

BATH
FITTER®

18 MONTHS 0% INTEREST* OR SAVE 10%

605-307-6981 | bath-fitter.com/18save

*Tub-to-shower conversions and fiberglass replacements typically require a two-day installation. *Lifetime warranty valid for as long as you own your home. *Offer ends 1/31/26. All offers apply to a complete Bath Fitter system only and must be presented and used at time of estimate. Minimum purchase required. Terms of promotional financing are 18 months of no interest from the date of installation and minimum deposit. Interest accrues from date of purchase but is waived if paid in full within 18 months. Monthly payments are required during the 18 months, and making only the required monthly payments will not pay off the amount financed. See representative for details. Qualified buyers only. May not be combined with other offers or applied to previous purchases. Valid only at select Bath Fitter locations. Offers and warranty subject to limitations. Fixtures and features may be different than pictured. Accessories pictured are not included. Some Plumbing work done by P.U.L.S.E. Plumbing, MD Licensed Plumber #17499, NJ Plumbing Lic. # 36B101065500, DE MPL #PL-0002303, MD Licensed Plumber #82842, IL MPL #058-120395, VA MPL #2710064024, IA MPL #25077, OH Plumbing Contractor's License #37445, SD MPL #CLS-MD-R0823-19-2078C, WV MPL #PL07514, MI MPL #8111651, MI CL #8111651, PA HIC #PA017017, NJ HIC #13VH03073000, WV HIC #WV053085, MHIC # 129436, VA HIC #2705155694, IA CR #C132306, IA CL #52609-CL, IL CL #055-043646, NE CR #52729-24, WV HIC #WV038808, MHIC # 129995, VA HIC #2705146537, DC HIC #420213000044. Each Franchise Independently Owned and Operated by Bath Saver, Inc, Iowa Bath Solutions, LLC, Ohio Bath Solutions, LLC, Mid Atlantic Bath Solutions, LLC.

Argus Leader

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2025 | ARGUSLEADER.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

‘Not one decent cell in his body’

Epstein trashed former friend Trump in emails

Josh Meyer
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – “Dirty.” “(Expletive) crazy.” “Borderline insane.” A Mafia don but with the “great dangerous power” of being America’s president and commander-in-chief.

That’s how the late Jeffrey Epstein described his former longtime friend and confidant Donald Trump, according to a

trove of the convicted sex offender’s texts and emails released Nov. 12 by the House Oversight Committee.

But perhaps the most intriguing thing Epstein said about Trump in the 20,000-plus pages of emails provided by his estate was this:

“I am the one able to take him down.” The White House and Trump himself tried to spin the document release – and a later one by Republicans – as being a giant nothingburger.

On Nov. 14, Trump said on social media he was asking the Department of Justice to investigate Democrats he says

“spent large portions of their life” with the disgraced financier: “Bill Clinton, Larry Summers, Reid Hoffman, J.P. Morgan, Chase, and many other people and institutions.”

At the same time, Trump railed against Republicans working with Democrats to force the full release of Epstein’s federal case files, and urged them to stop digging into his relationship with the disgraced financier.

“Some Weak Republicans have fallen into their clutches because they are soft and foolish. Epstein was a Democrat, and he is the Democrat’s problem, not the Re-

publican’s problem!” Trump wrote. “Ask Bill Clinton, Reid Hoffman, and Larry Summers about Epstein, they know all about him, don’t waste your time with Trump. I have a Country to run!”

A USA TODAY review of the newly released documents shows that Epstein, who’d had a falling out with Trump more than a decade earlier and was not believed to be close to Trump during his presidency, expressed significant concerns about Trump’s behavior and character.

See EMAILS, Page 4A

FEDERAL RURAL HEALTH FUND

The main campus of Monument Health in Rapid City, South Dakota, on a December day in 2022. Monument Health is one of three major health systems in South Dakota, where state officials have applied for \$1 billion from a new federal rural health fund. SETH TUPPER/SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

South Dakota applies for \$1B

Makenzie Huber
South Dakota Searchlight

If South Dakota is awarded the \$1 billion it’s seeking from a new federal rural health fund, half of that money will be used to modernize telehealth and data-sharing efforts.

All 50 states applied to the \$50 billion Rural Health Transformation Program. Congress included it in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, in response to concerns that the bill’s Medicaid cuts will hurt rural health providers. Medicaid is a federal-state program that provides health insurance for people with disabilities or low incomes.

According to KFF, federal Medicaid spending in rural areas in South Dakota over the next decade will decrease by a projected \$487 million, due largely to new work requirements in the federal law that will cause some people to lose coverage.

Half of the Rural Health Transformation Program — \$25 billion — will be distributed equally to states with approved applications, regardless of each state’s proportion of rural hospitals or population. That means South Dakota will receive at least \$500 million, if approved.

The remaining half will be allocated based on the number of rural residents and rural health facilities in a state, as well as the state’s spending plans and policies, among other factors. Applications will be

“The Rural Data Atlas will enable outcome tracking at the community level, allowing providers and health departments to identify gaps, target interventions and measure impact.”

Via proposal

approved by the end of the year.

A key component of South Dakota’s application is a \$500 million health infrastructure modernization proposal, which would include creation of a “South Dakota Health Data Atlas.” It would allow health care systems throughout the state to access health data in one “single, accessible platform.” The atlas would address telecommunications needs, equipment, emergency preparedness and cybersecurity concerns.

“The Rural Data Atlas will enable outcome tracking at the community level, allowing providers and health departments to identify gaps, target interventions and measure impact,” the proposal said.

See FUND, Page 5A

Snowplow naming contest returning

Chris Mueller
Sioux Falls Argus Leader
USA TODAY NETWORK

There’s Luke Icewalker and Darth Blader. Betty Whiteout and the Blizzard of Oz. And don’t forget Plowy and Salty.

Those are only a few of the previous winners of the South Dakota Department of Transportation’s annual – and pun-filled – snowplow naming contest, now in its sixth year. This winter’s contest opened Nov. 3 and entries can be submitted online until Dec. 12, with hundreds of submissions expected from across the state.

Once the entries are received, the department’s staff will vote for their favorites. In January, one officially named snowplow will be announced for each of the department’s 12 geographic areas in South Dakota. So far, 60 plows have been officially named through the contest, and all of them remain in service.

“While we cannot predict the winter weather, all of us can control how we prepare and respond,” South Dakota Transportation Secretary Joel Jundt said in a news release. “The snowplow naming contest helps us build awareness about SDDOT’s winter maintenance operations and the many resources available to the traveling public.”

In last winter’s contest, South Dakota’s transportation officials partnered with their counterparts in North Dakota for a bracket-style challenge featuring the top snowplow names from each state. South Dakota’s Thaw Patrol – named by a first-grade class in Winner – defeated North Dakota’s Plower Ranger to be crowned champion.

More past winners of South Dakota’s snowplow naming contest

Here are all of the winners from the state’s 2024-2025 snowplow naming contest.

- Thaw Enforcement (Aberdeen)
- Salty (Belle Fourche)
- Plowy (Custer)

See CONTEST, Page 5A

Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to argusleader.com/enewspaper or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!

Volume 138 | No. 269
Subscribe 800-952-0127
©2025 \$3.50