

Shopper finds bad prices, weights in Walmart meats

Retailer and manufacturer respond after Georgia man shows mislabeled packaging. **In Money**

‘Silent assassin’: Team USA dominates women’s moguls

Liz Lemley, the youngest on the team, stuns to win gold while Jaelin Kauf takes silver. **In Sports**



Gellar: ‘I don’t take five stars lightly’

“Cruel Intentions” star says she fears falling on stage and worries she’s the “mean judge” on Netflix’s “Star Search” reboot. **In Life**

USA TODAY

THE NATION'S NEWS | \$3 | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026

MATT WINKELMEYER/GETTY IMAGES FOR NETFLIX



Bystanders record the scene as a man is detained by ICE agents days after Renee Good was shot in Minneapolis. LEAH MILLIS/REUTERS

Judges are excoriating ICE in their opinions

Courts not holding back on enforcement tactics

Christopher Cann
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – A striking trend is unfolding at federal courthouses across the nation: Judges appointed by both parties are issuing uncharacteristically scathing rebukes of the Trump administration’s immigration enforcement crackdown.

A senior district judge in Texas blasted the administration in January for what he described as an “ill-conceived and incompetently-implemented government pursuit of daily deportation quotas.”

Minnesota’s chief judge said in an order that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has “likely violated more court orders in January 2026 than some federal agencies have violated in their entire existence.” Another federal judge called President Donald Trump an “authoritarian” and accused the administration of trampling on the First Amendment.

Pierce criticism from members of the judiciary – including judges appointed by Republican presidents – comes as the Trump administration expands its campaign to carry out the largest mass deportation in American history.

Since returning to office, Trump and top administration officials have taken swift actions to intensify immigration enforcement, from surging federal agents to major cities to halting bond hearings for detained undocumented immigrants.

In response, a growing number of district court judges have criticized the administration in written opinions and in court, accusing ICE of knowingly violating hundreds of court orders and condemning the tactics used by federal officers during raids across the country.

The White House and Department of Homeland Security officials have pushed back, criticizing the judges –including some long supported by Republicans – as “activists.” In a statement, Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Tricia McLaughlin said that detainees receive proper due process and that the Trump administration is “more than prepared to handle the legal caseload” from its enforcement of laws against illegal immigration.

In emailed comments to USA TODAY, White House spokeswoman

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“We’re a country of immigrants, and we forget that every day.”

Don Tietz, who lived near Camp Algona in Iowa as a child during WWII

Amid WWII, Iowa farmed humanity



German POWs inside Iowa’s Camp Algona during World War II mark Christmas with handmade decorations. PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CAMP ALGONA POW MUSEUM

German POWs helped locals plant crops, and lasting bonds grew

Nick El Hajj DES MOINES REGISTER | USA TODAY NETWORK

Jean Shey was 12 when she first questioned her father’s judgment. • He wanted to serve lunch to the Germans. Not neighbors – prisoners of war in her town of Algona, Iowa. • Five of them. Men captured overseas while her friends’ brothers were fighting and dying in Europe. • “Dad, you’re inviting those monsters into our home?” she asked in disbelief. • Her father never hesitated. • “They’re just like us,” he told her.

Shey, now 93, still remembers those words and her mother’s reply.

“Mom said, ‘Well, I’m definitely not going to use my good dishes.’”

In the middle of World War II, the deadliest conflict in human history, in a county struggling to meet federal food quotas with fewer men and limited machinery, the Shey family farm near Algona, Iowa, became one of many places where the lines blurred between enemy and



Jean Shey

neighbor.

More than 25,000 enemy prisoners of war were transported to Iowa from 1943 to 1946, more than any state except Texas and California.

Most of the prisoners Iowa received were German soldiers captured with the Afrika Korps in North Africa and transported across the Atlantic on gray-painted ocean liners before

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Prisoners of war stand amid harvested hemp field in Britt, Iowa, after a day’s labor. They were paid 80 cents per day in camp credit.

Removal of pride flag stirs outrage

Leaders, activists rally for Stonewall Inn site

Michael Collins and Eduardo Cuevas
USA TODAY

NEW YORK – First they erased transgender people from the government’s version of LGBTQ+ history.

Now they’ve taken down the rainbow flag.

The Trump administration quietly removed a large pride flag at the Stonewall National Monument in New York City in recent days, just weeks after the government issued federal guidance on types of flags allowed to be flown at national parks.

Volunteer caretakers of the monument noticed that the rainbow-colored flag had been removed on Monday, Feb. 9. The flag flew from atop a pole in a park across from the Stonewall Inn, a popular gay bar in New York’s Greenwich Village that was the scene of one of the most significant events in LGBTQ+ history.

“Removing the rainbow flag from the Stonewall National Monument again makes a target of what is sacred ground for our community – and another attempted act of erasure by an administration that has relentlessly attacked the LGBTQ+ community since the day it took office,” said Cathy Renna, spokeswoman for the National LGBTQ Task Force.

The National Park Service said in a statement provided to USA TODAY

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The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says that the wood stork is no longer in immediate danger of extinction. ANDREW WEST/USA TODAY NETWORK

Rebounding wood stork no longer endangered

Dinah Voyles Pulver
USA TODAY

A pair of naturalists spent weeks in the wilds of South Florida in the 1930s, braving alligators and snakes to find and photograph wetland and wading birds like the gangly wood stork.

Unlike many of the birds that Helen and Allan Cruickshank found in the Everglades, the storks had not been decimated by plume hunters decades before because the homely bird’s feathers weren’t prized for ladies’ hats.

But the storks suffered when developers and agricultural operations began ditching and draining, which eventually compromised some 35% of South Florida’s wetlands, where the majority of the birds nested.

By the late 1970s, the nation’s only native storks had plummeted from an estimated 20,000 nesting pairs to

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