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**Men taken down by #MeToo are making comeback**

A year after the movement's rise, some accused of sexual misconduct work their way back into the spotlight. **In Life**

**Remembering John McCain**

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**NEWSLINE**

**IN NEWS**



Meghan McCain cries at her father's casket on Wednesday. AP

**McCain and Biden 'really liked each other'**

Former Vice President will speak at political rival's memorial Thursday

**IN MONEY**

**Battle of mattress sellers escalating**

Tempur-Pedic accuses Mattress Firm of copying look, feel of their product

**IN SPORTS**

**Schools cash in on 'guarantee' games**

Universities shell out big bucks for home games against lesser opponents

**Fantasy football an escape for prisoners**

Tinkering with lineups, tallying points helps overcome loneliness, depression

**IN LIFE**

**'Harry Potter' still has magic hold on readers**

Fan recalls how he first came under fantasy book series' spell 20 years ago



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**USA TODAY EXCLUSIVE**



The terrace of Ali Qapu is also known as the Great Persian Palace in Isfahan. FARHAD BABAEI/SPECIAL TO USA TODAY

**About this story**

■ President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw from the Iran nuclear deal and reimpose sanctions hardened tensions between two countries at odds for decades. Trump says Iran must be forced to alter its behavior. Some fear he put the U.S. and Iran on a dangerous path to a potential war.

■ USA TODAY foreign correspondent Kim Hjelmgaard gained exclusive access to travel to Iran this summer to explore the strained U.S.-Iranian relationship. Inside Iran is a timely look at a country few Western journalists get to visit.

**INSIDEIRAN.USATODAY.COM**

Learn more about a country that's near the top of U.S. foreign policy concerns yet is a mystery to many.

**INSIDE IRAN**

**The country's hostile history with America brings anger, wonderment and weariness**

Kim Hjelmgaard USA TODAY

TEHRAN, Iran

For almost 40 years, a two-story brick building in the middle of Tehran has been the symbol of Iran's revulsion toward the United States, an enemy it holds responsible for engineering a coup, throwing its military might behind its regional foes and limiting its prized oil industry. ■ The former U.S. Embassy, where 52 Americans were held hostage for 444 days beginning in 1979 amid the birth of the Islamic Republic, is now a museum to American treachery the Iranian authorities refer to as the "U.S. Den of Espionage." Murals depicting the Statue of Liberty as Death and the U.S. flag in the form of a handgun line its exterior walls and interior hallways. ■ "This represents Iran's side of the story," a guide to the former embassy told USA TODAY as he showed off typewriters, secret meeting rooms, incriminating documents and even embassy stationery collecting dust inside the compound. **See IRAN, Page 4A**

**Poll: President should submit to questioning**

Susan Page and Erin Kelly USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – The guilty plea by Donald Trump's former lawyer to campaign finance violations and other charges raises serious questions about the president's behavior, a majority of Americans say in a USA TODAY/Suffolk University Poll.

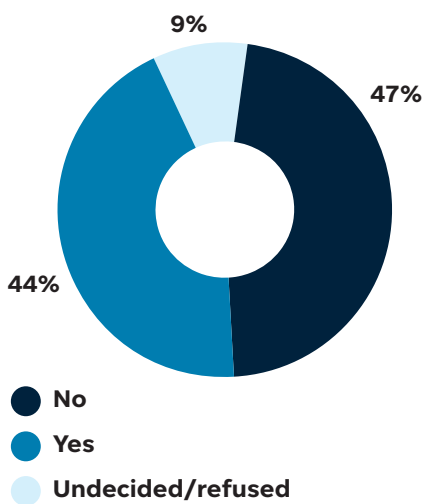
Nearly two-thirds say the president should agree to be interviewed by special counsel Robert Mueller.

Those surveyed express significantly higher levels of trust in Mueller's rectitude than in Trump's denials that his campaign colluded with Russia to interfere in the 2016 election. The poll of 1,000 registered voters was taken Thursday through Tuesday, after former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen pleaded guilty to violating campaign finance law and other charges and former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort was convicted of tax evasion and financial crimes.

