

BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

Sunday, July 13, 2025

WHERE **YOUR STORY** LIVES

HeraldCourier.com

TRUMP ANNOUNCES TARIFFS ON EU, MEXICO



RICARDO B. BRAZZIELL, AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN

President Donald J. Trump speaks at a roundtable discussion Friday at the Community Emergency Operations Center in Kerrville, Texas.

AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. — President Donald Trump announced Saturday he'll levy tariffs of 30% against the European Union and Mexico starting Aug. 1, a move that could cause massive upheaval between the United States and two of its biggest trade partners.

Trump detailed the planned tariffs in letters posted to his social media account. They are part of Trump's announcement blitz of new tariffs aimed at allies and foes alike, which he said would set the foundation for reviving a U.S. economy that he claims was ripped off by other nations for decades.

In his letter to Mexico's leader, President Claudia Sheinbaum, Trump acknowledged the country was helpful in stemming the flow of undocumented migrants and fentanyl into the U.S. But he said the country has not done enough to stop North America from turning into a "Narco-Trafficking Playground."

In his letter to the EU, Trump said the U.S. trade deficit was a national security threat.

"We have had years to discuss our Trading Relationship with The European Union, and we have concluded we must move away from these long-term, large, and persistent, Trade Deficits, engendered by your Tariff, and Non-Tariff, Policies, and Trade Barriers," Trump wrote. "Our relationship has been, unfortunately, far from Reciprocal."

Trump imposed tariffs on dozens of countries in April, then paused them for 90 days to negotiate individual deals. As the three-month grace period ended this past week, Trump began sending his tariff letters to leaders but again pushed back the implementation day for what he says will be just a few more weeks.

If he moves forward with the tariffs, it could have ramifications for nearly every aspect of the global economy.

European Union Commission President Ursula von der Leyen responded by noting the bloc's "commitment to dialogue, stability, and a constructive transatlantic partnership."

"At the same time, we will take all necessary steps to safeguard EU interests, including the adoption of proportionate countermeasures if required," she said in a statement.

Von der Leyen added that the EU remains committed to continuing negotiations with the U.S. and coming to an agreement before Aug. 1. Trade ministers from EU countries are scheduled to meet Monday to discuss trade relations with the U.S., as well as with China.

European leaders joined von der Leyen in urging Trump to give negotiations more time and warnings of possible new tariffs on Washington.

"With European unity, it is more than ever up to the Commission to assert the Union's determination to resolutely defend European interests," French President Emmanuel Macron said in a statement posted on X.

Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni's office said "it would make no sense to trigger a trade war between the two sides of the Atlantic."

Danish Foreign Minister Lars Lokke Rasmussen told broadcaster DR that Trump took a "pointless and a very short-sighted approach." Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson warned in an interview with SVT that "everyone loses out from an escalated trade conflict, and it will be U.S. consumers

Please see **TARIFFS**, Page A3



IDA MARIE ODGAARD, RITZAU SCANPIX

EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen walks July 3 in the Town Hall Garden at Aarhus Town Hall, Aarhus, Denmark.

TWRA: Fireworks explosion on Boone Lake injured eight

ROBERT SORRELL
BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

PINEY FLATS, Tenn. — A Fourth of July fireworks display on Boone Lake ended in a large explosion that injured eight individuals, according to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

The incident occurred at approximately 9:49 p.m. on July 4, when a group of eight individuals were shooting consumer-grade fireworks from a work barge owned by Boone Lake Marina, the TWRA said in a news release issued on July 11. The fireworks had been purchased over the counter.

During the display, sparks from one of the fireworks ignited additional fireworks stored on the barge, triggering a massive explosion. All eight individuals on board jumped into the water and were later rescued by nearby boaters once the fireworks stopped, the TWRA said.

Two people suffered serious injuries, while six others sustained minor injuries, according to the agency.

The barge later returned to the marina.

The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office, Piney Flats Volunteer Fire Department, Sullivan County Emergency Management and TWRA responded to the scene. TWRA officers collected basic information and filed a report. However, no further investigation will be conducted by the TWRA, as the incident occurred on a commercial work barge, did not involve recreational vessels, and no boating safety violations were found.

The U.S. Coast Guard investigates such incidents involving commercial vessels.

rsorrell@bristolnews.com

Farmers, ranchers cleaning up damage from Texas flood

MELINA WALLING AND JOSHUA A. BICKEL
Associated Press

BEND, Texas (AP) — Across a wide swath of Texas, the inundated rivers that ravaged communities also tore through farms and ranches.

In the town of Bend, about two hours north of Austin, Boyd Clark waded into rising waters to help one of his stranded ostrich hens. Matthew Ketterman spent several agonizing hours trapped on top of his truck amid coursing rapids after driving out to check the fences on his exotic game ranch outside Burnet, about an hour south of Bend. And the overflowing San Gabriel River knocked Christmas trees sideways and staff had to get petting zoo animals into a temporary pen at Sweet Eats Adventure Farm in Georgetown, about 65 miles east of Ketterman's ranch.

As authorities work to understand the extent of the loss of human life — as of Friday at least 120 people were killed more than 160 missing — farmers and ranchers are working to assess damage to their properties, crops and animals. Many are facing the task of caring for livestock while salvaging what crops they can and cleaning up the wreckage.

While many farmers lean on a relentless optimism to get through the uncertainty of relying on the weather for a living, extreme weather disasters like catastrophic floods, droughts and wildfires can take a toll. The weather events also pose unique challenges to

Please see **FLOOD**, Page A3