

## **Current News/Topics**



**CLOSING OUT 2018**

**Current News-Topics**  
**DECEMBER 30, 2018**

## **Trump won't budge on border funding**

**The President is telling officials he won't sign a bill with only \$1.3 billion allotted for border security**

- **Trump freezes federal workers' pay in 2019**
- **Partial government shutdown has gone on for** 8d 16h 6m 56s

- [Lindsey Graham: There will never be a deal without wall](#)
- [Federal employees prepare for a long shutdown](#)

**MSNBC** [msnbc](#)

[John Kelly talks to the L.A. Times about his tough time in the Trump White House](#)

**HUFFPOST**

[MCCHRYSTAL WOULD PASS ON OFFER FROM 'SHADY' TRUMP](#)

**WASHINGTONPOST**

[Federal government shutdown enters second week with no resolution in sight](#)

Republican officials try to pin blame on Democrats, but they are not budging as GOP debates what exactly constitutes a border "wall."

- By [Mike DeBonis](#)

**The Fix**

**Analysis**

[John Kelly paints yet another dim portrait of Trump](#)

In an exit interview with the Los Angeles Times, the departing White House chief of staff echoes what other top Trump administration officials have said publicly and privately: President Trump is someone who needs containing.

- By [Aaron Blake](#)

[Fact Checker: Trump's year of unprecedented deception](#)  
[Former U.S. commander calls Trump dishonest and immoral](#)

**NYTIMES**

**A death in Gaza**

## **A Day, a Life: When a Medic Was Killed in Gaza, Was It an Accident?**

- **When an Israeli soldier killed Rouzan al-Najjar, Palestinians called her an innocent martyr and Israel portrayed her as a threat.**

## **Kelly Says Idea of Concrete Wall Was Abandoned Long Ago**

**The departing White House chief of staff's comments come as a partial government shutdown caused by a fight over a border barrier drags into a second week.**

## **Deciphering the Patterns in Trump's Falsehoods**

**We review how President Trump bent the truth this year by repeating and inflating falsehoods, shifting his statements, embellishing or omitting details, and offering misleading attacks.**

**Politics**

**LATIMES**

**John F. Kelly says his tenure as Trump's chief of staff is best measured by what the president did not do**

**By Molly O'Toole**

**With no end in sight to the shutdown, Republicans continue to try to maneuver around Trump**

**One-quarter of the government is shut down, and about 800,000 federal workers are either working without pay or on furlough.**

**By Laura King**

## **Almost nothing paid off for investors in 2018, as the bull market headed to the slaughterhouse**

**By Jim Puzzanghera**

**DECEMBER 29, 2018**

**CNN Report: Manafort pressured by Russians to pay back debt while Trump's campaign chair**

**Doctors say Sanders isn't telling the truth**

**See a visualization of President Trump's multiplying false claims**

**11 countries will move forward with a huge trade deal- without the US**

**Trump issues order freezing federal workers' pay in 2019**

**The move comes as 800K federal employees expect to begin the new year out of work or working without pay**

- **Partial government shutdown has gone on for 7d 16h 30m 59s**
- **Departing senators sound the alarm**

**YAHOO Congress Is Still Pulling \$174,000 Salaries During the Government Shutdown**

**Lawyer: Investigators gathered evidence of undocumented immigrants who say they worked at Trump club**

**The interest by the FBI and New Jersey officials indicates they may be launching a probe into the hiring practices at the president's club.**

- **By Emily Wax-Thibodeaux**

**Politics Yahoo View**

**Business GOBankingRates**

**Warren Buffett Measures Success With This Four-Letter Word { S\*\*T }**

**Anyone can use this piece of Warren Buffet advice.**

**MSNBC**

**The Last Word**

**Trump approval at record low as country blames him for shutdown**

**HUFFPOST**

**Trump Blocks Federal Workers' Pay Hike While They're Out Of A Job**

**ENVIRONMENT**

**College Wrestler Leaps Into Icy Lake To Rescue Cat**

**By Hilary Hanson**

**Darden Schurg admits the move was dangerous, but said, "I felt it was only right."**

**NYTIMES**

**Mr. Trump has a well-documented problem telling the truth. These are the patterns in his falsehoods.**

**YAHOO NEWS**

**WorldThe National Interest China's New Submarine-Launched Nuclear Missile Can Hit the U.S.**

**With just an estimated 300 nuclear warheads compared to the approximately 7,000 fielded by both the U.S. and Russia, China's nuclear arsenal is comparatively small. But even a few Chinese H-bombs could wreak tremendous damage to the United States.**

**Politics Rolling Stone**

## **Taxpayers Are Subsidizing Mar-a-Lago's New Year's Eve Party Despite Trump's Shutdown**

**The pres. doesn't care about the 800,000 workers who won't receive  
paychecks during gov't shutdown**

**DECEMBER 28, 2018**

**Politics HuffPost**

## **Don Lemon Says Trump's 2013 Call For Obama To Be 'Fired' Over Shutdown Is 'Priceless'**

**Politics Rolling Stone**

## **Cell Phone Records Show Michael Cohen Was Near Prague When Alleged Meeting with Russia Took Place**

**CNN**

## **Explosion lights up New York sky in shades of blue**

**BREAKING**

**Multiple fires erupted after 'transformers tripped offline' in Queens, power company says**

**The oldest man in the US dies**

**HUFFPOST**

**TRUMP'S PLAN:**

**THERE IS NO PLAN**

**GOOGLENEWS**

**Trump Got The Shutdown He Wanted But Doesn't Seem To Have A Plan To End It**

**With virtually no talks going on, House and Senate Republicans seem content to let the shutdown carry into next year, when Democrats take control of the ...[HuffPost](#)**

**Trump now claims most furloughed workers 'are Democrats'**

**President Donald Trump fired off the tweet early Thursday morning as the government shutdown entered its sixth day. [NBC News](#)**

## **Here's why Trump really hates Fed rate hikes**

**Every time the Federal Reserve raises interest rates, it costs President Trump money, Yahoo Finance's Rick Newman writes.**

**What every quarter-point increase costs»**

**Politics Gizmodo**

## **Russia Tests New Hypersonic Missile System Under Direct Orders From President Putin**

Russia tested a new hypersonic glide missile system today under direct orders from President Vladimir Putin, according to reports from Russian state media. The new system, called the Avangard, utilizes an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) a

<http://albertpeia.com/russiadvancedmissile.gif>

## **CNN A social media post highlights a new vulnerability that could put the Secret Service on edge**

- **Trump misleads about military pay raises again**
- **Don Lemon calls out Trump lying to troops' faces**
- **Iraqi politicians, lawmakers denounce Trump visit, troop presence**
- **Analyst: Trump confused Iraq trip with rally**

## **MSNBC**

### **Troop pay raises, and the top 10 Trump fibs of 2018**

## **HUFFPOST**

### **MSNBC Beats Fox News In Key Ratings For First Time In 17 Years**

### **Trump Brags To Troops About A Fictional Giant Pay Raise He Got Them**

## **COASTTOCOASTAM**

### **Economy & Current Events Commentary**

First-hour guest, former ABC investigative correspondent [Greg Hunter](#) offered commentary on the economy and current events. The two biggest problems in the world, he suggested, are enormous debt and enormous fraud. Globally, the debt has increased by 100 trillion since the 2008 crisis, he pointed out, while fraud is off-the-charts in the economy, Internet metrics are often faked, and \$21 trillion disappeared or is unaccountable from the US government coffers. He also warned that Deutsche Bank stock is falling and if the bank fails it could have cascading effects on the general economy.



## **Fact check**

**Kremlin Ignores Evidence in Calling US Meddling Reports 'Unfounded'**

**Polygraph.info**

**Will 2018 See the First Christmas Full Moon Since 1977?**

**Snopes.com**

**Donald Trump claims Russia is 'not happy' US troops are leaving Syria. That isn't true [ Duh! ]**

**PolitiFact**

**Schiff: Trump endangering 'rule of law' [ Ya think ... Double Duh! ]**

**President Donald Trump is jeopardizing “the rule of law” by discussing his legal situation with acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker, Rep. Adam Schiff ...**

**POLITICO**

**Business CNBC**

**We are now in a Bear Market - here's what that means**

**Bear markets are defined by a 20 percent decline or more from a recent high but they're also marked by overall pessimism on Wall Street.**

**Dow, stocks end sharply lower on Christmas Eve after weekend of Washington, D.C., turmoil**

**USA TODAY**

**What to Do Now If You're Losing Sleep Over the Stock Market**

**Kiplinger**

## **Anak Krakatau volcano erupts before and after tsunami – video**

The sound of explosions can be heard in dramatic video filmed the day before to a deadly tsunami which struck parts of Indonesia.

**The Guardian**

## **Tsunami kills at least 222 in Indonesia, sweeps band off stage after volcano eruption**

A tsunami struck Indonesia virtually without warning, killing at least 222 people, sweeping away members of a pop band performing on a beach. Hundreds of ...

**Fox News**

**Politics MarketWatch**

## **Trump Today: President blames Democrats for shutdown, Fed for Wall Street selloff and unwilling ‘allies’ for Syria pullout**

President Trump on Monday kept trying to pin blame for a government shutdown on Democrats, said the only problem with the economy is the Federal Reserve and continued to defend his much-criticized military pullout in Syria. Playing the blame game President Donald Trump

## **Trump is incompetent, impulsive and amoral. Heaven help us all.**

- By **Eugene Robinson**

## **Wonder how the Trump administration would handle a financial crisis? Well, now we know.**

- By **Catherine Rampell**

**Politics FOX News Videos**

## **Democrats have 'no incentive whatsoever' to negotiate deal before the end of the year**

**Former White House deputy chief of staff to President George W. Bush Karl Rove breaks down the political fallout from the partial government shutdown.**

**Top Trump aide says government shutdown may go into New Year**

**Reuters**

**Government shutdown threatens federal workers' holiday plans**

**Yahoo View**

**BusinessCNBC**

## **We are now in a bear market - here's what that means**

**A “bear market” is when stocks see a 20 percent decline or more from a recent high - but they’re also marked by overall pessimism on Wall Street. Since World War II, bear markets have lasted 13 months on average, and stock markets tend to lose 30.4 percent of their value. During those conditions it usually takes stocks an average 22 months to recover, according to analysis from Goldman Sachs and CNBC.**

**Business CNBC**

## **'The worst is yet to come': Experts say a global bear market is just getting started**

**In the U.S., the Nasdaq Composite closed in a bear market on Friday. Globally, Germany's DAX and China's Shanghai Composite have also entered bear territory.**

**Politics HuffPost**

## **Lindsey Graham Doubles Down On Wall Funding: 'We're Not Going To Give In'**

Turning up the heat on day one of the federal government shutdown, Sen.

