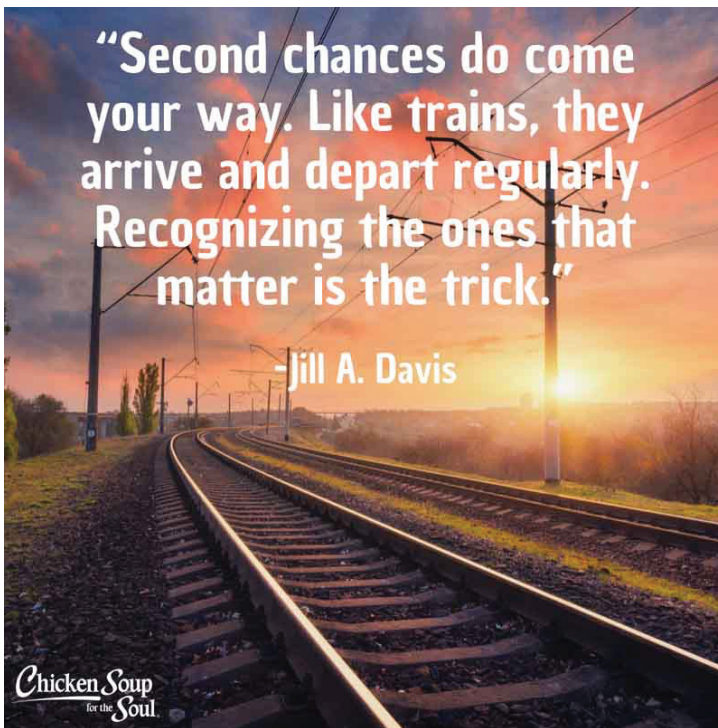


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**Open:** Recycling Trailer in Groton  
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

			
			
Oven Fresh Sandwiches	Hot Desserts	Snack Melts	
11 E Hwy 12, Groton ~ 397-8627			

- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Dairy Queen Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- Groton receives mosquito grant
- 3- New South Dakota specialty license plates available July 1
- 4- Red pre-sunrise photo
- 5- Today in Weather History
- 6- Today's Forecast
- 7- Yesterday's Weather
- 7- National Weather map
- 7- Today's Weather Almanac
- 8- Daily Devotional
- 9- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 10- News from the Associated Press

## Today's Baseball Schedule

Jr. Teeners host Aberdeen, 5:30 p.m. (DH)  
U10 hosts Redfield on Nelson Field, 1 game  
U12 hosts Redfield on Nelson Field, 1 game

## Friday's Baseball/Softball Schedule

Legion at Luverne Tournament  
Jr. Legion at Milbank Tournament  
U8 Softball at Webster 5:00  
U10 Softball at Webster 6:00 (2)  
U8 Red at Redfield 6:00 (1)  
U8 Blue at Redfield 7:00 (1)  
T-ball Gold at Andover 6:00  
U10 at Andover 7:00 (1)



## Health Department Awards \$500,000 For Mosquito Control

PIERRE, S.D. – More than 200 South Dakota cities, counties and tribes will share in \$499,767 in grants intended to control mosquitoes and prevent West Nile virus (WNV), the Department of Health announced today.

Groton received \$5,215. Only 15 of the 201 mosquito control programs in the state received more funding than Groton. Aberdeen City received the maximum amount of \$20,000 while Brown County received \$16,750. Britton \$7,192, Redfield \$5,583, Webster \$3,779, Conde \$881, Claremont \$2,141, Columbia \$1,061, Andover \$750, Bath Sanitary District \$2,322, Hecla \$1,962; Langford, Pierpont, Roslyn, Eden Mosquito Control Coop \$3,223; Stratford \$1,500, Warner \$1,965 and Westport \$2,501

“South Dakota has a disproportionately high number of WNV cases when compared to other states. Local mosquito control efforts play a vital role in protecting our communities,” said Bill Chalcraft, administrator of public health preparedness and response for the Department of Health.

All applying communities received funding, with grants ranging from \$300 to \$20,000. Grant awards were based on the population of the applying jurisdiction and its history of human WNV cases through 2017.

Since its first human WNV case in 2002, the state has reported 2,432 human cases, including 778 hospitalizations and 42 deaths. Every county has reported cases. This season South Dakota reported its first human WNV case in a blood donor from Todd County earlier this month.

Including this latest round of grants, the state has provided local mosquito control programs with more than \$7.5 million in support, in either direct grant funding or control chemicals, since the virus emerged in South Dakota.

A complete list of funded programs and grant amounts is [available here](#).

Visit [westnile.sd.gov](http://westnile.sd.gov) for prevention information and surveillance updates.

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## New South Dakota specialty license plates available July 1

PIERRE, S.D. — The South Dakota Department of Revenue will begin offering new personalized rear only, woman veteran and original historical motorcycle specialty license plate options to qualifying applicants July 1.

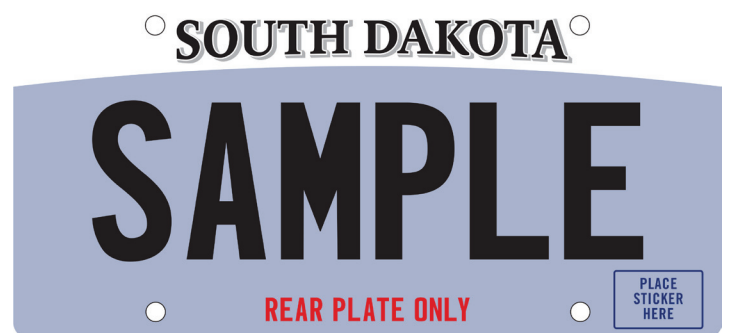
The personalized rear only plate will be available for vehicles with an annual mileage less than 7,500 miles that are not used for general or commercial use as authorized by 2018's House Bill 1116. Applicants must pay a \$25 special plate fee and a \$5 mailing fee in addition to annual vehicle registration fees. Personalized plate messages are subject to the department's personalized plate policy.

A woman veteran plate will be available to any female veteran owner of a motor vehicle or motorcycle who has a valid South Dakota driver's license or identification card per 2018's Senate Bill 97. Applicants must sign an affidavit stating that she is an honorably discharged veteran who has served on active duty in the armed forces of the U.S. Applicants must pay a \$10 special plate fee, a \$5 mailing fee and annual vehicle registration fees.

South Dakotans may also now utilize an original South Dakota motorcycle license plate with the passing of 2018's House Bill 1117. The original plates must be in good condition and from the same year as the vehicle. Applicants must include color photographs of the plates, along with a one-time fee of \$10.

"With the addition of the personalized rear only plate, woman veteran plate and the original historical motorcycle plate, South Dakota now offers 142 different license plates," Motor Vehicle Division Director Lisa Weyer said.

Residents may apply for these license plates at their local county treasurer's office or online at <https://mysdcars.sd.gov> during their renewal period.



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**While you were sleeping this morning, the eastern sky had a red glow prior to the sunrise.**

(Photo by Paul Kosel)

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## Today in Weather History

June 21, 1902: Light to heavy frost occurred over most of the state with low temperatures ranging from the mid-20s to the lower 30s. Some record low temperatures include; 27 degrees in Ipswich and Leola, 29 in Kennebec, 30 in Mellette, 31 in Aberdeen, Clark, and Watertown, 32 in Faulkton and Gann Valley, 36 in Sisseton, and 40 degrees in Milbank.

June 21, 1961: One or more tornadoes moved southeast along a distance from east of Aberdeen to the southeastern edge of Sioux Falls. A funnel cloud was first seen between Aberdeen and Groton and later on near Raymond. A tornado hit about 4 pm a few miles southwest of Clark with about 20 farm buildings demolished. One house was destroyed, killing an elderly lady and injuring one person. A boy was reportedly lifted high in the air, and another woman carried 100 yards by winds. Both were injured. Between 4:30 and 5:00 pm, areas northeast of Willow Lake and in northern Kingsbury were hit with a total of 13 farm buildings destroyed or twisted off the foundations. Five buildings on one farm were destroyed, and a house was unroofed near Oldham. The house roof was found several miles away. The tornado was of F3 strength.

June 21, 1983: An F3 tornado touched down in a resort area two miles west of Pollock. Eleven people fled from the southwesternmost cabin and crawled under a nearby cabin. The southwest cabin was destroyed and the cabin the group crawled under was moved five feet from its concrete block foundation. Four people were treated for injuries. A van, boat, and trailer were demolished, and a small car was heavily damaged. The tornado turned east and reformed four miles east of Pollock, where it touched down briefly and dissipated. Another F3 tornado touched down in open prairie three miles northeast of Glad Valley and moved northeast, creating a path of destruction as it progressed. On one farm, nine buildings were wiped out and scattered up to two miles away. Trees and poles were uprooted and scattered a half mile away. This tornado was estimated to be on the ground for six miles with a path width of 300 yards. A third tornado, rated F2, touched down seven miles south of Pollock. This tornado damaged several cabin roofs, a restaurant, and downed several trees. Boats were tossed into a lake, and picnic tables were hurled against cars.






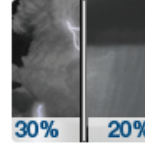

June 21, 2013: A long-lived severe thunderstorm developed over the southern Black Hills and moved eastward across the South Dakota plains during the morning hours. The storm produced large hail to softball size from eastern Custer to northern Jackson Counties. The softball size fell 12 miles east-southeast of Fairburn in Custer County, damaging property. This storm intensified along a strong warm front with volatile air and strong, deep layer winds into several supercell thunderstorms and a damaging line of thunderstorms/bow echo across parts of central and northeast South Dakota through the afternoon hours. Damaging winds up to 90 mph uprooted large trees and caused considerable structural and crop damage and loss of power to those along the path. The worst wind damage was located at Lake Poinsett, Watertown, and Milbank. A woman was killed, and her husband had been severely injured on Lake Poinsett when their lake house was destroyed. Numerous trees were downed along with many structures damaged or destroyed. Many trees had fallen onto homes, cabins, and trailers. The bowling alley in Clear Lake lost its roof along with numerous pole barns being destroyed along the path of the storm. Thousands of people were also left without power. Four tornado touchdowns occurred along with hail up to the size of softballs. Isolated flash flooding also occurred. Codington, Hamlin, Grant, and Deuel counties were all declared in a Federal Disaster Declaration. Total damage estimates were around 1,100,000 dollars.

1987: A tornado destroyed 57 mobile homes at the Chateau Estates trailer park northwest of Detroit, Michigan killing one person and injuring six others. Thunderstorms over Lower Michigan also drenched the Saginaw Valley with up to 4.5 inches of rain in less than six hours.

1988: The first full day of summer was a hot one, with afternoon highs of 100 degrees or above reported from the Northern and Central Plains to the Ohio Valley. Sixty-nine cities in the north central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. The high of 110 degrees at Sioux Falls, SD was an all-time record for that location.

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Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
						
Mostly Cloudy then Slight Chance Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny then Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms then Slight Chance Showers	Partly Sunny
High: 84 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 84 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 60 °F	High: 82 °F

## The "Rest of the Week" Forecast

Thursday: Mostly Cloudy  
Highs: 80 to 85F



Friday: Partly Cloudy  
Highs: 80 to 85F



Rain showers continue to linger in the southeastern corner of the state this evening. Highs in the low 80's expected for the rest of the week with a slight chance for showers Saturday afternoon.



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## UNIVERSAL TRUTH

Jim, the Chairman of the Deacons, had been ill for quite some time. His pastor had been very faithful in visiting him several times each week. Every time he visited him, he would read a passage of Scripture from his Bible and pray with him.

On this particular day he forgot his Bible and asked, "May I borrow your Bible, Jim?"

"Certainly. Son," he shouted, "bring my favorite book. The Pastor wants to read something to me."

Immediately his son appeared and handed the Pastor his "favorite book" - the TV Guide.

A Psalmist spoke of his favorite book with these words: "I can answer anyone who taunts me, for I trust in Your Word...never take Your word of truth from my mouth for I have put my hope in Your laws...I will obey Your laws for ever and ever."

Notice the significance of what the Psalmist read: When he sought the "ultimate" truth he turned to the Word of God. No matter who challenged his beliefs he would answer them with God's truth. In God's Word we find the best way to live and the most comfortable way to die. It answers all of our questions, contains a solution for every one of our problems and a cure for all of our ills.

It also provides the reason for being optimistic. "I will walk, in freedom!" No bondage. No worries. No fears. No doubts. Nothing in this world can take away the gracious gifts God gives us if we accept His Word.

Prayer: How thankful we are, Father, for Your Word that contains a solution for every problem in our lives. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 119:42 then I can answer anyone who taunts me, for I trust in your word.



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## 2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- 11/18/2017-3/31/2018 Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meat- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
- 1/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 4/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/4/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/27/2019 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
- 6/14/2018 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- 6/15/2018 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/16/2018 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2018 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/22/2018 Summer Fest (4th Sunday in July)
- 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party
  
- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events

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## News from the Associated Press

### SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) \_ These South Dakota lotteries were drawn Wednesday:

Dakota Cash  
03-22-23-30-31  
(three, twenty-two, twenty-three, thirty, thirty-one)  
Estimated jackpot: \$74,000

Lotto America  
03-10-11-13-52, Star Ball: 5, ASB: 2  
(three, ten, eleven, thirteen, fifty-two; Star Ball: five; ASB: two)  
Estimated jackpot: \$3.86 million

Mega Millions  
Estimated jackpot: \$192 million

Powerball  
04-14-23-27-56, Powerball: 13, Power Play: 2  
(four, fourteen, twenty-three, twenty-seven, fifty-six; Powerball: thirteen; Power Play: two)  
Estimated jackpot: \$151 million

### South Dakota awards \$500,000 in grants for mosquito control

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Department of Health has awarded nearly \$500,000 in grants to help communities curb diseases spread by mosquitoes.

The Health Department said Wednesday that the funding ranges from \$300 to \$20,000 and is based on factors like population and prevalence of West Nile virus, a mosquito-borne illness that causes severe illness and sometimes death. More than 200 cities, counties and American Indian tribes will share in the money for mosquito control.

Bill Chalcraft, an administrator with the Health Department, says South Dakota sees a disproportionately high number of West Nile cases compared with other states.

Since 2002, South Dakota has reported 2,432 human cases, resulting in 778 hospitalizations and 42 deaths. South Dakota saw its first human case of the season earlier this month.

Online:  
<http://www.westnile.sd.gov>

### Sioux Falls using wasps to slow emerald ash borer

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls will soon unleash a new opponent in the fight against an invasive insect species that's expected to destroy more than 80,000 trees in the area over the next decade.

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture plans to release wasps in Sioux Falls to combat the spread of the emerald ash borer, the Argus Leader reported. The agency confirmed in May that northern Sioux Falls has the state's first infestation of the beetles.

Wasps prey on borers by laying eggs inside the destructive tree pests, which later die when the eggs are hatched, said John Ball, an entomologist and forester with the state's agriculture agency.

"It's really an unpleasant way to die, but let's just say it's our revenge," he said.

The U.S. Forest Service will provide the parasitoid wasps, which don't pose any threat to humans, according to Ball.

"If someone is stung by a wasp, it's not one of these," Ball said. "They may only have a bug brain, but they can tell the difference between a human being and a larva."

State Agriculture Secretary Mike Jaspers implemented an emergency plant pest quarantine last month to prevent the spread of emerald ash borer. The quarantine restricts movement of ash materials in all of Minnehaha County and parts of Lincoln County and Turner County, unless authorized by the state Agriculture Department. It also prevents the movement of firewood from any hardwood species within the quarantine zone.

The invasive insect has killed tens of millions of ash trees in at least 32 states.

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

## Woman pleads not guilty in federal child abuse case

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A St. Francis woman indicted by a federal grand jury for child abuse and assault with a weapon has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

The U.S. Attorney's Office says 20-year-old Tara Red Kettle appeared before U.S. Magistrate Judge Mark Moreno Monday to enter her plea.

The indictment accuses Red Kettle of abusing a child younger than seven on April 6, 2018. The FBI investigated the case on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in Todd County.

A trial date has not been set. She is in custody of the U.S. Marshals Service.

## 2 of Huskers' nonconference games in 2020 are flip-flopped

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska has changed the dates of two of its home nonconference football games in 2020.

