days after Trump appeared to publicly implore her on social media to take that action against him and other perceived political enemies.

"This is supposed to be an oversight hearing in which members of Congress can get serious answer to serious questions about the coverup of corruption, about the prosecution of the president's enemies," Sen. Adam Schiff of California, a Democrat from California, said as Bondi repeatedly interrupted him. "And when

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will it be that the members of this committee on a bipartisan basis demand answers to those questions and refuse to accept personal slander as an answer to those questions?"

Comey is set to make his first court appearance on Wednesday in the case, which was brought despite career prosecutors' reservations about the strength of evidence, after the Trump administration raced to install a new prosecutor to secure the charges following the resignation under pressure of the experienced leader of that office.

The Justice Department under Bondi has opened criminal investigations into other vocal critics of the president, including Schiff on accusations of mortgage fraud, New York Attorney General Letitia James and Andrew Cuomo, the former New York governor and current mayoral candidate. They have all denied wrongdoing, as has Comey, and have slammed the investigations as politically motivated.

Noem visits Chicago area ICE facility as agents arrest 13, raid city neighborhoods

By CHRISTINE FERNANDO and JOHN O'CONNOR Associated Press

BROADVIEW, Ill. (AP) — Federal officials reported the arrests of 13 people Friday protesting near an immigration facility outside Chicago that has been frequently targeted during President Donald Trump's administration's surge of immigration enforcement this fall.

As Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem met with employees inside the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement processing facility in Broadview, a crowd grew over several hours, some riled by newly installed barricades to separate them from law enforcement officers stationed outside.

Noem also accompanied agents Friday on a raid near a local Walmart store and later engaged in a tit-for-tat over unannounced visits — and even bathroom use — with the Broadview mayor.

Immigrants' rights advocates and residents separately reported that federal agents had used tear gas near grocery or hardware stores they had targeted for enforcement elsewhere in Chicago on Friday and detained a city council member as she questioned the attempted arrest of a man. The federal government has restricted airspace over Broadview, officials said Friday, and Gov. JB Pritzker called for an investigation into an immigration raid on the city's South Side early Tuesday morning.

Objections to barricades, local police step up

At the ICE facility, some protesters have aimed to block vehicles from going in or out of the area in recent weeks, part of growing pushback to a surge of immigration enforcement that began in early September. Called "Midway Blitz," the U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced Friday that it has resulted in more than 1,000 immigration arrests.

Federal agents have repeatedly fired tear gas, pepper balls and other projectiles toward crowds in response and at least five people have faced federal charges after being arrested in those clashes.

While Friday's demonstration was quieter at Broadview, about 12 miles (19 kilometers) west of Chicago, Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Tricia McLaughlin reported 13 protesters were arrested. Charges were not released but McLaughlin said they included alleged assaults on federal officers.

The Illinois State Police, whose officers patrolled the grounds wearing riot helmets and holding batons, set up concrete barriers Thursday night to segregate protesters and designate spaces to demonstrate, with several adjacent streets being closed. Many demonstrators ignored the zones to protest on the other side of the building, saying the corrals prevented free speech rights.

Others were angered by local and state officers standing shoulder-to-shoulder with federal agents, including Homeland Security Investigations, ICE, the Bureau of Prisons and others. At one point, Illinois State Police joined Border Patrol in pushing back a crowd.

Jonny Bishop, a 28-year-old former teacher from Palatine, Illinois, and from a Mexican immigrant family, said the cooperation concerned him.

"ICE acts with impunity," said Bishop, who's previously encountered tear gas and pepper balls. "They know that they can shoot at us. They can tear gas us. And Broadview Police Department is not going to do anything."

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The Federal Aviation Administration confirmed it has restricted Chicago airspace, with Border Patrol citing "a credible threat" against law enforcement amid ongoing clashes with protesters at the Broadview site. The restriction, which is in effect from Oct. 1-12 and targets drones, extends in a radius of 15 nautical miles (28 kilometers) and includes Broadview. Critics question the length of time and the geographic breadth of the prohibition, worried about oversight of ICE operations.

Tear gas used on quiet street; city council member handcuffed at hospital

In a Chicago neighborhood, Andrew Denton, 39, stopped at a grocery store for lunch and heard honking from an SUV stopped behind a motorcycle parked in the middle of the street. He realized ICE agents were in the SUV and started shooting video just before the agents threw canisters of gas near passersby.

"There was no reason to use tear gas on the crowd," he said. "No one was threatening them in any way."

Denton said he immediately began tearing up. His nose began running, and he felt like he was choking. He said the 20 or so people in the area included seniors, families with children and children outside at recess at an adjacent elementary school.

"Every week, ICE escalates its violence against us," said Demi Palecek, a military veteran and candidate for state representative. "With this level of escalation, it's only a matter of time before someone is killed."

In a near West Side neighborhood a few miles away, Chicago Alderperson Jessie Fuentes shared video appearing to show her being handcuffed as she confronted federal agents at a hospital. She said a resident had fallen and broken his leg while chased by ICE agents who then transported him to the emergency room.

Fuentes arrived after an emergency room staff member called to say there were ICE agents in the room with him. In the video, none of them answers when she asks if they have a signed warrant. One agent then says, "You need to leave," and handcuffs her from behind as she repeats her question about a warrant and then says, "You're hurting me." Fuentes said agents escorted her outside and released her.

Noem participates in raid, engages in restroom dispute

Noem, alongside Gregory Bovino, chief patrol agent of the U.S. Border Patrol's El Centro Sector, appeared on the Broadview building's roof, surrounded by armed agents and a camera crew while standing beside a sniper's post, according to footage shared online by conservative media personality Benny Johnson.

Johnson also posted video outside a Walmart store where he said agents, accompanied by Noem, had conducted a raid. Another video showed detainees in a parking lot where Noem noted "consequences for breaking the law and jeopardizing our law enforcement."

Noem attempted to visit Broadview Mayor Katrina Thompson at the village hall, but she was not there, and Noem was turned away when she asked to use the facilities.

"The city police wouldn't even let us use the restroom," she said in a video.

Broadview village spokesperson David Ormsby said Thompson later "returned her visit" at the ICE facility, where she too was refused access.

"We are distressed to hear that the bathrooms are unavailable at the ICE facility," Ormsby said in a statement.

Governor decries anonymous, 'inhumane' tactics

Pritzker, the governor, lashed out at the Trump administration for the way federal agents, many of them masked to hide their faces, have treated protesters over the past month. He castigated officers' "inhumane" tactics including slamming protesters to the ground, arresting a reporter and firing chemical agents into the crowds.

"It is clear federal agents cannot be trusted to act to protect the safety and constitutional rights of the public," the Democrat said.

Pritzker also ordered state agencies to coordinate possible action to "hold federal agents accountable" for a raid on an apartment building in the city's South Shore neighborhood early this week in which residents, regardless of status and including children, were detained for hours, some handcuffed. Children were separated from their parents, while officers smashed windows and tore through apartments, leaving piles of debris in the hallways.

