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- IMMIGRATION –

Tense days for business owners without legal status

MIAMI, Florida (AP)

aribel Resendiz and her husband came to the U.S. from Mexico, sold cool drinks to workers in the tomato fields of South Florida and eventually opened a bustling shop in a strip mall offering fruit smoothies and tacos. Now she is preparing for the possibility she'll have to leave it all behind.

Resendiz, who is not a legal U.S. resident, recently turned over control of the business in Florida City to her daughter, a citizen. The once-proud shop owner is so afraid of deportation these days that on a recent morning she was keeping out of sight of customers while her husband was not there at all.

"I am afraid the police will stop me, call immigration, and they will take me away to Mexico," Resendiz said while cutting fruit for smoothies.

The couple, who came to the United States in 1992 and have not become legal residents, are among a growing number of business owners with the same status who are scrambling to get their affairs in order



In this June 27, 2017 photo, from left, Diana Resendiz, Alberto Resendiz, and Maribel Resendiz, pose for a photo at their business Mr. Tutis Fruties in Florida City, Florida.

amid a crackdown on illegal immigration under President Donald Trump.

As many as 10 percent of the 11 million or so immigrants in the United States without legal residency own businesses in the country by some estimates, and many are selling their enterprises, transferring them to relatives or closing altogether to avoid a total loss if they are abruptly deported.

They include people like Mauro Her-

nandez, a native of Mexico who operates a small chicken takeout and delivery restaurant along immigrant-heavy Roosevelt Avenue in the borough of Queens in New York City. He is now trying to sell.

There is Carmen and Jorge Tume, a couple from Peru, who have scaled back their mobile car wash business in Miami because they are so afraid of getting stopped by police and turned over to immigration.

"We don't have any hope left," said Carmen Tume, 50. "Everything we built is coming down."

Hernandez, whose business was registered in the name of a friend who is a legal resident, said he is selling because he doesn't want his partner to get stuck with it if he is deported.

"Since Trump won I have been very nervous," he said.

It's impossible to say exactly how many are taking such measures, but Jorge Rivera, a lawyer who advises immigrant clients in California, Florida, Illinois, Nevada, Texas and other states, sees a clear trend.

"Everyone is taking precautions," Rivera said. "They don't want their business to disappear overnight and be left with nothing."

Several other business owners interviewed by The Associated Press shared similar stories on condition that their names and identifying details not be disclosed, not wanting to alert immigration authorities.

They included a 40-year-old from Mexico who runs a marketing firm in Los Angeles that he said employs 50 people and has annual revenues of about \$5 million. He's making plans to transfer it to relatives who are citizens and move with his family to Spain.

Those selling often see no choice but to take a loss. Under Trump, detentions of immigrants in the country illegally rose 37 percent over the first six months of the year compared with the same period in 2016. The administration says it is focused on those with criminal records, but the number of detainees who do not have a criminal history has more than doubled.

The businesses in question range widely from one-person cleaning services to restaurants and other operations that employ dozens of people. While hard figures on this hidden part of the economy don't exist, the Washington-based Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy estimates immigrants in the country without permission contribute \$11.7 billion annually in state, local and federal taxes.

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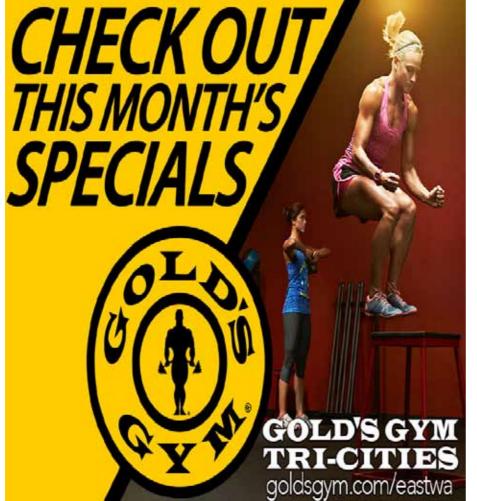
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- STATE —

Trump won places drowning in despair. Can he save them?

