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WEDNESDAY JULY 29 2026

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The Telegraph

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Powerful quake hits southern Japan, collapsing shopping mall

BY ANTON BRIDGE, SATOSHI SUGIYAMA AND KANTARO KOMIYA
Reuters

TOKYO
A 7.1-magnitude earthquake hit Japan's southern Kumamoto prefecture on Tuesday, knocking out power to thousands of

homes, rupturing roads and leaving some trapped and others presumed dead inside a partially collapsed shopping mall.

Speaking to reporters in Tokyo, Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi said authorities were still assessing the full extent of the damage in the area,

which was devastated by a deadly quake a decade ago.

"We have already been informed that people have been injured. Power outages and fires have occurred in some areas, and there has also been damage to roads and bridges and the collapse of buildings," Takaichi said.

"I ask everyone to take action to protect themselves, including evacuating to a safe location."

Around 300,000 people were instructed to go to evacuation centers, and hundreds of soldiers were deployed to help with rescue operations as aftershocks continued to rumble in the area,

on Japan's southern island of Kyushu.

Multiple people were unaccounted for after a chimney collapsed at a Nippon Paper Industries factory, broadcaster NHK reported.

'LIKE VOLCANIC ASH WAS FALLING'

Around 20 to 30 workers at the prefecture's largest shopping mall were unaccounted for after it was rocked by an explosion in the aftermath of the quake, NHK said.

SEE QUAKE, 2A



KATIE TUCKER The Telegraph

Island Bakery & Catering co-owner Gladys Propes opens in-house made ube ice cream to add to Halo-Halo at her bakery in Warner Robins. Propes, who grew up in The Philippines, owns Island Bakery & Catering with her husband, Jim, and offers Filipino and other Asian-inspired desserts and dishes.

Warner Robins bakery offers Filipino, Hawaiian treats

BY BECKY PURSER
bpurser@macon.com

WARNER ROBINS

What started out in a little corner of the Asian Bliss Market in Warner Robins is now a full-fledged bakery & catering business specializing in island and Asian inspired desserts.

Island Bakery & Catering opened June 1, the same day Jim and Gladys Propes sold the Asian Bliss Market after a seven-and-a-half-year run.

"That's the reason why, be-

cause we wanted to concentrate on the bakery and the catering side, because I have faith in what we do," Gladys Propes said. "It's a different type of baked goods that we sell."

The new bakery at 1806 Russell Parkway, Suite 1000, is next door to the Asian Bliss Market, with Propes erecting a wall to create the new space that was once part of the market.

Propes, a native of the Philippines, operates the bakery and catering business with manager Stephanie Pridgen-Ng, whose father is a native of Hawaii.

Pridgen-Ng lived in Hawaii during part of her father's military career.

Propes cooks and does some baking, Pridgen-Ng does a little of everything and employees help with cooking and baking.

'LOTS OF ALOHA MADE' AT ISLAND BAKERY & CATERING

Step inside the bakery into a world of authentic Filipino, Hawaiian and other international treats, snacks and more.

"Lots of aloha made here," said Propes, explaining the deeper meaning of "universal

love" behind the Hawaiian greeting.

"You put your passion in your food," Pridgen-Ng interjected. "You put your love in your food. You just wanna welcome everyone, and when they eat, when your customer eats, you want them to feel it."

FIND THE SOCIAL MEDIA SENSATION, UBE, AT ISLAND BAKERY & CATERING

Foodies who have been following the TikTok sensation, ube, a vibrant purple yam native to the Philippines with a vanilla-nutty taste, can enjoy it in desserts, drinks and breads made at Island Bakery & Catering.

"It's the number one flavor now," Pridgen-Ng said.

The yam's rich color, taste,

SEE BAKERY, 2A

Trump cites 'good' talks on Iran, reiterates threat

Reuters

WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump on Tuesday said there have been good talks with Iran even as he reiterated his threats to target Pickaxe Mountain as well as bridges and power plants if a deal is not made with Tehran.

In an interview with Fox News, Trump said he wanted to avoid targeting Iran's bridges and power plants if possible.

"It's a very, very delicate balance. So I think we have a very strong position right now. They know I'm going to do that if they don't make a deal." Trump told the "Fox and Friends" program. "We cannot have them break deals anymore."

"We have had some very good talks," Trump said of Iran.

Trump is due to meet with Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House later on Tuesday after the two countries launched strikes against Iran in February.

Trump was asked about reports that Netanyahu plans to talk to him about work happening at a site linked to Iran's nuclear program known as Pickaxe Mountain, a fortified facility buried deep underground near one of Tehran's main nuclear sites.

"I don't need Bibi to tell me that. Bibi's telling me that because he wants me to stay involved," the Republican president said, referring to Netanyahu.

"I know exactly what's going on at Pickaxe. It's not a big problem. We took out their nuclear sites, and we'll have to take out Pickaxe if we don't make a deal. We don't make a deal, we'll take it out very easily," Trump said.

100 days to midterms: Dems lead in polling, GOP in redistricting

BY EMILY R. CONDON, USA TODAY
USA TODAY Network via Reuters Connect

The battle to control Congress is heating up, as Sunday marked the final 100-day stretch to

Nov. 3, with Democrats leading in the polls but the outcome still in doubt after Republicans gained more from redistricting battles.

Republicans hold slim majorities in both the upper and lower

chambers of Congress, while polls suggest a possible victory by Democrats in November. A July 23 Emerson poll revealed an 11-percentage point lead by Democrats on the generic ballot, 53% compared with 42%

favoring Republicans, as President Donald Trump's approval rating lands at 39 percent.

However, other polls show a much closer race. In a Washington Post-Ipsos poll, also released Thursday, voters said they were more likely to vote Democrat if the U.S. House of Representatives race were held today. This was only by a three-percentage point lead of 48% Democrat vs. 45% for Republicans. This is a slightly closer margin than when

the same poll was conducted in April, when 49% of voters preferred Democrats and 44% selected Republicans.

The president's endorsement power in Republican primaries remains strong, with a recent sweep in Arizona on Tuesday. Trump's endorsed congressional nominees so far have won every primary, according to data from Ballotpedia reviewed by USA

SEE MIDTERMS, 3A



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