



Very hot 100/78 • Tomorrow: Heavy t-storms 94/75 **B18**

Democracy Dies in Darkness

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025 • \$4

Getting warmed up



TOM BRENNER/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A woman jogs along the George Washington Memorial Parkway at sunrise in Arlington, Virginia, on Tuesday. The D.C. region reached 105 on the heat index during another day of this week's sweltering heat wave. **Story, B13**

The plan to keep vaccines flowing, despite RFK Jr.

BY LENA H. SUN
AND RACHEL ROUBEIN

Professional medical societies, pharmacists, state health officials and vaccine manufacturers, as well as a new advocacy group, are mobilizing behind the scenes to preserve access for vaccines as Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. works to upend the nation's decades-old vaccine system, according to public health experts.

The groups are discussing ordering vaccines directly from manufacturers and giving great-

Shake-up of advisory panel fuels an effort to create a parallel system

er weight to vaccine recommendations from medical associations. And they are asking insurance companies to continue covering shots based on professional societies' guidance instead of the federal government's, according to more than a dozen people familiar with the conver-

sations, including some who spoke on the condition of anonymity to share private discussions.

The moves come as Kennedy has replaced members of the key federal vaccine advisory panel to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that decides which vaccines are recommended for whom and whether they'll be covered by insurance. Kennedy fired the 17-member committee earlier this month and hand-picked eight new members, several of whom are vaccine critics. But the extraordinary effort to

create parallel systems of recommending, and perhaps even providing, vaccines faces major challenges, and some of the more ambitious goals have yet to be ironed out.

There is no guarantee that health plans will cover every shot without guidance from the CDC panel, known as the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, or ACIP. States, which determine school vaccine entry requirements, may make different decisions. And potential competing recommendations

SEE VACCINATIONS ON A6

U.S. report says nuclear program wasn't eliminated

IRAN'S EFFORTS WERE SET BACK BY MONTHS

Initial assessment contradicts claims by president

BY WARREN P. STROBEL,
JOHN HUDSON,
DAN LAMOTHE
AND KAREN DEYOUNG

An initial U.S. intelligence report assesses that airstrikes ordered by President Donald Trump against Iran's nuclear facilities set Tehran's program back by months but did not eliminate it, contradicting claims by Trump and his top aides about the mission's success, according to three people familiar with the report.

The classified report by the Defense Intelligence Agency is based on the Pentagon's early bomb damage assessment of the strikes on nuclear sites at Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan using earth-penetrating munitions carried by B-2 bombers and submarine-launched Tomahawk missiles.

It assesses that the strikes did not destroy the core components of Iran's nuclear program and probably set it back by several months, not years, one of the people said.

U.S. intelligence reports also indicate that Iran moved multiple batches of its highly enriched uranium out of the nuclear sites before the strikes occurred and that the uranium stockpiles were unaffected, said the person, who like others spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive intelligence matters.

A second person familiar with the initial DIA report — labeled "low confidence" in nature — said

SEE STRIKES ON A10

Trump's go-to approach: Hard punch, fast exit

BY JONATHAN EDWARDS
AND EMILY DAVIES

President Donald Trump was so pleased with the results of his decision to strike Iranian nuclear targets that he decided even before he'd left the Situation Room late Saturday that he was done using the U.S. military to help Israel.

He called Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that night to tell him it was time for a ceasefire.

"Our U.S. military did what we needed to do," Trump told Netanyahu, according to a senior White House official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive conversations, in a telephone call with several news outlets Tuesday.

Netanyahu was not happy, the official said. But he understood that the president wanted to see a sharp turn toward diplomacy, and he ultimately agreed to a ceasefire.

The strategy is one Trump has deployed on multiple occasions while seeking to reset America's place in the world: a hard punch and a fast exit. The approach embodies seemingly conflicting impulses that inform his view of what it means to put the United

SEE APPROACH ON A11

@PKCapitol: Congress has repeatedly failed to wield its war powers. **A2**

48 hours: Trump's rapid pivot from striking Iran to announcing a truce. **A9**

Ceasefire: The truce was fragile but holding, easing a region's fears. **A10**

NATO summit: Trump follows his recent pattern of making his visit brief. **A11**

Florida, eager to assist ICE, is building 'Alligator Alcatraz'

Environmentalists object as migrant detention site rises in the Everglades

BY LORI ROZSA

Florida started construction this week on a 1,000-bed detention facility for undocumented immigrants in the middle of the Everglades, despite objections from local officials and environmentalists who say it will harm protected wetlands that the state and federal government have spent billions to restore.

The plan will turn an infrequently used airstrip next to Big Cypress National Preserve, a portion of the Everglades, into a "temporary" detention facility, according to Florida Attorney General James Uthmeier (R).