Trump spends Christmas Eve shutdown 'all alone,' tweeting his frustrations

**Yahoo News**

Trump Sees Winning Hand as Critics See Presidency Spiraling Down  
**Bloomberg**

**Trump spends Christmas Eve tweeting about grievances**

**TRUMP**

**CHRISTMAS CHAOS**

**Trump Pins Syria Hopes On Turkish Leader Close To Putin And Wary Of U.S. Allies**

**XMAS EVE STOCK PLUNGE**

**U.S. Stocks Fall Sharply Ahead Of Christmas Holiday**

By ALEX VEIGA, AP

**'ALL ALONE...'**

**Twitter Users Brutally Mock Trump For Self-Pitying 'Poor Me' Tweet**

By **David Moya**

**Bloomberg Rips 'Senselessly Chaotic' Trump, Demands GOP 'Start Showing Some Spine'**

**DECEMBER 27, 2018**

**WASHINGTONPOST**

**Time since shutdown began:**

**5d 16h 9m 10s**

**[Shutdown likely to extend into 2019 as Congress punts until Democrats take over House](#)**

**With lawmakers still at an impasse over President Trump's demand for billions of dollars for a border wall, House members were told they would not be expected back for votes this week, and the Senate was expected to follow suit, handing the job of reopening the government to House Democrats in January.**

- **By [Erica Werner](#), [Paul Kane](#) and [Felicia Sonmez](#)**

**NYTIMES**

**[PoliticsTrump Unites the Left and the Right Against His Plans in Syria and Afghanistan](#)**

- **[The withdrawal of troops from both conflicts will force the U.S. to rethink military commitments that are no longer effective.](#)**
- **[But the way President Trump made his decisions short-circuited the debate over the future of America's wars, our correspondent writes in a news analysis.](#)**

**LATIMES**

**[Trump, visiting troops in Iraq, makes false claims about raising military pay](#)** The president also stated — incorrectly — that he had authorized the first military pay increase in a decade.

**By [Eli Stokols](#)**

**CNN**

**[The House and Senate has adjourned until next week, ensuring the partial shutdown will almost certainly continue into 2019](#)**

1. **[No signs of a deal to end partial government shutdown](#)**
1. **Partial government shutdown has gone on for**

5d 18h 19m 47s

1. [\*\*GOP lawmaker: Dems are misreading Trump if they think he'll compromise on wall\*\*](#)
1. [\*\*GOP lawmaker: It could be a long shutdown\*\*](#)
1. [\*\*Feinstein requests Senate hearing after 2 migrant children die in US custody\*\*](#)
1. [\*\*Judge denies DOJ request to delay deadlines in asylum case\*\*](#)

# **DRUDGEREPORT**

## **STOCKS WILD**

## **CONFIDENCE FALLS**

**GOOGLENEWS**

### **Headlines**

#### **US shutdown impasse over Trump's wall drags on**

A partial US government shutdown is likely to continue into next week amid an impasse over funding for President Trump's proposed Mexico border wall.

**BBC News**

#### **Trump: 'Most of the people not getting paid' in shutdown are Democrats | TheHill**

President Trump early Thursday resumed his feud with Democrats on Capitol Hill over funding for a border wall, claiming that most of the hundreds of thousands ...

**The Hill**

**Shutdown set to extend into new year after Congress punts on budget, border votes**

Washington all but gave up Thursday on resolving the partial government shutdown before the New Year, as lawmakers were told not to expect votes this week ...

**The Washington Post**

**How Democrats can claim infrastructure, immigration as their issues | TheHill**

In 2019, House Democrats should spend time legislating, and investigate Trump's conduct and decisions only when truly necessary.

**The Hill**

**Opinion**

**Partial government shutdown: Trump's approval rating drops to Charlottesville levels**

Trump's fight for the border wall is tanking his approval rating.

**Vox**

**DECEMBER 26, 2018**

**DAY 5: SHUTDOWN IMPACT GROWS**

**After Christmas, The Government Shutdown Is Just Getting Started**

**By Nomaan Merchant, AP**

**Politics The Root**

**Either Trump's Daddy Helped Him Dodge Draft or 'Bone Spurs' is the Medical Diagnosis for Cowardice: Report**

It is well-known that Trump suffers from the debilitating disease Bitchnicca-itis, which prevents him from performing such presidential duties as firing his staff in person or standing up to Vladimir Putin. Because of his illness, it took him nearly 2 years to visit US soldiers in a

war zone, and a recent flare-up of the ailment made him the first president since 2002 to not visit the troops on Christmas, NBC reports.

Daughters of late doctor claim father diagnosed Trump with bone spurs to help him dodge draft

AOL.com

Daughters of late podiatrist say he diagnosed Donald Trump with bone spurs during Vietnam War as a 'favor'

Yahoo Lifestyle

**TRUMP PROMISED TO RUN  
THE COUNTRY LIKE A BUSINESS**



**HE REALLY DELIVERED**

@MrFilmkritik

ther98



**CNN [Trump says no plans for troop withdrawal in Iraq](#)**

**YAHOO NEWS Politics HuffPost**

**[Trump Brags To Troops About A Fictional Giant Pay Raise He Got Them](#)**

**Politics Associated Press**

**[The Latest: House plans no more votes this week on shutdown](#)**

**WASHINGTON (AP) - The Latest on the partial government shutdown (all times local):**

**Trump's border wall standoff keeps govt. shutdown alive**

**[Yahoo Finance](#)**

**The Shutdown Could End Tomorrow But Dealing With Trump Is Like Negotiating With a Criminal**

**[The Root](#)**

**How Trump's rough stretch is hitting cable news stars**

**[A stretch of negative news for President Trump has coincided with a drop in viewers for some of his most prominent cable TV backers.](#)**

**[Rivals see bigger audiences»](#)**

**CNN Breaking News**

**Trump, in surprise visit to US troops, says Iraq could be used as a base for potential future missions in Syria**

- **Lawmaker calls Trump's comments in Iraq 'inappropriate'**
- **In photos: President Trump's surprise trip**
- **Trump's message on Christmas Day: 'It's a disgrace'**
- **Opinion: The man who said Emperor Trump has no clothes**
- **After shock of Mattis' resignation, some see a different narrative**
- **Trump's acting secretary of defense will step into role with no foreign policy, military experience**

**DECEMBER 25, 2018**

**Time since shutdown began:**

**3d 16h 15m 42s**

**Trump vows not to reopen government until wall funding is secured**

**The president defended his plan to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border and cast doubt about the performance of Federal Reserve Chair Jerome H. Powell after a sharp downturn in U.S. stock markets.**

- **By Philip Rucker and Lenny Bernstein**

**As impasse continues, workers worry about paying the bills**  
**The Debrief: An isolated Trump unleashes a storm of Yuletide gloom**

**Economic growth is slowing around the world, feeding a financial sell-off**  
**Political turmoil in nations with leading economies — epitomized by the partial shutdown of the U.S. government and street protests in France — is further feeding investor anxiety.**

- **By David J. Lynch**

**Time since shutdown began:**

**3d 23h 38m 50s**

**Trump vows not to reopen government until wall funding is secured**

**The president defended his plan to build a border barrier and cast doubt about the performance of Fed Chair Jerome H. Powell after a sharp downturn in U.S. markets.**

- By [Philip Rucker](#) and [Lenny Bernstein](#)

**[Migrant child, 8, dies in U.S. custody](#)**

## **Doctor's daughters claim '68 Trump diagnosis was bogus**

**[Bone spurs kept Donald Trump from being drafted into the Vietnam War. New allegations cast doubt on the veracity of that condition.](#)**

**['I know it was a favor'»](#)**

**[Trump's 'poor me' Christmas Eve tweet draws mockery as 800,000 federal workers go without pay](#)**

By [Laura King](#)

- [Trump tells boy that believing in Santa Claus at 7 is 'marginal'](#)
- [Trump voices confidence in Mnuchin and the Fed after stock market tailspin](#)

**THEN CNN REPORTS: [Trump again complains about Fed in downbeat Christmas greeting](#)**

**DECEMBER 24, 2018**

**WASHINGTONPOST**

**[Markets fall 650 points at closing as Trump pins blame on the Fed](#)**

**The decline marked one of the worst Christmas Eves ever for U.S. stocks. President Trump tried to assign sole blame for the sell-off to the Federal Reserve, likening the central bank to a golfer who “can’t putt.”**

- By [Thomas Heath](#) and [Philip Rucker](#)

**[Analysis: Google searches for 'recession' are the highest they've been since November 2009](#)**

**Analysis**

**The Trump administration tried to calm markets. It backfired.**

Many economists warned that the president's obsession with the stock market would be a big problem. In recent days, it's become apparent why.

- By [Heather Long](#)

**Netanyahu's coalition dissolves Israeli parliament, will hold snap elections**

The prime minister's government was significantly weakened by the Nov. resignation of Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman, a key coalition partner.

- By [Ruth Eglash](#)

**MARKETWATCH December 24, 2018**

**The stock market just booked its ugliest Christmas Eve plunge — ever**

**dow**

**21,792.20**

**-653.17**

**-2.91%**

**nasdaq**

**6,192.92**

**-140.08**

**-2.21%**

**s&p 500**

**2,351.10**

**-65.52**

**-2.71%**

**WASHINGTONPOST**

**DECEMBER 23, 2018**

**Time since shutdown began:**

**1d 12h 27m 38s**

**'Very possible' shutdown could last into new year**

**Time since shutdown began:**

**0d 14h 41m 38s**

## **No progress on shutdown as Trump warns of 'long stay'**

### **A recession is coming. Trump is going to make the recovery worse.**

- By **Catherine Rampell**

### **Trump's absurdity has cast a pall over the holidays — and the future**

- By **Kathleen Parker**

### **No votes scheduled; shutdown likely to last through weekend**

Few lawmakers were in the Capitol building Saturday, having been assured of 24 hours notice before any vote. President Trump tweeted: "We are negotiating with the Democrats on desperately needed Border Security ... but it could be a long stay."

- By **Paul Kane** and **David Weigel**

#### **The Debrief**

#### **'He takes no ownership': Trump eschews responsibility for a shutdown he once craved**

After vowing to "take the mantle," the president seeks to foist blame on Democrats.

- By **David Nakamura**

### **Trump breaks with predecessors, rallies conservatives for shutdown**

## **BREAKING NEWS**

The government shuts down in  
0d 2h 46m 56s

### **Shutdown assured as Congress adjourns without deal**

### **Funding for several key government agencies to lapse at midnight**

The partial shutdown comes amid an impasse between President Trump and Democrats over billions in funding for a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

- By **Erica Werner**, **Damian Paletta** and **John Wagner**

### **What happens during a shutdown: Late paychecks, closed museums and more**

**A guide to the ways people across Washington and the country could be affected.**

- By [Mark Berman](#) and [Lisa Rein](#)

**DECEMBER 20, 2018**

**WASHINGTON POST**

**BREAKING NEWS**

**Trump won't sign bill to avert government shutdown, House Speaker Ryan says**

**President Trump will not commit to signing a bill that would avoid a partial government shutdown, his press secretary said, further roiling a debate that has split Republicans.**

- By Erica Werner,, [Damian Paletta](#) and [Mike DeBonis](#)
- [U.S. stocks drop deep on concerns over government shutdown](#)

**The government shuts down in  
0d 10h 12m 23s**

**McConnell says he supports bill with border money after meeting with Trump**

**President Trump and Senate Republicans met ahead of votes in the chamber on a House measure that would keep the government open and allocate billions for Trump's promised wall. Earlier, Trump warned of a "very long" shutdown if Democrats opposed the House bill.**

- By [John Wagner](#) and [Damian Paletta](#)

**Analysis**

**Sarah Sanders said 'all of America' wants the wall. That's just not true.**

**A recent Quinnipiac University poll found that more than half of Americans oppose the project.**

- By [Philip Bump](#)

**Mattis resigns after clash with Trump over Syria withdrawal**

## **President loses defense secretary who had won widespread praise**

**Jim Mattis's surprise resignation came a day after President Trump overruled his advisers, including Mattis, and shocked American allies by announcing the pullout.**

- By **Paul Sonne**, **Josh Dawsey** and **Missy Ryan**

## **'A sad day for America': Washington fears a Trump unchecked by Mattis**

**Mattis's conclusion that he could no longer work with Trump is likely to alter foreign policy more than any other departure.**

