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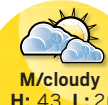
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THE RECORD



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COLLAR CITY

‘IT’S COMMUNITY’ Troy counts down to 78th Turkey Trot



MELISSA SCHUMAN — MEDIANEWS GROUP

Mayor Carmella Mantello poses with Uncle Sam, Trotter the Turkey, and representatives of the Troy Turkey Trot's partners against the backdrop of the Green Island Bridge, which is part of the 10k race course.

By Melissa Schuman
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TROY, N.Y. » The countdown is officially underway for the 2025 Troy Turkey Trot.

This year is the 78th running of the annual races, with more than 2,300 participants signed up to participate. With one week to go until race day, a press conference was held on the deck of Ryan's Wake with Mayor Carmella Mantello alongside Turkey Trot partners and coordinators, as well as "Uncle Sam" and the race's mascot Trotter the Turkey.

The press conference location was a change from the Arts Center on River Street. With participants bundled up against the cold, Ryan's Wake offered a view of the Green Island Bridge, which is a significant part of the Turkey Trot's 10k race. Mantello expressed her gratitude to the Arts Center for its hospitality for so many years, and thanked pub owner



MELISSA SCHUMAN — MEDIANEWS GROUP

The Regional Food Bank is accepting donations for its Food and Fund Drive at the Turkey Trot.

Chris Ryan for providing the conference's new location.

This year's Troy Turkey Trot will have its usual 10k race, 5k race, 1 Mile Turkey Walk, and Grade School Mile. All events will begin at the intersection of 4th and Fulton Streets and end at Monument Square. This year's fundraising goal is

\$20,000, which last year's Trot was able to meet.

Registration for the costume contest is online this year, and is open until 2 p.m. the day before Thanksgiving. Participants can also register at the O Snap Photo Booth on race day from 6:30 to 11 a.m. All entries will be posted to the Turkey Trot's

Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/troyturkey-trot/>, where fans can vote by giving their favorite costume "likes."

Winners will be announced the following week. Online registration is available at www.TroyTurkeyTrot.com/annual-costume-contest.

New this year are some changes to packet pickup and race day details. Race results will be offered in live-time, displayed on television screens at the finish line. Pre-race packet pickup will happen on Nov. 22 and Nov. 26 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at RPI, inside the East Campus Athletic Village Gymnasium at 20 Georgian Terrace. Both pickup days will feature guest speakers, vendors, photo opportunities with Trotter, and a "shake down" run of the race course, giving runners a chance to practice at an easy pace.

TURKEY TROT » PAGE 2

U.S. NEWS

What's next once Trump signs bill releasing the Epstein files

By Stephen Groves
Associated Press

WASHINGTON » Congress is sending President Donald Trump a bill to compel the Justice Department to make public its case files on the convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, a potentially far-reaching development in a yearslong push by survivors of Epstein's abuse for a public reckoning.

Both the House and Senate passed the bill this week with overwhelming margins after Trump reversed course on his monthslong opposition to the bill and indicated he would sign it. Once the bill is signed by the president, it sets a 30-day countdown for the Justice Department to produce what's commonly known as the Epstein files.

"This bill is a command for the president to be fully transparent, to come fully clean, and to provide full honesty to the American people," Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer of New York said Wednesday.

Schumer added that Democrats were ready to push back if they perceive that the president is doing anything but adhering to "full transparency."

The swift, bipartisan work in Congress this week was a response to the growing public demand that the Epstein files be released, especially as attention focuses on his connections to global leaders including Trump, former President Bill Clinton, Andrew Mountbatten Windsor, who has already been stripped of his royal title as Prince Andrew over the matter, and many others.

There is plenty of public anticipation about what more the files could reveal. Yet the bill will most likely trigger a rarely seen baring of a sprawling federal investigation, also creating the potential for unintended consequences.

What does the bill do?

