



ANN ARBOR CURRENTS



A search and rescue worker tends to his dog while looking for human remains in the Camp Fire. Photo by John Locher, A.P. Photographer.

Incoming Mexican government says there is no 'Remain in Mexico' deal on migrants

By William Cummings
USA TODAY

The incoming Mexican administration of Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador said there is no deal with the United States that would allow asylum seekers to wait in Mexico while their cases are decided after numerous reports indicated such an agreement had been reached.

Saturday, The Washington Post reported that a deal between the Trump and Obrador administrations would begin a "Remain in Mexico" policy to replace the system – sometimes derisively called "catch and release" – of permitting immigrants to remain in the USA while their cases move through the courts, a process that could take up to several years.

"For now, we have agreed to this policy of Remain in Mexico," Mexico's incoming interior minister... [CONT. PAGE 2].

249 people still unaccounted for as Camp Fire is nearly contained

By Madeline Holcombe
CNN

After more than two weeks battling a raging inferno, firefighters are getting closer to containing the Camp Fire that has killed 85 people in North-

ern California. Cal Fire, the state's forestry and fire protection agency, revised the death toll from an earlier count of 87. At least 249 people remain missing, down from more than 1,000 days earlier, the Butte County

Sheriff's Office said. California's deadliest wildfire, which started November 8, remained 98% contained after rain helped firefighters extinguish some of the hot spots, Cal Fire said Saturday. "The fire line that

remains uncontained is located in steep and rugged terrain where it is unsafe for firefighters to access due to the heavy rains," Cal Fire said. Firefighters continue to monitor the area and will reassess when it's safe... [CONT. PAGE 4].

Why western museums should keep their treasures

By Tiffany Jenkins
The Guardian

On 13 January 1897, the Times of London reported a "Disaster" in Benin, modern-day Nigeria. As they entered the city during a religious festival, members of a British delegation had been attacked. Ostensibly in revenge, but probably to overthrow

the Benin king, who consistently defied the British Empire, they organised a punitive expedition, stormed the palace, and had him exiled. To pay for it, troops looted the royal treasures: delicate ivory carvings and magnificent copper-alloy sculptures and plaques, known as the Benin Bronzes... [CONT. PAGE 5].

Zuckerberg refuses to testify: Facebook and its juicy secrets

By Jake Johnson
Common Dreams

After Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg refused to testify at a joint hearing with lawmakers from seven nations over his company's invasive privacy practices, the U.K. Parliament on Saturday legally seized thousands of secret and "potentially

explosive" Facebook documents in what was described as an extraordinary move to uncover information about what the company's role is in the Cambridge Analytica data-mining scandal. According to the Guardian, the documents were initially obtained during a legal discovery... [CONT. PAGE 8].

The legalization of Marijuana threatens these dogs' collars

By Stacy Cowley
The New York Times

Drug-sniffing dogs that are trained to detect marijuana are complicating searches where pot has been legalized. That legalization is forcing some into early retirement... Officer Tulo will turn in his badge...



Officer Tulo, yellow Labrador retriever of Rifle, Colo. will turn in his badge. Photo by Ryan D. Brown for The New York Times. [CONT. PAGE 3].



Mudpuddles Toys: A great place for kids

Mudpuddles is an award-winning specialty toy store filled with smart and creative toys and games for all ages.

The owners, Jan and Sharon, know their customers, and they know their kids. Their offerings reflect the belief that kids should use their noggins and get outside and play!



FOUND: Where vintage meets modern

You'll find a creative collection of vintage and modern at FOUND. In addition to featuring Michigan artists who use recycled materials to create handcrafted home goods, jewelry and gifts, the shop has an updated mix of home decor, textiles and candles. FOUND "plays" well with their vintage merchandise.



v2v: Contemporary women's apparel & home

V2V is a women's clothing, home and beauty boutique located in the heart of Ann Arbor's historic Kerrytown.

It has a wide selection of classy, business and casual apparel for the contemporary woman. Their merchandise ranges from socks, to cozy sweaters, to dresses, to fluffy coats!



ARTISAN MARKET:

April to December 23
Sunday | 11 am – 4 pm

FARMERS MARKET:

January through April
Saturday | 8 am – 3 pm

May through December
Wednesday &
Saturday | 7 am – 3 pm

LOCATION:

315 Detroit St.
Ann Arbor, 48104

Kerrytown Shop info on
centerspread aggregated
from kerrytown.com

Shop photos taken by
Katerina Mihailidis



Holiday merchandise brings people to the Farmer's Market in Kerrytown, Ann Arbor, Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018. Photo by Katerina Mihailidis

Winter in Kerrytown, Ann Arbor

By Katerina Mihailidis

Kerrytown is a historic district in Ann Arbor, home of businesses and residences. It is home of the shopping district, the Ann Arbor Farmers Market and the Sunday Artisan Market. The markets change by the season and when winter comes, both have delights to bring forth.

The markets' days and hours of operation differ.

