



Far-right win leaves Germany’s Merz shaken

INSIDE, 4A

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‘Special parts of America’s history’

This trail through Pennsylvania turns 9/11 remembrance into a journey

Bethany Rodgers
USA TODAY NETWORK

TOP: The Lucas family rides into Hanover Junction on the York County Heritage Rail trail on July 29. A section of the trail from York to Hanover Junction is part of the 9/11 National Memorial Trail.

PAUL KUEHNEL/YORK DAILY RECORD

Bruce White and a group of cyclists flash past rain-spattered cotton fields, undeterred by the wet June weather as they pedal toward Reading on their monthlong trek around the 9/11 National Memorial Trail. • They’d been on the roughly 1,500-mile route for more than a week, setting out under a favorable blue sky that arced over the Pentagon Memorial. It’s harder to press forward on soggy days like these, with rain coursing down White’s nose and blurring the screen of the phone he uses for navigation.

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The Mansion House Bridge along the Delaware & Lehigh Trail in Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania.

MAX AUGUGLIARO/POCONO RECORD

Iran vows to respond to U.S. strikes

Threatens American energy companies’ facilities in the region

Nayera Abdallah
and Eman Abouhassira
REUTERS

DUBAI – Iran threatened on Sept. 7 to retaliate against any new U.S. attacks on its assets, warning that the energy production chain in the region was “sprawling, accessible and exposed” and that U.S. oil and gas companies there shared that exposure.

“Strike our assets and you get struck,” Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said after recent U.S. and Iranian strikes on shipping pushed oil prices up to six-week highs at one point on Sept. 7.

On Sept. 6, senior Iranian security official Mohsen Rezaei said Iran would announce plans for a new restricted zone in the Gulf in the coming days and that it would soon approve maps of a new shipping corridor through the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran has throttled traffic through the strait, a vital global oil and gas supply route, since the war with the United States began with U.S. and Israeli strikes on Feb. 28.

Rezaei said the new restricted zone would begin from where a U.S. naval blockade of Iran starts and extend into areas of the Gulf. Any ship entering the new zone would be added to an Iranian sanctions list, he said.

“We will only commit to the Strait of Hormuz being open when they [the Americans] stop the sabotage, threats and attacks on Iran,” Rezaei said.

Underlining Iran’s defiance, Ghalibaf issued a new threat to respond to any U.S. strikes, in what appeared to be a response to a warning by Secretary of War Pete Hegseth that Iran’s oil tanker fleet was “defenseless.”

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White House renews push for mail-in ballot limits

Tim Reid
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – The Trump administration on Sept. 6 renewed its appeal to the Supreme Court to allow a

plan that could limit mail-in ballots ahead of November’s congressional elections after a federal judge recently blocked those restrictions.

Lawyers for the Trump administration filed an emergency application to

the nation’s highest court to allow the U.S. Postal Service to implement a rule restricting mail-in voting, even as some states have already started sending out postal ballots ahead of the Nov. 3 mid-term elections.

On Sept. 4, Boston-based U.S. District Judge Indira Talwani extended a ban preventing the new rule from taking effect. The final decision on

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