The game against Central Michigan, originally scheduled for Sept. 19, will be played on Sept. 12. The game against South Dakota State, originally scheduled for Sept. 12, will be played on Sept. 19.

The Nebraska athletic department said the changes were made to "assist with scheduling changes and agreements for multiple schools around the country."

The Cornhuskers open the 2020 season on Sept. 5 with a Big Ten home game against Purdue. The Huskers' third non-conference game is against Cincinnati at Memorial Stadium on Sept. 26.

More AP college football: [www.collegefootball.ap.org](http://www.collegefootball.ap.org) and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Top25](https://twitter.com/AP_Top25)

## Governor candidate Kristi Noem adds Larry Rhoden to ticket

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Republican governor candidate Kristi Noem says state Rep. Larry Rhoden is her pick for lieutenant governor.

Noem, currently the state's U.S. representative, said Wednesday that she chose Rhoden as her running mate because he's "plain spoken, direct and honest." Rhoden is a state lawmaker and rancher near Union Center and currently serves as a House majority whip.

Rhoden, who first started in the Legislature in 2001, says they have an opportunity to do "big things without raising taxes or growing government."

Republicans will formally choose their lieutenant governor candidate Saturday at their state convention. A group of lawmakers on Tuesday endorsed Rep. Dan Kaiser to be the nominee.

Noem faces Democrat Billie Sutton, a state senator and former professional rodeo cowboy, in November. Lieutenant governor candidate Michelle Lavalley joined Sutton's campaign last week.

## **Pregnant woman airlifted to treat burns after grease fire**

KIMBALL, S.D. (AP) — A pregnant South Dakota woman has been airlifted to a Minneapolis burn unit after her stomach and legs were burned by a grease fire.

The Daily Republic reports 20-year-old Pam Bice, of Kimball, was burned Monday after she collided with her sister, who was trying to remove a burning pan from her home. Bice's sister had found the fire in her kitchen and grabbed the pan to take it outside when they ran into each other.

Bice, who is 33 weeks pregnant, says the fire made her pants melt onto her legs. Her sister's hands were treated in Chamberlain, but Bice was airlifted to Minneapolis because of the severity of her burns.

She says she'll be hospitalized for about a week.

Information from: The Daily Republic, <http://www.mitchellrepublic.com>

## **Eureka school district residents reject opt-out proposal**

EUREKA, S.D. (AP) — Residents in the Eureka school district have rejected an opt-out of the state property tax freeze.

The American News reports Tuesday's vote was 117 voters for the measure and 218 against.

The proposal was for a six-year opt out at \$300,000 per year, to help balance the district budget.

Superintendent Bo Beck says he's disappointed with the outcome.

Information from: Aberdeen American News, <http://www.aberdeennews.com>

## **2 Missouri teens have kayaking close call in South Dakota**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Two teenage kayakers escaped serious injury when strong currents swept them through a culvert under the causeway separating the Missouri River from Lake Sharpe in Pierre.

Fire Chief Ian Paul tells KCCR radio that the Pierre Rescue Squad was called to the La Framboise Island Causeway on Sunday. The area is marked with signs warning of danger from strong currents and banning swimming.

The teens were part of a youth group from Missouri. They were dumped from their kayaks and pulled into the culvert by strong currents, but they surfaced on the other side.

Paul says the incident is a good reminder of the power of the river.

Information from: KCCR-AM, <http://www.todaykccr.com/>

## **Air Force clears B-1B bomber fleet to resume operations**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. Air Force says its B-1B bombers will resume flight operations this week after an emergency landing by one of the bombers grounded the fleet nearly two weeks ago.

The Air Force Global Strike Command commander ordered the B-1B fleet grounded June 7 after a safety investigation showed a problem with ejection seat components following the May 1 emergency landing in Texas.

The Air Force fleet has 62 B-1Bs stationed at bases including Dyess Air Force Base in Texas; Edwards Air Force Base in California; Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota; Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada; and Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma.

Eighth Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Thomas Bussiere says he's confident the fleet's egress systems, which allow pilots to eject, are capable.

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## Dakotas winter wheat production to be up significantly

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Winter wheat production in the Dakotas is expected to be up significantly this year from 2017.

The Agriculture Department's latest forecast is for production to be up 90 percent in South Dakota to 39.4 million bushels, and up 138 percent in North Dakota to 3.1 million bushels.

Winter wheat isn't as big of a crop in North Dakota, so larger fluctuations in production are common.

Both acres for harvest and average yield are expected to be up in each state. The crops currently are rated mostly in fair to good condition.

Nationally, winter wheat production is forecast to be down 6 percent over the year, to 1.2 billion bushels.

## Trump defends his hard-line immigration policies to cheers

By JILL COLVIN and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

DULUTH, Minn. (AP) — Hours after reversing himself to end the forced separations of migrant families, President Donald Trump returned to the warm embrace of his supporters at a raucous rally to defend his hard-line immigration policies while unleashing a torrent of grievances about the media and those investigating him.

Trump downplayed the crisis that has threatened to envelop the White House amid days of heart-wrenching images of children being pulled from their immigrant parents along the nation's southern border. He made only a brief mention of his decision to sign an executive order after spending days insisting, wrongly, that his administration had no choice but to separate families apprehended at the border because of federal law and a court decision.

"We're going to keep families together and the border is going to be just as tough as it's been," Trump told the cheering crowd in Duluth on Wednesday night.

Seemingly motivated to promote his hawkish immigration bona fides after his about-face on forced separations, the president denounced his political opponents and those who make unauthorized border crossings, suggesting that the money used to care for those immigrants could be better spent on the nation's rural communities and inner cities.

"Democrats put illegal immigrants before they put American citizens. What the hell is going on?" asked Trump, prompting the crowd to chant "Build the wall!"

He even invoked his campaign kickoff speech, held three years ago this week, in which he declared that Mexico "wasn't sending their best" in terms of migrants crossing into the U.S. That wasn't the only throwback moment at the rally, featuring a packed arena festooned with American flags and approximately 8,000 people responding in chants to many of Trump's cues.

He fumed over what he deemed "dishonest" coverage of his summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. He raved about the economy and his tough new tariffs meant to create fair trade. And he erroneously suggested that a recent Justice Department watchdog report into the FBI's handling of the Hillary Clinton email probe proved his innocence in the special counsel's Russia investigation while covering up Clinton's guilt.

"Have you been seeing this whole scam? Do you believe what you're seeing — how that no matter what she did, no matter how many crimes she committed, which were numerous, they wanted her to be innocent," Trump said. "But with me, nothing. No collusion, no nothing. They wanted to put us in trouble."

The crowd responded with a "Lock her up!" chant. Trump simply shook his head.

Again attacking the special counsel probe as a "witch hunt," Trump went on to blast the media for focusing on the recent immigration crisis at the expense of covering what he contends is bias against him at the FBI. He also accused the media of providing one-sided reports about his Singapore summit with Kim.

"We had a great meeting. We had great chemistry," said Trump, who predicted that Kim "will turn that country into a great successful country."

"These people," said Trump, gesturing to the media at the back of the arena, "say, 'He's given away so much.' You know what I gave up? A meeting."

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The Duluth rally was Trump's first in a blue state since taking office. He narrowly lost Minnesota in 2016. And with the industrial and upper Midwest looming large for Trump's re-election hopes, the president vowed to spend more time there before 2020.

"You know, I hate to bring this up, but we came this close to winning the state of Minnesota," the president said. "And in 2½ years, it's going to be really easy, I think."

Trump was in Minnesota to back Pete Stauber, a Republican congressional candidate running in a traditionally Democratic district. Home of the Iron Range, Minnesota is a place where Trump's tariffs on foreign steel could play especially well. While economists wince and farmers brace for blowback, the crowd cheered when tariffs were mentioned on Wednesday. Trump also held a small roundtable with representatives from the mining industry and local leaders before the rally.

Trump brought Stauber to the stage and offered an enthusiastic endorsement. But he made no mention of the state's GOP gubernatorial primary to replace outgoing Democratic Gov. Mark Dayton. It pits former Gov. Tim Pawlenty, a Trump critic running for his old job, against Jeff Johnson, the state GOP's endorsed candidate who has been stronger in his support of the president.

Energized by the roaring crowd in his first rally since the Singapore summit, Trump soaked in the applause and caustically dismissed a few protesters who tried to interrupt. He beamed as the crowd chanted "Space Force!" in response to his plan to create a new branch of the military to safeguard the cosmos. And he leaned hard into his self-appointed role as champion of the working class and defender of traditional American values, but also mocked the idea that his opponents — whether liberals or media executives — were always called "the elite."

"The elite! Why are they elite?" Trump wondered. "I have a much better apartment than they do. I'm smarter than they are. I'm richer than they are. I became president and they didn't."

Lemire reported from New York

Follow Colvin on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@colvinj> and Lemire at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire>

## House GOP immigration compromise teeters ahead of votes

By LISA MASCARO, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — A sweeping House GOP immigration overhaul teetered on the brink of collapse Thursday as lawmakers struggled to move past an issue that has become politically fraught amid the dire images of families being separated at the border.

President Donald Trump's sudden executive action over the border crisis stemmed some of the urgency for Congress to act. But House GOP leaders still were pulling out the stops to bring reluctant Republicans on board in hopes of resolving broader immigration issues ahead of the November midterm election.

Passage of the bill was always a long shot, but failure may now come at a steeper price as Republicans — and Trump — have raised expectations that, as the party in control of Congress and the White House, they can fix the nation's long-standing immigration problems.

"This is a bill that has consensus. This is a bill that the president supports. It's a bill that could become law," said House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif.

The outcome remains uncertain despite a frenzied effort to pull in the final votes. House Speaker Paul Ryan took two dozen wavering lawmakers to the White House so Trump could cajole them into supporting the bill. Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen trekked to the Capitol to meet privately with groups of GOP lawmakers. Ahead of voting Thursday, the results of the outreach were mixed.

"We have a chance," said Rep. Carlos Curbelo, R-Fla. "It won't be easy."

One Republican, Rep. Joe Wilson of South Carolina, announced he would support the legislation after meeting with Trump, who he said was persuasive. Another, Rep. Lou Barletta, who is running for Senate in Pennsylvania, told Trump at the meeting he would have to remain a no vote.

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"I didn't want my name attached to that," he said of the bill he decried as amnesty for immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally.

The House GOP compromise bill is the product of hard-fought negotiations between the conservative and moderate factions that dragged on for several weeks. The measure is unlikely to pick up much, if any, Democratic support.

The House will also vote on a more hard-line immigration proposal favored by conservatives. It is expected to fail.

The nearly 300-page compromise measure creates a path way to citizenship for the young immigrants known as Dreamers, who have been living in the U.S. illegally since childhood. It provides \$25 billion Trump wants for his promised border wall from Mexico. And it revises the longstanding preference for family visas in favor of a merit system based on education level and work skills.

When the crisis of family separations erupted at the border, GOP leaders revised the bill to bolster a provision requiring parents and children to be held together in custody. It did so by eliminating the 20-day cap on holding minors and allowing indefinite detentions.

Even though Trump has acted unilaterally to stem the family separations, lawmakers still prefer a legislative fix. The administration is not ending its "zero tolerance" approach to border prosecutions. If the new policy is rejected by the courts, which the administration acknowledges is a possibility, the debate could move back to square one.

Senate Republicans, fearing Trump's action will not withstand a legal challenge and eager to go on record opposing the administration's policy, have unveiled their own legislation to keep detained immigrant families together.

Back in the House, despite Trump's endorsement of the compromise bill, Ryan's leadership team has been struggling to ensure passage on its own. They have encountered persistent GOP divisions that have long prevented Republicans from tackling a broad immigration bill.

New problems erupted late Wednesday, on the eve of voting, when a key negotiator of the compromise, Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., a leader of the conservative Freedom Caucus, engaged in lively conversation with Ryan on the House floor. Meadows said he was now opposing the bill.

"Let me put it this way: The compromise bill is not ready for prime time, and hopefully we'll be able to make it ready for prime time," Meadows said. When a reporter said he yelled at Ryan, Meadows replied, "Oh, no, I was passionate. I was not yelling."

Moderate Republicans forced the immigration debate to the fore by threatening to use a rare procedure to demand a vote. Led by Curbelo and Rep. Jeff Denham, R-Calif., many are from states with large populations of young "Dreamer" immigrants who now face deportation threats under Trump's decision to end the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. A federal court challenge has kept the DACA program running for now.

Ryan wanted to prevent moderates from being able to force a vote and launched weeks of negotiations to develop the compromise package with Meadows and conservatives.

Trump, who remained on the sidelines for much of the debate, almost upended the process late last week by saying he would not back the compromise bill. GOP aides later said he had been confused. Trump quickly reversed course to back the bill and swooped into the Capitol for a late huddle Tuesday with Republicans.

But even Trump's visit left lawmakers uncertain because he said he supported the compromise bill as well as a rival conservative measure that is also coming for a vote Thursday. That left leaders scrambling Wednesday to ensure rank-and-file lawmakers that Trump would stick with them. Many Republicans fear a backlash from the Republican base if they vote for the legislation and Trump turns against it.

Even if the House approves the bill, passage in the Senate appears unlikely. Republican senators are working on a narrower bill that focuses only on the crisis of family separations at the border.

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Associated Press writers Alan Fram and Kevin Freking contributed to this report.

## Trudeau: Canada to legalize marijuana on Oct. 17

By ROB GILLIES, Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Marijuana will be legal nationwide in Canada starting Oct. 17 in a move that should take market share away from organized crime and protect the country's youth, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Wednesday.

The Senate gave final passage to the bill to legalize cannabis on Tuesday, legislation that will make Canada only the second country in the world to make pot legal across the country.

Trudeau said provincial and territorial governments need the time to prepare for retail sales.

"It is our hope as of October 17 there will be a smooth operation of retail cannabis outlets operated by the provinces with an online mail delivery system operated by the provinces that will ensure that this happens in an orderly fashion," Trudeau said.

The prime minister said at a news conference that the goal is to take a significant part of the market share away from organized crime.

"Over the following months and indeed years we will completely replace or almost completely replace the organized crime market on that," he said.

Canada is following the lead of Uruguay in allowing a nationwide, legal marijuana market, although each Canadian province is working up its own rules for pot sales. The federal government and the provinces also still need to publish regulations that will govern the cannabis trade.

"The legislation is transformative," said Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould, adding it "marks a wholesale shift in how our country approaches cannabis, leaving behind a failed model of prohibition."

She urged Canadians to follow the existing law until the Cannabis Act comes into force.

"The law still remains the law," Wilson-Raybould said.

Many questions remain unanswered, including how police will test motorists suspected of driving under the influence, what to do about those with prior marijuana convictions and just how the rules governing home cultivation will work.

The Canadian provinces of Quebec and Manitoba have already decided to ban home-grown pot, even though the federal bill specifies that individuals can grow up to four plants per dwelling.

"Provinces can set their own laws. If individuals are challenging that law, they can challenge it," Wilson-Raybould said.

Trudeau said the government won't discuss pardons of past convictions until legalization is in effect.

"There's no point looking at pardons while the old law is in the books," Trudeau said.

Trudeau said they are going to treat it like wine and tobacco, noting that few people will cultivate it at home, but it's necessary to fight organized crime.

Trudeau promised to legalize it during the 2015 election and had set a goal of July 1 for it. The provinces pleaded for more time.

Canadian marijuana stocks have rallied in anticipation of legalization and jumped again on Wednesday.

In the neighboring U.S., nine states and the District of Columbia have legalized marijuana. California, home to one in eight Americans, launched the United States' biggest legal marijuana marketplace on Jan. 1.

The news was greeted with enthusiasm by marijuana advocates in the U.S.

Morgan Fox, a spokesman for the National Cannabis Industry Alliance in the U.S., said Canada's legalization should also serve as a wake-up call south of the border.

"The most important takeaway is that it's time for advocates in the industry to double down, so as to not be surpassed by the Canadian cannabis industry," he said.

Don Hartleben, who manages Dank of America, a retail cannabis store just south of the border in Blaine, Washington, said Canada's legalization was not only politically exciting, but a potential business boon for him.

Many of his customers are Canadian tourists who are terrified of trying to bring pot across the border, he said. If more use marijuana when they're in Canada, more will use when they're on vacation in the states.