Homeland Security officials said 37 undocumented immigrants were arrested, some with criminal histories

and two allegedly members of a criminal Venezuelan gang.

What to know about former LSU receiver Kyren Lacy and new video of a fatal highway crash

By SARA CLINE Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Louisiana state police have released video evidence in a deadly 2024 car crash that authorities contend was caused by reckless driving by Kyren Lacy, a former Louisiana State University football star who took his own life days before a grand jury was convened to review the case.

The 11-minute video released Tuesday came in response to other footage given to a Louisiana TV station by Matthew Ory, Lacy's defense attorney, who said it showed the former wide receiver couldn't have caused the wreck because he was too far away from the collision. In a statement, Louisiana State Police defended their original findings that Lacy was responsible and urged the public "to rely on the full body of facts."

Louisiana's attorney general said this week the case remained under review but maintained that eyewitnesses identified Lacy as having put December's deadly crash in motion. Louisiana Democratic lawmakers called for an investigation and LSU coach Brian Kelley faced renewed questions about the case.

Here are some things to know.

The fatal crash on a Louisiana highway

In December 2024, Lacy was allegedly "recklessly" driving a green Dodge Charger — speeding and crossing into the oncoming traffic lane to pass cars in a no-passing zone, according to Louisiana State Police.

In an effort to "avoid impact" with Lacy, a driver swerved and crashed head-on into another vehicle, police said. Herman Hall, 78, died in the crash.

Police said Lacy "fled" the crash scene without stopping to render aid or call 911.

The 24-year-old Lacy, who had declared for the 2025 NFL draft, turned himself into police and was booked on negligent homicide, felony hit and run and reckless operation of a vehicle. He was released on bail.

Days before a grand jury hearing on his case in April, Lacy died of an apparent suicide after fleeing a traffic stop near Houston and being pursued by police, authorities said.

Attorney says Lacy was too far behind crash to be blamed:

Nearly six months after Lacy's death, his defense attorney on Friday went on a local news station in Houma, Louisiana, and presented what he says is evidence showing the LSU wide receiver was too far behind the deadly December wreck to be at fault.

Ory, who did not respond to email seeking comment, acknowledged that Lacy had passed multiple cars but questioned how Lacy could be responsible for a crash that occurred so far in front of him.

After Ory released footage of the crash, Louisiana State Police published their own video Tuesday. The agency detailed their findings, releasing a timeline, crash report, interviews with witnesses at the scene and surveillance footage — where the collision can be heard and Dodge Charger can be seen, but the wreck itself is out of view.

A narrator in the agency's video said that state police "never reported" that the Charger "impacted" any of the involved vehicles.

"However, all evidence collected supports the conclusion that Lacy's reckless operation of the green Charger in oncoming traffic triggered the chain of events involving the other drivers, ultimately resulting in the fatal crash," the narrator said.

Calls for more investigations

On Monday, Louisiana's Democratic Party called for Republican State Attorney General Liz Murrill to launch a "full-scale" investigation into the "wrongful accusations made against Mr. Lacy."

In a statement to The Associated Press on Tuesday, Murrill said that she is reviewing all evidence in the case, but added that "the evidence is not disputed."

She said that the Lafourche Parish District Attorney's office was prepared to present evidence to a grand jury, which included showing that Lacy returned to his lane of travel while driving; "However, that does

not absolve Kyren Lacy of responsibility in this matter.”

Murrill said that “every witness” identified Lacy’s green Dodge Charger as “having put the events in motion” that led to the deadly crash. Murrill said she is continuing to review evidence from state police.

Reaction in the football world

On Monday, LSU Football Coach Brian Kelly was asked about Ory’s comments.

“I thought that this is a process that takes time,” Kelly said. “I think I said back when this occurred that let’s wait until all the information comes out. For us to make these universal statements early on it just doesn’t serve anybody well.”

Three scientists at US universities win Nobel Prize in physics for advancing quantum technology

By KOSTYA MANENKOV, SETH BORENSTEIN and MIKE CORDER Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Three scientists won the Nobel Prize in physics Tuesday for research on the strange behavior of subatomic particles called quantum tunneling that enabled the ultra-sensitive measurements achieved by MRI machines and laid the groundwork for better cellphones and faster computers.

The work by John Clarke, Michel H. Devoret and John M. Martinis, who work at American universities, took the seeming contradictions of the subatomic world — where light can be both a wave and a particle and parts of atoms can tunnel through seemingly impenetrable barriers — and applied them in the more traditional physics of digital devices. The results of their findings are just starting to appear in advanced technology and could pave the way for the development of supercharged computing.

The prizewinning research in the mid-1980s took the subatomic “weirdness of quantum mechanics” and found how those tiny interactions can have real-world applications, said Jonathan Bagger, CEO of the American Physical Society. The experiments were a crucial building block in the fast-developing world of quantum mechanics.

Speaking from his cellphone, Clarke, who spearheaded the research team, said: “One of the underlying reasons that cellphones work is because of all this work.”

When quantum mechanics first came to light in 1926, a prominent physicist sought to illustrate its many paradoxes with the example of a cat in a box that was both alive and dead at the same time. The three Nobel winners showed that science can put such principles to work, said Physics Today Editor-in-Chief Richard Fitzgerald, who was in a competing research group in the 1990s.

“They didn’t take it that far, but they showed that it can be done,” Fitzgerald said.

The winning physicists took “the scale of something that we can’t see, we can’t touch, we can’t feel” and brought it “up to the scale of something recognizable” and made it “something you can build upon,” Fitzgerald said.

Clarke, 83, conducted his research at the University of California, Berkeley. Martinis, 67, worked at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Devoret, 72, is at Yale and also at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

How the winners reacted

Martinis’ wife, Jean, told Associated Press reporters who called at his home hours after the announcement that he was still asleep and did not yet know. In the past, she said, they stayed up on the night of the physics award, but at some point they decided that sleep was more important.

When his wife woke him and told him about the journalists seeking an interview, the new Nobel laureate remembered that the prizes were being announced this week. He opened his computer, looked at the announcement and saw his picture along with the other winners.

“So I was kind of in shock,” he said.

Clarke said it never occurred to him that he would win a Nobel Prize.

“I practically collapsed,” Clarke told AP. “I was completely stunned. I mean, it’s something that I had never, ever dreamed of in my entire life.”

Why the work matters

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Martinis — who was a senior Google scientist working toward quantum computing before co-founding his own company, Qolab — said the big future goal is quantum computing, which would be a giant leap in speed and sophistication by relying on the power of the contradictory states in that subatomic world.

That is still eight to 10 years away. But he said the team's experiments showed "a computer could be much, much more powerful."

Devoret is now chief scientist for Google's quantum computing efforts.

Quantum computers are "one very sort of obvious use," but the research could also help develop sensors that detect and measure faint phenomena, such as magnetic fields, and advance cryptography to encode information, said Mark Pearce, a professor of astrophysics and Nobel physics committee member.

