Sunny 87/68 • Tomorrow: Partly sunny 88/69 B20

Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2025 · \$4

CLEARS THE HOUSE IN A MARATHON PUSH

Republicans herald first major legislative victory

BY JACOB BOGAGE AND MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR

Republicans notched their first major legislative victory of Presi-

dent Donald Trump's second term

Thursday, passing a mammoth tax and immigration bill the GOP

hopes will reshape the U.S. econo-

my and unwind many of the Biden

The House, in a 218-214 vote,

approved Trump's self-named "One Big Beautiful Bill," a

\$3.4 trillion measure to extend tax

cuts from Trump's first term and implement new campaign prom-

ises - such as eliminating income

taxes on tips and overtime wages

billions of dollars on immigration

enforcement and defense. It rais-

es the country's borrowing cap by

\$5 trillion, staving off a debt de-

fault that the Treasury had

bill, the legislation cuts about

\$1 trillion from Medicaid, the fed-

eral health insurance program for

low-income individuals and people with disabilities, and other

health care programs. It reduces

spending on anti-hunger pro-

grams, including SNAP, the Sup-

plemental Nutrition Assistance

Program formerly known as food

Nearly 17 million people will

lose health care coverage or

health care subsidies over the

next decade if the bill becomes

law, according to the nonpartisan

Congressional Budget Office, and

the bill would add roughly \$4 tril-

lion to the debt over the next

decade, when factoring in debt

Trump's desk to be signed into law

in time to beat a self-imposed July

4 deadline. The Senate passed its

edition of the legislation Tuesday.

these individual

SEE BILL ON A6

The House vote sends the bill to

stamps, by \$185 billion.

warned was just weeks away. To offset some of the cost of the

- while spending hundreds of

accomplish-

administration's

ments.

President plans to press for ceasefire

Trump says he'll be 'very firm' in upcoming meeting with Netanyahu

This article is by John Hudson, ${\it Claire Parker, Shira Rubin, Matt}$ Viser and Lior Soroka

President Donald Trump hopes to strike a ceasefire deal in Gaza next week as he hosts Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanvahu at the White House while his negotiating team narrows the gaps between Hamas and Israel on an agreement to release hostages and end hostilities.

The Oval Office meeting with Netanyahu on Monday follows Trump's decision to attack Iranian nuclear sites and then broker a ceasefire between Israel and Iran. The military operation divided the president's most passionate supporters, some of whom felt betrayed given his pledge to avoid

Trump said he would be "very firm" with Netanyahu about ending the conflict. "I think we'll have a deal next week," he told reporters on Tuesday

Hamas is weighing whether to accept an amended proposal for a 60-day ceasefire put forward by Qatar and Egypt interlocutors. Mediators "are making intensive efforts to bridge the gap between the parties and reach a framework agreement that would pave the way for a serious round of negotiations," Hamas said in a

statement Wednesday. Israelis are expecting Netanyahu and Trump to announce a ceasefire deal as well as agreements with other neighboring Arab nations during the trip. "It

SEE ISRAEL ON A11

Police scour grainy video in slaying of D.C. intern

'Multiple suspects' fired at another group, killing the 21-year-old bystander

> BY JUAN BENN JR. AND PAUL DUGGAN

Days after a young congressional intern was fatally shot in the nation's capital, lawmakers offered condolences as D.C. police said they continued searching for shooters who got out of a car and fired on another group near the Walter E. Washington Convention Center.

D.C. police said investigators have obtained a video recording that experts are working to enhance, hoping the footage will help authorities identify suspects. The gunshots wounded a woman and a 16-year-old boy and killed 21-year-old Eric Tarpinian-Jachym, a Massachusetts college student who began working last month as an intern in the office of Rep. Ron Estes (R-Kansas).

"Right now, it's really grainy," D.C. Police Chief Pamela A. Smith said of the video, adding that investigators have sought the FBI's help in improving the quality of the recording so that police can "push out some images that may be useful to the public."

Appearing with Mayor Muriel SEE INTERN ON A4

Big GOP bill is ready for Trump's pen



House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-Louisiana) applauds Thursday after the passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill in a 218-214 vote.

White House vowed to cut, cut, cut. Now it's set to release sea of red ink.

BY JEFF STEIN

President Donald Trump on Thursday cemented one of the most consequential - and expensive — economic legacies in modern American presidential history, as his Republican allies in Congress approved a second sweeping tax cut that will deepen the nation's fiscal imbalances for vears to come.

In the president's first term, Trump oversaw a roughly \$8 trillion increase in the federal debt, which surged due to his firstterm tax cuts and emergency spending approved by Congress during the coronavirus pandem-

Trump's second term began with billionaire Elon Musk in the administration vowing to reduce the federal debt by cutting government spending by more than \$1 trillion, following substantial increases to the debt during the Biden administration. But those efforts fizzled as Musk has left the administration, and the second Trump tax cuts are projected to add more than \$4 trillion to the national debt, once interest costs and likely policy extensions are accounted for.