"People ask me all the time, 'Isn't legalization in Canada going to hurt your business?'" he said. "I tell them, 'No! The more it's legal, the more people are going to feel safe to buy my product.'"



Associated Press writer Gene Johnson in Seattle contributed to this report.

Find complete AP marijuana coverage here: <http://apnews.com/tag/LegalMarijuana>

## Trump's immigration order sparks confusion, deep concern

**NOMAAN MERCHANT and COLLEEN LONG, Associated Press**

EDINBURG, Texas (AP) — President Donald Trump's reversal of a policy separating migrant families at the Mexico border sparked confusion over how the new guidelines will play out and deep concern that the changes don't go far enough, allowing children to still be held in detention even if they remain with their families.

"We are pleased that the president is calling a halt to his inhumane and heartless policy of separating parents from their children," said Peter Schey, the lawyer in a lawsuit that resulted in a key agreement governing the treatment of migrant children in detention called the Flores settlement.

Despite the president's order, Schey said he was concerned that several thousand children have already been separated from their parents "without the Trump administration having any effective procedures in place to reunite children with their parents, many of whom have already been deported."

Trump said Wednesday he didn't like seeing children being removed from their families, a recent practice that has sparked worldwide outrage. But he also said "zero tolerance" on illegal immigration continues, and children will be held with their parents while the adults are prosecuted.

It remains unclear what will happen with the more than 2,300 children separated from their parents at the border in recent weeks. Officials have said they are working to reunite families as soon as possible but have provided no clear answers on how that will happen.

"This is a stopgap measure," said Gene Hamilton, counsel to the U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Justice Department lawyers were planning to file a challenge to the Flores settlement, which requires the government to release children from custody and to their parents, adult relatives or other caretakers, in order of preference.

If those options are exhausted, authorities must find the "least restrictive" setting for a child who arrived without parents.

Justice Department lawyers will seek permission to allow for the detention of families until criminal and removal proceedings are completed.

Delaware Sen. Tom Carper said he was concerned about whether parents can track down their kids. "I am also deeply troubled to hear reports that the administration, in its haste to hold innocent children hostage in order to demand funds for a border wall, failed to plan appropriately to reunite these families following their separation," the Democrat said.

Kay Bellor, vice president for programs at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, among the largest refugee resettlement agencies in the U.S., said: "While children will no longer be ripped from the arms of their parents for the sole purpose of deterring immigration, they will go to jail with their parents. Jail is never an appropriate place for a child."

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio on Wednesday went to a center in Manhattan that is caring for 239 migrant children separated from their parents.

De Blasio told reporters the kids at Harlem's Cayuga Center included a 9-year-old Honduran boy sent to the center 2,000 miles by bus after being detained at the border. He said the youngest child there is 9 months old.

The center is operated under a federal contract that places unaccompanied migrant children in short-term foster care. De Blasio said staff members reported seeing about 350 children since the launch of the "zero tolerance" policy.

"It looked like the kids were being treated very well," the mayor said, but added several arrived with lice, bed bugs or chicken pox.

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On South Texas' border with Mexico, Manuel Padilla, chief of the U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande sector, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the current situation for migrant children in the U.S. "is not ideal," but the children are treated "very well."

"The ideal situation is for these children and family units to be in their home country in a stable situation," he said.

The lines of asylum seekers at some locations on the border seem to have waned in recent days as the U.S. government's treatment of migrants has come under scrutiny.

Two Guatemalan sisters, ages 20 and 24, nevertheless continued waiting Wednesday on a bridge connecting the Mexican city of Matamoros with Brownsville, Texas.

Josseline Garcia, the younger sister, told the AP she knew that ICE could detain them indefinitely. But, she said, "we are waiting our turn, and hoping."

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Long reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Anita Snow in Phoenix, Amy Taxin in Riverside, California, and Martha Mendoza in Santa Cruz, California contributed to this report.

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See AP's complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration's policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

## North Korean summits bring sense of peace along DMZ border

By ERIC TALMADGE, Associated Press

PANMUNJOM, North Korea (AP) — Lt. Col. Hwang Myong Jin has been a guide on the northern side of the Demilitarized Zone that divides the two Koreas for five years. He says it's gotten quieter here since the summits between North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and the presidents of South Korea and the United States, in perhaps the last place on earth where the Cold War still burns hot.

"A lot of things have changed. Listen to how quiet it is," he said as he stood on the balcony of a large building overlooking the blue and white barracks and concrete demarcation line that mark the boundary between North and South.

"The South used to blast psychological warfare propaganda at us," he said. "But since the summits, they have stopped. Now there is a peaceful atmosphere here."

Indeed, all is quiet — deceptively so — in the DMZ these days.

On Wednesday, as Kim Jong Un was in Beijing for his third summit with Chinese President Xi Jinping, the northern part of the zone was buzzing with busloads of Chinese tourists taking selfies and eating ice cream cones outside the surprisingly well-stocked souvenir shop near the DMZ entrance.

A group of ethnic Korean high school students from Japan filed out of their tour bus as North Korean People's Army soldiers watched disinterestedly with automatic rifles slung over their shoulders. Inside the souvenir shop, still more tourists, from Europe, looked over hand-painted propaganda posters. American tourists are still banned from visiting North Korea under an order issued last year by President Donald Trump that restricts all non-essential travel.

Though the DMZ has taken on something of a tourist trap atmosphere over the years — the South side is also a popular tourist destination and also has its share of kitschy souvenirs — Lt. Col. Hwang stressed that it remains first and foremost a military site.

"It's not that we want tourists to come, but people want to see," he said. "There are dangers."

The dangers are, in fact, all around the DMZ, though they are invisible to the throngs of day-tripping tourists.

While world attention tends to focus on the North's development of nuclear weapons, North Korea has for decades stationed most of its conventional fire near its border with the South. South Korea's capital, Seoul, is only about 80 kilometers (50 miles) away from the DMZ and would be vulnerable to heavy artillery, and possibly chemical shells. Such an attack could cause hundreds of thousands of casualties.

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Getting North Korea to agree to move at least some of its big guns away from the border will likely be a key topic of negotiations in the months ahead, particularly now that the U.S. and South Korea have agreed to halt their next set of annual war games, which never fail to outrage the North and heighten tensions on the peninsula.

Hwang generally follows a strongly patriotic and unapologetic script as he shows visitors around the usual spots — the building where the armistice that ended the 1950-53 Korean War was signed, a giant stone engraved with North Korean founder Kim Il Sung's last words, various other spots where talks took place. He still stays strongly on message — his job is to get the North's position across to the tourists, even if they aren't especially interested in listening.

But he also pointed out a tree planted by Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in when they held their first summit here in April, and the pavilion where Kim hosted Moon when he came to the North's side last month. And when speaking to an American journalist, Hwang also seemed a tad less belligerent — or perhaps just a bit more relaxed — on Wednesday.

"War only brings disaster to our people. Nobody wants a war," he said. "We held military talks with the South here, too. The talks are moving in the direction of what humanity wants. That's peace. That's a positive thing."

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Talmadge is the AP's Pyongyang bureau chief. Follow him on Instagram and Twitter: @EricTalmadge.

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This story has been corrected to fix day to Wednesday.

## Trump's migrant policy: First blowback, then about-face

By ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As a crisis of migrant children separated from their families provoked national outrage, President Donald Trump said he was powerless to act through an executive order. Five days later, he did just that.

The president's abrupt about-face laid bare the administration's capricious use of executive power as it presses forward with a crackdown on illegal immigration, first ensnaring children in its "zero tolerance" prosecution policy, then coming up with a "stopgap" reprieve in the face of global condemnation.

The president who had declared as a candidate that "I alone can fix" the nation's problems in recent weeks threw up his arms and said only Congress could solve the problem of children being separated from their parents — and then reversed course once again.

What changed?

Brookings Institution senior fellow Bill Galston, a presidential scholar and a Clinton White House official, described it as "classic blame shifting" in the face of mounting bipartisan criticism and amid heartbreaking tales of toddlers kept from their parents. The president, he said, was in an "unsustainable position and would like to be bailed out of it without having to admit fault."

White House officials, advocates and congressional leaders were blindsided Wednesday when word emerged that Trump was considering doing precisely what he'd forcefully claimed he couldn't do — act unilaterally to quell a growing humanitarian and political crisis.

The four-page order he signed will keep together children and parents apprehended for crossing the border illegally for at least 20 days, and directs the Justice Department to fight in court to permanently remove the threat of separation.

Trump acted after encountering mushrooming blowback from Democrats, Republicans, evangelical leaders, former first ladies — even the pope. But White House officials offered little explanation for the reversal or why the president didn't act sooner. It was a rare public step-down from the president in the face of a monumental self-imposed crisis.

"I didn't like the sight or the feeling of families being separated," Trump said.

Family separations soared after the Justice Department's April announcement that all unlawful border

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crossings would be criminally prosecuted set in motion what officials described alternately as a predictable chain of unintended consequences, or a deliberate effort to pressure Congress to finally enact the president's immigration priorities.

As distressing images and audio of bereft children emerged, Trump found himself lobbied privately by his wife and eldest daughter to do more.

"The first lady has been making her opinion known to the president for some time now," a White House official said, "which was that he needed to do all he could to help families stay together, whether it was by working with Congress or anything he could do on his own." The official spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe her thinking.

White House spokesman Raj Shah said Ivanka Trump had phoned lawmakers on Capitol Hill to echo the president's call to pass legislation to solve the issue completely.

Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, who became the face of the family separations with her combative press briefing Monday, began to have second thoughts of her own. On Monday evening, she faced protesters at her home. On Tuesday, she was heckled out of a Mexican restaurant. Alumni of her Berkeley, California, high school circulated an open letter of condemnation.

Nielsen pushed the president to find a way to de-escalate the situation, said two officials, who were not authorized to describe the discussions and requested anonymity.

That came in the form of the executive order, which Justice Department lawyers had drafted in the days earlier in case the president should want that option. Wednesday morning, he ordered attorneys to get it ready for his signature.

The order stated: "It is also the policy of this Administration to maintain family unity, including by detaining alien families together where appropriate and consistent with law and available resources."

But despite the presidential pomp — Trump gave Nielsen the marker he used to sign the order — the president's action is unlikely to completely fix the problem. It would keep children detained together with their parents as they await criminal prosecution and deportation, potentially indefinitely. The more than 2,000 children who already have been moved to the care of the Department of Health and Human Services won't be immediately reunited with family members.

And a top Justice Department official, Gene Hamilton, described the order as a "stopgap" fix to give the courts or Congress time to overturn the 20-day limitation on the detention of children in Department of Homeland Security facilities. If neither branch acts within 20 days, newly detained families may again be separated.

On Capitol Hill, Republican leaders were caught off-guard by Trump's sudden reversal, according to senior GOP aides who were granted anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter by name.

House Speaker Paul Ryan heard about it as he was taking wayward GOP lawmakers to a midday meeting with Trump at the White House to cajole them to vote for a sweeping immigration bill. House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy's office learned about it from an Associated Press news alert just before the Californian and his staff gathered for their daily meeting.

Trump's decision came as Republicans in the House had hoped they were on the verge of bridging internal divisions to pass a wide-ranging election-year immigration bill to provide deportation protections for so-called Dreamers and funding for Trump's border wall.

White House legislative officials watched as the president's action threatened a delicately negotiated balance between conservative and moderate House Republicans.

A so-called compromise bill between GOP factions had been teetering on brink of collapse ever since it was introduced last week.

Trump had largely stayed on the sidelines of the talks but inserted himself Friday morning when he told reporters at an impromptu press conference he would not sign it. GOP leaders quickly convinced Trump to reverse course and hours later he tweeted his support.

Arrangements were made for a quick Trump visit to Capitol Hill late Tuesday to reinforce his endorsement. And as the crisis at the border escalated, House GOP leaders added a provision to address the

family-separation matter.

But when Trump visited with House Republicans on Tuesday, he spent considerable time showcasing unrelated accomplishments, recognizing his supporters and mocking his political opponents. He did call on Congress to alleviate the plight of the separated children — but reiterated that his hands were tied.

Associated Press writers Lisa Moscaro, Jill Colvin and Colleen Long contributed to this report.

## **APNewsBreak: Schools mum on ties to doc in sex abuse inquiry**

**By KANTELE FRANKO and COLLIN BINKLEY, Associated Press**

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A now-dead doctor accused of sexual misconduct by former student athletes at Ohio State University said he acted as a team physician at other universities, most of which won't say if they are reviewing those connections or whether any concerns were raised about him.

Ohio State employment records reviewed by The Associated Press indicate Richard Strauss worked at five schools in the decade between leaving the Navy as a submarine medicine instructor and joining the university in Columbus in 1978.

Strauss researched, taught or practiced medicine at Harvard University, Rutgers University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Washington and the University of Hawaii, according to his resume.

He "remained within the academic community, acting as a part-time team physician at the universities with which I have been associated," according to a note from Strauss in 1980, around the time he was being considered for a leadership appointment in sports medicine at Ohio State. He didn't specify which teams with which he worked or in what capacity.

When contacted by the AP, most of the other schools in Strauss' work history would say or knew little about any ties to him or whether they were reviewing his work and affiliations.

There is no standard response when schools learn a former employee was later accused of abuse, said Djuna Perkins, a lawyer who has conducted sexual misconduct investigations at dozens of universities. Some schools might investigate to ease any concerns, she said, but some might not see the value in that if no accuser has come forward at the institution.

"It would be typical to at least take a preliminary look to see, was this guy here? Did he have contact with students? And then if he did, was there anything we can do about it or should do about it?" she said.

On the other hand, she said, some schools might think, "Why take huge steps and get everyone rattled if in fact there is nothing?"

In such situations, lawyers would probably advise the school where allegations were raised not to notify other employers of the accused, because such issues are seen as personnel matters and not typically shared, Perkins said.

A spokesman for Ohio State wouldn't comment on whether it has contacted Strauss' other listed employers.

But Ohio State has done other outreach, emailing student athletes and other alumni from the mid-1970s to 2001 to ask that anyone with information contact investigators from Seattle-based law firm Perkins Coie.

According to his resume, Strauss did postdoctoral research in physiology at Washington from 1968-1970 and volunteered at a free clinic in Seattle; taught physiology at Penn between 1970-72 and worked at its hospital's hyperbaric therapy service; and then taught physiology at Hawaii from 1972-74 and was a physician for a clinic in that state.

The resume says he was a medical resident at Rutgers from 1974-75; a research fellow in medicine at Harvard Medical School and Boston's Peter Bent Brigham Hospital from 1975-77; and a fellow in sports medicine at Children's Hospital Medical Center in Boston before becoming an Ohio State assistant professor.

The resume also lists him as a "physician for university diving activities" at Washington and Hawaii. Spokeswomen for those schools couldn't provide further information this week about those activities or his work, and didn't address questions about whether their schools are reviewing connections to Strauss.

Penn didn't respond to a similar inquiry.

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Rutgers hasn't found any record of Strauss having been an employee or medical resident there, spokesman John Cramer said. Rutgers isn't aware of any concerns raised about Strauss, he said.

Spokespeople for Harvard Medical School and what is now Brigham and Women's Hospital said they couldn't provide further information about Strauss' work or whether any concerns were raised about him. Harvard spokeswomen wouldn't say whether his past is being investigated there.

A spokeswoman at the University of Chicago, where Strauss graduated from medical school in 1964, also wouldn't comment.

Strauss' personnel file doesn't indicate whether Ohio State was aware of alleged sexual misconduct. It includes employment- and tenure-related letters in which colleagues praise him as a well-known educator and productive author of articles in his field.

In one letter in early 1984, the dean of the medical college at the time, Manuel Tzagournis, characterized Strauss as "an outstanding individual in every sense" and noted: "Since meeting Dr. Strauss I have never once considered questioning his integrity nor his professional abilities."

Tzagournis didn't respond to phone and email messages left for him at Ohio State, where he has an emeritus position.

Ohio State hasn't disclosed exactly how many people have raised allegations about Strauss or details about those claims. Reports of alleged misconduct have come from male athletes affiliated with 14 sports: baseball, cheerleading, cross country, fencing, football, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, track, volleyball and wrestling.

There are also allegations related to Strauss' private, off-campus medical office in Columbus, according to a law firm representing the university.

Ohio State said independent investigators have conducted or scheduled more than 130 interviews with people who reported having relevant information.