ABERDEEN, Washington (AP)

ne-hundred-fifty baskets of pink petunias hang from the light posts all over this city, watered regularly by residents trying to make their community feel alive again. A local artist spends his afternoons high in a bucket truck, painting a block-long mural of a little girl blowing bubbles, each circle the scene of an imagined, hopeful future.

But in the present, vacant buildings dominate blocks. A van, stuffed so full of blankets and boxes they are spilling from the windows, pulls to the curb outside Stacie Blodgett's antiques shop.

"Look inside of it," she says. "I bet you he's living in it."

Around the corner, a crowded tent city of the desperate and addicted has taken over the riverbank.

America, when viewed through the bars on Blodgett's windows, looks a lot less great than it used to be. So she answered Donald Trump's call to the country's forgotten corners. Thousands of her neighbors did, too, and her county swung

Republican in a presidential election for the first time in 90 years.

"People were like, 'This guy's going to be it. He's going to change everything, make it better again," she says.

Blodgett, 59, stands at the computer on her counter and scrolls through the headlines. Every day it's something new: details in the Russia campaign investigation, shake-ups at the White House, turmoil over Trump's response to race-fueled riots. His administra-

tion's failed plans to remake the health care system may or may not cost millions their coverage, and there's a lack of clarity over how exactly he intends to eradicate a spiraling drug crisis that now claims 142 American lives each day.

"Has he done anything good yet?" she



Forrest Wood, 24, injects heroin into his arm under a bridge along the Wishkah River at Kurt Cobain Memorial Park in Aberdeen, Washington, on Tuesday, June 13, 2017.

asks. "Has he?"

Blodgett was born and raised in this county, where the logging economy collapsed decades ago, replaced by a simmering sense of injustice that outsiders took the lumber, built cities around the world and then left this place to decay when there was nothing more to take. The com-

munity sank into despair.

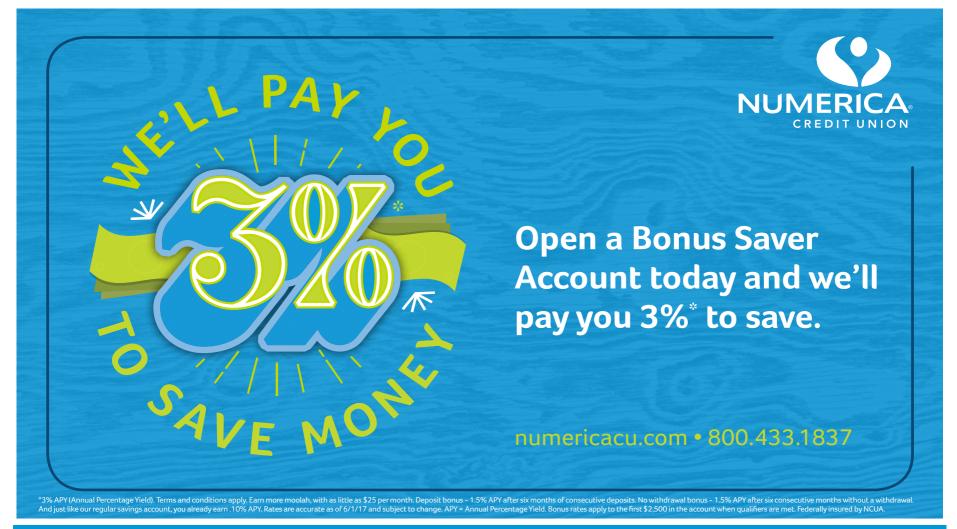
She thought opening an antiques and pawn shop with her boyfriend on a downtown street bordered by petunias would be fun. Instead, she's confronted every day with her neighbors' suffering. They come to pawn their jewelry to pay for medication. They come looking for things stolen from them.

Now they come to discuss Trump, and their differing degrees of faith that he will make good on his promise to fix the rotting blue-collar economy that brought this despair to their doorstep.

Blodgett just prays Trump understand the stakes — because in places like this, there is little room left for error from Washington, D.C.

There, he is tweeting insults about senators and CNN.

Here, her neighbors have been reduced to living in cars.