Taken together, the Trump tax laws mark one of the most significant fiscal expansions in peacetime U.S. history.

Economists disagree about the extent to which Trump has exceeded the deficit binge of his predecessors, in part because nobody knows how much revenue the White House will ultimately SEE TRUMP ON A6

Waving away moderates' warnings, president broke promise on Medicaid

BY LIZ GOODWIN, MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR, THEODORIC MEYER AND EMILY DAVIES

Sen. Thom Tillis (R-North Carolina) told President Donald Trump he was making a mistake.

In a tense Saturday night phone call, the vulnerable senator from a purple state told the president that the legislation's cuts to Medicaid would cause Republicans to lose the House majority and haunt Trump in much the same way that President Barack Obama was dogged by his promise that, under the Affordable Care Act, anyone who liked their doctor could keep

Trump pressed ahead anyway. "I hope he remembers the warnings and the advice that I gave him last night," Tillis told reporters Sunday. "Because if this bill gets passed in its current form, I'll remind him next year when we lose the majority in the House."

Against the warnings of GOP moderates, Trump and congressional Republicans on Thursday managed to pass a \$3.4 trillion bill that cuts taxes and spending and sets aside hundreds of billions of dollars for border security, detention centers and the Pentagon, once again showing the president's firm grasp on Republicans.

But in Trump's eagerness to score a signature legislative win and extend the tax cuts he put into place nearly 10 years ago, he also walked away from the campaign promise he made not to touch care putting the SEE MEDICAID ON A7

@PKCapitol: Many voters don't know what's in the sweeping bill. A2

service payments.

250th festivities: Trump outlines plans for state fairs, UFC fights. A16

Discovery: Bill would transfer the shuttle to a Houston museum. B13



European heat wave fuels wildfires across Greece

An airplane drops water on a wildfire that broke out in Pikermi, Greece, on Thursday. Hot, dry temperatures in Greece, along with gale-force winds, have exacerbated the blazes. Peak fire season in the region tends to overlap with the hottest part of summer. Story, A10

A stretch of Utah dirt embodies gritty land fight

Congress opens remote area to off-road vehicles, leading some to lament loss of quiet and solitude

BY JOSHUA PARTLOW AND ERIN PATRICK O'CONNOR

HANKSVILLE, UTAH — Brett Stewart was in the lead, bouncing behind the wheel of a Can-Am Maverick X3 off-road vehicle that he likened to a "Ferrari on dirt."

Then came Jean Robert Babilis, a 70-year-old with a handgun in the console, pushing a 114-horsepower Polaris side-byside through the red rock canyonlands of southern Utah - spraying sand in defiance of the environmentalists who've fought a years-long battle to keep his kind

The four off-road vehicles that set off in late May on the 100-mile Poison Spring Loop were exercising their right to recreate on America's public land, combatants in a noisy culture war about where off-road vehicles should be allowed to drive.

The route was stunning: the hanging gardens and sandstone

cliffs, the soaring buttes and endless mesas. But eight of these miles were particularly sweet: a stretch of hotly contested National Park Service land that Congress opened to off-road vehicles in May, overturning a rule finalized days before President Joe Biden left office that would have kept their convoy out.

Sunshine was breaking through the clouds over a great American landscape. This was a victory lap.

"We're going to have a beautiful day, guys," Babilis said.

Then he hit the gas.

The shift comes as environmentalists and others out West express alarm about the fate of public lands. Senate Republicans proposed selling more than a million acres of public land in Western states to build housing, before withdrawing the plan Saturday. The Trump administration wants to ramp up logging, min-SEE OFF-ROAD ON A20

BUSINESS NEWS

IN THE NEWS

A healthy increase Employers added 147,000 jobs in June, the Labor Department reported, beating forecasters' estimates. A15

'Severe beatings' Kilmar Abrego García's lawyers described his time in El Salvador's notorious Terrorism Confinement Center in stark terms. B13

THE NATION

The Supreme Court will hear arguments on the legality of trans athlete bans in October. A3 The man charged with killing a Minnesota lawmaker said he'll reveal "the truth" at trial. A4

THE WORLD

Denmark began drafting women into military service amid fears of conflict with Russia. A13 **Relations** between Russia and once-close ally Azerbaijan have taken a nosedive. A13

THE ECONOMY

Vietnam's trade deal with the U.S. may complicate its ties with China as the White House focuses in on "transshipment" of goods. A14 U.S. policymakers are increasingly anxious about the integrity of data points that guide economic decisions. A15

STYLE With his trial over,

rap mogul Sean "Diddy" Combs now faces sentencing and an array of lawsuits. B1

SPORTS

Nationals slugger James Wood announced he's headed to the Home Run Derby, set for July 14 in Atlanta. B7

THE REGION

Your guide to Independence Day. Toast America's birthday with fireworks, parades and other events. B14

WEEKEND

Going to the Cowboy Carter concert? Here's how to do it right. What to bring, where to shop, when to arrive.

OBITUARIES.

CONTENT © 2025 The Washington Post Year 148, No. 54267