

Washington State Fusion Center
INFOCUS

FRIDAY – 15 SEP 2017



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Event Calendar

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Date	Event	Location/Time	Other Information
9-13 Apr 2018	LEIU/IALEIA Training Event	Marriott Hotel, 700 West Convention Way Anaheim, CA 92801 (714) 750-8000	http://www.ialeia.org/2018_conference.php
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Events, Opportunities

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HEADLINE	09/14 Why it took 5 victims take down Murray
SOURCE	http://crosscut.com/2017/09/why-it-took-five-victims-to-bring-down-ed-murray/
GIST	<p>This week, after a fifth alleged victim of sexual abuse stepped forward, several local politicians quickly, in some cases awkwardly, walked back on their support of Ed Murray, the former mayor of Seattle.</p> <p>Mayoral candidate Jenny Durkan abruptly ditched Murray's endorsement on Tuesday, calling on him to resign even before she could erase any evidence of his endorsement from her website. City Councilmember Tim Burgess, who had previously remained supportive of the mayor even after sexual abuse allegations against Murray first surfaced in April, suddenly called for his ouster. And at his swearing in Wednesday, the new mayor of Seattle, Bruce Harrell, changed his tune, saying that previous comments about not judging Murray had been taken out of context and adding that if a "heinous act" was committed 30 years ago, that person should indeed be held responsible.</p> <p>Before Tuesday, <u>only two city council members</u> — Kshama Sawant and M. Lorena González — had asked Murray to step down.</p> <p>"It got to be a little bit of a political circus to me as an outsider looking at it," said Terrence Carroll, a retired King County Superior Court judge and former head of an independent review board charged with examining Seattle Archdiocese clergy sex-abuse cases. However, while some might argue human memory is notoriously unreliable, especially in situations where the alleged incidents happened decades ago, Carroll said the numbers of accusations became "hard to refute."</p> <p>Around the country, victim advocates have watched the sexual abuse allegations unfold in the Emerald City, angry but not surprised that it took published reports about five men before Murray would finally agree — with a resignation effective Wednesday afternoon — it was time to go.</p> <p>While saying that the accusations are untrue, Murray said he was resigning because it is "important that my personal issues do not affect the ability of our City government to conduct the public's business."</p> <p>Advocates of victims of sexual abuse and sexual assault have become almost used to seeing someone in power hold their position and their standing with much of the public until a pattern of fresh accusations emerges. From Bill Cosby, a well-known entertainer whom dozens of women have accused of sexual assault — none proven so far — to priests and other clergy accused of sexual abuse, the public at large seems to be slow to turn against powerful leaders accused of sexual wrongdoing. The same pattern has been seen in politics, including here in 1992 when a U.S. senator, Brock Adams, decided not to seek re-election after eight women told The Seattle Times that he had sexually assaulted them. The women came forward several years after a congressional staffer had publicly accused Adams of assaulting her.</p> <p>"I think we deceive ourselves into believing 'I can spot a predator,'" said Barbara Dorris, managing director of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, or SNAP, a national organization based in St. Louis. "It's not the dirty old man in the bushes."</p> <p>"He did do good things," Dorris said. "So we've got to deal with this blurry image of" who a child</p>

predator may be.

“A mayor of a major city is going to be given the benefit of the doubt,” said Christopher Anderson, former executive director of MaleSurvivor, an organization based in New Jersey that provides resources and support for male victims of sexual abuse. “We don’t want to believe people who have risen to some degree of power and influence are capable of doing bad things.”

“Look at the situation with Donald Trump,” Anderson said, referring to reports by several women that the president sexually assaulted them, which surfaced before November’s presidential election.

So far, Murray’s alleged victims are all male and include Joseph Dyer, Murray’s younger cousin and the most recent accuser, who says he was molested in New York in the 1970s when he was just 13. Jeff Simpson, a former foster son of Murray’s, claims he was also abused at age 13. In July, The Seattle Times reported that documents showed that an Oregon child-welfare investigator in 1984 had found Simpson’s allegations valid. Another alleged victim, Lloyd Anderson, claims he was paid for sex as a teenager by Murray in the 1980s in Portland. Delvonn Heckard sued Murray earlier this year over abuse. And Maurice Jones claims he was introduced to Murray by Heckard and was also abused.

In addition to standing by those who are viewed as society’s moral leaders, the public often also looks at victims of sexual abuse skeptically, especially male victims, because it can take years before they come forward, said Mary Ellen Stone, executive director of King County Sexual Assault Resource Center. About 4,000 cases of sexual assault and sexual abuse were reported in King County last year and while most sex offenders are male, about 20 percent of victims are male, according to Stone.

“There’s a great deal of shame for men in particular to acknowledge they were sexually abused. It challenges all their ideas about what it means to be a man,” said Richard B. Gartner, a New York psychologist and the author of several books on the sexual victimization of boys. Society tells men, Gartner said, that they’re supposed to be in charge of sexual situations, so they either convince themselves the abuse wasn’t a big deal, or that it never happened. They also fear no one will believe them if they do come forward, so often they don’t.

Victims of sexual abuse often also suffer from drug and alcohol addiction and mental health issues, creating the perfect “recipe for people questioning victim credibility,” Stone said.

Heckard, for example, withdrew his lawsuit against Murray in June to complete counseling and therapy, prompting the mayor to boast about his supposed vindication. (Heckard has said he hopes to refile his lawsuit against Murray next year.)

When the sexual abuse story first broke, Murray argued that an alleged victim’s criminal past should lead the public to distrust the accuser and any allegation of abuse. Murray even penned an op-ed for The Stranger, writing: “I would never suggest that those with criminal histories cannot be victims of abuse. Rather, his criminal history proves he cannot be trusted.”

“We will never know what happened,” Stone said, referring to the allegations pinned against Murray. But “what the victims said rings true to what we hear everyday.”

The situation that has unraveled with Murray “reinforces the importance of believing victims,” Stone said. “Victims bring different backgrounds and experiences but that doesn’t negate that they’ve been victimized.”

Mary Dispenza, SNAP’s representative in the Pacific Northwest, agrees, saying that survivors of sexual abuse rarely lie. “When they come forward, you can count on it to be the truth,” Dispenza said. As far as experts can tell, the percentage of false accusations falls somewhere between 2 and 10 percent.

Despite his recent resignation, Dispenza argues Murray’s continued, vehement denials constitute another form of abuse.

“I think it’s appalling to me that the mayor so blatantly says, I deny categorically,” Dispenza said. “I would think he could find a way to say that that is more palatable.”

“It continues to be a form of bullying survivors,” said Dispenza, a survivor herself who was abused by a priest as a child but didn’t come forward as a victim until the age of 52.

“The approach he took is, I know, disappointing to a lot of people,” said Carroll, the former judge. But “the motivations for victims to come forward are just as complicated as the motivations of the person accused.”

“I just have a real sense of sadness about the whole thing,” Carroll added. “It’s bad for all of us in the city.”

With regard to male victims, Anderson of MaleSurvivor said it’s important that the public not associate child abuse with homosexuality. “They are separate entities that sometimes coincide within the same person,” Anderson said. First and foremost “these are people who are looking for targets of opportunity.”

Despite the various allegations, Michael T. Pfau, a Seattle attorney who has dedicated a large part of his practice to representing victims of child sexual abuse, said the chances of Murray facing any criminal charges are slim because the statute of limitations have likely expired. Carroll agrees, noting that “the likelihood of any criminal charges, unless other people come forward, is next to zero.” But Pfau said the “possibilities of suing him civilly are great.” Washington law allows for delayed discovery, giving victims of abuse three years from the time they make the connection between the abuse, and the damage they’ve suffered, to sue.

Just before Murray’s resignation, former Mayor Wes Uhlman said that Murray, with whom he had lunch about a month ago, was prepared to face possible civil legal action when he departed office. “I believe that justice will prevail,” said Uhlman, a lawyer. Uhlman added that he doesn’t know the truth about the allegations against Murray.

SNAP’s Dorris and Pfau said they wouldn’t rule out other people coming forward with accusations against Murray.

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HEADLINE	09/14 Amnesty Int’l seeks probe of Murray
SOURCE	http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/ed-murray-sex-abuse-claim-us-mayors-time-in-northern-ireland-should-be-probed-36130468.html
GIST	<p>Amnesty International is asking the PSNI to examine police records to see if any allegations have been made here against a US politician at the centre of historic child sex abuse claims.</p> <p>Seattle Mayor Ed Murray, who resigned yesterday after a fifth sex abuse allegation was made against him, worked with children in a peaceline project in Belfast at the height of the Troubles.</p> <p>An investigation by the Belfast Telegraph can exclusively reveal that, in 1974, he brought a group of 30 Catholic and Protestant children on a fortnight’s holiday to Wales.</p> <p>A cousin came forward earlier this week to accuse him of sexually abusing him in the mid-1970s just after he returned to the US from Belfast. Others who have previously made allegations include Mr Murray’s former foster son.</p> <p>With family roots reportedly in Co Down and in the Republic, the Democrat was a highly regarded Irish-American politician. He met former Taoiseach Enda Kenny and President Michael D Higgins on a visit to Ireland in 2014.</p>

Mr Murray (62) strongly denies all the allegations of abusing teenage boys. He said he was resigning because he did not want "personal issues" interfering with "public business".

He worked with several children's groups in the US before he entered politics. The claims against him date from the mid-1970s to mid-1980s.

Amnesty International's Northern Ireland programme director Patrick Corrigan last night said the allegations raised serious concerns. He called on the PSNI and Mr Murray's former employer here to examine their records to see if any complaints were ever made about him.

"As things stand, Mr Murray has not been found guilty of any charges. However, the fact that the latest allegations of child abuse date from a period just after Mr Murray returned from Belfast, where he was apparently working with children, will raise concerns about his time in Northern Ireland," Mr Corrigan said.

"The organisation which employed Mr Murray in Belfast should check their records and provide full disclosure of his time here. They should also advise the PSNI of whether any allegations were made against him at the time."

Mr Corrigan said it was important "to establish accurate dates and details of his time in Belfast so that any potential victims from this period have a chance to come forward to police and to seek any support they may require".

He urged the PSNI to check police records to establish if there were any outstanding allegations from that time.

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HEADLINE	09/14 Seattle's PARKing Day Friday
SOURCE	http://mynorthwest.com/752692/seattle-parking-day-2017/
GIST	<p>Seattle will suddenly lose 47 on-street parking spots on Friday, Sept. 15. It's the annual <u>PARKing Day</u> when many of those parking spots will go away for day-long community parks.</p> <p>The parks are set in on-street parking spaces between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. and are aimed at promoting a walkable, livable city. You can share photos of your own trip through the one-day parks on <u>Twitter</u>, though no one has tweeted on the Seattle PARKing Day account since 2015.</p> <p>Of course, parking in Seattle is a touchy subject, since there are never enough spaces for drivers. This has prompted <u>criticism</u> around PARKing day in the past. If you are concerned about the sudden loss of highly-sought after spaces in Seattle, don't worry. This year, it's Friday-only. Seattle attempted <u>PARKing Day Plus</u> in 2016, extending the event over two days.</p> <p>According to Norm Mah with the Seattle Department of Transportation, the parks were scaled back to a one-day fest to align with the national event. That's why PARKing Day is on a Friday — a workday — every other city is doing it then as well.</p> <p>There are 47 parks slated for this year's event, as compared to 50 last year.</p> <p>In the past, Seattleites have gotten creative with its pop-up parks. There have been outdoor living rooms, mini golf, gaming stations, music events, and works of art.</p> <p>The Seattle Department of Transportation and the Department of Neighborhoods offer \$1,000 grants to residents to create their own parks for the day. Seattle is among 160 cities across America to take part in PARKing Day in the past 10 years.</p>

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HEADLINE	09/14 Several school zones get failing grades
SOURCE	http://mynorthwest.com/752919/washington-school-zones-failing-grades/
GIST	<p>With school back in session, safety in getting to and from school is a priority for many parents in Western Washington.</p> <p>Now, a startup called Zendrive has created an interactive map with a system for grading the safety of the roads surrounding school activity areas.</p> <p>Many roads in Western Washington received failing grades.</p> <p>King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties all got a D rating. King County is the only county in Western Washington for which data for specific school zones is given.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 UK: Rohingya suffering an 'abomination'
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/latest-india-pledges-food-mosquito-nets-rohingya-49839697?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson says the suffering of the <u>Rohingya people</u> is an "abomination," and that Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi must use her authority to halt the violence against the Muslim minority group.</p> <p>The U.N. children's agency says up to 400,000 Rohingya have fled recent violence in Myanmar for neighboring Bangladesh since Rohingya insurgents attacked Myanmar police and paramilitary posts in late August, and the military responded with "clearance operations."</p> <p>Speaking at a news conference alongside U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, Johnson said he admired Suu Kyi's fight against Myanmar's former military junta, but "it is now vital for her to use that moral capital, that moral authority to make the point about the suffering" of the Rohingya.</p> <p>He says "it is vital for her now to make clear that this is an abomination and that those people will be allowed back" to their homes.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Seattle finally getting more diverse?
SOURCE	http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/data/seattle-is-less-white-than-it-has-ever-been-in-modern-history-new-census-data-show/
GIST	<p>Is Seattle finally getting more diverse?</p> <p>Data released Thursday by the U.S. Census Bureau show that the white population in Seattle dropped to 64.3 percent in 2016, down from 66 percent in 2015 — a statistically significant change.</p> <p>That means Seattle is now less white than it has ever been in its modern history, and a long way from 1950, when 94 percent of the city was white.</p> <p>To be sure, Seattle is still very white compared with most other major U.S. cities. And yes, our ranking as <u>the nation's fifth-whitest big city</u> remains intact. But the new data represent a change from the past several years.</p>

Go back to 2012, and the city, like the nation as a whole, had been getting more diverse with each release of census data. The white population dropped to 65 percent that year. But then in 2013, seemingly out of the blue, that number jumped up to 67 percent. For the past couple of years, it's been stable at about 66 percent, meaning that the share of white population in Seattle was the same as it had been in 2010.

That was particularly notable given that the rest of King County was diversifying at a rapid pace. Some parts of the South End — Tukwila, SeaTac, Bryn Mawr-Skyway and Boulevard Park — are among the most racially diverse places in the United States. Renton, Federal Way and Kent are all cities with populations made up of mostly of people of color. Last year, Bellevue joined that list.

The new census data show a single-year change, so we'll have to wait to see if the trend continues. But let's take a close look to see just how Seattle diversified in 2016.

Remember last year's amazing growth spurt? Census data released in May showed that Seattle was, once again, the fastest-growing big city in the country. The city added about 21,000 people, and the population passed the 700,000 milestone.

The data released today reveal that little, if any, of the growth came from white people. The white population of 453,000 is basically unchanged from 2015. What that means is that the number of white people who moved in or were born here was roughly equal to the number of those who moved away or died.

The move toward greater diversity in Seattle was mainly driven by a sharp increase in people who identify as having more than one race. Their numbers jumped by more than 8,000, or 19 percent, to a total of 51,000. With that increase, multiracial people are now the third- largest racial or ethnic group in Seattle. Black people, whose number remained unchanged at 49,000, fall back to fourth.

People who identify as having more than one race tend to be younger than other racial or ethnic groups, with a median age of 24.8 in Seattle. Other groups that increased include Asians (which includes Indian people) and Pacific Islanders, Hispanics and people who choose "other" when asked about their race. But the city's Native American population, already small, shrank by nearly half last year to just over 2,000.

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HEADLINE	09/14 Legal battle brewing Spain, Catalonia
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/catalonia-referendum-independence-spain-madrid-barcelona/
GIST	<p>MADRID -- A mounting confrontation between regional leaders in northeast Spain's Catalonia region and national leaders in Madrid over a planned <u>independence referendum in Catalonia</u> is gripping the Mediterranean country.</p> <p>Spain's central government is using judicial measures to try to stop the planned Oct. 1 ballot, which it insists is unconstitutional, but regional authorities are trying to sidestep the legal obstacles.</p> <p>Regional president Carles Puigdemont tells broadcaster TV3 the national government in Madrid has created a "climate of hostility and paranoia" around the planned ballot.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Spain's Deputy Prime Minister Soraya Saenz de Santamaria says Thursday no dialogue is possible with the Catalan authorities until they back down from their plans for a vote.</p> <p>A judge shut down the referendum website late Wednesday but minutes later it reappeared using a different server.</p> <p>Spain's top prosecutor is investigating more than 700 Catalan mayors for cooperating with the planned referendum after the nation's constitutional court ordered the vote put on hold, the prosecutor's office said</p>

Wednesday.

Catalonia's regional police force is under orders to arrest the mayors if they refuse to appear for questioning, State Prosecutor Jose Manuel Maza's office said.

The announcement significantly raised the stakes in the increasingly tense standoff between Catalan independence supporters and national authorities.

If mayors and their municipalities cannot help organize balloting, the vote is unlikely to proceed. Maza's order also put regional police officers in the uneasy position of carrying out commands from Madrid in their towns and cities.

The pro-independence coalition governing Catalonia has asked the 947 mayors in the northeastern region to provide voting facilities.

Maza ordered the prosecutors in Spain's 17 provinces to investigate the 712 mayors who already have offered to provide municipal premises as polling stations.

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HEADLINE	09/14 'Most dangerous' roads near schools
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/distracted-driving-study-maps-most-dangerous-roads-near-schools/
GIST	<p>Children are especially at risk of <u>distracted drivers</u> because busy roads are near their schools. A new study pinpoints the nation's five worst counties for those kinds of drivers as New York, Kings and Queens counties in New York state, San Francisco County in California, and Miami-Dade County in Florida.</p> <p>Researchers found 88 percent of drivers are using their phones while behind the wheel. And one in three are engaged in unsafe behaviors in a school zone.</p> <p>A new study analyzed almost four million drivers cruising near 75,000 schools. It determined that Bessie Carmichael Elementary School has some of the most dangerous streets in the country for distracted driving. A school in Houston has the worst drivers, with campuses in Manhattan and Dallas rounding out the top five. In general, the more urban the county, the riskier the school roads.</p> <p>Asked whether morning drop-off or afternoon pick-up is more dangerous, Jonathan Matus said, "Absolutely, the afternoon by about 40 percent."</p> <p>Matus is the CEO of Zendrive, the company behind the research. He says the afternoon hours from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. are more dangerous than the morning – especially from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. This is likely due to heavier work traffic. <u>All his data is now collected online for anyone to access.</u></p> <p>"We put all this information into a very powerful map, where you can search any name of any of the 75,000 schools that we collected," Matus said.</p> <p>For instance, if you type in the study's top-rated school, Victory Christian School in North Carolina, it will show you it's "A+" grade for average phone use while driving. That's in contrast to Trinity Lutheran Church in Texas, which received an "F." Armed with new data, police can deploy more resources to dangerous areas.</p> <p>"Police work is driven by information. So if the information is showing we have to keep addressing traffic issues in order to make the streets better, well that's a good thing," said Joe Engler of the San Francisco Police Department.</p> <p>Matus says he hopes parents will take any failing grades to their local school boards and law enforcement.</p>

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Click on link to review research findings: <https://www.zendrive.com/school/>

HEADLINE	09/14 EU extends sanctions on Russia
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/european-union-extends-sanctions-russia-ukraine-49845519?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>The <u>European Union</u> has extended sanctions by a further six months against dozens of Russian citizens and companies deemed to have a role in threatening the stability and independence of <u>Ukraine</u>.</p> <p>EU headquarters said Thursday the restrictive measures have been prolonged until March 14 and now apply to 149 individuals and 38 entities. It said the sanctions are in response to "actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine."</p> <p>The EU first imposed the sanctions after <u>Russia</u> annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in 2014 and supported pro-Russia separatists fighting Ukrainian forces in Ukraine's east. That fighting has left over 10,000 people dead.</p> <p>The bloc has repeatedly extended the sanctions as the conflict continues. A 2015 peace deal helped reduce the scale of fighting, but violence continues.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Brush fire in Arlington spreads
SOURCE	http://komonews.com/news/local/brush-fire-in-arlington-spreads-residents-advised-to-be-prepared-to-evacuate
GIST	<p>ARLINGTON, Wash. - A large brush fire was still smoldering near Arlington Heights Thursday night.</p> <p>Residents near Arlington Heights were ordered to evacuate Thursday afternoon after the brush fire was sparked in Arlington, according to Snohomish County Sheriff's Office.</p> <p>Fire fighters said the fire started on 99th Drive Northeast in Arlington.</p> <p>Officials ordered about 25 homes east of the fire to evacuate under level 3 evacuation—the most urgent level—according to the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office.</p> <p>The Sheriff's Office requested the Department of Emergency Management make reverse 911 calls to the homes for evacuations.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 NOAA issues La Nina Watch forecast
SOURCE	http://komonews.com/weather/scotts-weather-blog/rejoice-skiers-la-nina-now-forecast-to-make-a-reappearance-this-winter
GIST	<p>Surprise!!! La Niña may be back this winter.</p> <p>Again!</p> <p>NOAA's Climate Prediction Center issued a "La Niña Watch" Thursday, which means there is <u>now a high probability</u> La Niña conditions will develop within the next six months- namely this fall and winter.</p> <p>If true, it'll be a second La Niña episode in a row.</p> <p>La Niña winters tend to be a bit cooler and wetter than usual with an average-to-above average mountain</p>

snowpack. (Skiers and snowboarders: "Woo-hoo!" WSDOT snow plow drivers: "Ugh..."). That also goes for the lowlands -- a better chance of lowland snow events are in La Niña winters. (Kids: "Woo-hoo!" Kids at heart: "Woo-hoo!" Commuters: "Ugh..." California transplants: "Dear God, NO!" Alaska transplants: "Whatever...")

