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Epstein files likely expansive, experts say

Documents may contain details on third parties

Aysha Bagchi
USA TODAY

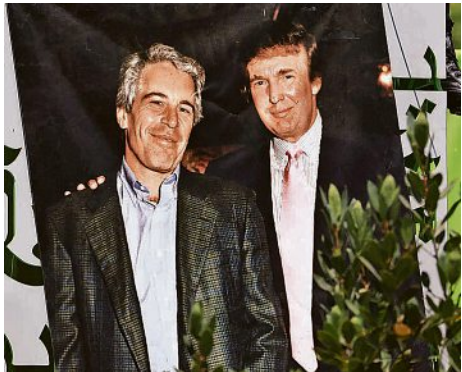
The White House has continued to resist calls from Congress and President Donald Trump's own base to release the FBI's investigative files on Jeffrey Epstein. Instead, it has asked courts to release grand jury testimony and has interviewed convicted Epstein co-conspirator Ghislaine Maxwell to try to satisfy demands for transparency.

So far, those alternatives haven't satisfied conservatives who believe – as Trump allies suggested for years – that Epstein was involved in a sex-trafficking conspiracy with many other rich and powerful people. Top Trump officials came into office promising a new level of transparency in the Epstein case, and many Trump supporters maintain the administration should release all of the files it has.

But what exactly is in those sought-after files? What would the public learn from their release? To answer those questions, USA TODAY talked to former FBI agents and prosecutors. They said the files are likely to be much more expansive than what's in the grand jury testimony, including records on witness interviews and investigative trails.

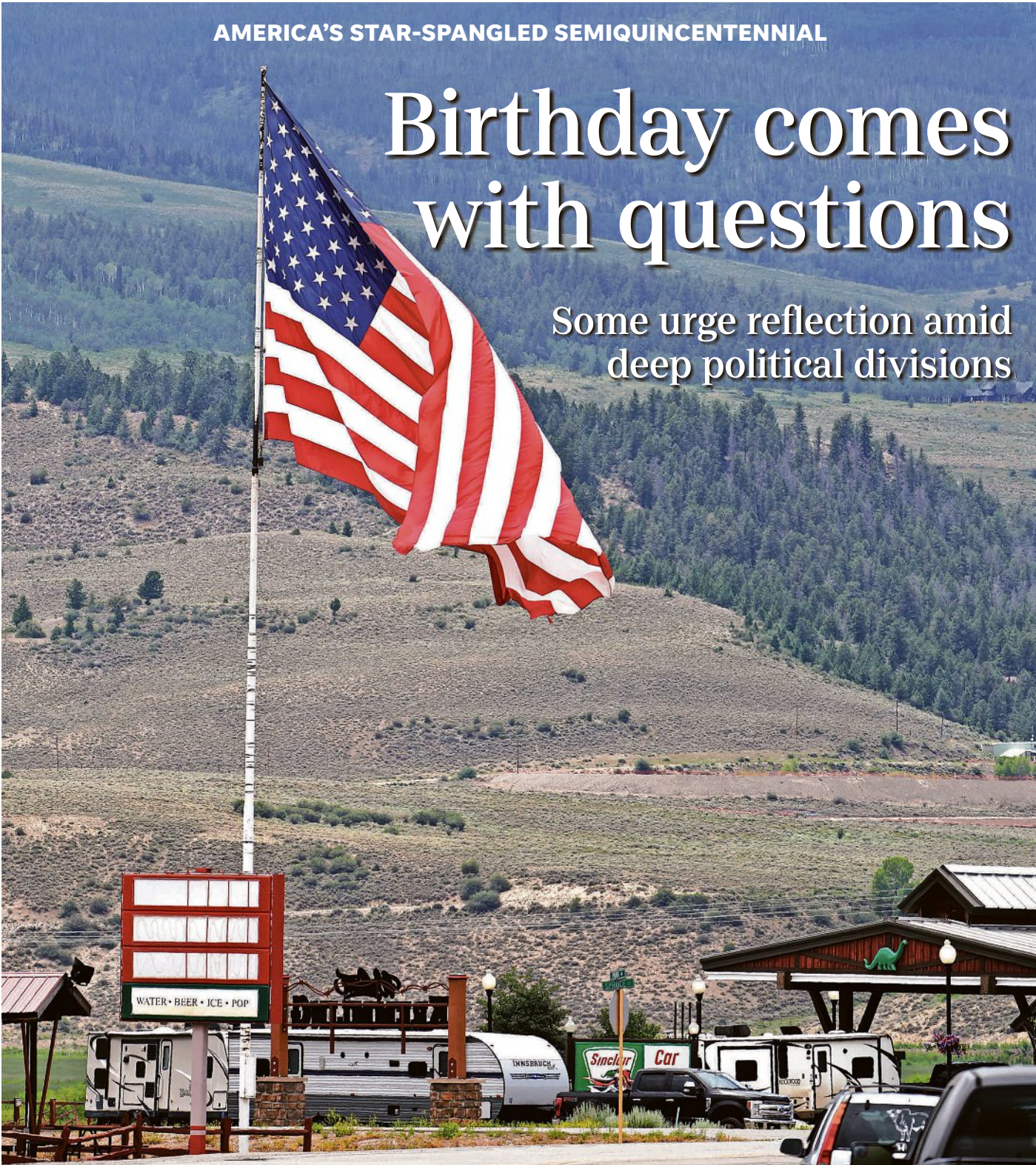
"It could be an enormous universe of original documents, interview notes, memos of analysis," said Mitchell Epner, a former New Jersey federal prosecutor who handled sex trafficking cases.

