

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Winter weather deaths climb to 15 as South cleans up snow

DURHAM, N.C. — The deep freeze that killed at least 15 people and shut down much of the South began to relent today as crews worked to clear roads blanketed by a slow-moving storm that left ice and snow in places that usually enjoy mild winters.

The snow stopped by early morning after the storm blew off shore, but North Carolina officials urged drivers to stay home while crews took their first crack at roads coated just hours earlier by the storm. Other parts of the South continued to struggle, including Louisiana, where interstate highways remained closed in the capital city Baton Rouge.

Even low hills in unplowed residential neighborhoods proved too much for drivers in northern Durham County, where the storm dumped up to 12 inches of snow on Wednesday. A dark-colored sedan sat abandoned in the middle of the road in one neighborhood. A few people shoveled driveways but most stayed bundled inside.

Two thousand state trucks were out plowing and salting in North Carolina a day after the storm dumped as much as an inch per hour from the mountains to the coast. Some stretches of interstate highway were still covered in icy spots or only partially plowed.

In Atlanta, temperatures remained below freezing until midday. Metro Atlanta's commuter rail system was operating on a limited schedule as the city continued to recover from the approximately 1 inch of snow and ice that brought the area to a standstill.

Officials at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the world's busiest, were hoping to reduce lines to get through security that stretched through the airport on Wednesday. Flight delays were exacerbated because some screeners couldn't make it to work, leaving the Transportation Security Administration with a single checkpoint in the domestic terminal. Some TSA employees slept at the airport overnight to avoid a repeat.

Today, airlines canceled another 200 flights at the Atlanta airport, and dozens of other flights at Charlotte Douglas International.

Trump adds confusion via Twitter to government shutdown concern

WASHINGTON — Injecting confusion into already perilous shutdown negotiations, President Donald Trump undercut his own administration's stance by tweeting today that a children's health insurance program should not be part of a short-term budget agreement.

The president's tweet came as Republicans and Democrats were scrambling to avert the shutdown, which could come at midnight Friday. The administration had previously expressed support for GOP-drafted legislation that includes money for the popular children's program for six years, a tactic aimed at winning some Democratic support for the bill.

The House was to vote later today. After Trump tweeted, aides from both parties expressed bafflement at exactly what he meant and why he took his position. It was the latest instance that has raised doubts in Washington about the president's unpredictable approach to legislation, policy and political decisions.

Just Wednesday, the White House budget office sent Congress a letter expressing support for the overall bill and expressly wrote, "The Administration supports the bill's multi-year funding extension of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)."

Federal financing for the program that serves nearly 9 million children expired in October



AP Photo/Jens Meyer
A powerful storm in Europe grounded flights, halted trains, ripped roofs off buildings and flipped over trucks.

Powerful gale lashes Europe, 6 dead amid traffic chaos

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — A powerful storm pummeled Europe with high winds and snow today, killing at least six people in three countries, grounding flights, halting trains, ripping roofs off buildings and flipping over trucks.

The Dutch national weather service recorded wind gusts of up to 87 mph in the southern port of Hook of Holland as the storm passed over.

Amsterdam's Schiphol briefly halted flights for an hour in the morning, and airline KLM already had scrapped more than 200 flights before the storm. Trains were halted across the nation and in Germany.

Falling trees killed two 62-year-old men in the Netherlands, a woman south of the Belgian capital of Brussels, a 59-year-old man at a camping site in the German town of Emmerich and a firefighter in the German town of Bad Salzungen. In Lippstadt, in western Germany, a driver died when he lost control of his van in strong winds and drove into oncoming traffic, police said.

Police spokeswoman Jose Albers told Dutch national broadcaster NOS that authorities also were investigating whether the powerful gusts were to blame for the death of a 66-year-old man who fell through a plexiglass roof in the central town of Vuren.

Social media in the Netherlands was flooded with images of people being blown from their bicycles, cargo containers falling off a ship and damage to buildings, including a roof that peeled off an apartment block in the city of Rotterdam.

Water authorities in the low-lying nation closed an inflatable storm barrier east of Amsterdam to prevent flooding as the storm pushed up water levels.

and several states are close to exhausting their money, and Congress has passed several short-term patches to keep their programs afloat.

Governors to Trump, Congress: Do more to solve opioid crisis

CHERRY HILL, N.J. — Governors of both parties are calling on Congress and President Donald Trump's administration to provide more money and improve coordination to deal with America's deadly opioid crisis.