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FINANCIAL LITERACY-

Back-to-School Budgeting

he costs of sending your child back to school rise every year. A growing list of supplies and children wanting to purchase expensive, name-brand items can make getting through this time of year taxing on you and your budget. Try these simple tips to help you survive back-to-school shopping.

Start at home first. A good amount of the supplies needed for school might already be in your possession. Before you hit the stores, make a thorough check of your desk drawers and closets, which may hold many of the items you need. In addition to supplies, make sure you go through your kids' closets and sort clothing. There may be items that are suitable for another child in the family or you might find that you don't need as many shirts or pants as you thought.

Make a list and stick to it. It's really easy to overspend when you do not have a clear idea of what you need. Make sure to be prepared with an accurate list of what you must purchase and a budget for each item. Track purchases on your list and make sure you note what you spend. If you go over your limit, stop.

Set limits. As kids grow older the need to have the 'latest and greatest' can increase. Although your children may crave or want these namebrand items, these products can do real damage to your back-to-school budget. Set limits with your children by talking to them about wants versus needs. They may want those name brand sneakers, but truly they just need a solid pair of shoes. An offbrand or less expensive item will fill that need and may fit your budget much better.

Shop Discounts. Garage sales, thrift stores, and discount shops like TJ Maxx can be a real budget-saver when it comes time for shopping. Thrift stores often have many bargains on gently used clothing

and backpacks. Also, many secondhand retailers offer brand-name products at discounted prices. You would be surprised at what bargains you can find with a little hunting.

Shop sales and use coupons. With the first day of school approaching, now is the time to start looking at weekly newspaper ads and online at your favorite retail stores. Many offer incredible back to school buys and coupons. Don't forget that retailers like Walmart often price match and you may be able to complete a lot of your shopping in one stop. Be sure to research online or call to determine what their rules and requirements are. Don't be afraid to ask if a store has an

upcoming sale or will honor the price of another merchant.

Start money saving habits early. Learning how to save is one of the most important lessons you can teach your child. Back—to-school season is a great time to talk with your children about the value of money. Try setting a budget and ask them to make a list of what they need for school. Have your kids research the cost of these items and put them in charge of searching for the best bargain. Also, use this time to remind your child about wants versus needs.

The best way to prepare for the back-to-school season is to create a savings plan and start early. Consider starting to save for next year's back-to-school needs with your local credit union. Many financial institutions offer a basic savings account that can help you get started while keeping your money safe. For more information on savings accounts, stop by a local Gesa Credit Union or visit us online at gesa. com.





NATIONAL -

Americans dazzled by spectacular total eclipse

(AP)

he stars came out in the middle of the day, zoo animals ran in agitated circles, crickets chirped, birds fell silent and a chilly darkness settled upon the land Monday as the U.S. witnessed its first full-blown, coast-to-coast solar eclipse since World War I.

Millions of Americans gazed in wonder at the cosmic spectacle, with the best seats along the so-called path of totality that raced 2,600 miles (4,200 kilometers) across the continent from Oregon to South Carolina.

"It was a very primal experience," Julie Vigeland, of Portland, Oregon, said after she was moved to tears by the sight of the sun reduced to a silvery ring of light in Salem.

It took 90 minutes for the shadow of the moon to travel across the country. Along that path, the moon blotted out the midday sun for about two wondrous minutes at any one place, eliciting oohs, aahs, whoops and shouts from people gathered in stadiums, parks and backyards.

It was, by all accounts, the most-observed and most-photographed eclipse in history, documented by satellites and high-altitude balloons and watched on Earth through telescopes, cameras and cardboard-frame protective eyeglasses.

In Boise, Idaho, where the sun was more than 99 percent blocked, the street lights flicked on briefly, while in Nash-

ville, Tennessee, people craned their necks at the sky and knocked back longneck beers at Nudie's Honky Tonk bar.

Passengers aboard a cruise ship in the Caribbean watched it unfold as Bonnie Tyler sang her 1983 hit "Total Eclipse of the Heart."

Several minor-league baseball teams — one of them, the Columbia Fireflies,



A crowd wears protective glasses as they watch the beginning of the solar eclipse from Salem, Oregon, on Monday, August 21, 2017.

outfitted for the day in glow-in-the-dark jerseys — briefly suspended play.