- By **Greg Jaffe** and **Karoun Demirjian**
- **A timeline of departures**

## **Trump orders major military withdrawal from Afghanistan**

**The president has directed the Pentagon to devise a plan to withdraw nearly half of the 14,000 troops deployed there.**

- By **Dan Lamothe**, **Josh Dawsey**, **Missy Ryan** and **Paul Sonne**
- 1 hour ago

## **Isolated and under pressure, Trump sets government in crisis**

**The president abruptly moved to try to deliver on campaign promises to build a border wall and bring troops home.**

- By **Philip Rucker**, **Robert Costa** and **Josh Dawsey**

## **The Fix: Mattis's resignation letter, an unmistakable repudiation, annotated**

## **With Syria decision, Trump's foreign policy doctrine emerges**

## **Trump's decision to withdraw from Syria marks a win for Putin**

## **This time, U.S. is betraying more than just the Kurds, allies say of Syria decision**

**The Fix**

**Analysis**

**Negotiating with Trump is impossible. For Republicans.**

**The president has shown time and again that he cares more about his supporters and his good standing with them than he does about the Republican Party. By [Colby Itkowitz](#)**

**[Trump defends Syria decision amid backlash from lawmakers, fresh praise from Putin](#)**

**The president said it was time for others to step up against the Islamic State and other hostile forces. By [John Wagner](#)**

**[‘Fox & Friends’ host rips Trump over border ‘chaos’ and ‘irresponsible’ Syria withdrawal](#)**

**[Turkey threatens to ‘bury’ Kurdish militants in Syria](#)**

**CNN**

**[The Washington nightmare before Christmas](#)**



**[Analysis Trump is stoking chaos as America enters a holiday period overshadowed by political pandemonium](#)**

- **[Government has been partially shut down for 14h 47m 38s](#)**





## 'T WAS THE SHUTDOWN BEFORE CHRISTMAS...

# ***DRUDGE REPORT***

**Headlines - GOOGLENEWS**

### **The Washington nightmare before** **Christmas: a government in chaos**

**President Donald Trump is precipitating chaos and seeking to wield unrestrained power as America enters a holiday period overshadowed by political ...**

**CNN**

## **Brett McGurk, US envoy to anti-ISIS coalition, resigns in wake of Trump decision to pull troops from Syria**

**Brett McGurk, the U.S. envoy for the global coalition to defeat Islamic State (ISIS), has resigned as a result of President Trump's decision to pull U.S. troops out of ...**

**Fox News**

- **Congress searches for deal to end partial government shutdown**
- **live updates Schumer's message to Trump: Abandon the wall**
- **Don Lemon stumps panel with shutdown question**
- **Analysis: Trump learned nothing from the midterms**
- **Trump unveils new border barrier (with spikes)**
- **Smerconish: The one threat to Trump that's bigger than Mueller**
- **Opinion: The Trump shutdown is fitting**

## **Mattis exit leaves Pentagon in state of depression | TheHill**

**"There's just a general fear of the unknown," Pentagon official says.**

**The Hill**

## **Government will shut down at midnight**

**Live Updates**

**With the House and Senate adjourned, there is no mechanism in place for a vote tonight, even if an 11th-hour deal is reached**

- **Partial government shutdown starts in 2h 51m 50s**

- [Live Updates Mitch McConnell and Paul Ryan have left Capitol Hill for the night](#)
- [How a potential government shutdown could affect holiday plans](#)
- [As shutdown deadline approaches, congressional negotiators search for a deal](#)
- [Trump tweets new border 'barrier' drawing \(with spikes\)](#)

**Breaking News**[Trump says a shutdown is probably likely](#)[Trump refuses to sign bill that avoids a shutdown](#)

## [\*\*The Washington nightmare before Christmas: a government in chaos\*\*](#)

**President Donald Trump is precipitating chaos and seeking to wield unrestrained power as America enters a holiday period overshadowed by political ...**

[\*\*CNN\*\*](#)

## [\*\*US envoy Brett McGurk quits over Trump Syria pullout\*\*](#)

**A top US official in the fight against the Islamic State group has quit over President Trump's decision to pull troops from Syria, reports say. Brett McGurk, the US ...**

**BBC News**

## [\*\*A Fitting End For Disgraceful House Republicans\*\*](#)

**One last pointless budget crisis is a fitting end for House Republicans and their retiring leader, Speaker Paul Ryan.**

[\*\*Forbes\*\*](#)

## **Trump says Mattis to leave by end of year**

### **Breaking News**

**The President announces he will replace the defense secretary two months ahead of his planned departure**

- **Mulvaney says shutdown could go into 2019**
- **Government has been partially shut down for**

**1d 12h 16m 7s**

- **Who is affected by a shutdown?**
- **Corker: Trump trying to 'look like he's fighting'**
- **President backs off his earlier statements that he would own the shutdown if border wall funding was not included just ahead of a Senate debate on his plan**
- **WATCH LIVE Trump: Chances of a shutdown are probably good**
- **Lawmakers say they'll go home — even if there's a shutdown**
- **Colbert jokes about lawmaker leaving town amid chaos**
- **House passes spending bill with \$5 billion for Trump's border wall**
- **Schumer to Trump: You will not get your wall**
- **Perspectives: Trump was like background noise. Not anymore**
- **Justice Ginsburg undergoes surgery**

- **Breaking News**

**She had two cancerous nodules removed from her left lung at a New York hospital, the Supreme Court says**

**RBG fractured her ribs last month**

- **Partial government shutdown starts in**

**10h 17m 45s**

- **6 min ago**Senator says he thinks a shutdown is 'probably' happening
- **13 min ago**Trump: Chances of a shutdown are 'probably very good'
- **26 min ago**The voting window will stay open as senators return to Washington
- **41 min ago**Jeff Flake votes 'no' to move bill forward
- **58 min ago**The Senate is voting now to take up the House spending bill
- **1 hr 5 min ago**McConnell: GOP senators had a 'good conversation' with Trump
- **1 hr 11 min ago**Schumer to Trump: 'You will not get your wall'
- **1 hr 11 min ago**The numbers behind a partial government shutdown
- **1 hr 26 min ago**GOP senator warns of 'tyranny' on Trump's handling of the shutdown
- **1 hr 41 min ago**There's only 12 hours left to fund the government
- **1 hr 48 min ago**The Senate will be back at noon today
- **2 hr 7 min ago**Chuck Schumer reminds Trump: 'You own the shutdown — your own words'
- **2 hr 19 min ago**Mueller's team will be able to work through a partial government shutdown
- **2 hr 32 min ago**As the shutdown looms, Trump is signing a criminal justice reform bill
- **2 hr 45 min ago**The Grand Canyon will stay open if there is a shutdown
- **2 hr 53 min ago**Lawmakers say they'll go home for the holidays -- even if there's a shutdown
- **3 hr 1 min ago**Some GOP senators can't get into the White House for their meeting with Trump
- **3 hr 4 min ago**This GOP senator won't support the nuclear option

- [3 hr 12 min agoTrump has invited Senate Republicans to the White House](#)
- [3 hr 18 min agoThis is how things will play out in the Senate today](#)
- [3 hr 29 min agoTrump's tweeting about the shutdown this morning. Here's why it matters.](#)
- [3 hr 31 min agoSarah Sanders reiterates Trump's call for the nuclear option in the Senate](#)
- [3 hr 32 min agoThese 5 government entities would be affected by a partial shutdown](#)
- [3 hr 34 min agoTrump wants Mitch McConnell to use the nuclear option. That's not going to happen.](#)

### **Breaking Fiancé of missing Colorado mom arrested**

- [Videos show response after Maryland player Jordan McNair suffered heatstroke](#)
- [Gun form liars may go on to commit gun crimes, internal ATF research suggests](#)

### **How the Trump-Mattis alliance crumbled**

**This is how rare a Mattis-level exit is**

**Analysis: America's unprecedented 72 hours that could reshape the world**

**Graham warns against pulling out of Afghanistan**

**Opinion: James Mattis' warning to America**

**The boyband trying to stop Brexit**

**READ: Official's explanation of why Whitaker rejects ethics official's opinion to recuse**

**Haberman: Former Trump supporters 'disgusted'**

**British woman allegedly raped in Indian hotspot**

**Lawmaker calls Trump official 'liar,' storms out**

- **Why the defense secretary quit**



### **Analysis**

- **Lawmakers are left shaken after Mattis quits in protest over Trump's policies, as the government shutdown looms and financial markets plunge**
- **Retired General: This will be a real crisis**
- **Officials: Mattis was livid about Syria before meeting with Trump**
- **Military ordered to withdraw about half troops in Afghanistan**
- **Opinion: James Mattis' warning to America**



**Mattis' letter is evidence of a man who had been pushed well past his breaking point and snapped**

- **Mattis quits, says his views aren't 'aligned' with Trump's**
- **Jeffrey Toobin: There are no more grown-ups in the room**
- **READ: James Mattis' resignation letter**
- **Opinion: James Mattis' warning to America**
- **US officials: Mattis was livid today about Syria before meeting with Trump**
- **New video directly debunks Trump's claim**
- **Opinion: The military does not belong to Donald Trump**

**House Speaker Paul Ryan says the President won't back a Senate measure because it doesn't include border wall funding. A deadline to avoid a shutdown is looming.**

- **Decrying 'illegals,' amputee veteran raises millions for border wall**
- **live updates Schumer: Senate Dems won't budge on the wall**
- **Lindsey Graham's stern advice to Trump**
- **Uncertainty mounts as Congress seeks to avoid shutdown**
- **Exclusive: Trump's acting AG told he can oversee Russia probe**
- **Opinion: What Whitaker said about Mueller**
- **Trump's AG pick Barr told Justice Department in memo that firing Comey isn't obstruction**
- **Breaking News**

## **US military ordered to withdraw about half the troops in Afghanistan**

- **Retired General: This will be a real crisis**

**DECEMBER 19, 2018**

**WASHINGTONPOST**

### **Mattis, once one of 'my generals,' loses clout with Trump**

**President Trump's move to pull all U.S. troops from Syria is a clear rebuke of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, who has been repeatedly overruled in recent months and left out of key discussions.**

### **Push to quickly leave Syria startles allies and White House aides**

**President Trump made his decision after a small meeting with senior White House aides and the secretaries of defense and state, most of whom, if not all, sharply disagreed, according to people familiar with the issue.**

### **Trump snubs Corker, as friends and foes alike blast withdrawal plan**

### **U.S. plans to pull all troops from Syria, official says**

**The decision signals a halt to an extended American ground campaign against the Islamic State and upends plans across the U.S. government — articulated by senior officials as recently as this week — for an ongoing mission to stabilize areas once controlled by the militants.**

- **By Missy Ryan**

### **WorldViews: Winners and losers of the Trump administration's decision**

### **D.C. attorney general sues Facebook, says it failed to protect the privacy of users**

**The lawsuit marks the first major effort by U.S. regulators to penalize the social media giant for sharing data with Cambridge Analytica, a political consultancy.**

- **By Tony Romm, Craig Timberg and Aaron C. Davis**

## Senate to pass short-term spending bill that would delay government shutdown

The measure would keep the government open through Feb. 8 but deny the president the money he wanted for his border wall.

- By Erica Werner, John Wagner and Damian Paletta

NYTIMES

### THE ADMINISTRATION

## For Trump, 'a War Every Day,' Waged Increasingly Alone

- At the midpoint of his term, President Trump has grown more sure of his own judgment and more isolated from anyone else's than at any point since he took office.
- Tumultuous recent events have left the impression of a presidency at risk of spinning out of control, but Mr. Trump's first two years may ultimately look calm compared to what lies ahead.