The findings underscore the perils

**See POLL, Page 6A**

**Based on what you know now, do you think the House of Representatives should seriously consider impeaching President Trump?**



SOURCE USA TODAY/Suffolk University Poll of 1,000 registered voters, taken Thursday through Tuesday. Margin of error +/- 3 percentage points. RAMON PADILLA/USA TODAY

**In state with tough gun laws, shooter somehow escaped scrutiny**

Marco della Cava USA TODAY

When David Katz gunned down two fellow video game enthusiasts Sunday in Jacksonville, Florida, the question followed: Was this the random act of an enraged gamer bent on revenge or an unstable person who should not have had access to a gun?

In hindsight, the latter seems logical, particularly in light of court documents from his parents' bitter divorce that suggest Katz's psychological troubles started more than a decade ago.

But in legal terms, Katz, 24, who killed himself at the scene after injuring several others, lawfully obtained his two handguns in Maryland, a state that is among a dozen with comparatively high hurdles to firearm ownership.

According to a ranking of states based on the toughness of their gun laws, Maryland rates an A-minus, ac-

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## INSIDE IRAN

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Kimia Naderzadeh, right, and her cousin, Maryam Dehnavi, sit in the shade on a pedestrian street in Isfahan. PHOTOS BY FARHAD BABAEI/SPECIAL TO USA TODAY

## Iran

Continued from Page 1A

Foreigners are rarely allowed to roam the historic building, a stark physical reminder for Iran that the United States is its worst enemy and doesn't take enough responsibility for meddling in Iran's domestic affairs. "America doesn't do that," the guide said.

In early August, when President Donald Trump reimposed sanctions on Iran after withdrawing from the 2015 nuclear deal negotiated over several years with world powers, another tense chapter was added to the story of two countries whose strained relationship is steeped in decades of mistrust and hostility.

His moves risk further inflaming an already volatile Middle East and alienating American allies, and they run counter to majority opinion at home and abroad. They mean certain economic hardship for millions of Iranians.

But Trump has stood firm, saying the "horrible, one-sided" Iran nuclear deal "failed to achieve the fundamental objective of blocking all paths to an Iranian nuclear bomb, and it threw a lifeline of cash to a murderous dictatorship that has continued to spread bloodshed, violence and chaos."

"To this day, Iran threatens the United States and our allies, undermines the international financial system and supports terrorism and militant proxies around the world," he said this month in announcing the latest sanctions.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, responding in a speech on national television, said Trump was playing politics at the expense of the Iranian people.

"The U.S. reimposes sanctions on Iran and pulls out of the nuclear deal and then wants to hold talks with us," he said. "Trump's call for direct talks is only for domestic consumption in America ahead of elections ... and to create chaos in Iran."

For Iran, the latest sanctions mean continued hard economic times. They will keep Tehran from acquiring U.S. dollars, restrict its ability to trade in gold and other precious metals, prohibit the foreign purchase of Iranian sovereign debt and punish the car industry with high tariffs. The United States is banning imports of Iran's iconic Persian rugs. The biggest blow will come in early November, when sanctions on Iran's lucrative oil industry swing back into full gear.

For Washington, it's a geopolitical gamble that swims against the tide of world opinion and much of the United States' own foreign policy establishment.

"If the Trump administration carries through with its threats to completely prevent Iran from exporting its oil by, for example, deploying the U.S. Navy in the Strait of Hormuz in the Persian Gulf to block Iran's oil ships, then this moves beyond a conflict of words and posturing to a war situation. We'll be at war. A real war," said Nader Entessar, an Iranian-born political scientist at the University of South Alabama.