And through better understanding of precision chemistry, it could develop better materials for daily living and even give an added boost to artificial intelligence, Martinis said.

Before the work at Berkeley, scientists knew single electrons or pairs of tiny electrons could tunnel through an impenetrable barrier. What Clarke said his team learned was "if you design the circuitry properly, you could actually have tunneling" of objects larger and more useful than just a couple of electrons.

That discovery "can be used to make very sophisticated things that would not otherwise be able to work out," Clarke said at a news conference, mentioning his iPhone and quantum computers.

He also criticized the Trump administration for its deep cuts to science funding, saying they would "cripple science."

"If this continues ... it may take a decade to get back to where we were half a year ago," Clarke said.

Martinis, Bagger and Fitzgerald said it's a bit of a stretch to say cellphones now use the breakthrough made by Clarke and colleagues. But ultra-sensitive measuring devices rely on the team's work, including MRI machines, which would be far less useful without their advances, Bagger said.

"Quantum mechanics is everywhere in everything we do, from the cellphone to the satellite communications that are connected to the cellphones, to the screens on which we watch our videos on our cellphones," Bagger said.

Nobel history and other 2025 prizes

Tuesday's award was the 119th time the prize has been given. Last year, artificial intelligence pioneers John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton won the physics prize for helping create the building blocks of machine learning.

On Monday, Mary E. Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell and Dr. Shimon Sakaguchi won the Nobel Prize in medicine on Monday for discoveries about how the immune system knows to attack germs and not our bodies.

Nobel announcements continue with the chemistry prize on Wednesday and literature on Thursday. The Nobel Peace Prize will be announced Friday followed by the Nobel Memorial Prize in economics on Monday.

The award ceremony will be held Dec. 10, the anniversary of the 1896 death of Alfred Nobel, the wealthy Swedish industrialist and the inventor of dynamite who founded the prizes.

The prizes carry priceless prestige and a cash award of 11 million Swedish kronor (nearly \$1.2 million).

Q&A: A look at the National Guard's role as Trump seeks to deploy troops in Oregon and Chicago

By GENE JOHNSON Associated Press

President Donald Trump's efforts to send National Guard troops into U.S. cities — including Los Angeles; Portland, Oregon; and Chicago — over the objections of Democratic mayors and governors have prompted a host of questions about the president's authority and who controls the Guard.

A judge in California has ruled that the deployment of 4,000 National Guard members — along with 700 Marines — in Los Angeles earlier this year violated federal law. A judge in Oregon issued two temporary restraining orders over the weekend blocking the administration from deploying federal troops to protect federal property in that state. Chicago and Illinois have sued in hopes of obtaining a similar order there. National Guard troops from Texas have arrived in that state.

Amid the rapid developments as the administration appeals, here's a look at National Guard deployments,

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how they have been done before and the legality of Trump's efforts to send troops into Democratic-led cities.

What are the rules for presidents activating the National Guard?

National Guard units are under the control of governors, who may activate them to respond to disasters such as hurricanes or wildfires in their own or other states, unless they are called up by the president.

Under federal law, the president can take command of a state's National Guard troops in limited circumstances: when the U.S. is being invaded or is in danger of invasion by a foreign nation; when there is a rebellion or danger of a rebellion against the United States; or when the president is "unable with the regular forces to execute the laws of the United States."

Trump says those conditions are occurring in cities that he believes are overrun with crime and immigration protests. But his efforts in California and Oregon have been rejected by federal judges who believe he is overstepping his authority. A similar battle is brewing in Illinois, where the Democratic governor is adamantly opposed to having Guard troops deployed.

How are the courts interpreting presidential authority over the Guard?

A key issue in the lawsuits brought by states and cities seeking to block the deployment of National Guard troops in their communities is whether a president's determination is final on whether there is a danger of rebellion, or that the laws can't be executed with "regular forces."

The law requires that the conditions actually exist, noted Brenner Fissell, a Villanova University law professor who is also vice president of the National Institute of Military Justice.

In the Los Angeles case, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals has said that a president's determination is entitled to "a great level deference" but that courts can review it to ensure it fits "within the realm of honest judgment."

In Oregon, U.S. District Judge Karin Immergut temporarily blocked Trump's deployment of the Guard, saying the facts on the ground — involving nightly protests typically numbering a couple dozen people, with occasional larger crowds and skirmishes — did not meet that test or warrant the federalization of 200 troops.

The administration's lawyers have asserted that courts cannot second-guess the president's determinations. The Portland protests have strained the resources of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, requiring agents to be transferred there from other parts of the U.S. and to work 12-hour shifts seven days a week. That shows the department cannot protect federal property with "regular forces," they argued.

But Fissell suggested the consequences would be dire if the president can call out the National Guard over the objections of state and city leaders in response to such small protests.

"If the president on his own, unreviewably, could determine when any of these prongs exist, then there is effectively no judicial protection against a military coup in this country," Fissell said.

How have presidents relied on the Guard before?

Presidents assumed command of state National Guard units repeatedly during the Civil Rights Movement to enforce federal court orders when Southern governors openly refused to comply with them. That included in 1957, when President Dwight D. Eisenhower took control of the Arkansas National Guard and sent in the Army's 101st Airborne Division to allow nine Black students to integrate Central High School in Little Rock.

In 1965, President Lyndon Johnson took control of the Alabama National Guard to ensure civil rights demonstrators could march from Selma to Montgomery after state troopers attacked them. That was the last time a U.S. president deployed the National Guard against the wishes of a governor.

Presidents have also federalized the National Guard at the invitation of governors to quell unrest. Examples include when Michigan's governor sought help controlling rioting in Detroit that left dozens of people dead in 1967, and in 1992 when California's governor asked President George H.W. Bush to help end riots over the acquittal of four white police officers who severely beat Black motorist Rodney King.

Can National Guard troops enforce the law?

Generally speaking, not when they fall under the command of the president. The Posse Comitatus Act,

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which dates to 1878, is a criminal law that bars the use of the military for domestic policing.

U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer in California found last month that Trump's use of the Guard in Los Angeles this summer violated that law. His ruling is on hold as the administration appeals.

The cities and states challenging the deployments say they are fully capable and willing to execute the laws on their own and don't need federal interference. Civilian police — not military troops — are the ones trained in protecting First Amendment rights; in conducting arrests, traffic stops and crowd control; in de-escalation; and in using less-lethal force.

Posse Comitatus Act violations can be punished by up to two years in prison, but no such prosecution has ever been brought in U.S. history, said Syracuse University law professor William Banks, an expert in constitutional law and national security.

"The criminal law aspect of it is not the point," Banks said. "The point is that it establishes a presumption that we just don't want soldiers on the street."

There is one major exception to the Posse Comitatus Act: The president can invoke the Insurrection Act, which allows him to deploy military forces inside the U.S. to suppress rebellion or to enforce the law. Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson used the Insurrection Act to take control of the Guard during the Civil Rights Movement, and Bush to quell the LA riots.

