

Groton Daily Independent

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Apts for Rent

1 bedroom and HUGE 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments available NOW! All utilities included except A/C, 1 bedroom \$504 and HUGE 2 bedroom 2 bath \$674 Please call or text 239-849-7674

Flea Market

Flea Market for 12 days, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Aug. 26-Sept. 7. Vintage, Crocks, Fishing, Jewelry, Cream Cans, Marbles, Buttons, Lanterns, Oil Lamps, Yard Ornaments, Bookcases, Antiques, and Much More. 201 Hwy 25, across from Community Oil Co., Roslyn. New items added daily. 5 (10'x20') Canopys full!

Bus Driver Wanted

The Groton Area School District has openings for a part time (morning) bus route and for a full-time bus route driver. Assistance in obtaining the proper licensure is available. Please contact Transportation Supervisor, Loren Bahr, at 397-8117 for more details.

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Saturday, Aug. 27

Pool Hours:

1 p.m. to 4:50 p.m.: Open Swim

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.: Lap Swim

6:40 p.m. to 8 p.m., Open Swim

Global Forgiveness Day

Just Because Day

Birthdays: Amanda Zimmerman • Paula Dobbins • Kory Anderson

2:00pm: Soccer hosts Vermillion (Girls at 2 pm, boys at 4 pm)

4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

Sunday, Aug. 28

Pool Hours:

1 p.m. to 4:50 p.m.: Open Swim

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.: Lap Swim

6:40 p.m. to 8 p.m., Open Swim

Race Your Mouse Day

Anniversary: Rob & Jeanne Wanous

Birthdays: Kendra Bull • Lester Stearns • Abby Gibbs • Jordan Kjellsen • Ken Tobin • Rhonda Carda • Chanise Pray

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship

9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Worship

9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

9:00am: First Presbyterian Church Bible Study

10:00am: First Presbyterian Worship

10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pierpont Church

11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

2:00pm: Farewell reception for Pastor Elizabeth (at Emmanuel)

3:00pm: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Golden Living Center

Midwest Masonry & concrete Pumping

Greg Heilman, owner

405 E 1st Ave., Groton

Greg: 253/929-9137

Mike: 605/492-7041

midwestmasonry1@yahoo.com



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Blood Drive nets 34 units in Groton

The drive held in Groton on August 25th saw 31 people volunteer to donate blood and 28 were able to give. Six people gave blood on the automated 2RBC machine that collects two units of red blood cells which resulted in 34 total products.

According to Fern Elofson, Donor Recruitment Representative for United Blood Services, "Communities like Groton make a regional blood program work. People volunteer to donate when there has been a well-organized campaign, informing the public of the need for blood."

Kathy Sundermeyer coordinated the drive. Rose Locke recruited donors. Space to hold the drive was provided by the American Legion.

On behalf of the patients who benefited, United Blood Services appreciates all the thoughtful people who volunteered to help others by giving of themselves.

Blood is for sharing; you have truly given the "Gift of Life."

Soup, Sandwich and Pie Luncheon

\$2 Each

Thursday, Sept. 8

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church
Groton

Craft and Bake Sale

Supplemental funds have been
applied for from

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

OPEN HOUSE FAREWELL RECEPTION

for

Pastor Elizabeth Johnson

Sunday, August 28

2 – 4 pm

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Groton, SD 57445

Groton Area takes wind out of the Tornadoes

The Groton Area Tiger football team went to Oakes, N.D., Friday night and came home with a 55-13 win over the Tornadoes in the opening game of the season for both teams.

Groton Area scored four touchdowns in the first quarter, three in the second and one in the fourth.

The Tigers had 174 yards rushing on 16 carries with Lucas Hinman having seven carries for 122 yards with two touchdown runs of 42 yards each, Bennett Shabazz had one for a 21-yard touchdown, Seric Shabazz had two for 15 yards with one touchdown on a run of nine yards, Darien Shabazz had five for 14 yards and Brandon Keith had one for two yards. Oakes had 27 carries for a negative two yards rushing, Chris Schmit had 17 carries for 18 yards.

Three Tigers played quarterback with Bennett Shabazz completing one of one pass for 45 yards and a touchdown, Marshall Lane completed one of one pass for three yards and Jonathon Doeden attempted two passes with two interceptions. Trevor Pray caught the ball for a 45-yard touchdown and Lucan Hinman had a three yard catch.

Defensively, Brandon Keith had 10 tackles and Lucas Hinman had nine. Marshall Lane had an interception and ran it back 40 yards for a touchdown and Korbin Blackmun had a 53-yard interception return.

Groton had one fumble but recovered it and had eight penalties for 56 yards. Oakes had no fumbles and had two penalties for 10 yards. The Tornadoes completed six of 13 passes for 123 yards with Chris Schmit having three catches for 63 yards and he also led the defense with 11 tackles.

Groton's other touchdown was a 60 yard punt return by Bennett Shabazz.

Groton, now 1-0, will host Mobridge-Pollock in the annual "Battle of the Tigers."

DVDs of the Football Games are Available

They are \$25 per game. Or if you subscribe to the season, it would be \$20 per game and you would receive them in the mail each week. Call or Text Paul at 605/397-7460 for details.

Livestream Sponsors Are

ProAg Supply of Aberdeen

Subway of Groton

Simon Insurance & Auction Service

Harry Implement of Ferney

James Valley Telecommunications

Groton Ford

James Valley Seed - Doug Jorgenson

Allied Climate Professionals

Milbrandt Enterprises

Doug Abeln Seed Company

McKiver Collision

Ken's Food Fair of Groton

Bahr Spray Foam



Indian Taco Fundraiser



Wednesday, Aug. 31
Starting at 11:30 a.m.
at the Golden Living Center
Fundraiser for the
Alzheimer's Association

1 taco is \$7

1 taco with a pop and a bar is \$10
Coke, Dt. Coke, Orange and Mt. Dew
Choice of toppings: Meat, Pinto
beans, onions, cheese, lettuce,
tomato, salas and sour cream.

Thanks for your support!



1106 N 2nd St., Groton
605/397-2365

Outdoor World[®]

HOW TO HAVE AN AMAZING ADVENTURE

The advantages to going hiking are exercise, getting to see nature, getting away from people, technology, jobs, bills, politicians and anything else you might be dealing with.

Hiking is a great way to enjoy the fall foliage, especially if you live in an area that gets very colorful. Make sure to take your hikes at times of the day where you can see specific types of birds or animals seen only this time of year.

Research the area and find out the best camping areas and hiking trails. Take along binoculars, fall wildflower guides, bird identification books, and your camera. Use your smartphone to take pictures and to record the sounds of birds, flowing water, and wind through the trees that you hear on your hike.

Looking at the pictures and listening to the sounds later will help you relive your captivating adventure.

By Larry Whiteley, Host of the award-winning Outdoor World Radio

For more tips, go to basspro.com and click on 1Source News & Tips



Training for the Race Called Life

I can't believe the kids are headed back to school already. Our daughter Kennedy started her sophomore year of college at SDSU and Booker has begun his freshman year of high school, which is hard for this mom to believe. As most parents know, it's bittersweet to watch them grow up. Bryon and I are so proud of the independent young people they've become, but it's still hard to watch them let go.

Olympic medalist Deena Kastor said about marathon running: "If you've got the training under your belt ... the races take care of themselves." That's how I have always viewed both parenting and education. Both are about training for the race called life.

Late last year for the first time since No Child Left Behind was enacted in 2007, Congress passed into law a bipartisan overhaul of our national education policies. On top of having implementation problems from the start – especially in rural areas – No Child Left Behind had grown outdated. The training provided to our nation's elementary and high school students simply wasn't preparing them for the race to come.

The new legislation takes a different approach, however. Rather than staking a larger role for the federal government, the new law minimizes Washington's influence in classrooms and returns more control to parents and local school districts.

For instance, the new law streamlines a massive and confusing network of federal programs, eliminating or consolidating 49 ineffective, duplicative, and unnecessary programs. Doing so makes the programs simpler to use, while also giving states and local school districts more flexibility to efficiently and effectively improve student learning.

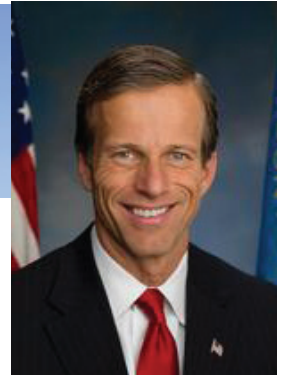
Moreover, we fought to equip parents and taxpayers with the information needed to hold their schools accountable. This will help ensure that every dollar spent makes a direct and lasting impact for students.

Perhaps most notably, the new law strictly and explicitly prohibits the federal government from coercing states into adopting Common Core.

It does this by prohibiting federal employees from incentivizing or in any way forcing states to adopt Common Core. They also can no longer interfere with a state's standards or assessments. Moreover, the policies and programs federal officials have used to pressure states into adopting Common Core will now be rejected. And any new regulatory burdens on states or school districts to comply with standards, assessments, or state accountability plans are prohibited. To put it simply: those closest to our kids will now – without question – be the ones deciding curriculum and assessments.

We don't need federal bureaucrats pulling the strings when it comes to educating young people. I am incredibly grateful to the many South Dakota teachers and school administrators who put our students first each and every day. They – along with parents and states – should be empowered to make choices about student success in the classroom. That's what this new education policy aims to do and I'm confident it will help ensure our students receive the training, if you will, needed for the race called life.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



Home

Every mile I travel in South Dakota is another reminder that I'm lucky to call this great state home and even luckier to have the opportunity to represent the hard-working people that help make South Dakota the best place to live, work, and raise a family. It doesn't matter what season it is – winter, spring ... basketball, pheasant hunting – spending time in South Dakota is the only way to recharge and the only place to get that special dose of reality that gets me through the inside-the-beltway craziness in Washington.

While I'm home nearly every weekend, I really enjoy taking full advantage of the longer state work periods that give me the chance to spend more time with my family and connect with folks across the state to hear firsthand about what matters to their families. And that's exactly how I've spent the last few weeks.

There's an old Johnny Cash song, "I've Been Everywhere," which seems like the perfect way to summarize my summer. Unlike The Man in Black, I wasn't in Reno, Chicago, or Fargo, but I did spend time in Rapid City, Pine Ridge, Eagle Butte, Britton, Selby, Madison, Aberdeen, and Parker – just to name a few. Parades, Rotary Club meetings, local businesses, you name it. Time on the road in South Dakota is time well spent, and as always, I learned a lot along the way.

I toured the aquatic center in Mobridge, the clinic in Onida, Midwest Railcar Repair in Brandon, and the events center in De Smet. I met with tribal council members in Eagle Butte, members of the law enforcement community in Pierre, officials from the Indian Health Service in Pine Ridge, and the good folks at Avera St. Benedict in Parkston. I attended Rotary Club meetings in Gettysburg, Brookings, and Scotland, and I presented long-overdue medals to veterans and their families in Rapid City and Sioux Falls.

And of course, summer wouldn't be summer without a stop or two at the fair. I had a great time catching up with folks in Brown County and Turner County. The Sioux Empire Fair is always a favorite stop of mine, and I wouldn't miss Dakotafest in Mitchell or Riverboat Days in Yankton either.

It's been a great few weeks, and I have the hundreds of people across the state who took the time to say hello to thank for it. All of the travel, tours, and meetings are meaningless without the important feedback I receive from farmers, ranchers, small business owners, hard-working moms and dads, and everyone else across South Dakota, young or old. It's because of their strong commitment to our state and its residents that I'm always proud to call South Dakota home.

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The Great South Dakota Get-Together

Summer activities and vacations are coming to an end and practices for school-related events have begun. But there's one final gathering to attend before summer is truly over – the South Dakota State Fair, which runs from Sept. 1 to Sept. 5 in Huron.

This is the 131st year of the great South Dakota get-together and this year's theme is "Thrills, Squeals and Ferris Wheels." Attendance, revenue and camper numbers all showed increases last year. With this year's fair providing an excellent mix of new events and fair favorites, we hope to see increases again this year.

My sister and I were 4-H members growing up and we always were hopeful of exhibiting at the State Fair. My sister showed a dairy cow that earned her a purple ribbon. One year, I gave a demonstration on how to run an audio cassette tape player, which was considered new technology at the time. Members of 4-H still participate in the dairy show, demonstrations and many other project areas during the fair.

Some new activities at the South Dakota State Fair this year are cheese sculpting, a ranch rodeo, team penning, the Dole Canned Fruit Dessert Baking Competition and a 'Fair' Cycled Art Competition.

A public Dedication Celebration Ceremony for the new Nordby Exhibit Hall for 4-H, Youth & Community will be held Sunday, Sept. 4, at 4 p.m. Thanks to a very generous contribution from the late Earl Nordby together with support from many other individuals, businesses and organizations, this facility replaces the old Clover Hall building and will be in use by 4-H members during the fair.

The State Fair is part of the South Dakota Department of Agriculture, but other state agencies participate in the fair as well. As you walk about the grounds and through the buildings, you will see Game, Fish and Parks, Tourism, Health and others. The Department of Public Safety is holding "Drive Safe SD Day" Sunday, Sept. 4, in the Day Sponsor Tent where fairgoers can play games, register for prizes, watch Highway Patrol police dog demonstrations and learn more about the department's agencies.

Another exhibitor is Driver Licensing and from 9 a.m. to noon Sunday in the Day Sponsor Tent, you will even have an opportunity to renew your driver's license. Bring in two documents showing proof of physical address (such as vehicle registration and vehicle insurance) plus the actual driver license you want to renew. Staff will be there to help you.

Again this year, there will of course be tasty fair food, carnival rides, games and unique activities. Enjoy bull riding or one of the concerts in the grandstand each evening. No matter your interest, you're bound to have a good time.

For more information on State Fair events, contact the Fair office at 800-529-0900, visit sdstatefair.com or find them on Facebook or Twitter.

