

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Violence leads to arrests in May Day marches in Northwest

PORTLAND — May Day protests turned violent in the Pacific Northwest as demonstrators in Portland, Oregon, threw smoke bombs and Molotov cocktails at police while elsewhere thousands of people peacefully marched against President Donald Trump's immigration and labor policies.

From New England to the Midwest to the West Coast people chanted and picketed against Trump along with the traditional May Day labor rallies. Protesters flooded streets in Chicago. At the White House gates, they demanded "Donald Trump has got to go!"

In Portland police shut down a protest they said had become a riot and arrested more than two dozen people. Police in Olympia, Washington, said nine people were taken into custody after several officers were injured by thrown rocks and windows were broken at businesses in Washington's capital city.

In Seattle, five people were arrested during downtown protests and in Oakland, California, at least four were arrested after creating a human chain to block a county building where demonstrators demanded that county law enforcement refuse to collaborate with federal immigration agents.

The demonstrations on May Day, celebrated as International Workers' Day, follow similar actions worldwide in which protesters from the Philippines to Paris demanded better working conditions. But the widespread protests in the United States were aimed directly at the new Republican president, who has followed aggressive anti-immigrant rhetoric on the campaign trail with aggressive action in the White House.

Trump: US needs September 'shutdown' to fix Senate 'mess'

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump tweeted today that the nation "needs a good 'shutdown' in September" to fix a "mess" in the Senate, issuing contradictory messages ahead of key votes on a spending plan to keep the federal government running.

Trump's embrace of a government shutdown came days after he accused Senate Democrats of seeking a shutdown and obstructing majority Republicans during recent budget negotiations. Lawmakers announced Sunday they had reached an agreement to avoid a shutdown until September — a deal that does not include several provisions sought by Trump, including funding for a border wall.

Congress is expected to vote this week on the \$1.1 trillion spending bill to fund the government through September. The White House on Monday praised the deal as a win for the nation's military, health benefits for coal miners and other Trump priorities. The House is also considering a possible vote this week on a health care overhaul that would repeal and replace the so-called Obamacare law.

Kicking off the day, the president tweeted today from his Twitter account, "The reason for the plan negotiated between the Republicans and Democrats is that we need 60 votes in the Senate which are not there!" He added that we "either elect more Republican Senators in 2018 or change the rules now to 51 (percent). Our country needs a good 'shutdown' in September to fix mess!"

United CEO calls passenger incident epic mistake

WASHINGTON — United Airlines CEO Oscar Munoz apologized today on Capitol Hill for an incident in which a passenger was forcibly removed from a flight and vowed to do better as he and other airline executives faced tough questions from lawmakers.

"It was a mistake of epic proportions, clearly, in hindsight," Munoz told a congressional hearing. He said passenger David Dao was treated in a way that no customer — or individual — should be treated, calling it a "terrible experience" that should never be repeated.

United has taken a series of steps to reduce overbooking of flights since the April 9 incident and will raise to \$10,000 the limit on payments to customers who give up seats on oversold flights, Munoz said. The airline also said it will improve employee training.

"This is a turning point for United, and our 87,000 professionals," a contrite Munoz said. "It is my mission to ensure we make the changes needed to provide our customers with the highest level of service and the deepest sense of respect."



Dave Killen/The Oregonian

Police try to disperse people participating in a May Day rally in downtown Portland on Monday. Police in Portland said the permit obtained for the May Day rally and march there was canceled as some marchers began throwing projectiles at officers.

Former Washington Gov. Lowry, also a congressman, dies

OLYMPIA, Wash. — Former Washington Gov. Mike Lowry, a Democrat who served in Congress for a decade, died Monday following complications from a stroke. He was 78.

Lowry, who was elected to one term as governor in 1992, was "a passionate defender of fairness for people and the environment," according to a news release from his family.

"Mike was known as a courageous leader who was often willing to take early stands on sometimes controversial issues, and this courage, plus his straightforward nature, garnered respect from those in all political parties," the statement said.

Lowry was a leading Democratic critic of President Ronald Reagan's economic policies, even when they were wildly popular, and also fought against the arms buildup and restrictions on abortions.