Trump has suggested he is open to invoking it.

In that case, Banks said, "All brakes are off the administration. He can entirely militarize the city if he wanted to. He can tell everybody to stay in their houses."

What does the National Guard do?

The National Guard has hundreds of thousands of part-time troops, many of whom are college students or have day jobs in their civilian life. They regularly drill one weekend a month, with an annual two-week training. They can be deployed overseas in support of combat or to conduct missions like building schools, or they can be sent out within the U.S. in response to disasters or civil unrest.

The Guard's origins date back as far as 1636, when the first colonywide militia regiments in North America were organized in Massachusetts. The other colonies formed their own militias, which fought under Gen. George Washington during the Revolutionary War.

Because of the abuses of the British army, the framers of the Constitution opposed the idea of a standing army controlled by the president. The militias were kept under the control of the states, and Congress was given the responsibility of determining under what circumstances the president could call them into service.

Supreme Court seems skeptical about state bans on 'conversion therapy' for LGBTQ+ kids

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A majority of Supreme Court justices on Tuesday seemed likely to side with a Christian counselor challenging bans on LGBTQ+ "conversion therapy" for kids as a violation of her First Amendment rights.

Kaley Chiles, with support from President Donald Trump's administration, argues the laws passed by about half of U.S. states wrongly bar her from offering voluntary, faith-based therapy for kids.

She's challenging the law in Colorado. The state says its measure simply regulates licensed therapists by barring a practice that's been scientifically discredited and linked to serious harm.

But the court's conservative majority didn't seem convinced that states can restrict talk therapy aimed at changing feelings or behavior while allowing counseling that affirms kids identifying as gay or transgender. Justice Samuel Alito said the law "looks like blatant viewpoint discrimination."

The case blends two trends in the recent decisions of a court that's backed several claims of religious discrimination and taken a more skeptical view in LGBTQ rights cases. The court is also expected to hear a case this term over which sports teams transgender athletes can join. A decision in Tuesday's case is expected by June.

Christian therapist says law silences her

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Chiles contends her approach is different from the kind of conversion therapy once associated with practices like shock therapy decades ago. She said she believes "people flourish when they live consistently with God's design, including their biological sex."

Her attorneys argue the bans make it difficult for parents to find a therapist willing to work on gender identity unless the counseling specifically affirms transition.

"Ms. Chiles is being silenced, and the kids and families who want her help are unable to access it," said attorney James Campbell. Violating the law carries potential fines of \$5,000 and license suspension or even revocation.

The Republican administration argued the Colorado law suppresses therapists' speech, and should be subject to the higher legal standard of strict scrutiny, one that few measures pass.

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson questioned why the Colorado law should be struck down, while the court upheld a different measure from Tennessee that bans transition-related treatments for transgender kids.

"I'm just, from a very, very broad perspective, concerned about making sure that we have equivalence with respect to these things," she said. The Justice Department counters that Tennessee's law is different because it involves medical treatments rather than conversations between a patient and their therapist.

State says therapy is health care

Families who have spoken in favor of restrictions include Linda Robertson, a Christian mom of four from Washington state whose son Ryan underwent therapy that promised to change his sexual orientation after he came out to her at age 12. The techniques led him to blame himself when it didn't work, leaving him ashamed and depressed, she said. He died in 2009, after multiple suicide attempts and a drug overdose at age 20.

"What happened in conversion therapy, it devastated Ryan's bond with me and my husband," she said. "And it absolutely destroyed his confidence he could ever be loved or accepted by God."

Colorado argues its law does allow for wide-ranging faith-based conversations, and it exempts religious ministries. No one has been sanctioned under the 2019 law.

State attorneys say that therapy is health care, and that Colorado has a responsibility to regulate it.

"Providers have a duty to act in their patients' best interest and according to their professional standards. The First Amendment affords no exception," Colorado Solicitor General Shannon Stevenson said.

Justice Neil Gorsuch, though, questioned whether the same argument could have been used to restrict pro-LGBTQ therapy in previous decades, when the mainstream medical view was different. "What if a state back then might have passed a law prohibiting talk therapy that affirmed homosexuality?"

Justice Amy Coney Barrett suggested strict scrutiny might apply, but malpractice suits could address claims of harm linked to the practice.

Laws challenged elsewhere

Chiles is represented by Alliance Defending Freedom, a conservative legal organization that has appeared frequently at the court in recent years. The group also represented a Christian website designer who doesn't want to work with same-sex couples and successfully challenged a Colorado anti-discrimination law in 2023.

ADF's argument in the conversion therapy case also builds on another victory from a 2018 Supreme Court decision, which found that California could not force state-licensed anti-abortion crisis pregnancy centers to provide information about abortion. Chiles should also be free from that kind of state regulation, the group argued.

The high court agreed to hear the case after the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver upheld the law. Another Atlanta-based appeals court, the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, has struck down similar bans in Florida.

Legal wrangling has continued elsewhere as well. In Wisconsin, the state's highest court recently cleared the way for the state to enforce its ban. Virginia officials, by contrast, have agreed to scale back the enforcement of its law as part of an agreement with a faith-based conservative group that sued.

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US stocks snap a 7-day winning streak as gold's price tops \$4,000 per ounce

By STAN CHOE AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Wall Street's record-breaking rally ran out of momentum on Tuesday after the price of gold topped \$4,000 per ounce for the first time.

The S&P 500 dipped 0.4% from its latest all-time high and broke a seven-day winning streak. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 91 points, or 0.2%, and the Nasdaq composite sank 0.7%.

Stocks took a pause following a nearly relentless rush higher since April on hopes that the economy will remain resilient and that the Federal Reserve will continue to cut interest rates.

Tesla was the heaviest weight on the market and dropped 4.4% after unveiling cheaper versions of two of its electric car models. The stock gave back most of its leap from the prior day, when speculation and hype built after Tesla hinted at a coming product announcement.

Oracle also helped drag the market lower. It fell 2.5% after a news report suggested it's making thin profit margins on a key line of business related to artificial-intelligence technology.

The frenzy around AI has been one of the biggest trends guiding Wall Street to record after record recently. It's been so strong that it's raised worries that prices have potentially shot too high across the market.

On Tuesday, Dell climbed 3.5% after executives talked up the company's opportunity for growth because of AI at an investment conference. Advanced Micro Devices rallied 3.8% to add to its surge from Monday, when it announced a deal where OpenAI will use its chips to power AI infrastructure. IBM rose 1.5% after announcing a partnership that will integrate Anthropic's Claude AI chatbot into some of its software products.

Much is riding on expectations that the AI investment boom will pay off by making the global economy more productive and driving more growth. Without that increased efficiency, inflation could push higher due to upward pressure coming from the mountains of debt that the U.S. and other governments worldwide are building.

That has optimists on Wall Street buying tech stocks and pessimists buying gold, according to Thierry Wizman, a strategist at Macquarie Group.

