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THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017

Fort Wayne, Indiana

US immigration arrests soar under Trump

President carries through on enforcement promises.

By AMY TAXIN
of The Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. — U.S. immigration arrests increased nearly 40 percent in early 2017 as newly emboldened agents under President Donald Trump detained more

than 40,000 people suspected of being in the country illegally — with a renewed focus on immigrants without criminal convictions.

The numbers released by Acting Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Thomas Homan provide a snapshot of how the

new president is carrying through on his campaign promises to make immigration enforcement a top priority.

Overall, 41,300 people were arrested for deportation, a 38 percent increase from a comparable period last year. Nearly 11,000 had no criminal convictions, more than double the number of immigrants

without criminal convictions arrested during a comparable period last year.

Homan said the increase in arrests stems from stepped up immigration enforcement, adding that morale has improved among agents under Trump because they are “allowed to do their job.”

“Their job is to enforce the law,

and that is exactly what they’re doing, he said.

Even so, deportations were down from late January to late April compared with a year ago despite the new president’s stepped up immigration enforcement pledge.

See **ARRESTS**, Page 8A

POSSIBLE 2016 CAMPAIGN INTERFERENCE INVESTIGATED

Putin rushes to Trump’s defense, laments US infighting

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
of The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Vladimir Putin rushed Wednesday to defend U.S. President Donald Trump from criticism over sharing classified information with Moscow, issuing a strongly worded statement that reflected the degree of the Russian leader’s frustration with the Washington infighting that has thwarted Kremlin hopes for a detente.

Trump’s decision to divulge classified intelligence with Russian diplomats marked a step toward Putin’s long-held goal of forging an alliance with the U.S. in the fight against terrorism.

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By The Associated Press
Russian President Vladimir Putin calls the uproar over President Trump sharing classified intelligence with Russian officials “political schizophrenia.”

Former FBI Director Mueller to lead Trump-Russia probe



By The Associated Press
Then-incoming FBI Director James Comey, right, talks with outgoing FBI Director Robert Mueller, left, before Comey was officially sworn in at the Justice Department in Washington on Sept. 4, 2013. Thursday, the Justice Department said it is appointing Mueller as special counsel to oversee the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election.

By ERIC TUCKER AND
SADIE GURMAN
of The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Robert Mueller has been given sweeping power to investigate Russian interference in the 2016 presidential campaign, an acknowledgment of growing public demands to place the politically charged inquiry into the hands of an outside investigator with bipartisan respect.

The former FBI director has a broad

mandate that could encompass any questionable actions of President Donald Trump’s associates and possibly even the circumstances of last week’s abrupt firing of James Comey.

“I accept this responsibility and will discharge it to the best of my ability,” Mueller said in a statement.

In a statement released by the White House, Trump said: “As I have stated many

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NS COMMENTARY

Trump no Nixon yet, but critics look like Landgrebes



A column by
KEVIN
LEININGER

PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN has now offered to give members of Congress records of Donald Trump’s meeting with the Russian diplomats to whom the president supposedly

disclosed classified information. That means one of two things:

Members of Congress will now have to investigate themselves for sharing secrets with the Ruskies, or it will “prove” once and for all that Putin and Trump conspired not only to defeat Hillary Clinton but have now teamed up to subvert the rule of law, the Constitution and even our very way of life.

Given Putin’s insistence that Trump revealed no classified intelligence during a recent meeting with Russian diplomats, which do you think congressional Democrats and most members of the media will choose? The growing chorus of people talking about impeachment — talk that began as wishful whispers just days after Trump’s election — make the questions purely rhetorical.

All of which reminds me of the late Earl Landgrebe, a Valparaiso Republican who represented Indiana’s 2nd Congressional District during the Watergate hearings.

Confronted by mounting evidence of President Richard

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\$8 million expansion to create 45 jobs at Web Industries

By KEVIN LEININGER
kleininger@news-sentinel.com

A global supplier of flexible material converting and manufacturing services will expand operations in Allen County, creating up to 45 new jobs by 2019.

Web Industries, an employee-owned company that formats materials found in airplanes, juice boxes, extension cords and medical testing consumables, is investing more than \$8 million to expand its current 110,000-square-foot man-

ufacturing facility at 3925 Ardmore Ave. Construction is currently underway to add 50,000 square feet and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Over the last 10 years the facility has increased its gross sales by 16.5 percent and employ-

ees by 56 percent.

The company currently employs more than 500 people in seven manufacturing locations in Europe and the U.S. Web Industries currently employs 75 people in Indiana and plans to continue hiring for flexograph-

ic press and machine operators, supporting leaders and infrastructure professionals. Interested applicants may apply by emailing careers@webindustries.com.

“Indiana offers Web Industries many business and quality-of-life advantages,”

Mark Phil, president and chief operating officer, said in a statement. “The state’s central location and extensive transportation system allow us to easily support our expanding customer

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Fox News founder dies

Fox News is reporting that former Chairman and CEO Roger Ailes has died. Ailes resigned from his post leading Fox News last July, amid allegations of sexual harassment. He was 77.

7-DAY FORECAST, 7A

TONIGHT: Mostly cloudy skies with a low of 53.
Sunset at 8:55 p.m.

FRI: Partly sunny.
HIGH 68 || LOW 52

SAT: Mostly cloudy.
HIGH 78 || LOW 64