For windstorms, La Niñas tend to feature an increased number in general, but the really big windstorms that get fancy names like "Inauguration Day Storm" tend to happen in neutral years. As for flooding events, about average in number.

For those that crave a reference, last winter was a weak La Niña episode which featured Seattle's first lowland snow events in a few years and one of the cooler December-Januarys in a while.

But while we typically go from El Niño to neutral to La Niña, getting two La Niña's in a row -- sometimes called a "Double Dip" La Niña -- is not unheard of, especially after a strong El Niño phase. Remember in 2014-15 we had a record-ish El Niño, followed by a weak La Nina last year. Looks like we're going for Part II. Double Dips have also happened in 1974-75 and 2011-12.

Wait, Wasn't it supposed to be an El Niño or neutral winter?

Yes. Odds of another La Niña forming were considered a long shot earlier this year, when forecasters originally gave El Niño a 60-66 percent and then gradually became more set on a neutral fall and winter.

But then again, it's extremely difficult to get a forecast beyond spring due to the "Spring Predictability Barrier" -- then the atmosphere tends to wash out of any El Niño/La Niña phase and it's more difficult to get good data on where it atmosphere is leaning.

Now that we're closer to autumn (like, a week away) forecasters say that while overall, a number of climate models suggest we'll remain in neutral conditions (neither La Niña or El Niño), the latest models are trending more toward La Niña.

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HEADLINE	09/14 Learning disaster prep lessons from Irma
SOURCE	http://www.king5.com/news/local/disaster/washington-learns-disaster-prep-lessons-from-hurricane-irma/474964793
GIST	<p>Major hurricanes and earthquakes couldn't be more different, but they have one key point in common—an aftermath.</p> <p>When Hurricane Irma slammed into the Florida Keys on the weekend of September 9th, it left near unprecedented devastation in its wake.</p> <p>Washington State Emergency Management Director, Robert Ezelle worries something similar could be in store for Washington given its position near the Cascadia Subduction Zone, which could cause a massive magnitude 9 earthquake and tsunami. The zone runs between British Columbia and northern California.</p> <p>"There are a lot of parallels between what we see in the Keys and what we're going to see here, it's just going to be on a much larger scale, much more widespread scale here in Western Washington, in particular our coastal communities," said Ezelle.</p> <p>The common parts of the disaster is difficulty in reaching the damaged area. It's getting water and food and shelter to the survivors.</p> <p>"What I see happening in the Florida Keys is very, very analogous to the situations we're going to be having in western Washington," said Ezelle.</p>

In a massive June 2016 exercise named Cascadia Rising, the Washington Military Department conducted drills aimed at assessing Washington's readiness for a major earthquake and tsunami.

Cascadia Rising was the largest drill ever conducted in Washington state, playing out over the course of a week that involved not only the National Guard, but active units of the U.S. Navy, county and state emergency planners, police and fire departments, more than 20,000 emergency officials overall.

But the conclusions of the drills weren't pretty. Officials determined that that roads to the coast will be largely cut off, and there will simply not be enough helicopters available to quickly deliver emergency supplies.

As a result, the state is strongly recommending people have enough water, food, medicine and shelter to survive for at least two weeks before help can reach them.

The fact that the earthquake will come is not a mystery. Scientists are learning more and more all the time, but the evidence of repeated large earthquakes on the Cascadia fault is undeniable.

The last one occurred at 9 pm on January 26th, 1700. Scientists were able to nail down the time by calculating back from the time the Japanese recorded a large tsunami hitting their coast the other side of the Pacific Ocean.

"We know the earthquake will come, but emergency planners from the state to the county and city level often find themselves arguing to be prepared for what to many is an abstract concept. That's because the quake could come tomorrow or decades from now. " That's the big challenge, you don't have this big thing barreling down on you to motivate you do something," said Ezelle. "You have to do it now based on the science, based on the information that you have."

Only about 10,000 people remained in the string of Florida islands known as the Keys to ride out the storm. The rest headed government urgings to evacuate. People living in the northwest can get ready for the earthquake by having supplies on hand, and know the best way to head to higher ground when the shaking stops to avoid the incoming tsunami, which is expected to hit 20 to 30 minutes after the quake. But unlike the hurricane, there will not be days to get ready or time to hit the hardware store for plywood and the grocery store for extra water and food. The quake will come without warning.

"We as state directors are in regular contact with each other and sharing information," said Ezelle. "And there will be a formal 'lessons learned' process that comes out of this."

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HEADLINE	09/14 Amazon gold rush is on
SOURCE	http://www.seattletimes.com/business/amazon/100-plus-contenders-imagine-hosting-amazons-hq2/
GIST	<p>The Amazon gold rush is on.</p> <p>At least 101 cities, states, provinces and counties in the U.S. and Canada have indicated they are interested in the Seattle company's second headquarters in the week since Amazon announced it was seeking bidders for the megaproject.</p> <p>They range from obvious big-city candidates like Chicago, to a joint effort by smaller towns in North Carolina tobacco and textile country, and a push championed by the University of Maryland in suburban Washington, D.C.</p> <p>It's unclear how many of these prospective bidders will send the online retail giant formal paperwork by the company's Oct. 19 deadline. Some don't appear to fit the criteria Amazon laid out for its second home. Still, the rush for mayors and economic-development officials to announce their candidacy reflects Amazon's growing influence, as well as the unprecedented scale of its offer.</p>

This isn't a distribution center or engineering office Amazon is promising, but a \$5 billion campus of as many as 50,000 employees, pitched as "a full equal" to the company's massive Seattle home.

A company that once sat on the fringes of economy in online commerce, and has sometimes been seen as a threat to Main Street jobs, is dangling a project that has the potential to instantly become a cornerstone of some region's economy.

Amazon has invited tax breaks and other incentives in its request for proposals, and economic-development experts say some regions are likely to respond with packages valued in the billions.

Requirements like proximity to a major airport, a population center of at least a million people, and ample housing and mass transit would seem to cross more than a few interested cities off the list. Amazon also asked that metropolitan areas submit consolidated bids, meaning areas with multiple interested sites — such as the four interested cities in the Dallas orbit — will end up coming together for a single proposal.

The tally of potential bidders is almost certainly missing municipalities that have been quiet about their intentions. For instance, among the largest U.S. cities, officials in Atlanta and Cleveland have yet to discuss their thinking publicly. Spokespeople for development groups in both cities didn't respond to messages seeking comment on Wednesday.

Bloomberg News reported this week that some senior Amazon executives have advocated for Boston as the second headquarters location.

The company pushed back, saying there are no front-runners yet. "We're just getting started and every city is on a level playing field," Amazon said on Twitter.

Amazon's original announcement, made via a news release in the early-morning hours of Sept. 7, kicked off a frenzy from coast to coast in the days that followed.

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HEADLINE	09/14 CDC warns health risks from hurricanes
SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Health_News/2017/09/14/CDC-activates-EOC-warns-about-health-risks-from-hurricanes/9071505410017/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=lh&utm_medium=10
GIST	<p>Sept. 14 (UPI) -- With Texas and Florida reeling from Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is warning of potential health risks and moving to help minimize them.</p> <p>The CDC has activated its Emergency Operations Center, or EOC, to respond to public health needs in the wake of <u>Hurricane Harvey</u> in the Texas Gulf Coast, and is warning about numerous potential health hazards from vehicle and nonvehicle-related drowning, carbon monoxide poisoning, electrocution, and exposure to mold and other toxins during the clean-up efforts in both Texas and Florida.</p> <p>"The aftermath of disasters such as Hurricanes Harvey and Irma can be just as dangerous as the storms themselves," Dr. Brenda Fitzgerald, director of the CDC, <u>said in a press release</u>. "We encourage affected communities and responders to take advantage of the wealth of practical information CDC offers."</p> <p>Floodwater contamination <u>will be the first and foremost problem</u> facing residents in Texas, according to <u>Cleveland Clinic</u> infectious disease expert Dr. Frank Esper.</p> <p>"Even after the floodwaters have receded, the bacteria will remain a threat to health. You need to make sure you are cleaning anything that could have been contaminated by these floodwaters," Esper said.</p> <p>To prevent the spread of mold, residents need to clean up and dry their homes within two days of the storm if possible, the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston recommends. Soaked carpet and</p>

	padding must be removed immediately, and sheet rock and insulation cut out at least three feet above the water line. The CDC's EOC has deployed pharmacy supplies and six 250-bed medical stations in Houston, Texas, Dallas, Texas, and Baton Rouge, La. The two medical stations in Houston are already operational and the remaining four will be set up as needed.
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HEADLINE	09/15 Quebec offers public free naloxone
SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2017/09/15/Quebec-to-offer-public-free-naloxone-to-prevent-opioid-overdoses/9201505451704/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=ts&utm_medium=4
GIST	<p>Sept. 15 (UPI) -- The Canadian province of Quebec will offer free naloxone, a drug used to counter the effects of opioid overdoses, in order to prevent an overdose crisis, officials said Wednesday.</p> <p>The drug is currently available to first responders and ambulance drivers, but the new initiative will make it available anybody in the general public who feels they might need it, reported the <u>Montreal Gazette</u>. The drug will be made available free of charge through pharmacies.</p> <p>"Making it available free is the answer for today, but the real answer to this growing situation is about prevention," said Quebec Health Minister Ga�tan Barrette. "We are not in a crisis situation today. Each and every overdose is a sad situation that we wish we could prevent. It's impossible to prevent everything, but there are measures to be taken and will be taken in order to limit this as much as possible."</p> <p>Quebec officials said they want to prevent what they are seeing in British Columbia, where more than four people per day are dying of drug overdoses, many of them connected to fentanyl, a powerful opioid, reported the <u>CBC</u>.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Wildfire risks increase in Oklahoma
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/oklahoma-wildfires-risk-increases-hot-dry-breezy-weather-conditions/
GIST	<p>NORMAN, Okla. -- Thanks to hot, dry and breezy conditions across the state, the risk of wildfires is increasing in Oklahoma.</p> <p>The National Weather Service says there is an elevated chance of wildfires on Thursday and Friday, especially in northwestern Oklahoma.</p> <p>Forecasters say south to southeasterly winds of between 10 and 20 mph with gusts up to 30 mph are likely in northwestern Oklahoma. High temperatures in the region will be in the 90s and humidity levels will remain low with little chance for thunderstorm activity through Sunday.</p> <p>The NWS in Norman, Oklahoma, tweeted out a warning early Thursday urging residents to practice fire safety over the next few days...</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Post-Irma, food safety growing concern
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/hurricane-irma-power-outages-florida-food-safety/
GIST	As millions of Florida residents <u>remain without power</u> in the aftermath of <u>Hurricane Irma</u> , experts are warning them to take precautions against <u>food poisoning</u> .

	<p>Health officials in Broward County issued an advisory Thursday about the risk of food-borne illness.</p> <p>"Due to the number of households still without electrical power, the Florida Department of Health in Broward County (DOH-Broward) reminds everyone that it is important to take careful precautions to ensure <u>food safety</u>," the statement reads.</p> <p>When the power goes out for an extended period of time and refrigerators and ovens are inoperable, the risk of food poisoning is heightened. People should throw away any perishable food that has been at room temperature for two hours or more or any food that has an unusual odor, color, or texture.</p> <p>Additionally, people should discard any food that has come in contact with floodwater, even those that are wrapped or packaged in plastic.</p> <p>"There could be microbreaks in the plastic," Dr. Robert Glatter, an emergency physician at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City, told CBS News. "There's no way to know if it's been compromised."</p> <p>Experts say to follow the mantra "when in doubt, throw it out."</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Suspect wanted teach people 'a lesson'
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/freeman-high-school-shooting-suspect-said-he-was-bullied-police-documents-say/
GIST	<p>ROCKFORD, Wash. --The student accused of <u>shooting a classmate to death</u> at a Washington state high school Wednesday and wounding three others told investigators he had been bullied and wanted to teach people "a lesson," according to court documents released Thursday.</p> <p>The documents identify the suspect as sophomore Caleb Sharpe, 15. Sharpe allegedly came to Freeman High School in the tiny town of Rockford, south of Spokane, Wednesday morning armed with a rifle he hid in a large duffel bag and a pistol he carried in his coat pocket, a probable cause affidavit says. He later told investigators he got the weapons from his father's gun safe.</p> <p>The documents say Sharpe took the bus to school and went to a second floor hallway where he took out the rifle and attempted to load it, but it jammed. He took out the pistol, and that's when he was confronted by victim Sam Strahan, who told him something to the effect of, "I always knew you were going to shoot up the school" and "You know that is going to get you in trouble."</p> <p>Sharpe allegedly shot Strahan in the abdomen, and when the boy bent over, he shot him again in the face, the documents say. Strahan was later pronounced dead.</p> <p>Witnesses described a panicked scene when shots rang out, with bullets hitting the ceiling and students screaming and running down the hallway. The documents say Sharpe then fired down the hallway, wounding three other students.</p> <p>A teacher told investigators Sharpe then surrendered to a school janitor, who approached him and ordered him to lie on the floor, the documents say. A school resource officer who was at a nearby middle school ran towards the gunfire without waiting for backup, a sheriff said, and helped the janitor take the gunman into custody.</p> <p>Spokane County Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich confirmed at a Thursday press conference that the rifle was an AR-15.</p> <p>"Thank God that he had jammed that AR-15 up so badly that it was not going to function," Knezovich said.</p>

	<p>The sheriff hailed the actions of Strahan, the responding officer and the custodian as courageous and said they prevented more bloodshed.</p> <p>"That young man who gave his life stepped into the breach that we as a society have created to save his fellow classmates," said Knezovich.</p> <p>A sheriff has hailed the custodian's actions as "courageous" and said they prevented more bloodshed. The three wounded students, all teenage girls, have not been identified. Doctors said Wednesday they were expected to recover.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Dallas removes Robert E. Lee statue
SOURCE	http://www.reuters.com/article/us-dallas-statue/dallas-removes-robert-e-lees-statue-from-city-park-idUSKCN1BQ07Z
GIST	<p>DALLAS (Reuters) - Workers in Dallas removed a statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee from a park on Thursday, with police on hand to provide protection after the mayor said the monument was a symbol of injustice and the city council voted to bring it down.</p> <p>The removal came a month after a rally where white nationalists angered at the planned removal of a Lee statue in Charlottesville, Virginia, clashed with counter-protesters. One woman was killed during the Aug. 12 protest, when a suspected white nationalist crashed a car into anti-racism demonstrators.</p> <p>The violence in Charlottesville revived a national debate about whether symbols of the pro-slavery Confederacy of the American Civil War represent heritage or hate. Confederate monuments dot the U.S. landscape.</p> <p>The 14 foot- (4.3 meter) tall statue in Dallas of Lee on horseback riding with an unnamed soldier has been at a city park since 1936, with then President Franklin D. Roosevelt on hand for its dedication.</p> <p>Workers in yellow vests took down the Lee statue and hauled it away on a trailer pulled by a pick-up truck, during an operation lasting about four hours, according to a Reuters Witness. Dozens of bystanders watched while police, including some officers armed with rifles, stood guard.</p> <p>Melinda Gutierrez, a spokeswoman for Dallas police, said in an email she had received no reports of any violence during the removal operation.</p> <p>A city task force on Confederate monuments is set to give a recommendation next month on what will be done with the statue. Lee Park, where the statue stood on a grassy hill near downtown, may also be renamed, city officials said.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 Pacific nations crackdown NKorea ships
SOURCE	http://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-missiles-pacific-shipping/pacific-nations-crack-down-on-north-korean-ships-as-fiji-probes-more-than-20-vessels-idUSKCN1BQ00ZQ?il=0
GIST	<p>WELLINGTON (Reuters) - South Pacific island nations are scouring shipping records for vessels with links to North Korea after Fiji said it had identified 20 falsely flagged ships it suspects the isolated regime is using to evade United Nations sanctions.</p> <p>Fiji, along with Interpol and the Singapore-based regional shipping regulator Tokyo MoU, are investigating the vessels for links to North Korea, a spokesman for the country's Maritime Safety Authority (MSAF) told Reuters on Friday. Interpol and Tokyo MoU did not immediately respond to requests for comment on their investigations.</p>

	<p>The 18 members of the Pacific Islands Forum this month agreed to launch an audit of every ship registered in the Pacific to search for any links to North Korea.</p> <p>New Zealand Foreign Affairs Minister Gerry Brownlee said Pacific countries, including his own, were concerned North Korea was using falsely flagged cargo ships as one avenue to trade goods in spite of sanctions.</p> <p>“What we do know is that declared North Korean GDP (gross domestic product) is not big enough to support the nuclear program that they’re running so there has to be significant black market or offbook revenue going into the country,” Brownlee told Reuters in a phone interview this week.</p> <p>The move came as the UN on Monday ramped up sanctions on North Korea, including tightening up oversight of vessels on the high seas. Authorities will now be allowed to check suspected vessels for prohibited cargo with the authority of the flag country.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Environmentalists sue to block border wall
SOURCE	https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/immigration-reform/environmentalists-sue-block-u-s-border-wall-mexico-n801496
GIST	<p>SAN DIEGO — Three advocacy groups sued the federal government Thursday to block construction of a border wall with Mexico, alleging that the Trump administration overstepped its authority by <u>waiving environmental reviews and other laws</u>.</p> <p>The Sierra Club, Defenders of Wildlife and the Animal Legal Defense Fund seek to prevent construction of wall prototypes in San Diego before it begins and halt plans for replacement barriers in San Diego and Calexico, California.</p> <p>The complaint largely mirrors a lawsuit filed by another advocacy group, the Center for Biological Diversity, but the three organizations say they have hundreds of thousands of members, bringing more attention and resources to a legal fight over one of President Donald Trump’s key campaign pledges.</p> <p>The government has waived reviews seven times under a 2005 law to speed construction of border barriers, including twice under Trump. The law allows the government to waive dozens of laws, including the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act, which requires extensive reviews of environmental impacts.</p> <p>The lawsuit contends the waiver authority expired in 2008, when the government met congressional requirements for additional border barriers.</p> <p>"An impenetrable border wall would divide wildlife and their habitat as well as families and communities across the border," said Jamie Rappaport Clark, president of Defenders of Wildlife. "It would bisect and isolate important Southwestern landscapes, pushing borderland wildlife like Peninsular bighorn sheep, jaguars and ocelots to the brink of extinction.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Sheriff blames media, govt. for shooting
SOURCE	http://www.king5.com/news/spokane-co-sheriff-media-government-and-society-to-blame-for-school-shootings2/475039055
GIST	<p>SPOKANE, Wash. – Spokane County Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich held a press conference Thursday afternoon to update people on the investigation into the fatal shooting at Freeman High School and spoke briefly about how he believes society, the media and elected officials are partially to blame for school shootings.</p>

Knezovich honored the teen who died in the shooting who tried to stop the suspect from firing at their fellow students. He also spoke of the janitor, who confronted the shooter, and stopped him.

“This is a situation that plays out in our society way too often. As a society, we need to make a determination into what’s causing this,” Knezovich said.