While the Farmers Market runs through the winter, the Sunday Artisan Market remains closed between Christmas and April.

MARKETS FOUNDED

The Farmers Market started by a women's group in 1919, according to Stephanie Willette, manager of the Ann Arbor Farmers Market. The women "set up booths and started, like,

the farmers market there," on the corner of Port Huron St. and Main St.

The market "moved to its current spot in the 1930's," Willette said. "This spot where it is right now used to be an old logging company. They donated the space to the Farmers Market," she added.

Willette has been working for the Ann Arbor Parks and Rec' for nearly two years, managing the Farm-

ers Market.

The Sunday Artisan Market, modeled after the Farmers Market, was established to grant autonomy to the crafters and artists. The crafters weren't getting good spaces to sell their merchandise during the days of the Farmers Market, according to Daren Otis, president of the Sunday Artisan Market.

"We asked the city if they could start a third



SPUN: Your local yarn shop

Spun carries yarn and tools from great makers in Michigan, in the U.S., and around the world. The staff of knowledgeable knitters and crocheters can guide you to the right yarn and tools to finish your project and help you along the way. Spun hosts classes and drop-ins to help build skills for people at every level.



The Lunch room: Delectable vegan dining

The Lunch Room's mission is to prepare high-quality, nutritious vegan food, and to demonstrate the breadth and versatility of plant-based whole foods. The Lunch Room, uses local and organic produce, makes everything from scratch from fine ingredients, and emphasizes environmental sustainability.



16 hands: Handcrafter. Heartfelt.

Amazing things happen when you buy handmade. The effects are felt more because there are fewer layers: the people who make things, and people who bring them to market. With no room for marketing analysis and complex distribution systems, a completely different shopping experience is guaranteed.

market day for crafts and they did," Otis said.

Otis became president of the not-for-profit Sunday Artisan Market when it was founded, around 1982. A vendor there for about 28 years, she makes bags and accessories out of "gorgeous fabrics," she said. "I have a big variety on the rack, on display."

DEVELOPING MARKETS

The markets have grown and developed.

"As you can imagine, farming looks different now, a lot bigger trucks, more product," Willette said. "It kind of goes through cycles. We have lots and lots of vendors sometimes and then sometimes it gets smaller and we have fewer vendors," she added.

According to Willette, Michigan is second best state nationwide in terms of variety of crops.

MARKETS BY SEASON

In the summer, both markets are bustling and fun.

"Blue skies and sunshine [beckon] visitors to wander through the open-air facility," wrote Jessica Haynes, reporter for the Ann Arbor News, 2017.

When coats and gloves come back, vendors embrace the opportunities the chillier season will bring them.

"The products really reflect the season," Willette said.

"Even in terrible economic

and weather conditions, the Ann Arbor Winter Farmers Market has seen astounding growth," wrote Kim Bayer, reporter for the Ann Arbor News, in 2010.

Winter at the Farmers Market is welcoming. Holiday wreaths ornament the booths. "Before Christmas, during the holidays, we really kind of turn into a holiday market," mentioned Willette.

"People come for their Christmas shopping."

According to Bayer, winter vendors see less competition. They "ramp up" their production and the loyal ones make it snow or shine, Bayer wrote.

"After Christmas, I would say it gets a lot smaller," said Willette about the Farmers Market. "We go down to 15 to 20 vendors and we go down to one day of the week instead of two. We still have produce all year, just not as much."

The Sunday Artisan Market experiences a similar decrease in the winter.

"In our case for our Sunday Market, the attendance of vendors drops, the attendance of customers drops, because, you know, people don't want to be out in the cold," said Otis. "If it's above freezing, we're okay."

At the artisan market, the merchandise doesn't change a lot from season to season, Otis mentioned: "I put away some things, bring out some new things, so, it does change a little bit," but vendors with glass

or bowls will not change.

MARKETS ARE DWINDLING

Over time, Otis has noticed a decrease in the number of vendors and customers. As retailers, a lot of the vendors experience technology's wrath.

"We see the failures of major retailers... who are closing and going bankrupt," Otis explained. "Well, people don't need to leave their house now to buy anything. I would say that's probably affected us."

Something similar can be said about the Farmers Market, noted Willette.

"People buy their foods generally from the grocery store," Willette said. "There are a lot more grocery stores that specialize in a lot of the types of products that the farmers markets are more well known for, like the organic and some of the more specialty vegetables." Also, there are a lot more farmers markets, so, there's more competition, according to Willette.

MARKETS ARE UNIQUE

Unlike others, the markets have a unique location, Willette said. "We're in Kerrytown and we've been here for almost 100 years, so we're one of the older markets."

Both markets are producer-only, "which is kind of rare," according to Willette.

"Everything has to be made by the person," said Otis.



Spice & Tea Merchants: spices, teas and gifts

Once upon a time adventurers scoured the Earth looking for the finest SPICES and TEAS attainable, spices, with mysterious origins and tea once hidden away in Imperial China.