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Today in Weather History

August 27, 1983: High winds tore through Glenham and Wakpala, destroying several structures and damaging crops. The worst damage occurred in Glenham, in Walworth County, where two mobile homes were destroyed, the roof of a school torn off, and trees limbs down. A tall TV antenna was blown over, and a boat was blown off a trailer. High winds also tore through the Bowdle area, downing power lines and tree limbs. Numerous roofs were also damaged.

August 27, 2013: Numerous severe thunderstorms brought large hail along with wind gusts from 60 to 90 mph to parts of north central and northeast South Dakota. Numerous trees were downed along with many structures damaged. Eighty mph winds near Polo in Hand County snapped off two large cottonwood trees. Ninety mph winds snapped numerous trees off at their base along with destroying a garage and tipping several campers over onto their side at Cottonwood Lake near Redfield.

1854: A tornado struck downtown Louisville around noon on Sunday, August 27th, 1854. It first touched down near 25th Street, southwest of downtown and lifted at the intersection of 5th and Main Streets. Although the tornado was only on the ground for a little over two miles, the twister claimed at least 25 lives. Many of those who perished were killed in the Third Presbyterian Church, where 55 people were gathered for Sunday church services. Straight-line winds that accompanied the tornado did significant damage to the Ohio River, where at least one boat sunk.

1881: A Category 2 Hurricane made landfall between St. Simons Island and Savannah, Georgia, on this day. Landfall coincided with high tide and proved very destructive. The hurricane killed 700 people, including 335 in Savannah, making it the 6th deadliest hurricane in the United States.

1883: Krakatoa Volcano exploded in the East Indies. The explosion was heard more than 2500 miles away, and every barograph around the world recorded the passage of the air wave, up to seven times. Giant waves, 125 feet high and traveling 300 mph, devastated everything in their path, hurling ashore coral blocks weighing up to 900 tons, and killing more than 36,000 persons. Volcanic ash was carried around the globe in thirteen days producing blue and green suns in the tropics, and then vivid red sunsets in higher latitudes. The temperature of the earth was lowered one degree for the next two years, finally recovering to normal by 1888.

1893: An estimated Category 3 hurricane made landfall near Savannah, Georgia on this day. This hurricane produced a high storm surge of 16 to 30 feet which costs the lives of 1,000 to 2,000 people. As of now, this storm is one of the top 5, deadliest hurricanes on record for the USA.

1964 - Hurricane Cleo battered Miami and the South Florida area. It was the first direct hit for Miami in fourteen years. Winds gusted to 135 mph, and the hurricane caused 125 million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1970 - Elko, NV, was deluged with 3.66 inches of rain in just one hour, establishing a state record. (The Weather Channel)








1987 - Washington D.C. soared to a record hot 100 degrees, while clouds and rain to the north kept temperature readings in the 50s in central and southeastern New York State. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Afternoon thunderstorms produced locally heavy rains in the southwestern U.S. Thunderstorms in eastern New Mexico produced wind gusts to 75 mph near the White Sands Missile Range, and produced three inches of rain in two hours near the town of Belen. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced severe weather in southeastern Nebraska, eastern Kansas and Missouri. Thunderstorms produced baseball size hail south of Belleville KS, and tennis ball size hail south of Lincoln NE. Thunderstorms produced golf ball size hail and wind gusts to 70 mph at Saint Joseph MO. Thunderstorms in North Dakota deluged the town of Linton with six inches of rain in one hour. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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This Afternoon	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
						
Slight Chance T-storms	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 78 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 89 °F	Low: 63 °F	High: 86 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 82 °F

Wet Weather ending West to East Today *Becoming Mostly Sunny*



Much Warmer Sunday

85-97°

warmest over central SD



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

Updated: 8/27/2016 5:08 AM Central

weather.gov/Aberdeen



Published on: 08/27/2016 at 5:15AM

Scattered showers and thunderstorms will slide west to east across the region, exiting west central Minnesota early this evening. Another brief round of showers and thunderstorms may impact eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota late tonight. After highs in the mid 70s to mid 80s today, temperatures will rebound into the mid 80s to upper 90s Sunday afternoon under a clear sky. The highest temperatures will be across central South Dakota.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 71.8 F at 12:37 PM

Low Outside Temp: 44.9 F at 7:11 AM

High Gust: 12.0 Mph at 12:51 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 106° in 1973

Record Low: 38° in 1967

Average High: 80°F

Average Low: 54°F

Average Precip in Aug: 2.12

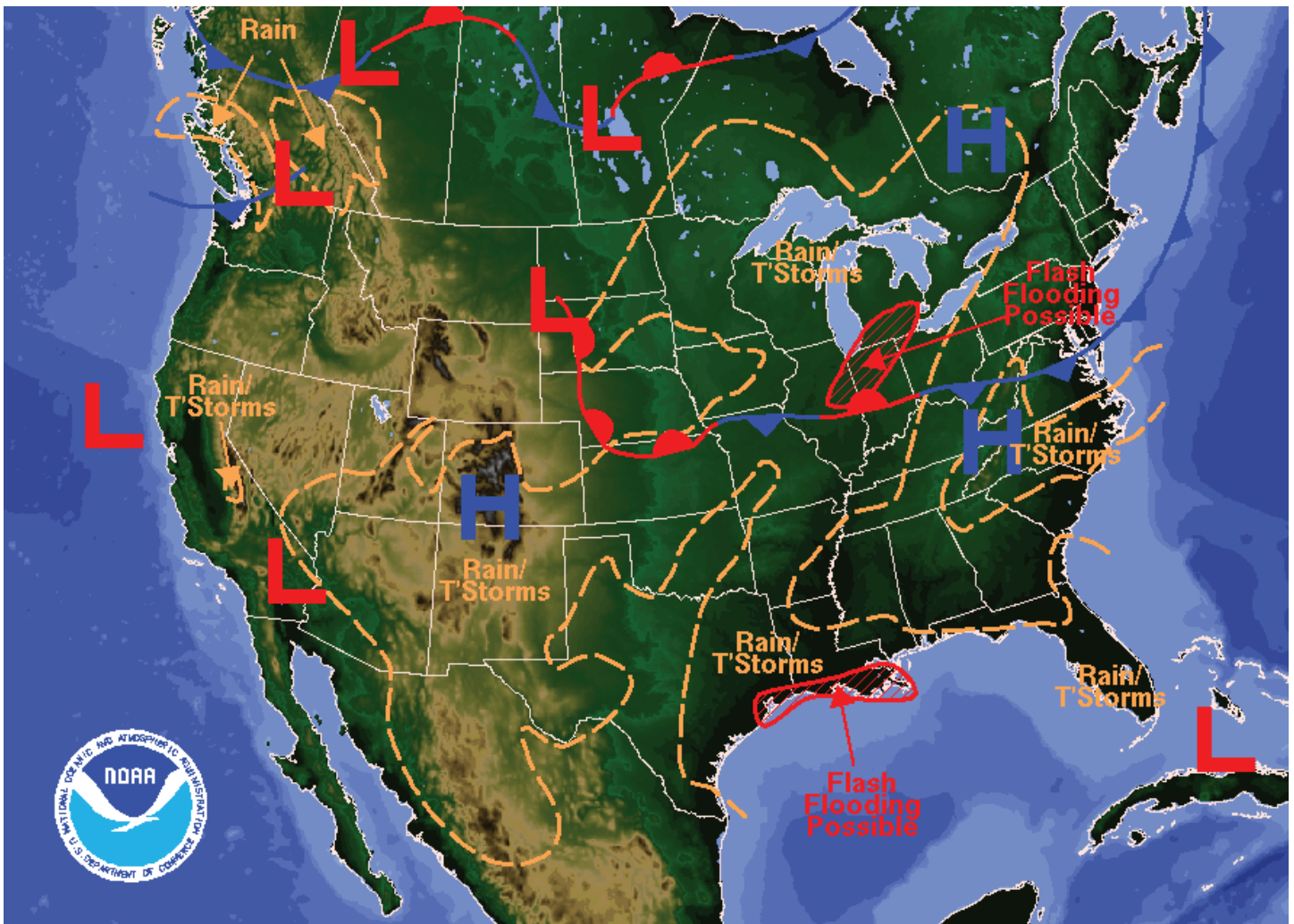
Precip to date in Aug: 1.93

Average Precip to date: 15.98

Precip Year to Date: 12.66

Sunset Tonight: 8:19 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:50 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, Aug 27, 2016, issued 5:08 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Kong based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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THE NEED TO BE KIND

Miss Wilson went to the post office nearly every day to buy a stamp or two. Often the line was long and it appeared that she had difficulty standing quietly waiting her turn at the counter.

A stranger who had seen her on many occasions asked, "Why don't you just use the stamp machine? It would be so much easier and quicker and you wouldn't have to stand so long."

"Oh my," she said, "the clerks are so kind to me. They always smile at me and ask me how I am doing and how I feel. The machines don't do that."

Kindness does two things at the same time: It makes us feel good and others feel good. And it rarely costs us anything.

Kindness, like love, has its source in God. We read in Titus that "When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy."

When we actually begin to understand the fullness of God's kindness to us personally, we will no doubt see others in a different light. We certainly do not deserve God's kindness - yet He has been more than kind to us. He held nothing back in giving His Son to be our Savior. Showing kindness to others demonstrates His love. We must do the same for His sake.

Prayer: Acts of kindness, Father, present endless opportunities for us to show others that we care for them just as You do. Help us to represent You always. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Titus 3:4-5 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us not because of righteous things we had done but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

golden
living

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**1106 N 2nd St., Groton
605/397-2365**

Mission man pleads not guilty to assaulting woman, children

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a Mission, South Dakota man has pleaded not guilty to assaulting a woman and two young children.

United States Attorney Randolph Seiler says 26-year-old Paris James Bordeaux was indicted on August 16, and charged with kidnapping, assault by strangulation and suffocation, and two counts of child abuse.

The Indictment alleges that on July 24, Bordeaux kidnapped “his intimate and dating partner” and held her for the purpose of assaulting her. Authorities say two young children also were subjected to the assault.

Bordeaux has been released on bond. A trial date has not been set.

Regulator: Dakota Access pipeline worker killed in accident

JAMES MacPHERSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A man working on the four-state Dakota Access oil pipeline was killed in an apparent accident in western North Dakota, a state regulator said Saturday.

North Dakota Public Service Commissioner Brian Kalk said the man, whose name has not been released, died of his injuries Friday afternoon.

The man was working as subcontractor for Dallas-based operator Energy Transfer Partners, which is building the nearly 1,200-mile pipeline from North Dakota to Illinois. The company did not immediately return telephone calls for comment Saturday.

The pipeline begins in western North Dakota and already is completed there, Kalk said. The site of the death is more than 200 miles away from where hundreds of mostly American Indians are protesting the pipeline in southern North Dakota. Tribal members fear the pipeline will harm water supplies and destroy sacred sites.

Kalk said the man was on a tractor Thursday, covering the underground pipeline with soil and grass seed. Kalk said the company reported Friday that the man suffered a serious head injury, apparently while working on equipment. He was taken to a Minot hospital, where he died.

The man was working alone and was found by his foreman, Kalk said.

“The company no reason to believe this was anything other than terrible accident,” Kalk said.

State and federal regulators expect a full report on the incident early next week, he said.

Far-reaching tribal solidarity displayed at pipeline protest

JAMES MacPHERSON, Associated Press

NEAR THE STANDING ROCK SIOUX RESERVATION, N.D. (AP) — Native Americans from reservations hundreds of miles away from North Dakota have joined the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe’s growing protest against a \$3.8 billion four-state oil pipeline that they say could disturb sacred sites and impact drinking water for 8,000 tribal members and millions further downstream.

About 30 people have been arrested in recent weeks and the company has temporarily stopped construction. A federal judge will rule before Sept. 9 on whether construction can be halted on the Dakota Access pipeline, which will pass through Iowa, Illinois, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Meet a few of the people camping out near the confluence of the Cannonball and Missouri Rivers in

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southern North Dakota:

WAMBLI JOHNSON was supposed to begin third grade last week in northern Arizona's Black Mesa, on the Navajo Nation. Instead, she rode horses, saw buffalo up close for the first time and made new friends from other tribes.

"This is school," the soft-spoken 11-year-old who speaks Navajo as her first language said of her experience outside of the 2.3 million-acre reservation.

It was Wambli who persuaded her mother, Osh, to make the daylong drive and join members of nearly 100 tribes and other protesters from around the country after hearing about the protest through relatives and social media.

On Thursday, Wambli presented protest organizers with \$150 she earned selling her homemade laundry detergent soap door-to-door in one of the poorest and most remote communities on the Navajo Nation, which spans parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. It took her nearly a month to raise the money, one \$2 to \$4 soap at a time. Her pitch: "I don't want water to be poisoned," she said.

It wasn't a tough sell, said Wambli, whose own home has no running water and instead has to be hauled in, a chore in which she helps.

"We know water is life," Osh Johnson said.

VIVIAN JOHNSON's first few years were spent living in traditional Sioux teepee on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation in north-central South Dakota.

For the past several weeks, the 65-year-old, her four children and seven grandchildren have been making teepees and tents their home at the protest site.

"I'm here to save our water and to save our children," she said.

Johnson, visibly exhausted, said she intended to stay "as long as it takes" until the pipeline plan is killed.

"It's a shame it has to be this way," Johnson said. "I'm tired. And I'm tired of the people fighting over this. I just want peace and this pipeline to go away."

JON DON ILONE REED is no stranger to conflict. The 30-year-old member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe said he answered the call of his country, joining the Army and taking part in a military offensive to drive the insurgents from the late dictator Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit, Iraq.

"Now, I hear the call of my people," Reed said of his decision to join the protest.

Imposing but polite, Reed wore a mixture of Army camouflage and traditional tribal dress and his chest bears the scars of a Sun Dance, a sacred — and once illegal — Lakota ceremony. Dancers pierce their bodies with sticks tethered to tree by ropes. After days of dancing under the sun, the sticks are ripped from their flesh by pulling away from the tree. The dance is a symbol of sacrifice in hopes their creator will hear their prayers.