The National Governors Association released a list of recommendations today.

It comes less than three months after Trump declared a public health emergency to deal with the epidemic of addictions and deaths associated with opioids, a group of drugs that includes prescription painkillers, heroin and fentanyl.

Those drugs have fueled an overdose crisis that claims the lives of roughly 90 Americans every day.

The governors praised Trump's declaration while calling for more action, including research into non-drug pain treatment methods.

A spokesman for the White House office overseeing drug policy says the administration is committed to working with states and addressing their recommendations.

Even without El Nino last year, Earth keeps on warming

WASHINGTON — Earth last year wasn't quite as hot as 2016's record-shattering mark, but it ranked second or third, depending on who was counting.

Either way, scientists say it showed a clear signal of man-made global warming because it was the hottest year they've seen without an El Nino boosting temperatures naturally.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the United Kingdom's meteorological office today announced that 2017 was the third hottest year on record. At the same time, NASA and researchers from a nonprofit in Berkeley, California, called it the second.

The agencies slightly differ because of how much they count an overheating Arctic, where there are gaps in the data.

The global average temperature in 2017 was 58.51 degrees, which is 1.51 degrees above the 20th century average and just behind 2016 and 2015, NOAA said. Other agencies' figures were close but not quite the same.

Earlier, European forecasters called 2017 the second hottest year, while the Japanese Meteorological Agency called it the third hottest. Two other scientific groups that use satellite, not ground, measurements split on 2017 being second or third hottest. With four teams calling it

the second hottest year and four teams calling it third, the United Nations' World Meteorological Organization termed 2017 a tie for second with 2015.

"This is human-caused climate change in action," said Nobel Prize winning chemist Mario Molina of the University of California San Diego, who wasn't part of any of the measuring teams. "Climate is not weather, (which) can go up and down from year to year. What counts is the longer-term change, which is clearly upwards."

Haitians face hurdles after protected status renewal delays

BOSTON — Thousands of Haitian immigrants living in the U.S. legally will face employment and travel hurdles because President Donald Trump's administration delayed the process of re-registering those with temporary protected status, Haitian community leaders and immigrant activists say.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will release details today about the next steps for the 60,000 Haitians with the special status, an agency spokeswoman told The Associated Press.

But the information comes too late to help the thousands of Haitians who hold immigration documents that show their legal and work status expiring Monday, said immigrants and advocates, some of whom wondered — in light of the president's recent remarks about Haiti — if the bureaucratic slowdown was deliberate.

"They told me that if I don't bring the work papers, they will send me home because it is the law. You have to have work papers. I am under pressure," said Edelyne Jean, a 35-year-old nursing assistant in Coral Springs, Florida, who supports four younger siblings still in Haiti. "They say that if I don't bring anything new by Jan. 22 or the 23rd at the most, I am jobless."

Haitian workers like Jean will be left at the mercy of employers, who could simply choose to let them go or hire someone else rather than wait for a process that could take months, says Rev. Dieufort Fleurissant, chairman of Haitian Americans United, a Boston-based community group.

Russia probes come up against claims of executive privilege

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's White House is relying on a sweeping interpretation of executive privilege that is ruffling members of Congress on both sides of the aisle as current and former advisers parade to Capitol Hill for questioning about possible connections with Russia.

The White House's contention: Pretty much everything is off limits until the president says it's not.

The argument was laid bare this week during former White House chief strategist Steve Bannon's interview with the House Intelligence Committee. As lawmakers in the closed-door session probed Bannon's time working for Trump, his attorney got on the phone with the White House counsel's office, relaying questions and asking what Bannon could tell Congress, according to a White House official and a second person familiar with the interview.

The answer was a broad one. Bannon couldn't discuss anything to do with his work on the presidential transition or later in the White House itself.

The development brought to the forefront questions about White House efforts to control what current and former aides may or may not tell Congress about their time in Trump's inner circle, and whether Republicans who hold majorities on Capitol Hill will force the issue. It was also the broadest example yet of the White House using executive privilege to limit a witness' testimony without making a formal invocation of that presidential power.

