

TRUMP WATCH

President to speak at meeting of military brass

President Donald Trump will speak at a hastily called meeting of top military leaders on Tuesday, according to a White House official.

Hundreds of generals and admirals — senior commanders of the one-star rank or higher and their top advisers — have been summoned by Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth from all over the world to the Marine Corps base in Quantico, Virginia, with little notice.

Trump told NBC News in an interview Sunday that they would be “talking about how well we’re doing militarily, talking about being in great shape, talking about a lot of good, positive things.”

News about the meeting broke Thursday, and no reason was initially provided for the unusual gathering. The official said the president’s participation was not part of the original plan for the meeting but that he decided that he wanted to go.

Here are more headlines from the Trump administration on Sunday:

New ceasefire plan: On the eve of meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sunday on Fox News Sunday’s “The Sunday Briefing” that Israel is working on a new ceasefire plan with the White House, but details are still being sorted out. Netanyahu has come under heavy international pressure to end the war, especially during the ongoing offensive in Gaza City. The death toll in the Israel-Hamas war has topped 66,000 Palestinians, Gaza’s Health Ministry said Sunday. In Monday’s White House meeting, Trump is expected to share a new proposal for ending the conflict.

Redistricting measure: Missouri Gov. Mike Kehoe signed a new U.S. House map into law Sunday as part of Trump’s plan to try to hold on to a narrow Republican majority in next year’s congressional election. Kehoe’s signature puts the revised districts into state law with a goal of helping Republicans win one additional seat. But it may not be the final action. Opponents are pursuing a referendum petition that, if successful, would force a statewide vote on the new map. They also have brought several lawsuits against it.

Eric Adams out: New York City Mayor Eric Adams ended his struggling reelection campaign Sunday, an acknowledgment that he was no longer a credible contender after a year of political turmoil. In a video released on social media, Adams defended his tenure but did not endorse any of the remaining candidates in the race. —*From Associated Press and wire reports*

THE INTERVIEW DARYL DAVIS



Daryl Davis holds robes worn by former Grand Dragons from the KKK. In his left hand he holds the Baltimore City police uniform of a former officer who was a KKK leader in Maryland.

‘Klan Whisperer’

How one Maryland man helped 200 white supremacists change their views

By Ruben Castaneda

Daryl Davis, 67, started trying to talk white supremacists out of hating people like him when he was 10.

In his 2024 book, “The Klan Whisperer,” Davis, an R&B and blues pianist and guitarist, describes his encounters with Klan members and other racists during the past five decades. Over the years, more than 200 white supremacists have left their hate groups after meeting with him, according to Davis, who is Black and lives in Maryland.

As a young man, he played with a country and bluegrass band at the Silver Dollar



Daryl Davis, right, stands with Roger Kelly, a former Grand Dragon with the KKK. LLOYD FOX/STAFF PHOTOS

Lounge in Frederick. Many of the patrons were “rough country types,” and “racial violence could erupt if Black men were present,” Davis wrote in his book. “Over time, I was accepted by the

white patrons who didn’t perceive me as threatening. I became well-liked mostly because I was a musician.”

Eventually, Davis became

Turn to Klan, Page 2

As ghost guns decrease in Baltimore, so does juvenile firearm violence

By Mathew Schumer

Baltimore Police Department data reviewed by The Baltimore Sun shows legislation and regulations enacted two years ago to curb access to homemade, untraceable “ghost guns” have led to a sharp decline in the number of such guns on Baltimore’s streets, with the number of ghost gun recoveries down nearly 40% last year from 2022.

That’s contributing to an even steeper drop in the number of juvenile shooting victims in the city, which fell 55% during that same time period — to 33 from 74.

“The only market, really, for ghost guns is the criminal and juvenile market,” said Philip Bangle, an attorney with Brady United, a nonprofit focused on gun violence prevention and legislation.

While there is no readily available data on people who were arrested with ghost guns prior to 2023, police data shows that over 40% of people arrested in the state in possession of ghost guns between the beginning of 2023 and the middle of 2024 were under 21, the minimum age to purchase a handgun in Maryland. The youngest of those arrestees was 13.