SOURCE maps4news.com/@OSM  
KARL GELLES/USA TODAY

**"We waited for so long for good news between our two nations. A lot of people in Iran are not satisfied with their lives. What do we hope for now?"**

A woman, 37, in a coffee shop to USA TODAY as she despaired over the renewed sanctions and fresh breakdown in relations

## Ask me about Iran



Reporter Kim Hjelmggaard will host a Reddit Ask Me Anything at 1 p.m. EDT Friday. Keep up with the conversation or ask a question by visiting [reddit.com/r/worldnews](https://www.reddit.com/r/worldnews)

## 'It will only get worse' for Iran

Inside Iran, there is a mixture of anger and weariness at Trump's decision to reimpose sanctions. Though Washington insists the sanctions are not aimed at Iran's civilians, only its government and nuclear program, Iranians find that line of reasoning hard to accept; even though the sanctions don't target them directly, restrictions on Iran's use of the global financial system have led to severe shortages of cancer drugs, certain food supplies and key consumer goods. They also have led to an economic crisis that has severely affected salaries, prices and jobs.

"Please tell Mr. Trump that it will only get worse for ordinary Iranian workers and their families," said Fereshteh Dastpak, head of Iran's National Carpet Center. Dastpak lamented the likely effect of the sanctions on the 1.5 million people who earn their living in Iran's rug industry. Nearly \$100 million worth of Persian carpets were exported to the USA last year amid the lifting of sanctions tied to the nuclear accord negotiated during President Barack Obama's tenure. The year before the deal? There were no carpets imported. "Trump needs to reconsider," Dastpak said.

Several Iranians, including Ali, 26, from the city of Isfahan, told USA TODAY they would leave if they could. "There is no future for me here," he said. Because Ali was highly critical of Iran's government, his last name has been withheld.

Gholam Hossein Shafei, president of Iran's chamber of commerce, said in an interview that "America is pulling out of an official and valid agreement negotiated by international institutions."

Shafei said foreign investment, eco-

nomics growth and tourism in Iran would suffer before they even had the chance to get off the ground. "There needs to be an answer to this," he said.

So far, there hasn't been one.

## Nuclear deal as a pivot point

Trump is dropping out of the accord over the objections of other signatories to the deal, including China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom and the European Union. All have publicly expressed their disapproval and pledged to work with Iran but have failed to come up with specific proposals that would allow them to circumvent so-called secondary sanctions: those imposed on any countries or companies who do business with Iran.

The International Atomic Energy Agency said Iran was complying with the accord. Polls show a majority of Americans want the United States to stay in the deal.

Trump long has objected to an agreement hailed as the most significant foreign policy accomplishment of Obama's administration. He says the accord does not go far enough in addressing Iran's long-term nuclear ambitions, its conventional missile program and its financing of proxies in regional hot spots such as Syria and Yemen.

"I know (Iran is) having a lot of problems and their economy is collapsing," Trump has said. "But I will tell you this: At a certain point, they're going to call me, and they're going to say, 'Let's make a deal,' and we'll make a deal. They're feeling a lot of pain right now."

Iran has dismissed those words – including Trump's tweets to reopen nego-

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The United States insists sanctions are not aimed at Iran's civilians, but ordinary Iranians in Tehran find that hard to accept.



## INSIDE IRAN

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## Iran

Continued from Page 4A

tiations and threats against those who do business with Iran – as ill-thought-out propaganda.

“Today, the biggest threat to the U.S. is its own president,” said Hesamodin Ashna, a senior adviser to Iran’s president. “Someone who sells lies and intimidation for a living is not only a danger to the American people but a danger to the international community.”

Experts in international relations are skeptical of Trump’s strategy.

“Iran is an issue that has unified Congress, and to a certain extent the American public, in terms of being hard-line on it. But being anti-Iran is an easy position to take,” said Dina Esfandiary, an Iranian national and policy expert at King’s College London. “Trump’s policies, or lack of policies on Iran, rather, stem from ‘anything that Obama did needs to be undone.’ That’s definitely a driving principle for Trump here.”

Ali Ansari, founding director of the Institute for Iranian Studies at St. Andrews University in Scotland and a distant relative of Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, a dictator the CIA installed as Iran’s leader in 1953 before his ouster in 1979, said, “By pulling out of the deal, Trump has given the Iranian authorities an excuse and allowed them to claim all of its problems can be sourced to America.”

