

# This iconic Missouri general store is back open for summer after fire gutted it

BY NOELLE ALVIZ-GRANSEE  
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An iconic Missouri general store has reopened for business just in time for summer after a blaze destroyed the store back in December.

“Scott’s Iconium Store has risen from the ashes and has become The Iconium General Store,” said shop owner Shannon Tucker, in a GoFundMe post. “Thanks to all of your help, the Tucker family has persevered and has peach floats flowing, pizzas baking, beads and claws for sale, and more coming online every day.”

Shannon Tucker, who

owns the store with his wife Nikki Tucker, reopened on June 1, serving ice cream before quickly expanding to sell other items like soda and milk and most recently their fresh pizza from their pizza oven.

“There’s no way I could possibly thank everybody enough,” Shannon Tucker said.

Scott’s Iconium General Store—a popular pit stop for Scouting groups that’s located just under two hours southeast of Kansas City at 12770 NE Highway C near Osceola — was gutted in a fire back on Dec. 22.

The store is known for serving Peach Nehi ice cream floats, saying they

serve sometimes up to 1,000 floats in a single day.

The shop had several volunteers come at the end of May to help with mowing, spreading mulch, moving furniture, setting up product and other things needed ahead of their reopening date.

“It was ridiculously amazing,” he said, adding several volunteers helped his contractor finish up a building. “...before long (the contractor) had four or five dads just up here, all in their own trade, finishing this last building out. I mean they knocked it out in a day and a half instead of a week.”

Shannon Tucker’s goal was to be up and running

by the time Scouts start camping at the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation on June 1. While he met the goal, the mission got harder after his wife was in a UTV accident May 7 where she broke over 20 bones and had a collapsed lung. Nikki Tucker returned home from the hospital just before the shop’s opening, and spends the day sitting and talking to customers, according to Shannon Tucker.

**NEXT STEPS FOR ICONIUM**

The current set up for the general store is temporary for this summer, and Shannon Tucker has plans to build a permanent build-



SHANNON TUCKER

A group of customers standing in line for ice cream at The Iconium General Store.

ing at the end of the season in August.

“I want to give it the respect that I think it deserves,” Shannon Tucker said, “I needed more than three months to do that. let’s get an ice cream trailer and let’s get a, a portal mobile home kind of thing, and let’s get some of these buildings in here and get ‘em hooked up and serve the customers what they need.

Right now, there’s an ice cream stand, a double wide mobile home which sells non-food items and a grocery hut, as well as a pizza oven in the back. Selections will be expanded in the coming weeks, according to Shannon Tucker.

Scott’s Iconium General store is open every day between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m.

*Noelle Alviz-Gransee: noellehannika*

# Trump calls for ‘unconditional surrender’ from Iran

BY DAVID E. SANGER  
NYT News Service

WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump declared Tuesday that “we now have complete and total control of the skies over Iran” and called for Iran’s “unconditional surrender” amid mounting evidence that the United States was considering joining Israel’s bombing campaign against the country.

Trump made his statements on his social media site while preparing to meet with his national security team in Washington, hours after he cut short his attendance at the Group of 7 summit in Alberta, Canada, saying

he needed to return to Washington to deal with the situation in the Middle East. His immediate decision is whether to deploy America’s largest conventional weapon – the 30,000 pound Massive Ordnance Penetrator – to attack Iran’s deepest nuclear enrichment site.

While Trump suggested that the United States had control of Iran’s skies, the only visible combatant has been Israel, which has been using American-made fighter jets. Israeli officials have said that they have been able to destroy much of Iran’s air defenses.

In one of his messages Tuesday, Trump threatened Iran’s supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khomei,

saying “we know exactly where” he is. But he added that “we are not going to take him out (kill!), at least not for now.”

Killing foreign leaders is against the law in the United States.

He added, “Our patience is growing thin.”

In his own social media post, Vice President JD Vance also hinted that the United States could step up its engagement. Vance said that Iran had no need for nuclear fuel enriched above the level needed for commercial power.

Trump, he wrote, “has shown remarkable restraint,” but “may decide he needs to take further action to end Iranian enrichment.”

“That decision ultimately belongs to the president,” Vance wrote.

The vice president acknowledged the sentiments of some in the Republican Party who have called for staying out of conflicts in the Middle East, writing that “people are right to be worried about foreign entanglement after the last 25 years of idiotic foreign policy,” a period that encompasses Trump’s first term and the Bush, Obama and Biden administrations. But, he added, “I believe the president has earned some trust on this issue.”

On his flight back to Washington from Canada, Trump told reporters on Air Force One that he was not in the mood to continue negotiations with Iran, which were scheduled for last Sunday before Israel began mounting its attacks.

# Trump directs ICE to increase actions in cities run by Dems

BY IAN STARK  
UPI.com

President Donald Trump announced that the nation’s large Democratic-run cities are to be the new focus for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement operations.

“ICE Officers are herewith ordered, by notice of this Truth, to do all in their power to achieve the very important goal of delivering the single largest mass deportation program in history,” Trump posted to his Truth Social account Sunday night.

The post goes on to order the expansion of the efforts of ICE within cities Chicago, Los Angeles and New York, where he also alleged “millions upon millions of illegal aliens reside.”