Dec. 22

President Trump has grown increasingly suspicious of many of the people around him, convinced that they are fools. Doug Mills/The New York Times

## Trump, Angry Over Mattis's Rebuke, Removes Him 2 Months Early

### Migrant child, 8, dies in U.S. custody

- Errant Saudi-led airstrikes have killed more than 4,600 civilians in Yemen, according to a monitoring group.
- In Washington, that toll has stoked debate about the pitfalls of America's alliance with Saudi Arabia, which relies on U.S. support to keep its warplanes in the air.

**The conflict in Yemen has pushed millions to the brink of starvation. Our journalists documented the crisis in October.**

**Arms Sales to Saudis Leave U.S. Fingerprints on Yemen's Carnage**

**Shutdown to Take Effect at Midnight as Talks Fail to Break Impasse**

- **The federal government was headed toward a partial shutdown at 12:01 Eastern time as the House and the Senate adjourned without reaching a compromise on President Trump's border wall demands.**
- **In the absence of a deal, the capital readied itself for how the fallout would affect nine federal departments and several other agencies, including hundreds of thousands of federal employees.**

**Trump Has Ordered Full Withdrawal of U.S. Troops From Syria, Officials Say**

- **President Trump, saying ISIS was largely defeated, ordered a rapid withdrawal of all 2,000 U.S. ground troops within 30 days, officials said.**
- **Top generals are against withdrawing, saying it would betray Kurdish allies who have fought alongside American troops there.****International Relations**

**Doctor's daughters claim '68 Trump diagnosis was bogus**

**Bone spurs kept Donald Trump from being drafted into the Vietnam War. New allegations cast doubt on the veracity of that condition.**

**'I know it was a favor'»**



## **China's 'Belt and Road' Plan in Pakistan Takes a Military Turn**

**Under a program China insists is peaceful, Pakistan is working on distinctly defense-related projects, including a secret plan to build fighter jets.**

## **Hacked European cables revealed a world of anxiety among allies about Mr. Trump.**

**LATIMES**

**In a defeat for the White House, Senate Republicans propose stopgap bill to avert government shutdown**

**The president indicated in a tweet Wednesday that he was ready to move on, suggesting without details that the military could construct his desired wall.**

**Trump plans full withdrawal of U.S. troops from Syria, official says**

**The decision would include the entire force of more than 2,000 U.S. service members.**

**The government shutdown will hit home for many after Christmas with many federal offices shuttered**

**Thousands of federal buildings are to remain closed when the work week resumes unless President Trump and members of Congress quickly break through a budget impasse that the White House said could drag on into 2019.**

**YAHOO NEWS**

**Bloomberg denounces Trump's 'terrible presidency'**

# **Doctor's daughters claim '68 Trump diagnosis was bogus**

**[Bone spurs kept Donald Trump from being drafted into the Vietnam War. New allegations cast doubt on the veracity of that condition.](#)**

**['I know it was a favor'»](#)**

**BusinessCNBC**

## **[By the numbers: Stock market collapses on Christmas Eve, heads for worst December ever](#)**

The stock market is ending the year on quite the ugly note, here is where we stand statistically: S&P 500 closed down -2.71 percent Monday for its 7 th negative day in 8 and its worst day since Dec 4 th when the S&P lost -3.24 percent Until Monday, the Dow & S&P 500's worst Christmas Eve ever was back in 1985, when they fell 0.63% and 0.69%, respectively. S&P hit a new 52-wk low Friday of 2,351.10, its lowest level back to Apr 2017 MTD: S&P is down -14.82% on pace for its worst December ever back to back-tested inception in 1928, with the next worst December in 1931 when the S&P lost -14.53%, and its worst month since Oct 2008 when the S&P lost -16.94% YTD: S&P is down -12.06% in 2018 on pac...

**Politics Deadline**

## **[Michael Bloomberg Rips Trump As “Recklessly Emotional And Senselessly Chaotic”](#)**

Michael Bloomberg did not hold back on his criticism of Donald Trump in a blistering editorial for his media company, Bloomberg News. Beginning by saying there are certainly reasons to be optimistic about the upcoming new year, "the increasingly isolated man in the Oval Office is not one of them," Bloomberg wrote in the op-ed published Sunday. After ticking off a list of the mind-bending and disturbing events of just the past week -- the resignation (and subsequent firing)...

## **[Twitter Users Get Creative Mocking Border Wall Design Trump Called 'Beautiful'](#)** **[HuffPost](#)**

## **Jim Cramer: This Is a Treacherous Bear Market**

**Sobering words. I can recall only once having a week like this and walking out feeling like something worse looms: the week before the Crash in 1987. The bad news: It had to be the worst day in the world to buy.**

**Business MarketWatch**

## **This brutal stock-market rout mirrors the 1987 crash in 1 important way**

**As the Dow Jones Industrial Average confronts its ugliest December loss since 1931, the time of the Great Depression, there is another notable way to put the severity of this persistent bout of losses into historical context. If current conditions hold, it would mark the worst average daily moves for the Dow (DJIA) the S&P 500 index (SPX) and the Russell 2000 index (RUT) since October of 1987, according to Dow Jones Market Data. On Oct. 19, the Dow sank 22.6% in a single session, marking its steepest percentage drop ever, with trading during that period under pressure all month until the final crash.**

**Nasdaq in bear market, first of the three major U.S. indexes**

**Reuters**

**Stocks enter final full week of the year on the brink of a bear market**

**CNBC**



**Business Yahoo View**



## **Trump administration faces at least 17 separate investigations**

**Wired counts at least 17 separate investigations facing the Trump administration. This comes as something Rudy Giuliani said is raising a lot of eyebrows. Philip Rucker & David Jolly discuss.**

**Politics Yahoo View**

## **Trump could be under sealed indictment, analyst speculates**

**Legal analyst for Fox News, Andrew Napolitano, lays out a scenario where President Trump could already be indicted in secret over alleged campaign finance violations. The panel discusses.**

**Politics Associated Press**

## **Trump's coalition cracking over his policies and personality**

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Mich. (AP) - Jill Mott doesn't like the tweets. The hard line on the border is too hard. And when asked whether she will vote for President Donald Trump a second time, she lets out a long, deep sigh. No!**

**CNN**

## **Sr. admin official: 'A mistake of colossal proportions'**



**Breaking News**

## **Resistance to Trump's move to withdraw US troops from Syria was strong among some in the administration**

- **Erin Burnett: It could not get any better for Putin today**
- **Trump's Syria withdrawal hurts Netanyahu and US reputation, Israelis say**
- **GOP senators give Pence 'earful' on Syria**
- **Opinion: Trump's bizarre decision on Syria**
- **Analysis: Trump is leaving the fight against ISIS (and influence in the Middle East) to Russia and Iran**
- **Opinion: The walls are closing in on Trump**
- **Trump orders rapid withdrawal from Syria in apparent reversal**

## **Today in politics**

### **Breaking News**

## **Senate passes stop-gap funding bill in effort to avert government shutdown**

- **Giuliani: 'I was wrong' to say Trump hadn't signed letter**
- **Analysis: How can Rudy Giuliani possibly still be Trump's lawyer?**
- **House Intelligence expected to vote Thursday on sending Roger Stone transcript to Mueller**
- **3 Kansas legislators switch from Republican to Democrat**
- **CNN commentator: Democrats just broke Trump**
- **US announces new set of Russia sanctions**
- **Top Dem sends 51 letters to Trump administration demanding information**
- **CNN obtains Russia docs signed by Trump**

## **The Republican House Speaker announced in April that he would retire from Congress at the end of his term**

- **Trump signed letter of intent for Trump Tower Moscow project despite denials**
- **How Kushner and a Kardashian drove criminal justice reform**
- **Van Jones praises Trump: This is history**
- **GOP drafts short-term deal to stop shutdown**
- **Cuomo slams the Fox News 'Trump trio'**

## Trump orders troops from Syria in apparent reversal

- US preparing for withdrawal from Syria
- breaking Judge strikes a blow to Trump administration's latest limits on asylum

MSNBC

## The Beat with Ari Melber

## Ken Starr: A sitting president can be indicted



## **Hallie Jackson**

### **McConnell introduces short-term bill to avoid government shutdown**

Majority Leader Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY) introduced a [bill](#) to the floor with the goal of avoiding a government shutdown, but will only fund the government through February 2019.

### **Michael Moore says Trump chaos makes him 'frightened' for the country**

**Brian Williams**

### **John Kerry: There's no secret how chaotic & corrupt Trump is**

## **The Last Word**

### **Fmr. CIA Dir Brennan: We are left with Trump's 'Yes Men'**

### **Welker: 'President Trump likes chaos, we're certainly in the middle of a chaotic news cycle'**

## **Meet the Press**

### **Sen. Durbin: I 'privately sat down with General Mattis,' urged him to 'please stay'**

In an exclusive interview with "Meet the Press," Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., says that Democrats "counted on" Defense Secretary Mattis to protect the military.

- **NYT Reporter: Unlikely Turkey will take over the fight against ISIS**
- **Shutdown, Syria and Stock slide: What if the president is the crisis?**

## **HUFFPOST**

### **ANOTHER CHILD DIES IN BORDER CUSTODY**

### **CONGRESS WALKS! SHUTDOWN CERTAIN THE SHAM OF PAUL RYAN**

### **TRUMP SHUTDOWN**

### **SEASON FINALE**

### **THE END: GOP ONE-PARTY RULE SHUTS DOWN GOVERNMENT**



### **TRUMP THREAT: 'VERY LONG SHUTDOWN'**

**Trump Tried To Argue That Dems Are Responsible For Failing To Secure A Deal**  
**By Lisa Mascaro, Matthew Daly and Catherine Lucey, AP**

### **CORKER: 'YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP'**

**GOP Senator Rips Trump's Latest Threat As Yet Another 'Precipitous' Decision**  
**By Mary Papenfuss**

### **INDONESIA DEATH TOLL RISES TO 429**

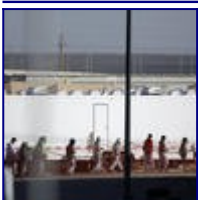
**Unlike Previous Tsunamis, Saturday's Big Waves Blasted Ashore Without Warning**

**By Niniek Karmini, AP**

### **YES, SHE IS STILL A BELIEVER IN SANTA**

**Girl's Faith In Santa Unshaken After 'Marginal' Phone Call With Trump**

**Happy Birthday, GOP Tax Law. You Might Cause More Workers To Become Contractors.**



**The Trump Administration Is Holding Thousands Of Migrant Kids In Mass Shelters**



## **Ambassador's Sudden Removal Was Totally Normal, State Department Says**



## **Trump Administration Weighing Complete Withdrawal Of Troops From Syria**



## **Trump Defends Disgraced Foundation's 'Great Work'**



## **FREAKY FACEBOOK: GAVE OUT ACCESS TO PRIVATE MESSAGES**

**Report: Facebook Allowed Companies To Access Private Info Without Users' Consent**

**By Dominique Mosbergen**



**Congress set for ANOTHER 'short-term' bill to avoid govt shutdown.....**  
**Paul Ryan Leaves Behind Ballooning Debt...**



**WALL STALL**

# **TRUMP IN RETREAT**

# ***DRUDGE REPORT***

**YAHOO NEWS**

**Business Bloomberg**

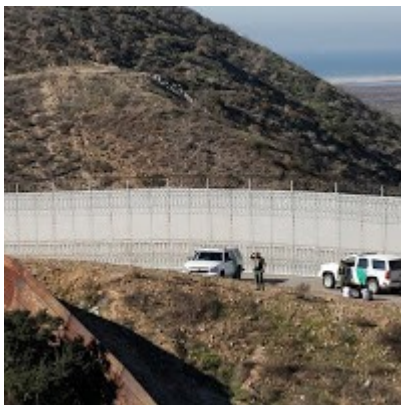
## **Stocks Face Obstacle No Matter What the Fed Does**

The Fed model, which was reportedly used by former Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan but never officially endorsed by the central bank, compares the average earnings yield of the companies in the S&P 500, which is the inverse of the price-to-earnings ratio, to the yield on 10-year U.S. Treasury bonds. The problem with the Fed model is that stocks, because they are generally riskier investments than bonds, have consistently yielded more than Treasuries since the early 2000s.