THURSDAY EVENING		A - Charter Astoria/Seaside - L - Charter Long Beach										JANUARY 18	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6 (N)		Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel Fortune (N)	Grey's A. "Four Seasons in One Day" (N)	Scandal "Robin" (N)			Away With Murder "He's Dead" (N)		KATU News (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News (N)		Wheel Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Grey's A. "Four Seasons in One Day" (N)	Scandal "Robin" (N)			Away With Murder "He's Dead" (N)		KOMO 4 News (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel
4	KING	(5) NBC News (N)	KING 5 News (N)	Evening Superstore (N)	GoodPlace (N)	Will & Grace (N)	Chicago Fire "Foul is Fair" (N)			Chicago Fire "Foul is Fair" (N)		KING 5 News (N)	(35) Tonight Show
5	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 (N)	Evening News (N)	Extra	Ent. Tonight	The Big Bang (N)	Young Sheldon (N)	Mom (N)		S.W.A.T. "K-Town" (N)		KOIN 6 News (N)	(35) Colbert
6	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News (N)	Evening News (N)	KIRO 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	The Big Bang (N)	Young Sheldon (N)	Mom (N)		S.W.A.T. "K-Town" (N)		KIRO 6 News (N)	(35) Colbert
7	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)		Live at 7 (N)	Inside Edition	Superstore (N)	GoodPlace (N)	Will & Grace (N)		Chicago Fire "Foul is Fair" (N)		KGW News (N)	(35) Tonight Show
8	KRCW	(3) Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Supernatural "Wayward Sisters" (N)	Arrow "Divided" (N)			News at 10 (N)	Friends	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
9	KOPB	(10) Curious Traveler	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)		Oregon Art Beat	Oregon Guide	Midsomer M.	(50) Midsomer M.	Days of Misrule" (35) Masterpiece	Mystery! "Sherlock: The Great Game"		
10	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud	Family Feud	FOX 12's News (N)		9 O'Clock News (N)		10 O'Clock News (N)		News (N)	Page Six TV
11	KPDx	(2) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	The Four "Week Three" A new set of challengers face off against The Four. (N)		Q13 News at 10 (N)		Q13 News at 10 (N)		Q13 News (N)	The Simpsons
12	KCPQ	(13) Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn 99	Conan (N)	
13	TBS	(20) Family Guy	Family Guy	Brooklyn 99	Brooklyn 99	Mom	Modern Family	Mom	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
14	KZJQ	(22) Friends	Friends	Mom	Modern Family	SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (N)		SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)	
15	ESPN2	(30) NCAA Basketball (L)		ITF Tennis Australian Open Men's and Women's Third Round Site: Melbourne Park -- Melbourne, Australia (L)									
16	NICK	(31) Henry Danger	Henry Danger	Paradise Run (N)	SpongeBob	The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water '15) Antonio Banderas.		Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Friends	Friends		
17	DISN	(32) Jessie	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Raven's Home	K.C. Underc. (N)	Stuck in Middle	Bizaardvark	Bizaardvark	Bunk'd	Jessie Pt. 2 of 2	K.C. Undercover	Stuck in Middle
18	FAM	(34) *** Tarzan (1999, Animated) Voices of Minnie Driver, Glenn Close, Tony Goldwyn		Beyond "Two Zero One" (SP) (N)		Beyond "Cheers, Bitch" (N)		Grown-ish	Alone Together	The 700 Club			
19	FMC	(35) (5:50) ** Old Dogs (09, Com) Robin Williams, John Travolta. (40) FXM Presents		About Last Night (2014, Comedy) Kevin Hart, Michael Ealy. (55) FXM Presents		About Last Night (2014, Comedy) Kevin Hart, Michael Ealy. (55) FXM Presents		Runway (10) ThisTime		NCAA Basketball			
20	LIFE	(36) Grey's A. "The Heart of the Matter"		Project Runway	(55) ProjectR (N)	ProjectRunwa (N)	(50) Runway (N)	Project Runway "Perfect Pairings" (N)		Making a Model "Instaqlam" (N)		Runway (10) ThisTime	
21	ROOT	(38) Undeniable Joe Buck "Nick Faldo"		NCAA Basketball Portland at San Diego (L)		In Depth		NCAA Basketball Santa Clara at San Francisco					
22	F51	(39) (5:30) NCAA Basketb. Minnesota at Maryland (College Park) (L)		Fox College Extra		NCAA Basketball UCLA at Oregon State (L)		Fox College Hoops	TMZ Sports (N)	Skip and Shannon: Undisputed			