Reed said he wants the government and the Texas-based pipeline company to hear the pleas of protesters, and prays the protest will remain peaceful.

"I fought in Iraq," he said. "Now I'm fighting for our children and our water."

JOYE BRAUN, an organizer of the "spirit camp," has been on site since April 1 — "when there was still snow on the ground."

"Now we're getting ready for winter again," said Braun, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and an organizer with the Indigenous Environmental Network. "We're not going anywhere."

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She also hopes the protests stay peaceful.

"We're not against the police at all," she said. "We're not against the construction crews — we know they are just trying to make a living. But they are working for the wrong company."

Braun said the issue is just as much about tribal rights as it is protecting the water and sacred sites. "It will not come through. Period."

Friday's Scores The Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL

Aberdeen Roncalli 35, Redfield/Doland 0
Alcester-Hudson 28, Viborg-Hurley 0
Andes Central/Dakota Christian 32, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 16
Arlington/Lake Preston 27, Elkton-Lake Benton 16
Baltic 42, Howard 8
Bon Homme 46, Miller 27
Bridgewater-Emery/Ethan 28, Beresford 14
Britton-Hecla 40, Waverly-South Shore 26
Canistota 42, Dell Rapids St. Mary 6
Canton 31, Vermillion 7
Castlewood/Estelline 22, Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 6
Chamberlain 70, Crow Creek 0
Chester 55, Garretson 20
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 30, Bennett County 14
Corsica/Stickney 16, Colome 14
Crawford, Neb. 44, Edgemont 0
Dakota Hills 30, Tri-State 14
Dakota Valley 21, West Central 6
DeSmet 38, Deubrook 20
Deuel 42, Great Plains Lutheran 26
Gayville-Volin 24, Burke/South Central 8
Gregory 36, Hanson 6
Groton Area 55, Oakes, N.D. 13
Hamlin 30, Florence/Henry 8
Harding County 46, Faith 0
Huron 35, Douglas 0
Ipswich/Edmunds Central 36, McLaughlin 0
Kimball/White Lake 37, Wall 0
Langford 65, Northwestern 20
Lemmon/McIntosh 8, Bowman County, N.D. 6
Leola/Frederick 18, Herreid/Selby Area 14
Madison 35, Dell Rapids 6
Milbank Area 38, Flandreau 15
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 59, Menno-Marion 8
New Underwood 36, Kadoka Area 0
Newcastle, Wyo. 48, Custer 2

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Philip 54, Rapid City Christian 0
Potter County 26, Stanley County 21
Scotland 25, Avon 12
Sioux Falls Christian 29, McCook Central/Montrose 0
Sioux Falls O’Gorman 19, Rapid City Central 0
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 27, Aberdeen Central 7
Sully Buttes 36, Faulkton 14
Tea Area 20, Parkston 0
Todd County 16, Pine Ridge 8
Tri-Valley 34, Elk Point-Jefferson 21
Upton, Wyo. 56, Lead-Deadwood 0
Warner 47, Eureka/Bowdle 0
Watertown 20, Pierre 7
Webster 38, Clark/Willow Lake 0
Winner 46, Mobridge-Pollock 0
Wolsey-Wessington 46, Platte-Geddes 0
Woonsocket/Wessington Springs/Sanborn Central 40, Sunshine Bible Academy 0
Yankton 29, Brookings 28

Volleyball

Aberdeen Central def. Rapid City Central, 25-16, 25-13, 25-15

Rapid City Stevens def. Pierre, 25-21, 25-23, 24-26, 25-16

3 tribal colleges in South Dakota get USDA grant funding

HURON, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is providing \$429,000 in grants to three tribal colleges in South Dakota.

The funding will help the colleges upgrade infrastructure, buy equipment and improve educational facilities.

Rural Development Under Secretary Lisa Mensah says education is one of the best investments that can be made in the future of rural America.

In South Dakota, Oglala Lakota College in Kyle will get \$143,000 to fix a generator and make renovations on campus; Sinte Gleska University in Mission will get \$143,000 for a security system improvement; and Sisseton Wahpeton College in Sisseton will get \$143,000 to be spent on student housing.

Sioux Falls Skyforce planning tryouts in Miami, Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Defending NBA Development League champion Sioux Falls is planning open tryouts in both Sioux Falls and Miami for athletes hoping to earn an invitation to training camp.

The Skyforce organization is affiliated with the NBA’s Miami Heat.

The Miami tryout is Sunday, Oct. 9, at Ransom Everglades High School. Athletes are required to pre-register by Oct. 7 and pay a nonrefundable \$150 fee.

The Sioux Falls tryout will be scheduled later.

The Skyforce open the season on Nov. 12 at home against the Salt Lake City Stars.

Tribe trucks totem pole 4,800 miles in fossil fuels protest

GILLIAN FLACCUS, Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A Pacific Northwest tribe is traveling nearly 5,000 miles across Canada and the United States with a 22-foot-tall totem pole on a flatbed truck in a symbolic journey meant to galvanize opposition to fossil fuel infrastructure projects they believe will imperil native lands.

This is the fourth year the Lummi Nation in northwest Washington has embarked on a “totem journey” to try to create a unified front among tribes across North America that are individually fighting plans for coal terminals and crude oil pipelines in their backyards.

The highly visible tours, which include tribal blessing ceremonies at each stop, fit into a trend of Native American tribes bringing their environmental activism to the masses as they see firsthand the effects of climate change, said Robin Saha, a University of Montana associate professor who specializes in tribal issues and environmental justice.

“I wouldn’t go as far as to say there’s an anti-development movement, but tribes are feeling the effects of climate change quite dramatically and are responding in a lot of different ways,” Saha said. “Some of them feel as if they’re not going to survive.”

In North Dakota, for example, people from across the country and members of 60 tribes have gained international attention after gathering in opposition to the four-state Dakota Access oil pipeline. The totem pole heads to that site, near the Standing Rock Sioux’s reservation, next week.

Tribes in the Pacific Northwest have protested publicly and taken legal action as West Coast ports have emerged as strategic locations for crude oil and coal companies to reach customers in energy-hungry Asia.

Seven crude oil or coal export terminals are proposed for conversion, expansion or construction on the Oregon and Washington coast. Some have already led to increased freight train traffic along the scenic Columbia River Gorge, where local tribes fish salmon.

A coalition of tribes turned out in June after an oil train derailed in Mosier. The oil from the derailment mostly burned off in a huge fire, but a small amount entered the Columbia River where the tribes have federally guaranteed fishing rights.

“We’re all trying to unite our voices to make sure we’re all speaking out,” said Jewell James, a Lummi tribal member and head carver at the House of Tears Carvers.

In recent years, cheap natural gas has prompted many domestic utilities to abandon coal, driving down production at major mines in the Powder River Basin of Montana and Wyoming, the nation’s largest coal producing region. Asian coal markets have become a potential lifeline for the mining industry — and Pacific Northwest ports are seen as the anchor.

The Lummi Nation launched a savvy public relations campaign last year against what would have been the nation’s largest coal export terminal proposed for Cherry Point, Washington, at the heart of their ancestral homeland.

In May, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers denied a needed permit for the Gateway Pacific terminal after finding it would damage tribal fishing rights.

This year’s 19-day totem trek started Tuesday in Vancouver, British Columbia, and makes a stop Friday in Longview, Washington, where a similar shipping terminal would export 44 million tons of coal annually to Asian markets. With the Gateway Pacific project on ice, the Longview project would now be the nation’s largest coal export terminal.

It would mean 16 coal trains a day, mostly from mines in Montana and Wyoming, and an additional 1,600 round-trip vessel calls a year in the lower Columbia River, said Jasmine Zimmer-Stucky, senior organizer with the Columbia Riverkeeper. There are concerns that wake from the ships could strand

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juvenile salmon and affect tribal fishing, she said.

Bill Chapman, president and CEO of Millennium Bulk Terminals in Longview, said in an emailed response to questions that a draft environmental review by Washington state and county officials found there would be no effects to tribal fishing. Trains already run through the area on established tracks and have caused no issues, he added.

The terminal on the site of an old aluminum smelter plant would create hundreds of much-needed family wage jobs and is supported by labor unions, Chapman said.

"We're building on a location where industry has existed for over 70 years," he wrote. "Our export terminal is sited on a stretch of the Columbia River dotted with manufacturing plants and docks."

A third large coal terminal in Oregon was dealt a blow this month when a judge upheld the state's right to deny the project based on a similar threat to tribal fishing rights.

If proponents decide to appeal, the case will go to trial in November.

This year's brightly painted totem weighs 3,000 pounds and is carved of western red cedar. An eagle with a 12-foot wingspan sits on top, and the pole itself features a wolf and bear — symbols of leadership, cunning and courage — as well as white buffalo and tribal figures, said James, who has been carving totem poles for 44 years.

To the sounds of drums and a prayer song, the 22-foot-tall totem pole was blessed in a smudge ceremony at the entrance of Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Seattle Thursday. Lummi Nation member Linda Soriano fanned smoke from burning sage, covering the pole in a haze as sun rays beamed down. She then fanned the smoke through the crowd gathered outside the church.

"Mother Earth is hurting," said Lummi Nation member Randy Peters Sr. as he began his prayer song, "Mother Earth has been hurting from all of the abuse that has been going on. The unsafe practices of the coal, and the mining and the transportation of energy."

Tribes in Oregon, Montana, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota and Canada will host the Lummi until their end point in Winnipeg, Manitoba, where tribes are fighting oil pipelines bound for the East Coast.

"You can't put a price on the sacred. Our land and our water are sacred," said Reuben George, manager of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation Sacred Trust Initiative in Vancouver, British Columbia, where his tribe is opposed to a major oil pipeline. "This totem pole represents our laws, our culture and our spirituality."

Golf course in Platte vandalized; police seek public's help

PLATTE, S.D. (AP) — Police in Platte are investigating vandalism at the town's golf course.

The vandals damaged several greens and yardage markers last weekend. Authorities say video surveillance captured two people driving a golf cart erratically, and a black sports car leaving the course early Sunday.

Anyone with information is asked to contact police.

Plaintiffs join suit challenging anti-corporate farming law

BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The number of plaintiffs suing to abolish North Dakota's anti-corporate farming law has expanded and now includes people and companies with ties to four U.S. states and a former Soviet republic.

Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, who is defending the law, said the addition of plaintiffs only exacerbates problems with what he considers an overly vague lawsuit.

The North Dakota Farm Bureau, a Wisconsin dairy farmer and a Wisconsin dairy company that wants

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to expand into North Dakota sued in federal court in June. They want a judge to declare unconstitutional the nearly century-old law that aims to protect the state's family farming heritage by barring large corporations from owning agricultural operations.

The original plaintiffs were recently joined by: a North Dakota hog farmer who is a member of the North Dakota Sow Center, which owns and operates several hog facilities and has partners in North Dakota, South Dakota and Iowa; the North Dakota Pork Council; a North Dakota cattle rancher who wants to expand; and Global Beef Consultants, which provides cattle consulting and export services and also owns two ranches in Kazakhstan.

The new plaintiffs either didn't respond to messages seeking comment this week or referred calls to attorneys. Attorney Claire Smith did not respond to questions other than to say the additional plaintiffs help "demonstrate the negative impacts of the challenged legislation."

The lawsuit asserts that North Dakota's anti-corporate farming law hurts the agriculture industry by restricting business tools available to farmers, lowering the value of their operations, discriminating against residents of other states and interfering with interstate commerce. It asks a judge to declare the law unconstitutional and bar the state attorney general from enforcing it.

Stenehjem has said the lawsuit is too vague for him to even respond, and he's asked U.S. District Judge Daniel Hovland to order the plaintiffs to more specifically detail why they believe the law is unconstitutional. Stenehjem has said in court filings that the state is "requesting reasonably" that the plaintiffs identify what specific problems they allege in a chapter of law that "consists of over 6,500 words and comprises over 100 individually numbered provisions in the North Dakota Century Code."

Stenehjem said in court documents filed Wednesday that the addition of four more plaintiffs "exponentially exacerbates the ambiguities and vagueness" of the lawsuit.

"Farm Bureau's amended complaint fails to separate which specific constitutional claims and counts are attributed to what individual plaintiff, as well as which allegations of fact are intended to support which count or constitutional claim by what plaintiff," he said.

Plaintiffs' attorneys have said Stenehjem has demonstrated that he understands why the lawsuit is being challenged and that he has enough information to file an initial response.

Hovland has not yet ruled on Stenehjem's request.

Scams & waste loom as charity millions donated after Orlando

JEFF DONN, AP National Writer

The more than 430 fundraisers posted on the GoFundMe website after the mass shooting at a gay nightclub in Orlando have exposed weaknesses inherent in these popular do-it-yourself charity campaigns: waste, questionable intentions and little oversight.

The fundraisers — an average of more than four for each of the 49 killed and 53 wounded — include travelers asking for cash, a practitioner of ancient healing, a personal safety instructor who sells quick loaders for assault rifles, and even convicted identity impostors.

"There was a deluge," said Holly Salmons, president of the Better Business Bureau for Central Florida. "It was almost impossible for us or anyone else to be able to vet."

The crowdfunding sites operate outside traditional charitable circles and often beyond the reach of government regulation. Appeals can be created in minutes by almost anyone and shared around the world.

The officially sanctioned Equality Florida campaign raised more than \$7 million via GoFundMe, but another \$1.3 million went to smaller appeals — mostly set up by people with little or no charity experience.

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The Associated Press examined 30 campaigns chosen from throughout the lengthy list produced by a GoFundMe search for "Orlando shootings." Within a month of the June 12 shootings, they had raised more than \$265,000.