Like those ancient explorers, Spice Merchants combs the world for the freshest, highest quality herbs and spices available.



Fustini's Oils and Vinegars: You can Taste the Difference

Offering quality oils and vinegars with unparalleled service is Fustini's core philosophy, while their dream has always been to be a part of great culinary creativity. That dream has inspired their evolution into a wider range of gourmet cooking-related products and services.



Skunks are considered to humans. Photo by Bob & Jorja Feldman of the Ann Arbor Observer

Skunks: the invincibility of a no-nonsense smell

By Bob & Jorja Feldman
Ann Arbor Observer

A striped skunk strolled leisurely across our neighbor's backyard, clearly a stroller without fear. "Skunks," says Adam Ferguson, have "confidence without arrogance." Ferguson is a collection manager with the Field Museum of Natural History and a biologist with particular expertise in skunks.

Skunks reign over their immediate surroundings, paying little or no attention to any other creature. Ferguson muses that they expect others to understand who they are and what they can do. He attributes skunk-car collisions to this species' misplaced confidence that a motor vehicle will, like an animal, yield the right of way once it sees who it is dealing with.

If threatened, a striped skunk will raise its white tipped tail in warning then

arch its back and slide backwards. That behavior signals it's time for others to move away! The penultimate step is the skunk contorting itself into a U shape so its eyes and its fully loaded anal glands are both facing the threat. It will spray only as a last resort. It takes days for the skunk's metabolism to generate more spray, and it is defenseless in the interim.

Wild skunk's stripes do not extend all the way down its back. The different markings do not indicate separate species: both are striped skunks, the only skunk species found in southeastern Michigan.

Skunk burrow entrances are softball size and have no dirt around them. That's useful information when looking under one's deck.

All skunks are omnivores, eating whatever is in season and available. Their diet is heavy in insects, so they are considered bene-

ficial from an interesting human perspective.

In terms of seasonal activity, skunks can still be seen in early November, foraging for food. A good snowfall will send them into winter housing, where a number of skunks of the same sex may huddle together to keep warm. They sleep a lot and can lower their metabolism a bit but do not undergo true hibernation, and they may look outside for food if their stores of body fat run thin. They'll reemerge come February, when mating season starts. Then, Purr says, you may see as many as five or six skunks on the same property at the same time.

Skunks can be a nuisance if they try to share our housing with us. Like many wild animals, they can carry rabies. Aside from these issues, they are environmentally beneficial and add beauty and interest to our outdoor lives.

Gutter Viper: a neighborly good turn was the father of invention

By Jan Schlain
Ann Arbor Observer

"I said to Jeff, 'We should invent something,'" James Ashton-Miller recalls with a smile.

Ashton-Miller, a U-M research professor in mechanical engineering and biomedical engineering, and Jeff Terrell, a surgeon at Michigan Medicine, live two doors apart on Iroquois. Walking their dogs, they'd noticed that their neighbor, Charlie Wyse, was climbing tall ladders to clean his gutters.

Wyse was still "very capable,

keeping up his property," Ashton-Miller says, but it looked to them as though he could use a way to clean his second-story gutters from the ground-level.

"There was no good tool out there," says Terrell, so they invented one. After going through 55 iterations, they perfected the Gutter Viper.

"James is an incredible engineer, so he's been handling the design, trouble-shooting, and filling orders," Terrell says. He has been handling the photography, website, and marketing.

The Gutter Viper sells for about \$120 on Amazon.

They developed and patented it at their own expense. They've sold about 300, so the Gutter Viper is not yet a profitable source.

"We are very passionate about preventing injuries," said Terrell. "I take care of people who fall, and James's work is all about [their] safety."

They've already made things safer for their neighbor. "To keep Charlie on the ground," Terrell says, "we have offered him free gutter cleaning for the rest of his life."

Michigan takes plunge after Ohio State loss

By Kirkland Crawford
Detroit Free Press

The question after Saturday's blowout loss to Ohio State wasn't if Michigan football would fall in the rankings.

But rather, how far?

We got an answer this afternoon in the new Associated Press Top 25. The Wolverines (10-2, 8-1 Big Ten) are now eighth after being fourth for the last few weeks in the AP, USA TODAY top rankings.

Michigan, now shut out



Michigan lost to Ohio State, 62-39. Photo by Junfu Han, Detroit Free Press

of the Big Ten game, will wait until Dec. 2 to learn its fate.

Alabama garnered all 61 first-place votes in the AP poll.

Oklahoma, scheduled for a rematch against Texas is fifth, followed by the Buckeyes, who will play

Northwestern on Saturday in Indianapolis for the Big Ten crown.

Central Florida is seventh and Texas and Washington are in the top 10. Penn State (14th) and Northwestern (21st) are the only other ranked Big Ten sport teams.

THIS
WEEK'S
WEATHER
FORECAST
ANN ARBOR,
MI.
SUN - THU

25



44°

39°

26



39°

28°

27



30°

25°

28



28°

24°