**GOOGLE NEWS**

## **Headlines**

**More Headlines**



## **Trump tweets image of proposed border wall: 'totally effective while at the same time beautiful!'**

In the midst of a contentious fight with Democrats over a possible partial government shutdown and funding for border security, President Trump on Friday ...

**Fox News**

**Trump warns shutdown could last 'very long time,' urges McConnell to go 'nuclear' and end filibuster**

**President Donald Trump on Friday said the chances of a partial government shutdown were "very good" after meeting with Senate Republicans at the White ...**

**NBC News**

**today**

**Government headed for partial shutdown at midnight, as lawmakers leave Capitol without deal**

**A partial shutdown of the federal government appears inevitable, as lawmakers left the Capitol Friday without a deal to fund the government by midnight's ...**

**Fox News**

**one hour ago**

**Trump's shutdown stunt is an act of needless stupidity**

**Trump's gamesmanship is born of politics, not principle.**

**The Washington Post**

**one hour ago**

**Opinion**

## **McConnell 'distressed' over news of Mattis's resignation**

**The Senate majority leader says that what most disturbs him is that the defense secretary will be leaving early next year due to "sharp differences with the president."**

**Greenspan Says He 'Never Saw Anything Remotely Close' to the Current Political System**

**Bloomberg**

**Business Reuters**

## **Wall Street hits fresh lows on economic worries**

Wall Street stocks fell in volatile trading on Friday, with the Nasdaq on pace to confirm it is in a bear market, as concerns of slowing economic growth led investors to flee stocks in high-valuation sectors such as technology and communication services. The tech-heavy Nasdaq sank to a 15-month low, falling as much as 21.5 percent from its Aug. 29 high. The Dow Industrials fell to the lowest level since October 2017.

**Factbox: Past Nasdaq bear markets lasted long and cut deep**

**Reuters**

**Nasdaq confirms bear market; Wall St. slides on economic concerns**

**Reuters**

**Politics HuffPost Opinion**

**House Republicans Keep Giving James Comey Chances To Call Donald Trump A Liar** A little more than a week after former FBI Director James Comey spent six

**Politics USA TODAY Opinion**

**Trump Foundation dissolves, but Trump abuses and pursuit of personal gain live on**

Donald Trump ran his campaign and is now running the White House the same way he ran his foundation: abusing the public interest, enriching himself.

**CORKER UNLOADS: TRUMP'S**

**'MADE UP' SHUTDOWN**

# **TOP STORIES**

-  
**Mattis' Departure Accelerated As Trump Names Defense Secretary's Replacement**



**Five things we could buy with \$5 billion instead of building Trump's stupid wall:**



**1** Provide health care for 1.4 million people.

**2** DOUBLE federal spending on energy efficiency and renewable energy.

**3** Increase federal aid to public K-12 schools by 20%

Dear America, when you are literally pouring out grants.



**YOU CAN'T ACT SHOCKED AND SURPRISED WHEN A 7 YEAR OLD GIRL IN YOUR CUSTODY DIES OF DEHYDRATION.**

# IMAGINE



Megachurch Pastor John Gray bought a \$200k Lamborghini anniversary gift for his wife.



# EXPLAIN TO ME AGAIN WHY WE DON'T TAX THE CHURCHES?







**Nick Jack Pappas** ✓

@Pappiness



Chris Christie: "I've told the President



**CNN Politics** ✓

@CNNPolitics

Melania Trump: The hardest part of being first lady is the "opportunists who are using my name"



**Charles M. Blow** ✓

@CharlesMBlow

Says the opportunist who as a "model" in 1998 at a party arranged by her "sponsor" to put his "models" around "rich playboys," met Trump while he was on a date with another woman (and while divorcing Marla Maples) and still took his number when the woman went to the bathroom.





**Eugene Gu, MD**   
@eugenegu

**Sending Michael Cohen to jail while Donald J. Trump walks free and still leads our nation is like punishing the flight attendant for bringing the pilot some beers but letting the pilot fly completely drunk and saying maybe we'll do something when the airplane lands.**




Dr. C. George Boeree  
Shippensburg University

‘...The antisocial disorder used to be called the sociopath, and before that, the psychopath. The change in name simply reflects the fact that the public tends to associate the disorder only with the most extreme and dramatic cases, such as serial killers. But in fact, people with little sense of empathy or guilt live all around us and we hardly notice them until they affect us personally. If they have a

decent level of intelligence, they fully recognize that certain acts are illegal or looked down upon by others, and, since that only makes trouble for themselves, they avoid those things. In other words, most antisocials are rational. I believe that, in addition to the violent criminals that may be obviously antisocial, there are also many highly successful antisocials who, in fact, owe their success to the very fact that they don't really care how they get wealth and power, only that they do actually get it. I have strong suspicions about some of those corporate executives who blithely steal from their employees and stockholders and calmly lie about it when caught. I also suspect that some of our politicians are sociopaths, especially those that seem to be able to ignore the suffering of the less fortunate while filling their pockets and the pockets of their friends with money, or those who have no qualms about declaring wars that kill and maim thousands of our own young men and women, as well as hundreds of thousands of innocent men, women, and children of the so-called enemy...'





A close-up portrait of Donald Trump with a serious expression, wearing a dark suit and blue tie.

**If you impeach me, my people  
will be revolting!**



**I dunno, they're pretty damn  
*revolting* already.**





**“I don’t look at  
a recession as  
a *bad thing*.”**

**-Jamie Dimon, CEO of JP Morgan Chase**



**During the Wall Street crash:**

- ✗ 15 MILLION LOST HOMES**
- ✗ Families lost *\$13 TRILLION* in savings**
- ✗ 27 million were un/under-employed**

**Meanwhile, Jamie Dimon:**

- ✓ Made over \$248 million**
- ✓ Is now a *billionaire***
- ✓ Bought a \$17 million mansion**



**Mexico will pay  
for the Wall.**



**OK, Mexico will pay  
for *SOME* of the wall.**

**OK, Mexico *won't* pay**



Kind of stunning  
to step back and  
consider that three  
people who in the  
summer of 2016  
were principal  
players around  
Donald Trump and  
speaking for him  
***are all convicted  
felons today.***

---

**David Axelrod**



**DECEMBER 18, 2018**  
**WASHINGTONPOST**

**Flynn's sentencing delayed; judge tells ex-Trump adviser, 'Arguably, you sold your country out'**

**Before the surprising delay, the judge rebuked Michael Flynn, President Trump's former national security adviser, saying that he tried to undermine his own country.**

- By **Spencer S. Hsu**, **Matt Zapotosky** and **Carol D. Leonnig**

**Flynn's transformation from storied officer to heated partisan**  
**Shutdown still possible after Democrats reject new GOP offer on immigration, border funding**

**The two sides remain at impasse as hundreds of thousands of federal workers await word on whether they will be sent home without pay just before Christmas.**

- By **Erica Werner**, **Damian Paletta** and **Seung Min Kim**

**Trump wants to find stray funds for the border wall. But there's a barrier to that.**

**The president's new approach sets up more budget and political battles, as it's very difficult to legally redirect taxpayer money without Congress's approval.**

- By **Damian Paletta**

**The Fix: Yes, Sarah Sanders, you are asking taxpayers to pay for the wall**





**Marshall Cohen** ✓

@MarshallCohen

January 11, 2017

REPORTER: Did you or anyone in your campaign... have any contact with Russia leading up to or during the campaign?

TRUMP: No, not at all.

[cnn.com/2018/12/10/pol](https://www.cnn.com/2018/12/10/pol) ...



**Trump to dissolve his charity amid allegations that he used it for personal and political benefit**

**The agreement with the New York attorney general comes amid an ongoing lawsuit against the Donald J. Trump Foundation, President Trump and his three eldest children.**

- By **David A. Fahrenthold**

- [Video: Trump shuts down foundation amid allegations of illegal conduct](#)

**NYTIMES**

**DECEMBER 25,2018**

[Washington](#)

### [Stocks Extend Their Slide as Trump Renews Attack on Fed](#)

- [With stocks falling sharply again on Monday, President Trump took another swipe at the Federal Reserve, writing on Twitter that the “only problem our economy has is the Fed.”](#)
- [Mr. Trump’s comments undercut efforts by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin to calm jittery investors and ease concerns that the president might move to fire Jerome H. Powell, the Fed chairman.](#)

[Wall Street saw more losses, with stocks on track for their worst year since 2008.](#)

### [INVESTIGATIONS](#)

### [Judge Postpones Sentencing of Michael Flynn After Harshly Rebuking Him](#)

- [Mr. Flynn took up the judge’s offer of delaying the sentencing until he had completed his cooperation agreement with federal prosecutors.](#)
- [Judge Emmet Sullivan rebuked Mr. Flynn for lying to the F.B.I. and told him, “Arguably, you sold your country out.”](#)

### [Trump Foundation Will Close After Suit by New York Attorney General](#)

[The agreement by the Donald J. Trump Foundation follows a court decision that allowed a lawsuit against the foundation to move forward.](#)

### [Blaming the deep state: Officials accused of wrongdoing adopt Mr. Trump’s defense.](#)

**LATIMES**

**DECEMBER 25, 2018**

**In a town of unanswered questions, Paradise tries to imagine its future**

**In the aftermath of the Camp Fire, the city is reassessing its economy and learning that the first steps of reconstruction often begin with addressing the problems of the past.**

**By Thomas Curwen**

-

**Stocks slump on Christmas Eve; S&P 500 nears bear market**

- 
- **Treasury secretary's effort to calm the markets risks making a bad situation worse**
  - **Opinion: The stock sell-off prompts another desperate tweet from Trump**

**A million California buildings face wildfire risk. 'Extraordinary steps' are needed to protect them**

**Skyrocketing public pensions, long injury leaves and big bills for taxpayers: Inside L.A.'s DROP program**

**By Jack Dolan**

**DAILYKOS**

**Daily Kos Recommended**

- **Sarah Huckabee Sanders lashes out at James Comey from official government Twitter account**
- **James Comey just looked into the camera and told GOP to 'stand up and speak the truth'**
- **Trump's DOJ - It's not an emolument because we say it's not an emolument.**

- **Republicans squash bill to pay for Vietnam vets' health care ... say they're worried about deficit**
- **Russians attacked Mueller for investigating Trump's collusion and conspiracy**
- **NC-09: Repubs reverse themselves, demand Harris be certified-- and election fraud be hanged**
- **Democratic senator: Trump sounds 'more like a mob boss than president of the United States'**
- **Michael Flynn gets a 'good luck' from Trump as he heads to court for sentencing**
- **Wisconsin lost a record number of dairy farms in 2018, and unsold cheese is piling up**
- **Trump administration's own scientists confirm climate change is caused by human activity. Sign the petition to demand climate action now!**
- **Ruth Bader Ginsburg welcomes new U.S. citizens: 'We are a nation made strong by people like you'**
- **Tennessee Republicans could be in for a crowded primary after veteran senator announces retirement**
- **Dylann Roof supporter arrested for stockpiling weapons and threatening domestic terrorism**
- **That helpless feeling when a healthcare provider is in the wrong and you can't do anything about it**
- **This week in the war on workers: Union-made toys, in time for Christmas**