The Associated Press hasn't been able to locate relatives who could be asked about the allegations against Strauss, whose 2005 death in Los Angeles was ruled a suicide.

The Strauss investigation comes as universities face heightened attention about the handling of sexual misconduct allegations following the case of former campus sports doctor Larry Nassar at Michigan State University, which recently agreed to a \$500 million settlement with hundreds of women and girls who said Nassar sexually assaulted them.

Strauss had a Michigan State link, too. He said he earned his bachelor's degree there in chemistry in 1960, decades before Nassar attended and worked at MSU.

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Binkley reported from Boston. Follow the reporters on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/kantele10> and <https://twitter.com/cbinkley>. Have a tip? Contact the authors securely at <https://www.ap.org/tips>

## Lawmakers rip tariffs enacted in name of national security

By KEVIN FREKING and PAUL WISEMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pointing to damage done to home-state companies, lawmakers from both parties Wednesday criticized tariffs the Trump administration has imposed on imported steel and aluminum products in the name of national security.

The Trump administration has turned to a little-used weapon in trade policy: Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. It empowers the president to impose unlimited tariffs if the Commerce Department finds that imports threaten national security. Trump imposed the tariffs in March, exempting several allies with a reprieve that expired in May. Trading partners have responded by slapping tariffs on a wide range of U.S.-made products.

Republican Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said rising steel costs since the imposition of the tariffs have made it harder for a Salt Lake City company to win contracts for custom industrial equipment, while pork farmers in his state are facing retaliatory tariffs from their two biggest markets, Mexico and China.

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"I just don't see how the damage posed on all of these sectors could possibly advance our national security," Hatch said.

Democrats shared similar stories. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., said apple and cherry producers in her state are getting hurt. Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., said a steel nail manufacturer in her state, the largest such enterprise in the country, has lost almost half of its business. The company will sell fewer than 4,000 tons of steel nails in July, versus 9,000 tons previously, she said.

"The customers can easily source nails manufactured in other countries," McCaskill said, adding that the company is worried about being out of business by Labor Day.

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross defended the tariffs as necessary to revive America's steel and aluminum industries. He said the tariffs will reduce imports to levels needed for the steel and aluminum industries in the U.S. to achieve long-term viability.

Because of the tariffs, Ross says steel and aluminum producers are already restarting idled factories in Illinois, Ohio, South Carolina, Missouri and Kentucky.

In addition to the steel and aluminum tariffs, Trump has ordered 25 percent tariffs on \$50 billion in Chinese goods in retaliation for Beijing's forced transfer of U.S. technology and for intellectual property theft. Those tariffs, set to start taking effect July 6, have been matched by China's threat to penalize U.S. exports. Trump has proposed imposing duties on up to \$400 billion more if China doesn't further open its markets to U.S. companies and reduce its trade surplus with the United States. China, in turn, says it will retaliate.

Ross said that applying pressure is the only way the U.S. can get China and other countries to curb "untoward practices" on trade, particularly when it comes to technology companies.

"The purpose of this is to get an end-game that's much closer to free trade than anything the world has seen before," Ross said.

Lawmakers were also critical of how the Commerce Department is handling exemptions that U.S. companies can seek from steel and aluminum tariffs. The department expected about 4,500 requests for exemptions — and got more than 20,000. The process has bogged down under the volume and confusion over how to apply for the exemptions.

"We have made some major progress in reforming and improving the process," Ross said. He promised to speed things up.

Lawmakers were skeptical. Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., said the administration's most obvious accomplishment so far has been to unite "our allies and China against us."

When asked if the U.S. was in a trade war, Ross replied: "As the president has often said, we've been at a trade war forever. The difference is that, now our troops are coming to the ramparts."

## At raucous rally, Trump touts hawkish immigration plans

By JILL COLVIN and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

DULUTH, Minn. (AP) — Hours after reversing himself to end the forced separations of migrant families, President Donald Trump returned to the warm embrace of his supporters at a raucous rally Wednesday to defend his hard-line immigration policies while unleashing a torrent of grievances about the media and those investigating him.

Trump downplayed the crisis that has threatened to envelop the White House amid days of heart-wrenching images of children being pulled from their immigrant parents along the nation's southern border. He made only a brief mention of his decision to sign an executive order after spending days insisting, wrongly, that his administration had no choice but to separate families apprehended at the border because of federal law and a court decision.

"We're going to keep families together and the border is going to be just as tough as it's been," Trump told the cheering crowd in Duluth.

Seemingly motivated to promote his hawkish immigration bona fides after his about-face on forced separations, the president denounced his political opponents and those who make unauthorized border

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crossings, suggesting that the money used to care for those immigrants could be better spent on the nation's rural communities and inner cities.

"Democrats put illegal immigrants before they put American citizens. What the hell is going on?" asked Trump, prompting the crowd to chant "Build the wall!"

He even invoked his campaign kickoff speech, held three years ago this week, in which he declared that Mexico "wasn't sending their best" in terms of migrants crossing into the U.S. That wasn't the only throwback moment at the rally, featuring a packed arena festooned with American flags and approximately 8,000 people responding in chants to many of Trump's cues.

He fumed over what he deemed "dishonest" coverage of his summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. He raved about the economy and his tough new tariffs meant to create fair trade. And he erroneously suggested that a recent Department of Justice watchdog report into the FBI's handling of the Hillary Clinton email probe proved his innocence in the special counsel's Russia investigation while covering up Clinton's guilt.

"Have you been seeing this whole scam? Do you believe what you're seeing — how that no matter what she did, no matter how many crimes she committed, which were numerous, they wanted her to be innocent," Trump said. "But with me, nothing. No collusion, no nothing. They wanted to put us in trouble."

The crowd responded with a "Lock her up!" chant. Trump simply shook his head.

Again attacking the special counsel probe as a "witch hunt," Trump went on to blast the media for focusing on the recent immigration crisis at the expense of covering what he contends is bias against him at the FBI. He also accused the media of providing one-sided reports about his Singapore summit with Kim.

"We had a great meeting. We had great chemistry," said Trump, who predicted that Kim "will turn that country into a great successful country."

"These people," said Trump, gesturing to the media at the back of the arena, "say, 'He's given away so much.' You know what I gave up? A meeting."

The Duluth rally was Trump's first in a blue state since taking office. He narrowly lost Minnesota in 2016. And with the industrial and upper Midwest looming large for Trump's re-election hopes, the president vowed to spend more time there before 2020.

"You know, I hate to bring this up, but we came this close to winning the state of Minnesota," the president said. "And in 2½ years, it's going to be really easy, I think."

Trump was in Minnesota to back Pete Stauber, a Republican congressional candidate running in a traditionally Democratic district. Home of the Iron Range, Minnesota is a place where Trump's tariffs on foreign steel could play especially well. While economists wince and farmers brace for blowback, the crowd cheered when tariffs were mentioned on Wednesday. Trump also held a small roundtable with representatives from the mining industry and local leaders before the rally.

Trump brought Stauber to the stage and offered an enthusiastic endorsement. But he made no mention of the state's GOP gubernatorial primary to replace outgoing Democratic Gov. Mark Dayton. It pits former Gov. Tim Pawlenty, a Trump critic running for his old job, against Jeff Johnson, the state GOP's endorsed candidate who has been stronger in his support of the president.

Energized by the roaring crowd in his first rally since the Singapore summit, Trump soaked in the applause and caustically dismissed a few protesters who tried to interrupt. He beamed as the crowd chanted "Space Force!" in response to his plan to create a new branch of the military to safeguard the cosmos. And he leaned hard into his self-appointed role as champion of the working class and defender of traditional American values, but also mocked the idea that his opponents — whether liberals or media executives — were always called "the elite."

"The elite! Why are they elite?" Trump wondered. "I have a much better apartment than they do. I'm smarter than they are. I'm richer than they are. I became president and they didn't."

\_\_\_ Lemire reported from New York

\_\_\_ Follow Colvin on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@colvinj> and Lemire at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire>



## Guatemalan man recalls fear, agony of separation from child

By BRADY McCOMBS, Associated Press

PROVO, Utah (AP) — Three-year-old Genesis Gonzalez Lopez giggled excitedly as she played with her father at a sunny Utah park, zipping down a slide again and again into his arms.

The happy scene this week in Provo, south of Salt Lake City, was a far cry from what the pair experienced on Thanksgiving, when U.S. immigration authorities took Romulo Gonzalez Rodriguez into custody at the U.S.-Mexico border and whisked away the frightened girl, with no explanation of where she'd end up.

Gonzalez had fled Guatemala with the then-2-year-old after kidnappers held him captive, ripped out his right eye and forced his family to pay a \$13,500 ransom for his life. He traveled by bus and train to a San Diego port of entry to seek asylum in the United States and was separated from his daughter for seven days.

"It's painful to be running away and come to where you think they're going to rescue you, and they take the measure of separating children," the father told The Associated Press in Spanish on Tuesday. "You fall again into fear and the same anguish that you're leaving behind."

Gonzalez's experience offers a window into the distress and uncertainty parents endure when they are separated from their children at the border, even though it happened before President Donald Trump's administration in April adopted a "zero tolerance" policy in which all unlawful border crossings were referred for prosecution.

The policy led to a spike in family separations in recent weeks, provoking a national uproar and pressure from some of Trump's allies. In a dramatic reversal, the president said Wednesday he was ending the practice, signing an executive order that keeps families together while they're in custody, expedites their cases and asks the Department of Defense to help house them.

In Gonzalez's case, it's unclear why he and his daughter were separated since he surrendered at the border and is not being prosecuted for illegal entry.

It has been longstanding practice for Homeland Security to separate adults and minors at the border when it's unable to confirm they're related or if it believes a child is at risk. But Gonzalez has no criminal record, his attorney Mari Alvarado Tsosie said.

The 54-year-old Gonzalez has a brother in Provo who sought Alvarado's advice after Gonzalez was held for ransom in his home country. Gonzalez followed her instructions, arriving at the San Ysidro Port of Entry with his daughter Nov. 23 and telling U.S. immigration authorities he wanted asylum. He handed them a Guatemalan police report about his kidnapping.

Authorities shepherded his young daughter into another room while Gonzalez answered questions. He thought they would be reunited when he was done, but he was instead taken to a detention center without his daughter, Alvarado said. When he asked where she was, they wouldn't tell him, he said.

Gonzalez said he then spent seven days at a cold facility where the lights never turned off, wondering if his daughter was safe and if he would ever see her again. In Guatemala, his kidnappers had threatened to dismember the child, and he suspected corrupt authorities were involved. His mind raced with worries U.S. law enforcement was corrupt too.

"It's tremendous anguish because you don't get any answers from authorities," Gonzalez said at his attorney's office in Provo, his daughter sitting on his lap. "They don't give you information, and you don't know the laws. ... You're wondering: Where is she? What is she doing? Such a small child."

Parents who surrender at U.S. ports of entry have occasionally been separated from their children with no formal explanation since long before the Trump administration's zero tolerance policy, said Dan Kowalski, editor of Bender's Immigration Bulletin, a national journal focused on immigration cases and law. He believes it's because of a lack of training, leadership and standard operating procedures that allows border agents to make up rules as they go.

If they suspected Gonzalez was abusing the child or trafficking her, they would have sent the case to prosecutors, Kowalski said.

A spokesman with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement had no immediate comment on the case.

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After learning of Gonzalez's situation, Alvarado began calling every ICE facility in Southern California looking for him and the child. It took her three days to find Gonzalez at San Diego's Otay Mesa Detention Center and another four days to reunite him with his daughter.

To this day, Alvarado doesn't know where Genesis was held, though she believes the girl was somewhere in San Diego. All she has said is that she ate a lot of cereal.

The father and daughter are staying with Gonzalez's brother while they await word on the asylum request. A hearing is set for Oct. 22 at a Salt Lake City immigration court.

Gonzalez's wife and two step-children are in hiding in Guatemala and waiting until he can send enough money for them to make the journey north.

Genesis is too young to say what happened to her while they were apart or express how it affected her. But her father said she was sickly when they reunited, and seems nervous and clingier now. She starts therapy later this month.

On Tuesday, Genesis looked like a typical, sweet toddler, hugging her father tightly and giving him kisses while he spoke.

Gonzalez is happy to be safe for now but said he's living in limbo not knowing if he'll be forced to return to the Guatemalan beach town that he once loved, where he now fears he'll be killed if he returns. He wears a glass eye following his attack.

Between that ordeal and the separation from Genesis, Gonzalez said he suffered significant trauma of his own that he has yet to deal with.

"It's a situation I don't wish upon any father or human being," he said.

See AP's complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration's policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

## Trump supporters steadfast despite the immigration uproar

By **ANGIE WANG** and **DAVE KOLPACK**

CINCINNATI (AP) — Cincinnati resident Andrew Pappas supported President Trump's decision to separate children from parents who crossed the border illegally because, he said, it got Congress talking about immigration reform.

Niurka Lopez of Michigan said Trump's "zero-tolerance" policy made sense because her family came to the U.S. legally from Cuba and everyone else should, too.

Die-hard Trump supporters remained steadfast even as heart-rending photos of children held in cages and audio of terrified children crying out for their parents stoked outrage among Democrats and Republicans alike. They said they believed Trump and Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen when they falsely claimed that they had no choice but to enforce an existing law.

When Trump signed an executive order on Wednesday to end forced separations on his own, they shrugged. The end, they suggested, justified the means. And it was the fault of Congress rather than Trump.

"The optics of what's happening here directly at the border isn't something that he wants to have on his watch, but at the end of the day, he still wants to focus the attention of Congress on the fundamental need for immigration reform in the United States and I think he's gonna hold firm on that," said Pappas, 53.

"His goal was not to rip families apart, I think his goal was to make Congress act on immigration reform," Pappas added. "And now ...everyone's talking about immigration reform and I think President Trump is getting exactly what he wants."

Sixty-five-year-old Richard Klabecheck of Oak Grove, Minnesota, who attended the president's rally Wednesday evening in Duluth, Minnesota, said he was unmoved by the audio of crying children, saying it was "the media playing the heartstrings of the public." And he said Trump was simply being Trump.

"I think Trump takes issues on in his own direct way, but it doesn't fit the politically correct narrative of the media or the Democrats," said Klabecheck, who is retired.

Lopez, 54, said Trump "really cares for the United States of America and the people of the United States

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of America and to protect us from people that want to hurt us.”

Others shared her assessment.

John Trandem, 42, who owns an automotive services company near Fargo, North Dakota, said he has supported all of Trump’s decisions during the border controversy.

“He’s certainly not a man without compassion. He’s not a monster as he’s being framed by the media and by the left,” said Trandem, who was a delegate at the 2016 Republican convention where Trump clinched the nomination for president.

“He recognizes that it’s a very challenging issue. ... Nobody wants to see parents and children separated, but ... the blame should be put squarely back on the shoulders of the people who broke the law in the first place.”

Trump voter Terry Welch of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, said he blames Congress and its GOP leadership for not reforming immigration laws, though he admits he doesn’t like Trump as a person.

“It’s a terrible situation,” Welch, 43, said of the distraught children. “I think everybody believes that.”

Still, he said the president’s dramatic reversal on separating children won’t solve anything: “I see that as placating people.”

\_\_\_ Associated Press reporters Adam Kealoha Causey in Oklahoma City; Mike Householder in Lansing, Michigan; Dylan Lovan in Louisville, Kentucky; Tammy Webber in Chicago; Amy Forliti in Duluth, Minnesota; Doug Glass in Minneapolis and Kevin McGill in New Orleans contributed to this report.

## **In reversal, Trump orders halt to his family separation rule**

**By JILL COLVIN and COLLEEN LONG, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bowing to pressure from anxious allies, President Donald Trump abruptly reversed himself Wednesday and signed an executive order halting his administration’s policy of separating children from their parents when they are detained illegally crossing the U.S. border.

It was a dramatic turnaround for Trump, who has been insisting, wrongly, that his administration had no choice but to separate families apprehended at the border because of federal law and a court decision.

The order does not end the “zero-tolerance” policy that criminally prosecutes all adults caught crossing the border illegally. But, at least for the next few weeks, it would keep families together while they are in custody, expedite their cases and ask the Defense Department to help house them. It also doesn’t change anything yet for the some 2,300 children taken from their families since the policy was put into place.