“This young gentleman got sucked into a counter-culture of violence, a culture that is enamored with school shooting,” he said. “And media, you are to blame for that, cause you keep giving these people headlines.”

"In using their names, you have made them heroes to some people. If I had my way, none of these peoples' names would ever be remembered," he said. "Until we start treating these people for what they are, killers, not heroes, they're going to continue this violence."

Knezovich also took aim at Congress and elected officials for not making mental health a priority.

"This is another example of the mental health system in this county collapsing around our ears. And perhaps those elected officials who control those monies could fund a little more to help those people out," he said.

"This is a state and national issue that they better wake up and start dealing with," he said. "And I don't blame the local mental health either. They don't have the money to deal with this because the state has abandoned them. They have pushed this problem to the local level and the local levels are not equipped to deal with it."

Knezovich said SCSO plans to recommend the shooting suspect be prosecuted as an adult and charged with premeditated murder.

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HEADLINE	09/14 Small quakes shake Bay Area
SOURCE	http://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/Magnitude-33-Earthquake-Shakes-San-Jose-444472963.html
GIST	<p>Six minor earthquakes rattled parts of the South Bay on Thursday, according to the U.S. Geological Society, and three of them were strong enough to be felt across the region.</p> <p>The first two larger quakes occurred within a two-hour span in the morning and a third about 6:20 p.m. The third temblor, a magnitude 3.3, was centered about 2 miles north of the East San Jose foothills, the USGS said.</p> <p>The first quake, a magnitude-3.3, occurred at 10:32 a.m. Its <u>epicenter</u> was less than 2 miles north of the eastern foothills of San Jose, 3 miles northeast of Alum Rock and 5.1 miles southeast from Milpitas, the USGS reported. Another quake, a magnitude-2.6, was felt in the same area around 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>All of the earthquakes occurred on the Hayward Fault, the USGS said. There's nothing unusual about the quakes, the agency said, even though all five were in the same area.</p> <p>"They're good kind of earthquakes to have," geophysicist Brian Kilgore said. "They're large enough to be felt but not so large to cause damage. They are a terrific reminder to think about your personal earthquake plan."</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 US: Iran ‘clearly in default’ nuclear deal
SOURCE	https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-09-14/tillerson-says-iran-clearly-in-default-of-iran-deal-s-terms
GIST	<p>Iran is “clearly in default” of expectations under its 2015 nuclear deal, U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said, highlighting a rift with European allies and signaling the Trump administration may rule next month that the country isn’t complying with the accord.</p> <p>Tillerson said the U.S. still hasn’t made a decision about Iran’s compliance with the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, as it’s required to do every 90 days. While international inspectors have found Iran is meeting requirements to limit its nuclear program, Tillerson said Thursday in London that it’s violating aspirational language in the deal’s preface about regional peace and security. He cited its ballistic-missile program and its support for Syria’s President Bashar al-Assad.</p> <p>“In our view, Iran is clearly in default of these expectations of the JCPOA,” Tillerson said at a briefing alongside British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson. Iran’s actions are “threatening the security of those in the region as well as the United States itself,” he said.</p> <p>The remarks drew a swift response from Johnson, who has said repeatedly that the deal is working and must be adhered to. He said the current effort to rein in North Korea’s nuclear program showed the need for agreements like the 2015 Iran deal.</p> <p>“We in the U.K. want to keep that alive, and that’s certainly a point that we’ve been making to Rex and others in the administration,” Johnson said.</p> <p>Iran’s Foreign Minister Javad Zarif also weighed in, saying on Twitter, “The #JCPOA is not (re)negotiable. A ‘better’ deal is pure fantasy. About time for U.S. to stop spinning and begin complying, just like Iran.”</p> <p>The U.S. still maintains numerous sanctions against Iran over its ballistic-missile program and as a state sponsor of terrorism. On Thursday, the U.S. Treasury Department imposed new restrictions on 11 people and entities for supporting Iranian actions, including cyberattacks against U.S. financial institutions.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 NKorea missile puts Guam in range
SOURCE	https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-09-14/north-korea-launched-missile-over-japan-toward-pacific-ocean
GIST	<p>North Korea’s second missile launch over Japan in as many months flew far enough to put the U.S. territory of Guam in range, a provocation that comes days after the United Nations approved harsher sanctions against Kim Jong Un’s regime.</p> <p>The intermediate-range missile fired from Pyongyang at 6:57 a.m. on Friday flew over the northern island of Hokkaido, reaching an altitude of 770 kilometers (478 miles) before landing in the Pacific Ocean. It traveled 3,700 kilometers -- further than the 3,400 kilometers from Pyongyang to Guam, which North Korea has repeatedly threatened.</p> <p>“The range of this test was significant since North Korea demonstrated that it could reach Guam with this missile, although the payload the missile was carrying is not known,” David Wright, a co-director of the Union of Concerned Scientists, wrote in a blog post.</p> <p>North Korea, which has fired more than a dozen missiles this year, had pledged to retaliate after the UN Security Council punished the country for its sixth and most powerful nuclear test on Sept. 3. Investors largely shrugged it off on Friday, showing that financial markets are growing accustomed to North Korea’s provocations and the responses of the U.S. and its allies.</p>

	A North Korean foreign ministry official told reporters at Beijing's international airport that Friday's launch was a "normal part of strengthening our nuclear deterrent," according to NHK.
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HEADLINE	09/14 Jose weakens; approaches East Coast
SOURCE	https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2017/09/14/hurricane-jose-ambles-toward-u-s-coast-but-likely-head-north-offshore/665135001/
GIST	<p>Hurricane Jose weakened to a tropical storm Thursday as it inched closer to the U.S. mainland, but was expected to strengthen again before heading offshore up the East Coast.</p> <p>While a U.S. landfall was not totally out of the picture, particularly in the mid-Atlantic and New England areas, tracking data shows Jose likely remaining well away from the mainland.</p> <p>On Thursday afternoon, the tropical storm was located about 520 miles south-southwest of Bermuda moving west-northwest at 7 mph. It was packing sustained winds of 70 mph.</p> <p>The National Hurricane Center said Jose could likely strengthen on Friday and emerge once again as a hurricane heading into the weekend.</p> <p>Compared to the major storms Harvey and Irma that slammed Texas and Florida, Jose remained modest in size and intensity, while generating swells in Bermuda, the Bahamas, the northern coasts of Hispaniola and the southeastern U.S.</p> <p>The hurricane center said these swells could spread northward along the Mid-Atlantic coast during the next few days, however, and is likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Macy's to hire 80,000 holiday workers
SOURCE	http://www.newsmax.com/Finance/StreetTalk/macys-hire-workers-holidays/2017/09/14/id/813721/
GIST	<p>Macy's Inc. will increase by 20 percent the number of workers it hires during the holiday shopping season to staff distribution and warehouses that support its online business, but total holiday hiring will fall.</p> <p>The department store operator said on Thursday it would hire 18,000 holiday workers to fulfill online orders, including shipping and packaging, an increase of about 3,000 from last year. But total hiring for the holiday season will fall to 80,000 from 83,000 last year, the company said, with Macy's operating 70 fewer stores than it did last year.</p> <p>Rival Target Corp. on Wednesday said it would hire 43 percent more seasonal workers, or a total of 100,000, for the holiday season rush.</p> <p>It was the first time in five years that Target increased the number of holiday workers it would hire, after the retailer reported a rise in comparable-store sales for the first time in more than a year.</p> <p>Seasonal hiring plans typically point to retailers' sales expectations for the holiday season, which starts a day after Thanksgiving and continues into early January and accounts for nearly a third of annual sales.</p> <p>U.S. staffing firm Radial expects retailers, including Neiman Marcus, Ralph Lauren Corp and Toys R Us, to hire 35 percent more workers this holiday season to fill positions at distribution centers as well as for ancillary services such as order-online-pick-up-in-store and doorstep delivery.</p> <p>Macy's, like other department store operators, has been grappling with weak sales for years, as shoppers spend less on apparel and more on experiences, and as competition from online retailers such as</p>

	<p>Amazon.com Inc intensifies.</p> <p>To counteract these pressures, large chains are heavily investing in their online businesses, including building distribution centers and logistic fleets while shutting stores and cutting jobs.</p> <p>More and more retailers are now relying on temporary workers to fill positions, Moody's analyst Charles O'Shea told Reuters.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Cambodia retaliates US visa ban
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/cambodia-suspending-us-mia-searches-visa-ban-49846537?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>Cambodian Prime Minister <u>Hun Sen</u> said Thursday he will retaliate against a U.S. halt on the issuing of most visas to senior foreign ministry officials and their families by suspending missions by U.S. military-led teams searching for the remains of Americans missing in action from the Vietnam War.</p> <p>Cambodia's pro-government Fresh News website reported that Hun Sen said cooperation with the United States on the MIA search would be suspended until the two countries resolve several issues, especially the visa ban. Government spokesman Phay Siphon confirmed the report.</p> <p>The U.S. government lists 48 Americans still unaccounted for in <u>Cambodia</u>.</p> <p>The dispute comes at a time of sharp tensions between Hun Sen's government and Washington. As part of a general crackdown on critics ahead of next year's general election, Cambodian authorities recently arrested the head of the main opposition party, the Cambodia National Rescue Party, and accused the United States of colluding with him to overthrow the government.</p> <p>The United States has rejected the accusation and criticized the arrest, along with a crackdown on the media that shut an independent English-language newspaper and about a dozen radio stations that broadcast opposition voices or programming by the U.S. government-financed Voice of America and Radio Free Asia.</p> <p>The U.S. Embassy instituted the visa ban on Wednesday, saying that Cambodia had refused or delayed accepting Cambodian nationals being deported by the United States after being convicted of crimes. Similar measures were taken against the African nations of Eritrea, <u>Sierra Leone</u> and Guinea.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 'Campaign of burnings' against Rohingya
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/amensty-decries-campaign-burnings-targeting-rohingya-49854330?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>Amnesty International says it has turned up evidence of an "orchestrated campaign of systematic burnings" by <u>Myanmar</u> security forces targeting dozens of Rohingya villages over the last three weeks.</p> <p>The human rights group is releasing a new analysis of video, satellite photos, witness accounts and other data that found over 80 sites were torched in Myanmar's northern Rakhine State since an Aug. 25 militant attack on a border post. The U.N. children's agency estimates that as many as 400,000 people have fled to <u>Bangladesh</u> since then.</p> <p>Top U.N. officials, including Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, have previously expressed concerns about possible "ethnic cleansing" perpetrated against the Rohingya. But Amnesty's findings released Friday in Myanmar offer some of the most precise evidence that Rohingya areas were specifically targeted.</p>

	<p>The satellite images, contracted by Amnesty from satellite providers Deimos and Planet Labs, and other source materials point to "80 large-scale fires in inhabited areas, each measuring at least 375 meters (1,230 feet) in length" since Aug. 25, the group said.</p> <p>The data adds to many accounts of villages being burned from refugees who spoke to U.N. agencies, rights groups and journalists in Bangladesh.</p> <p>"The evidence is irrefutable — the Myanmar security forces are setting northern Rakhine State ablaze in a targeted campaign to push the <u>Rohingya people</u> out of Myanmar," said Tirana Hassan, Amnesty International's crisis response director, in a statement.</p> <p>"There is a clear and systematic pattern of abuse here. Security forces surround a village, shoot people fleeing in panic and then torch houses to the ground," she said. "In legal terms, these are crimes against humanity."</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 NKorea launches missile over Japan
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/north-korea-launches-missile-japanese-airspace-report/story?id=49858008&cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_bsq_hed
GIST	<p>For the second time in a month, North Korea has launched a missile over Japanese airspace, U.S. Pacific Command confirmed Thursday evening.</p> <p>The intermediate range ballistic missile originated from the Sunan, North Korea area and flew east over Japan before landing in the Pacific Ocean, according to a statement from Commander Dave Benham of USPACOM.</p> <p>Benham added that NORAD and USPACOM determined that the missile posed no threat to North America or Guam, respectively.</p> <p>White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said Thursday night that President Donald Trump was briefed on the missile launch by chief of staff John Kelly.</p> <p>Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said in a statement, "These continued provocations only deepen North Korea's diplomatic and economic isolation ... United Nations Security Council resolutions, including the most recent unanimous sanctions resolution, represent the floor, not the ceiling, of the actions we should take. We call on all nations to take new measures against the Kim regime."</p> <p>Japan's public broadcasting network NHK earlier reported that the missile passed over Japanese airspace near Hokkaido, the same prefecture under which a KN-17 intermediate-range missile travelled on August 28, and ultimately landed in the Pacific Ocean.</p> <p>Citing South Korean military, NHK reported that the missile traveled up 770 km (478 miles) high, and traveled for about 3,700 km (2,300 miles). It is the longest-ever such flight.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Mexico faces flurry of hurricanes
SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2017/09/14/Tropical-Storm-Norma-forms-near-Mexicos-west-coast/2221505416464/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=ts&utm_medium=5
GIST	Sept. 14 (UPI) -- Tropical Storm Norma formed Thursday south of Mexico's Baja California Peninsula, where the National Hurricane Center forecasts it to make landfall early next week.

	<p>In a <u>3 p.m. MDT advisory</u>, the NHC said the center of the storm was located 135 miles southeast of Socorro Island and 360 miles south of Cabo San Lucas. The storm was traveling north at 6 mph with maximum sustained winds of 45 mph.</p> <p>The NHC said Norma should strengthen into a hurricane by Friday and is expected to make landfall on the peninsula Monday.</p> <p>Tropical Storm Lidia already made landfall on the peninsula earlier this month, causing extensive flooding and leaving at least <u>seven people dead</u>.</p> <p>Hurricane Max, meanwhile, was churning <u>just south</u> of Norma, but was moving east toward Mexico's west coast.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Florida wastewater systems overwhelmed
SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2017/09/14/Irma-runoff-threatening-wastewater-systems-in-SW-Florida/4181505386717/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=ls&utm_medium=1
GIST	<p>Sept. 14 (UPI) -- Utility officials in southwest Florida urged residents to conserve water Thursday as wastewater systems became overwhelmed in the wake of <u>Hurricane Irma</u>.</p> <p>Lee County Utilities and Collier County Public Utilities said residents there shouldn't use any <u>unnecessary water</u>, including running dishwashers and clothes washers -- anything that puts extra water into the sewer system. Officials also urged people to limit the amount of toilet flushing and water used in baths and showers.</p> <p>Collier County Public Utilities said the wastewater systems there were so inundated with runoff from Irma flooding that if usage was not reduced enough, they may have to temporarily <u>shut off the water</u> supply to the county.</p> <p>These two counties were among the hardest hit by Hurricane Irma on Sunday, both experiencing flooding, particularly in Bonita Springs, and wind damage, like in Naples.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 UN seeks 'massive' help for Rohingya
SOURCE	http://www.reuters.com/article/us-myanmar-rohingya/u-n-seeks-massive-help-for-rohingya-fleeing-myanmar-ethnic-cleansing-idUSKCN1BP0E5
GIST	<p>DHAKA/YANGON (Reuters) - The United Nations appealed on Thursday for massive help for nearly 400,000 Muslims from Myanmar who have fled to Bangladesh, with concern growing that the number could keep rising, unless Myanmar ends what critics denounce as "ethnic cleansing".</p> <p>The Rohingya are fleeing from a Myanmar military offensive in the western state of Rakhine that was triggered by a series of guerrilla attacks on Aug. 25 on security posts and an army camp in which about a dozen people were killed.</p> <p>The United Nations has called for a massive intensification of relief operations to help the refugees, and a much bigger response from the international community.</p> <p>"We urge the international community to step up humanitarian support and come up with help," Mohammed Abdiker, director of operations and emergencies for the International Organisation for Migration, told a news conference in the Bangladeshi capital. The need was "massive", he added.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Some Iran sanctions relief extended
SOURCE	http://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-nuclear-usa/u-s-extends-some-iran-sanctions-relief-under-nuclear-deal-idUSKCN1BP22M
GIST	<p>WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The United States on Thursday extended some sanctions relief for Iran under the 2015 nuclear deal, the State Department said, but no decision has been made on whether to preserve the deal itself.</p> <p>At the same time, President Donald Trump said that Iran is violating “the spirit” of the Iran nuclear deal and the U.S. Treasury announced new cyber-related sanctions on about a dozen Iranian individuals or entities.</p> <p>“We are not going to stand for what they are doing,” Trump told reporters on Air Force One. But he stopped short of saying whether he will refuse to recertify the agreement.</p> <p>State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said the administration approved waivers of some sanctions to “maintain some flexibility” as it develops a policy to address the range of Iranian behavior.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Hurricane Irma death toll at 69
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/hurricane-irma-death-toll-florida-power-outage/
GIST	<p>MIAMI -- <u>Hurricane Irma</u> laid waste to beautiful Caribbean islands and caused historic destruction across Florida. The cleanup will take weeks; recovery will take months. Some islanders just want out. And after a huge exodus from the Florida peninsula, southbound traffic remains heavy with evacuees returning to uncertain situations, many without power or water in sweltering heat and humidity.</p> <p>By the numbers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People still without electricity: 6.8 million - about a third of Florida's population - and hundreds of thousands in Georgia, with utilities saying it could take 10 days or more before all have power. • People still in shelters in Florida: 13,000. • Money raised by Tuesday night's star-studded "<u>Hand in Hand</u>" telethon for <u>Hurricane Harvey</u> and Irma victims: \$44 million. Potential cost of damage to privately insured property in U.S. and the Caribbean: \$55 billion. <p>The confirmed death toll from Hurricane Irma stood at 69 Thursday morning. With the electrocution of a utility worker in the British Virgin Islands, at least 38 people were killed across the Caribbean.</p> <p>In the U.S., 31 deaths were reported in Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. Also, police are conducting a criminal investigation into the deaths of eight residents of a <u>nursing home in Hollywood, Florida</u>, that lost power in the storm. The owner has been accused of health care fraud. As in other disasters, Irma poses particular risks to the elderly.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 US strongly condemns Myanmar violence
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/rex-tillerson-myanmar-rohingya-aung-san-suu-kyi/
GIST	<p>LONDON -- Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has delivered the toughest condemnation yet from a Trump administration official of the persecution of <u>Myanmar's Rohingya</u> Muslims, likening the violence against them to ethnic cleansing and demanding it stop.</p> <p>On Thursday, Tillerson directed the blame toward Myanmar's powerful military, which is responsible for security operations that have seen nearly 400,000 people flee to neighboring Bangladesh in the past three</p>

weeks after Rohingya insurgents launched coordinated attacks on government forces. He reiterated support for civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi who is facing growing pressure to speak out over the military's conduct.

Tillerson said the U.S. appreciated the "difficult and complex situation" Suu Kyi finds herself in, sharing political power with the military, but he also described the "horrors" occurring in the Southeast Asian nation as a "defining moment" for its new democracy.

"This violence must stop, this persecution must stop. It has been characterized by many as ethnic cleansing. That must stop," Tillerson told a news conference in London after talks with Britain and France.

"We need to support Aung San Suu Kyi and her leadership but also be very clear to the military that are power-sharing in that government that this is unacceptable."

British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson was more strident in criticizing Suu Kyi. He said the suffering of the Rohingya people was an "abomination," and that Suu Kyi must use her authority to halt the violence against them.