Half said donations would be used for legitimate-sounding purposes: to cover funeral, medical and other costs. Some campaign organizers were relatives of the dead or wounded. A high school basketball coach raised \$15,297 for the family of Akyra Murray, a star player who had just graduated before dying in the attack.

But most campaigns lacked key details, such as exactly what the donations would cover or even who was asking for them. Only nine of the 30 organizers agreed to interviews.

One man wanted money for travel costs to Orlando to shoot independent news video. He hadn't raised anything two months later. Another organizer raised just \$25 for travel money to hold a community healing ceremony inspired by ancient shamanic rituals. She dropped that plan in favor of sending painted rocks with an inspiring word of support.

Jackson Yauck of Victoria, British Columbia, put up a lighthearted appeal to let the highest donor burn a pair of skimpy gold-colored shorts he wore to gay-pride events. He had created the appeal on Jan. 1 on behalf of other charities and when he tried to switch it to benefit the Orlando victims, GoFundMe froze his account for at least a week, he said. He agreed to transfer the donations to Equality Florida, and GoFundMe let the appeal go forward.

Yauck said he knew all but one of his 11 donors personally and didn't feel a need to tell them of the switch. "It was just for fun. If you look at the bigger picture, we raised \$600 off a pair of underwear," he said.

Several businesses asked for contributions. One appeal raised \$1,375 from 14 donors within two months to keep open a hair salon run by partners killed in the attack. A counseling center raised \$150 to subsidize services to victims but closed its campaign when it found grant money elsewhere. GoFundMe helps make refunds when contributions go unused.

Weapons-accessory dealer Craig Berberich, of Bradenton, Florida, proposed holding public classes on personal safety. He posted a link to his business at the bottom of his appeal. He said he "wasn't trying to promote my business." Then he added: "I hope we didn't give the impression that we were a charity."

He said he was shutting down his appeal. It remained online over a month later — but with only \$100 in donations. Among his store products: a high-speed loader for assault weapons.

Efe Atalay, of Clermond, Florida, raised \$1,145 from 81 donors to buy security wands for nightclub entrances, but didn't say which clubs and spoke vaguely of lobbying politicians to require such security measures. He didn't respond to emails sent to his GoFundMe address.

Florida charities law generally requires no filings by crowdfunding campaigns meant for particular victims or their families or in support of other established charities. That accounts for the vast majority of appeals. Other states apply a patchwork of laws.

Yet, crowdfunding campaigns can distribute aid more quickly than large bureaucratic funds. And they have less overhead than traditional charities, with only 8 percent of donations on GoFundMe going to the website and credit card fees.

Bobby Whithorne, a GoFundMe spokesman, said the website's staffers were vetting the Orlando campaigns before releasing funds, and only a small fraction of a percent of past appeals involved outright fraud.

GoFundMe froze funds from entertainment company manager David Luchsinger's campaign when donations piled up quickly. Luchsinger said he was asked for more details of his plans to replace the ruined equipment of one of his deejays who was working at the club during the attack. Luchsinger set

an initial goal of \$5,000, and raised \$8,742 in one month.

Asked about the website's vetting process, he replied, "Was it so strenuous that you couldn't fake it? No, you could definitely fake it."

Despite his good intentions, things got mixed up. He didn't realize someone else had launched a GoFundMe appeal for his deejay, who got his name removed from the second appeal. Two companies eventually replaced the equipment for free, so the deejay kept some of the donations to replace his lost salary and shared the rest with other club deejays, Luchsinger said.

Several big funds have joined forces in an official centralized campaign that raised more than \$23 million, including the \$7 million from Equality Florida's GoFundMe campaign.

The donations to the central fund are generally tax-deductible, since they go to registered charities. Donations to a crowdfunding site are typically not tax-deductible, unless the organizer is a tax-exempt charity.

The bigger charities — unlike many crowdfunding campaigns — give timetables for distributing aid, and detail recipients and how decisions are made. Ken Feinberg, administrator for the centralized fund, has already held two town hall meetings with survivors and family members of the victims.

In one crowdfunding campaign, friends Gardini Bellefleur and Demetrice Naulings asked for \$25,000 to set up a vaguely defined foundation in memory of Eddie Justice, a friend of Naulings killed in the shootings. They said the money would pay for Justice's funeral and victim counseling.

Six people donated \$253.

Wilhemina Justice said no one consulted her about the appeal in her son's name or made arrangements to give her proceeds. "To me, it's fraud," she said.

Florida bars anyone convicted in the past decade of certain crimes, including identity fraud, from running a charity. Yet, court records show Bellefleur was convicted in 2012 of buying \$3,570 worth of furniture by impersonating the son of an account holder, and Naulings was convicted in 2008 of giving police a false name and driving with a suspended license.

"We've all done some bad things that we would want to change, but this was my moment to change," Naulings said.

Naulings acknowledged he never consulted Justice's mother or helped pay for his funeral, but said, without offering details, his future nonprofit would someday help her.

Bellefleur did not respond to repeated messages, but in an online video, rejected the idea the pair wanted the money for themselves.

Clinton receives first intelligence briefing as nominee

KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

SCOTT BAUER, Associated Press

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — Hillary Clinton received her first national security briefing Saturday as the Democratic presidential nominee, meeting with intelligence officials for an overview of the major threats facing the nation around the globe.

Clinton attended the briefing for more than two hours at the FBI office in White Plains, New York, near her suburban New York City home. Republican Donald Trump received his briefing earlier this month, a customary move for major party nominees but one that has been the subject of a political tussle during the campaign.

Trump was campaigning on Saturday in Iowa, headlining Republican Sen. Joni Ernst's annual "Roast

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and Ride" fundraiser at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. The celebrity businessman was not planning to join the 42-mile motorcycle ride that is part of the event but bringing his campaign to a state where polls show a tight contest, a rare bright spot for Trump amid a sea of challenging battleground states.

The activities capped a week that saw some of the harshest exchanges between the two presidential rivals, with Clinton asserting in a fiery Reno, Nevada, speech on Thursday that Trump was stoking a "radical fringe" within the Republican Party, including anti-Semites and white supremacists. Trump, who is trying to win over moderate voters and minorities who have been unsettled by some of his provocative remarks and policy proposals, has tried to paint Clinton as a racist.

The Republican released an online video that includes footage of the former first lady referring to some young criminals as "super predators" in the 1990s. The video also shows Clinton's former Democratic rival, Sen. Bernie Sanders, denouncing the phrase as "a racist term." Clinton has since apologized.

Clinton has said that Trump and his supporters have taken on extremist views, casting the race in a Friday MSNBC interview as "not a normal choice between a Republican and a Democrat."

The back-and-forth also has been waged in the national security space.

As President Barack Obama's secretary of state, Clinton held a high security clearance and received a copy of the President's Daily Brief — the highest-level U.S. intelligence document that includes sensitive intelligence and analysis from around the world.

Saturday's briefing was Clinton's first since becoming her party's nominee and she did not receive it with any aides present, her campaign said. Trump received his first briefing earlier this month and was accompanied by retired Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie.

The briefings, which are delivered by career staffers from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, have been traditional for presidential nominees for more than 60 years to ensure a smooth transition for the next commander in chief. But the lead-up to the meetings for both candidates have been steeped in politics.

Prior to Trump's briefing, leading Democrats questioned whether the celebrity businessman could responsibly handle receiving sensitive information because of some of his comments, including the suggestion that Russia should attempt to hack Clinton's emails.

Trump and his supporters have said that Clinton's use of a private email server and FBI Director James Comey's rebuke of her "extremely careless" handling of classified information at the State Department should bar her from receiving the briefing.

House Speaker Paul Ryan, meanwhile, wrote National Intelligence Director James Clapper, saying that many questions remain about how Clinton handled her email and requested she not receive the intelligence overview for the remainder of the campaign.

But Clapper rejected Ryan's request, responding that the meetings would be provided on a non-partisan basis. "I do not intend to withhold briefings from any officially nominated, eligible candidate," Clapper wrote.

Trump is also trying to shore up his standing with Latino voters. In Las Vegas, Trump met Friday with two dozen Latino supporters to discuss strategies for boosting Hispanic turnout in the swing state. He has sought to make the case that his economic policies would be better for small minority-owned businesses than those of Clinton.

"People don't know how well we're doing with the Hispanics, the Latinos," Trump said at his hotel just off the Vegas Strip. "We're doing really well."

Trump has suggested that minorities have been left behind by Democratic economic policies and hammered the nation's sluggish GDP growth as "a catastrophe."

But he has continued to send mixed signals about a key issue for many Latinos: immigration. While he

has not wavered on his desire to build an impenetrable wall along the border with Mexico, he exhibited indecisiveness in recent days about his plan to deport 11 million immigrants living in the U.S. illegally.

Aides have said he would announce his immigration policy in a speech in the coming days, but his campaign has yet to set a date.

Dwyane Wade's cousin fatally shot pushing baby in stroller

CHICAGO (AP) — NBA star Dwyane Wade's cousin was shot and killed in Chicago while pushing her baby in a stroller near a school where she intended to register her children. Wade lamented on Twitter what he called another "act of senseless gun violence."

Nykea Aldridge, 32, had recently relocated to an area on the city's South Side, her family said.

On Friday, Aldridge was near the school, which is about a mile and a half southwest of the University of Chicago, when two males walked up and fired shots at a third man but hit Aldridge in the head and arm. She wasn't the intended target, police said.

Police are questioning witnesses in the shooting but had no suspects in custody.

Wade, a native of Chicago who signed with the Chicago Bulls in July after 13 years with the Miami Heat, posted Friday on Twitter: "My cousin was killed today in Chicago. Another act of senseless gun violence. 4 kids lost their mom for NO REASON. Unreal. #EnoughIsEnough." On Saturday, he again tweeted: "RIP Nykea Aldridge...#EnoughIsEnough."

Chicago has been plagued by gun violence for years, especially in a few South and West Side neighborhoods. This July alone, there were 65 homicides — the most that month since 2006.

A day earlier, Wade had participated via satellite in a town hall meeting in Chicago on gun violence hosted by ESPN, along with his mother, pastor Jolinda Wade. Dwyane Wade's charitable organization, Wade's World Foundation, does community outreach in the Chicago area.

Wade also tweeted Saturday morning: "The city of Chicago is hurting. We need more help& more hands on deck. Not for me and my family but for the future of our world. The YOUTH!" adding in a following tweet, "These young kids are screaming for help!!! #EnoughIsEnough."

Outside the emergency room where Aldridge was pronounced dead, Jolinda Wade clutched her sister and spoke for the family as mourners stood in a circle holding hands and praying. She said she'd participated in the ESPN town hall meeting "never knowing that the next day we would be the ones that would actually be living and experiencing it."

"We're still going to try to help and empower people like the one who senselessly shot my niece in the head," Jolinda Wade said. "We're going to try to help these people to transform their minds and give them a different direction."

It is not the first time Dwyane Wade's family in Chicago has been affected by gun violence. His nephew, Darin Johnson, was shot twice in the leg on the South Side in 2012 but recovered.

Chicago had recorded 381 homicides by the end of July, up 30 percent from the same period of 2015. Its murder rate is higher than the more populous cities of New York and Los Angeles.

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has spoken about the city's violence, and used Aldridge's death as a chance to tweet about it Saturday morning. He posted: "Dwayne (sic) Wade's cousin was just shot and killed walking her baby in Chicago. Just what I have been saying. African-Americans will VOTE TRUMP!"

Family members are caring for Aldridge's baby, who wasn't hurt.

Headstone of Civil War soldier to be fixed after 154 years

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Some mistakes are never too late to fix.

A Civil War soldier misidentified when he was buried at an Ohio cemetery more than 150 years ago is to get a new headstone.

Confederate soldier Augustus Beckmann was fatally wounded in the Battle of Shiloh on April 7, 1862. But he was buried at the Camp Chase Confederate Cemetery in Columbus under the wrong name, A. Bergman, and wrong company, The Columbus Dispatch reports (<http://bit.ly/2bzX8Ji>).

Beckmann's brother's great-great-grandson, Greg Beckman, discovered the error when he visited Camp Chase last Memorial Day.

Beckman, who teaches government at a high school in Placentia, California, pulled together the necessary documentation and asked the National Cemetery Administration to fix the headstone. He recently learned his request was approved.

An administration spokeswoman says approved stones are typically in place within 60 days.

Beckman's great-great grandfather, William Beckmann, was Augustus' brother. The two came to America from present-day Germany between 1858 and 1860 and enlisted in the 2nd Texas Infantry in Galveston.

"William never learned the fate of his brother, as August was buried under the wrong surname of Bergman all those years," Beckman said. "The last time they saw one another was on the battlefield of Shiloh."

August Beckmann was buried under the name Bergman at Camp Dennison near Cincinnati, and the incorrect name followed him when his remains and those of 30 other soldiers were removed in 1869 and reinterred at Camp Chase.

Beckman said he was happy to visit his relative's gravesite, but wasn't content with the incorrect inscription.

"I knew something had to be done about it," he said.

Ultra-marathon runner reunited with missing stray dog

DANICA KIRKA, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — An ultra-marathon runner has been reunited with the stray dog that accompanied him through part of a grueling desert race in China and then went missing.

Dion Leonard says the stray befriended him as he took part in the 250-kilometer (155-mile) Gobi March race, part of the 4 Deserts race series. The dog followed him for much of the race. He vowed to take the dog, named Gobi, home to the U.K.

Leonard, who lives in Scotland, says the dog was preparing to go into quarantine in China before traveling to the U.K. when she disappeared. Having learned that she ran away, he returned to China to find Gobi with the help of a crowdfunding appeal, using posters and the power of social media to track her down.

"On Tuesday night, I received a phone call around 9 p.m. at night saying, 'We've got Gobi. We think it is her. It looks like her in the posters, come round and have a look,'" he told the BBC. "Thankfully we went over and as soon as I walked into the lounge she came running across the room and into my arms."

"She was so excited to see me," he said. "I knew it was her straight away."