The news in recent days has been dominated by searing images of children held in cages at border facilities, as well as audio recordings of young children crying for their parents — images that have sparked fury, questions of morality and concern from Republicans about a negative impact on their races in November’s midterm elections.

Until Wednesday, the president, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen and other officials had repeatedly argued the only way to end the practice was for Congress to pass new legislation, while Democrats said Trump could do it with his signature alone. That’s just what he did.

“We’re going to have strong, very strong borders, but we’re going to keep the families together,” said Trump, who added that he didn’t like the “sight” or “feeling” of children separated from their parents.

Under a previous class-action settlement that set policies for the treatment and release of minors caught at the border, families can only be detained for 20 days. A senior Justice Department official said that hasn’t changed.

“This is a stopgap measure,” said Gene Hamilton, counsel to the attorney general. Justice lawyers were planning to file a challenge to the agreement, known as the Flores settlement, asking that a judge allow for the detention of families until criminal and removal proceedings are completed.

So Trump’s order is likely to create a fresh set of problems and may well spark a new court fight. It’s unclear what happens if no changes to law or the settlement take place by the time families reach the detention deadline. The language also leaves room to separate children from parents if it’s best for the child’s welfare.

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And it didn't do much for the teeming outrage over the issue. The Alabama-based Southern Poverty Law Center said the order didn't go nearly far enough.

"The administration still plans to criminalize families — including children — by holding them in prison-like detention facilities. There are workable alternatives," president Richard Cohen said in a statement.

It's also unclear what will happen to the children already separated. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said his department will start reuniting detained immigrant children with their parents — but he made no specific commitment on how quickly that can be accomplished. And officials said the cases of the children already separated and turned over to their custody would proceed as usual.

Trump's family apparently played a role in his turnaround.

A White House official said first lady Melania Trump had been making her opinion known to the president for some time that she felt he needed to do all he could to help families stay together, whether by working with Congress or acting on his own.

And daughter Ivanka Trump tweeted, "Thank you @POTUS for taking critical action ending family separation at our border."

Homeland Security Secretary Nielsen briefed lawmakers on Capitol Hill Wednesday, and those on the fence over pending immigration legislation headed to the White House to meet with Trump. Assessments for possible detention facilities at military bases have already been done in Texas and another is expected in Arkansas on Thursday.

Two people close to Nielsen said she was the driving force behind the turnabout that led to the new order keeping families together. Those people were not authorized to speak publicly and commented only on condition of anonymity.

One of them said Nielsen, who had become the face of the administration's policy, had little faith that Congress would act to fix the separation issue and felt compelled to act. She was heckled at a restaurant Tuesday evening and has faced protesters at her home.

Trump had tweeted early Wednesday, before issuing his order: "It's the Democrats fault, they won't give us the votes needed to pass good immigration legislation. They want open borders, which breeds horrible crime. Republicans want security. But I am working on something - it never ends!"

The "zero tolerance" policy put into place last month moves adults to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service and sends many children to facilities run by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The policy had led to a spike in family separations in recent weeks, with more than 2,300 minors separated from their families at the border from May 5 through June 9, according to Homeland Security.

The Flores settlement, named for a teenage girl who brought the case in the 1980s, requires the government to release children from custody and to their parents, adult relatives or other caretakers, in order of preference. If those options are exhausted, authorities must find the "least restrictive" setting for a child who arrived without parents.

Peter Schey, class-appointed counsel in the Flores case, said Wednesday there was nothing in the agreement that prevents Homeland Security officials from detaining children with their parents, "as long as the conditions of detention are humane and the child remains eligible for release, unless the child is a flight risk, or a danger to herself or others, or the child's parent does not wish the child to be released."

He said he was looking into whether the court could block deportation of parents until they have been reunited with their children, and whether it could force the Trump administration to reunite those separated.

In 2015, a federal judge in Los Angeles expanded the terms of the settlement, ruling that it applies to children who are caught with their parents as well as to those who come to the U.S. alone. Other recent rulings, upheld on appeal, affirm the children's rights to a bond hearing and require better conditions at the Border Patrol's short-term holding facilities.

In 2016, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that child migrants who came to the border with parents and were held in custody must be released. The decision did not state parents must be released. Neither, though, did it require parents to be kept in detention, apart from their children.

\_\_\_ Associated Press writers Zeke Miller, Eric Tucker, Ken Thomas and Alan Fram in Washington and Amy Taxin in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

## Beer may lack fizz in Europe amid carbon dioxide shortage

LONDON (AP) — No beer at this time of year?

A British trade group says there's a shortage of carbon dioxide in Northern Europe, sparking fears that drinks may lack fizz just as thirsty soccer fans fill pubs for the World Cup.

Gavin Partington, director-general of the British Soft Drinks Association, says the shortage is due to the closure of several production sites for various reasons, including seasonal maintenance. But industry publication Gasworld says the situation is worse this year because normal maintenance has coincided with technical issues at chemical plants that also produce carbon dioxide.

That shortage comes just as the World Cup is getting underway in Russia, driving up demand for beer and soft drinks. The British Beer and Pub Association predicts England fans will drink an extra 14 million pints during the group stages of the tournament, which last about two weeks.

"We will continue to monitor the situation carefully," said Brigid Simmonds, the group's chief executive. "However, given the time of year and the World Cup, this situation has arisen at an unfortunate time for the brewing industry."

The shortage could also affect meat producers, who may have trouble preserving some fresh foods.

## Immigration courts packed with cases of kids crossing border

By AMY TAXIN, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The little girl wearing pink party shoes topped with bows smiled from her seat in a Los Angeles immigration courtroom. The 7-year-old is happy now that she is worlds away from the violence in her native El Salvador.

Gang gunfire once forced her to hit the floor inside her home. She fled Central America last year with her great-grandmother to join her mother in the U.S. At the Mexico border, authorities separated the two, and she lived in a youth facility for about a month. She cried so much that staff members gave her extra phone time to talk to her mother, the mother said.

She was eventually reunited with her mother and is now seeking asylum.

Her case, which was in court Tuesday, predates the Trump administration's "zero tolerance" policy calling for the criminal prosecution of all immigrants stopped on the southwest border. But it illustrates how children arriving from Central America have long faced the prospect of family separation and navigated a complex legal immigration system that can take months or years to render a decision due to a massive backlog of cases.

The U.S. government separated more than 2,300 children from their parents in recent weeks in a policy that stoked widespread outrage among both Democrats and Republicans.

President Donald Trump bowed to pressure Wednesday and signed an executive order ending the separations. It was a dramatic turnaround for the president, who had insisted, wrongly, that his administration had no choice because of federal law and a court decision.

Many of the affected children may soon find themselves in an immigration courtroom somewhere in the United States as they make a case to stay in the country legally and avoid deportation.

In immigration court in Los Angeles, Judge A. Ashley Tabaddor had more than 20 cases on her morning docket — all for children and many of them asylum seekers.

Some had arrived a year ago, or even two. All had lawyers and were seeking to stay by seeking asylum or through a government program that provides green cards to abused and abandoned children.

The girl and others applied for asylum at an office run by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and were waiting for an interview. The agency in March had more than 17,000 children's cases pending review.

The judge told the lawyers, children and parents in the courtroom that recently it had been taking longer than the month or two that young applicants previously waited for an interview.

Other cases were mired in confusion. A 16-year-old girl had been telling the court she lived in Los Angeles with her aunt when in reality she had moved to Texas to stay with her mother.

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"Who gave you permission to move to Texas?" Tabaddor asked the teen before ordering her to return to her courtroom with her mother or aunt in September or face deportation. "Lying to the court is unacceptable. It is going to cause problems and is already causing problems."

Tabaddor later sought to sort out a 19-year-old asylum seeker's living situation since he moved from an earlier Southern California address. His mother was in Guatemala, he said, and he didn't understand what the judge meant when she asked about his biological father because he had been staying with a man he called his stepfather since arriving in the U.S.

She told his attorney to get to the bottom of the situation and determine whether he was eligible for immigration relief.

For the rest of the hourlong session, the judge juggled the cases of an 18-year-old Guatemalan who didn't want to move with his aunt to Bakersfield, a 20-year-old Guatemalan who will have his asylum case heard next April and others.

She then asked the court's Spanish-language interpreter to walk out to the hall and look for a Salvadoran immigrant who didn't show up for court even though she had a lawyer.

When no one answered the calls, the judge issued a deportation order for her.

The 7-year-old girl's mother, Jennifer, worries about getting deported because asylum cases are getting harder to win even as gang violence worsens back home. The 25-year-old mother asked that her full name not be used out of fear the government would seek to have the family deported.

Her daughter, clutching a cardigan, lowered her voice and her eyes when she recalled living in El Salvador. "It's horrible," she said. "Dangerous."

And she remembered how soon after she reached the United States, she pounded her fists on the window and cried when border officers took her from her great-grandmother, who had raised her since she was a toddler.

"I went crazy because she was going someplace else," she said.

The great-grandmother was later released and now has an immigration case of her own in California, according to the girl's mother.

The girl was just 5 at the time, and the stress took its toll as she lived in the youth facility.

"She cried and cried," the mother said. "I didn't think they would separate them."

About a month later, the girl was sent to live with her mother in Southern California.

She said she likes going to the park and school. And again, she smiled.

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The story has been corrected to remove an incorrect reference to the 25-year-old mother seeking asylum.

## House struggles to unite behind bills to stem border crisis

By LISA MASCARO and ALAN FRAM, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Speaker Paul Ryan is pushing ahead with votes on rival House GOP immigration bills, but neither appears to have enough support for passage, prompting President Donald Trump to take executive action Wednesday to stem the crisis of family separations at the border.

Trump has said he's "1,000 percent" behind both GOP bills, but restive House Republicans have all but begged GOP leaders for more clarity about what the president would actually sign. Public outcry is mounting over the family separations, but so far, there's no clear roadmap for Thursday voting on the emotional issue dividing Republicans.

With the immigration bills teetering in the House, the White House launched an eleventh-hour push to try to bring Republicans onboard.

Ryan took a group of wavering lawmakers to the White House to meet with Trump in hopes he could persuade them. Back on Capitol Hill, Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen also met with House Republicans.

The results were mixed, with some lawmakers newly announcing their support for a compromise bill, but others digging in against it. With congressional outcome uncertain — and facing condemnation of the

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family separations from across the political spectrum — the White House took action.

Trump on Wednesday signed an executive order that directs Nielsen's department to keep families together after they are detained crossing the border illegally.

"We're going to have strong, very strong borders, but we're going to keep the families together," said Trump, who added he didn't like the "sight" or "feeling" of children separated from their parents.

More than 2,300 children were separated from their families at the border from May 5 through June 9, according to DHS.

Under the administration's policy, all unlawful crossings are referred for prosecution — a process that moves adults to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service and sends many children to facilities run by the Department of Health and Human Services. Under the Obama administration, such families were usually referred for civil deportation proceedings, not requiring separation.

But on Capitol Hill, executive action is not the same as a legislative fix. Senate Republicans introduced their own bill to halt the family separations by allowing families to be held indefinitely in custody. Senators worried Trump's fix would not stand up in court and were eager to go on record in opposition to the practice of separating families.

Meanwhile, House Republicans were pushing forward with votes Thursday on their broader immigration overhaul.

Ryan told reporters he prefers to see parents and children detained together in custody, as the GOP bills would codify into law.

"We do not want children taken away from their parents," he said.

As Republicans met privately Wednesday to discuss their legislation, House Democrats brought about two dozen immigrant children to the chamber floor in an unusual morning protest that defied House rules as they condemned the separation of families at the border.

Democrats said the images of children being held in cages in border facilities, some crying for their parents, would be a moment remembered in U.S. history. Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Ill., said Americans were "standing up for children, standing up for those who are in need."

As Gutierrez spoke, his microphone was cut off because the gathering in the chamber was considered a breach of decorum. Presiding Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., gaveled the House to order.

GOP lawmakers, increasingly fearful of voter backlash in November, want to move away from the immigration issue, but passage of any bill Thursday remains uncertain.

Many Republicans in the House have sought more clarity from Trump before giving their backing to the broader immigration bills, which also offer different remedies for other provisions on protecting "Dreamer" immigrants from deportation and funding for Trump's border wall.

"Some of the members wanted to make sure the president is very visible in his support for both bills," said Rep. Mark Walker, R-N.C., the chairman of the conservative Republican Study Committee, which makes up more than half the GOP majority.

Walker said several lawmakers remained undecided, denying leadership of the majority needed for passage. They want to see Trump's support "constantly as we move forward — that he's out there vocally supporting what he believes is the best pathway forward," Walker said.

Even if Republicans manage to pass one of the immigration bills through the House, it is all but certain to fizzle in the Senate, where Republicans are rallying behind a different approach.

Theirs is narrow legislation proposed by Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, and others that would allow detained families to stay together in custody while expediting their hearings and possible deportation proceedings.

Under the bill, children under age 18 would be kept with their families in residential centers during legal proceedings. Facilities would have to be "secure and safe." Children would be separated from adults who are not their parent or who have serious criminal records, or if there is evidence of abuse or trafficking.

The government would prioritize processing such families and add 1,000 beds and 225 immigration judges.

"The question is, Do congressional Democrats want to actually solve the problem or do they want an issue to campaign on in November?" Cruz said.

Senate Democrats have rallied behind a bill from Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., that would prohibit mi-

grant families from being separated. Feinstein and Cruz have been in talks about a possible compromise.

Associated Press writers Jonathan Lemire, Jill Colvin, Ken Thomas, Matthew Daly and Mary Clare Jalonick contributed to this report.

See AP's complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration's policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

## **GOP senator defends EPA chief, calls ethics allegations lies**

**By ELLEN KNICKMEYER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Republican senator who had expressed concerns about Environmental Protection Agency chief Scott Pruitt mounted an outspoken defense of him Wednesday after a face-to-face meeting, calling ethics allegations against Pruitt "outrageous lies."

Sen. Jim Inhofe, from Pruitt's home state of Oklahoma, spoke after summoning Pruitt to a one-on-one meeting this week to discuss more than a dozen allegations that Pruitt has misused his office to obtain perks and material benefits for himself and his family, including costly, taxpayer-funded premium-class trips and round-the-clock security.

"This is the type of outrageous lies you hear in Washington that people don't have a chance to respond to," Inhofe said at a Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works confirmation hearing for two EPA nominees that quickly turned into a sparring session about Pruitt.

Democratic Sen. Tom Carper of Delaware listed some of the ethics allegations against Pruitt and said the Senate isn't doing enough to examine them and hold him accountable.

"We are abdicating a fundamental responsibility of this body if we continue to do so," he said.

Inhofe interrupted him to defend Pruitt.

"I know what you said is not correct," Inhofe said.

Inhofe, who expressed concern last week about Pruitt's ethics problems, told lawmakers he had spoken to Pruitt directly and now believes the news media is the source of much of Pruitt's trouble.

He rejected criticism of Pruitt's travel to Morocco and Italy, saying the trips were part of the EPA administrator's job. Pruitt flew premium class and was accompanied by a security contingent for the trips.

Inhofe did not speak to allegations that Pruitt used staffers and other office resources to try to line up work for his wife and to obtain hard-to-get tickets to the Rose Bowl and other sporting events.

But he did say Pruitt told him that he had checked with EPA's ethics officials about the sports tickets.

Pruitt, a Republican and the former attorney general of Oklahoma, had an EPA aide reach out to University of Oklahoma regent Renzi Stone, a public-relations consultant with clients in the oil industry, to get the Rose Bowl tickets, according to Stone and to former Pruitt EPA aide Millan Hupp.

Federal ethics codes prohibit executives from using subordinates for personal errands or from using their office for personal financial gain.

President Donald Trump last week lauded Pruitt's work at the EPA but said he was not "happy about certain things" surrounding the EPA chief.

Many of the allegations concerning Pruitt emerged from testimony by former Pruitt aides to staffers of a House oversight committee investigating Pruitt and from EPA emails obtained through the federal Freedom of Information Act.

Republican Sen. Joni Ernst of Iowa, who has faulted Pruitt over the scandals and over an ethanol policy widely opposed by Midwest corn farmers, criticized Pruitt at Wednesday's hearing for "unacceptable uses of taxpayer dollars."

Carper repeatedly urged that Pruitt appear quickly before the panel to answer questions. The committee on Tuesday announced it had tentatively set a hearing with Pruitt for August.