At the White House, despite all the warnings from experts about the risk of eye damage, President Donald Trump took off his eclipse glasses and looked directly at the sun.

The path of totality, where the sun was 100 percent obscured by the moon, was just 60 to 70 miles (96 to 113 kilometers)

wide. But the rest of North America was treated to a partial eclipse, as were Central America and the upper reaches of South America.

Citizen scientists monitored animal and plant behavior as day turned into twilight. About 7,000 people streamed into the Nashville Zoo just to see the animals' reaction and noticed how they got noisier at it got darker.

The giraffes started running around crazily in circles when darkness fell, and the flamingos huddled together, though zookeepers aid it wasn't clear whether it was the eclipse or the noisy, cheering crowd that spooked them.

The last coast-to-coast total eclipse in the U.S. was in 1918, when Woodrow Wilson was president. The last total solar eclipse in the U.S. was in 1979, but only five states in the Northwest experienced total darkness.

The next total eclipse in the U.S. will be in 2024. The next coast-to-coast one will not be until 2045.



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– NATIONAL ———

Hispanics lack confidence in nursing homes

WASHINGTON (AP)

ispanics in the United States have a longer life expectancy, but a poll finds few older Latinos are confident that nursing homes and assisted living facilities can meet their needs.

The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research survey also showed that close to one-half of older Hispanics have faced language or cultural barriers interacting with health care providers.

Fewer than 2 in 10 Hispanics age 40 and older say they are very or extremely confident that nursing homes and assisted living facilities can accommodate their cultural needs, according to the poll.

Experts cite two factors that might be contributing to the lack of confidence: social norms among Hispanic families that discourage outside care of older relatives, and a lack of high-quality providers.

"Quality is not just meeting government requirements. It's also having high engagement and a sense of community," said Jacqueline Angel, a sociology professor at the University of Texas at Austin, who has researched Hispanics and aging.

Jane Delgado, president of the National Alliance for Hispanic Health, agreed. Most nursing homes have not been attuned to the particular needs of Hispanics, she said. "Culture is not something that they are interested in."

The poll found that about half of Hispanics have had difficulty communicating with a health care provider because of a cultural (47 percent) or language barrier (45 percent).

Angel said that may result in lower use of long-term care facilities.

Hispanics accounted for 5.5 percent of all nursing home residents in the U.S. in the first quarter of 2016, according to government data. Hispanics represented about 8 percent of the population 65 or older.

Research shows current nursing home admission rates for Hispanics are far below levels for other ethnic groups, Angel said.

That happens even when taking into account that Hispanics tend to live longer.

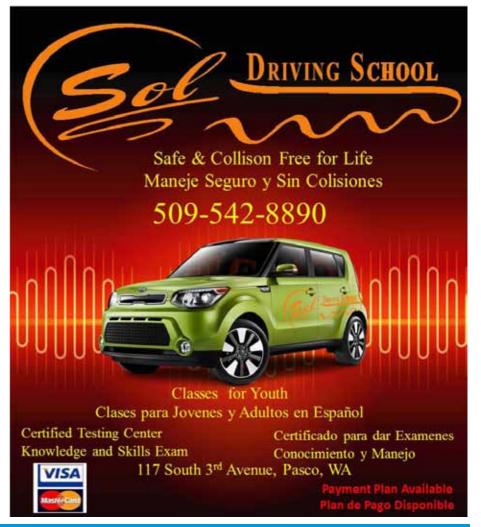


In this March 24, 2014 file photo, Jane Delgado, president of the National Alliance for Hispanic Health, works in her office in Washington.

Government statistics show that Hispanics have a life expectancy of 82 years, longer than non-Hispanic white Ameri-

cans (78.7 years) and non-Hispanic black Americans (75.1 years). Hispanic women have a life expectancy of 84.3 years.





IMMIGRATION -

Bad immigration lawyers, a tough rival to beat

HOUSTON, Texas (AP)

oon after he opened his office serving immigrants fighting to stay in the United States, Raed Gonzalez became a lawyer who goes after other lawyers.