Gobi joined Leonard on the second day of the six-stage, seven-day race, and also ran along on her short stubby legs for days three and six.

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"She ran 77 miles during those three stages, she slept with me during the evenings. And we just formed this bond that couldn't be broken during the race," he said. "I knew as soon as the race had finished — and even during it — that I had to make an effort to try and get her back to the U.K. somehow." He now hopes the dog will join him in Scotland before Christmas.

US: Clinton calendars won't be released until after election

TED BRIDIS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seven months after a federal judge ordered the State Department to begin releasing monthly batches of the detailed daily schedules showing meetings by Hillary Clinton during her time as secretary of state, the government told The Associated Press it won't finish the job before Election Day.

The department has so far released about half of the schedules. Its lawyers said in a phone conference with the AP's lawyers that the department now expects to release the last of the detailed schedules around Dec. 30, weeks before the next president is inaugurated.

The AP's lawyers late Friday formally asked the State Department to hasten that effort so that the department could provide all Clinton's minute-by-minute schedules by Oct. 15. The agency did not immediately respond.

The schedules drew new attention this week after the AP analyzed the ones released so far. The news agency found that more than half the people outside the government who met or spoke by telephone with Clinton while she was secretary of state had given money — either personally or through companies or groups — to the Clinton Foundation. The AP's analysis focused on people with private interests and excluded her meetings or calls with U.S. federal employees or foreign government representatives.

The AP's reporting was based on official calendars covering Clinton's entire term plus the more-detailed daily schedules covering roughly half her time as secretary of state. The AP first asked for Clinton's calendars in 2010 and again in 2013. It then sued the State Department in federal court to obtain the detailed schedules, and the department so far has provided about half of them under court order.

Clinton has said the AP's analysis was flawed because it did not account fully for all meetings and phone calls during her entire term as secretary. She also said the analysis should have included meetings with federal employees and foreign diplomats. The AP said it focused on her meetings with outsiders because those were more discretionary, as Clinton would normally meet with federal officials and foreign officials as part of her job.

Clinton said she met with people outside government regardless of whether they gave money or charitable commitments to her family's charity.

"These are people I would be proud to meet with, as any secretary of state would have been proud to meet with, to hear about their work and their insights," Clinton said this week on CNN.

With the foundation drawing continued attention, Clinton promised Friday to put in place additional safeguards to prevent conflicts of interest with the charity should she win the White House.

The foundation issue, along with continued focus on her use of a private email server, has dogged Clinton politically throughout the week, drawing strong criticism from opponent Donald Trump.

Trump spokesman Jason Miller released a statement Friday night saying: "It is unacceptable that the State Department is now refusing to release her official schedule before the election in full. Voters deserve to know the truth before they cast their ballots."

Former President Bill Clinton said last week that if she is elected president, the foundation will no longer accept foreign or corporate donations.

The State Department is now estimating there are about 2,700 pages of schedules left. Under its

process, it is reviewing and censoring them page-by-page to remove personal details such as private phone numbers or email addresses. In some cases it has censored names of people who met privately with Clinton or the subjects they discussed.

A State Department spokeswoman, Elizabeth Trudeau, declined to discuss the ongoing case and noted the agency is struggling with thousands of public records requests.

In court, the AP in December had asked U.S. District Judge Richard Leon to order the State Department to produce specific percentages of the remaining schedules every 30 days under a formula so that all would be released before the presidential primary elections were complete.

Instead, because the State Department said it did not know how many pages were left, Leon ordered it in January to release at least 600 pages of schedules every 30 days. Each 600-page group covers about three months of Clinton's tenure.

Under the present rate, a government attorney working on behalf of the State Department notified the AP's lawyers, it will take about four and one-half months — or until Dec. 30 — to release all the remaining schedules through the end of Clinton's term, in February 2013. The government's notice late Thursday was the first time the State Department has provided the AP with a measure of how many pages were remaining and when it expected to complete the job.

It was unclear whether the judge will reconsider his earlier decision and order faster results. In the AP's lawsuit over other Clinton-related files, Leon has said it would be "ridiculous" to allow the State Department to delay until even weeks before the election. He also cited "mounting frustration that this is a project where the State Department may be running out the clock."

The embrace of life: A story of 2 sisters in Italy's quake

VANESSA GERA, Associated Press

TRISHA THOMAS, Associated Press

ASCOLI PICENO, Italy (AP) — In the chaos of Italy's devastating earthquake, an older sister's embrace allowed a young girl to survive.

The heartbreaking story of 9-year-old Giulia Rinaldo and her younger sister Giorgia was recounted Saturday by the bishop who celebrated a funeral Mass for 35 of the 290 people killed by the quake that ravaged central Italy before dawn Wednesday.

Bishop Giovanni D'Ercole recalled that around 6 or 6:30 p.m. Wednesday — 15 hours after the quake struck — he returned to a church in his diocese in the town of Pescara Del Tronto to recover its crucifix.

At the time, only meters (yards) from the church, firefighters were using their hands to dig out the two sisters, he said.

"The older one, Giulia, was sprawled over the smaller one, Giorgia. Giulia, dead, Giorgia, alive. They were in an embrace," D'Ercole said.

He spoke beneath the crucifix that he recovered that evening, hung in a community gym transformed into a makeshift chapel, as Italy held a national day of mourning.

As weeping Italians bid Giulia and 34 other quake victims farewell with a state funeral, Giorgia spent her fourth birthday in a nearby hospital Saturday, recovering from her ordeal.

Massimo Caico, the firefighter who pulled the girls out, told Italy's La Repubblica newspaper that the position of the older girl's body apparently created a pocket of air that allowed Giorgia to survive.

He recounted how a black Labrador, Leo, first gave a sign that he smelled something. Rescuers began digging, finding at first a doll and then a cold human leg, that of Giulia.

Then he saw the ground nearby moving "in the rhythm of what could be breathing."

"Maybe they hugged each other in their sleep or in fear, and the body of Giulia saved Giorgia," Caico

told the newspaper.

According to Italian news reports, Giorgia is in a state of shock and is practically not speaking anymore. She is only sleeping, crying and asking for her doll and her mother, who is also recovering from earthquake injuries.

Man faces 2 capital murder charges in Mississippi nun deaths

EMILY WAGSTER PETTUS, Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Miss. (AP) — A man suspected in the slayings of two Mississippi nuns who were found dead inside a residence within the community they served has been arrested and charged with two counts of capital murder, Mississippi authorities said.

Rodney Earl Sanders, 46, of Kosciusko, Mississippi, was charged in the deaths of Sister Margaret Held and Sister Paula Merrill, Mississippi Department of Public Safety spokesman Warren Strain said in a statement released late Friday night. Both women were 68.

The bodies of both women were discovered Thursday after they failed to show up for work at a clinic in Lexington, Mississippi, about 10 miles from where they lived.

"Sanders was developed as a person of interest early on in the investigation," Lt. Colonel Jimmy Jordan said in the statement.

Authorities said Sanders was being held in an undisclosed detention center pending a court appearance.

Meanwhile, in the poverty-stricken Mississippi county where the two nuns were slain, forgiveness for their killer is hard to find, even if forgiveness is what the victims would have wanted.

Held and Merrill were nurse practitioners who dedicated their lives to providing health care to people in the poorest county in the state. And as authorities sought the killer, many residents wondered how they will fill the hole the women's deaths have left.

"Right now, I don't see no forgiveness on my heart," said Joe Morgan Jr., a 58-year-old former factory worker who has diabetes and was a patient of Merrill's at the clinic where the two nuns worked.

He said Merrill would want him to forgive whoever killed the women, but he hopes the perpetrator is arrested, convicted and executed.

"She doesn't deserve to die like this, doing God's work," Morgan said, shaking his head. "There's something wrong with the world."

Both women worked at the clinic, where they gave flu shots, dispensed insulin and provided other medical care for children and adults who couldn't afford it.

Their stolen car was found abandoned a mile from their home, and there were signs of a break-in, but police haven't disclosed a motive.

Authorities have not said how the women were killed, but the Rev. Greg Plata of St. Thomas Catholic Church in Lexington, where the nuns had led Bible study for years, said police told him they were stabbed.

The state posted a reward of \$20,000 for information leading to an arrest and conviction.

Plata said both nuns' religious communities have asked that people pray for the killer or killers. Asked about people's struggles to forgive, the priest said: "Forgiveness is at the heart of being a Christian. Look at Jesus on the cross: 'Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.'"

On Friday, a handwritten sign on the front door of Lexington Medical Clinic said it was closed until Monday.

The clinic and the nuns' home in Durant are in Holmes County, population 18,000. With 44 percent of its residents living in poverty, Holmes is the seventh-poorest county in America, according to the

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Census Bureau.

The slayings did more than shock people and plunge the county into mourning. They leave a gaping hole in what was already a strapped health care system.

Dr. Elias Abboud, who worked with the sisters for years and helped build the clinic, said it provided about 25 percent of all medical care in the county.

The two nuns cultivated relationships with drug company representatives, who often left extra free samples, according to clinic manager Lisa Dew.

"This is a poor area, and they dignified those who are poor with outreach and respect for them," Plata said. "They treated each person as a child of God."

Merrill's sister Rosemarie, speaking by telephone from her Stoneham, Massachusetts, home, said her sister had been in Mississippi helping the poor since 1981 and had previously worked in Holly Springs, where she used to ride around on a moped and was instrumental in locating the source of a tuberculosis outbreak.

Merrill was raised in the suburbs of Boston and came from a working-class family, her father a laborer and her mother a bookkeeper, her nephew David said. He said his aunt had worked with Held for many years.

"We always considered Margaret just part of the family," he said. "The word 'sister' has many meanings, and they fulfilled all of them."

Rosemarie Merrill said she doesn't know what will happen to the clinic now and worries about the effect on health care in Holmes County. She said her sister and Held would often go into the clinic on Sundays after Mass or on their days off.

"It's just going to be a disaster," she said.

Genette Pierce, who works at a home health and hospice business a few doors down from the clinic, said: "Their patients — all of them — they're going to be lost without them right now."

Far-reaching tribal solidarity displayed at pipeline protest

JAMES MacPHERSON, Associated Press

NEAR THE STANDING ROCK SIOUX RESERVATION, N.D. (AP) — Native Americans from reservations hundreds of miles away from North Dakota have joined the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's growing protest against a \$3.8 billion four-state oil pipeline that they say could disturb sacred sites and impact drinking water for 8,000 tribal members and millions further downstream.

About 30 people have been arrested in recent weeks and the company has temporarily stopped construction. A federal judge will rule before Sept. 9 on whether construction can be halted on the Dakota Access pipeline, which will pass through Iowa, Illinois, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Meet a few of the people camping out near the confluence of the Cannonball and Missouri Rivers in southern North Dakota:

WAMBLI JOHNSON was supposed to begin third grade last week in northern Arizona's Black Mesa, on the Navajo Nation. Instead, she rode horses, saw buffalo up close for the first time and made new friends from other tribes.

"This is school," the soft-spoken 11-year-old who speaks Navajo as her first language said of her experience outside of the 2.3 million-acre reservation.

It was Wambli who persuaded her mother, Osh, to make the daylong drive and join members of nearly 100 tribes and other protesters from around the country after hearing about the protest through relatives and social media.

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On Thursday, Wambli presented protest organizers with \$150 she earned selling her homemade laundry detergent soap door-to-door in one of the poorest and most remote communities on the Navajo Nation, which spans parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. It took her nearly a month to raise the money, one \$2 to \$4 soap at a time. Her pitch: "I don't want water to be poisoned," she said.

It wasn't a tough sell, said Wambli, whose own home has no running water and instead has to be hauled in, a chore in which she helps.

"We know water is life," Osh Johnson said.

VIVIAN JOHNSON's first few years were spent living in traditional Sioux teepee on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation in north-central South Dakota.

For the past several weeks, the 65-year-old, her four children and seven grandchildren have been making teepees and tents their home at the protest site.

"I'm here to save our water and to save our children," she said.

Johnson, visibly exhausted, said she intended to stay "as long as it takes" until the pipeline plan is killed.

"It's a shame it has to be this way," Johnson said. "I'm tired. And I'm tired of the people fighting over this. I just want peace and this pipeline to go away."

JON DON ILONE REED is no stranger to conflict. The 30-year-old member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe said he answered the call of his country, joining the Army and taking part in a military offensive to drive the insurgents from the late dictator Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit, Iraq.

"Now, I hear the call of my people," Reed said of his decision to join the protest.

Imposing but polite, Reed wore a mixture of Army camouflage and traditional tribal dress and his chest bears the scars of a Sun Dance, a sacred — and once illegal — Lakota ceremony. Dancers pierce their bodies with sticks tethered to tree by ropes. After days of dancing under the sun, the sticks are ripped from their flesh by pulling away from the tree. The dance is a symbol of sacrifice in hopes their creator will hear their prayers.

Reed said he wants the government and the Texas-based pipeline company to hear the pleas of protesters, and prays the protest will remain peaceful.

"I fought in Iraq," he said. "Now I'm fighting for our children and our water."

JOYE BRAUN, an organizer of the "spirit camp," has been on site since April 1 — "when there was still snow on the ground."

"Now we're getting ready for winter again," said Braun, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and an organizer with the Indigenous Environmental Network. "We're not going anywhere."

She also hopes the protests stay peaceful.

"We're not against the police at all," she said. "We're not against the construction crews — we know they are just trying to make a living. But they are working for the wrong company."

Braun said the issue is just as much about tribal rights as it is protecting the water and sacred sites. "It will not come through. Period."

Nevada becomes one of Trump's big hopes for swing state win

NICHOLAS RICCARDI, Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Russ Wheeler bears the financial scars of Nevada's lost decade, and he hopes Donald Trump can heal them.

He worked for a Las Vegas roofing company when the real estate bust crushed the state's economy. He took two pay cuts before getting laid off. He had to commute into the California desert to find work after that.

Wheeler considers himself one of the lucky ones. He was able to build up enough savings to retire, but even now his wife had her teaching hours reduced at a community college, dramatically reducing their household's income.

