

OBITUARIES & NEWS

OBITUARY

William Jones

William Jones, age 65 of the Parkers Lake Community, passed from this life on Thursday, October 2nd 2025 at Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital. Visitation will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 6th 2025 at Pleasant Knob Baptist Church. Funeral Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 7th 2025 at the church. Burial will follow in the Bryant Cemetery in Parkers Lake. Southern Oaks Funeral Home is entrusted with the arrangements for William Jones.



Protecting what’s private

DEAR ANNIE: My husband and I have a large family, and earlier this year we welcomed our newest baby, “Izzy.” The pregnancy went smoothly, and everyone thought she was healthy until about half a week after coming home, when she began showing concerning symptoms. We’ve been working closely with her doctor ever since and recently learned she has a rare genetic condition. It’s incurable, causes severe symptoms and is usually fatal in childhood.

We’re OK sharing information about her condition with concerned family and friends in our children’s school group. However, I’m not sure how to respond when strangers in public notice something is clearly off. I want to respect Izzy’s medical privacy, but I also don’t want to arouse suspicion that we’re hiding something.

The first time a stranger pointed out how “floppy” Izzy was, I tried to brush it off while acknowledging it was true. We now believe that this same person reported us to child protective services on the suspicion that our home was somehow medically unfit for our children to live in. This is an assumption and there was no real basis for them to think this if it’s true; child protective services never obtained a warrant to actually come search our home or ask us questions. Although nothing came of it, we want to avoid that happening again in the future.

The next time someone in public asked, “Is your baby OK?” I just said she was fine and moved on. Then I felt bad because I don’t want to lie, and it’s obvious something is wrong. I’m wondering if I should come up with a bare-minimum response to avoid the busybodies and others, like child protective services, getting involved when we’re already overwhelmed dealing with this as a family. What are your thoughts? — Medical Mama

DEAR MEDICAL MAMA: The stress you and Izzy are



Annie Lane
DEAR ANNIE

carrying doesn’t fall under the small talk umbrella. You don’t owe strangers private details about your life or your family — period.

The next time it comes up, have something short and simple in your back pocket that respects Izzy’s privacy but shuts down more questions. Something like, “She has a rare condition, but she’s doing well. She’s getting excellent medical care and is so loved.”

You can’t control what others think or say, but you can control how much of your energy you give them. Save it for Izzy and the rest of your family. That’s where it belongs.

DEAR ANNIE: I’m four years older than my boyfriend. I’m 36, and he’s 32. I really want to get married and have kids one day, but he wants to take things slow. I don’t know what else to do or say to him.

He’s made some bad decisions in the past, and his mom is his support system. I’ve tried to tell him that I can be his support system, but he doesn’t want me to be there for him, only his mom. Any advice? — Unwanted in Hermitage, Tennessee

DEAR UNWANTED: You’ve told him what you want; he’s told you what he wants. The mismatch here isn’t a communication issue — it’s a compatibility issue.

Now you need to decide if you’re willing to wait for him to grow up, put you before his mother and build a future with you, or if your energy and aspirations are better spent on a partner who’s ready for them now.

Follow **Annie Lane** on Instagram at @dearannieofficial. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

Government funding vote fails again in Senate

Hopes fade for quick end to shutdown

STEPHEN GROVES, MARY CLARE JALONICK AND MATT BROWN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Hopes for a quick end to the government shutdown faded Friday as Democrats refused to budge in a Senate vote and President Donald Trump readied plans to unleash layoffs and cuts across the federal government.

On the third day of the shutdown, another Senate vote to advance a Republican bill that would reopen the government failed on a 54-44 tally — well short of the 60 needed to end a filibuster and pass the legislation. Meanwhile, House Speaker Mike Johnson announced that the chamber would not be open for legislative business next week, a move meant to force the Senate to work with the government funding bill that has been passed by the House.

Senators quickly headed for the exits of the Capitol, expecting no more votes over the weekend and showing few signs of any real progress towards ending the congressional standoff. It all pointed to both sides digging in for a prolonged shutdown fight that thrusts federal workers into more uncertainty, threatens to ripple into the broader economy and gives the Trump administration an opportunity to reshape the federal government.

“I don’t know how many times you’re going to give them a chance to vote no,” Senate Majority Leader John Thune said at a news conference Friday. After the vote, he said he was flying home to South Dakota for the weekend, adding, “I’ll be available.”

The vote showed harden-



J. Scott Applewhite | Associated Press

Speaker of the House Mike Johnson, R-La., left, and Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., return to their offices after meeting with reporters on the third day of the government shutdown, at the Capitol in Washington, Friday, Oct. 3, 2025.

ing lines in the Senate. The same three members of the Democratic Caucus — Sens. Catherine Cortez Masto, John Fetterman and Angus King — who voted for the funding bill previously did so again, and Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky was once again the only Republican opposed.

Democrats are demanding that Congress extend healthcare benefits, while Republicans are refusing to commit to anything until the government is reopened. They are trying to wear Democrats down to vote for a House-passed bill that would reopen the government temporarily, mostly at current spending levels.

Although Republicans control the White House and both chambers of Congress, the Senate’s filibuster rules make it necessary for the government funding legislation to gain support from at least 60 of the 100 senators. That’s given Democrats a rare opportunity to use their 47 Senate seats to hold out in exchange for policy concessions. The party has chosen to rally on the issue of health care, believing it could be key

to their path back to power in Washington.

Their primary demand is that Congress extend tax credits that were boosted during the COVID-19 pandemic for health care plans offered under the Affordable Care Act marketplace.