If Pruitt's predecessors at the EPA had faced "even a fraction of what this administration is accused of," Carper said, "they would be sitting at this desk explaining week after week what's happening with the



EPA." He pointed at the witness table.

Trump nominees appearing before the Senate committee included Peter Wright, a DowDuPont Inc. executive named to lead the EPA office overseeing the country's Superfund sites and other higher-risk industrial sites.

The Union of Concerned Scientists has challenged Wright's ability to impartially manage the sites, which the nonprofit group says include 50 facilities owned by DowDuPont or a subsidiary.

Carper said Wright has agreed to stay out of an EPA action on any site involving DowDuPont for at least two years.

## At least 3 "tender age" shelters set up for child migrants

By GARANCE BURKE AND MARTHA MENDOZA, Associated Press

The Trump administration has set up at least three "tender age" shelters to detain babies and other young children who have been forcibly separated from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border, The Associated Press has learned.

Doctors and lawyers who have visited the shelters in South Texas' Rio Grande Valley said the facilities were fine, clean and safe, but the children — who have no idea where their parents are — were hysterical, crying and acting out. Many of them are under age 5, and some are so young they have not yet learned to talk.

The government also plans to open a fourth shelter to house hundreds of young migrant children in Houston, where city leaders denounced the move Tuesday.

Since the White House announced its zero tolerance policy in early May, more than 2,300 children have been taken from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border, resulting in an influx of young children requiring government care.

The government has already faced withering critiques over images of some of the children in cages inside U.S. Border Patrol processing stations. It faced renewed criticism for setting up new places to hold these toddlers, decades after orphanages were phased out over concerns about the lasting trauma to children.

"The thought that they are going to be putting such little kids in an institutional setting? I mean it is hard for me to even wrap my mind around it," said Kay Bellor, vice president for programs at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, which provides foster care and other child welfare services to migrant children. "Toddlers are being detained."

By law, child migrants traveling alone must be sent to facilities run by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services within three days of being detained. The agency then is responsible for placing the children in shelters or foster homes until they are united with a relative or sponsor in the community as they await immigration court hearings.

But U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions' announcement last month that the government would criminally prosecute everyone who crosses the U.S.-Mexico border illegally has led to the breakup of migrant families and sent a new group of hundreds of young children into the government's care.

On Tuesday, President Donald Trump signed an executive order ending the separation of families at the southern border, saying that he didn't like the sight of children being removed from their families. But the president added that the "zero tolerance" policy will continue, and children will be held along with their parents in immigration detention while the parents are prosecuted. The order does not detail how children now in the government's care will be reunited with their parents.

The United Nations, some Democratic and Republican lawmakers and religious groups have sharply criticized the family separation policy, calling it inhumane.

Not so, said Steven Wagner, an official with the Department of Health and Human Services.

"We have specialized facilities that are devoted to providing care to children with special needs and tender age children as we define as under 13 would fall into that category," he said. "They're not government facilities per se, and they have very well-trained clinicians, and those facilities meet state licensing standards for child welfare agencies, and they're staffed by people who know how to deal with the needs

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— particularly of the younger children.”

Until now, however, it’s been unknown where they are. “In general we do not identify the locations of permanent unaccompanied alien children program facilities,” agency spokesman Kenneth Wolfe said.

The three Texas centers — in Combes, Raymondville and Brownsville — have been rapidly repurposed to serve needs of children, including some under 5. A fourth, planned for Houston, would house up to 240 children in a warehouse previously used for people displaced by Hurricane Harvey, Mayor Sylvester Turner said.

Turner said he met with officials from Austin-based Southwest Key Programs, the contractor that operates some of the child shelters, to ask them to reconsider their plans. A spokeswoman for Southwest Key didn’t immediately reply to an email seeking comment.

“And so there comes a point in time we draw a line, and for me, the line is with these children,” Turner said during a news conference Tuesday.

The order Trump signed Wednesday directs federal agencies to work with the Defense Department to prepare facilities to house detained families. During the surge of unaccompanied children crossing the border in 2014, HHS set up several temporary facilities at military bases.

The order also instructs federal agencies -- especially the Defense Department -- to begin to prepare facilities that could house the potentially thousands of families that will now be detained by the government.

On a practical level, the zero tolerance policy has overwhelmed the federal agency charged with caring for the new influx of children who tend to be much younger than teens who typically have been traveling to the U.S. alone. Some recent detainees are infants, taken from their mothers.

“The shelters aren’t the problem, it’s taking kids from their parents that’s the problem,” said Dr. Marsha Griffin, a South Texas pediatrician who has visited many of the shelters.

Other migrant children have been sent elsewhere. The largest foster agency handling young migrant children in the U.S. is Bethany Christian Services, whose 99 available foster beds in Michigan and Maryland are filled.

The group’s chief executive officer, Chris Palusky, said the youngest child separated from parents at the border is 8 months old. The average age of children in the organization’s care dropped from 14 to 7 years old in recent weeks, after the zero tolerance policy was adopted, Palusky said.

The youngest children, he said, are shell-shocked — crying themselves to sleep.

“Then they wake up from their naps and again they’re crying for their mom, asking: ‘Where’s my dad?’” he said. “They absolutely need their parents right now.”

Decades of study show early separations can cause permanent emotional damage, said Alicia Lieberman, who runs the Early Trauma Treatment Network at University of California, San Francisco.

“Children are biologically programmed to grow best in the care of a parent figure. When that bond is broken through long and unexpected separations with no set timeline for reunion, children respond at the deepest physiological and emotional levels,” Lieberman said.

“Their fear triggers a flood of stress hormones that disrupt neural circuits in the brain, create high levels of anxiety, make them more susceptible to physical and emotional illness, and damage their capacity to manage their emotions, trust people, and focus their attention on age-appropriate activities,” she added.

Parents separated from their children say when they’re able to talk with their kids, their pain is evident.

Beata Mariana de Jesus Mejia-Mejia’s 7-year-old son, Darwin, was taken from her a month ago, two days after they crossed the border seeking asylum.

“I only got to talk to him once, and he sounded so sad. My son never used to sound like that, he was such a dynamic boy,” said the immigrant from Guatemala. She said that during the call, an official with her son told her Darwin was “fine,” but she said she could hear son cry: “Mama! Mama! Mama!”

She sued the Trump administration on Tuesday.

Days after Sessions announced the zero-tolerance policy, the government issued a call for proposals from shelter and foster-care providers to provide services for the new influx of children taken from their families after journeying from Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico.

As children are separated from their families, law enforcement agents reclassify them from members

of family units to “unaccompanied alien children.” Federal officials said Tuesday that since May, they have separated 2,342 children from their families, rendering them unaccompanied minors in the government’s care.

While Mexico is still the most common country of origin for families arrested at the border, in the last eight months Honduras has become the fastest-growing category as compared to fiscal year 2017.

At a press briefing Tuesday, reporters repeatedly asked for an age breakdown of the children who have been taken. Officials from both law enforcement and Health and Human Services said they didn’t know how many children were under age 5, under age 2, or even so little they’re non-verbal.

“The facilities that they have for the most part are not licensed for tender age children,” said Michelle Brane, director of migrant rights at the Women’s Refugee Commission, who met with a 4-year-old girl in diapers in a warehouse in McAllen, Texas, where Border Patrol temporarily holds migrant families. “There is no model for how you house tons of little children in cots institutionally in our country. We don’t do orphanages, our child welfare has recognized that is an inappropriate setting for little children.”

Associated Press reporter Colleen Long contributed from New York.

See AP’s complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration’s policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

## **Ivanka Trump stayed silent for days as border crisis mounted**

**By CATHERINE LUCEY and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ivanka Trump, the presidential adviser who has billed herself as a “force for good” in the administration, remained silent for days as the firestorm over forced separations of migrant families consumed the White House.

In a closed-door meeting with Republicans late Tuesday, President Donald Trump confided that his daughter urged him to find a solution. But despite days of heart-wrenching images of children being pulled from their immigrant parents, she stayed publicly quiet until Trump on Wednesday signed an executive order designed to keep families together.

Then the first daughter tweeted, “Thank you @POTUS for taking critical action ending family separation at our border,” and called on Congress to “find a lasting solution that is consistent with our shared values.”

Still, Ivanka Trump’s conspicuous silence drew criticism as outrage mounted over the separations. And it wasn’t the first time that Ivanka Trump, as well as her husband and fellow influential presidential adviser, Jared Kushner, had tried to fly under the radar during crisis and tumult in her father’s administration.

Kushner has been in the Middle East working on the administration’s peace plan while cable news filled with emotional photos of children in cages and audio of kids crying for their parents at the Mexican border. And Ivanka Trump was in California this week, getting heckled on her way to a fundraiser for Republican Rep. Kevin McCarthy.

After Trump’s Capitol Hill meeting, Rep. Carlos Curbelo, R-Fla., said the president “mentioned that his daughter Ivanka encouraged him to end this. And he said that he does recognize that it needs to end, that the images are painful.”

As he signed the executive order Wednesday, Trump stressed that he had heard from his daughter, saying, “Ivanka feels very strongly” and “I think anybody with a heart would feel very strongly about it. We don’t like to see families separated.”

White House spokesman Raj Shah said Ivanka Trump had made calls to congressional leaders, advocating for a fix. She was at a meeting Wednesday between Trump and lawmakers at the White House.

Her prolonged silence was the latest example of the challenges and calculations faced by the first daughter as she seeks to promote a family-friendly agenda in an administration focused on hard-line immigration tactics and protectionist trade policies — under a president whose comments on race, gender and inclusivity have drawn bipartisan rebukes.

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First lady Melania Trump weighed in more quickly, with her office issuing a statement over the weekend saying she “hates” to see families separated at the border. On Wednesday, a White House official said she “has been making her opinion known” to her husband that he needs to do all he can to keep migrant families together.

The mounting criticism mirrors the harsh spotlight on Ivanka Trump last summer for her silence after the deadly clash involving counterprotesters at a white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. At the time, the president pointedly refused to single out neo-Nazis and white supremacists, suggesting there was blame to be shared “on both sides.”

She also stayed quiet when her father unleashed a brutal attack on MSNBC host Mika Brzezinski, questioning her intelligence and saying she was “bleeding badly from a face-lift” in a December encounter. At the time, Brzezinski and her co-host, Joe Scarborough, called on Ivanka Trump to condemn the remarks.

Ivanka Trump was targeted recently by late-night comedian Samantha Bee over immigration policy, though Bee apologized for using a crude epithet to describe her.

Last year, Ivanka Trump did offer strong words against Roy Moore, the Republican candidate for Senate in Alabama, who was accused of sexual misconduct with teenage girls during the late 1970s, when he was in his 30s. She told The Associated Press at the time: “There’s a special place in hell for people who prey on children. I’ve yet to see a valid explanation and I have no reason to doubt the victims’ accounts.”

After her father took office, Ivanka Trump said she aimed to “be a force for good and to make a positive impact” in her White House role. Throughout her time in the administration, she has sought to position herself above the fray, arguing in interviews that her focus is on policy and that she is more effective working behind the scenes if she disagrees with her father.

While liberal critics have expressed frustration that she has not done more to temper her father’s conservative agenda, Ivanka Trump has made clear that she sees limitations to her role.

“I came here with specific areas I could add value,” she said last year in an AP interview. “In the areas I don’t agree, I state my opinion.”

She and her husband also got criticized by some in the West Wing for being absent during difficult moments; they were off on a ski vacation when the GOP’s health care plan collapsed last year.

The crisis at the border has upended the White House, even as the president has told confidants he thinks being tough on immigration will be a winning issue for Republicans in this fall’s midterm elections.

Lemire reported from New York.

Follow Lucey on Twitter at [http://twitter.com/@catherine\\_lucey](http://twitter.com/@catherine_lucey) and Lemire at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire>

## Study: Plastic will pile up in wake of China recycling ban

By PATRICK WHITTLE, Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — China’s decision to stop accepting plastic waste from other countries is causing plastic to pile up around the globe, and wealthy countries must find a way to slow the accumulation of one of the most ubiquitous materials on the planet, a group of scientists said.

The scientists sought to quantify the impact of the Chinese import ban on the worldwide trade in plastic waste, and found that other nations might need to find a home for more than 122 million tons (110 million metric tons) of plastic by 2030. The ban went into effect Dec. 31, 2017, and the stockpiling trend figures to worsen, the scientists said.

Wealthy countries such as the United States, Japan and Germany have long sent their plastic recyclables to China, and the country doesn’t want to be the world’s dumping ground for plastic anymore. The study found China has taken more than 116 million tons (105 million metric tons) of the material since 1992, the equivalent of the weight of more than 300 Empire State Buildings.

The change is forcing countries to rethink how they deal with plastic waste. They need to be more selec-

tive about what they choose to recycle, and more fastidious about reusing plastics, said Amy Brooks, first author on the study and a doctoral student in engineering at the University of Georgia. In the meantime, Brooks said, more plastic waste is likely to get incinerated or sent to landfills.

"This is a wake-up call. Historically, we've been depending on China to take in this recycled waste and now they are saying no," she said. "That waste has to be managed, and we have to manage it properly."

The study was published Wednesday in the journal *Science Advances*. Using United Nations data, it found that China has dwarfed all other plastics importers, accounting for about 45 percent of the world's plastic waste since 1992. The ban is part of a larger crackdown on foreign garbage, which is viewed as a threat to health and environment.

Some countries that have seen an increase in plastic waste imports since China's ban — such as Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia — are already looking to enforce bans of their own because they are quickly becoming overburdened, Brooks said.

The study illustrates that plastic, which has a wide array of uses and formulations, is more difficult to recycle than other materials, such as glass and aluminum, said Sherri Mason, who was not involved in the study and is the chair of the geology and environmental sciences department at the State University of New York at Fredonia.

Many consumers attempt to recycle plastic products that can't ultimately be recycled, Mason said. One solution could be to simplify the variety of plastics used to make products, she said.

"We have to confront this material and our use of it, because so much of it is single use disposable plastic and this is a material that doesn't go away," Mason said. "It doesn't return to the planet the way other materials do."

The plastics import ban has attracted the attention of the U.S. recycling industry. The National Recycling Coalition said in a statement in mid-May that it must "fundamentally shift how we speak to the public" and "how we collect and process" recyclables.

"We need to look at new uses for these materials," said Marjorie Griek, the coalition's executive director. "And how do you get manufacturers to design a product that is more easily recyclable."

## AP Explains: Where do kids split from parents go?

By **ASTRID GALVAN, Associated Press**

PHOENIX (AP) — The Trump administration has not figured out a way to reunite families separated by a new zero-tolerance policy enacted this year that's resulted in more than 2,000 kids being taken from their parents.

That's raised concerns about what happens to them and how long it will take to reunite families.

Critics of the administration's zero-tolerance policy say that it's not only cruel to split families up, but also unjust to not have a mechanism in place to get them back together.

The children are largely from Central American countries, where violence and gangs have forced many to flee. Mexican families, although smaller in numbers, are usually immediately deported because their country is so close to the U.S.

Here are the different scenarios children and families face when they try to enter the U.S. and become separated:

### SEPARATION FROM PARENTS WHO CROSS THE BORDER ILLEGALLY

In the past, families with children caught after crossing the border illegally were allowed to stay together while their immigration cases played out in court. The administration's new policy calls for all adults to be detained pending prosecution with their children separated from them.

That means kids are taken and put into the custody of the Border Patrol for up to 72 hours, and then released into the custody of the Office of Refugee Resettlement, a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Hundreds of immigrant children have been flown to shelters in cities far from where their parents are held. The government has about 100 shelters in 14 states, according to the Department of Homeland Security.

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Officials say parents can use a hotline to find their kids, but immigrant advocates say not all people who are being detained are able to make the calls or get through from a foreign country if they've been deported.

Immigrant parents are much more likely to find their child or children if they have attorneys or advocates to track them down.

## SEEKING ASYLUM AT PORT OF ENTRY BORDER CROSSINGS

The Trump administration says parents who present themselves at official ports of entry along the international border and seek asylum won't be prosecuted and won't be separated from their kids.

But immigrant advocates say that's misleading because customs officers aren't allowing many to enter the U.S. so they can legally claim asylum, forcing them to try to find other ways in.

Attorneys and advocates say that some children whose parents seek asylum are in fact being separated at ports of entry and that they're difficult to track down. The government says that only happens when immigrants cannot prove family relationship or when there is evidence children have been abused.