The bill compels Attorney General Pam Bondi to release essentially everything the Justice Department has collected over multiple federal investigations into Epstein, as well as his longtime confidante and girlfriend Ghislaine Maxwell, who is serving a 20-year prison sentence for luring teenage girls for the disgraced financier. Those records total around 100,000 pages, according to a federal judge who has reviewed the case.

It will also compel the Justice Department to produce all its internal communications on Epstein and his associates and his 2019 death in a Manhattan jail cell as he awaited charges for sexually abusing and trafficking dozens of teenage girls.

EPSTEIN » PAGE 2

U.S. NEWS

Takeaways from Trump's White House meeting with Saudi crown prince: Deals and bromance

By Matthew Lee
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON » A jovial President Donald Trump held a warm and friendly meeting with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman at the White House, packed with plenty of handshakes and back pats. He brushed aside questions about Saudi Arabia's human rights record, praised the prince for his statesmanship and announced hundreds of billions of dollars in new Saudi investment in the United States.

The White House rolled out plenty of

pomp for the Saudi royal on Tuesday, dispatching fighter jets that the two leaders watched from a red carpet, parading out an honor guard on horseback and giving a lavish dinner in the East Room.

In a sitdown in the Oval Office that took place just seven years after Prince Mohammad was implicated by U.S. intelligence agencies in the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, Trump and the prince took numerous questions from reporters — one of whom was repeatedly insulted by Trump — on everything from commerce to the sale of advanced F-35 fighter jets to Riyadh.

Here is a look at some of the takeaways from the visit:

Movement on military cooperation

Trump had previewed his decision to sell F-35s on Sunday but formalized it before the prince on Tuesday when he said the approval was complete and that Israel's fears about maintaining its qualitative military edge in the Middle East would be addressed.

MEETING » PAGE 2



AP PHOTO/EVAN VUCCI

President Donald Trump welcomes Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to the White House, Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2025, in Washington.





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 **MediaNews Group**

Turkey Trot

FROM PAGE 1

Racers' bibs will each have a unique QR code on the back, which will be tied to each racer's registration information, race records, and emergency contact information.

Event Director Josh Merlis, whose organization, Albany Running Exchange (ARE), is partnering with the Troy Turkey Trot for the first time, explained that the changes were made to in-

crease efficiency and turn packet pickup into a fun event where racers can connect with each other ahead of the Trot. ARE has many years of experience with running and managing race events, and is excited to bring their expertise to the Troy Turkey Trot as an official partner.

"It's a real pleasure for me to be in this role," Merlis said. "We're so excited to finally be a part of this event. We've known about it for years, and our members of course participate, but now we're excited to be a part-

ner. We can't wait for it."

Other partners for the Troy Turkey Trot include Pioneer Bank, which is the first of this year's signature sponsors; and the Regional Food Bank and Joseph's House & Shelter, who are the Turkey Trot's beneficiaries.

"The Troy Turkey Trot embodies the values that represent who we are," said Schuyler Bull, Pioneer Bank's Vice President Director of Marketing & Communications. "We're so happy to get involved every year."

"Every step taken at the Trot is a step towards end-

ing homelessness," said Amy LaFountain, Executive Director of Joseph's House & Shelter.

"We do a lot of work here in Troy," added Regional Food Bank CEO Tom Nardacci. "The support that we receive from the Turkey Trot really means a lot. As someone who's been participating in the Turkey Trot since I was a freshman, it's real important to me to be a part of this."

"We know the Turkey Trot is where families come and enjoy themselves, but it's important to remem-

ber that there are folks who don't have food, don't have shelter," commented Mantello. "Especially at this time of year, it's super important to remember them."

This year's Troy Turkey Trot kicks off at 8 am with the 10k race. The Grade School Mile will begin at 9:30 am, the 1 Mile Turkey Walk starts at 9:35 am, and the 5k race will start at 10 am. All finishers will receive medals and all registrants will get a commemorative t-shirt. A virtual race option is again available; racers will self-time and receive their

medals and t-shirts by mail.