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HEADLINE	09/14 Ft Bragg: 1 dead, 7 injured training mishap
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/US/soldiers-injured-fort-bragg-training-incident/story?id=49848682
GIST	<p>One soldier is dead and seven more were injured in a demolitions training mishap at a Fort Bragg, North Carolina, firing range.</p> <p>The injuries were caused by an explosion, according to ABC station <u>WTVD</u>. The injured soldiers were transported by air and ground to various area hospitals for treatment.</p> <p>The cause of death for 32-year-old Staff Sgt. Alexander P. Dalida of Dunstable, Massachusetts is under investigation, Fort Bragg officials said in a press release. Dalida was enrolled in the Special Forces Qualification Course at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, the release stated.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/13 Poll: 40% can't name First Amend. rights
SOURCE	http://philadelphia.cbslocal.com/2017/09/13/americans-cant-name-rights/
GIST	<p>PHILADELPHIA (CBS) — A recent <u>poll</u> conducted by the University of Pennsylvania finds that residents of the United States are poorly informed about basic constitutional provisions.</p> <p>The newly released survey suggests Americans cannot name a single right protected by the First Amendment.</p> <p>According to Penn's Annenberg Public Policy Center released Tuesday, 37 percent could not name any of the five rights protected by First Amendment, and just about half (48 percent) could name freedom of speech.</p> <p>In addition, the survey found that 33 percent of those polled were unable to name one of the three branches of the U.S. government, such as legislative, executive and judicial. And only 26 percent of the respondents could name the three branches.</p> <p>"Protecting the rights guaranteed by the Constitution presupposes that we know what they are. The fact that many don't is worrisome," said Kathleen Hall Jamieson, director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center. "These results emphasize the need for high-quality civics education in the schools and for press</p>

	reporting that underscores the existence of constitutional protections.”
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Cyber Awareness

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HEADLINE	09/14 Hacker sentenced stealing US military data
SOURCE	http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-birmingham-41275091
GIST	<p>A computer hacker who admitted stealing hundreds of user accounts from a US military communications system has been given a suspended prison sentence.</p> <p>Sean Caffrey, 25, from Sutton Coldfield, hacked into the US Department of Defense system in 2014. He accessed and stole the ranks, user-names and email addresses of more than 800 users, as well as hacking about 30,000 satellite phones.</p> <p>Caffrey was given a suspended sentence of 18 months at Birmingham Crown Court.</p> <p>The American Department of Defense said the 2014 attack, an offence under the Computer Misuse Act, took 50 hours to repair at a cost of more than \$600,000 (approximately £450,000).</p> <p>Forensic examination of Caffrey's computers found the stolen data on the hard drives. Officers also found that an online messaging account linked to the attack had been opened and operated under a pseudonym using Caffrey's computers.</p> <p>Caffrey, of Lichfield Road, admitted causing a computer to perform a function to secure unauthorised access to a program or data.</p> <p>Rose-Marie Franton, from the Crown Prosecution Service, said: "By infiltrating the computer systems of the American military, Sean Caffrey caused an international security breach which cost hundreds of thousands to fix.</p> <p>"Despite his efforts to mask his online identity, the prosecution was able to build a compelling case against him. Faced with the evidence, Caffrey admitted his guilt."</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 Welp, Vevo just got hacked
SOURCE	http://gizmodo.com/welp-vevo-just-got-hacked-1813390834
GIST	<p>Another day, another multinational video service brought to its knees by a group of rogue hackers with a bone to pick.</p> <p>Vevo, the joint venture between Universal Music Group, Sony Music Entertainment, Abu Dhabi Media, Warner Music Group, and Alphabet Inc. (Google's parent company), was just hacked.</p> <p>Roughly 3.12TB worth of internal files have been posted online, and a couple of the documents reviewed by Gizmodo appear sensitive.</p> <p>The OurMine hacker squad has claimed responsibility for the breach. The group is well known: They hijacked WikiLeaks' DNS last month shortly after they took over HBO's Twitter account; last year, they took over Mark Zuckerberg's Twitter and Pinterest accounts; and they hit both BuzzFeed and TechCrunch not long after that.</p> <p>The leaked cache contains a wide variety of office documents, videos, and other promotional materials. Based on a cursory review, a majority of the files seemed pretty mild—weekly music charts, pre-planned</p>

social media content, and various details about the artists under the record companies' management.

OurMine typically hacks people because, well, it can. The group's primary goal is demonstrating to companies that they have weak security. In this case, the hackers managed to compromise an employee account for Okta, the single sign-on workplace app. Usually they don't resort to leaking large caches of files—at least to our knowledge—but in this case it sounds like someone may have pissed them off.

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HEADLINE	09/14 Why US is banning Kaspersky software
SOURCE	https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/checkpoint/wp/2017/09/14/why-the-u-s-government-is-moving-to-ban-this-russian-software-company/?utm_term=.bef2a32041ff
GIST	<p>On Wednesday, the U.S. government declared that <u>federal agencies must identify a popular brand of security software</u> on their networks and prepare a plan to remove it because of its creator's potential ties to Russia's cyberespionage activities.</p> <p>Kaspersky Lab, the software company, is used by at least a half-dozen federal civilian agencies to some degree, according to U.S. officials. There may also be other agencies in which the software is being used without the knowledge of that agency's chief information security officer. However, officials have not publicly disclosed which agencies exactly are using Kaspersky products.</p> <p>Here's what you need to know about the software company:</p> <p>What is Kaspersky? Kaspersky is a Russian software company founded in 1997 by Eugene Kaspersky, a decade after he had graduated from a KGB-supported cryptography school and worked in Russian military intelligence. Today, most of its business comes from outside Russia, and the company boasts 400 million users and 270,000 corporate clients worldwide.</p> <p>Kaspersky offers software that can detect malicious computer viruses or help a company keep track of cybersecurity data being gathered on different portions of its network.</p> <p>What did the U.S. government actually do? The acting homeland security secretary, Elaine Duke, issued an order Wednesday that federal civilian agencies identify Kaspersky software on their networks. After 90 days, unless otherwise directed, they must remove the software, on the grounds that the company has connections to the Russian government and its software poses a security risk. The order does not apply to military networks. However, the Defense Department and intelligence agencies generally do not use Kaspersky software and have not for a number of years.</p> <p>Nonetheless, Congress is considering legislation that would implement a government-wide ban on Kaspersky products.</p> <p>In July, the General Services Administration, the agency in charge of government purchasing, removed Kaspersky from its list of approved vendors. In doing so, the GSA suggested a vulnerability exists with Kaspersky products that could give the Kremlin surreptitious access to the systems using the software.</p> <p>What is the U.S. government worried about? The U.S. government is worried that Kaspersky products provide a covert means of spying on American networks.</p> <p>What has Kaspersky said? Kaspersky adamantly denies it is spying on behalf of Moscow. In a statement Wednesday, it said it "doesn't have inappropriate ties with any government" and that "no credible evidence has been presented publicly by anyone or any organization to back up the false allegations made against the company."</p>

	<p>“Kaspersky Lab has never helped, nor will help, any government in the world with its cyberespionage or offensive cyber efforts, and it’s disconcerting that a private company can be considered guilty until proven innocent, due to geopolitical issues,” the company said in a statement.</p> <p>DHS said in a statement Wednesday that Russian law allows Russian spy agencies to compel assistance from Kaspersky and to intercept communications transiting Russian networks.</p> <p>DHS has given Kaspersky 90 days to provide proof that its products are not facilitating espionage for Russia or to offer mitigating measures. If the company fails to do so, DHS will implement the ban.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 What identity sells for on dark web
SOURCE	https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-09-15/equifax-hack-your-social-security-and-identity-are-for-sale
GIST	<p>How much is your personal data worth to you? A lot. (Thanks, Equifax.) And how much is it worth to an identity thief?</p> <p>You may be surprised, or insulted, or enraged, to find out.</p> <p>Verified high-limit credit cards from countries including the U.S., Japan, and South Korea are selling on the dark web for the bitcoin equivalent of about \$10 to \$20, according to an annual report on cybercrime by Secureworks, a unit of Dell Inc.</p> <p>The dark web is “the collection of Internet forums, digital shop fronts and chat rooms that cybercriminals use to form alliances, trade tools and techniques, and sell compromised data that can include banking details, personally identifiable information and other content,” as Secureworks defines it.</p> <p>Verified means the seller has tested out transactions on the card and found it hasn’t been canceled yet. For scammers on a budget, there’s unverified stolen credit card data, which comes out to pennies a card when bought in bulk.</p> <p>Credit cards generally aren’t selling any cheaper on the dark web these days, said Alex Tilley, a senior security researcher on Secureworks’ counter threat unit research team. But buyers are more likely to get higher-quality cards today, ones with sizable limits and suitable properties for fraud. It isn’t as hit-or-miss as it used to be—a welcome change for criminals, chilling news for most of us.</p> <p>Business credit cards are in favor, since they sometimes have no limit on spending, Tilley said. Those and high-end personal cards—say, a Platinum American Express that has been verified and has an 85 percent rating (judged by the seller to have an 85 percent chance of being successfully used in a fraud)—will go for \$15 to \$20. A regular Mastercard that doesn’t have a big limit might go for \$9.</p> <p>But wait, there’s more. An underground hacker market inexplicably called Trump’s Dumps is selling full identities of individuals just like you for as little as \$10 apiece. They’re called fullz, “dossiers that provide enough financial, geographic and biographical information on a victim to facilitate identity theft or other impersonation-based fraud,” the report explains. Fullz can help a criminal get past those irritating “secret questions” that sites ask to verify your identity.</p> <p>Recently, Secureworks’ researchers have seen more offers of bulk pre-verified card details, along with more identifying information about the owners. In some cases, offers even include the cardholder’s mother’s maiden name. Still, they cost just \$10 to \$12.</p> <p>In fact, the prices Secureworks cites for these examples of personal data are lower than what fraudsters have been willing to pay for documents like W-2s, which can be used to file false tax returns. Tax-filing</p>

	<p>data, which don't expire, can go for about \$40 to \$50, according to a report from IBM's security research group, known as the IBM X-Force, published earlier this year.</p> <p>No piece of personal information is innocuous, Tilley said. Criminals will amass bits of data on people, waiting until they have enough that their fraud attempt is likely to succeed.</p> <p>"Everything is valuable," he said. One bit of information "could be the last piece of a puzzle someone needed to take out a loan in your name. You don't know how far along criminals are until it's too late."</p> <p>Credit monitoring and freezes could be the only hope of protecting yourself, Tilley said. "The problem is that you put a lot of trust in the third-party companies that hold your data, and that's a little out of your control."</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Admiral: US tolerated cyber 'acts of war'
SOURCE	http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/admiral-us-tolerated-cyber-acts-of-war-over-last-decade/article/2634407
GIST	<p>Cyber attacks that might have constituted an "act of war" went unpunished by the U.S. over the last decade, leading to a more dangerous cyber environment, according to a top Navy admiral.</p> <p>"We've had an awful lot of examples of what, 10 years ago, we assumed would be construed as an act of war," Vice Adm. Jan Tighe said Thursday. "And, in a lot of cases, there has not been a response, either a military response or a diplomatic response."</p> <p>Tighe, the deputy chief of naval operations for information warfare, suggested that policy makers in recent years failed to develop international standards due to a belief that cyber technology was too nascent. But the danger of hacking threats grew quickly, leaving U.S. officials uncertain of how to respond.</p> <p>For example, Russian-linked hackers shut down an electrical grid in Ukraine, leaving hundreds of thousands of people without power for several hours.</p> <p>"The international community did not even really come out strongly and say, 'this is unacceptable, you cannot go after critical infrastructure,'" she said at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.</p> <p>"Where is the hue and cry in that? And so, what that says is, that must be okay. That must be perfectly acceptable. When you're not at war, you can attack someone's critical infrastructure."</p> <p>Military analysts and some lawmakers worry that the United States is unprepared to respond if hackers similarly target the American power grid. "There is not a single cyber resource type within [the Department of Homeland Security] or FEMA that allows a state to request cyber response assistance from the federal government or even state to state using existing emergency management processes," Col. Gent Welsh, a commander in the Washington Air National Guard who oversees an elite cybersecurity unit, <u>told</u> a Senate panel in April.</p> <p>Tighe acknowledged that the lack of clear rules also brings a degree of freedom for her team, just as it does for foreign adversaries. "I don't have to invoke rules of engagement in my current job, at the Pentagon," she said. "Well, maybe just with my co-workers."</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 DNI: digital threats mounting
SOURCE	http://www.govtech.com/security/Director-of-National-Intelligence-Digital-Threats-to-United-States-Are-Mounting.html

GIST	<p>(TNS) -- WASHINGTON — Several nations around the globe are capable of launching catastrophic cyberattacks but have refrained from doing so because it would be perceived as an act of war, a veteran security expert said Wednesday.</p> <p>“We’ve been incredibly lucky but I do believe that things may change,” Charles Carmakal, vice president of Mandiant, a cybersecurity company owned by FireEye of Milpitas, Calif., said at a forum Wednesday.</p> <p>Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats opened the 8th Annual Billington Cybersecurity Summit with a warning that digital threats to the United States are mounting.</p> <p>“We have not experienced — yet — a catastrophic attack. But I think everyone in this room is aware of the ever-growing threat to our national security,” Coats said, adding that attacks on electrical grids and other utilities are a rising concern.</p> <p>“It doesn’t take much effort to imagine the consequences of an attack that knocks out power in Boston in February or power in Phoenix in July,” Coats said.</p> <p>Coats said he was about to head over to the White House to offer President Donald Trump his daily presidential brief on intelligence matters.</p> <p>“Among the many issues that we discuss on an almost daily basis, cyber threats have risen to almost the top,” Coats said, noting that adversaries like China and Russia “are becoming more assertive, more capable and more adept at using cyberspace to threaten our interests.”</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Point-of-sale malware strains identified
SOURCE	https://www.hackread.com/4000-elasticsearch-servers-caught-hosting-pos-malware/
GIST	<p>Kromtech’s security researchers have identified two <u>point-of-sale (POS) malware</u> strains namely AlinaPOS and JackPOS hosted on more than 4,000 ElasticSearch servers. It is the same platform that was targeted in the <u>MongoDB ransomware campaign</u>. In total there are over 15,000 servers on ElasticSearch that don’t possess any authentication and password protection while the POS malware strains are hidden in more than 4,000 servers.</p> <p>It is surprising that the infections have been there since 2016 while the latest infection activity was noted in August 2017. Researchers also discovered that the two malware strains are now available for sale on the Dark Web hacking forums while cyber criminals have been using them since 2012.</p> <p>The command and control servers of the two <u>malware</u> strains run on the infected hosts. Therefore, every infected server at ElasticSearch becomes part of a wider POS <u>Botnet</u> network providing command and control facility to POS malware clients, who then collect, encrypt and transfer sensitive financial data like credit card information. The data is stolen from infected Windows based computers, POS terminals and/or RAM.</p> <p>What’s even more surprising is the fact that almost 99% of these infected servers are hosted in AWS/Amazon Web Services, which is an otherwise trusted source.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Threat intel strategies suffer data overload
SOURCE	https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/threat-intelligence-strategies/
GIST	While 86% of organizations believe threat intelligence is valuable to their security mission, many of them struggle with an overwhelming amount of threat data and a lack of staff expertise to make the most of their threat intelligence programs.

	<p>That's according to Ponemon Institute, which found in a recent report that a full 80% of North American organizations surveyed are using threat intelligence as part of their cybersecurity program, up a healthy 15% from 2016. Also, 84% of respondents identified threat intelligence as essential, an increase of 6% from the previous year.</p> <p>However, less than half (41%) of the 1,000 IT and IT security practitioners surveyed rated their organizations as highly effective in the use of threat intelligence.</p> <p>Granted, that's up from 27% of respondents in 2016, but it still shows that organizations struggle to maximize the value of the knowledge they're collecting.</p> <p>A prime culprit is threat data overload: 69% of respondents indicated that threat intelligence data is too voluminous and complex to provide actionable intelligence.</p> <p>"It's abundantly clear that organizations now understand the benefits provided by threat intelligence, but the overwhelming volume of threat data continues to pose a hurdle to truly effective adoption," said Larry Ponemon, chairman and founder of the Ponemon Institute. "Threat intelligence programs are often challenging to implement, but when done right, they are a critical element in an organization's security program. The significant growth in adoption over the past year is encouraging as it indicates widespread recognition of the value threat intelligence provides."</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Report: companies subjected daily attacks
SOURCE	https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/average-company-daily-web-attacks/
GIST	<p>The average number of attacks against any company's set of web applications is staggering: They range from 300 to 800 per day—and never fall below 140.</p> <p>That's according to Positive Technologies research, which also found that some companies fare worse than others: In the second quarter, one company was targeted more than 35,000 times in just one day.</p> <p>The second quarter of 2017 saw a stable but persistent level of attack activity, the firm found. More than two-thirds (39.1%) of attacks involved cross-site scripting (XSS), while almost a quarter (24.9%) used SQL injections—suggesting the aim for a significant portion of attacks is to access or steal sensitive information.</p> <p>In addition, the report shows that hackers are actively exploiting recently identified vulnerabilities. The minimum time lag between publication of a new vulnerability and the moment of a related attack can be as little as three days. As such, using out-of-date software has a significant impact on the ability of hackers to launch an attack as information about vulnerabilities is readily available, as are ready-to-use exploits.</p> <p>The report also reveals that hackers are most likely to target businesses during the work day. About a third (31%) of all web application attacks took place during the daylight hours, with 2 pm appearing as the most dangerous time. Just one-fifth took place in the middle of the night, suggesting hackers are targeting businesses while people tend to be online at work—or that they keep regular hours themselves.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 CDNs attacked to spread malware
SOURCE	http://www.securityweek.com/new-attack-abuses-cdns-spread-malware
GIST	Content delivery networks (CDNs) are being increasingly abused to spread malware, courtesy of standards that allow the download and execution of payloads on computers, ESET warns.

The security firm analyzed the *downAndExec* standard, which makes extensive use of JS scripts and enables the download and execution of malware. In one attack, miscreants were observed using the standard and abusing CDNs to deliver banking threats to users in Brazil, the researchers reveal.

The attack chain starts with social engineering techniques being used to trick victims into executing a malicious application detected as *NSIS/TrojanDropper.Agent.CL*. This is a malware downloader designed to fetch a single snippet of externally-hosted JS necessary to supplement the execution process.

The JS snippet is hosted on the infrastructure of a CDN provider, which not only provides high bandwidth for payload delivery and command and control (C&C) operations, but also ensures that takedown attempts aren't immediately successful, as it is impracticable to block the entire CDN domain.

Searching for indicators of compromise is also difficult in such cases, as the affected environments might have a large number of access records made by non-malicious software, the security researchers say.

After the content of said JS snippet is fetched, a function is called to add to the end of the JS snippet a string containing "*downAndExec*" and two parameters representing the URL where the C&C is hosted, and "x-id" data, which is necessary to download other payloads.

The researchers also discovered that in addition to obfuscation, protection against sandboxing has been implemented as well. Thus, the malicious code isn't executed if the JS snippet is analyzed separately. Moreover, the script performs a series of checks before executing malicious functions, to make sure that the target machine is of potential interest.

The malware checks for various files, after which it starts looking for folders associated with banking programs such as Bradesco, Itaú, Sicoob and Santander. The researchers suggest that this check is probably intended to prevent activation of malicious functions on computers that are not used for online banking.

Finally, the malware also checks whether the target computer is located in Brazil. This shows that the attack is targeted and might also be meant to avoid analysis. The snippet verifies that the customer IP is from a Brazilian AS (autonomous system).