A person with a winnable case can be thrown into deportation by a missed deadline or a botched court filing, and attorneys quietly known by others to do bad legal work can practice for years without being stopped. So Gonzalez began helping immigrants file complaints against lawyers with their state licensing organizations. By his count, his firm has filed 90 complaints against lawyers in the last five years.

With a rapid succession of policy changes and a sharp rise in arrests, the Trump administration has created a surge of demand among immigrants in need of legal help, and hundreds of lawyers have started taking on immigration cases. But the systems for finding and reporting fraud and misconduct remain byzantine and allow bad lawyers to sometimes rack

up dozens of complaints before they are stopped.

Legal groups have long raised the alarm about "notarios" people who play on the Spanish word for notary public to present themselves as official advocates, as "notarios" are in many parts of Latin America. A study by the American Immigration Council published last year found that people who obtain lawyers to represent them in immigration courts - which, unlike criminal courts, don't guarantee access to an attorney — generally fare far better in asylum hearings and other cases than those who don't.

But bad lawyers are hard to find and weed out.

Many immigrants are fearful of and unfamiliar with American courts, making them a mark for fraud, said Gonzalez, a native of Puerto Rico who moved to Houston two decades ago. His office, next to one of Houston's major highways west of downtown, is filled every day with



In this August 14, 2017 photo, immigration attorney Raed Gonzalez looks over files in his office in Houston, Texas.

Spanish-speaking families seeking advice on how to get their papers or stave off deportation.

"In immigration, it is so easy because it is a population that is afraid," he said. "They don't know their rights."

With the help of Leslie Giron Kirby, a Houston immigration lawyer, Yolanda Delgado filed a grievance with the Texas state bar against her previous lawyer after he allegedly took three years — and \$7,000 of her earnings as a house-keeper — without filing her paperwork for permanent residency.

A native of the Philippines, Delgado moved to the United States in 1999 and has three children. She wanted to get a green card so she could return to visit her family and hired the lawyer, Ivan Lopez de Victoria, on the recommendation of her boss.

After years of promises, she decided to find another lawyer. Kirby eventually helped her get her green card in October 2014, after about six months.

The State Bar investigated Lopez de Victoria, but did not take action against him. Lopez de Victoria gave Delgado a \$3,000 refund.

"He delayed my papers and he did nothing about it," Delgado said.

Lopez de Victoria denied any wrongdoing and said Delgado's case took a long time because he had to begin the case "from scratch."

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SPORTS

Seahawks win preseason home opener

SEATTLE, Washington (AP)

Russell Wilson looked just fine throwing for 206 yards and two touchdowns in the first half, and the Seattle Seahawks suffered a significant injury loss to left tackle George Fant in their 20-13 victory over the Minnesota Vikings on Friday night.

Wilson picked apart a Vikings secondary that played without starting cornerback Trey Waynes and safety Andrew Sedenjo, completing 13 of 18 passes. He hit Kasen Williams on a 1-yard touchdown pass and found Mike Davis on a 22-yard catch-and-run TD late in the first half.

But the Seahawks may have lost Fant for an extended period to what appeared to be a significant right knee injury, throwing the offensive line into flux with two weeks remaining in the preseason.

Fant was injured midway through the second quarter when he was rolled into by teammate Justin Britt and immediately fell to the turf in pain. The team training staff attended to Fant on the

field and placed an air splint around his lower right leg before he was taken away.

The team announced Fant had a knee injury and may have significantly changed Seattle's plans for the offensive line. Fant's injury overshadowed what was an otherwise solid performance by the Seahawks. Williams continued to make a bid for a roster spot with an acrobatic 27-yard catch, followed by his 1-yard TD on Seattle's opening drive. He nearly had a second TD but couldn't haul in a deep pass from Wilson near the goal line in the second quarter.

Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson gets ready to pass the ball during an NFL preseason game on Friday, August 18, 2017 in Seattle, Washington.

Photo by Braulio Herrera





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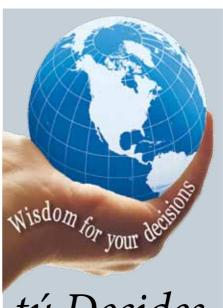


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