## Anti-American animosity visible in prayers, politics

Pahlavi was ushered into power after Mohammad Mossadegh, Iran’s democratically elected prime minister, nationalized Iran’s oil industry and showed little interest in dealing with the West. He maintained a pro-West foreign policy and fostered modern economic development, and his government officials boasted that he had turned Iran into a place where women were wearing miniskirts shorter than they did in Paris.

That came at the price of autocratic rule and corruption. Pahlavi employed secret police to torture and execute people and stifle dissent.

When anti-American cleric Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini rose to become Iran’s supreme leader in 1979 and unleashed the hostage crisis at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, the country was determined to break with American interference in its affairs.

Ansari, the policy expert at King’s College London, said Iran’s government has done little in the intervening years to help itself.

“After the nuclear deal, it signed a lot of MoUs (memoranda of understanding, an intent to do business), but nothing really materialized as different factions of the government argued about what they should give away and what they shouldn’t,” Ansari said. “If the Trump administration had stuck with this deal, it probably wouldn’t have been deliverable, but Iran’s hard-liners wouldn’t now have any cover. Trump has made it easier for them.”

In December, there were weeks of demonstrations in more than 80 cities across Iran. The protests followed a leaked government budget report that revealed Iran funneled billions of dollars to religious institutions, to the elite Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps paramilitary unit and for military interventions extending from Lebanon to Saudi Arabia. The protests came during a time of spiraling costs for goods at home and severe water shortages.

Trump’s decision to exit the nuclear deal risks reinvigorating the “Great Satan” epithet, a slogan that has come to define

Iranian-U.S. relations over the past several decades. The phrase, along with the “Death to America” chants that came to prominence under Khomeini, remain a staple at Friday prayers and political rallies under Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

This animosity is visible still in the state-sponsored anti-American signs and graffiti that dot Iran’s smog-filled capital, with its clogged roads, bustling marketplaces, bridges, tunnels, towers and largely concrete skyline set against the backdrop of the Alborz mountain range.

“You can’t trust the United States – never,” said an official with Iran’s Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, who did not want to be identified because he was not authorized to speak to the media. “Whenever the United States makes promises, it eventually abandons them.”

## Fatigue over decades of failed diplomacy

At the “U.S. Den of Espionage,” the former American Embassy, the guide ended the tour by screening a brief video that purported to show myriad perceived American crimes against Iran, from invading its immediate neighbors and building military bases there to shooting down a civilian passenger plane traveling from Tehran to Dubai in 1988, killing all 290 people on board, including 66 children. (The U.S. Navy said it mistook the plane for a fighter jet. Iran rejects that explanation.)

Still, despite rhetoric from the Trump administration and some exiled Iranians – as well as praise for Washington’s withdrawal from the nuclear deal by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu – the overwhelming sentiment on Iran’s streets is not revolutionary fervor but fatigue over decades of failed Iranian-U.S. diplomacy and the resulting economic struggles of ordinary Iranians.

“We waited for so long for good news between our two nations,” a woman, 37, in a coffee shop told USA TODAY as she despaired over the renewed sanctions and fresh breakdown in relations.

Fearing for her safety, the woman did not want her name associated with a political statement in a foreign newspaper. “A lot of people in Iran are not satisfied with their lives,” she said. “What do we hope for now?”

## A message to the U.S.: Stay out of our problems

Years of international sanctions have taken a toll on Iran. About one-third of Iranian young people (ages 15 to 29) are unemployed, according to the International Iranian Economic Association.

More broadly, the jobless rate is more than 13 percent, hyperinflation has evaporated the purchasing power of salaries, and Iran’s rial currency has lost half of its value against the U.S. dollar over the past four months. After the nuclear deal, Iran was able to restore oil production and exports, but it did so during a time of record-low oil prices. In November, Iran will have to weather large cuts to its oil exports once again.