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HEADLINE	09/14 Malicious WordPress plugin 'backdoor'
SOURCE	https://www.scmagazine.com/malicious-wordpress-plugin-installed-backdoor-on-20000-websites/article/688878/
GIST	<p>A very persistent malicious actor used a WordFence plugin to install backdoors on possibly 200,000 websites since June 21.</p> <p>The hacker used the open-source Display Widgets plugin, which lets users control how their WordPress plugins appear on their sites, as the delivery mechanism for the backdoor. Although the number of potentially infected sites is large, what is almost as impressive is the hacker's persistence. The infected plugin was repeatedly removed from the site by Wordpress.org between June 22 and September 8 with the hacker dutifully replaced it.</p> <p>It was finally removed for good on September 8.</p> <p>While it has not appeared again, WordPress.org has issued a warning to its uses through its security arm WordFence.</p> <p>"If you have a plugin called "Display Widgets" on your WordPress website, remove it immediately. The last three releases of the plugin have contained code that allows the author to publish any content on your site. It is a backdoor," WordFence wrote.</p>

	<p>WordPress and other content management systems have been a constant target for hackers over the years.</p> <p>When active the backdoor allows unauthorized people to post spam content to the targeted site and is currently being used by about 200,000 websites, WordFence said.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Game of Thrones spoiler: multiple endings
SOURCE	https://www.scmagazine.com/hbo-execs-film-multiple-game-of-thrones-endings-to-thwart-leaks/article/688863/
GIST	<p>Burned by recent leaks and data breaches, Game of Thrones creators will film multiple endings for the shows season eight grand finale to thwart spoilers in the event of another breach.</p> <p>The executives overseeing one of the most popular shows on television decided to take extreme precaution following the massive HBO hack in August when cybercriminals made off with more than a terabyte of leaked episodes including GOT episodes.</p> <p>"I know in <i>Game of Thrones</i>, the ending, they're going to shoot multiple versions so that nobody really know what happens," HBO president of programming Casey Bloys said while speaking to a group of students at Moravian College in his hometown of Bethlehem, Pa., according to The Morning Call. "You have to do that on a long show. Because when you're shooting something, people know."</p> <p>Bloys said the decision will ensure there is no definitive ending if anything were to leak ahead of schedule such as when hackers from the most recent breach threatened to leak the season seven finale. As a result of the decision, even the shows actors will have to wait until the show officially airs to see who lives, dies, and ultimately takes the iron throne.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Kaspersky ban raises industry concerns
SOURCE	https://www.scmagazine.com/kasperky-ban-raises-concerns-among-cyber-pros-consumers-draws-kremlin-rebuke/article/688897/
GIST	<p>The U.S. government's decision to ban Kaspersky Lab security software prompted both criticism and praise from the security industry, ignited a flurry of concern from consumers over their own Kaspersky purchases and drew a sharp rebuke from the Kremlin.</p> <p>The directive weighed on an already strained relationship with Moscow, including allegations that Russia interfered in the U.S. presidential election. Kremlin Press Secretary Dmitry Peskov said the decision in general throws "a shadow "over the image of our American counterparts as reliable partners," the TASS news agency reported.</p> <p>"The Department is concerned about the ties between certain Kaspersky officials and Russian intelligence and other government agencies, and requirements under Russian law that allow Russian intelligence agencies to request or compel assistance from Kaspersky and to intercept communications transiting Russian networks," according to a DHS statement issued Wednesday.</p> <p>Calling the U.S. government's action "a pity," Peskov said it "centers around unfair competition, violation of all international trade rules and, of course, aims to undermine the positions of the Russian companies that are competitive on the world scene."</p> <p>But Eric O'Neill, national security strategist at Carbon Black, noted that "Unlike the United States, Russian intelligence services can presumably compel a Russian company to provide information that will assist Russian espionage efforts."</p>

Calling Kaspersky “an upstanding cybersecurity company” that hasn't been shown to have “ever complied with any such request” or even received such a request, O'Neill maintained “our heightened level of concern against Russian attacks drives many of these decisions.”

While O'Neill said he didn't place the fault with either Kaspersky or the U.S. government for the directive, which “may appear extreme,” he said the blame “should be laid directly at the feet of Russian Intelligence,” which “doesn't play by any rule book” and whose spies employ brazen tactics.

“The Russia government has waged a silent war against the United States for years, most recently in attempting to influence our 2016 election,” said O'Neill. “As traditional spies have evolved into hackers and spy agencies have focused on cyber penetrations, Russian intelligence has led the charge.”

Although he would like “to think that Kaspersky would take the same stand against a Russian request for information that Apple did when the FBI asked them to break encryption,” the former FBI agent said he didn't “fault the United States government for their lack of trust in a company that survives in a political culture much different from ours.”

Apple spurned attempts by the federal government pressure the company to include what amounted to a backdoor in its products. U.S. software companies might find themselves in the same boat as Kaspersky abroad, though, if those attempts are successful in the future. “It is not even controversial to know that other governments will taking the same steps against US software manufacturers if they are forced to include encryption backdoors,” said Venafi CEO Jeff Hudson.

“U.S. government officials are pressuring software companies to implement encryption backdoors because they think it will help them catch potential terrorists. At the same time, they banned security software from a Russian company for use in the U.S. government because they are concerned about security backdoors. They want to have it both ways which is understandable.”

But the net result, he said, “is that the entire internet will become completely untrustable -- there will be back doors everywhere and governments and bad guys will use them at will. We have to hold ourselves to a higher standard and lead the way to show the rest of the world the right way to secure the internet.”

As news of the government's ban spread, concern grew among consumers who have purchased the software, particularly after reports that Best Buy had scratched Kaspersky from its offerings.

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HEADLINE	09/13 Equifax blames months-old server flaw
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/equifax-blames-months-old-web-server-flaw-for-allowing-hack/
GIST	<p>Equifax said Wednesday a months-old but apparently unpatched web server vulnerability allowed the <u>massive data breach</u> that <u>exposed the personal financial information</u> for roughly half the U.S. population.</p> <p>Equifax said it <u>identified</u> Apache Struts CVE-2017-5638, a flaw that was first identified on March 6, as the hack's gateway. The company located the problem with the help of an unidentified cybersecurity firm. Patches for the vulnerability were <u>made available</u> less than a week later.</p> <p>It wasn't immediately clear why the flaw still existed on Equifax's servers in mid-May when the massive, months-long hack began. Equifax representatives didn't respond to a request for comment.</p> <p>The revelation of an unpatched vulnerability raises further questions about the hack, which the credit-reporting firm revealed less than a week ago. <u>Hackers made off with a treasure trove of financial data</u> from as many as 143 million people in the U.S., including names, Social Security numbers, birth dates and addresses of customers. Equifax learned about the breach on July 29 but didn't reveal it for more than a</p>

	<p>month.</p> <p>The breach, which was particularly potent because one company held such a large amount of sensitive information, is among the largest in U.S. history and the biggest known leak of 2017. Yahoo lost data on roughly a record 1 billion accounts in 2013, the web portal said last year.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 School shooter posted troubling videos
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/spokane-school-shooting-alleged-gunman-youtube-videos/
GIST	<p>Disturbing new details are emerging about a <u>deadly shooting at a Washington high school</u> near Spokane that left one student dead and three others injured. Witnesses say the suspected gunman is sophomore Caleb Sharpe. He is in custody but has not been charged.</p> <p>Videos posted to YouTube appear to show Sharpe shooting toy guns. In one video, Sharpe pretends to shoot a friend before going inside to play a video game, reports CBS News' Mireya Villarreal.</p> <p>The Spokane sheriff says the shooter was stopped by a school employee, and credited that employee with preventing further bloodshed. According to the Associated Press, that school employee was a custodian.</p> <p>Just after 10 a.m., chaos erupted on the second floor of Freeman High School in Rockford, Washington, when one student pulled out a gun. Students ran for cover – except for one. Witnesses say Sam Strahan went toward the shooter, trying to stop him</p> <p>"These are senseless and tragic events that really don't need to happen," said Spokane County Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich.</p> <p>Knezovich says the suspected student shooter brought two weapons to Freeman High School on Wednesday. He opened fire in the hallway on the second floor.</p> <p>"He attempted to fire one weapon, it jammed. He went to his next weapon and student walked up to him, engaged him and that student was shot. That student did not survive," Knezovich said.</p> <p>Witnesses say the gunman then began shooting down the hall, striking three more students.</p> <p>Knezovich says there is no known motive yet, but bullying could have played a part.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 FTC launches Equifax probe
SOURCE	https://www.nbcnews.com/business/consumer/equifax-melts-down-under-surge-angry-consumers-n800991
GIST	<p>In an unusual move, the FTC announced Thursday it had launched a probe into the Equifax data breach, turning up the heat on the credit bureau after it revealed that data on 143 million Americans had been hacked.</p> <p>"The FTC typically does not comment on ongoing investigations," Peter Kaplan, acting director of public affairs for the agency, said in a statement. "However, in light of the intense public interest and the potential impact of this matter, I can confirm that FTC staff is investigating the Equifax data breach."</p> <p>The move by the top consumer watchdog only underscores the severity of the data heist and the importance for consumers to take immediate steps to secure their identities. Experts say <u>the strongest, though not most painless, way to protect yourself after the breach that is to freeze your credit</u> — but the surge in demand has overloaded the credit bureaus' abilities to handle the influx of requests.</p>

	<p>As of Thursday morning, all three major credit reporting agencies intermittently gave error messages and prevented consumers from filing online requests to have their credit reports frozen.</p> <p>Equifax's website said "System Currently Unavailable - Error 500" and suggested consumers try contacting the other credit bureaus.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Wash. AG: consider credit freeze
SOURCE	http://www.seattletimes.com/business/washingtonians-heres-how-much-it-costs-to-freeze-your-credit/
GIST	<p>It's been a week since news broke of what could be the largest hack of credit data ever, and many Americans still aren't sure whether their financial information is vulnerable.</p> <p>Along with many other authorities, Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson this week encouraged all Washingtonians to consider a credit freeze even if Equifax says on its security site that your personal data wasn't breached.</p> <p>A credit freeze, the attorney general's website says, makes it harder for a hacker to open an account or credit card in your name — but consumers must place a freeze with all three credit-reporting agencies, and you cannot open new lines of credit until the freeze is temporarily lifted or removed.</p> <p>Although Equifax is waiving its fee for credit freezes until Nov. 21, it usually costs to place a freeze, unless you are already a victim of identity theft. Here's how much they cost in Washington:</p> <p>Equifax: Freezes are free, for the next few weeks. Removing or temporarily lifting the fee costs \$10, according to Equifax's website, unless you're 65 or older. If you're removing a security freeze for a protected consumer — which Washington state law defines as someone under 16, is incapacitated or has a guardian or conservator — the removal fee is \$3.</p> <p>TransUnion: In Washington, it costs \$10 to have TransUnion freeze your credit if you're not a victim of identity theft and under 65. It's free for seniors. It is free for all consumers to remove the freeze, according to TransUnion's website. TransUnion's website doesn't mention a waiver for protected consumers.</p> <p>Experian: \$10.95 (which includes tax) to freeze, and \$10.95 to remove. If you are over the age of 65, or a protected consumer under Washington law, the fee is waived, according to Experian's website. Ferguson's office encouraged Washingtonians to get the free annual credit reports provided by the three major credit-reporting agencies, spacing the reports out every four months to stay up to date.</p> <p>Washingtonians who have had their information stolen should report it to the Federal Trade Commission at www.identitytheft.gov and file a police report.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Navy still determining collisions cause
SOURCE	http://foreignpolicy.com/2017/09/14/u-s-navy-investigating-if-destroyer-crash-was-caused-by-cyberattack/
GIST	<p>The military is examining whether compromised computer systems were responsible for one of two U.S. Navy destroyer collisions with merchant vessels that occurred in recent months, Vice Admiral Jan Tighe, the deputy chief of naval operations for information warfare, said on Thursday.</p> <p>Naval investigators are scrambling to determine the causes of the mishaps, including whether hackers infiltrated the computer systems of the USS <i>John S. McCain</i> ahead of the collision on Aug. 21, Tighe said</p>

	<p>during an appearance at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.</p> <p>Investigators are not, however, considering the possibility that the USS <i>Fitzgerald</i> collision, which took place on June 17, was the result of hacking.</p> <p>“With the <i>McCain</i> incident happening so close to the <i>Fitzgerald</i>,” questions immediately arose about whether computer manipulation could have been the cause of the crash, Tighe said. The Navy has no indication that a cyberattack was behind either of the incidents, but is dispatching investigators to the <i>McCain</i> to put those questions to rest, she said.</p> <p>Tighe said the Navy plans to use the results of the <i>McCain</i> probe to include a look at cybersecurity in future investigations.</p> <p>The two collisions left a total of 17 sailors dead and the Navy humiliated. Chief of Naval Operations John Richardson ordered a halt to operations after the second collision and called on the service to review safety protocols for its global fleet.</p> <p>While the idea of a cyberattack causing a collision remain purely speculative, U.S. intelligence officials have warned in recent years that this sort of digital threat could pose a major problem for the Navy’s sprawling armada. Tighe said on Thursday that the service has already set aside \$1.5 billion between fiscal years 2014 and 2023 to improve defenses.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Facebook allowed ads target ‘Jew haters’
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/facebook-ads-targeting-jew-haters-propublica-report/
GIST	<p>Social media giant Facebook is again in the headlines, this time for allowing advertisers to target users who described themselves as "Jew haters" or were interested in topics like "How to burn jews" or "History of 'why jews ruin the world.'"</p> <p>It was discovered by the investigative journalism site ProPublica, which tested the system by purchasing \$30 worth of "promoted posts" that would appear in Facebook's newsfeed for a targeted audience. It said the entire process was approved within 15 minutes.</p> <p>"Want to market Nazi memorabilia, or recruit marchers for a far-right rally? Facebook's self-service ad-buying platform had the right audience for you," the ProPublica article said.</p> <p>ProPublica contacted Facebook about what it found and the company removed the anti-Semitic categories. ProPublica reported the categories were created by an algorithm, not by people, and said Facebook would "explore ways to fix the problem."</p> <p>CBS News received a statement Thursday evening on behalf of Facebook that clarified that the categories were created automatically based off information users fill out in their Facebook profiles.</p> <p>The statement in part read, "Users filling out their profiles may have added descriptions like 'Jew hater,' which then would appear to advertisers as potential categories of users to which ads could be directed, but there's no algorithm involved."</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Portland: Uber software evaded officials
SOURCE	http://www.reuters.com/article/us-uber-portland/portland-probe-finds-uber-used-software-to-evade-16-government-officials-idUSKCN1BQ08Z
GIST	(Reuters) - A sweeping investigation by the city of Portland, Oregon, found that Uber Technologies Inc

used a software tool to intentionally evade 16 government officials whose job it was to regulate the ride-services company, city officials said on Thursday.

When Uber began operating in Portland in December 2014, it did not have any permits, so it used a software tool it had created called Greyball to block regulators from booking rides. Uber stopped using the software after it received approval to operate its service in Portland in April 2015.

The city imposed no fines or other penalties but transportation officials have recommended that the city ramp up enforcement efforts.

“We have ensured that no attempts to evade regulators or deny service to riders” will be allowed in the future, Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman said in a statement.

Portland launched its investigation after the New York Times reported in March that Uber used Greyball to evade government officials in areas where its service had not yet been approved, such as Portland, Boston, Paris and Las Vegas, and in countries such as Australia, China, Italy and South Korea.

Greyball allowed Uber to ignore or cancel ride requests from locations near enforcement agencies and from accounts with credit cards believed to belong to government workers. The tool also allowed Uber to show that no cars were available.

Portland found that when Uber started operating in the city in December 2014, the company used Greyball to block 17 rider accounts, 16 of which belonged to government officials, and deny 29 ride requests by city transportation enforcement officers.

“In using Greyball, Uber has sullied its own reputation,” the Portland Bureau of Transportation wrote in its report.

A spokesman for Uber said the company was “pleased the investigation was closed” and “will continue working in partnership with the City of Portland.”

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HEADLINE	09/15 China agency: cryptocurrency risky
SOURCE	http://www.reuters.com/article/us-bitcoin-china/china-body-calls-digital-tokens-risky-two-bitcoin-platforms-to-shut-idUSKCN1BQ07P
GIST	<p>SHANGHAI (Reuters) - A senior executive at China’s state-backed internet finance body said on Friday “stateless” digital tokens such as bitcoin posed risks as they could be used for illegal actions, and rules are needed to support the development of “legal” digital currencies.</p> <p>The comments came a day after one China bitcoin platform said it will close on Sept. 30 and a few hours before a second platform announced it was stopping operations.</p> <p>Li Lihui, a senior official at the National Internet Finance Association of China and a former president of the Bank of China, also told a conference in Shanghai that global regulators should work together to supervise cryptocurrencies.</p> <p>His comments came as Beijing cracks down on the cryptocurrency business to contain risks as consumers pile into a highly risky and speculative market that’s grown rapidly this year.</p> <p>BTCChina, a major Chinese bitcoin exchange, said on Thursday it would stop all trading from Sept. 30, citing tightening regulation. That sparked a slide in the value of the cryptocurrency, leaving it more than 30 percent below the record high of nearly \$5,000 hit on Sept. 2.</p> <p>ViaBTC, a smaller Chinese bitcoin exchange, on Friday became the second to announce it will close at the</p>

	end of September.
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HEADLINE	09/14 Microsoft adds cloud security
SOURCE	https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-09-14/microsoft-adds-cloud-security-to-keep-out-hackers-and-government-snoops
GIST	<p>Microsoft Corp., working with chipmaker Intel Corp., is offering a cloud-computing service with more powerful encryption to secure data from hackers – and protect it from secret government data-gathering.</p> <p>Called Azure confidential computing, the technology encrypts data while it is in use – which is when most security breaches occur, according to Azure Chief Technology Officer Mark Russinovich. The new product works by placing customer information in a virtual enclave, essentially a black box that keeps anyone outside the customer -- including Microsoft itself -- from accessing the data. That can keep cyberthieves, malicious insiders and governments from getting in without customer authorization.</p> <p>The new service also means that Microsoft won't have the capability to turn over unencrypted data in response to government warrants and subpoenas without customer involvement, an issue at the heart of a current Microsoft lawsuit against the U.S. government fighting the requirement to turn over client data, sometimes without the customer's knowledge. The confidential computing service is intended to reassure customers that are considering moving data and applications to Microsoft's cloud that the switch will not open them up to hacks, spying and secret subpoenas. While many companies worldwide have grown more willing to move even sensitive data to internet-based computing in the past few years, some unease about security and privacy persists.</p> <p>“They can be sure that they can’t do any better than this on their own premises,” Russinovich said. “This data is completely protected from us and from any attackers.”</p> <p>Azure confidential computing, which enters a preview phase with initial customers Thursday, will offer two ways to create these secure enclaves. One is based on Microsoft’s own server software, while the other uses Intel chips with that company’s built-in security features. Intel unveiled this sort of data-enclave capability for desktop machines in 2015 but hadn't planned to offer it for the servers that underpin cloud networks for several years. Russinovich persuaded the chipmaker to speed that up, said Rick Echevarria, an Intel vice president and general manager of the platform security division.</p> <p>The Intel technology isn’t exclusive to Microsoft and will be sold to other customers.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 On verge ‘facial recognition’ revolution
SOURCE	http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/facial-recognition-revolution-iphone-x-apple/2017/09/14/id/813696/
GIST	<p>Facial recognition technology is in use all over the globe — and ready to change the world, NBC News reported.</p> <p>The latest sign of the revolution came with announcement new iPhones are using the technology.</p> <p>But NBC News reported in China, the technology is already in office buildings and at ATM machines, while high-end European hotels and retailers use it identify celebrity customers — and Australian airports are installing a system to let passengers get through security without passports.</p> <p>"Everybody's face is slightly different, so it's almost like a 3D fingerprint," Lyndon Smith, professor of computer simulation and machine vision at the University of the West of England, told NBC News. "Even identical twins, you can differentiate between them when you're applying this kind of technique."</p>

<p>Return to Top</p>	<p>"Wherever you go in the world . . . you could, rather than carrying a card around with a PIN and all this complexity, just simply use your face," he added.</p> <p>According to NBC News, researchers in the U.K. and India have developed a system that can even see through disguises. Its aim, says researcher Amarjot Singh, a graduate student in engineering at the University of Cambridge, is to "take a lot of criminals off of the streets."</p> <p>"Essentially you've developed an X-ray to look into people's identity, and that I think is very exciting," he told NBC News.</p> <p>The revolution has sparked some anxiety as well.</p> <p>Last week, Stanford University researchers sparked a controversy when they published research suggesting <u>facial recognition can predict sexual orientation</u>, NBC News reported.</p> <p>"Our intention is certainly not to have some kind of Big Brother thing going on; we wouldn't want this system to be used by anybody who didn't want to use it," Smith told NBC News. "We're not trying to monitor people — we're trying to help people in their everyday lives."</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Equifax troubles deepen amid disclosure
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/federal-trade-commission-investigating-equifax-breach-49851687?cid=clicksource_79_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>Credit agency <u>Equifax</u> traced the theft of sensitive information about 143 million Americans to a software flaw that could have been fixed well before the burglary occurred, further undermining its credibility as the guardian of personal data that can easily be used for <u>identity theft</u>.</p> <p>Equifax identified a weakness in an open-source software package called Apache Struts as the technological crack that allowed hackers to heist <u>Social Security</u> numbers, birthdates, addresses and full legal names from a massive database maintained primarily for lenders.</p> <p>The disclosure, made late Wednesday, cast the company's damaging security lapse in an even harsher light. The software problem was detected in March and a recommended software patch was released shortly afterward. Equifax said the database intrusion began in May and continued until July.</p> <p>Security experts said Equifax had more than enough opportunity to block intruders by sealing the security hole. "There is no excuse for not following basic cybersecurity hygiene," said Nate Fick, CEO of the security firm Endgame.</p> <p>"Some heads should definitely roll for this; it's only a question of how many."</p> <p>The company didn't respond to inquiries on Thursday.</p> <p>Equifax was already under fire for not disclosing the break-in until Sept. 7 — nearly six weeks after the company discovered it— as well as for its handling of consumer inquiries about their exposure whether their personal information had been compromised and how they could protect their identities.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Google purges malicious Android apps
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/google-malicious-android-apps-with-millions-of-downloads/
GIST	These fake apps were free, but they ended up costing millions of people using Android.