Investors have traditionally seen gold as offering protection from high inflation. Its price has soared more than 50% this year not only because of governments' huge debt loads but also because of political instability worldwide and expectations for lower interest rates from the Fed.

Investors looking to "hedge" themselves, meanwhile, may be buying both tech stocks and gold, Wizman wrote in a research report.

Elsewhere on Wall Street, Intercontinental Exchange rose 1.8% after the company behind the New York Stock Exchange said it had agreed to invest up to \$2 billion in Polymarket.

Polymarket offers prediction markets that allow customers to profit from making predictions on events across politics, financial markets and popular culture, such as who will become New York City's next mayor or whether the U.S. government will announce this year that aliens exist.

Constellation Brands added 1% after the beer and wine company reported results for the latest quarter that several analysts said were better than they expected. Sales of beer still dropped from a year earlier, though, as CEO Bill Newlands highlighted a "challenging socioeconomic environment that has dampened consumer demand."

All told, the S&P 500 fell 25.69 points to 6,714.59. The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 91.99 to 46,602.98, and the Nasdaq composite sank 153.30 to 22,788.36.

In Toronto, shares of Trilogy Metals more than tripled after the White House said late Monday that it's taking a 10% equity stake in the Canadian company while allowing the Ambler Road mining project in Alaska to go forward.

President Donald Trump late Monday ordered the approval of a proposed 211-mile road through an Alaska wilderness to allow mining of copper, cobalt, gold and other minerals used in production of cars, electronics and other technologies. Trilogy is seeking to develop the Ambler site along with an Australian partner.

In Europe, France's CAC 40 edged up by less than 0.1% a day after slumping due to the latest political

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upheaval in Paris. France's prime minister abruptly resigned on Monday.

In the bond market, the yield on the 10-year Treasury eased to 4.13% from 4.18% late Monday.

Truck driver sues Mark Sanchez and Fox after violent fight over parking space

By MARGERY A. BECK Associated Press

A 69-year-old truck driver who was seriously injured in a fight that prosecutors say was started by former NFL quarterback and sports analyst Mark Sanchez is suing Sanchez and his employer, Fox Corporation, in Indiana state court.

Lawyers for Perry Tole filed the lawsuit Monday seeking an unspecified amount in actual and punitive damages, as well as attorney's fees. The lawsuit accuses Sanchez of instigating a fight with Tole Saturday night outside a downtown Indianapolis hotel, leading to "severe permanent disfigurement, loss of function" and other injuries and emotional distress.

Tole also stabbed Sanchez several times in the fight, according to police. A picture of Tole circulating online shows him in a neck brace on a hospital bed, covered in blood with a deep slash to the side of his face.

In an email, Fox Sports declined to comment on the lawsuit. Attorneys representing Sanchez in his criminal case also declined to comment on the lawsuit.

Attorneys representing Tole in the lawsuit, which requested a jury trial, did not immediately return calls seeking comment.

Sanchez is facing a felony battery charge, along with several misdemeanor charges, for what prosecutors said Monday was a fight over parking.

"We are literally talking about people fighting over a parking space and-or a dispute about where people are parking, and it resulted in someone receiving just incredibly significant injuries," Marion County prosecutor Ryan Mears said at a news conference Monday.

A police affidavit says the 38-year-old Sanchez, smelling of alcohol, accosted Tole, who had backed his truck into a hotel's loading docks in downtown Indianapolis. Tole's lawsuit said Sanchez entered Tole's truck without permission, then physically blocked and shoved Tole, who then doused Sanchez with pepper spray.

When Sanchez advanced after being sprayed, Tole pulled a knife to defend himself, authorities said.

Sanchez was hospitalized with stab wounds to his upper right torso, according to a police affidavit.

Sanchez was in Indianapolis for Fox's coverage of Sunday's game between the Colts and the Las Vegas Raiders.

Sanchez had a 10-year NFL career before retiring in 2019. He spent four seasons with the New York Jets and also appeared in games with Philadelphia, Dallas and Washington.

He appeared on ABC and ESPN for two years before joining Fox Sports as a game analyst in 2021.

Trump administration threatens no back pay for federal workers in shutdown

By LISA MASCARO AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's administration warned on Tuesday of no guaranteed back pay for federal workers during a government shutdown, reversing what has been long-standing policy for some 750,000 furloughed employees, according to a memo being circulated by the White House.

Trump signed into law after the longest government shutdown in 2019 legislation to ensure federal workers receive back pay during any federal funding lapse. But in the new memo, his Office of Management and Budget says back pay must be provided by Congress, if it chooses to do so, as part of any bill to fund the government.

The move by the Republican administration was widely seen as a strong-arm tactic — a way to pressure lawmakers to reopen the government, now in the seventh day of a shutdown.

"There are some people that don't deserve to be taken care of, and we'll take care of them in a different

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way," Trump said during an event at the White House.

He said back pay "depends on who we're talking about." Asked a second time about backpay for furloughed federal workers given that the requirement is spelled out in law, Trump said: "I follow the law, and what the law says is correct."

Refusing retroactive pay to the workers, some of whom must remain on the job as essential employees, would be a stark departure from norms and practices and almost certainly would be met with legal action.

While federal workers — as well as service members of the military — have often missed paychecks during past shutdowns, they are almost always reimbursed once the government reopens.

"That should turn up the urgency and the necessity of the Democrats doing the right thing here," House Speaker Mike Johnson said at a press conference at the Capitol.

Johnson, a lawyer, said he hadn't fully read the memo but "there are some legal analysts who are saying" that it may not be necessary or appropriate to repay the federal workers.

But Democratic Sen. Patty Murray of Washington blasted the Trump administration as defying the law.

"Another baseless attempt to try and scare & intimidate workers by an administration run by crooks and cowards," said Murray, who is the ranking lawmaker on the Senate Appropriations Committee. "The letter of the law is as plain as can be — federal workers, including furloughed workers, are entitled to their backpay following a shutdown."

And Senate Majority Leader John Thune, a Republican, said, "My assumption is that the furloughed workers will get paid."

In the memo draft prepared for Trump's Office of Management and Budget director Russ Vought, first reported by Axios, the office's general counsel Mark R. Paoletta lays out a legal rationale for no back pay for federal workers.

The memo explains that while the Government Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2019 says workers shall be paid after federal funding is restored, it argues the action is not self-executing. Instead, the memo says, repaying the federal workers would have to be part of subsequent legislation, presumably in the bill to reopen the government.

The OMB analysis draws on language familiar to budget experts by suggesting that the 2019 bill created an authorization to pay the federal workers but not the actual appropriation.

Congress, it says, is able to decide whether it wants to pay the workers or not.

For now, Congress remains at a standstill, with neither side — nor the White House — appearing willing to budge. Democrats are fighting for health care funds to prevent a lapse in federal subsidies that threaten to send insurance rates skyrocketing. Republicans say the issue can be dealt with later.

LeBron James teased 'the decision of all decisions' announcement.

It was an ad

LOS ANGELES (AP) — LeBron James had another "decision" to announce. Turns out, it was an ad.