## **YAHOO NEWS**

### **Politics The Root**

#### **Sarah Huckabee Sanders Gets Called Out For Being the Worst White House Press Secretary Ever**

**On Tuesday, Sarah Huckabee Sanders gave the White House's first press briefing in three weeks. She spent about 15 minutes at the podium, didn't really give any answers of substance.....**

-

### **U.S. Yahoo Lifestyle**

#### **Syrian refugee hospitalized with concussion after high school beating: 'You're lucky you're from another language because I will crush you'**

**The Syrian teen, who is the only one in her family who speaks English, escaped war to be faced with harassment at school.**

### **Politics Splinter News**

#### **Trump Is Mad About So Many Things This Morning**

**Reader, it is my unfortunate duty to inform you that President Donald Trump is truly on one this morning. [ How 'bout trump's just plain mad ... you know ... as a hatter (as the saying goes) ... and not just this morning ]**

### **Politics Splinter News**

#### **Trump's Ultra-Shady 'Foundation' Is Dead**

**Pour one out for the Trump Foundation, President Donald Trump's extremely sketchy "charitable" organization that seemed to be of no real benefit to anyone whose name wasn't actually "Trump." Time of death: December 18, 10:57 a.m.**

**Trump reportedly agrees to dissolve foundation, signals w...**

**[CNBC Videos](#)**

**Donald Trump's charity to dissolve as New York attorney general reports 'a shocking pattern of illegality'**

**[The Telegraph](#)**

**Politics HuffPost**

**[Chris Matthews Predicts Trump Could Resign 'In The Coming Weeks'](#)**

**MSNBC's Chris Matthews said Monday that President Donald Trump could resign as**

**Judge Napolitano on Michael Flynn case: Trump is the loser**

**[FOX News Videos](#)**

**Eye Opener at 8: Michael Flynn to be sentenced today**

**[CBS News Videos](#)**

**Business Yahoo Finance**

**Business MarketWatch**

**[The last key death cross is poised to engulf the stock market](#)**

**Ominous-sounding death crosses have been emerging in the stock market like weeds, with the latest - and arguably, the last important such cross - about to take hold in the Dow. The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) is on the verge of joining other major equity benchmarks in a**

## **History shows a U.S. recession will probably happen within 24 months**

If history is any guide, then a U.S. recession has a good chance of happening by 2020.

**CNN**

## **Trump's Flynn-sized blind spot**

- **Sarah Sanders' comments about Flynn being 'ambushed' by the FBI reiterate that the President has a soft spot for his former national security adviser**
- **BREAKING James Comey defends FBI's interview of Michael Flynn, transcript shows**
- **Judge scolds Flynn, then walks back comments**
- **Flynn's sentencing postponed after judge issues blistering rebuke**
- **Sarah Sanders defends Trump's Flynn tweet**
- **Opinion: The mystery of Michael Flynn**
- **The no-nonsense judge overseeing Flynn's sentencing**

**MSNBC**

**On Christmas Eve, Trump airs more grievances**



**Katy Tur**

## **What Flynn's sentencing delay means for President Trump**

**NBC's Heidi Przybyla, the LA Times' Eli Stokols, and Politico's Jake Sherman discuss the political ramifications of Michael Flynn's sentencing delay with Katy Tur.**

**NBC NEWS**

## **Sanders says FBI 'ambushed' Flynn, brands Cohen 'a liar'**



**Ali Velshi**

**Rubin: 'This is how Trump organizations work'**

**Morning Joe**

**Trump could be under sealed indictment, analyst speculates**

**HUFFPOST**

**XMAS EVE**

**STOCK PLUNGE**

**OPINION**

**Opinion | Donald Trump, Walled Off From Reality**

**JUDGE RIPS FLYNN: 'ARGUABLY SOLD YOUR COUNTRY OUT'**

**Judge Asks About Treason Before Delaying Sentencing For Lying To FBI**

**By Ryan J. Reilly**

-

**TRUMP FOUNDATION AGREES TO SHUTTER!**

**Trump Foundation To Shut Down Amid Lawsuit Against The Charity**

**By Nina Golgowski**

**FORBES**

**A Fitting End For Disgraceful House  
Republicans**

-

**Ben Ritz Contributor**

**Taxes I write about U.S. tax & budget policy from a center-left perspective.**

**Time after time, House Speaker Paul Ryan has refused to do anything meaningful that would rein in Donald Trump's worst impulses.**Evan Vucci / AP

**This year concludes the same way it began: with a partial shutdown of the federal government. There is no doubt that President Donald Trump is primarily responsible for this shutdown – less than two weeks ago, during a nationally televised meeting in the Oval Office, he explicitly said so himself.**

**“If we don’t get what we want,” said Trump, “I will shut down the government. And I’ll tell you what, I am proud to shut down the government for border security, [Sen. Chuck Schumer]... I will take the mantle. I will be the one to shut it down. I’m not going to blame you for it ... I will take the mantle of shutting down.”**Not a whole lot of wiggle room there: this is clearly a Trump Shutdown. But the president was bolstered by support from his allies in the House Republican Conference and their retiring leader, House Speaker Paul Ryan. While the Senate did its job and unanimously passed a continuing resolution that would have kept the government open and prevented the shutdown, Ryan refused to allow a vote on similar legislation, allowing the electorally-disgraced House Republican majority to create one last pointless budget crisis on its way out the door.

**It’s a fitting end for a group that has been a budgetary disaster since the moment it first took control in 2011. Less than eight months into their tenure, House Republicans brought the United States to the brink of defaulting on our national debt for the first time in history, resulting in the government’s credit rating being downgraded from AAA to AA+. Two years later, they shut down the government for 16 days after President Obama refused to let them take the American people’s health care hostage. And for six years, instead of addressing the real drivers of our national debt, House Republicans forced reckless cuts to critical public investments that undermined the long-term health of our economy.**

**But it wasn’t until Republicans gained unified control of the U.S. House, Senate, and presidency in 2017 that the wheels really came off the wagon. The shutdown that began at midnight is the *third shutdown this year*. At no point in the last four decades has the federal government shut down thrice in one year, nor has it shut down even once during that period when one party had unified control of the federal government. That both happened in 2018 is a testament**

to the ineptitude of the Trump administration and its allies in the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress

This is a particularly sorry end for Speaker Ryan himself. When Ryan's predecessor, former Speaker John Boehner, announced his resignation in September 2015, he responsibly "[cleaned out the barn](#)" for his successor by allowing the House to vote on a bill that prevented another shutdown over the objections of his conference's most extreme members. Had Speaker Ryan – who, less than two weeks from retirement, similarly has nothing to lose by defying the far right – simply put the Senate bill up for a vote, it almost certainly would have passed and landed on Trump's desk. But instead, Ryan chose to aid and abet Trump's latest tantrum by blocking a vote on a commonsense stopgap, creating yet another unnecessary crisis in 2018.

Perhaps nobody should be surprised. Time after time, Speaker Ryan has refused to do anything meaningful that would rein in Trump's worst impulses. But it's Ryan's epic fiscal mismanagement that is particularly astonishing, given that he's tried to brand himself as one of the most fiscally responsible members of Congress since before he became chairman of the House Budget Committee in 2011.

As soon as Ryan became Speaker and had real power to rein in deficits, he instead [made them substantially worse](#). On this day last year, a massive tax cut spearheaded by Speaker Ryan was [signed into law](#), which the official scorekeepers at the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office now estimate will add over \$2 trillion to the national debt over the next decade. Two months later, Ryan presided over the [passage of unpaid-for legislation](#) that spent more money on domestic programs than President Obama proposed in his final budget while also spending more money on Defense than was requested by President Trump.

The result: next year's budget deficit will now be [roughly \\$1 trillion](#) – nearly 70% larger than the \$596 billion deficit [projected by CBO](#) when Ryan ascended to the Speakership in 2015. Moreover, Speaker Ryan's failure to tackle the nation's [long-term fiscal challenges](#) means that the federal government will never again run an annual budget deficit of less than \$1 trillion if current policies remain in place.

Thankfully, the American people decided they finally had enough of the GOP's dismal leadership and [ousted them from power](#) in last month's election. When

**the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress convenes, many of its members will be replaced by several dozen freshmen in the Democratic Caucus who campaigned on being far more responsible stewards of the federal budget – surely the new majority will vote to reopen the government immediately if the outgoing Congress does not. But one thing is crystal clear: it just wouldn't have been a proper end for the House GOP without throwing one last tantrum before the adults get put back in charge.**

## **Fact check**

**Kremlin Ignores Evidence in Calling US Meddling Reports 'Unfounded'**

**Polygraph.info**

**Will 2018 See the First Christmas Full Moon Since 1977?**

**Snopes.com**

**Donald Trump claims Russia is 'not happy' US troops are leaving Syria. That isn't true [ Duh! ]**

**PolitiFact**

**Schiff: Trump endangering 'rule of law' [ Ya think ... Double Duh! ]**

**President Donald Trump is jeopardizing “the rule of law” by discussing his legal situation with acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker, Rep. Adam Schiff ...**

**POLITICO**

**Anak Krakatau volcano erupts before and after tsunami – video**

**The sound of explosions can be heard in dramatic video filmed the day before to a deadly tsunami which struck parts of Indonesia.**

**The Guardian**

**Tsunami kills at least 222 in Indonesia, sweeps band off stage after volcano eruption**

**A tsunami struck Indonesia virtually without warning, killing at least 222 people, sweeping away members of a pop band performing on a beach. Hundreds of ...**

**Fox News**

**DECEMBER 25, 2018**

**DRUDGEREPORT**

**Stocks Extend Fall Despite Mnuchin Bid to Reassure Investors... 19-Month Low...**

**Regulators Say Nothing Out of Ordinary in Markets...**

**'Plunge Protection Team'...**

**Startles Wall St...**

**Toubling insider knowledge?**

**Risks Making Bad Situation Worse...**

**PRESIDENT: Fed 'Only Problem Our Economy Has'...**

**BOFA: Throes of bear market; Correction deepening...**

**DECEMBER 25, 2018**

**Daily Kos Staff Picks**

**Daily Kos staff looks back at some of their favorite posts from the past week.**

- **All indications are that Michael Flynn covered up something VERY BIG**
- **Trump's big mouth comes back to bite him, shatters his defense for felony campaign-finance fraud**
- **Women Overboard! Kansas Sen. Dinah Sykes and Rep. Stephanie Clayton abandon Republican ship**
- **Mulvaney's plan for Trump: Have more rallies. Lots and lots of rallies.**
- **Trump's attacks on the media make independent, progressive outlets like Daily Kos more important than ever. Can you chip in \$1 to support our work?**
- **The Trump foundation is no more thanks to New York's attorney general**
- **Pathetic Tucker Carlson goes all-in on the WAR ON CHRISTMAS! Gingerbread PEOPLE!!!!**
- **Republican who took inspiration from the Taliban now whines about negative ads used to beat him**