Yet while demonstrators in Iran may be occasionally emboldened to call for the death of Rouhani and Khamenei, they do not necessarily view support from Trump administration regime-change hawks such as national security adviser John Bolton as the answer.

“Just look at our neighbors, Iraq and Afghanistan. After 6 p.m. you can’t go out. It’s too dangerous. This is what happens when Americans intervene in other countries,” said Mohammad, a merchant at Tehran’s Grand Bazaar, referring to two countries where the

United States has spent billions of dollars on military occupations and long-term nation-building missions. “The reality is that we don’t want the U.S. interfering with our problems.”

Still, USA TODAY encountered many Iranians who expressed disapproval of what they viewed as Trump’s brash leadership style and aggressive policies toward Iran but admired what they said the presi-

dent was achieving for his own country.

One was Hossein, 57, an English professor who, like Mohammad, the merchant, did not want his family name published.

Hossein is trying to leave Iran for a job in Europe, and he worries that his views could affect his application.

“Whatever promises Trump gives his people, he fulfills,” he

said, mentioning actions Trump has taken since entering office such as moving the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv. “He’s a pragmatist. Trump only does things he thinks are good for his country. He started an economic war with China. He will succeed. He had a nuclear summit with North Korea. He will succeed.

“He’s started messing with Iran. He will succeed.”

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# America is Hungry for Martha Stewart’s New 30-Minute Dinner Kits

## Consumers rushing to get Martha’s delicious recipes and seasonal ingredients delivered to their doorsteps.

*For the next 48 hours, our readers get 3 free meals and free shipping!*

Over 10 million meals have been sold, and sales continue to skyrocket for the meal kit delivery service Martha & Marley Spoon.

“My kits make it possible for even the busiest of us to make delicious and easy meals. Customers love the fresh ingredients and the amount of time they save,” said Martha Stewart.

A closer look at this convenience-enabling phenomenon suggests it was just a matter of time before sales took off.

A simple solution for Americans of all ages -- seniors in particular -- Martha & Marley Spoon is perfect for those who want to enjoy healthy, nutritious and fresh dinners in just 30 minutes a day. Martha & Marley Spoon sends Martha Stewart’s trusted recipes and fresh, pre-portioned ingredients directly to your door.

Unlike other meal kit companies, Martha & Marley Spoon works with award-winning producers and purveyors so that you get fresh, healthy, and delicious ingredients in every meal.

Best of all, ingredients go from the farm to your table (instead of spending 2 weeks in a truck traveling to local supermarkets), food waste is reduced (Americans waste 187 pounds of fresh produce annually), and you can save hundreds of dollars per year (Americans throw away \$24 billion in produce alone each year).

### Martha-Approved Meals In 30 Minutes A Day

The Martha & Marley Spoon culinary team is led by 14-year industry veteran Jennifer Aaronson, who earned her chops in the test kitchens of Martha Stewart Living.

Aaronson has condensed decades of experience into a once-weekly “meal kit” that lets consumers make delicious, restaurant-quality meals in just 30 minutes a day and at a fraction of the cost of eating out -- without planning, shopping, or kitchen stress.

With Martha & Marley Spoon, consumers eat delicious dinners, break bread with loved ones, and feel better about what they’re eating.

Best of all is the simplicity of the service.

First, consumers choose from Martha’s delicious 30-40 minute recipes. There are 7 new dishes and 3 customer favorites available each week, many of which come from the thousands of recipes Martha Stewart has shared through her television shows, books, magazines, and website over the years.

The team sends the recipes, along with all of the pre-portioned ingredients needed to cook them, directly to customers’ doors in a chilled, insulated box. By delivering the exact quantities, there’s never any food waste or half-used ingredients rotting in the back of the fridge.

Fans of the product love that all they have to do is cook, relax, and enjoy the experience. Each recipe takes around 30 minutes, which enables households to eat well and have plenty of time for other important things.

As Martha says, “Save time to make time for everything else you want to do.”



