

“All the News
That’s Fit to Print”

The New York Times

VOL. CLXXV No. 60,780

© 2026 The New York Times Company

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



A Trecan Combustion 60-PD Snowmelter at work in Lower Manhattan this week. It can turn half a ton of snow to water in seconds.

After Heavy Snow, a Nice Hot Tub Does the Trick

By CHRISTOPHER MAAG

Days after the snow stopped falling, patches of New York City remain buried. Snow blocking the bus stops. Snow encasing cars. Snow turning crosswalks into single-track paths. Snow everywhere, tons upon tons, and little chance that any of it will melt on its own anytime soon.

How might a big, powerful city like New York regain its mastery over such a frozen nuisance?

By dumping mountains of it into eight hot tubs placed strategically around the city. Obviously.

One morning this week, the city’s Sanitation Department de-

If Nature Won’t Melt It, New York Breaks Out Tools That Will

ployed one such tub — imagine the dumping end of a dump truck painted fluorescent orange — near the southern tip of Manhattan. Next to the machine sat a long pile of gray snow gathered from the roughly 12 inches that fell on the city last weekend. Enough, in the estimation of Javier Lojan, the acting sanitation commissioner, to cover a football field.

The hot tub — officially, the Tre-

can Combustion 60-PD Snowmelter — had arrived from a city garage on Tuesday morning. It took 30 minutes to get the machine warmed up, said Joshua Goodman, a spokesman for the Sanitation Department. It remained in operation nearly all day, with short pauses only every eight hours to prevent overheating, Mr. Goodman said.

On Wednesday morning, a bright orange front-end loader accelerated toward the snow pile, its bucket scraping the ground and gathering, according to Mr. Lojan, half a ton of snow. After an awkward three-point turn, the loader advanced gingerly toward the tub

Continued on Page A24

In Minnesota, Local Officers In Tug of War

By REIS THEBAULT and CHELSIA ROSE MARCIUS

MINNEAPOLIS — The Trump administration has accused the Minneapolis Police Department of abandoning its beleaguered federal agents. Some city residents say they are the ones being abandoned, by police officers who are paid to protect them and have done nothing of the sort.

Even the police chief, Brian O’Hara, has taken sides, warning officers who don’t intervene when federal agents use excessive force that they will lose their jobs.

Caught in the middle are the 600 officers of a police force badly outnumbered by the 3,000 federal immigration agents who have swarmed Minneapolis and St. Paul, and whose actions have threatened to undo a half decade of work to re-establish the trust between law enforcement and residents that was shattered by the murder of George Floyd in 2020.

“It’s an almost no-win situation for them on the frontline,” said Janée Harteau, the Minneapolis police chief from 2012 to 2017.

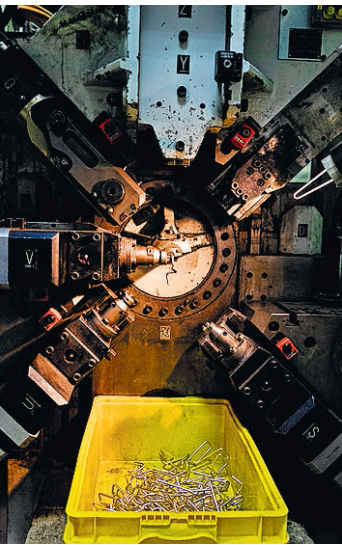
The Minneapolis Police Department remains the largest in the state, but its leaders have battled a dire staffing shortage for years, exacerbated by Mr. Floyd’s murder, the riots that followed and the prosecutions of the perpetrators in uniform. Since President Trump launched his Operation Metro Surge, the department has been stretched thinner than ever.

Mayor Jacob Frey of Minneapolis has said officers are overwhelmed. With both protesters and federal agents alike calling 911 for help, police across the region have struggled to respond. Police and union officials say more

Continued on Page A16

PROBLEMS The president’s border czar said that the immigration crackdown in Minnesota needed to be “fixed.” PAGE A16

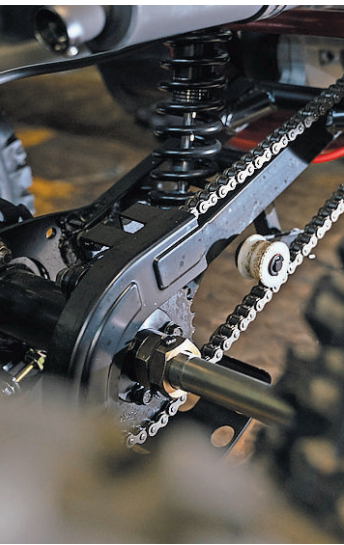
TURMOIL Two deadly shootings in Minneapolis have fueled deep frustration with the Department of Homeland Security. PAGE A15



SYLVIA JARRUS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES



JUSTIN T. GELLERSON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES



DANIEL LOZADA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Production at a company that makes fasteners for U.S.-made cars, left, a manufacturer of metal products for aerospace companies, center, and a warehouse for a maker of all-terrain vehicles.

Tariffs Turning Factories Into Winners or Losers

By LYDIA DePILLIS and ANA SWANSON

President Trump has long promised that tariffs would bring about a manufacturing renaissance. As factory employment continued to sink in recent months, he assured Americans it would just take a little time before jobs and investment started pouring in.