- **GOP representative is only person blocking bill to address violence against Native American women**
- **There is a special election on January 8, 2019. Winning this race is the first step to flip the Virginia state Senate. Give \$3 to support Jennifer Boysko**
- **Paul Ryan hopes to leave office unscathed and ready to run again someday. Let's not let that happen**
- **People may not know it yet, but Iowa and New Hampshire won't matter in 2020**
- **Oncology nurse deported last year is back home in US: 'This is really a dream that I never expected'**
- **This PSA from the Sandy Hook families will stop you in your tracks—and that's the point**
- **Sign and send a petition to Republicans: Do your job. End the shutdown.**
- **It sure looks like the judge who just struck down Obamacare waited until after Election Day**
- **Senate report on Russia's social media effort shows how racism drove results on both right and left**
- **'Every 30 seconds': Study confirms the gendered online abuse that black women have long reported**
- **New census data projects which states could gain or lose congressional seats in 2020 reapportionment**
- **Cashless businesses shut out poor people. A proposed New York City law would ban that**
- **This Week in Statehouse Action: The 12 Days of Session, Part 2 edition**



- **Sign this petition to Congress: We want H.R. 1 reforms including: Independent redistricting commissions, citizen-funded elections, closing the revolving door between government and corporate interests, and protecting voters against discrimination.**

## **Fact check**

**Kremlin Ignores Evidence in Calling US Meddling Reports 'Unfounded'**

**Polygraph.info**

**Will 2018 See the First Christmas Full Moon Since 1977?**

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**Donald Trump claims Russia is 'not happy' US troops are leaving Syria. That isn't true [ Duh! ]**

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**Schiff: Trump endangering 'rule of law' [ Ya think ... Double Duh! ]**

**President Donald Trump is jeopardizing “the rule of law” by discussing his legal situation with acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker, Rep. Adam Schiff ...**

**POLITICO**

**Business CNBC**

**We are now in a Bear Market - here's what that means**

**Bear markets are defined by a 20 percent decline or more from a recent high but they're also marked by overall pessimism on Wall Street.**

**Dow, stocks end sharply lower on Christmas Eve after weekend of Washington, D.C., turmoil**

## **USA TODAY**

**What to Do Now If You're Losing Sleep Over the Stock Market**

**Kiplinger**

### **Anak Krakatau volcano erupts before and after tsunami – video**

**The sound of explosions can be heard in dramatic video filmed the day before to a deadly tsunami which struck parts of Indonesia.**

**The Guardian**

### **Tsunami kills at least 222 in Indonesia, sweeps band off stage after volcano eruption**

**A tsunami struck Indonesia virtually without warning, killing at least 222 people, sweeping away members of a pop band performing on a beach. Hundreds of ...**

**Fox News**

**Politics MarketWatch**

### **Trump Today: President blames Democrats for shutdown, Fed for Wall Street selloff and unwilling ‘allies’ for Syria pullout**

**President Trump on Monday kept trying to pin blame for a government shutdown on Democrats, said the only problem with the economy is the Federal Reserve and continued to defend his much-criticized military pullout in Syria. Playing the blame game President Donald Trump**

### **Trump is incompetent, impulsive and amoral. Heaven help us all.**

- **By Eugene Robinson**

### **Wonder how the Trump administration would handle a financial crisis? Well, now we know.**

- **By Catherine Rampell**

## **Politics FOX News Videos**

### **Democrats have 'no incentive whatsoever' to negotiate deal before the end of the year**

**Former White House deputy chief of staff to President George W. Bush Karl Rove breaks down the political fallout from the partial government shutdown.**

**Top Trump aide says government shutdown may go into New Year**

### **Reuters**

**Government shutdown threatens federal workers' holiday plans**

### **Yahoo View**

## **BusinessCNBC**

### **We are now in a bear market - here's what that means**

**A “bear market” is when stocks see a 20 percent decline or more from a recent high - but they’re also marked by overall pessimism on Wall Street. Since World War II, bear markets have lasted 13 months on average, and stock markets tend to lose 30.4 percent of their value. During those conditions it usually takes stocks an average 22 months to recover, according to analysis from Goldman Sachs and CNBC.**

## **Business CNBC**

### **'The worst is yet to come': Experts say a global bear market is just getting started**

**In the U.S., the Nasdaq Composite closed in a bear market on Friday. Globally, Germany's DAX and China's Shanghai Composite have also entered bear territory.**

**Politics HuffPost**

**[LinsyGraham Doubles Down On Wall Funding:'We're Not Going To Give In'](#)**

**Turning up the heat on day one of the federal government shutdown, Sen.**

**Trump spends Christmas Eve shutdown 'all alone,' tweeting his frustrations**

**[Yahoo News](#)**

**Trump Sees Winning Hand as Critics See Presidency Spiraling Down**

**[Bloomberg](#)**

**[Trump spends Christmas Eve tweeting about grievances](#)**

**[TRUMP CHRISTMAS CHAOS](#)**

**[Trump Pins Syria Hopes On Turkish Leader Close To Putin And Wary Of](#)**

**[U.S. Allies](#)**

**[XMAS EVE STOCK PLUNGE](#)**

**[U.S. Stocks Fall Sharply Ahead Of Christmas Holiday](#)**

**By ALEX VEIGA, AP**

**[‘ALL ALONE...’](#)**

**[Twitter Users Brutally Mock Trump For Self-Pitying ‘Poor Me’ Tweet](#)**

**By [David Moye](#)**

**Bloomberg Rips 'Senselessly Chaotic' Trump, Demands GOP 'Start Showing Some Spine'**

**Doctor's daughters claim '68 Trump diagnosis was bogus**

**Bone spurs kept Donald Trump from being drafted into the Vietnam War.**  
**New allegations cast doubt on the veracity of that condition.**

**'I know it was a favor'»**

**Debt Up \$1.37 Trillion Since Last Year; \$10,743 Per Household...**

**Economic growth slowing around world...**

**Summers raises chance of recession next year to 60%...**

**BUST: STOCKS HEAD FOR WORST DECEMBER EVER...**



**But there was one group on Friday celebrating the reports — the Taliban.**

**Senior members told NBC News the news was a clear indication they were on the verge of victory.**

**“The 17-year-long struggle and sacrifices of thousands of our people finally yielded fruit,” said a senior Taliban commander from Afghanistan’s Helmand province. “We proved it to the entire world that we defeated the self-proclaimed world’s lone super power.”**

# WHERE IS THE JOB CREATION?

	EFFECTIVE TAX RATE	JOB GROWTH
ExxonMobil	13.6%	-34%
Verizon	9.1%	-33%
AT&T	8.1%	-23%
General Electric	-3.4%	-12%
United Technologies	10.4%	-12%
JP Morgan Chase	15.6%	-10%
IBM	7.5%	-3%

SOURCE: Institute for Policy Studies, 2008-2016



# Social Security Fun Facts

- Social Security and Medicare are paid for with a separate tax. They add *nothing* to the national debt.
- Social Security has a \$2.5 trillion *surplus*.
- Congress has "*borrowed*" trillions from Social Security to pay for government spending.

So when Republicans say we need to *cut* Social Security in order to balance the Federal Budget, here's what they really *mean*:

"We've taken *trillions* from Social Security to pay for unfunded wars, tax cuts for the rich and corporate subsidies. We need to cut your benefits so we won't have to pay it back."



## Senate GOP meeting this morning.



*"Before we discuss raising taxes on the poor & middle class, adding \$1 trillion to the deficit, taking health insurance away from 13 million, raising premiums by 10%, defending treason and swearing in a pedophile, let's begin with a prayer."*



**HE'S DOING EVERYTHING TO AMERICA  
PUTIN WANTS HIM TO**

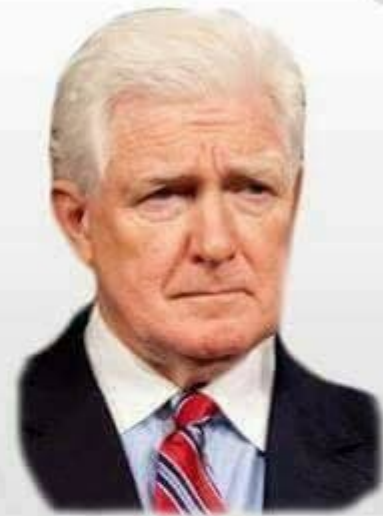
**HE'S WRECKING OUR GOVERNMENT  
HE'S ATTACKING THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS  
HE'S DIVIDING AMERICANS AND ALIENATING ALLIES  
BY DRIVING RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS WEDGES  
AND CONGRESS IS LETTING HIM**



Representative  
Jim Moran said  
that members of  
Congress cannot  
afford to live  
“decently” off

**\$174,000.**

He wants to give Congress  
a raise!



gen  
on  
rr

**SHARE**

if you think Congress  
doesn't deserve a raise!

**"THE TRUE TERRORISTS  
OF OUR WORLD DO NOT  
MEET AT THE DOCKS AT  
MIDNIGHT, OR SCREAM  
'ALLAHU AKBAR'  
BEFORE SOME VIOLENT  
ACTION. THE TRUE  
TERRORISTS OF OUR  
WORLD WEAR 5000  
DOLLAR SUITS AND  
WORK IN THE HIGHEST  
POSITIONS OF  
FINANCE, GOVERNMENT  
AND BUSINESS."**

PETER JOSEPH: ZEITGEIST ADDENDUM



## WAGES

Salary of retired US  
Presidents.....\$450,000 FOR LIFE

Salary of House/Senate  
members.....\$174,000 FOR LIFE

Salary of Speaker of the  
House.....\$223,500 FOR LIFE

Salary of Majority/Minority  
Leaders.....\$194,400 FOR LIFE

Average salary of a soldier DEPLOYED IN  
AFGHANISTAN .....\$38,000

Average income for Seniors on Social Security  
.....\$12,000

I think we found where the cuts should be made!

If you agree...Pass it on!

***JUST SO WE'RE CRYSTAL F\*CKING  
CLEAR ABOUT TRUMPS TAX PLAN:***

***MEDICAL EQUIPMENT:  
NOT DEDUCTIBLE  
STUDENT LOAN INTEREST:  
NOT DEDUCTIBLE***

***PRIVATE SCHOOL TUITION:  
DEDUCTIBLE  
PRIVATE JET FEES:  
DEDUCTIBLE***

***MAKE NO MISTAKE, THIS TAX BILL IS  
AN ASSAULT ON THE MIDDLE CLASS***





**AMERICANS PAY THE HIGHEST PRICES FOR MEDICINE IN THE WORLD. WANT TO KNOW WHY?**

**THERE'S A LAW THAT FORBIDS MEDICARE FROM NEGOTIATING PRICES WITH BIG PHARMA.**

**MEANWHILE, IN 2012 ALONE, THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY SPENT **\$306 MILLION** DOLLARS LOBBYING CONGRESS.**

**IF YOU THINK IT'S TIME WE CHANGED THE RULES TO BENEFIT THE PEOPLE, NOT BIG PHARMA, COMMENT YES & SHARE!**

Image Credit: AP Changes: cropped, resized, images overlaid. Original: <http://www.businessinsider.com/mcconnell-senate-healthcare-bill-negotiation-2017-6>

EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF  
**FASCISM**

Powerful and Continuing  
**NATIONALISM**

**DISDAIN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

**IDENTIFICATION OF ENEMIES / SCAPEGOATS**  
as a Unifying Cause

**SUPREMACY OF THE MILITARY**

**RAMPANT SEXISM**

**CONTROLLED MASS MEDIA**

**OBSESSION WITH NATIONAL SECURITY**

**RELIGION AND GOVERNMENT**  
are Intertwined

**CORPORATE POWER IS PROTECTED**

**LABOR POWER IS SUPPRESSED**

**DISDAIN FOR INTELLECTUALS & THE ARTS**

**OBSESSION WITH CRIME & PUNISHMENT**

**RAMPANT CRONYISM & CORRUPTION**

**FRAUDULENT ELECTIONS**

— Laurence W. Britt

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If you still happen to support Trump:  
You support draft dodging.  
You support tax evasion.  
You support pussy grabbing.  
You support adultery.  
You support stiffing contractors.  
You support Russian interference.  
You support lying to others.  
You support alternative facts.  
You support bullying others.  
You support narcissistic behaviour.  
You support climate change denial.  
You support greed without shame.  
You support eugenics.  
You support nepotism.  
You support white supremacy.  
You support scapegoating immigrants.  
You support scapegoating Muslims.  
You support scapegoating Jews.  
You support scapegoating gays.  
You support scapegoating transgenders.  
Did I miss anything?

