

PAUSE  
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officials said.  
Donetsk is part of the Donbas, a mostly Russian-speaking industrial region where Ukraine's most experienced soldiers are concentrated. Pro-Russian separatists have fought Ukrainian forces and controlled much of the Donbas for eight years. Russian President Vladimir Putin recognized the independence of two self-proclaimed republics there just before Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24.  
Putin on Monday claimed victory in Luhansk, the other province constituting the Donbas, after Ukrainian forces withdrew from the last city they controlled there. The governor of Luhansk, Serhiy Haidai, denied Wednesday that the Russians had completely captured the province.  
In Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, a boarding school was hit,

but no one was injured. The Kharkiv region, which lies along the border with Russia, is under daily shelling, and two civilians were killed there over the past 24 hours.  
The Ukrainian military said Thursday that Russian forces also carried out shelling and helicopter strikes in the Sumy region in the northeast.  
Even as the fighting continued, the British Defense Ministry said it thinks Russia's military is "reconstituting" its forces. A ministry intelligence assessment issued Thursday said the heavy shelling along the front line in Donetsk is likely intended to secure previous Russian gains.  
Further hostilities were reported in the Black Sea where the Ukrainian military said Thursday that a Ukrainian flag had been planted on a strategic island that Russian troops withdrew from last month.  
*Jon Gambrell in Lviv, Ukraine, and Cara Anna in Kharkiv, Ukraine, contributed to this story.*



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HOOKS  
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that a DUI manslaughter conviction can bring, but more than the minimum mandatory sentence of four years. Hooks is to be sentenced at a later date.  
On Wednesday, his lawyer, William David McNeal told Senior Circuit Court Judge Olin W. Shinholser that Hooks – who is slightly taller than the defense podium – would surrender himself to jailers and await sentencing before Circuit Court Judge Peter Estrada at a later date. McNeal explained that Hooks' \$50,000 bond for the DUI manslaughter charge and the \$5,000 bond for the DUI charge were up for renewal. Rather than renewing a bond, McNeal suggested letting Hooks begin his sentence now, and learn its length in the next few weeks.  
Shinholser agreed to set a sentencing date for Estrada to handle.  
Wills considers any DUI crash "totally preventable."  
"Our family is not asking for any kind of payment or anything,"

Andrew's mother said. "I just wish it didn't happen, for our sake, for the sake of our son and for Dalton's sake. Nobody wins."  
Wills has transformed her grief into a powerful tool. As the president of the Highlands County chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, she joins other MADD members who spread the word on preventing drunk driving and its deadly toll.  
She has described to many people since November 2018 what it's like to get a nightmare phone call: newly minted prosecutors in Orlando, driver's education classes, public school students, teachers, Rotarians, churches and other community groups.  
"If anybody wants to get out and help us spread the word, they are welcome to join us," Wills said.  
As she watched Hooks plead to DUI manslaughter Wednesday, she had one more thing to say.  
"We are a grieving family, and Dalton's family is a grieving family."

OBITUARIES

John S. Spencer



Nov. 30, 1930 – July 1, 2022  
John Sievers Spencer died peacefully in Sarasota, Florida, on July 1, 2022. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky on Nov. 30, 1930. He grew up in New Albany, Indiana where he hunted and fished in the Ohio River Valley. As a teenager, he worked for the L&N Railroad. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1950, serving in the infantry as a tank gunner.  
After leaving the Army, he received his B.S. in civil engineering from Purdue University. He joined the engineering firm Sorrel & Mattis, and embarked upon a career in bridge design, as the interstate highway system reshaped America. In his early 30's, he led the design of a bridge spanning the Ohio River. He later joined Indianapolis-based American Consulting Engineers, and spent decades with the company.  
John Spencer was a skilled woodworker, an outdoorsman and a dedicated thistle sailor. He was a member of the Indianapolis Sailing Club,