Researchers from Check Point, a security company, said they discovered 50 apps hiding malware on the Google Play Store. The malware was downloaded between 1 million and 4.2 million times before the affected apps were removed, said Check Point.

These viruses were disguised as free wallpaper, camera and video editing apps, but contained a costly side effect. Malware in the apps would secretly register victims for paid services or send fraudulent text messages that people would have to pay for. Check Point named the malware "ExpensiveWall," after finding the majority of the infected apps were fake wallpapers.

ExpensiveWall is actually a new strain of a previously known malware, which McAfee discovered in January on Google Play. "The entire malware family has now been downloaded between 5.9 million and 21.1 million times," said Check Point's researchers in a blog post.

The security company said it notified Google on Aug. 7 about the phony apps, and it quickly removed them. But within days, even more fake apps popped up, and they were downloaded more than 5,000 times before Google removed the new crop.

The fake apps were able to slip by Google's Play Protect, which is supposed to scan Android devices for malicious software, because scammers "packed" the malware, an advanced hiding technique that ducks under Google's radar, Check Point said.

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HEADLINE	09/14 'South Park' triggers home devices
SOURCE	http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/live-feed/south-park-premiere-messes-viewers-amazon-alexa-google-home-1039035
GIST	<p>The 21st season of <i>South Park</i> premiered on Wednesday and, as the show usually does, touched on multiple current topics.</p> <p>The episode, "White People Renovating Houses," mostly skewered the white nationalist movement, poking fun at members' obsession with waving the Confederate flag.</p> <p>But it was another aspect of the storyline that was messing with some viewers' smart speakers.</p> <p>Both Alexa and Google Home were featured in "White People Renovating Houses," and the cartoon characters yelling commands at their cartoon models for 30 minutes played havoc on some actual Alexa and Home models.</p> <p>"We have an Amazon Alexa and a Google Home and South Park repeatedly screwed with both of them tonight," one Twitter user noted. Another viewer said he got so sick of his model going off, he had to unplug it. And another posted video of the incident.</p> <p>Was this done on purpose? Well, it is <i>South Park</i>.</p>
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Terror Conditions

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HEADLINE	09/15 Hamza bin Laden ready for role?
SOURCE	https://www.newsmax.com/TheWire/hamza-bin-laden-osama-bin-laden-world-terrorism/2017/09/14/id/813621/
GIST	Hamza bin Laden, Osama bin Laden's son, now in his late 20s, appears set to unify world terrorism,

according to reports.

Marking the anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Al Qaeda had shared a post depicting the group's late leader, Osama bin Laden, standing in the wreckage of the Twin Towers with his son, Hamza bin Laden. **Newsweek reported.**

The jihadist's progeny has reportedly featured prominently in Al Qaeda's propaganda campaigns and is believed to be the figure most likely to reunify the global jihadi movement.

An article published in the Combating Terrorism Center's publication, the CTC Sentinel, noted how Hamza bin Laden is being groomed to lead the organization that his father founded.

The report said Hamza bin Laden was considered to be Osama bin Ladin's favorite son.

His father began preparing him for leadership from a young age, featuring him in propaganda videos and pushing him to receive assault training with Al Qaeda fighters.

Now it seems Hamza bin Laden is ready to fulfil his leadership role.

According to CTC Sentinel, an audio recording released in 2015 by Al Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri introduced Hamza bin Laden as "a lion from the den of Al Qaeda."

The recording also featured the message from Osama bin Laden's son calling for jihadists to "[t]ake the battlefield from Kabul, Baghdad, and Gaza to Washington, London, Paris, and Tel Aviv."

Earlier this year the U.S. State Department flagged Hamza bin Laden as a global terrorist.

According to the Long War Journal, this follows statements in which he called for the attacks on "jews and crusaders," while calling for regime change in Saudi Arabia and declaring his allegiance to his father.

Central Intelligence Agency Director Mike Pompeo said on the anniversary of 9/11 that authorities were on a hunt for Hazama bin Laden.

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HEADLINE	09/14 KC man pleads guilty passport fraud
SOURCE	http://www.kansascity.com/news/local/crime/article173288866.html
GIST	<p>A Kansas City man who was the focus of an FBI terrorism investigation after traveling to the Middle East pleaded guilty Thursday to a federal charge of passport fraud.</p> <p>Isse Aweis Mohamud, 22, admitted in his plea agreement with federal prosecutors that he lied about his travel plans when he applied for a passport last year.</p> <p>On the application, he listed his travel destination as Canada, and in order to get an expedited passport he included a travel itinerary for a round-trip flight from Kansas City to Vancouver, Canada.</p> <p>But he never intended to make that trip, according to the agreement. Several months later, Mohamud traveled to Egypt without telling his family or employer.</p> <p>After his family discovered that he was gone, they called Kansas City police to report him missing. Police then contacted the FBI after the family said they were worried that he had gone overseas to "engage in jihadist activities."</p> <p>Shortly after his arrival, Egyptian authorities detained him in a hotel until FBI employees arrived to interview him.</p>

He allegedly told the FBI that he had traveled there to meet “the strangers.” The agent testified in a previous court hearing that the term “strangers” is sometimes used to describe people who travel from other countries to fight with the Islamic State.

After he was questioned, Mohamud voluntarily returned to the United States. He was arrested after flying to Kansas City and charged with passport fraud.

The agreement acknowledges that the government has no “direct evidence” of his involvement in any terrorist activity, but it does not preclude the government from continuing to investigate.

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HEADLINE 09/14 Malaysia: 3 ISIS suspects arrested

SOURCE <http://www.benarnews.org/english/news/malaysian/three-arrests-09142017123115.html>

GIST Malaysian authorities on Thursday announced the arrests of three suspected Islamic State (IS) militants, including a man linked to two other terrorist organizations, in separate raids last weekend.

Police Inspector-General Mohamad Fuzi Harun said the suspects, all Malaysians, were picked up by counter-terrorism officials in raids in three states between Sept. 8 and 10.

“The first suspect, a 21-year-old man, was detained in Bagan Serai, Perak on Sept 8. The unemployed suspect swore allegiance to IS at the beginning of this year. He has also established connections with al-Qaeda and the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG),” Fuzi, Malaysia’s new police chief, said in a statement Thursday.

The suspect, Fuzi said, confessed to receiving guidance from Mahmud Ahmad, who allegedly is a conduit for IS funds coming from the Middle East, and a Saudi Arabian bomb expert to produce improvised explosive devices (IED) on a large scale. Police did not release the names of any of the suspects.

Mahmud was actively involved in the siege of Marawi city in the southern Philippines together with ASG commander Isnilon Hapilon, who is the recognized IS regional leader.

“From the teachings, the suspect tried to make the IED bombs three times. He has also received orders from a senior Malaysian IS militant in Syria to buy a pistol, M-16 rifle, AK-47 and a hand grenade from a neighboring country to launch attacks on non-Muslim places of worship,” Fuzi said.

“We seized bomb-making chemicals at the suspect’s house during the raid,” he added.

Two other suspects, a 38-year-old local drink (cendol) seller and a 41-year-old bus driver were arrested in the state of Melaka and Selangor, both on Sept. 10.

“The suspect was active in producing and distributing IS flags to promote the terror groups ideology,” Fuzi said of the drink seller. He allegedly planned to join an IS faction in the southern Philippines or a militant group in Rakhine, Myanmar.

The third suspect who was arrested in the town of Petaling Jaya, Selangor, allegedly planned to join IS in Syria by the end of this year.

All three suspects were being held under the Security Offenses (Special Measures) Act 2012, Fuzi’s statement said. The act allows police to hold suspects for 28 days without charges.

Since 2013, Malaysian authorities have arrested 332 people suspected of having links to IS, of whom 66 have since been freed, according to government figures compiled by BenarNews.

	IS successfully carried out its first terrorist attack on Malaysian soil – a grenade blast that injured eight patrons at a nightclub near Kuala Lumpur in June 2016.
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HEADLINE	09/14 US citizen fighting for ISIS surrenders
SOURCE	http://www.foxnews.com/world/2017/09/14/us-citizen-fighting-for-isis-surrenders-to-us-backed-forces-in-syria.html
GIST	<p>A U.S. citizen fighting for ISIS surrendered to U.S.-backed fighters in Syria, two U.S. military officials confirmed to Fox News on Thursday.</p> <p>It was not immediately clear where or when the surrender took place, but one official said it occurred in northern Syria in an area controlled by a U.S.-backed militia called the Syrian Democratic Forces. The SDF is a Kurdish and Arab army that has been fighting ISIS.</p> <p>The man was not immediately identified and it was not clear where he was being held.</p> <p>Col. Ryan Dillon, a U.S. military spokesman for the coalition against ISIS, would not comment on the surrender. Dillon deferred to the State Department on the issue.</p> <p>The U.S. military command told the <u>Daily Beast</u> they were aware of the report.</p> <p>The unidentified man is not the first American to be seized for participating in combat for ISIS. In March 2016, <u>Mohamad Jamal Khweis</u>, of Virginia, joined ISIS and then surrendered to Kurdish Peshmerga fighters. Khweis later expressed regret for joining the terror group.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Russia cruise missiles ISIS stronghold
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/evacuated-militants-reach-extremist-stronghold-syria-49840415?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>Russia's military fired seven cruise missiles Thursday at Islamic State targets in the eastern Syrian province of Deir el-Zour as pro-government forces closed in on the militants holed up in the provincial capital of the same name.</p> <p>Journalists on a trip organized by the Russian Defense Ministry watched from the deck of Russia's Admiral Essen frigate as two submarines launched seven missiles from the Mediterranean Sea.</p> <p>The Syrian government forces, backed by Russian air cover, last week broke a three-year siege around the city on the Euphrates river.</p> <p>Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov told reporters later that intelligence showed the missiles hit the targets southeast of Deir el-Zour, destroying a command center, a communications hub, an ammunition depot and an unspecified number of IS fighters.</p> <p>Russia has provided military backing for Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces since 2015. It has repeatedly fired salvos of Kalibr missiles into <u>Syria</u>, from both surface warships and submarines. It has also launched cruise missiles from strategic bombers.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Iraq dismisses Kirkuk governor
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/iraqi-parliament-dismisses-kirkuk-governor-pm-

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GIST	<p>Iraq's parliament on Thursday voted to dismiss the Kurdish governor of the ethnically mixed Kirkuk province, in a move that could escalate tensions ahead of a planned Kurdish referendum on independence.</p> <p>To the south of <u>Baghdad</u>, meanwhile, militants attacked a checkpoint and nearby restaurant in the southern Thi Qar province, killing at least 60 people and wounding 83, according to provincial Gov. Yahya al-Nassiri. The Islamic State group, through its Amaq news agency, claimed responsibility.</p> <p>Iraq's Kurds plan to hold the vote on Sept. 25 in three governorates that make up their autonomous region as well as disputed areas like Kirkuk that are controlled by Kurdish forces but claimed by Baghdad. Late last month, Kirkuk's provincial council voted to take part in the referendum. Iraq's central government has rejected the polls as unconstitutional and illegal.</p> <p>Lawmaker Hussein al-Maliki said parliament voted to dismiss Kirkuk Gov. Najmiddin Karim based on consultations with Prime Minister <u>Haider al-Abadi</u>.</p> <p>Mohammed al-Karboli, another Arab lawmaker, said Karim "threatens the country's unity and civil peace in Kirkuk."</p> <p>All Kurdish members boycotted Thursday's session, while 187 mainly Arab and Turkmen legislators voted in favor, the two lawmakers said. The governor has the right to appeal the decision, al-Karboli added.</p> <p>Shortly after the session, the Kirkuk governor rejected the parliament decision in a statement, describing it as "invalid" and insisting that he'll stay in office.</p> <p>Oil-rich Kirkuk is home to a mix of Arabs, Kurds, Turkmen and Christians. Kurdish forces took control of the province and other disputed areas in the summer of 2014, when the Islamic State group swept across northern and central Iraq and the Iraqi armed forces crumbled.</p> <p>Iraq's Kurdish region has enjoyed a high degree of autonomy since the U.S. imposed a no-fly zone over <u>northern Iraq</u> after the 1990 Gulf War. It has its own parliament and armed forces, flies its own flag, and has been a close U.S. ally against IS and other militant groups. But relations with Baghdad have grown strained in recent years over oil and the disputed areas.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Boko Haram defies Nigeria govt.
SOURCE	https://www.bloombergnews.com/news/articles/2017-09-14/boko-haram-defies-buhari-with-more-attacks-in-northeast-nigeria?utm_source=yahoo&utm_medium=bd&utm_campaign=headline&cmpId=yahoo.headline&ptr=yahoo
GIST	<p>Ten months after Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari declared a victory over Boko Haram, the Islamist militant group is stepping up attacks in the far northeast of the country.</p> <p>Boko Haram militants deployed at least 80 children as "human bombs" this year, Mark Lowcock, the United Nations under-secretary-general for humanitarian affairs, said on Tuesday in the northeastern city of Maiduguri, the group's birthplace. The most spectacular attack occurred in July when the Islamist fighters targeted a state oil company research team, killing 48 people and seizing several hostages.</p> <p>"This is a kind of pattern that's unlikely to change very much for months to come," Malte Liewerscheidt, Nigeria analyst at London-based risk consultancy Verisk Maplecroft, said by phone. "It's a constant thorn in Buhari's flesh in the sense that one of his key promises when he was campaigning was that he'd deal with this problem."</p> <p>The Nigerian government estimates that more than 20,000 people have died since Boko Haram, which is</p>

	<p>opposed to Western-style education, started an insurrection in 2009 to impose its version of Islamic law on Africa's most populous nation. The number of people in need of food assistance in the country's northeast, the epicenter of the violence, rose to 5.2 million from 4.7 million between March and June due to persistent insecurity, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.</p> <p>Boko Haram has carried out 83 attacks so far this year, the same number as in all of 2016, while suicide bombings accounted for 27 percent of all assaults, up from 19 percent last year, according to Verisk Maplecroft.</p> <p>A key challenge the government faces is how to curb the attacks while increasing protection for civilians and aid workers, according to Nnamdi Obasi, West Africa analyst for the Brussels-based International Crisis Group.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 Reports: 'terror incident' London subway
SOURCE	https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2017/09/15/london-underground-incident/669156001/
GIST	<p>LONDON —There were reports of an explosion or a fire at London's Parsons Green Underground train station on Friday, according to eyewitness reports circulating on social media. British police said they were investigating an "incident."</p> <p>Some people on a train may have suffered facial burns after a white container exploded toward the rear of the train. Social media users circulated an image that appeared to show a small bag or bucket on fire. However, the image does not show extensive damage to the train. Armed police are on the scene.</p> <p>The London Underground's District Line was suspended due to the security alert and the London Ambulance Service sent a hazard team to the area in West London.</p> <p>Sophie Raworth, a BBC News presenter at the scene, said she saw a woman lying on a stretcher with burns to her face and legs, according to the broadcaster.</p> <p>Deputy Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu, the senior national coordinator for counterterrorism policing, has declared it a terrorist incident, the Met Police said in a statement.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 Paris police: soldier attacked in subway
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/paris-police-soldier-attacked-subway-hurt-49865560?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>Paris police say a knife-wielding assailant tried to attack a soldier in a major subway interchange but was quickly arrested and no one was hurt.</p> <p>Police spokeswoman Johana Primevert told The Associated Press that the incident took place early Friday in the Chatelet station in central Paris. Traffic and access to the station, which serves multiple subway and commuter train lines, quick resumed.</p> <p>The soldier involved was with the Sentinelle force assigned to protect prominent sites since deadly <u>Islamic</u> extremist attacks in recent years. The force has been targeted in the past.</p> <p>The attack came the day after the government announced changes to the force, with a greater focus on temporary and seasonal events. The soldiers still will patrol around major tourist sites, places of worship, train stations and airports.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 Iraq: death toll ISIS-claimed attack rises
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/officials-80-dead-claimed-iraq-attack-49866213?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>Iraqi officials say the death toll has risen to more than 80 killed in an Islamic State group-claimed attack in southern Iraq targeting a restaurant frequented by Shiite Muslim pilgrims.</p> <p>Provincial Gov. Yahya al-Nassiri said Friday that 84 people were killed and 93 people were injured in the attack in Nasiriyah, in Iraq's southern Thi Qar province Thursday evening. Among them, seven Iranians were killed and 16 wounded.</p> <p>Al-Nassiri says the province's director of intelligence was removed and the Interior Ministry called for him to be investigated.</p> <p>The attack began as a shooting at a checkpoint and restaurant along the main road that connects the province to <u>Baghdad</u>, followed by two <u>suicide bombers</u>, one driving an explosives-laden car. IS fighters often turn to large-scale insurgent attacks following territorial losses.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Suicide attacks kill 60 southern Iraq
SOURCE	http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iraq-attacks/suicide-attacks-on-restaurants-checkpoint-kill-60-in-southern-iraq-idUSKCN1BP1SN
GIST	<p>BAGHDAD (Reuters) - Three suicide attacks claimed by Islamic State killed at least 60 people in southern Iraq on Thursday, a health official and police sources said, suggesting a shift in the ultra-hardline group's tactics since it lost control of its stronghold in Mosul.</p> <p>Iraqi and Kurdish security officials say the Sunni militants are likely to wage a guerrilla war in Iraq after their self-proclaimed caliphate in Mosul collapsed.</p> <p>Islamic State is also under siege in the Syrian city of Raqqa, its operational base for attacks in the Middle East and the West.</p> <p>Security officials described Thursday's attacks as an attempt to send a message to Islamic State followers that the group is still strong and can operate in other parts of Iraq following its territorial losses.</p> <p>"After losing the war in Iraq and the shrinking of its power, Daesh returned back to its old style of an insurgency, by carrying out suicide attacks, which is a clear sign that the terrorist group is retreating," said police intelligence colonel Murtatha al-Yassiri.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Houthi leader threatens Saudi tankers
SOURCE	http://www.reuters.com/article/us-yemen-security/yemens-houthi-leader-says-could-target-saudi-oil-tankers-if-hodeidah-attacked-idUSKCN1BP2AF?il=0
GIST	<p>DUBAI (Reuters) - Yemen's Houthi leader Abdel-Malek al-Houthi said on Thursday his group could target Saudi oil tankers should Saudi Arabia attack Yemen's main port at Hodeidah.</p> <p>"We could target Saudi oil tankers and we could do anything," he said.</p> <p>In a televised speech, the leader also said his group's ballistic missiles were capable of reaching the United Arab Emirates' capital of Abu Dhabi and anywhere inside Saudi Arabia.</p>

<p>Return to Top</p>	<p>It was unclear whether the Houthi group has the capability to carry out its threats.</p> <p>Abdel Malek said the Houthis had successfully fired a missile at Abu Dhabi earlier this month, meaning the United Arab Emirates was no longer safe from attack. He gave no further details and there has been no indication by the UAE of any missiles landing on their territory.</p> <p>UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Anwar Gargash said on Twitter his country was not intimidated by Houthi threats.</p> <p>“The Houthis’ comments threatening the UAE and its capital are tangible proof of the need for the Decisive Storm (operation),” Gargash said, referring to the Saudi-led coalition intervening in Yemen.</p> <p>“Iran’s militias have vile objectives and represent a real threat,” he added.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 ‘Chibok girls’ reunited with families
SOURCE	http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-41272573
GIST	<p>More than 100 "Chibok girls" freed from Nigeria's Boko Haram have been reunited with their families and will soon return to school.</p> <p>Now young women, they were among 276 girls kidnapped by Islamist militants in 2014, and have spent months undergoing rehabilitation therapy.</p> <p>Women Affairs Minister Aisha Alhassan says they are now "fully recovered".</p> <p>They were handed over to their parents at a party in the capital Abuja.</p> <p>Most of the girls were released by Boko Haram in May, in a controversial <u>prisoner swap deal</u> with the Nigerian government that saw five Boko Haram commanders released.</p> <p>The girls spent months in government custody, undergoing psycho-social therapy after their traumatic experience at the hands of the Islamist militants. The government says they are now "fully rehabilitated" and has promised to sponsor their further education.</p> <p>Ms Alhassan said: "They are going to be in one of the best schools, the American University of Nigeria, where they will start a special foundation programme like a pre-degree.</p> <p>"It's a very happy day. When the girls came out, they were so traumatised that they didn't even believe they were free. They are fully recovered, and they are very anxious to go to school."</p> <p>More than 100 of the schoolgirls kidnapped from Chibok remain in Boko Haram captivity. But Ms Alhassan said negotiations with the militants are ongoing to secure their release.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 American ISIS fighter in US custody
SOURCE	https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/american-isis-fighter-u-s-custody-after-surrender-syria-n801411
GIST	<p>An American fighting for ISIS in Syria surrendered and was turned over to the U.S. military, officials said on Thursday.</p> <p>The Syrian Democratic Forces said the man was taken Tuesday during a battle in the Deir-al-Zour region. The fighter's identity was not released.</p>

"The U.S. citizen is being legally detained by Department of Defense personnel as a known enemy combatant," said Pentagon spokesman Maj. Adrian J.T. Rankine-Galloway.