Long an advocate of international trade that became crucial to the state, Lowry was credited with saving the Export-Import Bank's direct loan program. He was on the House Budget Committee and worked on wilderness and marine sanctuary legislation and other issues.

Gov. Jay Inslee said Lowry "served with compassion and humility."

House packed with families became death trap in Iraq's Mosul

CAIRO — After an American airstrike killed more than 100 Iraqi civilians in a house in the western part of Mosul in March, U.S. officials suggested the Islamic State group was to blame for the horrific toll, saying militants may have crammed the building with people, booby-trapped it with explosives, then lured in an airstrike by firing from the roof.

None of that happened, survivors and witnesses told The Associated Press, recounting the deadliest single incident in the months-long battle for the Iraqi city.

"Armed men in the house I was in? Never," said Ali Zanoun, one of only two people in the building to survive the March 17 strike. He spent five days buried under the rubble of the building, drinking from a bottle of nose drops, with the bodies of more than 20 members of his family in the wreckage around him.

Instead, Zanoun and others interviewed by the AP described a horrifying battlefield where airstrikes and artillery pounded neighborhoods relentlessly trying to root out IS militants, leveling hundreds of buildings, many with civilians inside, despite the constant flight of surveillance drones overhead. Displaced families scurried from house to house, most driven out of their homes

by IS militants, who herded residents at gunpoint out of neighborhoods about to fall to Iraqi forces and pushed them into IS-held areas.

Increased use of bombardment has made the fight for Mosul's western sector, which began in mid-February, dramatically more destructive than fighting for its eastern half.

Overcoming Opioids: When pills are a hospital's last resort

BALTIMORE — A car crash shattered Stuart Anders' thigh, leaving pieces of bone sticking through his skin. Yet Anders begged emergency room doctors not to give him powerful opioid painkillers — he'd been addicted once before and panicked at the thought of relapsing.

"I can't lose what I worked for," he said.

The nation's opioid crisis is forcing hospitals to begin rolling out non-addictive alternatives to treatments that have long been the mainstay for the severe pain of trauma and surgery, so they don't save patients' lives or limbs only to have them fall under the grip of addiction.

Anders, 53, from Essex, Maryland, was lucky to land in a Baltimore emergency room offering an option that dramatically cut his need for opioids: An ultrasound-guided nerve block bathed a key nerve in local anesthetic, keeping his upper leg numb for several days.

"It has really changed the dynamics of how we care for these patients," said trauma anesthesiologist Dr. Ron Samet, who treated Anders.

Repeal or spare? Pressure is on moderates over health care

HAMILTON TOWNSHIP, N.J. — Moderate Republicans face intense pressure on their party's latest attempt to scrap Democrat Barack Obama's health care law — from President Donald Trump, House GOP leaders, medical professionals and outside political groups.

Back home, their constituents provide little clarity. In interviews, Associated Press reporters found views deeply held and deeply divided, reflective of dueling impulses to fulfill the seven-year-old GOP promise to repeal the law and to save many of its parts.

Meridene Walsh of Greenwood Village, Colorado, voted for Donald Trump for president last year partly because she wanted the Affordable Care Act gone. Now, she's frustrated that House Republicans, including her own representative, Mike Coffman, are balking.

New oyster war: Rich homeowners vs. working-class farmers

By BEN FINLEY
Associated Press

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — Oystermen, pirates and police clashed violently more than a century ago over who could collect the Chesapeake Bay's tasty and lucrative oysters. As the shellfish makes a comeback, a modern-day oyster war is brewing, this time between wealthy waterfront property owners and working-class fishermen.

Over the past five years, oyster production has doubled on the East Coast, driven by new farming methods, cleaner water and Americans' growing taste for oysters on the half shell. The resurgence has led to unprecedented resistance from coastal Virginians who want to maintain picturesque views from their waterfront homes and has fueled a debate over access to public waterways.

"These people can't have it all," said Chris Ludford, an oysterman in Virginia Beach who sells to nearby farm-to-table restaurants.