Mantello also announced that she will sign an Executive Order pardoning all calories on Thanksgiving Day.

"It's family, it's camaraderie, it's community, it's one of the greatest races in the country," she said. "You can feel the vibe in Troy right now, it's literally one of my favorite days of the year."

For more information, including links to Joseph's House & Shelter and the Regional Food Bank, volunteer opportunities, and race registration, visit www.Troy-TurkeyTrot.com.

Epstein

FROM PAGE 1

The legislation, however, exempts some parts of the case files. The bill's authors made sure to include that the Justice Department could withhold personally identifiable information of victims, child sexual abuse materials and information deemed by the administration to be classified for national defense or foreign policy.

"We will continue to follow the law with maximum transparency while protecting victims," Bondi told a news conference Wednesday when asked about releasing the files.

The bill also allows the

Justice Department to withhold information that would jeopardize active investigations or prosecutions. That's created some worry among the bill's proponents that the department would open active investigations into people named in the Epstein files in order to shield that material from public view.

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, a longtime Trump loyalist who has had a prominent split with Trump over the bill, said Tuesday that she saw the administration's compliance with the bill as its "real test."

"Will the Department of Justice release the files, or will it all remain tied up in investigations?" she asked.

In July, the FBI said in a memo regarding the Epstein investigation that,

"we did not uncover evidence that could predicate an investigation against uncharged third parties." But Bondi last week complied with Trump's demands and ordered a federal prosecutor to investigate Epstein's ties to the president's political foes, including Clinton.

Still, Rep. Thomas Massie, a Kentucky Republican who sponsored the bill, said "there's no way they can have enough investigations to cover" all of the people he believes are implicated in Epstein's abuse. "And if they do, then good," he added.

The bill also requires the Justice Department to produce reports on what materials it withheld, as well as redactions made, within 15 days of the release of the

files. It stipulates that officials can't withhold or redact anything "on the basis of embarrassment, reputational harm, or political sensitivity, including to any government official, public figure, or foreign dignitary."

Who could be named?

There's a widely held expectation that many people could be named in case files for investigations that spanned over a decade — and some concern that just because someone is named, that person would be assumed guilty or complicit.

Epstein was a luminary who kept company with heads of state, influential political figures, academics and billionaires. The release of his emails and messages by a House Oversight

Committee investigation last week has already shown his connections with — and private conversations about — Trump and many other high-powered figures.

Yet federal prosecutors follow carefully constructed guidelines about what information they produce publicly and at trial, both to protect victims and to uphold the fairness of the legal system. House Speaker Mike Johnson raised objections to the bill on those grounds this week, arguing that it could reveal unwanted information on victims as well as others who were in contact with investigators.

Still, Johnson did not actually try to make changes to the bill and voted for it on the House floor.

For the bill's proponents,

a public reckoning over the investigation is precisely the point. Some of the survivors of trafficking from Epstein and Maxwell have sought ways to name people they accuse of being complicit or involved, but fear they will face lawsuits from the men they accuse.

Massie said that he wants the FBI to release the reports from its interviews with the victims.

Those reports typically contain unvetted information, but Massie said he is determined to name those who are accused. He and Greene have offered to read the names of those accused on the House floor, which would shield their speech from legal consequences.

"We need names," Massie said.

Meeting

FROM PAGE 1

Details of the deal were not immediately clear, but some in the Pentagon and other agencies have opposed the sale because of the potential for advanced technology being shared

with China, which also has close ties with Saudi Arabia.

"As far as I'm concerned, I think they are both at a level where they should get top of the line," Trump said of Saudi Arabia and Israel, which already has F-35s. "Israel's aware and they're going to be very happy."

Israeli officials have sug-

gested that they would not be opposed to Saudi Arabia getting F-35s as long as Saudi Arabia normalizes relations with Israel under the Abraham Accords framework.

The Saudis have said they would join the Abraham Accords but only after there is a credible and guaranteed path to Palestinian

statehood, a position Prince Mohammad repeated in the meeting.