## CHILDREN WHO CROSS THE BORDER ILLEGALLY WITHOUT PARENTS

Border authorities have been dealing with children who come to the U.S. without a parent for many years. The last major surge of unaccompanied children was in 2014, when so many came at one time that the Border Patrol had to open temporary holding facilities and place kids in large cages without beds or blankets, much like it's doing today with kids who are split from their parents.

Unaccompanied minors can be held by the Border Patrol for up to 72 hours and are then transferred to the Office of Refugee Resettlement. The children are taken to shelters around the country while case workers try to find them suitable sponsors. Sponsors must be a parent, legal guardian or immediate relative. The government also checks for potential sponsors' legal immigration status, which advocates say has deterred relatives of children from trying to take them.

Children are placed in foster homes when suitable sponsors are not found.

## RELEASE OF CHILDREN TO THEIR PARENTS

After children are released to a parent or relative, guardians must make sure the kids attend immigration court hearings and check in regularly with Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Their cases usually take years to resolve because of the big backlog in immigration courts, where judges decide whether the children can stay in the U.S. or must be returned to their home countries.

Immigrants under age 21 who were abused, abandoned or neglected when they were minors may be eligible for special classification that could qualify them for legal permanent residency.

See AP's complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration's policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

## Too hot to handle: Politics of warming part of culture wars

By **SETH BORENSTEIN** and **STEVE PEOPLES**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — When it comes to global warming, America's political climate may have changed more than the Earth's over the past three decades.

NASA scientist James Hansen put the world on notice about global warming on June 23, 1988. Looking back, he says: "I was sufficiently idealistic that I thought we would have a sensible bipartisan approach to the problem."

After all, Republicans and Democrats had worked together on an international agreement to fix the hole in the Earth's ozone layer. Republicans would later represent eight of the 20 co-sponsors on the first major bills to fight climate change in the 1980s and 1990s.

Yet 30 years after Hansen's initial warning, the issue is as much at the core of the nation's political divide as abortion, same-sex marriage and immigration.

Most Republican candidates today cannot speak the words "climate change" — let alone support policies to address it — without risking a fierce political backlash from their base, which increasingly believes that man-made climate change is a liberal fantasy. There's virtually no space left for a climate change advocate

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in the Republican Party of 2018.

Just ask Bob Inglis.

The former South Carolina Republican lost his congressional primary in 2010 after speaking out about global warming following a trip to the Arctic. He has since dedicated his professional life to convincing conservatives that climate change must be taken seriously.

"We hit a low in the tea party," Inglis said. "That turned out to be a false bottom because we went lower with the election of Donald Trump."

President Trump, who once tweeted that climate change was a "Chinese hoax," pulled the United States out of the Paris climate agreement — the only country to do so — and his Cabinet has aggressively dismantled and dismissed government efforts to fight global warming.

"As the climate is getting worse, the politics is getting worse," said Paul Higgins, public policy director of the American Meteorological Society.

It wasn't always this way.

"A lot of Republicans were involved" in fighting climate change after Hansen testified, said former Democratic Sen. Tim Wirth of Colorado. In 1988, two months after Hansen's warning, George H.W. Bush vowed to fight the greenhouse effect. Even 20 years later, Republicans adopted a party platform at the 2008 convention that openly addressed the threat of climate change.

At the same time, the party's rhetoric also began to shift dramatically, adopting former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin's "Drill baby drill" catch phrase. Its embrace of fossil fuels, and rejection of climate change as a serious threat, only intensified with the 2010 rise of the tea party.

It is "a core element of Republican identity to reject climate science," said Jerry Taylor, who for more than two decades downplayed global warming as an energy and environment analyst for the libertarian Cato Institute. Taylor now actively tries to fight climate change as founder of the Niskanen Center, a moderate think tank with libertarian principles.

The political shifts haven't been limited to Republicans. Many liberal Democrats have moved sharply to the left on environmental issues, ignoring nuclear energy as an option to fight climate change and thinking solar and wind can do it all, when it can't, Hansen said.

It's not just politicians.

The 12 states with the highest per person emissions of the main heat-trapping gas, carbon dioxide, voted for Trump in 2016. The 10 states with the lowest per person carbon emissions voted for Hillary Clinton.

Polling suggests that global warming is now even more polarizing than abortion, said pollster and Yale Center for Climate Communication Director Anthony Leiserowitz.

Nearly 7 in 10 Republicans — or 69 percent — think the seriousness of global warming is generally exaggerated, Gallup found in March. Among Democrats, just 4 percent — not even 1 out of 10 — believe the issue is exaggerated.

Academics, politicians and climate scientists say politics — and an industry campaign to shed doubt on the science — led to the public divide.

Fossil fuel industry interests seeing a threat from a 1997 international treaty that required U.S. carbon emission cuts spent a lot of money to "promote a message of confusion, a message of doubt," said Harvard science historian Naomi Oreskes, who wrote the book "Merchants of Doubt" about this and other industry efforts.

"Their goal was to prevent the United States from acting on climate," Oreskes said. "They were much more effective getting across their message of doubt than scientists were effective in getting across their message of science."

The fossil fuel industry "took the tobacco playbook and worked to stop climate change action by denying the science," said Northeastern University policy and communication professor Matthew Nisbet.

"They were brutal," Sen. Wirth said.

First-term Republican Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania struggles to understand his party's environmental priorities.

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One of the few GOP members of the Climate Solutions Caucus with a passing grade from environmental activists, Fitzpatrick is quick to call out his Republican colleagues for “not putting their money where their mouth is” on environmental issues.

“It’s pretty obvious to me that climate change is caused in large part due to human activity,” Fitzpatrick said. “I think we all need to acknowledge that basic fact.”

The newly formed American Conservation Coalition is working across two dozen states to convince Republicans to return to their pro-environment roots. Yet the group’s website doesn’t mention the words “climate change” because it would alienate conservatives, said the organization’s Benjamin Backer.

“I hope that in the next decade, or hopefully a lot sooner, we can have a discussion about climate change where it’s not so partisan,” Backer said.

Peoples reported from New York.

Follow Seth Borenstein on Twitter at @borenbears . His work can be found here . Follow Steve Peoples on Twitter at @sppeoples . His work can be found here .

The Associated Press Health & Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute’s Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

## The Mouse chases the Fox: Disney makes \$71B counteroffer

By MAE ANDERSON, AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The mouse is chasing the fox.

Disney is offering more than \$71 billion for Fox’s entertainment businesses in a counterbid to Comcast’s nearly \$66 billion offer .

The battle for Twenty-First Century Fox reflects a new imperative among entertainment and telecommunications firms. They are amassing ever more programming to better compete with technology companies such as Amazon and Netflix for viewers’ attention — and dollars. The bidding war comes after AT&T bought Time Warner for \$81 billion.

Disney’s move had been expected since Comcast made its bid last week. Disney said it’s raising its offer because Fox’s value increased due to “tax reform and operating improvements.”

“After six months of integration planning we’re even more enthusiastic and confident in the strategic fit,” CEO Bob Iger said in a statement.

If Disney prevails, “Avatar” and other movies from Fox’s studios would help beef up Disney’s upcoming streaming service. Disney, which already owns Marvel, would get back the characters previously licensed to Fox, setting the stage for X-Men and the Avengers to appear together. If Comcast wins, it would get a larger portfolio of cable channels including FX and National Geographic.

In a call with analysts, Iger said he believes Disney’s bid is superior to Comcast’s from a regulatory perspective. He said that six months of dealing with regulators both in the U.S. and internationally has given Disney a “meaningful head start.”

Comcast, based in Philadelphia, did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Fox previously rejected a bid from an unnamed company, widely believed to be Comcast, because of fears it would face regulatory objections. But a federal judge’s approval of AT&T’s bid for Time Warner signals that the government might have difficulties mounting antitrust challenges.

Just how high can the bidding war go? GBH Insights analyst Dan Ives said he thinks the “line in the sand” is \$75 billion to \$80 billion.

“Above \$80 billion would be a tough pill to swallow for Disney shareholders given the steep price,” he said. “That said, this poker game appears to be just getting started.”

Disney’s original all-stock offer in December was for \$28 per Fox share. That offer is now valued at \$52.6 billion based on the latest number of outstanding shares provided by Fox. Comcast countered last week



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with a \$35-per-share all-cash offer, valued at \$65.7 billion based on the same number of shares. Disney's new offer of \$38 per share, or \$71.3 billion, is half cash and half stock.

The deal would include Fox movie and TV studios, some cable networks and international assets, but not Fox News Channel or the Fox television network.

Fox CEO Rupert Murdoch said the company "firmly believes" that the combination with Disney "will create one of the greatest, most innovative companies in the world."

But the New York company said it is still weighing both offers and noted that Disney's new bid doesn't bar Fox from considering other offers.

Fox and Disney shareholders had been scheduled to vote on Disney's original bid July 10, but that meeting has been postponed.

In midday trading, shares of Fox rallied nearly 7 percent to \$47.21. Disney edged up 6 cents to \$106.15 while Comcast rose 10 cents to \$32.71.

AP Business Writer Michelle Chapman in Newark, New Jersey, contributed to this report.

## No clear plan yet on how to reunite parents with children

By **NOMAAN MERCHANT** and **COLLEEN LONG**, Associated Press

MCALLEN, Texas (AP) — Trump administration officials say they have no clear plan yet on how to reunite the thousands of children separated from their families at the border since the implementation of a zero-tolerance policy in which anyone caught entering the U.S. illegally is criminally prosecuted.

"This policy is relatively new," said Steven Wagner, an acting assistant secretary at the Department of Health and Human Services "We're still working through the experience of reunifying kids with their parents after adjudication."

Federal officials say there are some methods parents can use to try to find their children: hotlines to call and an email address for those seeking information. But advocates say it's not that simple.

In a courtroom near the Rio Grande, lawyer Efren Olivares and his team with the Texas Civil Rights Project frantically scribble down children's names, birthdates and other details from handcuffed men and women waiting for court to begin. There are sometimes 80 of them in the same hearing.

The Texas Civil Rights Project works to document the separations in the hopes of helping them reunite with the children.

They have one hour to collect as much information as they can before the hearing begins. The immigrants plead guilty to illegally entering the U.S., and they are typically sent either to jail or directly to an immigration detention center. At this point, lawyers with the civil rights group often lose access to the detainees.

"If we don't get that information, then there's no way of knowing that child was separated," Olivares said. "No one else but the government will know that the separation happened if we don't document it there."

Olivares has documented more than 300 cases of adults who have been separated from a child. Most are parents, but some are older siblings, aunts, uncles or grandparents. Some are illiterate and don't know how to spell the children's names.

More than 2,000 minors have been separated from their families since early May. The children are put into the custody of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services with the aim of keeping them as close to their parents as possible and reuniting the family after the case goes through the courts, said Wagner.

But it's not clear that's working.

According to Olivares, the agency is generally "very willing to help," often helping to find a child even if there's a misspelling in the group's records. But if a child has been transferred out of a government shelter — including if the child has been deported — agency representatives won't give any information.

"Sometimes the parent gives us contact information for a relative," Olivares said. "If they have the phone number right and the phone number is working ... we call that number and sometimes we're able to locate that relative and ask them what they know."

In May, the Department of Justice adopted the zero-tolerance policy in which anyone caught entering

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the U.S. illegally is criminally prosecuted. Children can't be jailed with their parents. Instead, after the adult is charged, children are held briefly by Homeland Security officials before being transferred to Health and Human Services, which operates more than 100 shelters for minors in 17 states.

The department has set up new facilities to manage the influx of children, and Wagner said they were prepared to expand as more children come into custody.

The children are classified as unaccompanied minors, a legal term generally used for children who cross the border alone and have a possible sponsor in the U.S. willing to care for them. Most of the more than 10,000 children in shelters under HHS care came to the U.S. alone and are waiting to be placed with family members living in the U.S.

But these children are different — they arrived with their families.

"They should just give the kids back to their parents. This isn't difficult," said Lee Gelernt of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Gelernt represents a Brazilian asylum seeker in a closely watched lawsuit that seeks a nationwide halt to family separation. The woman, identified as Mrs. C in court documents, was split from her son for nearly a year after entering the country illegally in August near Santa Teresa, New Mexico.

On Tuesday, Olivares' team had seven people left to interview with five minutes left. They took down just the names, dates of birth, and countries of origin of the children.

"One woman (said), 'What about me, what about me?'" Olivares said a few hours later. "She wanted to give us information because she realized what we were trying to do."

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Associated Press writer Elliot Spagat contributed to this report.

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See AP's complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration's policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

## Kim leaves China as S. Korea urges 'concrete' plan on nukes

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — South Korea urged North Korea on Wednesday to present a plan with concrete steps toward denuclearization, raising the pressure on its leader Kim Jong Un as he met with Chinese President Xi Jinping in a visit designed to convey the countries' growing closeness.

Kim and Xi held a second day of talks at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, whose grounds China's official Xinhua News Agency described in unusually lyrical terms as being full of "verdant greenery and splendid flowers," adding to what the propaganda outlet said was the "close and friendly atmosphere" of the talks.

The pomp and circumstance looked geared toward showing off the major improvement in relations between the communist neighbors, along with China's important role in keeping North Korea on track. But it cast no new light on the main question that hangs over the previously reclusive North Korean leader's surge in diplomatic activity in recent months: What next steps, if any, will Kim take to dismantle his country's nuclear program?

At his summit with U.S. President Donald Trump last week in Singapore, Kim pledged to work toward denuclearization in exchange for U.S. security guarantees. The U.S. and South Korea also suspended a major joint military exercise that was planned for August in what was seen as a major victory for North Korea and its chief allies, China and Russia.

Chinese state media quoted Xi as hailing the warming friendship with Kim but included no mention of any specific discussions on making progress on the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. Xi said China is pleased that "the momentum for dialogue and easing of situation on the Korean Peninsula has been effectively strengthened," according to Xinhua.

In Seoul, South Korean President Moon Jae-in urged North Korea to present actionable plans on how it will scrap its nuclear program, and for the United States to swiftly take unspecified corresponding measures.

"It's necessary for North Korea to present far more concrete denuclearization plans, and I think it's neces-

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sary for the United States to swiftly reciprocate by coming up with comprehensive measures," Moon said. Moon's office said he made the remarks to Russian media ahead of his trip to Moscow later this week.

Moon, who has met with Kim twice in recent months, said the North Korean leader is willing to give up his nuclear program and focus on economic development if he's provided with a reliable security guarantee. Moon described Kim as "forthright," "careful" and "polite."

China backs the North's call for a "phased and synchronous" approach to denuclearization, as opposed to Washington's demand for an instant, total and irreversible end to the North's nuclear programs.

Accompanied by an elaborate escort of motorcycles and black sedans, Kim left for Pyongyang later in the day, ending his third visit to China this year. State television showed Kim visiting an agricultural technology park and rail traffic control center in Beijing, accompanied by Beijing's top official, Cai Qi.

Kim's motorcade had earlier been seen leaving the North Korean Embassy on Wednesday afternoon as police closed off major roads and intersections in central Beijing. Gawking pedestrians watched the passing motorcade that included Kim's limousine — a black Mercedes-Benz Maybach with gold emblems on the rear doors.

A report by North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency said Kim told Xi at a welcoming banquet on Tuesday that North Korea-China ties are developing into "unprecedentedly special relations."

China has touted the prospects of more trade and investment if North Korea makes progress in talks on abandoning its nuclear weapons and long-range missile programs.

That could allow the lifting of U.N. Security Council economic sanctions that have hamstrung North Korea's foreign trade, although the U.S. insists those measures can only be eased after the North shows it has ended its nuclear programs. The U.S. says China is in agreement on that point, although Chinese officials say sanctions should not be an end in themselves.

Kim was expected to have sought China's help with getting relief from the sanctions during his visit. Xinhua's report did not mention sanctions, but quoted Kim as saying that the two countries "are as close and friendly as family, and help each other."

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Associated Press journalists Sam McNeil and Gerry Shih in Beijing and Hyung-jin Kim and Yong Jun Chang in Seoul, South Korea, contributed to this report.