Ludford said he faces fierce pushback along a Chesapeake Bay tributary from people with "a \$2,000 painting in their house of some old bearded oysterman tonging oysters."

"But they don't want to look out their window and see the real thing," he said.

Homeowners say the growing number of oystermen — dressed in waders and often tending cages of shellfish — spoil their views and invade their privacy. Residents also worry about less access to the water and the safety of boaters and swimmers.

Low tides often expose oyster cages, usually accompanied by mark-



AP Photo/Steve Helber

Oysterman, Chris Ludford, works sorting oysters on his leased oyster beds on the Lynnhaven River in Virginia Beach, Va. As the shellfish makes a comeback, a modern-day oyster war is brewing, between wealthy waterfront property owners and working-class fishermen. Ludford said he faces fierce pushback along a Chesapeake Bay tributary from people.

ers or warning signs that protrude from the surface. In some places, cages float.

"All of sudden you have people working in your backyard like it was some industrial area," said John Korte, a retired NASA aerospace engineer in Virginia Beach who's among residents concerned about oyster farming's proliferation. "They may be a hundred feet away from someone's yard."

Ben Stagg, chief engineer at the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, said the state is poised to break its record of leased acreage for oyster growing. But nearly 30 percent

of more than 400 new lease applications face opposition, an unprecedented number that's led to a backlog of leases awaiting approval.

"Occasionally I can resolve those by having the parties get together and adjust the area further offshore," Stagg said. "But oftentimes, I can't."

There hasn't been this much interest in oysters in Virginia since the early 1960s. Since then, disease and overfishing took hold and growers started to disappear.

Over the last few decades, breeding programs have produced more disease-resistant and faster-growing oysters. The water's cleaner. Ameri-

can palates have evolved, increasing demand.

Farming techniques also changed. Traditionally, oysters are grown on the bottom of a calm and salty river or bay, then harvested with tongs or dredges that pull them onto boats.

Now, fishermen are increasingly using cages to grow oysters over a two-to-three year period. The equipment keeps predators away and produces oysters with a more uniform shape and size, which restaurants prefer.

But the cages are often placed in shallower water closer to shore — and people's homes.

Virginia Beach is perhaps ground zero for today's oyster war. The state's largest city sits at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. And oysters thrive in the city's Lynnhaven River, a network of bays and creeks flowing past expensive homes. Lynnhaven oysters are well-known for their salty taste and size.

A state task force was formed to find compromise. It recommended giving residents more power to block nearby oyster leases. But the idea was rejected by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, with the majority of commissioners saying state lawmakers should step in.

Proposals in the Staghouse have included raising the cost of an oyster farming lease from \$1.50 an acre annually to \$5,000. But legislators haven't found a solution.

Conflicts also have flared up along Maryland's Patuxent River, the coastal lagoons of Rhode Island and on Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts.

In Delaware, a group of people who mostly own vacation homes successfully blocked potential oyster

farming along their part of an inland bay.

"Oftentimes, affluent and new members of the community have the point of view that they own the water in front of them, which is really not true," said Bob Rheault, executive director of the East Coast Shellfish Growers Association. "We need to win back our social license to farm."

Rheault said he's seen these battles "up and down the East Coast" — even before the crop began to double five years ago.

"The industry was there before the waterfront mansions were built," Rheault added. "But it hasn't been there for this generation."

Ludford, who also works as a Virginia Beach firefighter, is relatively new to the business. He and other relatives started growing oysters in 2010 after leaving the crab industry.

On a recent morning, Ludford sorted through cages as he stood in the Lynnhaven River, hundreds of yards from the nearest home.

He dragged cages into view as grass shrimp wriggled on the shells. He and two helpers retrieved more than 500 oysters, which he sold at 75 cents apiece to three restaurants — totaling about \$375.

"Really, people haven't seen an oysterman behind their houses in 50 to 60 years," Ludford said.

Steven Corneliusen, who owns a waterfront home in Poquoson, Virginia, said he's among a group that successfully protested new leases along his corner of the Chesapeake. He said waterways should be subject to zoning, like land.

"That water out in front of me doesn't belong to me," he said. "But it doesn't belong to them, either."