"Alligator Alcatraz: the one-stop shop to carry out President Trump's mass deportation agenda," Uthmeier said in a campaign-style video touting the idea, which was posted on his social media accounts last week.

"People get out, there's not much waiting for them other than alligators and pythons. Nowhere to go, nowhere to hide," Uthmeier said in the video.

The Everglades detention center, which could open in a matter

of days, will be one of several new sites in Florida that will house up to 5,000 detainees, according to the Department of Homeland Security. Immigration and Customs Enforcement will also be able to transfer detainees to those facilities, according to DHS. The state can be reimbursed for the estimated \$450 million cost of the detention centers by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, according to DHS.

"Under President Trump's leadership, we are working at turbo speed on cost-effective and innovative ways to deliver on the American people's mandate for mass deportations of criminal illegal aliens," Homeland Security Secretary Kristi L. Noem said in a statement. "We will expand facilities and bed space in just days, thanks to our partnership with Florida."

Environmentalists immediately objected to the plan to set up what Uthmeier has described as "heavy-duty" tents to house undocumented immigrants in one of the country's most prized natural areas. More than 300 people traveled to the site Sunday afternoon to protest the facility, according to organizers.

"If you get a thousand-bed prison in there, whether it's supposedly temporary or not, you're going to have impacts related to human waste, sewage needs, water supply

SEE EVERGLADES ON A4



IAN TEH/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Investigators see a growing nexus between Chinese officials and overseas Chinese crime groups.

An alleged crime front with Beijing ties

Group furthers China's political aims even as it faces probes abroad

BY REBECCA TAN
AND PEI-LIN WU

In December, a man considered by U.S. officials to be among Asia's most powerful crime bosses gathered friends and allies in the Chinese casino city of Macao. Videos from the event show Wan Kuok Koi belting out Cantonese songs and

smiling broadly for the cameras, seemingly unbothered by investigations across multiple countries into his alleged role in large-scale scams, fraud and money laundering.

The 69-year-old Wan — widely known by his nickname, "Broken Tooth" — presided over the celebration as chairman of the World Hongmen

History and Culture Association, which describes itself as an ethnic Chinese fraternal organization devoted to promoting Chinese culture abroad. According to the U.S. Treasury, however, the association serves as a front for the 14K triad, one of China's largest organized crime groups with involvement

SEE CHINA ON A12

As tariffs kick in, toy industry plays its hand: Higher prices

BY ABHA BHATTARAI

Toy prices are rising at their fastest pace on record, the result of stiff new tariffs in an industry where 3 out of 4 items come from China — one of the first examples of just how quickly new trade policies are raising prices for Americans.

Although the full effect of President Donald Trump's new import taxes has yet to show up in economic data, analysts say the toy industry — which relies on a steady flow of relatively low-priced imports — offers clues into how higher costs could soon ripple through the economy.

The price of toys, games and playground equipment rose a record 2.2 percent between April and May, far outpacing the 0.1 percent inflation rate for all items that month, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Economists expect those increases to pick up in the coming months, as more manufacturers and retailers are forced to pass on higher costs.

"Prices have gone up, there's no doubt about it," said Isaac Larian, chief executive of MGA Entertainment, the toy giant behind L.O.L. Surprise, Little Tikes

SEE TOYS ON A4

IN THE NEWS

Harvard University negotiations The Trump administration is ramping up efforts to reach an end to its months-long battle as the university racks up legal victories. **A7**

Army Ranger sentenced Maj. Jonathan Batt was sentenced to 53 years in prison for two rapes and other sexual assaults. **B13**

THE NATION Newly signed laws in Texas hand victories to gun rights advocates. **A2**
The Trump administration plans to lift a rule that protects untouched national forests from roads and logging. **A4**

THE WORLD Israel's Bedouin rely on makeshift shelters when missiles fall. **A8**
In Europe, reality is setting in regarding U.S. unwillingness to provide fresh military aid to Ukraine. **A14**

THE ECONOMY New research showed the surprising ways food packaging is exposing us to microplastics. **A18**

STYLE Sean Combs's family has presented a striking, united front in the courtroom as he faces trial on sex-trafficking charges. **B1**

SPORTS The Wizards made a trade on the eve of the NBA draft, acquiring veterans CJ McCollum and Kelly Olynyk for guard Jordan Poole. **B7**
Nationals pitchers have an old-school trick they view as crucial to sustaining their success: Keeping a notebook. **B7**

THE REGION The District has sued four drivers — two each from Maryland and Virginia — over thousands of dollars in unpaid tickets. **B13**

FOOD How one food writer learned to stop stressing when having friends over for dinner. **E1**

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