"It'll be better with Trump because he'll bring the jobs back," Wheeler, 66, said as he stopped by a Republican Party office to scoop up some "Make America Great Again" yard signs and bumper stickers. "Everybody I know is a Trump supporter. He resonates well in Nevada."

Nevada is the most diverse battleground state. On paper, it should be secure for Democrats. But there are enough people like Wheeler, still rattled by the recession and frustrated about other things, to make it one of Trump's best swing states.

Democrats and Republicans agree that the state's competitiveness is not just a quirk of public polling, which has a spotty track record in Nevada, but is reflected in private surveys, the tightness of Nevada's races for the U.S. Senate and House, and the observations of seasoned political operatives.

"Nevada's a picture of where the country's at," said Yvanna Cancela, political director of the Culinary Union, which represents nearly 60,000, mostly immigrant workers in casinos and hotels on the Strip. "It's increasingly diverse but the ideas of nationalism, open borders are very much at play here."

The economy has recovered since the recession. The unemployment rate is down to 6.5 percent from 13.7 percent in 2010. While home prices have doubled since 2012, they are well below their 2007 peak, and many Las Vegas residents live in subdivisions dotted with still-unoccupied houses.

Nevada also has one of the lowest rates of college education in the country, with only 23 percent of its population having graduated college, giving Trump a reservoir of noncollege graduates that traditionally form his base. And the state's anti-establishment streak and rebellious culture may prove a good fit for the brash New York developer and reality show star.

"In Nevada, we have this mindset of it's us versus the world," said Charles Munoz, Trump's state director. "It's the perfect storm of policy and messaging."

The stakes in Nevada go beyond the state's six electoral votes in the presidential election. The race for retiring Democratic Sen. Harry Reid's seat pits his hand-picked successor, former state Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto, against U.S. Rep. Joe Heck. Two of the state's four U.S. House seats are also in play.

The state has become a presidential bellwether, voting for the winning candidate in every election since 1980. But its partisan divides have hardened as an influx of immigrants has helped fuel Las Vegas' boom and pull political power from the more rural and conservative northern part of the state.

"When I first moved here in 1974, you could barely tell the Republicans and the Democrats apart," said Donna West, 59, who was working a phone bank for Clinton one recent night. "Now there are huge differences."

Those differences provide Clinton with plenty of advantages in the state.

Democrats have a formidable Nevada ground game, with 70,000 more registered Democrats than Republicans to date. It's a gap similar to that in 2012, when President Barack Obama won the state by 6 percentage points. Clinton has targeted the state for more than a year, announcing her immigration policy there in 2015 to appeal to Nevada's growing numbers of Latinos and Asian-Americans. The state

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is 51 percent white, though whites comprised two-thirds of the 2012 electorate, according to census data.

"We know that we have the votes, we just have to turn them out," said Clinton state director Jorge Neri, who has a view of Trump's Las Vegas hotel from his office in the Clinton campaign's headquarters.

That hotel, rising just off the Strip and surrounded by a sea of stucco, Asian markets and adult video stores, has been engaged in a battle with the Culinary Union, which organized more than 500 of its workers. The hotel refused to recognize the union until the National Labor Relations Board forced it to do so in April. Now the union complains the hotel won't negotiate a contract and has sent housekeepers and bartenders there to picket Trump rallies nationwide.

Democrats think the union battle can convince Nevadans that Trump's populism is phony and he actually hurts workers. "For some people in the country it may seem like a distant thing, but this is in our backyard," Neri said.

The Trump campaign sees the hotel as a net positive. "Trump has invested in this state while Hillary Clinton hasn't," Munoz said.

On Friday, Trump met at the hotel with about two dozen Latino supporters, Republican leaders and campaign staffers, and asserted: "People don't know how well we're doing with the Hispanics, the Latinos. We're doing really well."

How AP rates the presidential race and the Road to 270

EMILY SWANSON, Associated Press

Hillary Clinton heads into the fall out front in enough states to give her at least a tie in the Electoral College, meaning that a victory in any of the several states now considered a toss-up would be enough to push her over the top and into the White House.

For Donald Trump, the electoral map is as daunting as it is friendly to Clinton. To win, he must sweep all of the toss-up battlegrounds and go on to pick off at least one state where the Democratic nominee now has an advantage.

That's according to an Associated Press analysis of the map as it stands today. The analysis considers preference polling, recent electoral history, demographic trends and campaign priorities such as advertising, travel and on-the-ground staff.

A look at the race, state by state:

SOLID DEMOCRATIC: California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maine 2nd District, Massachusetts, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington state.

LEANS DEMOCRATIC: Colorado, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Wisconsin.

TOSS-UP: Florida, Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio.

LEANS REPUBLICAN: Arizona, Georgia, Missouri, Nebraska 2nd District, Utah.

SOLID REPUBLICAN: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, Wyoming.

Kaine's wife, Anne Holton, no stranger to political stage

ALAN SUDERMAN, Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — Anne Holton first stepped into the spotlight in 1970 as a white student enrolling in a predominantly black middle school in Virginia's capital as part of a push for school integration by her father, the state's governor at the time.

Decades later she's stepping onto an even bigger stage as she works to get Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton and Holton's husband, vice presidential nominee Tim Kaine, elected to the White House.

A vivacious Harvard Law graduate, former judge and former state secretary of education, Holton has begun campaigning solo for Clinton. She's expected to stay on the campaign trail, both with her husband and by herself, through Election Day.

Officially, Holton is going to a focus on promoting Clinton's plans for education, foster care reform, and other issues. But her unofficial role appears to be trying to make Clinton more relatable. She often highlights Clinton's role as a new grandmother in campaign appearances, sometimes eliciting "awwws" from friendly audiences.

"I'm not intimidated by politicians. I understand that, at least the good ones, can be pretty normal people," Holton said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. "I really do feel like voters, while they think they know a lot about Hillary, they really don't know as much as they think they know."

Friends and associates say Holton is well qualified for the rigors of a national campaign and, like her husband, is viewed by supporters as down to earth, approachable and someone with a genuine passion for public service.

Kaine and Holton are also known for not taking themselves too seriously. At a recent campaign stop in North Carolina, the Virginia senator played harmonica with a band while his wife showed off some folk dancing moves.

"Anne will be an asset to the team, if they let her be herself," said Tag Greason, a Republican state lawmaker who worked with Holton on education issues. "That authenticity will come through."

Holton's father, A. Linwood Holton Jr., is a moderate Republican who worked to improve race relations when he became, in 1970, the first GOP governor in Virginia in nearly a century. He enrolled his children in predominantly black public schools in Richmond to spur integration in a state whose capital had also been the capital of the Confederacy.

Linwood Holton said his daughter took her attendance at a new middle school in stride.

"Anne could handle anything and made a lot of fun of the way the newspapers were treating it," Holton wrote in his autobiography.

After graduating from Princeton and then Harvard Law school, where she met Kaine, Anne Holton returned to Richmond to work as a legal aid lawyer before becoming a family court judge. She and Kaine raised three children and became fixtures in their North Richmond neighborhood and their racially mixed Catholic church.

Like her husband, Holton enjoys the outdoors. She helped start a cycling club in her neighborhood for women, called Mother Bikers, complete with its own T-shirts.

"This was when our kids were little and it was partly an excuse to get away on Saturday morning," Holton said.

When Holton became Virginia's first lady she moved back to the same Executive Mansion where she had lived as a child. Though she resigned her judgeship, she made clear to her husband's staff she was eager to contribute. "I really want to work!" Holton wrote in a 2006 memo.

Holton devoted herself to reforming the state's foster care system, particularly in helping older chil-

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dren get adopted. Official figures show the number of Virginia children in foster care started dropping steadily after Kaine's first year as governor.

Marilyn Tavenner, who was Kaine's secretary of health and human services and later became head of the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, said Holton used her perch as first lady "in a very graceful way" — as a strong advocate who did not micromanage.

"She was in the background, constantly being a voice of conscience," Tavenner said.

Holton continued to work on foster care issues after Kaine's four-year term — Virginia's governors cannot have consecutive terms — before becoming secretary of education under Gov. Terry McAuliffe in 2014.

Holton also campaigned with Kaine in his successful 2012 race for the Senate. She visited deep-red Southwest Virginia, home of the state's struggling coal country and where she was born, in Roanoke, in 1958.

Holton said she'd be happy to visit similar communities around the country and hopes to be put to use in key battleground states.

But one thing she won't do, Holton said, is go on the attack. She noted that her father remained friends with William C. Battle, the man he beat in the 1969 gubernatorial race, and gave the eulogy at Battle's funeral many years later.

"That's my dad's training," she said.

Little precedent for \$400 million cash payment to Iran

BRADLEY KLAPPER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A \$400 million cash delivery to Iran to repay a decades-old arbitration claim may be unprecedented in recent U.S. history, according to legal experts and diplomatic historians, raising further questions about a payment timed to help free four American prisoners in Iran.

The money was sent to Iran on Jan. 17, the same day Iran agreed to release the prisoners. The Obama administration claimed for months the events were separate, but recently acknowledged the cash was used as leverage until the Americans were allowed to leave Iran. Only then, did the U.S. allow a plane with euros, Swiss francs and other foreign currency loaded on pallets to take off in the other direction for Tehran.

"There's actually not anything particularly unusual about the mechanism for this transaction," White House press secretary Josh Earnest said this week of the initial cash payment.

But diplomatic historians and lawyers with expertise in international arbitration struggled to find any similar examples.

Asked to recall a similar payment of the U.S. using cash or hard money to settle an international dispute, the office of the State Department historian couldn't provide an example.

The acknowledgement that the prisoners and the payment were linked, and the unusual cash delivery, have fueled Republican claims that a "ransom" was paid. At a news conference this month, President Barack Obama said cash was used because the U.S. and Iran don't have a banking relationship after years of U.S. sanctions on Iran, making a check or wire transfer impossible.

The \$400 million was the principal owed by the U.S. on a 1970s Iranian account for buying U.S. military equipment. After Iran's 1979 overthrow of the U.S.-backed shah and the U.S. Embassy hostage crisis in Tehran, the weapons were never delivered. Iran has wanted the money back plus interest ever since. Seven months ago, two sides put the matter to rest with a \$1.7 billion settlement.

Alan Henrikson, diplomatic history professor at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, found a precedent by reaching back to the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo that ended the Mexican-American War.

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The accord called for the United States to pay Mexico \$15 million, an amount worth about \$482 million in today's money, he said. The payment was determined "in consideration of the extension acquired by the boundaries of the United States," vague diplomatic wording designed to compensate Mexico for a massive loss of territory that included all of California and parts of seven other states. At the same time, the Americans avoided any acceptance of national guilt.

The treaty stipulated that the U.S. immediately pay \$3 million — or nearly \$100 million in 2016 dollars — in Mexico City in the form of Mexico's gold or silver coin. The remainder had to be paid the same way in \$3 million installments each year, with the debt subject to a fixed rate of 6 percent annual interest. President Ulysses S. Grant would later declare it "conscience money."

"Ambiguity is often needed in diplomacy in order to achieve agreement," Henrikson said. "What is important, in my view, is that both sides to a negotiation clearly understand, even if only tacitly, what is being agreed upon when ambiguity is used. This is not all that subtle, actually. It is life."

The administration has been ambiguous from the start about its settlement seven months ago. Reports by the Wall Street Journal have led to recent acknowledgements about the \$400 million delivered in stacks of cash and the connection to the American prisoners. But officials still won't say how Iran received the \$1.3 billion in interest.

It was done "in a fairly above-board way," a senior administration official intimately involved in the Iran negotiations said in a conference call last week, saying only that the interest payments involved an unidentified, foreign central bank. The official wasn't authorized to be quoted by name and demanded anonymity. The State Department said Wednesday the payments were made Jan. 19, two days after the cash delivery.

Other settlements with Iran and other foreign claimants in recent decades bore some similarities to this latest transaction. But none seemed to involve planeloads of cash.

In 1996, President Bill Clinton reached a settlement with Iran over the U.S. Navy's 1988 downing of an Iran Air passenger plane that killed 290 people.

The arrangement totaled \$131.8 million but there was no cash delivery. Instead, \$61 million was deposited in a Swiss bank account that was jointly held by the New York Federal Reserve and the Iranian Central Bank. The money was reserved for the families of those killed, not the Iranian government. The remainder of the settlement was mainly used to cover Iranian debts to U.S. claimants in separate arbitration cases.

And in 1998, the U.S. settled a dispute with Pakistan after halting the delivery of an F-16 aircraft purchase. The compensation was described as \$325 million in cash and \$140 million in surplus agricultural commodities, mainly wheat and soy, but the precise mechanics of the payment were never spelled out.

"There were no sanctions regarding dollars or banks in Pakistan, so it may have been that the 'cash payment' was a bank transfer," said Marcia Wiss, an international lawyer with a private practice in Washington.

Bangladesh police kill 3, including suspect in Dhaka attack

NEW DELHI (AP) — Police in Bangladesh killed three suspected militants Saturday, including an alleged mastermind of a major attack on a cafe last month that left 20 people dead.

Police sharpshooters raided a two-story house in Narayanganj district near the capital, Dhaka, after receiving a tip that Tamim Chowdhury, a Bangladeshi-born Canadian, and others were hiding there, top counterterrorism official Monirul Islam said.

Police say Chowdhury is one of two masterminds of the attack on a popular restaurant in Dhaka on July 1 that killed 20 people, including 17 foreigners.

The militants belonged to the banned group Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh, or JMB, Bangladesh's police chief A.K.M. Shahidul Hoque told reporters.

Chowdhury is also suspected to be behind a July 7 attack on an Eid gathering outside Dhaka marking the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, he said. Four people died in that attack, including two police officers.

Police said they found guns, ammunition and meat cleavers in the apartment where the men were holed up. The men also set off explosions to destroy their computers and other evidence, said Sanwar Hossain, a senior police officer.