The Los Angeles Lakers star teased that he would have something to say Tuesday. The "decision" reference is a nod to how he announced in July 2010 that he was joining the Miami Heat.

It was supposed to come out at noon Eastern, but Hennessy — the cognac brand that James has been partners with for some time — made the announcement public about 90 minutes ahead of schedule. James' training schedule for the day changed, the brand said, necessitating the change in release plans.

"This fall, I'm going to be taking my talents to Hennessy V.S.O.P," James said in the clip. Even the wording he used in that announcement mirrored how he announced that he was joining the Heat 15 years ago with his infamous "take my talents to South Beach" line.

Hennessy announced that it would be releasing a limited edition orange bottle featuring James' name on the label and his signature "crowning" gesture — a nod to his "King James" moniker. "Where the first moment marked a pivotal career move, this second decision celebrates a creative reunion and shared cultural legacy," Hennessy said in the release announcing the move.

James teased the campaign by posting on X that he would be making "the decision of all decisions."

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The short video shows him walking toward a chair, then taking a seat opposite another man seated a few feet away — mildly reminiscent of the setup for his first “decision” when he sat opposite broadcaster Jim Gray for a televised announcement of the news that he was joining the Heat.

Social media went wild with speculation after the Monday post, as would be expected. James — the NBA’s all-time leading scorer — turns 41 in December and is not only the NBA’s oldest current player but also is about to set a record by appearing in his 23rd season in the league. He is not under contract past this season, which prompted obvious wondering if this would be how he announces a retirement plan.

Ticket prices for the Lakers’ final regular season game in April soared on Monday on secondary markets, with fans willing to spend big money just in case James does decide that this season is his last.

There were also many guesses on social media — correct ones, it turned out — that the latest “decision” would be James participating in an ad campaign of some sort.

“I like my decision,” James says at the end of the ad.

A mayor-elect in Germany is found with serious stab wounds. Investigators see no political motive

BERLIN (AP) — The newly elected mayor of a town in western Germany was found with life-threatening wounds on Tuesday. Investigators said there was no evidence of a political motive and that they suspected a family connection to the attack.

Iris Stalzer was elected mayor of Herdecke on Sept. 28. She is a member of the center-left Social Democrats, the junior party in Germany’s conservative-led national government.

Stalzer was found at her home with life-threatening wounds shortly before 1 p.m., police and prosecutors said. The 57-year-old was taken to a hospital by helicopter.

They didn’t comment on the nature of the wounds, but the leader of the Social Democrats’ parliamentary group in Berlin, Matthias Miersch, told reporters Tuesday afternoon that “we heard a few minutes ago that newly elected Mayor Iris Stalzer was stabbed in Herdecke.”

A later statement from police and prosecutors said that, as things stand, “there are no indications of a politically motivated act,” adding that a family connection was “presumed.”

It didn’t elaborate but said that the victim’s children were still with police to clear up what happened.

Chancellor Friedrich Merz said Stalzer was the victim of “an abhorrent act.” He wrote on social media that “we fear for the life of Mayor-elect Iris Stalzer and hope for her full recovery.”

Stalzer, who beat a candidate from Merz’s center-right Christian Democrats in a runoff vote to win election, is due to take office on Nov. 1. Herdecke is a town of about 23,000 people in western Germany’s Ruhr region, between the cities of Hagen and Dortmund.

Stalzer’s website says she married with two teenage children. It says she has spent almost her whole life in Herdecke and has worked as a lawyer specializing in labor law.

Israel and Hamas launch indirect talks in Egypt on eve of Gaza war anniversary

By SAMY MAGDY, MELANIE LIDMAN and WAFAA SHURAFU Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Israeli and Hamas officials launched indirect talks Monday at an Egyptian resort on a U.S.-drafted peace plan to end the ruinous war in Gaza on the eve of its second anniversary.

The talks, which went on for several hours, unfolded amid many questions about the plan presented by U.S. President Donald Trump last week, including the disarmament of the militant group — a key Israeli demand — and the future governance of Gaza. Trump has indicated that an agreement on Gaza could pave the way for a Middle East peace process that could reshape the region.

Despite Trump ordering Israel to stop the bombing, Israeli forces continued to pound Gaza with airstrikes, killing at least 19 people in the last 24 hours, the territory’s Health Ministry said.

An Egyptian official with knowledge of the talks said the parties wrapped up Monday’s round of ne-

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gotiations at the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, and the discussions were set to resume Tuesday afternoon. The official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the talks, said the parties have agreed on most of the first-phase terms, which include the release of hostages and establishing a ceasefire.

The Israelis are led by top negotiator Ron Dermer, while Khalil al-Hayyah leads the Hamas delegation. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said foreign policy adviser Ophir Falk would be present for Israel.

Egypt's state-owned Al-Qahera News television station reported that the talks began with a meeting between Arab mediators and the Hamas delegation. Mediators were to meet later with the Israeli delegation, the station said.

U.S. envoy Steve Witkoff and Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner were also expected to join the talks, local Egyptian media said.

Hamas said negotiations will focus on the first stage of a ceasefire, including the partial withdrawal of Israeli forces as well as the release of hostages held by the militants in Gaza in exchange for Palestinian prisoners in Israeli detention.

This latest push for peace comes after Hamas accepted some elements of the U.S. plan that Israel also said it supported. Under the plan, Hamas would release the remaining 48 hostages — about 20 of whom are believed to be alive — within three days. It would give up power and disarm.

The talks in Egypt are expected to move quickly. Netanyahu said they would be "confined to a few days maximum," though some Hamas officials have warned that more time may be needed to locate bodies of hostages buried under rubble.

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi hailed Trump's efforts, underscoring the importance of preserving the U.S.-crafted "peace system" in the Middle East since the 1970s, which he said "served as a strategic framework for regional stability."

El-Sisi spoke in a televised address commemorating the anniversary of the start of the 1973 war with Israel, which created some of the conditions for the return of the Sinai Peninsula — where Sharm el-Sheikh is located — to Egypt in a peace treaty years later.

US wants Israeli bombing to stop

The U.S. has said Israel's heavy bombardment of Gaza would need to stop for the hostages to be released. Israel says it's largely heeding Trump's call. The Israeli military said it is mostly carrying out defensive strikes to protect troops, though dozens of Palestinians have been killed since the military's statement Saturday night.

Gaza's Health Ministry said Monday that the bodies of 19 people, including two aid-seekers killed by Israeli strikes and gunfire, had been brought to hospitals over the past 24 hours. Another 96 were wounded. The deaths brought the Palestinian toll to 67,160 since the Hamas attack on Oct. 7, 2023, triggered the war, with nearly 170,000 wounded, the ministry said.

The ministry does not differentiate between civilians and combatants, but says more than half of the deaths were women and children. The ministry is part of the Hamas-run government, and the U.N. and many independent experts consider its figures to be the most reliable estimate of wartime casualties.