Fast-growing Martha & Marley Spoon is shipping thousands of meals every week to hungry customers across the country.

### Why Americans Are Raving About This “Dinner in a Box”

The Associated Press calls Martha & Marley Spoon “the best meal kit,” and the company has been featured in the New York Times, USA Today, Fortune, The Today Show, and more. In June alone, news of the service was covered by over 157 media outlets, seen and heard more than 600 million times.

What sets this meal kit service apart? We’ve boiled it down to 7 simple reasons:

- 1. Trusted, time-tested recipes.** While other companies offer unproven meal options, Martha & Marley Spoon sends you the best of Martha’s 18,000+ recipes, so every meal you cook is a winner.
- 2. Time-saving cooking techniques.** Martha & Marley Spoon meals use Martha’s smart cooking techniques so you can enjoy a delicious meal in as little as 20 minutes, with no planning or shopping whatsoever.
- 3. Choice and variety.** Martha & Marley Spoon offers 7 new recipes and 3 customer favorites to choose from weekly, with plans for both couples and families. It is the only service in America that provides total choice of what to cook for both families and 2-person households.
- 4. Thoughtfully-sourced ingredients.** Martha & Marley Spoon works with local suppliers to bring the very best to your table, including organic produce, artisanal cheeses and condiments, and ethically-sourced meats and seafood.
- 5. Timeless recipe cards.** Every box comes with beautifully-designed, sturdy recipe cards that are easy to follow and reuse.
- 6. Wholesome, balanced meals.** Recipes are designed for healthy weeknight cooking and eating, quick preparation, and they’re a clear winner over take-out and frozen meals.
- 7. The freshest food around.** Martha & Marley Spoon focuses on fresh, local food that is sourced as little as 24 hours before shipping, meaning that your food arrives at its best.

### “I Absolutely Love What You Are Doing For Me”

Rod, one of thousands of happy customers says, “I just wanted to thank all at Martha & Marley Spoon. Quality, value, convenience, I could go on. Amazing, delicious, healthy,

wonderfully orchestrated meals with a 1, 2, 3 cooking approach. By the way, I started by ordering this for my college daughter who never boiled water prior to December. She is now making herself amazing, healthy, fresh food. Yay!”

Another email writes “Praise to all, I love my meals. The Moroccan Spiced Chicken with Vegetables – delicious. The spinach tortilla cannelloni – spectacular! But the best so far is the Chicken Soup with Sweet Potato, Collards and Quinoa. I would describe it as light, sweet, and satisfying. I thank you once again for the exceptional standards.”

And yet another says, “You are the best! I am amazed at how perfect your service is for me. I enjoy the offerings and quality put into each box, always easy and fun to prepare. I love the special gifts. This level of service is exceptional. I can’t imagine life without Martha & Marley Spoon.”

Martha & Marley Spoon’s success -- and glowing customer reviews -- make it easy to see why sales are booming nationwide and why people can’t stop talking about it.

### How To Get 3 Free Martha & Marley Spoon Meals

Initial shipments of Martha & Marley Spoon have been snapped up after being featured on *The Today Show* and in *The New York Times*, *Associated Press*, and *The Washington Post*. With thousands of customers across the nation, and the 283,000+ global followers, it’s clear households are “liking” what they see.

For a limited time, our readers can get 3 free meals, plus free 2-day shipping, as part of any order. Simply visit [friends.marleyspoon.com](http://friends.marleyspoon.com) and order using code NEWS22 in the next 48 hours. Orders will be served on a first-come, first-serve basis and are subject to warehouse capacity limits.

Order online to beat the rush. If you have urgent questions, call toll-free 1-800-381-3617 on weekdays from 9AM - 9PM EST. Operators do not take orders by phone, but can walk you through ordering on your own computer or mobile device.

Get your free meals now at [friends.marleyspoon.com](http://friends.marleyspoon.com) using code NEWS22. Consumers who miss this 48-hour window to try Martha & Marley Spoon may be placed on backorder until a future delivery date is available.