"We heard explosions inside the apartment and we understood that they were destroying evidence," Hossain said. "When we felt that they would not surrender, we made our final push and killed them."

When police forced their way into the apartment, they found two bodies near the main door, and Chowdhury's body was found in another room, Hossain said.

Bangladeshi police have been conducting raids across the country to hunt those behind the attacks.

After storming the building Saturday, a SWAT team made the final push and fatally shot the suspects after they failed to surrender. Haque said the team asked them to give themselves up but that they kept on firing.

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the restaurant attack, but authorities have denied the claim, saying it was the act of the JMB and that the IS has no presence in the Muslim-majority country.

Max Ritvo, poet who chronicled cancer battle, dies at 25

ROBERT JABLON, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Max Ritvo, a poet who chronicled his long battle with cancer in works that were both humorous and searing, has died. He was 25.

Ritvo died Tuesday morning at his home in the Brentwood area of Los Angeles, his mother, Ariella Ritvo-Slifka, said Friday.

Ritvo was diagnosed at 16 with Ewing's sarcoma, a rare cancer that affects bones and soft tissue in children and young adults.

Treatment brought about a remission that permitted Ritvo to finish high school and attend Yale University, where he performed in an improv comedy group. His teachers included Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Louise Gluck.

Ritvo's cancer returned in his senior year, but he completed Yale and this year earned a master's degree from Columbia University.

Ritvo's battle with the disease informed his works. A June poem in *The New Yorker* discussed an experiment where cells from his tumors were used in cancer drug treatment experiments with mice.

"I want my mice to be just like me," Ritvo wrote. "I don't have any children. I named them all Max. First they were Max 1, Max 2, but now they're all just Max. No playing favorites."

Ritvo's first book of poetry, "Four Reincarnations," is scheduled to be published this fall.

In radio and podcast interviews, Ritvo spoke about his suffering. But he rejected any idea that he was a victim of the disease — especially a heroic one.

At their wedding last summer, Ritvo and his wife, Victoria, banned words such as "inspirational" from the speeches, his mother said.

"He was about love and compassion, human and animal rights and about writing and sharing himself with the world," she said. "He didn't want people to see him as an invalid."

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Ritvo saw humor not as a coping mechanism but as an intrinsic part of dealing with his illness.

"You know, we imagine in our hysteria that it's disrespectful for the sadness. But when you laugh at something horrible, you're just illuminating a different side of it that was already there and it's not a deflection, it makes it deeper and makes it realer," he said last month in the WNYC Studios podcast "Only Human."

Ritvo also inspired people with his attitude, his wife said.

"Max said 'I love you' to everyone. He hugged everyone. He just wanted there to be more love and laughter," she said.

Ritvo was writing until just days before his death and had told his family that the end would be near when he was no longer able to write.

The day before his death, he told his mother and wife: "I can't write anymore, I can't speak, I can't breathe...I'm not me...You guys have to be OK with me going," his mother said.

Earlier this month, Ritvo tweeted a link to poem called "The Final Voicemails," which he said was "about goin a bit loopy under quarantine and what Death is."

Its final lines: "Red as earth, red as a dying berry, red as your lips, red as the last thing I saw — and whatever next thing I will see."

Filipinos seen backing Duterte despite rising drug killings

TERESA CERAJANO, Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — On the day he was sworn into office, President Rodrigo Duterte went to a Manila slum and exhorted residents who knew any drug addicts to "go ahead and kill them yourself as getting their parents to do it would be too painful."

Two months later, nearly 2,000 suspected drug pushers and users lay dead as morgues continue to fill up. Faced with criticism of his actions by rights activists, international bodies and outspoken Filipinos, including the top judge, Duterte has stuck to his guns and threatened to declare martial law if the Supreme Court meddles in his work.

According to a survey early last month, he has the support of nearly 91 percent of Filipinos. The independent poll was done during his first week in office, and no new surveys have come out since then.

National police chief Ronald dela Rosa told a Senate hearing this week that police have recorded more than 1,900 dead, including 756 suspected drug dealers and users who were gunned down after they resisted arrest. More than 1,000 other deaths are under investigation, and some of them may not be drug-related, he said.

Jayeel Cornelio, a doctor of sociology and director of Ateneo de Manila University's Development Studies Program, said he suspects only a few of Duterte's supporters are disillusioned by the killings and his rhetoric because voters trust his campaign promise to crush drug criminals. They also find resonance in his cursing and no-holds-barred comments.

Duterte's death threats against criminals, his promise to battle corruption, his anti-establishment rhetoric and gutter humor have enamored Filipinos living on the margins of society. He overwhelmingly won the election, mirroring public exasperation over the social ills he condemns.

Economic Planning Secretary Ernesto Pernia has said the killings "may be a necessary evil in the pursuit of a greater good," a sentiment echoed by a deluge of comments by Duterte supporters in social media deriding his critics and defending the brutal war on drugs.

"The killings are OK so there will be less criminals, drug pushers and drug addicts in our society," said Rex Alisoso, a 25-year-old cleaner in Manila. He said people have gotten used to the way Duterte talks and voted for him knowing his ways.

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Kim Labasan, a Manila shopkeeper, said she does not like Duterte's constant swearing, his "stepping on too many toes," and his decision to allow late dictator Ferdinand Marcos to be buried in the Heroes' Cemetery. But she supports the anti-drug war despite the rising death toll because, she said, she has personally seen the effects of drugs. Addicts in her hometown north of Manila have ended up with "poisoned brains" and even robbed her family's home.

"A battle of moralities is being waged right now by this administration — before, if you were a human rights advocate you are a hero of the country, now you are seen as someone who can destroy the country," Cornelio said.

He said that Duterte fosters "penal populism" — identifying a particular enemy, a criminal, and then hunting him down to death. Because the results are visible, tangible and people feel it, "it becomes more important than many other things to the ordinary person."

Duterte has said drugs were destroying the country. In his State of the Nation Address last month, he said "human rights cannot be used as a shield or an excuse to destroy the country."

He also lashed out at U.S. Ambassador Philip Goldberg, calling him gay in derogatory terms, after he criticized Duterte's rape comments during the presidential campaign. He threatened to pull the Philippines out of the United Nations because of U.N. comments condemning extrajudicial killings, saying he did not "give a shit" about the consequences. The following day, Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay said the Philippines was not leaving the U.N. and Duterte made the comment only because he was tired, angry and frustrated.

Phelim Kine, Human Rights Watch's deputy Asia director, said Duterte "is streamrolling the rule of law and its advocates both at home and abroad." The killings suggest his aggressive rhetoric advocating extrajudicial solutions to criminality has found a receptive audience, Kine said.

"His supporters are cheering him on, but wait till one of them is killed," said Ferdie Monasterio, a driver of a ride-sharing company who doesn't support Duterte. "He is no different from Marcos and it looks like he wants to establish a dictatorship."

Cornelio said the death toll is not the clincher in turning public sentiment against Duterte, because a lot of people look at them as justified killings. He said that Duterte's first year in office will be crucial since he promised quick action.

"I think the threshold has to do with the delivery of the promises," he said. "Are changes going to happen sooner or later? If they don't then, people will start getting disillusioned."

WHY IT MATTERS: Issues at stake in election

EDITOR'S NOTE _ A look at issues at stake in the election and their impact on people

WASHINGTON (AP) — A selection of issues at stake in the presidential election and their impact on Americans, in brief:

TRADE

In this angry election year, many American voters are skeptical about free trade — or hostile to it.

The backlash threatens a pillar of U.S. policy: The United States has long sought global trade.

Economists say imports cut prices for consumers and make the U.S. more efficient.

But unease has simmered, especially as American workers faced competition from low-wage Chinese labor. Last year, the U.S. ran a \$334 billion trade deficit with China — \$500 billion with the entire world.

The Democratic and Republican presidential candidates are both playing to public suspicions about trade deals. Hillary Clinton broke with President Barack Obama by opposing an Asia-Pacific trade agreement that she had supported as secretary of state.

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Donald Trump vows to tear up existing trade deals and to slap huge tariffs on Chinese imports. But trade deals have far less impact on jobs than forces such as automation and wage differences between countries. Trump's plans to impose tariffs could start a trade war and raise prices.

SUPREME COURT

The ideological direction of the Supreme Court is going to tip one way or the other after the election. The outcome could sway decisions on issues that profoundly affect everyday Americans: immigration, gun control, climate change and more.

The court has been operating with eight justices since Antonin Scalia died in February. His successor appears unlikely to be confirmed until after the election. The court is split between four Democratic-appointed, liberal justices and four conservatives who were appointed by Republicans — although Justice Anthony Kennedy has sided with the liberals on abortion, same-sex marriage and affirmative action in the past two years.

The ninth justice will push the court left or right, depending on whether Democrat Hillary Clinton or Republican Donald Trump becomes president. President Barack Obama has nominated Merrick Garland to take Scalia's seat, but the Republican Senate has refused to consider Garland's nomination, in an effort to prevent a liberal court majority.

CHINA

Tensions have been rising over China's assertive behavior in the seas of Asia. The U.S. also accuses China of unfair trading practices and cyber theft of business secrets.

Donald Trump says that the sheer volume of trade gives the U.S. leverage over China. He accuses China of undervaluing its currency to make its exports artificially cheap and proposes tariffs as high as 45 percent on Chinese imports if Beijing doesn't change its behavior. Such action could risk a trade war that would make many products in the U.S. more expensive.

Clinton says the U.S. needs to press the rising Asian power to play by international rules, whether on trade or territorial disputes.

While many of China's neighbors are unnerved by its military build-up, the wider world needs the U.S. and China to get along, to tackle global problems. The U.S. and China are also economically interdependent, and punishment by one party could end up hurting the other.

INCOME INEQUALITY

Income inequality has surged near levels last seen before the Great Depression. The average income for the top 1 percent of households climbed 7.7 percent last year to \$1.36 million, according to tax data. That privileged sliver of the population saw pay climb at almost twice the rate of income growth for the other 99 percent, whose pay averaged a humble \$48,768.

Dogged on the issue during the primaries by Bernie Sanders, Hillary Clinton has highlighted inequality in multiple speeches. She hopes to redirect more money to the middle class and impoverished. Clinton would raise taxes on the wealthy, increase the federal minimum wage, boost infrastructure spending, provide universal pre-K and offer the prospect of tuition-free college.

Donald Trump offers a blunter message about a system "rigged" against average Americans. To bring back jobs, Trump has promised new trade deals with better terms, greater infrastructure spending than Clinton foresees and higher budget deficits. But Trump has also proposed a tax plan that would allow the wealthiest Americans to keep more money.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC

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More than 28,000 Americans died from overdosing on opioids in 2014, a record high for the nation.

That's 78 people per day, a number that doesn't include the millions of family members, first responders and even taxpayers who feel the ripple of drug addiction in their daily lives.

A rise in prescription painkillers is partially to blame: The sale of these drugs has quadrupled since 1999, and so has the number of Americans dying from an addiction to them. When prescriptions run out, people find themselves turning to the cheaper alternative heroin and, increasingly, the even more deadly drug fentanyl.

Recovering addicts and their family members are increasingly speaking out, putting a face on drug addiction and lessening the stigma surrounding it. But dollars for prevention, treatment and recovery services are still hard to come by, leaving many people waiting weeks or months to find the treatment they're seeking. Meantime, family members empty bank accounts in search of help, while law enforcement officers and emergency rooms serve as a first line of defense.

Donald Trump says the wall he wants to build along the southern border is essential to stopping the flow of illegal drugs into the country. Hillary Clinton, meanwhile, pledges to spend \$10 billion to increase access to prevention, treatment and recovery services, among other things.

NORTH KOREA

Pariah state North Korea could soon be capable of targeting America with nuclear weapons. What can the U.S. do to stop it?

Diplomacy and economic sanctions have not worked so far. North Korea's isolation is deepening, but it has continued to conduct nuclear test explosions and make advances in its missile technology.

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump says the U.S. can put more pressure on China to rein in its North Korean ally. He says he is willing to meet the North Korean leader, Kim Jong Un.

Democrat Hillary Clinton wants the world to intensify sanctions as the Obama administration did with Iran, a course that eventually opened the way for a deal to contain its nuclear program.

But it will be tough to force North Korea back to negotiations that aim at its disarmament in exchange for aid. Kim views atomic weapons as a security guarantee for his oppressive regime

HEALTH CARE

About 9 in 10 Americans now have health insurance, more than at any time in history. But progress is incomplete, and the future far from certain. Rising costs could bedevil the next occupant of the White House.

Millions of people previously shut out have been covered by President Barack Obama's health care law. No one can be denied coverage anymore because of a pre-existing condition. But "Obamacare" remains divisive, and premiums for next year are rising sharply in many communities.

Whether Americans would be better off trading for a GOP plan is another question. A recent study found that Donald Trump's proposal would make 18 million people uninsured. GOP congressional leaders have a more comprehensive approach, but key details are still missing.

Overall health care spending is trending higher again, and prices for prescription drugs — new and old — are a major worry.

Medicare's insolvency date has moved up by two years — to 2028.

Hillary Clinton would stay the course, adjusting as needed. Republicans are united on repealing Obama's law, but it's unclear how they would replace it.

AMERICA AND THE WORLD

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How the U.S. uses its influence as the world's sole superpower is a central feature of presidential power.

It can mean taking the country to war — to protect the homeland or to defend an ally. Or it can mean using diplomacy to prevent war. It can affect U.S. jobs, too, as choices arise either to expand trade deals or to erect barriers to protect U.S. markets.

In the contest between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, America's role in the world is a point of sharp differences. Each says the U.S. must be the predominant power, but they would exercise leadership differently. Trump calls his approach "America first," meaning alliances and coalitions would not pass muster unless they produced a net benefit to the U.S. Clinton sees international partnerships as essential tools for using U.S. influence and lessening the chances of war.