23	SPIKE	(43) Movie	*** Pitch Perfect (2012, Comedy) Brittany Snow, Rebel Wilson, Anna Kendrick.			Lip Sync Battle (N)		Lip Sync Battle		Lip Sync Battle		Lip Sync Battle	Lip Sync Battle
24	COM	(44) (4:45) *** Horrible Bosses (11) Charlie Day, Jason Bateman. (N)		Corporate	Corporate	Tosh.0		Tosh.0		Tosh.0		Tosh.0	Tosh.0
25	HIST	(45) American Pickers "The Superfan"		Amer. Pickers "Tunnels and Treasures"		American Pickers "Texas Hold 'Em"		American Pickers (N)		(05) American Pickers "Mike's Big Buy"		(05) American Pickers	
26	A&E	(46) The First 48 "Cold Betrayal"		The First 48 "Moonie/Dark Impulse"		The First 48 "Trust No One"		The First 48 (N)		60 Days In "Party Favors" (N)		(05) The First 48 "A Murder in Mobile"	
27	TLC	(47) Hayley Ever After: The Dress		My 600-lb Life "Janine's Story"		My 600-lb Life: Superized "Janine's Story" (N)		Family-Ton "Stepping on the Scale" (N)		600 Life: Superized "Janine's Story"		600 Life: Superized "Janine's Story"	
28	DISC	(48) Alaska/Last "Hunting Season Begins"		Murder Isle "A Body in the Field"		Murder Isle "Second Suspect"		Murder Isle "A Second Murder" (N)		Interrogation Room "Rival Affections"		Murder Isle "A Second Murder"	
29	NGEO	(49) Live Free "Hunt the Rabbit Hole"		Live Free or Die "Forever Wild"		Life Below 0 "Blood in the Water" (N)		Life Below Zero "To Catch a King" (N)		Running Wild "Kate Hudson"		Life Below Zero "To Catch a King"	
30	TNT	(50) (4:00) NBA Basketball Minnesota Timberwolves at Houston Rockets Site: Toyota Center -- Houston, Texas (L)		Inside the NBA				NBA Basketball Philadelphia 76ers at Boston Celtics					
31	AMC	(51) (5:30) *** 300 (2006, Epic) Lena Headey, Dominic West, Gerard Butler.		*** Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl (*03, Adventure) Geoffrey Rush, Orlando Bloom, Johnny Depp.		300 (2006, Epic) Gerard Butler.		300 (2006, Epic) Gerard Butler.					
32	USA	(52) Law & Order: S.V.U. "Scavenger"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Outcry"		Law&O: SVU "Heightened Emotions"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Rape Interrupted"		Damnation "God's Body"		(05) Law&O: SVU "Catching Teacher"	
33	FOOD	(53) Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Chopped "Sweet Surprises"		Chopped "Fabulous Baker Boys"		Chopped "Flour Power"		Beat Flay (N)	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay
34	HGTV	(54) Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop (N)	Flip or Flop	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
35	FX	(56) (5:30) *** Lone Survivor (14, Act) Taylor Kitsch, Emile Hirsch, Mark Wahlberg.		*** White House Down (2013, Action) Jamie Foxx, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Channing Tatum.								White House Down Channing Tatum.	
36	CNN	(57) Cuomo Prime Time (L)		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		Anderson Cooper 360		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	
37	FNC	(58) Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night		Tucker Carlson Tonight		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle	
38	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank		Jay Leno's Garage "Closed Roads" (N)		Jay Leno's Garage "Keys to Happiness"		Leno Garage "Any Which Way But Gas"		Jay Leno's Garage "Closed Roads"		Paid Program	
39	BRV	(63) Mill.Listing "It Wasn't in My Budget!"		Million Dollar List "Mile High Club"		Million Dollar List "Keys to the Castle"		Million Dollar Listing Los Angeles (N)		Top Chef "Olympic Dreams" (N)		(15) Watch (N)	(45) Million Listing
40	TAMC	(64) (5:00) Cluny Brown (46) Charles Boyer.		* The Earrings of Madame De... (1953, Drama) Danielle Darrieux, Charles Boyer.		* Une Parisienne (Comedy) Henri Vidal, Charles Boyer.		(45) ** The Happy Time (52) Bobby Driscoll, Charles Boyer.					
41	SYFY	(65) *** The Fifth Element (1997, Sci-Fi) Milla Jovovich, Gary Oldman, Bruce Willis.		*** The Goonies (1985, Adventure) Corey Feldman, Josh Brolin, Sean Astin.								Superstition "Resurrection" (SF) (N)	
42	RFD	(62) SF Machinery	Small Town	Rural America Live "AARP"		Steve Lavntiv	Rural Eve. News	Market Journal	GA Farm Monitor	SF Machinery	Small Town	Time Life Library	