## US leaving UN's Human Rights Council, cites anti-Israel bias

By **MATTHEW LEE** and **JOSH LEDERMAN**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is leaving the United Nations' Human Rights Council, which Ambassador Nikki Haley called "an organization that is not worthy of its name." It's the latest withdrawal by the Trump administration from an international institution.

Haley said Tuesday the U.S. had given the human rights body "opportunity after opportunity" to make changes. She lambasted the council for "its chronic bias against Israel" and lamented the fact that its membership includes accused human rights abusers such as China, Cuba, Venezuela and Congo.

"We take this step because our commitment does not allow us to remain a part of a hypocritical and self-serving organization that makes a mockery of human rights," Haley said.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, appearing alongside Haley at the State Department, said there was no doubt that the council once had a "noble vision."

But today we need to be honest," Pompeo said. "The Human Rights Council is a poor defender of human rights."

The announcement came just a day after the U.N. human rights chief, Zeid Ra'ad al-Husseini, denounced the Trump administration for separating migrant children from their parents. But Haley cited longstanding U.S. complaints that the 47-member council is biased against Israel. She had been threatening the pull-out since last year unless the council made changes advocated by the U.S.

"Regrettably, it is now clear that our call for reform was not heeded," Haley said.

Still, she suggested the decision need not be permanent, adding that if the council did adopt reforms,

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"we would be happy to rejoin it." She said the withdrawal notwithstanding, the U.S. would continue to defend human rights at the United Nations.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office called the U.S. decision "courageous," calling it "an unequivocal statement that enough is enough."

The move extends a broader Trump administration pattern of stepping back from international agreements and forums under the president's "America First" policy. Although numerous officials have said repeatedly that "America First does not mean America Alone," the administration has retreated from multiple multilateral accords and consensuses since it took office.

Since January 2017, it has announced its withdrawal from the Paris climate accord, left the U.N. educational and cultural organization and pulled out of the Iran nuclear deal. Other contentious moves have included slapping tariffs on steel and aluminum against key trading partners, recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital and moving the U.S. Embassy there from Tel Aviv.

Opposition to the decision from human rights advocates was swift. A group of 12 organizations including Save the Children, Freedom House and the United Nations Association-USA said there were "legitimate concerns" about the council's shortcomings but that none of them warranted a U.S. exit.

"This decision is counterproductive to American national security and foreign policy interests and will make it more difficult to advance human rights priorities and aid victims of abuse around the world," the organizations said in a joint statement.

Added Kenneth Roth, the executive director of Human Rights Watch: "All Trump seems to care about is defending Israel."

On Twitter, al-Hussein, the U.N. human rights chief, said it was "Disappointing, if not really surprising, news. Given the state of #HumanRights in today's world, the US should be stepping up, not stepping back."

And the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank close to the Trump administration, defended the move, calling the council "notably incurious about the human rights situations in some of the world's most oppressive countries." Brett Schaefer, a senior fellow, pointed out that Trump could have withdrawn immediately after taking office but instead gave the council 18 months to make changes.

Haley has been the driving force behind withdrawing from the human rights body, unprecedented in the 12-year history of the council. No country has ever dropped out voluntarily. Libya was kicked out seven years ago.

The move could reinforce the perception that the Trump administration is seeking to advance Israel's agenda on the world stage, just as it prepares to unveil its long-awaited Israeli-Palestinian peace plan despite Palestinian outrage over the embassy relocation. Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, Jared Kushner, is visiting the Middle East this week as the White House works to lay the groundwork for unveiling the plan.

Israel is the only country in the world whose rights record comes up for discussion at every council session, under "Item 7" on the agenda. Item 7 on "Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories" has been part of the council's regular business almost as long as it has existed.

The United States' current term on the council ends next year. Although the U.S. could have remained a non-voting observer on the council, a U.S. official said it was a "complete withdrawal" and that the United States was resigning its seat "effective immediately." The official wasn't authorized to comment publicly and insisted on anonymity.

That means the council will be left without one of its traditional defenders of human rights. In recent months, the United States has participated in attempts to pinpoint rights violations in places like South Sudan, Congo and Cambodia.

The U.S. pullout was bound to have ripple effects for at least two countries at the council: China and Israel. The U.S., as at other U.N. organizations, is Israel's biggest defender. At the rights council, the United States has recently been the most unabashed critic of rights abuses in China — whose growing economic and diplomatic clout has chastened some other would-be critics, rights advocates say.

The Chinese government expressed regret over Washington's decision to pull out of the council. In Beijing, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesman said the council is "an important platform" for countries to

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discuss human rights and that Beijing has been committed to supporting the group's work.

But the Chinese government is often accused by Western countries of human rights violations and by rights groups of seeking to undermine the mechanisms of the U.N. human rights council. In March, a Chinese diplomat repeatedly interrupted a speech by a prominent Chinese dissident to block him from addressing the U.N. Human Rights Council, a failed attempt that bared China's sensitivity on human rights.

The foreign ministry spokesman, Geng Shuang, dismissed the U.S. criticism that the council is problematic because it includes China and other authoritarian governments, saying that claim is "a total disregard of facts." "Everyone without bias can see clearly China's great achievement and progress in terms of human rights," Geng said.

There are 47 countries in the Human Rights Council, elected by the U.N.'s General Assembly with a specific number of seats allocated for each region of the globe. Members serve for three-year terms and can serve only two terms in a row.

The United States has opted to stay out of the Human Rights Council before: The George W. Bush administration opted against seeking membership when the council was created in 2006. The U.S. joined the body only in 2009 under President Barack Obama.

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Associated Press writers Jamey Keaten in Geneva and Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations contributed.

## Fans grieve as detectives search for XXXTentacion's killers

By **TERRY SPENCER** and **CURT ANDERSON**, Associated Press

DEERFIELD BEACH, Fla. (AP) — For hours, the fans came in a steady stream to mourn and pay their respects at the spot where rapper XXXTentacion was gunned down, some leaving behind expressions of sympathy along a fence and on the sidewalk.

No arrests have been announced in the shooting of the 20-year-old rapper, who Broward County sheriff's officials say was ambushed by two suspects as he left an upscale motor sports dealership Monday afternoon in his electric BMW. His attorney, David Bogenschutz, said investigators told him the 20-year-old rapper, who pronounced his stage name "Ex Ex Ex ten-ta-see-YAWN," had visited a bank shortly before the shooting and possibly withdrew cash to buy a motorcycle.

That brought a parade of mourners Tuesday to the spot behind Riva Motorsports where XXXTentacion was gunned down, not far from where he grew up in Lauderhill. They placed candles, flowers and teddy bears on the sidewalk near where the rapper known by his fans simply as "X" was shot. They decorated 100 yards (91 meters) of sidewalk with chalk art including messages of sympathy and loss such as "Feel for you XXX" and "4evr Young."

Myles O'Hara, 17, and Aaron Gavin, 20, sat on the curb, solemnly staring at the ground, mostly ignoring the people who moved past. They said they admired XXXTentacion because he was a local kid who rose from rough circumstances and was making a positive contribution.

"He had some legal allegations before, but the last year he had only been a positive influence on people's lives, making hit Billboard songs," O'Hara said. "He has been a kind person. You could look at his face and smile and he was just a normal kid like us ... His style is almost hard to explain. He had an angry tone. He meant everything he said, even the most simplistic words. It just came off his tongue like nothing. He was speaking his mind."

Gavin said unlike other rappers whose songs emphasize buying expensive merchandise, XXXTentacion rapped about his emotions.

"X talked about how he felt instead of materialistic things like owning this car, this car, this house, this house," Gavin said.

Brandon Lang, a 29-year-old magazine owner, said XXXTentacion may have had an angry persona in his performance, but in reality he "did good things," pointing out that he had come home to perform in an upcoming charity show.

"He had all these mistakes that could have wound up defining him but he didn't let that happen," Lang

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said. "That is why he is connecting to all these kids because these kids are going through a really sad time, a sad world. He taught them how to cope."

In Los Angeles, hundreds of fans turned Melrose Avenue into a mosh pit in celebration and mourning of XXXTentacion late Tuesday night.

In an impromptu memorial outside a Hollywood bike shop, fans filling the street and dancing on rooftops shouted along with his songs beneath a cloud of pot smoke.

A big painted sign in the shop window read RIP XXX followed by hearts.

Police closed off the street and let the party grow to nearly 500 people before calling for the crowd to clear out.

The entertainer, who sported dreadlocks and facial tattoos, was a rising star. He notched a No. 1 album in March with his sophomore effort "?" and had a top 10 hit with "Sad!" but was facing trial on charges that he beat up his pregnant girlfriend.

His brief career was marked by controversy. In 2016, he was arrested on charges including home invasion for a 2015 incident, and less than a month later was jailed on charges that he attacked his girlfriend, who was pregnant at the time. Later, he faced more charges including witness tampering.

In an interview this month with the Miami New Times, XXXTentacion described his upbringing, which included seeing his mother infrequently and being raised by friends, family and baby sitters. His mother bought him clothes, phones and other gifts. He said he used violence so she would engage with him.

In one video on social media, he said: "If worse things come to worse, I (expletive) die a tragic death or some (expletive), and I'm not able to see out my dreams, I at least want to know that the kids perceive my message and were able to make something of themselves."

He continued later: "I appreciate and love all of you and I believe in you all; do not let your depression make you, do not let your body define your soul, let your soul define your body. Your mind is limitless ... you are worth more than you can believe."

## Asian stocks mostly up despite underlying US-China tension

By NICOLA SHANNON, Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Asian stock markets mostly rose Thursday as concern fades over the trade tensions between the U.S. and China. Uncertainty remains, but the original tariff threats made earlier in the week were not followed by material action.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index rose 0.8 percent to 22,734.28, but South Korea's Kospi edged down by 0.2 percent to 2,360.25. Hong Kong's Hang Seng was nearly unchanged at 29,682.78 and the Shanghai Composite in mainland China increased 0.6 percent to 2,934.18. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 also climbed 1.2 percent to 6,247.00.

WALL STREET: The S&P 500 index rose 4.73 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,767.32. The Nasdaq composite gained 55.93 points, or 0.7 percent, to 7,781.51. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks added 13.54 points, or 0.8 percent, to 1,706.99, also closing at a record high. But the Dow industrials slipped 42.41 points, or 0.2 percent, to 24,657.80. The Dow has fallen for seven days in a row, its worst streak in more than a year, although the losses have been fairly small.

TRADE TENSIONS: Markets have been on edge with the U.S. and China announcing tariffs on each other's imports and threatening more. After a global drop on Tuesday, markets rebounded Wednesday and remain stable as the sting of President Trump's tariff threats fade.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "Uncertainties surrounding how things are moving on Trump's trade deal, not only with China but also with other economies, are still out there, said Margaret Yang Yan of CMC Markets. "We need to see constructive move in trade negotiations between Washington and Beijing so that market confidence can be restored."

ENERGY: U.S. crude gained 3 cents to \$65.74 a barrel and Brent crude, the international standard for oil prices, lost 13 cents to \$74.61 a barrel in London.

CURRENCY: The dollar rose to 110.56 yen from 110.02 yen late Wednesday. The euro dropped to \$1.1566

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from \$1.1572.

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## Today in History By The Associated Press

### Today in History

Today is Thursday, June 21, the 172nd day of 2018. There are 193 days left in the year. Summer begins at 6:07 a.m. Eastern time.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On June 21, 1788, the United States Constitution went into effect as New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify it.

### On this date:

In 1377, King Edward III died after ruling England for 50 years; he was succeeded by his grandson, Richard II.

In 1834, Cyrus Hall McCormick received a patent for his reaping machine.

In 1932, heavyweight Max Schmeling lost a title fight rematch in New York by decision to Jack Sharkey, prompting Schmeling's manager, Joe Jacobs, to exclaim: "We was robbed!"

In 1942, German forces led by Generaloberst (Colonel General) Erwin Rommel captured the Libyan city of Tobruk during World War II. (Rommel was promoted to the rank of Field Marshal; Tobruk was retaken by the Allies in November 1942.) An Imperial Japanese submarine fired shells at Fort Stevens on the Oregon coast, causing little damage.

In 1943, Army nurse Lt. Edith Greenwood became the first woman to receive the Soldier's Medal for showing heroism during a fire at a military hospital in Yuma, Arizona.

In 1948, the Republican national convention opened in Philadelphia. (The delegates ended up choosing Thomas E. Dewey to be their presidential nominee.)

In 1963, Cardinal Giovanni Battista Montini was chosen during a conclave of his fellow cardinals to succeed the late Pope John XXIII; the new pope took the name Paul VI.

In 1964, civil rights workers Michael H. Schwerner, Andrew Goodman and James E. Chaney were slain in Philadelphia, Mississippi; their bodies were found buried in an earthen dam six weeks later. (Forty-one years later on this date in 2005, Edgar Ray Killen, an 80-year-old former Ku Klux Klansman, was found guilty of manslaughter; he was sentenced to 60 years in prison, where he died in January 2018.)

In 1977, Menachem Begin (men-AH'-kem BAY'-gihn) of the Likud bloc became Israel's sixth prime minister.

In 1982, a jury in Washington, D.C. found John Hinckley Jr. not guilty by reason of insanity in the shootings of President Ronald Reagan and three other men.

In 1988, "Who Framed Roger Rabbit," a comedy fantasy starring Bob Hoskins that combined live action and legendary animated cartoon characters, premiered in New York.

In 1989, a sharply divided Supreme Court ruled that burning the American flag as a form of political protest was protected by the First Amendment.

Ten years ago: The ferry Princess of the Stars, carrying more than 800 people, capsized as Typhoon Fengshen battered the Philippines; only some four dozen people survived. Scott Kalitta died when his Funny Car burst into flames and crashed at the end of the track during the final round of qualifying for the Lucas Oil NHRA SuperNationals at Old Bridge Township Raceway Park in New Jersey.

Five years ago: A one-page criminal complaint unsealed in federal court accused former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden of espionage and theft of government property in the NSA surveillance case. President Barack Obama nominated James Comey, a top Bush-era Justice official, to head the FBI, succeeding Robert Mueller. The Food Network said it was dropping Paula Deen, barely an hour after the celebrity cook posted the first of two videotaped apologies online begging forgiveness from fans and

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critics troubled by her admission to having used racial slurs in the past.

One year ago: A man armed with a knife wounded a police officer at Flint International Airport in Michigan; a Tunisian-born Canadian resident has been charged in the attack. Edmonton's Connor McDavid won the Hart Trophy as the NHL's most valuable player at the league's postseason awards show in Las Vegas.

Today's Birthdays: Composer Lalo Schifrin is 86. Actor Bernie Kopell is 85. Actor Monte Markham is 83. Songwriter Don Black is 80. Actress Mariette Hartley is 78. Comedian Joe Flaherty is 77. Rock singer-musician Ray Davies (The Kinks) is 74. Actress Meredith Baxter is 71. Actor Michael Gross is 71. Rock musician Joe Molland (Badfinger) is 71. Rock musician Don Airey (Deep Purple) is 70. Rock musician Joey Kramer (Aerosmith) is 68. Rock musician Nils Lofgren is 67. Actress Robyn Douglass is 66. Actor Leigh McCloskey is 63. Cartoonist Berke Breathed is 61. Country singer Kathy Mattea is 59. Oregon Gov. Kate Brown is 58. Actor Marc Copage (koh-PAJ) is 56. Actress Sammi Davis is 54. Actor Doug Savant is 54. Country musician Porter Howell is 54. Actor Michael Dolan is 53. Writer-director Lana Wachowski is 53. Actress Carrie Preston is 51. Actress Paula Irvine is 50. Rapper/producer Pete Rock is 48. Country singer Allison Moorer is 46. Actress Juliette Lewis is 45. Actress Maggie Siff is 44. Musician Justin Cary is 43. Rock musician Mike Einziger (Incubus) is 42. Actor Chris Pratt is 39. Rock singer Brandon Flowers is 37. Britain's Prince William is 36. Actor Jussie Smollett is 36. Actor Benjamin Walker is 36. Actor Michael Malarkey is 35. Pop singer Kris Allen (TV: "American Idol") is 33. Pop/rock singer Lana Del Rey is 33. Actor Jascha Washington is 29. Country musician Chandler Baldwin (LANCO) is 26. Pop singer Rebecca Black is 21.

Thought for Today: "It is only on paper that one moralizes — just where one shouldn't." — Richard Le Gallienne, English poet and essayist (1866-1947).