

WORLD BRIEFLY

Associated Press

Republican Donald Trump shaking up campaign

TETERBORO, N.J. — Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, who has slipped in the polls in recent weeks, has shaken up his campaign again.

The billionaire real estate mogul is bringing in Stephen Bannon of Breitbart News as chief executive officer and promoting pollster Kellyanne Conway to campaign manager.

"I've known both of them for a long time. They're terrific people, they're winners, they're champs, and we need to win it," Trump told The Associated Press in a phone interview early Wednesday.

The move comes just 82 days before the November election and represents yet another overhaul of Trump's tumultuous quest for the White House.

In confirming the campaign overhaul, Trump called Bannon and Conway "big people" who can help him defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton in November.

Iran official: No permanent Russia base for Syria strikes

TEHRAN, Iran — The speaker of Iran's parliament stressed on Wednesday that Russia does not have a permanent military base within the Islamic Republic, a day after Moscow announced launching airstrikes on Syria from Iran.

The fact that Iran allowed Russian warplanes to take off from its territory to bomb targets in Syria was an unprecedented move, underscoring the deepening cooperation between two powerhouses heavily invested in the Syrian civil war.

In Syria, seven civilians were killed and nine were wounded by rocket rounds fired by armed groups on a government-controlled district of the city of Aleppo, Syria's state-run news agency said. SANA reported that the rockets struck the Salaheddine residential district in the northern city, which has been divided into a rebel-held eastern part and a government-controlled western part since 2012.

Once Syria's largest city and commercial center, Aleppo is now the focal point of the country's ruinous civil war. On Tuesday, nearly 20 civilians were reported killed in airstrikes in the eastern, rebel-held districts.

Wednesday's comments by the Iranian official, Ali Larijani, seem geared at easing domestic concerns over the strikes. Iran's constitution, ratified after its 1979 Islamic Revolution, bars foreign militaries from having bases within the country.

Russia-Iran cooperation in Syria sends message to US

WASHINGTON — Russia's use of an Iranian air base to bomb targets in Syria sends a message to Washington as it weighs a military partnership with Moscow: Join us or we'll look to your enemies.

Tuesday's missions were unprecedented. Iran allowed Russian warplanes to take off from its territory to strike opposition targets in Syria. The move came with little notice to the United States, which has watched helplessly the escalating bloodshed near Aleppo, the country's biggest city, and even offered an alliance with Russia against Islamic State and other extremist fighters as a way to get Syria's government out of the fight.

The negotiations have dragged on for weeks. Russia has grown impatient, with top officials several times suggesting an imminent deal, only to have American officials counter that the sides weren't close. The bombing runs from a base near the Iranian city of Hamedan, 175 miles southwest of Tehran, may have been a reminder to the Obama administration that Moscow could be cozying up to Iran if Washington doesn't come around.

"The Russians are showing

they have options in Syria while they have Washington over a barrel on Aleppo," said Andrew Tabler, a Syria expert at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. He said the operations also cement Russia's alliance with Iran in the region.

Russia and Iran have strongly backed Syrian President Bashar Assad's government throughout the five-and-a-half year civil war with rebel groups supported by the United States and allies such as Turkey and Saudi Arabia.

Staying ahead of the mold, residents salvage what they can

GONZALES, La. — The heartbreaking task of sorting through waterlogged belongings and ripping out carpets and drywall is kicking into high gear Wednesday in flood-wracked southern Louisiana as the state faces a long-term challenge of how to house thousands of displaced people.

But even as the water receded in some areas, it was rising in other places downstream, sending people fleeing to shelters.

Officials painted a stark picture of the crisis: at least 40,000 homes damaged and 11 people killed in some of the worst flooding in Louisiana history. More than 30,000 people have been rescued since Friday.

There were scattered reports of looting, and Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards said parishes with widespread damage were being placed under curfew as of Tuesday night.

The smell of muddy water hung heavy in the air as people donned surgical masks and began the back-breaking job of ripping out soggy carpet, drywall and insulation. They cleared out spiders and cockroaches that had bubbled up through the sewer grates.

Monstrous Calif. wildfire drives over 80,000 from homes

LOS ANGELES — It tore through canyons and flew over ridges in every direction with astonishing speed, sending flames 80 feet skyward and forcing tens of thousands to flee their homes.

The Southern California wildfire that began as a small midmorning patch of flame next to Interstate 15 in the Cajon Pass had by Tuesday's end turned into a 28-square-mile monster that had burned an untold number of homes.

"This moved so fast," said Darren Dalton, 51, who along with his wife and son had to get out of his house in Wrightwood, a mountain town of 4,500 popular with skiers in winter. "It went from 'have you heard there's a fire?' to 'mandatory evacuation' before you could take it all in. This is a tight little community up here. Always in rally mode. Suddenly it's a ghost town."

Hundreds of cars packed with residents, belongings and animals left the town. The air for miles around the blaze was filled with smoke. The sound of explosions — possibly from ammunition stored in homes — could be heard in the distance.