Standing on the steps of the U.S. Capitol on Thursday, House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries said, “Understand this, over the last few days and over the next few days, what you’re going to see is more than 20 million Americans experience dramatically increased health care premiums, copays and deductibles because of the Republican unwillingness to extend the Affordable Care Act tax credits.”

THE SHUTDOWN GAMBLE

Democrats are running the high-risk strategy of effectively voting for a government shutdown to make their stand. Trump has vowed to make it as painful as possible for them.

The Republican president has called the government funding lapse an “unprece-

dened opportunity” to make vast cuts to federal agencies and potentially lay off federal workers, rather than the typical practice of furloughing them. White House budget director Russ Vought has already announced that he is withholding billions of dollars for infrastructure projects in states with Democratic senators.

On Friday morning, Vought said he would withhold another \$2.1 billion for Chicago infrastructure projects to extend its train system to the city’s South Side.

Jeffries has displayed no signs of budging under those threats.

“The cruelty that they might unleash on everyday Americans using the pretense of a shutdown is only going to backfire against them,” he said during an interview with The Associated Press and other outlets at the Capitol.

Still, the shutdown, no matter how long it lasts, could have far-reaching effects on the economy. Roughly 750,000 federal employees could be furloughed, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, and they could lose out on \$400 million in daily wages. That loss in wages until after the government reopens could drive down wider demand for goods and services.

“All around the country right now, real pain is being endured by real people because the Democrats have decided to play politics,” said House Speaker Mike Johnson on Friday.

The White House also began its press briefing on Friday by rattling off the various consequences of the shutdown that were already hitting Americans. Press secretary Karoline Leavitt discussed a report that said military families are already seeking food aid as troops go without a paycheck.

Greystar and other landlords agree to a \$141M deal to settle a rent-setting lawsuit

R.J. RICO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Real estate giant Greystar and 25 other property management companies have agreed to collectively pay more than \$141 million to settle a class action lawsuit accusing landlords of driving up housing costs by using rent-setting algorithms offered by the software company RealPage.

Greystar, the nation’s largest landlord, would pay \$50 million under the proposed settlement agreement, which was filed Wednesday in a Tennessee federal court. The deal would still require a judge’s approval.

The companies have also agreed to no longer share nonpublic information with RealPage for its rent algorithm — a key stipulation,

since plaintiffs say RealPage used that information to enable landlords to align their prices and push up rents.

“This represents a fundamental shift in the multifamily housing industry and will help reverse the type of anticompetitive coordination alleged in the Complaint,” attorneys wrote in the settlement filing.

All companies involved in the settlement deny wrongdoing and have agreed to help plaintiffs in the ongoing case against RealPage and more than a dozen other property management firms that have not reached settlements. RealPage and others are also fighting an antitrust lawsuit filed last year by the Department of Justice and several state attorneys general. Greystar reached a settlement in that case in August.

The settlement funds from the class action lawsuit would be distributed among millions of tenants included in the settlement class.

In a statement, Greystar said these settlements “allow us to move forward and remain focused on serving our residents and clients.” Headquartered in South Carolina, Greystar manages more than 946,000 units nationwide, according to the National Multifamily Housing Council.

RealPage has vehemently denied any wrongdoing and argues that the plaintiffs misunderstand how their product works. RealPage, which is based in Texas, has said its software is used on fewer than 10% of rental units in the U.S., and that its price recommendations are used less than half the time.

“While the proposed settlements ... do not include RealPage, we are encouraged to see this matter move toward closure,” Jennifer Bowcock, RealPage’s senior vice president for communications, said in a statement. “RealPage continues to believe that this litigation is without merit and that our revenue management products, and our customers’ use of them, have always been legal.”

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States say Trump administration has backed off ICE cooperation requirement for victims’ funds

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Several Democratic state attorneys general say the Trump administration has backed away from requiring states to agree to cooperate with the president’s immigration agenda in order to access federal money for programs that help victims of crime.

In a series of news releases Friday, several of the attorneys general announced that federal Victims of Crime Act money was being released, enabling the states to fund victim assistance grants to nonprofits as well as their state compensation programs that provide direct aid to victims of violent crime. Officials from 20 states and Washington, D.C., had signed on to a lawsuit filed in late August challenging the requirement.

The federal conditions placed on the funds threatened to cut money to a state or subgrantee if it refused to honor civil immigration enforcement requests, denies U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers access to facilities or fails to provide advance notice of release dates of people possibly wanted by U.S. Immigration and Customs

Enforcement because of their immigration status.

New Jersey Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin said in a statement that the U.S. Department of Justice, which oversees the crime victims funds, would remove the conditions that had been placed on applying for the money. Platkin’s office declined to comment on the status of the lawsuit, though it still appeared active on the court website Friday.

An automatic reply sent in response to an email to a spokesperson for the Office of Justice Programs Friday noted the office would not respond because of the federal shutdown.

“Faced with our lawsuit, the Trump Administration has abandoned its cruel attempt to impose illegal conditions on nearly \$1.4 billion in funding that supports victims and survivors of crime as they navigate their trauma and work to get back on their feet,” Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell wrote in an e-mailed statement.

The lawsuit filed in late August had asked a federal judge to declare the conditions were an administrative

overstep as well as unconstitutional.

Every state and territory has a victims compensation program that follows federal guidelines, but largely is set up under state law to provide financial help to crime victims, including medical

expense reimbursement, paying for crime scene cleanup, counseling or helping with funeral costs for homicide victims. The federal Victims of Crime Act covers the cost of about 75% of state compensation program awards.

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