U.S. officials have said in the past that about 250 people left the United States to join ISIS in Syria and Iraq, though it's not clear how many are still there.

Seamus Hughes of the George Washington University Program on Extremism said his team has identified 60 Americans, at least 20 of whom are dead. While a few others have defected or been captured, Hughes said this new fighter could provide valuable intelligence.

"You're looking at a man who was there to the bitter end," Hughes said. "Would he have insight on whether they're sending folks away from Iraq and Syria in a systematic way? Are they hunkering down?"

Mohamed Khweis of Virginia, who briefly joined ISIS and then defected and surrendered to the Kurds in 2016, was held for three months in Iraq and interrogated 11 times — first by a "dirty" team gathering intelligence and then by a "clean" team collecting information to be used in court, according to court documents.

Khweis, a bus driver, was convicted in June of providing support to ISIS. He will be sentenced in October.

ISIS has used a number of purported Americans in its propaganda videos, but Hughes said those who don't speak Arabic or have crucial skills can be sent to front lines "as cannon fodder."

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Suspicious, Unusual

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HEADLINE	09/14 Motel 6 in Ariz. gave guest list to ICE
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/motel-6-in-arizona-tipped-off-ice-to-undocumented-guests/
GIST	<p>A Motel 6 in Arizona shared its guest lists with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents, tipping off federal authorities to customers who may have been in the country illegally.</p> <p><u>CBS affiliate KPHO-TV in Phoenix reports</u> that Jose Renteria Alvarado faces deportation after federal authorities detained him while he was staying at a Motel 6 in June. His attorney, Robert McWhirter, says he believes the motel shared its guest list with the agents.</p> <p>"I imagine what went on here is they probably took a look at the names on the guest registry and compared that to a database of people that have been deported," McWhirter told the station.</p> <p>After <u>coming under fire</u> from the American Civil Liberties Union and others, Motel 6 appeared to confirm the Phoenix location was sharing information with authorities, saying the policy was "implemented at the local level without the knowledge of senior management."</p> <p>In a statement to KPHO, Motel 6 spokeswoman Raiza Rehkoff said the company is investigating how long the Phoenix location was sharing guest information with immigration authorities.</p> <p>Alvarado, the man who faces deportation, had been deported once before and was considered a high priority for deportation because of a minor criminal record prior to his first deportation, KPHO reports. He now faces a sentence of six months in prison, after which he will be deported, according to the station.</p> <p><u>The Phoenix New Times reports</u> that ICE agents made at least 20 arrests at two Motel 6 locations in Phoenix between February and August in this year, citing court records. Both locations are in areas with large Latino populations, the paper reports.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 ICP fans to protest FBI gang label
SOURCE	https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/juggalos-fans-insane-clown-posse-protest-fbi-gang-label-n800311
GIST	<p>Four years into her career as a Virginia probation officer, Jessica Bonometti was summoned to her chief's office and fired for social media postings that portrayed a "security threat group" in a positive light.</p> <p>The 34-year-old was dumbfounded.</p> <p>The threat group, it turned out, was Juggalos — the nickname for fans of her favorite band, the horrorcore hip-hop duo Insane Clown Posse — who had been designated a gang by the FBI five years earlier.</p> <p>Bonometti had liked some posts and photos on Juggalo-related Facebook pages that she said were "pretty innocuous" by fan standards. On her own page, a meme with the catchphrase "Wicked for Life" had caught the attention of higher-ups, her case file shows.</p> <p>"They took my badge and credentials," said Bonometti, a George Mason University graduate who hasn't been able to find a new position since being terminated in March 2016. "I didn't just lose a job. I lost my entire career."</p> <p>This Saturday, Bonometti is headed to the nation's capital to tell her story publicly. The occasion is the first-ever Juggalo March on Washington, organized by Insane Clown Posse's Detroit-based record label, Psychopathic Records.</p> <p>Psychopathic publicist Jason Webber said demonstrators will demand the FBI rescind the 2011 gang report that allegedly exposed law-abiding Juggalos to harassment and discrimination by police, employers and others.</p> <p>"What we hope to get out of it is to get the attention of the entire world and the FBI and other political forces to drive home a simple but powerful message: Juggalos are not a gang. They are a musical subculture and family," Webber said.</p> <p>He said up to 3,000 Juggalos are expected on the National Mall, site of many of the country's most historic civil rights rallies, and the band is slated to cap off the day with a concert.</p> <p>Not all Juggalos are down with the march. In online forums, some questioned whether it was a mere publicity stunt, rolled their eyes at the promotion of one event as a "Gangsta Party," and fretted that protesters would get rowdy or clash with a pro-Trump rally taking place nearby.</p> <p>Aware that any bad behavior would undermine the message, Webber warned fans not to treat the march like the Gathering of Juggalos, an annual festival of clown-faced carousing.</p> <p>"This is a serious public demonstration," he said. "This is not a chance to party and wild out."</p> <p>Insane Clown Posse has been wilding out for almost three decades. Founding members Violent J and Shaggy 2 Dope's lyrics — often gory, sometimes silly — are full of violent, misogynistic and anti-police imagery.</p> <p>Juggalos take their name from the title of a song that includes the line: "Got a chopped-off head chilling in my lap." Many wear the social-outcast badge as proudly as they do scary-clown makeup and tattoos of the band logo: a man running with a hatchet.</p> <p>And there's no argument that Juggalos have been involved in hideous crimes. Two are serving life for the 2009 murder of a Pennsylvania man hacked with a meat cleaver. Another was jailed last year for chopping</p>

off a woman's pinky and drinking her blood during a ritual.

More than a dozen states have identified Juggalo cadres involved in criminal activity, and by 2010 they had been declared a gang in four states. But the real controversy began the following year when an FBI report deemed Juggalos "a loosely organized hybrid gang."

While the report noted that "the majority of fans exercise their lifestyles in a peaceful manner," Insane Clown Posse supporters complain it opened the door to profiling by police, military recruiters, and even family court judges.

"Calling the Juggalos a gang will justify criminal investigations, drones over concerts, more military equipment for local police, and ominous threats of arrest and prosecution," said Professor John Hagedorn, a gang expert at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

The ACLU of Michigan [filed a federal lawsuit](#) to force the FBI to disavow the label, and a hearing to determine if the case goes forward will be held next month.

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HEADLINE	09/14 Police probe death of teen in freezer
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/US/police-conduct-interviews-dig-security-footage-teen-found/story?id=49839895
GIST	<p>Amid mounting pressure from protesters, police released new information about their investigation into the mysterious death of a <u>Chicago</u> teenager who was found dead in a hotel freezer last week.</p> <p>The Rosemont Police Department said Wednesday evening that it has located and interviewed 12 people in connection with the case of 19-year-old Kenneka Jenkins, whose body was discovered in a freezer at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Rosemont, Illinois on Sunday morning after she attended a party there. It remains unclear how Jenkins died.</p> <p>"Eight of those people interviewed were present the night/morning of the hotel gathering," the department said in a statement. "Additionally, we have positively identified four others who were present the night of the gathering and are working to locate and interview them."</p> <p>Investigators are also analyzing social media content and surveillance footage from 47 cameras at the hotel, the department said, adding that it had sent "certain videos related to this investigation" to specialized forensic technicians for further analysis.</p> <p>Separately, the department <u>told the Chicago Sun-Times on Wednesday</u> that Jenkins' mother, Tereasa Martin, would be shown the security footage by Thursday afternoon.</p> <p>The department's statement came as more than 100 protesters gathered near the hotel, some chanting and carrying signs that read "Justice for Kenneka."</p> <p>"Our concern is that it was possibly foul play. I think that's what everybody's concern is, that there was a possible cover-up of her death," activist William Calloway <u>told ABC Chicago station WLS on Wednesday</u>.</p> <p>A viral Facebook Live video, shared by Jenkins' friend just hours before she died, has fueled conspiracy theories about how she may have died. Martin has said she suspects foul play.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Ferry frustration Vashon Island route
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SOURCE	http://www.king5.com/traffic/traffic-news/ferry-frustration-long-lines-empty-boats-on-vashon-island-route/475058779
GIST	<p>Two public meetings are planned for next week to address growing concerns at the Fauntleroy ferry terminal in West Seattle.</p> <p>It's the latest step in Washington State Ferries' <u>effort to gather passenger input</u> and identify ways to improve the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route known as "The Triangle."</p> <p>But the outreach is doing little to quiet the concerns of fed up ferry passengers, particularly those traveling to and from Vashon Island.</p> <p>"It's frustrating, really frustrating," said passenger Amy Wolff. "If you're here on time or in line by Lincoln Park and you've been on line since before the boat came and the boat comes and leaves and it's not full, something's not working."</p> <p>Passengers on the Vashon route say it's now a routine occurrence. They say they're being forced to wait in line for hours, even though departing ferries are <u>rarely filled to capacity</u>.</p> <p>A spokesperson for Washington State Ferries said they're <u>aware it's a problem</u>. He says there's just no easy solution.</p> <p>"There's only so much you can do with a dock that was built in the 1950's to move the traffic of today. At the end of the day, the infrastructure is just not there, and so we have serious constraints," said Ian Sterling with Washington State Ferries.</p> <p>The issue is that each ferry can carry about 124 cars, but the aging Fauntleroy dock only has space for 80 to 90 vehicles at a time. The dock was built in 1957.</p> <p>"We just can't fill the boats quick enough and move people through the toll booths quick enough," said Sterling.</p> <p>A task force convened by Washington State Ferries met on Thursday evening, and spent hours talking about the problem and possible solutions.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Threats close Montana schools
SOURCE	http://q13fox.com/2017/09/14/montana-schools-remain-closed-after-threats-made-by-text-email/
GIST	<p>KALISPELL, Mont. (AP) — More than 30 schools across northwestern Montana's Flathead County will be closed Friday after several texted and emailed threats led to the cancellation of classes Thursday.</p> <p>Sheriff Chuck Curry says the initial threat was sent to Columbia Falls on Wednesday, and other schools received similar threats.</p> <p>Curry says investigators are interviewing some "persons of interest" and following up on what he called "electronically stored information." He added that investigators have made progress, but he declined to release any details about the threats.</p> <p>The FBI along with law enforcement officers from Flathead County and the city of Columbia Falls are investigating.</p> <p>Flathead Valley Community College also has canceled Friday classes.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Forest Service record \$2B battling fires
SOURCE	http://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/nation-politics/forest-service-spends-record-2b-battling-forest-fires/
GIST	<p>WASHINGTON (AP) — The Forest Service has spent more than \$2 billion battling forest fires around the country — a record as wildfires blacken the American West in one of the nation’s worst fire seasons.</p> <p>Wildfires have ravaged the West this summer with 64 large fires burning across 10 states as of Thursday, including 21 fires in Montana and 18 in Oregon. In all, 48,607 wildfires have burned nearly 13,000 square miles (33,586 square kilometers).</p> <p>The fires have stretched firefighting resources, destroyed more than 500 homes and triggered health alerts as choking smoke drifted into major Western cities.</p> <p>The Forest Service, part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is the nation’s primary firefighting agency. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said the severe fire season means officials “end up having to hoard all of the money that is intended for fire prevention, because we’re afraid we’re going to need it to actually fight fires.”</p> <p>The emphasis on firefighting means that money for prescribed burns, insect control and other prevention efforts is diverted to putting out fires in what Perdue called a self-defeating cycle. The end result is that small trees and vegetation remain in the forest for future fires to feed on.</p> <p>“That’s wrong, and that’s no way to manage the Forest Service,” Perdue said.</p> <p>The Agriculture Department has been asking Congress for years to change the way firefighting is funded so the Forest Service does not have to raid non-fire programs in bad years.</p> <p>The spending figure announced Thursday marks the first time wildfire spending by the Forest Service has topped \$2 billion. The previous record was \$1.7 billion in 2015.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Summer getting longer off New England?
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/gulf-of-maine-summer-longer-waters-off-new-england/
GIST	<p>PORTLAND, Maine -- Summer is getting longer in the waters off New England, and that could have big ramifications for everything from the strength of storms to the health of fisheries and endangered whales, according to scientists.</p> <p>The scientists, led by Andrew Thomas of the University of Maine, said the warming of the Gulf of Maine has added up to 66 days of summer-like temperatures to the water surface since 1982.</p> <p>The gulf, which stretches from Massachusetts to Nova Scotia, is a critical piece of ocean for industries such as fishing, shipping and tourism, and researchers have previously said it is warming faster than almost all of Earth's waters.</p> <p>The scientists involved in the study used 33 years of satellite data to identify seasonal trends. The data show that the warming of the Gulf of Maine has been much greater in the months from June to October, effectively stretching out the length of summer, Thomas said.</p> <p>Warmer, longer summers will result in "winners and losers" in the Gulf of Maine, Thomas said, adding that some consequences could be dire.</p> <p>"We may cross some threshold where some virus or some bacteria might be able to make a living here," Thomas said. "But if you're a tourist who wants to swim at a beach, a warmer July or August might be just fine."</p>

Thomas and his co-authors published their findings in the scientific journal Elementa last month. The paper says longer summers could have serious ramifications because rising water temperatures can disrupt ocean ecosystems.

The scientists' work illustrates that the Gulf of Maine is "ground zero for experiencing the impacts of ocean warming," said Malin Pinsky, an ecologist and assistant professor at Rutgers University who was not involved in the study.

The paper also says the trend could provide more hospitable waters for hurricanes, which feed off warm water. The cold water typical of the Gulf of Maine would normally cause a hurricane to lose energy, but such a storm could stay strong if it enters the region in future summers because of the warming trend, according to the study.

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HEADLINE 09/14 Barbuda devastated; entirely evacuated

SOURCE <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2017/09/14/barbuda-hurricane-irama-devastation/665950001/>

GIST Barbuda has been left completely devastated by Hurricane Irma. An estimated 95% of Barbuda's structures are damaged, and the entire island of around 1,800 people has been evacuated.

"The damage is complete," says Ambassador Ronald Sanders, who has served as Antigua and Barbuda's ambassador to the U.S. since 2015. "For the first time in 300 years, there's not a single living person on the island of Barbuda — a civilization that has existed on that island for over 300 years has now been extinguished."

According to Sanders, Irma was "the most ferocious, cruel and merciless storm" in the island's history. The hurricane was 378 miles wide when it descended on Barbuda, which is just 62 square miles.

"This was a huge monster," he says. "The island and the people on the island had absolutely no chance."

Evacuees from Barbuda were sent to Antigua, which did not suffer the same level of damage from Irma.

"We've had most of the people we've brought over to Antigua in shelters," says Sanders. "We've tried to make living accommodations as good as humanly possible in these circumstances. Fortunately, we had planned ahead for this hurricane, and we had ordered supplies in from Miami and the United States before the hurricane hit."

Though Barbudan evacuees are safe, Sanders says the situation is not ideal — people are living in cramped quarters in government facilities and nursing homes, including some 500 school-aged children. Now that school is back in session, Antigua must find room for these students.

"The situation is unacceptable, and it's costly," he says. "We're going to have to keep this going for sometime because Barbuda's not going to be rebuilt in a hurry, and when we do rebuild it, we're going to have to rebuild to massive hurricane standards. This is going to take a while. There is no electricity there, there is no potable water anymore, there is no structure in which people can survive. We have a mammoth task on our hands."

Sanders says the world must step up and help Barbuda.

"We are a small island community — the gross domestic product of Antigua is \$1 billion a year," he says. "We cannot afford to take on this responsibility by ourselves. Barbuda is not just a disaster, it's a humanitarian crisis. We are hopeful that the international community will come to our aid, not because we're begging for something we want, but because we're begging for something that is needed."

	<p>Right now, initial estimates suggest that Barbuda will need about \$200 million to recover. Antigua and Barbuda will create a sustainable development plan for rebuilding Barbuda, Sanders says, adding that he hopes the global community will provide humanitarian recovery aid.</p> <p>“We have declared a state of emergency in Barbuda because it is a complete disaster and uninhabitable,” he says. “We cannot cope with our own resources alone.”</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 Entire Philippine city police sacked
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/entire-philippine-city-police-sacked-killings-robbery-49864270?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>A Philippine official on Friday ordered the relief of an entire city police force in metropolitan Manila after some of its members were suspected in the gruesome killings of three teenagers and were caught by closed circuit television robbing a house.</p> <p>The 1,200-strong Caloocan city police force will be relieved in batches and replaced, said metropolitan Manila police chief Oscar Albayalde. The officers will undergo 45 days of retraining, after which those facing no charges can be reassigned to other stations.</p> <p>The <u>Department of Justice</u> has started an investigation based on the <u>murder</u> and torture complaint against four Caloocan policemen allegedly linked to the killing of 17-year-old student Kian Delos Santos during an anti-drug raid last month.</p> <p>The parents of two other teenagers have also filed double murder and torture complaints against two Caloocan policemen. Last week, CCTV footage purportedly showed 13 policemen robbing a house during an alleged drug raid.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 Prominent Saudis arrest warning to critics
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/kings-forces-arrest-prominent-saudis-warning-critics-49864729
GIST	<p>When news broke of a possible breakthrough in an impasse that has pitted Qatar against its Arab neighbors for the past three months, one of Saudi Arabia's most well-known clerics expressed his support for reconciliation in a tweet to his more than 14 million followers.</p> <p>"May God bring their hearts together for the good of their people," Salman al-Ouda wrote, garnering 15,000 likes, 13,000 retweets and nearly 2,000 responses.</p> <p>Within hours of his post Saturday, the cleric was detained, sparking the start of a crackdown in which at least 30 people have been rounded up in recent days as apparent Islamist sympathizers and critics of the crown prince, according to Saudi rights activists.</p> <p>Among those reportedly detained was Awad al-Qarni, another popular cleric who was banned from writing on Twitter in March on charges he spread content on social media that could jeopardize public order and provoke public opinion.</p> <p>The arrests have thrown an already anxious kingdom into deeper unease, raising questions about the country's steadiness amid mounting speculation that Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, also known as MBS, could soon replace his father as king.</p> <p>Saudi rights activists say the arrests are being carried out by agents of the State Security Presidency, a new</p>

body whose forces report directly to the king. Previously, they were under the scope of Prince Mohammed bin Nayef — the former crown prince who was plucked out of the line of succession in June to make way for MBS. The former crown prince was also removed from his post as the country's longtime security czar.

Within days of the contentious ouster, which did not have the full backing of senior royals, King Salman stripped the Interior Ministry of its broad powers, relegating its work to traffic fines, drug enforcement and passport control. The Interior Ministry was essentially stripped of its teeth as the most feared security apparatus in the country.

Political risk consultancy Eurasia Group estimates that "in the near future" King Salman could relinquish power to MBS, giving the aging monarch an opportunity to oversee a potentially fraught transition while he's still alive.