Trump went on to call the cities the “core of the Democrat Power Center,” each of which he purports uses migrants to control elections and expand the use of welfare in actions that he alleges simultaneously take jobs and benefits from citizens.

“These radical left Democrats are sick of mind, hate our country, and actually want to destroy our inner cities,” Trump

further wrote, and went on to declare the same cities believe in “transgender for everybody, and men playing in women’s sports.”

He went on to say he has directed his entire administration “to put every resource possible” behind the efforts of ICE, and that the federal government is focused on the “remigration of aliens to the places from where they came, and preventing the admission of anyone who undermines the domestic tranquility of the United States.”

Trump said Thursday that there will be policy changes that will protect migrant farmers and those employed across the hospitality industry would be protected from deportation after he heard complaints from others in those fields.

“Our great farmers and people in the hotel and leisure business have been stating that our very aggressive policy on immigration is taking very good, long time workers away from them, with those jobs being almost impossible to replace,” Trump posted to Truth Social on Thursday, “This is not good. We must protect our farmers but get the criminals out of the USA.”

# The plane and bomb that could draw US into war with Iran

BY ELLIE COOK  
Newsweek World

Located deep below a mountain, Iran’s Fordow nuclear site was always going to be a tough target for Israel.

Israeli weapons would struggle to reach it – but the U.S.’s arsenal can.

American B-2 Spirit bombers, equipped with one of the world’s heaviest non-nuclear bombs, are thought to be the only aircraft-and-bomb pairing able to destroy a target like the nuclear plant at Fordow.

The 30,000-pound GBU-57/B bunker buster, also known as the Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP), would very likely be the weapon of choice if President Donald Trump gave the green light to U.S. involvement in Israel’s strikes on Iran’s nuclear program.

So far, the White House has signaled a reluctance to wade into the fighting in the Middle East, now entering its fifth day.

The U.S. administration appears to be “keeping its options open” as of early morning on the east coast,

Michael Oren, former Israeli ambassador to the U.S., told Newsweek.

But Israeli sources say the mood in the country has changed overnight. It seems “more and more tangible” that the U.S. could become involved in targeting Iran’s nuclear sites, said Shuki Friedman, director-general at the Jewish People Policy Institute, an Israeli think tank.

Israel early on Friday local time launched “pre-emptive” strikes on Iran’s nuclear program, its ballistic missile sites and other military facilities. Israel has continued to strike across the country as Iran targeted Israel with drones and missiles, some of which evaded Israel’s extensive air defenses.

“It’s possible we could get involved,” Trump told ABC on Sunday. “But we are not at this moment involved.”

**WHAT HAS TRUMP DONE SO FAR?**

To embroil the U.S. in the conflict would be a significant step. Trump has warned Iran-which has cast the U.S. as already involved-that Tehran would

face “the full strength and might” of the U.S. military on “levels you’ve never seen before” if Iran attacked the U.S. in any way.

Trump left the G7 summit in Canada early on Monday but said his departure from the major meeting was not related to a deal to stop the fighting between Iran and Israel.

French President Emmanuel Macron had told reporters there was an “offer” on the table for a ceasefire. Trump, referencing the comments on his Truth Social platform, called the French president “publicity seeking,” adding: “He has no idea why I am now on my way to Washington, but it certainly has nothing to do with a Cease Fire.”

“Much bigger than that,” Trump added. In a later post, the president called for residents of Iran’s capital to “immediately evacuate.” Fordow is roughly 100 miles from Tehran.

Trump separately told reporters Monday that he wanted a “real end” to discussions over nuclear capabilities with Tehran, with the country “giving up entirely” on nuclear weapons, according to a CBS

reporter.

“I didn’t say I was looking for a ceasefire,” Trump told the journalist.

Sean Parnell, the Pentagon’s chief spokesperson, said U.S. forces had “not changed” their “defensive posture.”

But everything is “in place” for a U.S. entry into the Israeli strike campaign, Friedman told Newsweek.

**WHAT ARE THE B-2 AND THE MOP?**

Israel has an advanced air force, kitted out with fifth-generation F-35i stealth fighters that targeted many of Iran’s air defenses, plus the F-15 and F-16 jets that then swooped in with bombs and missiles.

But it does not have any bombers capable of ferrying the likes of the GBU-57/B. The B-2 is the only aircraft cleared to carry the bunker buster in combat, although the B-52 has tested the MOP.

The distinctively designed and stealthy B-2 Spirit has a crew of two, and is able to launch conventional or nuclear weapons. The U.S. Air Force has 19 operational B-2A aircraft, according to the U.K.-based International Institute for Strategic Studies, which publishes annual counts of the world’s armed forces.

## BIRTHDAYS: JUNE 18



Biographical information from June 18 is from Encyclopaedia Britannica. Explore more at [britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com).

**Sir Paul McCartney**, British musician (b. 1942).

**Blake Shelton**, American singer-songwriter (b. 1976).

**Paul McCartney**, British musician (b. 1942).

**Roger Ebert**, American film critic (b. 1942).

**George Mallory**, British explorer and mountaineer (b. 1886).

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