Influx of ghost guns

Without regulation, ghost guns, which were often sold as 3D-printed kits without serial numbers, enabled purchasers to circumvent the background checks and licenses needed to buy a handgun in Maryland. This made the home-assembled weapons virtually untraceable by law enforcement.

Authorities said they first found ghost guns in Balti-

more in 2018, when Baltimore Police seized 12 of the firearms.

But over the next few years, ghost gun recoveries increased dramatically in the city, according to Baltimore police, accounting for more than 500 firearms seized in the city in 2022, mirroring national trends, as reported by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

The initial influx of ghost guns into American cities was unprecedented, said Daniel Webster, Bloomberg Professor of American Health at Johns Hopkins University.

“It’s hard for me to think of any (gun violence) indicator that has shown such a sharp shift in the slope in such a short amount of time,” Webster told The

Turn to Gun, Page 2

Party leaders bracing for shutdown

Standoff deepens ahead of meeting with the president

By Fatima Hussein and Mary Clare Jalonick
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer and Republican Majority Leader John Thune are digging in ahead of this week’s deadline to keep the government open, showing little evidence of budging even as both sides have agreed to meet Monday with President Donald Trump at the White House.

Republicans say Democrats need to help them pass a simple extension of government funding by Tuesday night to avoid a shutdown, and they will

not agree to negotiate until after it’s approved. Democrats say they want immediate talks on health care, and they are willing to shut down the government if they don’t get concessions.

A shutdown is “totally up to the Democrats,” Thune, R-S.D., said in an interview that aired Sunday on NBC’s “Meet the Press.”

“The ball is in their court,” he said. “There is a bill sitting at the desk in the Senate right now, we could pick it up today and pass it, that has been passed by the House that will be signed into law by the president to keep the government open.”

Schumer, D-N.Y., said on the same program that “it’s up to them” whether Republicans will negotiate when

Turn to Shutdown, Page 12



House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., left, and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., speak to reporters to criticize Republican efforts to cut health care spending, at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 11. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

AG probes into police actions lead to few prosecutions

By Todd Karpovich

Last week, the Independent Investigations Division within the Maryland Attorney General’s Office declined to pursue charges against Baltimore police in the May shooting death of a 26-year-old, armed man, as well as in another case involving Prince George’s County police, who shot and killed a 44-year-old man wielding a knife.

Also last week, an Anne Arundel County judge dismissed charges pursued by the IID against two officers involved in a high speed, fatal crash, because of flaws in their case. It was the first prosecution the IID had brought.

Four years after its estab-

lishment, the Independent Investigations Division under the Maryland attorney general’s office has recommended relatively few prosecutions against officers, raising questions from one lawmaker about its relevance.

“The fact that charges have not been filed in the overwhelming majority of cases demonstrates what many of us have long known: There is not widespread police misconduct in Maryland,” Del. Ryan Nawrocki, a Republican representing Baltimore County, said in an interview with The Baltimore Sun.

“My concern is that this law (creating the IID)

Turn to AG, Page 2

Nonprofit sues over Medicaid

A nonprofit group serving people with disabilities has filed lawsuit about Medicaid being terminated. **Page 4**

Left-wing violence on the rise

Political violence from left-wing extremists exceeded attacks from right-wing extremists, study finds. **Page 4**

House fire kills woman

Officials are investigating a three-alarm house fire in Allegany Co. that claimed the life of a woman. **Page 5**

READER POLL

Are state agencies losing public trust under Gov. Wes Moore?

Vote at baltimoresun.com/readerpoll or by scanning this QR code with your phone. *The Baltimore Sun reader poll is an unscientific survey in which website users volunteer their opinions on the subject of the poll.*



LAST WEEK’S RESULTS: Is it ever OK for elected officials or institutions to lie to the public?

No: 93%, 186 votes

Yes: 4%, 8 votes


Unsure: 3%, 6 votes

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