**this is an asshole**  
**others may call him POTUS**  
**they may say POTUS over and over again**



**THEY MAY SAY POTUS IN ALL CAPS**  
**you might even start to believe he's a POTUS**  
**but that doesn't change the fact he's**  
**an asshole...and nobody likes an asshole**



# TRUMP PROMISED TO RUN THE COUNTRY LIKE A BUSINESS



# HE REALLY DELIVERED

@MrFilmkritik

ther98

## Donald Trump's malignant narcissism is toxic: Psychologist

John Gartner | USA TODAY |

If you take President Trump's words literally, you have no choice but to conclude that he is psychotic. A delusion is "a fixed false belief that is resistant to reason or confrontation with actual fact." Despite all evidence to the

contrary, Trump asserts that his New York office was bugged by President Obama, and that his inauguration had the biggest crowd size in history. Before the election, [Right Wing Watch published](#) a list of 58 conspiracies proclaimed by Trump.

Is it all for effect, to rile up his base, deflect blame and distract from his shortcomings, or does Trump really believe the insane things he says? It's often hard to know, because as Harvard psychoanalyst Lance Dodes put it, Trump tells two kinds of lies: the ones he tells others to scam them, and those he tells himself. "He lies because of his sociopathic tendencies," [Dodes said](#). "There's also the kind of lying he has that is in a way more serious, that he has a loose grip on reality." Is he crazy like a fox or just plain crazy? Not a question we want to be asking about our president.

Much has been written about Trump having narcissistic personality disorder. As critics have pointed out, merely saying a leader is narcissistic is hardly disqualifying. But malignant narcissism is like a malignant tumor: toxic.

Psychoanalyst and Holocaust survivor Erich Fromm, who invented the diagnosis of malignant narcissism, argues that it "lies on the [borderline between sanity and insanity](#)." Otto Kernberg, a psychoanalyst specializing in borderline personalities, defined malignant narcissism as having [four components](#): narcissism, paranoia, antisocial personality and sadism. Trump exhibits all four. His narcissism is evident in his "grandiose sense of self-importance ... without commensurate achievements." From viewing cable news, he knows "more about ISIS than the generals" and believes that among all human beings on the planet, "I alone can fix it." His "repeated lying," "disregard for and violation of the rights of others" (Trump University fraud and multiple sexual assault allegations) and "lack of remorse" meet the clinical criteria for [anti-social personality](#). His bizarre conspiracy theories, false sense of victimization, and demonization of the press, minorities and anyone who opposes him are textbook paranoia. Like most sadists, Trump has been a bully [since childhood](#), and his thousands of vicious tweets make him perhaps the most prolific cyber bully in history.

A year ago, I warned that "the idea that [Trump is going to settle down](#) and become presidential when he achieves power is wishful thinking." Trump, like many successful people, shows biological signs of hypomania — a mild and more functional expression of bipolar genes that manifest in energy, confidence, creativity, little need for sleep, as well as arrogance, impulsivity,

irritability and diminished judgment. As is often typical, when Trump has achieved great success, his hypomania has increased with disastrous consequences.

In Michael Kruse's article "[1988: the Year Donald Lost his Mind](#)," he wrote, "His response to his surging celebrity" after the publication of *The Art of The Deal* "was a series of manic, ill-advised ventures" that led to bankruptcy and divorce.

Last year, after Trump became the Republican presidential nominee, *New York Times* columnist [David Brooks noted](#) a similar deterioration: "With each passing week, he displays the classic symptoms of medium-grade mania in more disturbing forms: inflated self-esteem, sleeplessness, impulsivity, aggression and a compulsion to offer advice on subjects he knows nothing about." Much has been said about Trump's disjointed [Associated Press interview](#) last month. As Brooks wrote, "Manics display something called 'flight of ideas.' It's a formal thought disorder in which ideas tumble forth through a disordered chain of associations. One word sparks another, which sparks another ..."

One symptom of hypomania is impulsivity. [Seventy-two hours](#) after Trump saw upsetting pictures of gassed Syrian children, he launched 59 Tomahawk missiles at the Assad regime. Whether Trump guessed right or wrong, sudden lethal moves that reverse his longstanding policy are disturbing. "Acting on instinct, Trump upends his own Syria policy" was the [headline](#) in *The Times*. Its analysis said the president's advisers "were clearly uncomfortable with the suggestion that Mr. Trump was acting impulsively." As [Ezra Klein put it](#), "A foreign policy based on Trump's gut reactions to the images flashing before him on cable news" is "dangerous."

Now Trump is ratcheting up tensions to create a crisis with North Korea.

**POLICING THE USA: A look at [race, justice, media](#)**

**[Vague protests are Trojan horses for liberal politics: Christian Schneider](#)**

Some say it is unethical to dare to diagnose the president, but hundreds of mental health professionals have come together to found [Duty To Warn](#). We believe that just as we are ethically and legally obligated to break confidentiality to warn a potential victim of violence, our duty to warn the public trumps all other considerations.

More than 53,000 people have [signed our petition](#), aimed at mental health professionals, stating Trump should be removed under the 25th Amendment

**because he is too mentally ill to competently serve. At a conference on the Duty To Warn last month at Yale medical school, psychiatrist Robert Jay Lifton warned against creeping “[malignant normality](#).” Under a malignantly narcissistic leader, alternate facts, conspiracy theories, racism, science denial and delegitimization of the press become not only acceptable but also the new normal. If we do not confront this evil, it will consume us.**

**Duty to Warn is planning a multicity March for Sanity on Oct. 7 to “make America sane again.” Hope to see you there, assuming we’re all still here.**

**[Robin Brown Guist](#)**

**It's almost 2019, I'm old and worn out, and I still have so many unanswered questions!!!! I haven't found out who let the dogs out...where's the beef...how to get to Sesame Street... why Dora doesn't just use Google Maps...Why do all flavors of fruit loops taste exactly the same, or how many licks does it take to get to the center of a tootsie pop.....why eggs are packaged in a flimsy carton, but batteries are secured in plastic that's tough as nails...what does the fox say... why “abbreviated” is such a long word; or why is there a D in ‘fridge’ but not in refrigerator... why lemon juice is made with artificial flavor yet dish-washing liquid is made with real lemons... why they sterilize the needle for lethal injections... and, why do you have to “put your two cents in” but it's only a “penny for your thoughts” where's that extra penny going to... why does The Alphabet Song and Twinkle Twinkle Little Star have the same tune... why did you just try to sing those two previous songs... and just what exactly is Victoria's secret? and where is Waldo?... Can you hear me now?...and do you really think I am this witty?? ... I actually got this from a friend, who stole it from her brother's girlfriend's, uncle's cousin who lived next door to an old classmate's mailman...Now it is your turn to take it from me... Copy and Paste, and enjoy your day.**

**I needed the laugh.**



"I have broken more Elton John records, he seems to have a lot of records. And I, by the way, I don't have a musical instrument. I don't have a guitar or an organ. No organ. Elton has an organ. And lots of other people helping. No we've broken a lot of records. We've broken virtually every record. Because you know, look I only need this space. They need much more room. For basketball, for hockey and all of the sports, they need a lot of room. We don't need it. We have people in that space. So we break all of these records. Really we do it without like, the musical instruments. This is the only musical: the mouth. And hopefully the brain attached to the mouth. Right? The brain, more important than the mouth, is the brain. The brain is much more important."


Donald Trump, 7/5/2018







**SOMETHING FOR YOU TO THINK  
ABOUT...**

A man with a grey beard and glasses, wearing a black leather jacket over a grey shirt and a black beret, looking directly at the camera against a red background.

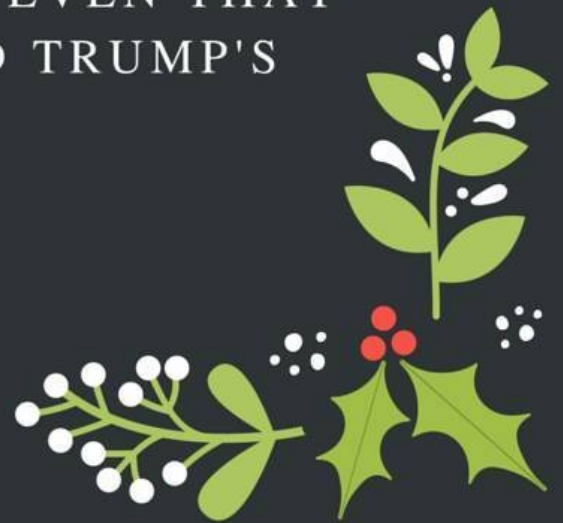
**The Number One cause of illegal  
immigration is overstaying Visas, most  
illegals have never even seen the  
Border. The Number One way drugs get  
into this country is INTERNATIONAL Cargo  
Shipping. The wall is a scam.**

**As you enjoy “It’s a Wonderful Life”  
this year, it’s hard not to think that  
we’re now living in the alternate  
reality where George Bailey was  
never born and Mr. Potter is  
President of the United States.**





'TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE  
CHRISTMAS AND ALL THROUGH  
THE HOUSE, NOT A CREATURE  
WAS STIRRING, NOT EVEN THAT  
THING ON DONALD TRUMP'S  
HEAD...'





**RADIO STATIONS STOP PLAYING "ALL I WANT  
FOR CHRISTMAS IS MY TWO FRONT TEETH"**



**SO AS NOT TO OFFEND  
TRUMP SUPPORTERS**



**LIVE SHOT FROM  
THE WHITE HOUSE** 🌅



HEY! WHERE'S OUR BORDER WALL  
PAID FOR BY MEXICO? AND THE  
BALANCED FEDERAL BUDGET? OR THAT  
MIDDLE-CLASS TAX CUT YOU PROMISED?

YOU STILL BELIEVE  
IN SANTA CLAUS? SAD!



M. WUERKER  
POLITICO Andrew McKeel



**THE PROBLEM IS NOT A LACK OF**



**MONEY**



**FOOD**



**WATER**



**OR LAND**

**THE PROBLEM IS THAT**

**YOU'VE GIVEN CONTROL OF  
THESE THINGS TO GREEDY PSYCHOPATHS**



# ***THE WHINING***

**DONALD J. TRUMP** IS  
A DEMENTED SOCIOPATH

***KULT  
45***

*Billy  
Nomad*







"I have broken more Elton John records, he seems to have a lot of records. And I, by the way, I don't have a musical instrument. I don't have a guitar or an organ. No organ. Elton has an organ. And lots of other people helping. No we've broken a lot of records. We've broken virtually every record. Because you know, look I only need this space. They need much more room. For basketball, for hockey and all of the sports, they need a lot of room. We don't need it. We have people in that space. So we break all of these records. Really we do it without like, the musical instruments. This is the only musical: the mouth. And hopefully the brain attached to the mouth. Right? The brain, more important than the mouth, is the brain. The brain is much more important."

Donald Trump, 7/5/2018