Shannon Anderson of Blue Mountain Farms horse ranch in Phelan had to load up and evacuate 40 horses as the fire approached. "It's raining ash," Anderson said, breathing hard.

Grandfather: Man killed by police was just trying to survive

MILWAUKEE — The man killed in a police shooting that sparked two nights of violence in Milwaukee suffered from cognitive and mental health issues, and he carried a gun because he had been shot more than once in the past, his grandfather said.

Sylville K. Smith had a lengthy criminal past, but was just trying to survive in the inner city, William Brookins told The Associated Press.

"In this city, there's a lot of killings going on in the street," said Brookins, who detailed Smith's problems in a letter to a judge last year seeking mercy

for his grandson. "He was afraid for his life. He was concerned about his safety and surviving."

Smith, 23, was shot and killed Saturday after a brief foot chase that followed a traffic stop. Police say Smith was fleeing, and officials have said the officer's body camera shows him being shot after he turned toward the officer with a gun in his hand.


The officer, who has not been identified, is black, as was Smith. A few hours after the shooting, violence erupted on the city's largely black north side, with protesters hurling rocks at police and burning six businesses. A lighter night of protests followed Sunday. Monday was calm, though 10 people were arrested.




AP Photo/Max Becherer

Flood victims are rescued Sunday by emergency responders from near Walker, La., after heavy rains inundated the region.

Consult a Professional



Stefanie Cao
Medicare Market Manager



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Q: What's a Medicare red, white and blue card?

A: It's the ID card the federal government sends when you're enrolled in Medicare. It shows the date coverage takes effect, and if you have Medicare Part A (hospital), Part B (medical) or both.

Whether you call Social Security to apply, or the government enrolls you as you approach age 65, this card proves you're on Medicare.





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Q: Are there any lobster in the Pacific Northwest?

A: Not anymore. From 1896 until 1966 there were 11 different species of Lobsters introduced along the Northwest coast of the U.S and Canada. Although they were able to survive in these waters, they were unable to reproduce and propagate on their own. Since introducing non-native species is now considered environmentally destructive, it is doubtful that there will ever be lobsters off our coast again.



JEFFREY M. LEINASSAR
DMD, FAGD



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Q: It has been a long time since I last visited the dentist. What should I do?

A: First, acknowledge yourself for considering your dental health. Most importantly, understand that you will be welcomed and given respect, understanding, and accurate information to help you determine your course of action. Dentistry has lots to offer to all who are ready.



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Q: When and where is the Doggie Fashion Show for the Dog Day Afternoon?

A: A benefit for Clatsop Animal Assistance, the Doggie Fashion Show will be at the Astoria Sunday Market at 1 PM on August 28th. It will be held on the patio on the east side of the American Legion building. The theme for the fashion show is Astoria Clowns in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Astoria-Megler Bridge. So bring your canine and come clown around! There will be awards and prizes for best dressed and other honors! Also, 4-H Classy Canines are bringing their agility course so you and your dog can learn new skills!



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Q: Are there any Belly Dance events or festivals held locally?

A: Belly Dance is everywhere! I host The Beach Belly Dance Festival every year on the third weekend of August at the Painted Lady Lavender Farm located at 1664 Hwy. 101 S. in Ilwaco Wa. This year's festival falls on August 20 & 21 and is themed "A Circus of Life." There will be workshops, demonstrations, music, vendors, food, games, raffles, a dance party, and lots of Belly Dancing performers from every walk of life. This is all set amidst the beautiful backdrop of the lavender farm. For more info on this and upcoming local belly dance events, follow Beach Belly Dance Studio on Facebook, or go to www.beachbellydancestudio.com. I will keep you in the know!



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Q: Do you offer gift certificates?

A: Yes! Roby's offers gift certificates available for purchase in our store. A Roby's gift certificate is a convenient way to buy a thoughtful gift for friend or family member while allowing them the freedom to pick out exactly what they want from Roby's for their home.



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Q: I had powdery mildew on my squash last year and want to prevent it this year. How do I do that?

A: If you do not have any sign of it yet, you can prevent it by spraying with a fungicide now and repeating it in 7 to 10 days. We carry a very effective copper product, *Serenade* and *Consan 20* which all work well. Pumpkins and zucchini are commonly affected by powdery mildew. If you do nothing, the crop that has already set will finish, but it does limit further production. Be sure to pull and dispose of affected plants at the end of the growing season.



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Q: When starting, Office apps present me with a lot of "Sample Templates" to choose from, but I just want a blank page to open automatically.

A: 1) Start your Office program.
2) Click on "File," then click "Options"
3) Uncheck "Show the Start screen when this application starts." It is in the "Start Up Options" section.
4) Click "OK"
5) Voila! A clean blank page each time you start Word, Excel, etc.



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Q: What is the Consult a Professional section and how can it help my business?

A: The Consult a Professional section in the Daily Astorian is a great & affordable way to advertise your business or service, by allowing you to educate the reader of exactly what you do on a professional level. All you need to do is come up with a question that a customer might ask about your line of expertise and then give them a detailed answer to help educate them before they even walk through your door. We are offering great rates and package deals that help save you money!