"We want to be part of the Abraham Accords, but we want also to be sure that we secure a clear path of two-state solution," he said. "We're going to work on that to be sure that we come prepared for the situation as soon as possible to have that."

Trump also said the U.S. and Saudi Arabia would complete a broader agreement on military and security issues during the visit and that the U.S. would proceed with a civilian nuclear agreement with Saudi Arabia, about which Israel also has raised concerns.

The two nations also signed a deal that calls for the Saudis to purchase nearly 300 tanks from the U.S.

At the dinner Tuesday night, Trump announced he was designating Saudi Arabia as a major non-NATO ally, a largely symbolic move that gives foreign partners some defense, trade and security cooperation benefits.

Khashoggi's killing gets swept aside

Tuesday's meeting was the first White House visit for the crown prince since Khashoggi, a U.S. resident and Washington Post columnist, was killed and dismembered at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2018.

U.S. intelligence said Prince Mohammad likely approved the slaying.

In a remarkable scene in the Oval Office, the prince, nicknamed MBS, faced questions from reporters,

something not typical for the de facto head of the absolute monarchy where dissent is criminalized.

He was asked about Khashoggi's slaying along with the role that Saudi citizens played in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the United States. Trump, however, lashed out at the reporter for the line of questioning.

Trump called Khashoggi, a Saudi pro-democracy activist, "extremely controversial" and said "a lot of people didn't like that gentleman that you're talking about. Whether you like him or didn't like him, things happen, but he (the crown prince) knew nothing about it and we can leave it at that."

Prince Mohammad, who has denied involvement in Khashoggi's killing, replied that his government had taken action.

"It's been painful for us in Saudi Arabia," he said. "We did all the right steps of investigation, etc., in Saudi Arabia, and we've improved our system to be sure that nothing happens like that again. And it's painful, and it was a huge mistake."

Trump also commended the Saudi leader for strides made by the kingdom on human rights without providing any specific detail but presumably referring to reforms relating to women's rights. "What's he done is incredible in terms of human rights and everything else," Trump said.

Lots of pomp and circumstance

Trump greeted Prince Mohammed at the White House's South Lawn en-

trance with a handshake and arm slung over the prince's shoulder. Trump literally rolled out the red carpet for the Saudi leader, with a military band on hand and a flyover by U.S. military planes, before showing the crown prince his decorations along the White House Colonnade.

"We have a extremely respected man in the Oval Office today," Trump said at the top of meeting, calling the prince "a friend of mine for a very long time."

Trump also castigated his predecessor, former President Joe Biden, for greeting Prince Mohammed with a fist bump during his 2022 visit to Saudi Arabia.

"When you get out of the plane and you get the future king — and a man who is one of the most respected people in the world — you shake his hand, you don't give him a fist bump, right?" Trump said. "Trump doesn't give a fist bump. I grab that hand" — and he did just that.

At the dinner Tuesday night, the tuxedo-clad president and first lady Melania Trump welcomed the crown prince back on the red carpet again, before feting him at a dinner attended by tech titans. Among them were Tesla CEO Elon Musk, Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang and Apple CEO Tim Cook, along with golfer Bryson DeChambeau and soccer star Cristiano Ronaldo.

They dined on a pistachio-crusted rack of lamb, followed by a coverture mousse pear for dessert.

Vast but vague commercial and economic deals

Prince Mohammad told Trump that his country would be increasing its financial commitments to the U.S. from \$600 billion, which was announced during the president's trip to Riyadh in May, to \$1 trillion.

Details of those deals were not immediately clear but are expected to include investments in a variety of American businesses, including artificial intelligence, as well as the purchase of jet engines and other equipment.

This story was first published on Nov. 18, 2025. It was updated on Nov. 19, 2025, to make clear that Musk is CEO of Tesla and was not technically present at the founding of the company but was an early investor and is listed on the Tesla website as a co-founder.



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