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Donald Trump and Jeffrey Epstein were friends for many years, living near each other and partying together as far back as the early 1990s.

DAVID SWANSON/REUTERS



A giant American flag waves over the mountain town of Kremmling, Colorado, on Independence Day weekend. Some scholars are urging Americans to spend time thinking deeply about the country's past and future ahead of its 250th anniversary. TREVOR HUGHES/USA TODAY

Trevor Hughes
USA TODAY

We who call the United States home are preparing to celebrate the country's star-spangled semiquincentennial next year – not just with flags and fireworks but also some serious conversations about history and what it means to be an American.

Among the celebrations: a massive fireworks display at Mount Rushmore on July 3, 2026, and what organizers hope will be the single-largest flag-waving celebration in history. And President Donald Trump on July 3 announced he's also plan-

ning to host an Ultimate Fighting Championship event at the White House as part of the festivities.

Trump formally kicked off the year-long celebration on July 3 with a boisterous rally at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. Trump campaigned on an "America first" platform, and he's long invoked symbols of patriotism during his rallies, including having Lee Greenwood sing his hit "God Bless the USA," and literally embracing Old Glory.

"This Fourth of July, our magnificent destiny is closer than ever before. We are one people, one family and one united American nation," he said to cheers. "We will fight, fight, fight. We will win,

win, win, because we are Americans and our hearts bleed red, white and blue."

Trump also reaffirmed his plans to hold a "Great American State Fair" with exhibits from all 50 states that will begin in Iowa, along with other national celebrations.

And while there will be parties and parades aplenty for the nation's 250th anniversary, some scholars are also urging Americans to spend time thinking deeply about the country's past and future. The anniversary comes at a time of deep partisan divisions, particularly

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6 more die of hunger in Gaza

Nidal Al-Mughrabi, Jaida Taha, Charlotte Greenfield and Ali Sawafta
REUTERS

CAIRO – Six more people died of starvation and malnutrition in the Gaza Strip over a 24-hour period, its health ministry said, underlining the enclave's humanitarian emergency as Egyptian state TV said two trucks were set to make a rare delivery of fuel on Aug. 3.

The new deaths raised the toll of those dying from what international humanitarian agencies say may be an unfolding famine to 175, including 93 chil-

dren, since the war began, the ministry said.

Egypt's state-affiliated Al Qahera News TV said two trucks carrying 107 tons of diesel were set to enter Gaza, months after Israel severely restricted aid access to the enclave before easing it somewhat as starvation began to spread. COGAT, the Israeli military agency that coordinates aid, said later in the day that four tankers of U.N. fuel had entered to help in operations of hospitals, bakeries, public kitchens and

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Palestinians carry bags Aug. 3 as they return from a food distribution point run by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation aid group, near the Netsarim corridor in the central Gaza Strip.

EYAD BABA/AFP
VIA GETTY IMAGES

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