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HEADLINE	09/14 NYPD releases fatal shooting body-cam
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/US/nypd-releases-video-fatal-shooting-knife-wielding-man/story?id=49854770
GIST	<p>The nation's largest police force Thursday released, for the first time, video footage from officers' body cameras that captured a fatal shooting this month in New York City.</p> <p>The NYPD acted, over the objection of local prosecutors, in response to public pressure over the Sept. 6 fatal shooting in the Bronx of a knife-wielding man with a history of mental illness.</p> <p>The footage showed two officers instructing the man, Miguel Richards, 31, no fewer than 50 times to drop a knife and what turned out to be toy gun before fatally shooting him.</p> <p>"Let me see your hand," Officer Mark Flemming told Richards in the video. "Put your hand up, drop that knife. I don't want to shoot you."</p> <p>Flemming's partner, Officer Redmond Murphy, repeatedly instructed Richards, "Put it down!"</p> <p>Richards was never heard uttering a word.</p> <p>The officers asked Richards to drop the knife 44 times and to drop the gun six times, Chief of Department Carlos Gomez said, before firing 16 shots that killed Richards.</p> <p>"It appears that [when] Mr. Richards raises his hand you actually see a red dot emanating from an object in his hand," Gomez said.</p> <p>This was the first officer-involved fatal shooting recorded by police body cameras since the NYPD started equipping officers with them in April.</p> <p>The officers have not been charged, though the Bronx District Attorney's Office is reviewing the incident.</p> <p>Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark had hoped the NYPD would wait to put out the video until after her office concluded its investigation.</p> <p>"Releasing videos to the public during the early stages of an investigation may resolve some questions about the incident but it may compromise the integrity of the investigation," Clark said in a statement.</p>
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HEADLINE **09/14 NKorea 'electronic bombs' from Russia**

SOURCE	https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2017/09/14/North-Koreas-electronic-bomb-technology-of-Russian-origin-experts-say/6401505408979/?utm_source=fp&utm_campaign=ls&utm_medium=3
GIST	<p>Sept. 14 (UPI) -- <u>North Korea</u> obtained "electronic bombs" from Russia capable of jamming electronic signals and disabling technology on enemy planes, ships and missiles, according to a Japanese newspaper.</p> <p>The Sankei Shimbun reported Thursday North Korea's cutting edge technology was sourced from Russia, and in past periods, the former Soviet Union.</p> <p>Pyongyang had claimed it possessed electromagnetic pulse, or EMP technology, capable of neutralizing radar and satellite from detecting North Korean targets.</p> <p>That claim is supported by a report in <u>38 North</u> published in June, stating the Russians may have "accidentally" transferred the design of Russia's super-EMP warhead to North Korea before 2004.</p> <p>The Sankei reported Russian engineers in the collapsed Soviet state of the '90s began to help overseas contacts with obtaining native technology, because they had no other source of income in a failing economy.</p> <p>In 2009, South Korea's military said Russian scientists were in North Korea, assisting the regime with the development of an EMP nuclear weapon.</p> <p>"Super-EMP weapons are low-yield and designed to produce not a big kinetic explosion, but rather a high level of gamma rays, which generate the high-frequency E1 EMP that is most damaging to the broadest range of electronics," wrote William R. Graham in <u>38 North</u>.</p> <p>North Korea mentioned its EMP attack capabilities on Sept. 4 on the pages of the Workers' Party newspaper Rodong Sinmun, a day after its sixth nuclear test.</p> <p>Russia may have also played a role in delivering rocket engines used to launch North Korea's intercontinental ballistic missile, according to a <u>statement from</u> Ukraine's space agency.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Complaints: BP agents abused minors
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/US/complaints-border-officers-engaged-pattern-egregious-abuse-minors/story?id=49845697&cid=clicksource_81_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>In December of 2009, 15-year old high school student Jahveel Ocampo, her boyfriend and a few of his family members decided to drive east from Encinitas, California, up into the mountains to see the first big snowfall of winter.</p> <p>They pulled over to a rest stop to use the bathroom and were suddenly blocked by an unmarked truck. A man in a dark blue jacket shouted from the vehicle, Ocampo would say later, directing her and her boyfriend to get out of the car with their hands up.</p> <p>Ocampo says she had no idea what was happening – until the man asked her where she was born. When she replied, “Tijuana,” she says the man demanded to know whether she was an “illegal.”</p> <p>He slapped handcuffs on her and her boyfriend and within minutes they were surrounded by several Border Patrol vehicles. Ocampo was separated from her boyfriend, loaded into the back of a car and driven away.</p> <p>She was taken to a Border Patrol station in Campo, California, about 50 miles east of San Diego. In a complaint filed with the agency in January 2010 and an interview with ABC News this past March, Ocampo describes in detail the harrowing experiences she says awaited her there.</p>

She says she was threatened with sexual abuse by border agents while in custody, part of what the [ACLU](#) says is a pattern of misconduct by Customs and Border Protection officials aimed at minors that has largely gone unnoticed and unpunished.

“It’s really a horror show,” said Mitra Ebadolahi, an attorney for the ACLU’s border program, who has been investigating these complaints. “It’s a story of egregious abuse of children who are vulnerable.”

Ocampo says an agent in a blue jacket ordering her to enter a cell and slapping her twice on the buttocks. That agent, joined by another male agent, then took Ocampo to another room, where the pair began to interrogate her.

They told her she had been “snitched out” by her boyfriend, that he claimed they were going to “smuggle drugs,” and that she needed to admit she was in the area for a drug pickup. She said she was confused. She told them they were just going up to see the snow — “clearly, I was wearing a big jacket,” she said in an interview, “clothes that you would normally wear to go to snow” — and began to cry.

Ocampo had come to the country as a young child and was raised in Southern California by [undocumented](#) parents. She was now the mother of a 1-year-old child and said she had obtained a temporary visa, which had expired. The agents seemed to know all of that already and began pressing her about her immigration status. She pleaded with them to let her call her mother. The agents refused. They told her, “Nobody’s going to come over here and save you.”

They handed her a document and told her she had to sign it. It was an order of voluntary departure — a deportation order. Ocampo says they told her the only way she would see her mother again was to sign it. This time, it was Ocampo who refused.

That’s when, she says, they threatened her. One officer said, in Spanish, “Right now, we are going to close this door and we are going to rape you and f*** you.” One of them then said, according to the report, “If you cooperate with us, we can deport you to Mexico. Otherwise we will take you to jail and deport your entire family.” Her child, they said, would end up in foster care.

Ocampo, stunned, signed the paper.

Ocampo isn’t the only young person to share a story of abuse encountered at the border. As the number of unaccompanied minors arriving from Mexico and Central America has increased, minors have lodged hundreds of formal complaints containing detailed claims of mistreatment by border agents.

In December 2014, the ACLU requested the full investigative files on complaints filed by minors “in order to shed light on longstanding allegations of abusive treatment of children by Border Patrol.” A year ago, after filing suit, the ACLU began to receive thousands of pages of documents from the case files of 408 complaints filed from early 2009 through mid-2015, which Ebadolahi shared exclusively with ABC News and The Investigative Fund, leading to [a previous ABC News report on the agency that aired on 20/20 in July](#).

An analysis of the documents identified several other incidents where detainees allege they were threatened with violence if they refused to pay a bribe, if they refused to answer agents’ questions, if they lied, if they did not behave, if they moved. There were also hundreds of allegations that appear to constitute clear violations of Border Patrol protocols:

- *13 allegations of sexual harassment or assault, including allegations of agents groping minors’ thighs or genitals or making sexual remarks and threats*
- *97 allegations of physical abuse, including allegations of Border Patrol agents punching, kicking, and intentionally running over minors during apprehension*
- *61 allegations of verbal abuse, including allegations of derogatory, racist and misogynist comments*
- *201 allegations of poor conditions such as cold temperatures, provision of spoiled food, and failure to provide potable water*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 98 records indicating that detainees were held for longer than 72 hours <p>The analysis showed that Customs and Border Protection investigations were cursory at best. Only 2 percent of the investigative files indicate that the complainant was interviewed. Only 4 percent of case files contained indications that the accused agents were interviewed. Only a single investigative file contained indications that physical evidence was collected. Only one file noted that investigators made a site visit.</p> <p>No files contain any indication that an agent was reprimanded or fired as a result of the complaint.</p> <p>“It’s an agency that seems to believe that it’s above the law,” Ebadolahi said. “Not a single [case] has been prosecuted.”</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Melbourne suburb scraps Australia Day
SOURCE	http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4882838/Another-town-scraps-Australia-Day-drawing-government-ire.html
GIST	<p>Marking Australia Day is like celebrating the Holocaust, a <u>Melbourne</u> politician said as her council scrapped a holiday it deemed offensive to Aboriginal people, in a move the government on Thursday labelled 'extreme and divisive'.</p> <p>The council in the Melbourne suburb of Moreland became the third in Victoria state to decide not to recognise Australia Day.</p> <p>The annual holiday, on January 26, commemorates the arrival of the country's first British settlers in 1788 and is a time when citizenship ceremonies are held.</p> <p>But it is termed 'Invasion Day' by many indigenous Australians who say it marks the beginning of the decline of Aboriginal culture.</p> <p>In debating the issue Wednesday, Moreland Socialist Alliance councillor Sue Bolton said commemorating Australia Day 'would be like celebrating the Nazi Holocaust', state broadcaster ABC reported.</p> <p>Assistant Minister for Immigration Alex Hawke said in a statement the government rejected 'the extreme and divisive nature of the discussion Greens and Socialist councillors are promoting'.</p> <p>He said the government of Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull 'strongly condemns comparisons of Australia Day with the Nazi Holocaust as deeply offensive to all Australians'.</p> <p>Australia's colonial history credits Captain James Cook with discovering the country, but Aboriginal people inhabited the land for more than 60,000 years before the first European explorers arrived.</p> <p>Last month a war of words erupted over colonial-era statues in Australia, with several in Sydney defaced, including one of Cook with the words 'change the date' in reference to Australia Day.</p> <p>The vandalism sparked a furious response from Turnbull, who brushed off calls for the statues to be torn down, adding that the defacement was 'what Stalin did' in denying history.</p>
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Crime, Criminals

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HEADLINE	09/14 Anarchist takes credit pipeline sabotage
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SOURCE	https://news.vice.com/story/an-anonymous-anarchist-takes-credit-for-ontario-pipeline-sabotage
GIST	<p>Police are investigating a new incident of pipeline sabotage in which an activist poured corrosive material into sections of pipe destined for a crude oil pipeline in southern Ontario.</p> <p>The sabotage is the just latest attempt to protest oil infrastructure through vandalism, although it is one of the more aggressive — and potentially dangerous — actions.</p> <p>An anonymous poster is taking credit for drilling holes and pouring corrosive material into sections of stored pipe meant for Enbridge’s Line 10 pipeline. Currently under construction, the project involves expanding 35 kilometres of the line, installed in 1962, allowing it to carry up to 74,000 barrels of oil per day.</p> <p>“Back when Enbridge started shipping in pipeline segments for their Line 10 expansion, we started sabotaging them,” the poster brags on Anarchist News. The poster describes going on long, moonlit strolls through freshly-dug pipeline trenches. “Wherever we felt the urge, we drilled various sized holes into pipeline segments while spilling corrosives inside others.” The post includes a How-To guide for sabotaging a pipeline.</p> <p>Hamilton Police confirmed they are investigating an incident this month in which an activist tampered with Enbridge’s Line 10 pipeline. An Enbridge representative confirmed to VICE News they are the same incident.</p> <p>“Tampering with stored pipe was discovered as part of Enbridge’s rigorous inspection process,” Enbridge representative Michael Barnes said in a statement. “We treat these situations very seriously and will support the prosecution of anyone involved. Safety of the public, the environment and our workers is our top priority at Enbridge.</p> <p>“Pipelines are no different than power lines or railway lines and tampering with energy infrastructure puts people and the environment at risk.”</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Police: fatal shooting Columbia City
SOURCE	http://mynorthwest.com/753054/man-dies-from-injuries-in-columbia-city-shooting/
GIST	<p>Homicide detectives are investigating a shooting in Columbia City that killed a man Thursday evening.</p> <p>Officers responded to a report of shots fired in the 5600 block of Rainier Avenue South.</p> <p>When officers arrived, they found a man who had been shot. He was taken to Harborview Medical Center, where he later died.</p> <p>Police are looking for the suspect, who is described as a black man in his early 20s and wearing a yellow shirt and blue jeans.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Russia: bomb hoaxes ‘telephone terrorism’
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/kremlin-condemns-bomb-hoaxes-telephone-terrorism-49844655?cid=clicksource_76_4_article%20roll_articleroll_hed
GIST	<p>A spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday said that hundreds of bomb threats made by anonymous telephone callers against major public buildings in Russia this week amount to "telephone terrorism" as authorities appear no closer to identifying the perpetrators.</p> <p>"All necessary measures are being taken," Dmitry Peskov told reporters. He refused to comment on</p>

theories about why the calls were being made.

State-owned television channels — how most Russians get their news — have aired little coverage about the threats. There have been no official statements by security service officials investigating them.

Since the weekend, over 100,000 people have been caught up in evacuations that have taken place in cities across Russia, from the Far East and Siberia to Moscow. Threats have been made against schools, hospitals, hotels, shopping centers, airports, railways stations and universities.

Dozens of buildings in Moscow and St. Petersburg were evacuated Thursday, including a large toy shop located next to the headquarters of the FSB, Russia's domestic security services. A total of about 20,000 people were rushed out of threatened buildings Thursday, according to the RIA Novosti news agency.

Citing law enforcement officials, Russian media outlets have reported a variety of explanations for the hoaxes, including that they were carried out by members of the Islamic State group, that the telephone calls originated from neighboring Ukraine and that it was an official exercise. No evidence has been produced to support any theory.

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HEADLINE	09/14 Mayor: nurse's arrest violated policies
SOURCE	http://www.cnn.com/2017/09/14/health/utah-nurse-salt-lake-officers-internal-investigation/index.html
GIST	<p>(CNN)Two Utah police officers violated policies when they <u>forcibly arrested a nurse who</u> would not let them draw blood from an unconscious patient, an internal investigation found.</p> <p>Salt Lake City Mayor Jackie Biskupski said Wednesday the officers violated several city and department policies, including those pertaining to arrests, ethics and officer conduct.</p> <p><u>The officers have 20 days to respond to the results of the internal investigation,</u> after which Chief Mike Brown will determine what employment action should be taken. The Salt Lake City Tribune published the internal affairs report, which CNN is also pursuing. The police department said it had no comment on the report.</p> <p><u>Salt Lake City Detective Jeff Payne's tense encounter</u> with charge nurse Alex Wubbels at the University of Utah Hospital burn unit drew national attention after body cam footage of the July 26 incident spread online.</p> <p>Payne's attorney, Gregory Skordas, acknowledged Payne "made mistakes," but said "it's clear from all accounts that there was fault at virtually every level."</p> <p>"It was just an unfortunate concurrence of a lot of mistakes and misunderstanding of the law and really sort of not necessarily appropriate behavior from some individuals, including Jeff, that led to this," Skordas said.</p> <p>During the incident, Wubbels refused to let officers draw a blood sample from the patient.</p> <p>Hospital policy specifies that to obtain a blood sample, police need a judge's order or the patient's consent, or the patient needs to be under arrest. The unconscious patient was not a suspect in the wreck that killed another driver.</p> <p>In the widely-seen police body cam video, Payne expressed repeated frustration after the nurse told him he would not obtain a blood sample.</p> <p>Wubbels gave the officers a printout of the hospital policy for drawing blood and said their request did not</p>

	<p>meet the criteria.</p> <p>After she refused, Payne quickly walked over to her. The video shows <u>Wubbels screaming for him to stop as he forced her out of the door</u> toward a police car.</p> <p>"I've done nothing wrong! I've done nothing wrong! Why is this happening? This is crazy," she said as she was led away.</p> <p>Payne handcuffed the nurse and placed her in a police car, where she sat for about 20 minutes, according to CNN affiliate KSL. She was later released without charge.</p> <p>Salt Lake City's mayor, city council and police later apologized to Wubbels for the arrest.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Suspect claims victim bullied him
SOURCE	http://q13fox.com/2017/09/14/suspect-in-school-shooting-said-victim-who-died-had-bullied-him/
GIST	<p>ROCKFORD, Wash. (AP) — Caleb Sharpe rode the bus to his high school in a tiny Washington state town, carrying a black duffel bag. The 15-year-old walked to a second-floor hallway, pulled an assault weapon from the bag and tried to load it, authorities said.</p> <p>It jammed, and a classmate walked up.</p> <p>"I always knew you were going to shoot up the school," the student said, according to court documents released Thursday. "You know this is going to get you in trouble."</p> <p>Sharpe pulled a pistol from his coat pocket and shot his classmate, also 15, in the abdomen and then in the face, killing him, according to the documents.</p> <p>He then walked down the hallway, firing at other students or into the ceiling, authorities say. Three female students were wounded but were expected to survive.</p> <p>Sharpe told police that he had been bullied by the boy who died but did not target him specifically.</p> <p>"Instead he'd come to the school to teach everyone a lesson about what happens when you bully others," the documents said Sharpe told investigators.</p> <p>The shooting Wednesday at Freeman High School in Rockford came after troubling behavior by Sharpe that the documents and his classmates detailed. They say he brought notes to school about doing "something stupid," was obsessed with past school shootings and posted videos online that showed him playing with guns.</p> <p>Sharpe, a sophomore, also had been meeting with a school counselor over suicidal thoughts and had left a suicide note at home for his parents before the shooting, an investigator for the Spokane County Sheriff's Office wrote in an affidavit.</p> <p>Freeman High School, which has 300 students, has not responded to calls for comment on how they dealt with Sharpe's behavior outside of the counseling for his thoughts of hurting himself.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Police search for gunman Renton shooting
SOURCE	http://www.seattlepi.com/local/komo/article/Report-Homeowner-shoots-burglar-in-SeaTac-12198383.php

GIST	<p>Officers responded to a shooting Thursday afternoon in the 1100 block of Northeast Edmonds Way in Renton, according to the Renton Police Department.</p> <p>Reports came in about 11:30 a.m. that there was a fight between two males on Northeast Edmonds Way. A male victim was reportedly shot multiple times, according to police.</p> <p>The victim was transported to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle. His condition is unclear.</p> <p>Police are currently looking for the suspected gunman who reportedly fled the scene in a vehicle, according to police.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/15 Berkeley police arrest 9 protesters
SOURCE	http://abcnews.go.com/US/protesters-rally-conservative-speech-uc-berkeley-breitbart-editor/story?id=49864404
GIST	<p>A large demonstration took over the campus of the University of California, Berkeley on Thursday night once again to protest a planned speech by a controversial conservative.</p> <p>This time, it was the editor-in-chief of Dailywire.com and former Breitbart editor Ben Shapiro who was invited to speak by the Young America's Foundation, a conservative college group, and Berkeley's College Republicans organization. The invite sparked outrage and protests that had the city's police taking unprecedented steps to keep the peace.</p> <p>Inside Zellerbach Hall, about 200 to 300 people of mostly pro-Shapiro students listened to his speech. He attacked the left, made the case for why he's not a white supremacist and launched into a profanity-laced rant about antifa.</p> <p>Attendees were ticketed and made their way through metal detectors before entering the hall.</p> <p>Outside, a few hundred demonstrators were kept back by a large show of police force. Officers dressed in riot gear lined up behind concrete barricades while protesters with a bullhorn rallied on the street.</p> <p>Thursday's event was the first since the Berkeley City Council modified a ban and allowed police to use pepper spray if needed.</p> <p>Police announced they have made nine total arrests outside the event on Thursday night.</p> <p>Even hours before the speech, Berkeley Police said they had made three arrests for people carrying banned weapons in the area surrounding the hall. Sarah Roark, 44, and Michael Sullivan, 29, were both arrested for possession of a banned weapon, while Hannah Benjamin, 20, was arrested for possessing a weapon and battery of a police officer.</p>
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HEADLINE	09/14 Guard shoots self; blames 'black man'
SOURCE	https://www.cbsnews.com/news/cops-college-guard-shot-self-on-campus-blamed-black-man/
GIST	<p>ST. PAUL -- Police in Minnesota say a campus security guard who claimed he had been shot by a "black man in a hoodie" actually shot himself, reports CBS affiliate WCCO.</p> <p>Police said they arrested 25-year-old Brent Patrick Ahlers after he admitted he accidentally shot himself on duty Tuesday night at St. Catherine University in St. Paul.</p> <p>Ahlers had previously said he was shot in the shoulder by a person he confronted in a wooded area on</p>

campus, according to WCCO. The report led to a campus-wide lockdown, and dozens of officers went building-to-building searching for the "suspect."

St. Paul Police say Ahlers eventually confessed to making up the story because he brought his gun to campus and was afraid he would lose his job. Firearms are prohibited on campus.

Ahlers is facing a misdemeanor charge of falsely reporting a crime.

St. Paul Police officer Mike Ernester said the false shooting report led to heightened concerns on campus.

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