where he taught sailing to new recruits of all ages. He enjoyed competition and comradely with his fellow club members.  
Following the passing of his wife of 51 years, Barbara, John moved to Sarasota, Florida where he lived at Lakehouse West retirement community. Into his 90's, he walked and rode his bike daily in the nearby neighborhood and nature preserve.  
He is survived by his daughter, Sondra Davis; his son, David (Sallie) Spencer; grandchildren, Lindsay Davis, Jackson (Allie) Spencer and Ben Spencer; sister, Anna Breedren; and numerous beloved nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by four siblings, Alden Spencer, Margie Beeler, Alice Krosky and Betty Wittinghill.  
A graveside service to celebrate John's life will be held at 10:30 a.m. on July 9, 2022, at Oak Hill Cemetery in Lake Placid with Pastor Wayne Godwin officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Special Olympics of Indiana. Words of comfort to the family can be made by visiting [scottfuneralservices.com](http://scottfuneralservices.com)  
Arrangements entrusted to the Scott Funeral Home, Lake Placid, 863-465-4134,

CITY OF AVON PARK  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)  
FIRE STATION HARDENING PROJECT

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

July 8, 2022  
City of Avon Park  
110 E Main Street  
Avon Park, FL 33825  
863-452-4400

On or about July 18, 2022 the City of Avon Park will submit a request to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (FDEO) for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as City of Avon Park Fire Station Hardening Project for the purpose of hardening the fire station at 98 S. Delaney Avenue and to bring it up to code by replacing windows and doors with storm rated windows and doors, replacing the roof with a wind rated roof and interior repairs, including added mealtime/sleeping provisions to help protect critical community lifelines.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at Avon Park City Hall, 110 E Main Street, Avon Park, FL 33825 and may be examined or copied weekdays 9A.M to 5P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Avon Park, 110 E Main Street, Avon Park, FL 33825. All comments received by July 15, 2022, will be considered by the City of Avon Park prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Avon Park certifies to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity that Garrett Anderson in his capacity as Mayor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The State's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Avon Park to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The State will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Avon Park certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Avon Park; (b) the City of Avon Park has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by The State; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, CDBG Program, MSC-400, 107 East Madison Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-6508. Potential objectors should contact the State to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Garrett Anderson  
Mayor, City of Avon Park



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP PHOTO, FILE

Rep. Ilhan Omar, D-Minn., speaks on July 25, 2019, as she introduces the Zero Waste Act at the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Florida man sentenced  
in death threat to  
Minnesota Rep. Omar

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — A federal judge sentenced a former Trump supporter to three years of probation and a \$7,000 fine for sending an email threatening to kill Rep. Ilhan Omar of Minnesota and three other congresswomen.  
David George Hannon, 67, also must undergo mental and substance abuse treatment and have no contact with Omar or Reps. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, Ayanna Pressley of Massachusetts and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan, according to a report in the Tampa Bay Times.  
Hannon, who pleaded guilty in April to threatening a federal official, sent the email after the four Democratic lawmakers held a news conference in July 2019 in response to criticism from former President Donald Trump, who said they should "go back" to the "crime-infested places" from which they came.  
"He was doing that because Trump told him to," his daughter, Elizabeth Hannon Dillon, told the judge during the hearing on Wednesday. "He was a Trump supporter and now he regrets it."  
This threat was "heinous and inappropriate in every regard," U.S. District Judge Kathryn Kimball Mizelle said. "This sort of behavior has no place in our society."  
Sentencing guidelines

called for about 10 months in prison, but Mizelle noted that a probation officer recommended against prison time, along with Hannon's expressions of remorse, lack of prior trouble, his age and health problems.  
"I'm very, very sorry and very remorseful about my behavior that night," Hannon said as he stood before the judge, stooped and trembling.  
Hannon emailed Omar's campaign with a subject line that read: "Your Dead You Radical Muslim," writing that Omar should get more security or she and the other women would be "six feet under."  
Omar's staff immediately notified federal agents, but the FBI didn't visit Hannon at his Sarasota home until 19 months had passed and Trump was out of office.  
Hannon admitted that he disparaged Omar's Islamic faith, but the judge declined to apply a hate crime adjustment to Hannon's sentence, which could have increased the sentencing guidelines.  
"I do have remorse that I did target Ms. Omar," Hannon said. "But I don't have any hatred toward anyone whether their race, creed, color or nationality. This is the United States of America and whatever people do and say, they have a right to do that. But I had no right to write that email."