Hamas-led militants abducted 251 people and killed around 1,200, mostly civilians, in the Oct. 7 attack. Most of the largely Israeli hostages have been released in ceasefires or other deals.

Meanwhile, families of Israeli hostages petitioned the Nobel Prize Committee to award the Nobel Peace Prize to Trump for what they called his unprecedented contributions to global peace.

"At this very moment, President Trump's comprehensive plan to release all remaining hostages and finally end this terrible war is on the table," the families wrote. "For the first time in months, we are hopeful that our nightmare will finally be over."

In a commemoration ceremony for Israelis killed at the Nir Oz Kibbutz on Oct. 7, Daniel Lifshitz said the primary focus of talks should be the swift release of all remaining hostages.

"Israel will pay painful concessions by releasing mass murderers and terrorists that killed many among our friends and families here in Israel, but we cherish life and in Trump we trust to make it happen," said Lifshitz, grandson of slain hostage Oded and released hostage Yocheved Lifshitz.

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'Living in fear, war and displacement'

In Gaza, families of Palestinian babies born on the day the war began hoped to celebrate their second birthday with the sound of laughter and cheers instead of the cacophony of bombs and bullets.

The babies' mothers have been repeatedly displaced and live in constant fear for their safety. They also lack access to health care.

Amal al-Taweel and her husband, Mostafa, had their son, Ali, after three years of trying for a child. They now live in a tent without proper sanitation, food, vaccinations or toys.

"I was envisioning a different life for him ... He couldn't experience what a safe family life feels like," al-Taweel said.

The Vatican marked the second anniversary of the Oct. 7 attacks by condemning the "inhuman massacre" of innocent people in Israel and calling for the return of hostages. But it also said Israel's razing of Gaza is itself a disproportionate massacre, and called on countries to stop supplying Israel weapons to wage the war.

"Those who are attacked have a right to defend themselves, but even legitimate defense must respect the principle of proportionality," Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, said on the eve of the anniversary. "The perverse chain of hatred can only generate a spiral that leads nowhere good."

National Book Award finalists announced: Alameddine, Majumdar, Li and Russell are among the nominees

By HILLEL ITALIE AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Fiction by Rabih Alameddine, Megha Majumdar and Karen Russell and a memoir of family tragedy by Yiyun Li are among this year's finalists for the National Book Award.

On Tuesday, the National Book Foundation announced five nominees in each of five competitive categories, narrowing long lists of 10 unveiled last month. Winners, each of whom receive \$10,000, will be revealed during a Nov. 19 dinner gala in downtown Manhattan. Honorary awards will be presented to fiction writer George Saunders and author-publisher Roxane Gay.

Majumdar is a fiction finalist for "A Guardian and a Thief," her first novel since her celebrated debut, "A Burning," came out in 2020. Other fiction nominees include Alameddine's "The True True Story of Raja the Gullible (and His Mother)"; Russell's "The Antidote," her first novel since "Swamplandia!," a Pulitzer finalist in 2012; Ethan Rutherford's "North Sun" and Bryan Washington's "Palaver."

The fiction authors set their work everywhere from India in the near future (Majumdar) to 1930s Nebraska (Russell) to contemporary Tokyo (Washington).

Li's "Things in Nature Merely Grow," a blunt and searching account of losing her two sons to suicide, is a nonfiction finalist, along with Omar El Akkad's "One Day, Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This"; Julia Ioffe's feminist history of Russia, "Motherland"; Claudia Rowe's "Wards of the State: The Long Shadow of American Foster Care"; and Jordan Thomas' "When It All Burns: Fighting Fire in a Transformed World."

The poetry nominees are Cathy Linh Che's "Becoming Ghost," Tiana Clark's "Scorched Earth," Richard Siken's "I Do Know Some Things," Patricia Smith's "The Intentions of Thunder: New and Selected Poems" and Gabrielle Calvocoressi's "The New Economy."

In translated literature, Solvej Balle's "On the Calculation of Volume (Book III)," translated from the Danish by Sophia Hersi Smith and Jennifer Russell; and Gabriela Cabezon Cámara's "We Are Green and Trembling," translated from the Spanish by Robin Myers, are among the finalists. The others include Anjet Daanje's "The Remembered Soldier," translated from the Dutch by David McKay; Hamid Ismailov's "We Computers: A Ghazal Novel," translated from the Uzbek by Shelley Fairweather-Vega; and Neige Sinno's "Sad Tiger," translated from the French by Natasha Lehrer.

Finalists for young people's literature include three novels-in-verse: Amber McBride's "The Leaving Room," Hannah V. Sawyerr's "Truth Is" and Ibi Zoboi's "(S)Kin." The other nominees are Kyle Lukoff's "A World Worth Saving" and Daniel Nayeri's "The Teacher of Nomad Land: A World War II Story."

The National Book Awards, now in their 76th year, are chosen by panels of writers, critics and other members of the literary community. Notable works from 2025 that were not on the finalist lists include such novels as Angela Flournoy's "The Wilderness" and Kiran Desai's "The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny," and Arundhati Roy's memoir, "Mother Mary Comes to Me."

Government shutdown threatens to stall the recovery in the IPO market

By DAMIAN J. TROISE AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. government shutdown is waving a caution flag at private companies racing to make the move to the public market.

The market for initial public offerings has been on a years-long recovery after spiking inflation slammed the brakes on activity in 2022. The IPO market is already on track for its best year since 2021 with 163 deals and \$31 billion in proceeds raised so far, according to Renaissance Capital.

Companies rely on the U.S. government, through the Securities and Exchange Commission, to review and approve IPO filings, while monitoring the ongoing process. The SEC is now operating with minimal staff, significantly delaying or halting those reviews and approvals.

Investors and companies are dealing with more than just technical issues. A prolonged government shutdown could sap confidence in the U.S. markets and economy. IPO activity typically remains strong through October, then slows in the U.S. during the final two months of the year.

"That's always an end of the year factor," said Samuel Kerr, head of global equity capital markets at Mergermarket.

Investors and companies had been mostly brushing off much of the uncertainty roiling the U.S. government and economy through the year, including an unpredictable trade policy, ongoing worries about inflation, a weakening job market and questions about Federal Reserve policy. Amid all that, the stock market has notched record after record and new companies keep joining the ranks.

The impasse in Washington, though, has brought a reminder of the challenges facing the market.

"It (the shutdown) reminds you that we're not operating in normal times," Kerr said.

Investors have been drawn to IPOs because stocks have looked pricey for a while, especially in the technology sector, leaving them looking for other ways to get into the market. IPOs have offered a way to do that. Many of the bigger IPOs in 2025 have been in growing technology fields, including cryptocurrency technology and artificial intelligence.

Circle Internet Group, the U.S.-based issuer of one of the most popular cryptocurrencies made its public debut in June for about \$1.1 billion.

Circle issues USDC, a stablecoin that can be traded at a 1-to-1 ratio for U.S. dollars, and EURC, which can similarly be traded for euros. Its shares priced at \$31, soared on the first day of trading and currently trade for around \$152.