A year into his second term, there is little sign of a change in direction. Some manufacturers are benefiting from new protections,

Policies Protect Some, but at a High Cost

but most are taking a hit, paying higher taxes on their imported components and wondering whether tariffs will be around long enough for restructured supply chains to pay off.

Overall, the factory sector is neither collapsing nor booming. Employment has fallen by 68,000 jobs over the past year and re-

mains at just 8 percent of the work force, but production is slightly up. Manufacturers remain downbeat in surveys. Spending on factory construction has fallen from the end of the Biden administration, but it’s still near record highs.

The mixed picture bears out the opinion of some economists: Tariffs can help protect favored industries, but often by imposing high costs.

“It creates this patchwork effect,” said Bradley Saunders, a North America economist for the

Continued on Page A20

States Eyeing Accountability For U.S. Agents

Pledges by Democrats Face Legal Hurdles

By DAVID W. CHEN

On the day after Alex Pretti was killed by federal agents in Minneapolis, Gov. Kathy Hochul of New York, a Democrat, vowed to hold Trump administration officials who were involved responsible — once they leave office.

For many Democrats, that promise of accountability — even retribution — may be devoutly wished, but given the track record against President Trump so far, doubts predominate about what the practical consequences for his government will be.

Still, spurred by the events in Minneapolis, governors and state lawmakers have taken the lead in positioning their jurisdictions as vehicles for accountability for the federal officials and agents involved in policies that are widely seen as crossing legal and ethical lines. The elected officials calling for a reckoning were joined this week by nine progressive prosecutors from cities around the country, who formed a coalition to assist in prosecuting federal law enforcement officers who violate state laws.

The legal obstacles to such prosecutions are formidable for state and local governments. State-level legal actions in Georgia, Wisconsin, Michigan and Arizona seeking to hold Mr. Trump and his supporters to account for trying to overturn the 2020 presidential election all stalled or fizzled. And in the area of immigration enforcement, courts have long given primacy to the federal government and granted limited immunity to its agents.

At the current moment, the governors’ actions may be more about politics than possibilities.

“They are responding to what people are demanding,” said Robert Weissman, co-president of

Continued on Page A18

DEMOCRATS REACH DEAL ON SPENDING IN BID TO LIMIT ICE

MAY AVERT SHUTDOWN

Agreement With Trump Opens Door to Talks on Agent Practices

By CATIE EDMONDSON and CARL HULSE

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats on Thursday struck a deal with President Trump and Republicans that could avert a government shutdown and buy more time to negotiate restrictions on the administration’s immigration crackdown.

The agreement, if it holds, would allow the Senate to move before a Friday midnight deadline to fund a large portion of the government for the remainder of the fiscal year. It would also provide two weeks of funding for the Department of Homeland Security while lawmakers and White House officials negotiate over Democrats’ demands to rein in federal immigration agents.

It still faced obstacles in a Congress where bipartisan consensus is elusive and progress is often slow, but the deal reflected an abrupt political shift that has taken hold at the White House and on Capitol Hill after the fatal shooting last weekend of Alex Pretti, an American citizen, by a federal agent in Minneapolis, the second such killing this month.

Mr. Trump has rushed this week to change the face of his immigration operations in Minneapolis, and Republicans in Congress who rarely criticize him or his administration have vented their concern about the tactics being used and the goals of the operation, conceding that major changes are needed.

Congressional leaders were

Continued on Page A18



Amazon is spending \$35 million on promoting “Melania.”

Amazon Is All In on ‘Melania,’ Raising Hollywood’s Eyebrows

By NICOLE SPERLING and BROOKS BARNES

LOS ANGELES — The film’s rollout is huge — a \$35 million marketing campaign that includes television commercials during N.F.L. playoff games and a premiere simulcast in 25 theaters in the United States. Starting Friday, the film hits 3,300 theaters worldwide.

The latest superhero movie? Try Amazon’s all-hands-on-deck handling of “Melania,” which follows Melania Trump, the first lady, in the days leading up to her husband’s second inauguration.

Ms. Trump produced the film, which was directed by Brett Ratner, who has not made a movie since 2017, when multiple women accused him of sexual misconduct. He has denied those accusations.

Amazon paid Ms. Trump’s production company \$40 million for the rights to “Melania,” about \$26 million more than the next closest bidder, Disney. The fee includes a related docuseries that is scheduled to air later this year. The

Continued on Page A18

INTERNATIONAL A4-9	NATIONAL A10-21, 24	SPORTS B6-9	WEEKEND ARTS C1-10	OPINION A22-23
Venezuela Changes Oil Rules Bowling to Trump administration pressure, lawmakers pass legislation making it easier for foreign companies to operate in the oil sector. PAGE A6	He’s Got a Thing for Bling The president has presided over a transformation of the White House more sweeping than any predecessor, and it’s not just the gold trim. PAGE A12	N.Y.U., Unbeaten Since 2023 The women’s basketball team has won 78 games in a row — the fourth-longest streak in the sport’s history — and consecutive Division III titles. PAGE B6	Pulling All the Right Strings A puppet theater festival in Chicago is drawing crowds with the staging of a “Macbeth”-inspired witch tale, “A Doll’s House” and other shows. PAGE C1	Tina Smith PAGE A22

THE
WINTER
SHOW

A BENEFIT FOR EAST-SIDE HOUSE

TICKETS ON SALE

JAN 23 - FEB 1, 2026
NEW YORK CITY
THEWINTERSHOW.ORG

CHUBB