

Ohio State’s football coach turns into an untouchable

Column: Once an obvious choice to be fired in 2024, Ryan Day is now bulletproof. **In Sports**

Boardroom demographics shift as DEI loses ground

Data shows that backlash is eroding gains made by women and people of color. **In Money**

Miguel opens up about ‘Caos’ and clarity

R&B singer is back after eight years with new album, calling it “the most aggressive body of work” he’s put together. **In Life**

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NATHANIAL GARY/USA TODAY



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits are set to stop as the government shutdown drags on. BRIAN SNYDER/REUTERS

42 million won’t get food aid Nov. 1

SNAP benefits run out because of shutdown

Melina Khan
USA TODAY

The 42 million Americans who rely on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will go without their benefits come Nov. 1 because of the government shutdown, according to a new message from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

SNAP, also known as food stamps, is a federal program that provides low-income families monthly benefits to afford healthy food.

Latest on shutdown

Online: Keep up with all the updates at usatoday.com.

Parts of the government effectively stopped operating Oct. 1 after lawmakers in Congress failed to agree on funding allocations for the 2026 fiscal year.

Health care policy remains a key sticking point in the shutdown for Democrats, who are pushing to reverse Republican cuts to the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid. Republicans have argued that health care can be debated after the shutdown is over.

The USDA confirmed in a new message on its website that no SNAP benefits will be issued come Nov. 1.

“Bottom line, the well has run dry. At this time, there will be no benefits issued November 1,” the message reads, in part.

Echoing similar comments from Republicans and officials from President Donald Trump’s administration, the message pointed blame at Democratic lawmakers for the shutdown. The USDA is led by Trump appointee Brooke Rollins.

“We are approaching an inflection point for Senate Democrats,” the message said. “They can continue to hold out for healthcare for illegal aliens and gender mutilation procedures or reopen the government so mothers, babies, and the most vulnerable among us can receive critical nutrition

See FOOD STAMPS, Page 6A

Normal days laced with fear as couple wonders if breadwinner will be deported



Chelsea Brunty-Barojas and Antonio Barojas Solano say they’re grateful for every day they are together with their family in Huntsville, Alabama. The couple worries Barojas Solano could be detained again by ICE and deported to Mexico. PHOTOS BY JACK GRUBER/USA TODAY

Family waits to learn fate

Lauren Villagran
USA TODAY

HUNTSVILLE, AL

It was a Sunday like any other for the Brunty-Barojas family. Breakfast croissants for six kids. Keurig coffee brewing in the kitchen. Video games in the living room. Soccer in the backyard. • But while the kids ate and played, Chelsea Brunty-Barojas was frantically piling clothes and belongings to fill a 40-gallon container in the garage, preparing for the likelihood that her husband, Antonio Barojas Solano, the family’s sole provider, could be detained by ICE within days and deported to Mexico. • She was struggling to comprehend it. • “He doesn’t meet the criteria of what people are saying, like the ones that need to be deported in this mass deportation,” she said. “He’s not a criminal.”

But their application to legalize her husband’s immigration status is unfolding against the backdrop of President Donald Trump’s effort to deport millions of immigrants. And a chance encounter with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in August landed Barojas Solano in detention for six weeks, upending his legal process and leaving them terrified that he could be detained again.

It didn’t seem to matter that he had been brought to the United States by an uncle when he was 14, a year older than his eldest son is now. Or that he had been abandoned here.

Barojas Solano, now 33, has worked ever since, in landscaping and construction. He and Brunty-Barojas, 37, married in 2022, had a child together – 2-year-old Colette – and forged a blended family. They were in the process of submitting his paperwork for a green card when agents detained him.



Two-year-old Colette looks at a photo of her parents, Brunty-Barojas and Barojas Solano, while her mother packs items in preparation of a possible move to Mexico if her father is deported.

ABOUT THIS SERIES

This is the first story in an occasional series detailing how President Donald Trump’s immigration policies are transforming America.

See FAMILY, Page 5A

IN MONEY

Will drop in mortgage rates boost housing?

As rates for home loans hit their lowest level in over a year, activity in the housing market is ticking up. Sales of previously owned homes were higher in September than the month prior. The bigger question, experts say, is whether the drop in mortgage rates will entice more homeowners to put their homes on the market. “I think sellers may want to see rates lower and steadier,” says Bill Emerson, president of Rocket Companies.

Details on rates, 1B



Hope Walz has a big TikTok following with her takes on pop culture and politics. JANIE OSBORNE FOR USA TODAY

Gen Zer may give Democrats some Hope

Tim Walz’s daughter stirs in the political pot

Jay Stahl
USA TODAY

The Instagram photos show Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz and his daughter, Hope, on a sunny autumn Sunday after they finished a 10-mile race during the Twin Cities Marathon weekend.

The father-daughter duo trotted over cracked asphalt in Minneapolis-St. Paul on Oct. 5, race bibs pasted at his stomach and her right thigh.

Their photo finish was punctuated with wide smiles. It was a happier ending to that run than nearly a year ago, when then-Vice President Kamala Harris and Gov. Walz lost to now-President Donald Trump and Vice President JD Vance.

Since the election, Hope Walz has gained half a million TikTok followers posting from her home in Bozeman, Montana. She courts Gen Z women – Harris won young women by a lesser margin than former President Joe Biden in 2020 – with her takes on pop culture and politics.

Trump’s electoral victory was due, in part, to wooing young men to polling places. Democrats have been strategizing since the loss about how to win over the constituency.

While it is still unclear if her online followers will translate to Democratic voters, Walz is connecting with her core audience, women under the age of 35. She’s trying to offer a humanizing place to talk politics with her social media presence – an alternative as Americans split on major issues and lawmakers struggle to lower the temperature.

The 2024 election “turned out the way it turned out and there’s no going back at this point, you know? So all we can do is move forward in my eyes,” Walz tells USA TODAY, invoking the “we’re not going back” slogan of the Harris campaign.

See HOPE WALZ, Page 6A