Cryptocurrency exchange Bullish raised about \$1.1 billion in August. Cloud-computing company Core-Weave raised about \$1.5 billion when it went public in March.

Klarna, the Swedish buy now, pay later company, entered the public market in September, raising \$1.37 billion. That made it the largest IPO of the year, according to Renaissance Capital. The IPO priced at \$40 and shares currently trade around \$42.

Outside of the shutdown, market conditions remain ideal, said Bill Smith, CEO of Renaissance Capital, in a note to investors.

"The IPO market still has a bit of gas in the tank," he said.

The Latest: Attorney General Bondi will face Senate over political pressure on Justice Department

By The Associated Press undefined

Attorney General Pam Bondi goes before the Senate Judiciary Committee Tuesday as federal agents surge into American cities. Senators are sure to question her about political influence over a Justice Department that has already criminally charged one of President Donald Trump's longtime foes and is facing intense White House pressure to prosecute others.

It's now Day 7 of the shutdown, with Democrats and Republicans at an impasse. Democrats are conditioning their support for a short-term funding patch on extending the subsidies that millions of Americans count on to make health care affordable. Trump says he'll talk about a health care deal only after the government reopens and the Democrats lose their leverage.

Peace talks continue in Egypt on the two-year anniversary of Hamas' surprise attack on Israel that triggered the bloody conflict that has seen tens of thousands of Palestinians killed in Gaza. The negotiations center on Trump's proposed plan to end the war in Gaza.

And Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney will meet with Trump in the Oval Office again. One of the world's most durable and amicable alliances has been fractured by Trump's trade war and annexation threats, and the free trade agreement critical to Canada's economy is up for review next year.

The Latest:

Grassley praises Bondi for 'getting tough on criminals'

Sen. Chuck Grassley is praising Attorney General Pam Bondi for "getting tough on criminals" and reversing Biden administration priorities that he says "politicized" law enforcement.

The Republican senator from Iowa and chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee is delivering opening remarks at the Justice Department oversight hearing.

He decried what he says was weaponization of the Justice Department during the Biden administration, including new revelations that the FBI analyzed phone records of several Republican lawmakers as part of an investigation into Trump's efforts to undo the results of the 2020 presidential election.

Justices examine bans 'conversion therapy'

The Supreme Court is about to hear arguments over the constitutionality of bans on "conversion therapy" for kids who identify as LGBTQ+.

Nearly half of U.S. states have passed laws against the practice, which has been scientifically discredited.

But a Christian counselor challenging Colorado's law says it chills her freedom of speech by barring her from offering voluntary, faith-based therapy.

The state says the measure simply regulates licensed therapists by barring a practice that's been linked to serious harm.

The arguments come after the court's conservative majority found states can ban transition-related health care for transgender youths.

UN refugee agency leader says Trump's deportations violate international law

The U.N. high commissioner for refugees, Filippo Grandi, lamented the administration's deportation practices, part of a wider backlash against migrants and refugees around the world.

But he praised the Trump administration-led peace efforts for providing "a glimmer of hope" in the eastern Congo, where millions have been displaced by conflict between Rwanda-backed forces and Congo's armed forces. And he cited how more than 1 million refugees from Syria have now returned home.

"Thanks to peace efforts spearheaded by the United States, instead of speaking only of more bloodshed, or more refugees, we can start to think – cautiously, but a little bit more optimistically — of stability and returns," Grandi said in a speech Monday.

State Department spokesman Tommy Pigott defended U.S. immigration and migration policies and said Trump's speech at the United Nations was "a call to action against the destructive policies promoting mass and illegal migration that globalist bureaucrats have pushed for years."

A White House stake and a Trump order send a Canadian company's stock price soaring

Groton Daily Independent

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Shares of Trilogy Metals more than tripled overnight after the White House announced late Monday that it's taking a 10% equity stake in the Canadian company while allowing the Ambler Road mining project in Alaska to go forward.

Trump late Monday ordered the approval of a proposed 211-mile road through an Alaska wilderness to allow mining of copper, cobalt, gold and other minerals used in production of cars, electronics and other technologies.

Trilogy is seeking to develop the Ambler site along with an Australian partner.

Trump to meet with American hostage freed from Gaza

The president is scheduled to meet Tuesday afternoon at the White House with Edan Alexander, who was taken hostage by Hamas in the attack two years ago that led to the Israel-Hamas war.

Trump met in July with Alexander, who was the last living American hostage in Gaza and was released from captivity in May. The meeting, which is scheduled to occur behind closed doors, comes as indirect peace talks are being held in Egypt over Trump's plan to end the fighting.

Today in History: October 8, the Great Chicago Fire breaks out

By The Associated Press undefined

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 8, the 281st day of 2025. There are 84 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Oct. 8, 1871, the Great Chicago Fire began; more than 300 people died and more than 17,000 structures were destroyed during the three-day blaze.

Also on this date:

In 1956, Don Larsen pitched the only perfect game in a World Series as the New York Yankees beat the Brooklyn Dodgers in Game 5, 2-0.

In 1997, scientists reported the Mars Pathfinder had yielded what could be the strongest evidence yet that Mars might once have been hospitable to life.

In 2002, a federal judge approved President George W. Bush's request to reopen West Coast ports, ending a 10-day labor lockout that was costing the U.S. economy an estimated \$1 billion to \$2 billion a day.

In 2005, a magnitude 7.6 earthquake on the Pakistan-India border killed an estimated 86,000 people.

In 2016, Donald Trump vowed to continue his campaign after many Republicans called on him to abandon his presidential bid in the wake of the release of a 2005 video in which he made lewd remarks about women and appeared to condone sexual assault.

In 2020, authorities in Michigan said six men had been charged with conspiring to kidnap Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer in reaction to what they viewed as her "uncontrolled power."

In 2022, an explosion caused the partial collapse of a bridge linking the Crimean Peninsula with Russia, damaging an important supply artery for the Kremlin's war effort in southern Ukraine.

In 2024, two pioneers of artificial intelligence — Canadian John Hopfield and American Geoffrey Hinton — won the Nobel Prize in physics for helping create the building blocks of machine learning that is revolutionizing the way people work and live.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Paul Hogan is 86. Civil rights activist Rev. Jesse Jackson is 84. Comedian Chevy Chase is 82. Author R.L. Stine is 82. Actor Sigourney Weaver is 76. Musician Robert "Kool" Bell (Kool & the Gang) is 75. Producer-director Edward Zwick is 73. NASCAR Hall of Famer Bill Elliott is 70. Comedian Darrell Hammond is 70. Actor Kim Wayans is 64. Gospel singer CeCe Winans is 61. Olympic gold medal swimmer Matt Biondi is 60. Actor Karyn Parsons is 59. Singer-producer Teddy Riley is 58. Actor Matt Damon is 55. Actor-TV host Nick Cannon is 45. Singer-songwriter Bruno Mars is 40. Actor Angus T. Jones is 32. Actor-singer Bella Thorne is 28.