These divergent views could mean very different approaches to the military fight and ideological struggle against the Islamic State, the future of Afghanistan and Iraq, the contest with China for influence in Asia and the Pacific, and growing nervousness in Europe over Russian aggression.

VOTING RIGHTS

Voting rights in America are in flux. Republican-controlled legislatures are tightening voter laws, placing limits on early voting and same-day registration, and imposing new requirements for IDs at polling places. In 2013, the Supreme Court invalidated a key provision of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. That provision had required states with a history of racial discrimination to get federal preclearance to change election laws.

The issue has become highly partisan with the rapid growth of minority populations, which in recent presidential elections have tilted heavily Democratic.

The Obama Justice Department has challenged voter ID and other laws, saying they could restrict access for minorities and young people. Recent lower court rulings temporarily softened some of the toughest restrictions, but litigation remains knotted up with Supreme Court appeals likely. Bills in Congress to restore the Voting Rights Act are stalled.

Donald Trump opposes same-day voter registration, backing laws to ensure only citizens vote. Hillary Clinton wants Congress to restore the Voting Rights Act and seeks a national standard of at least 20 days of early in-person voting.

Associated Press writers Paul Wiseman, Mark Sherman, Josh Boak, Matthew Pennington, Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar, Robert Burns, Hope Yen and Kathleen Ronayne contributed to this report.

This story is part of AP's "Why It Matters" series, which will examine three dozen issues at stake in the presidential election between now and Election Day. You can find them at: <http://apnews.com/tag/WhyItMatters>

Mosul fight is already redrawing the map of northern Iraq

SUSANNAH GEORGE, Associated Press

QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA, Associated Press

QARQASHAH, Iraq (AP) — In the buildup to a long-awaited offensive on the city of Mosul, Kurdish forces are seizing new territory in northern Iraq that they say will become part of their autonomous region. The moves are further straining relations between the Kurds and the Baghdad government and Shiite militias, all ostensibly allies in the fight against the Islamic State group.

Just east of Mosul, Kurdish engineering teams on a recent day were laying down a 3-meter wide,

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20-kilometer long trench and 2-meter high berms, marking the new front line after recapturing the village of Qarqashah and neighboring hamlets from IS earlier this month.

The new de facto borders established by the Kurdish fighters, known as peshmerga, raise the potential for conflict between Iraq's Kurds and Arabs after any eventual defeat of IS — just as in neighboring Syria, where Kurds have also dramatically expanded their zone of control.

"All the areas that have been liberated by the peshmerga forces, our (Kurdish) forces will stay there," said Falah Mustafa, the head of the Iraqi Kurdish region's foreign relations department, echoing statements by numerous officials.

Largely with the help of U.S.-led coalition airstrikes, Kurdish forces have taken territory equivalent to around 50 percent of the size of their recognized autonomous zone.

Their first gain came just days after IS militants took Mosul in the summer of 2014 and stormed down into central Iraq as the military collapsed. Kurdish forces seized the city of Kirkuk, which they have long claimed as their own.

Ostensibly, the move was to protect the city from IS, but Kurdish President Massoud Barzani quickly said the Kurds would keep it. From there, they continued pushing IS out, capturing much of the surrounding province.

Since then, they have taken further territory in the nearby Ninevah province, where Mosul is located, with "shaping operations" ahead of an expected assault on the city. Much of it is territory with a large Kurdish community that the regional government has claimed for years — but not all, meaning the grabs are bringing in populations where some are wary of Kurdish domination.

Similarly, in neighboring Syria, long-oppressed Kurds have used the chaos of the civil war and fight against IS to carve out a zone of control across the country's north.

The new clout of the main Syrian Kurdish fighting force, known as the YPG, has led to tensions with almost every player on the ground there, including Sunni Arab rebels and government forces. Turkey this week launched a major cross-border offensive, aimed mainly at limiting Kurdish expansion.

In Iraq, after the capture of the Qarqashah area, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi pointedly demanded a halt to the peshmerga advances.

But the Kurds refused. The Kurdish regional government's spokesman, Safeen Dizayee, said the peshmerga "will not stop their advances until all Kurdistan's territories in the Ninevah region are liberated." He added that they will not withdraw "from areas they are going to liberate in the future."

Al-Abadi seemed to soften his stance, saying all forces have the right to participate in the Mosul offensive. Still, he underlined that "Ninevah will stay unified."

But Barzani in recent weeks has said a "new formula" is needed to administer the province, without elaborating.

Mustafa said the Kurds were acting because minority groups in Ninevah no longer trust the central government to ensure their safety after the rise of Shiite militias that have been accused of abuses in past anti-IS operations.

Both the peshmerga and the Shiite Arab militias have steadily grown more powerful as the United States and Iran have funneled weapons, training and money into Iraq to back the fight against IS.

Some 230 kilometers (140 miles) southeast of Mosul, deadly clashes broke out in April between Kurdish fighters and Shiite militias in the town of Tuz Khormato, home to Kurds, Sunni Arabs and Shiite Turkmen.

Shiite fighters accuse the Kurdish forces of destroying homes belonging to the town's Turkmen residents. Kurdish forces in turn accuse the Shiite fighters of arbitrarily detaining Sunni Arab residents. Checkpoints and sandbag barriers carve up the town, separating the two sides.

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Jassim Mohammed Jaafar, a Shiite Turkmen member of parliament from the Mosul area, said he worries a similar scenario will play out in parts of Ninevah after Mosul is retaken.

"The Kurds have forces to defend their areas. If we need forces to protect our areas, we will use the Popular Mobilization Forces," he said, referring to the state-backed organization under which the militias are grouped.

A spokesman for the Popular Mobilization Forces, Hashim al-Musawi, said "we have real concerns about the Kurdish forces." He cited reports that Kurds have deported Arab civilians from recaptured territory. Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have published reports documenting such allegations.

Almost a year ago, Kurdish forces retook the northwestern region of Sinjar, dominated by the Yazidi religious minority, who were subjected to massacres and enslavement under IS rule. Tens of thousands of Yazidis fled into the Kurdish region for protection.

Many Yazidis do not consider themselves Kurdish, but rather a distinct ethnic minority, yet Kurdish politicians laid claim to Sinjar during the same press conference in which they declared it "liberated."

Shiite militiamen have also altered Iraq's demography after pushing IS out of hundreds of villages in central Diyala and Salahuddin provinces and largely administering security in the areas they retook. While not backed by coalition airstrikes, Iranian advisers, weapons and funding have helped the militias outstrip Iraq's conventional armed forces.

Many of the mostly Sunni Iraqis who were displaced from those provinces by the violence say they don't feel safe returning with militias in control. Others have been prevented from returning due to strict so-called security checks.

Lukman Sharawani, commander of a small unit of Kurdish fighters stationed north of Mosul, explained that Ninevah — his home province — was once one of the most diverse parts of Iraq.

"Mosul has always been a multi-ethnic city," he said. The plain that lies to the north and east of Mosul is home to some of the region's oldest Christian communities as well as villages that were once home to Shabaks, Yazidis and Kurds.

He pointed to allegations of looting, destruction and arbitrary detentions by Shiite militias after IS was driven out of the western city of Fallujah this year.

"We don't want the same to happen here," he said.

N. Korea says UN condemnation of missile tests 'provocation'

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — North Korea on Saturday expressed anger at United Nations Security Council discussions over a statement denouncing the country's latest submarine-launched missile test.

North Korean Foreign Ministry official Jon Min Dok told Associated Press Television News in an interview that the U.S.-led discussions at the U.N. were a "terrible provocation" and that the country is developing nuclear weapons because of "outrageous nuclear intimidation" by the United States.

Jon spoke just before the Security Council concluded the discussions with a statement strongly condemning all four North Korean ballistic missile launches in July and August, calling them "grave violations" of a ban on all ballistic missile activity.

The statement came after North Korea fired a ballistic missile from a submarine off its eastern coast on Wednesday. South Korean defense officials said the missile was tracked flying about 500 kilometers (310 miles), the longest distance achieved by the North for such a weapon.

Jon said that the latest submarine-launched missile didn't cause any harm to the security of neighbor-

ing countries. He said it showed North Korea's "great power and inexhaustible strength in the face of the trials of history and the challenges of our enemies."

"The best way for the U.S. to escape a deadly strike from us is by refraining from insulting our dignity and threatening our security, by exercising prudence and self-control," Jon said.

North Korea already has a variety of land-based missiles that can hit South Korea and Japan, including U.S. military bases in those countries. Its development of reliable submarine-launched missiles would add a weapon that is harder to detect before launch.

Wednesday's launch was the latest in a series of missile, rocket and other weapon tests this year by North Korea, which is openly pushing to acquire a wider range of nuclear weapons, including those capable of striking targets as far away as mainland United States.

UN condemns 4 North Korean ballistic missile launches

EDITH M. LEDERER, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Security Council strongly condemned four North Korean ballistic missile launches in July and August on Friday night, calling them "grave violations" of a ban on all ballistic missile activity.

A press statement approved by all 15 members deplored the fact that the North's ballistic missile activities are contributing to its development of nuclear weapon delivery systems and increasing tensions.

The council expressed "serious concern" that North Korea carried out the launches after six ballistic missile firings between April and June "in flagrant disregard" of its repeated statements to halt such launches as well as nuclear tests which violate council resolutions.

It urged all U.N. member states "to redouble their efforts" to implement sanctions against Pyongyang, including the toughest measures in two decades imposed by the council in March. Those sanctions reflected growing anger at Pyongyang's nuclear test in January and a subsequent rocket launch.

North Korea has repeatedly flouted Security Council resolutions demanding an end to its nuclear and ballistic missile activities and has continued to launch missiles, escalating tensions on the Korean peninsula and in the region.

The latest submarine launch of a ballistic missile on Wednesday came days after the U.S. and South Korea began military exercises, prompting North Korean threats of retaliation for the military drills, which it views as a rehearsal for invasion by the U.S. and other adversaries.

South Korean officials said the submarine-launched missile flew about 500 kilometers (310 miles), the longest distance achieved by the North for such a weapon. That means all of South Korea, and possibly parts of Japan, are within its striking distance.

The Security Council statement condemned the Aug. 23 launch as well as the North's ballistic missile launches on Aug. 2 and July 18 and the firing of a submarine-launched ballistic missile on July 9.

China, a neighbor and ally of North Korea, had either blocked attempts by the United States and other council members to condemn the three previous attacks when they happened, or insisted on unacceptable language.

The council's agreement on Friday's statement, just two days after the latest North Korean test, reflects growing anger and concern at the North's continuing defiance of the council, including by China.

In Pyongyang, North Korean Foreign Ministry official Jon Min Dok told Associated Press Television News in an interview that the U.S.-led discussions at the U.N. were a "terrible provocation" and that the country is developing nuclear weapons because of "outrageous nuclear intimidation" by the United States.

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Wednesday's launch was the latest in a series of missile, rocket and other weapon tests this year by North Korea, which is openly pushing to acquire a wider range of nuclear weapons, including those capable of striking targets as far away as mainland United States.

In Friday's statement, the Security Council "reiterated the importance of maintaining peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and in northeast Asia at large."

Members also expressed "their commitment to a peaceful, diplomatic and political solution to the situation" and stressed "the importance of working to reduce tensions in the Korean peninsula and beyond."

Transgender North Carolinians get restroom-access win

JONATHAN DREW, Associated Press

EMERY P. DALESIO, Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — A federal judge ruled Friday that two students and an employee must be allowed to use restrooms matching their gender identity at University of North Carolina campuses, and he said they have a strong chance of proving the state's bathroom-access measure violates federal law, a judicial rebuke that transgender rights advocates hailed as a victory.

U.S. District Judge Thomas Schroeder temporarily blocked the University of North Carolina from making the three plaintiffs follow the restroom provision of the so-called HB2 law as the larger case makes its way to trial in November. His final decision on the law won't come until after trial.

Passed in March, HB2 requires transgender people to use restrooms in schools and many public buildings that correspond to the sex on their birth certificates, rather than their gender identity. It also excludes gender identity and sexual orientation from statewide antidiscrimination protections.

The state's Republican leaders argue the law is needed to protect privacy and safety by keeping men out of women's restrooms. Transgender residents challenging the law say that restroom safety is protected by existing laws, while the North Carolina measure is harmful and discriminatory.

In Friday's ruling, Schroeder wrote that the challengers "are likely to succeed" in their arguments that HB2 violates Title IX, a federal law prohibiting gender discrimination in educational institutions.

However, he said plaintiffs haven't shown they are likely to succeed on a claim that the law violates their constitutional equal protection rights, and he reserved judgment on another constitutional claim related to due process.

Rebuffing arguments by the law's defenders, Schroeder also noted that existing laws already protect people's privacy in restrooms.

"North Carolina's peeping and indecent exposure statutes continue to protect the privacy of citizens regardless of" the bathroom provision, Schroeder wrote, "and there is no indication that a sexual predator could successfully claim transgender status as a defense against prosecution under these statutes."

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He said that while his injunction shouldn't pose any hardship to the state leaders seeking to defend the law, failing to block the restroom provision "would cause substantial hardship to the individual transgender Plaintiffs, disrupting their lives."

The plaintiffs challenging the law include a student at UNC's Greensboro campus, an employee at its Chapel Hill campus and a high school student at the state School of the Arts, which is also run by the university system.

The UNC employee, Joaquin Carcano, issued a statement that the judge's decision represents an important step toward defeating the law that has forced him to go far from his office to use a restroom.

"Today, the tightness that I have felt in my chest every day since H.B. 2 passed has eased. But the fight is not over: we won't rest until this discriminatory law is defeated," he said.

The American Civil Liberties Union, which represents the transgender plaintiffs, and the U.S. Justice Department both argued for the injunction to block the restroom access measure. Defending the law are Republican Gov. Pat McCrory, Republican legislative leaders and a citizens group.

Chris Brook, legal director of the ACLU of North Carolina, said in an interview that the ruling shows "HB2 can't be squared with Title IX and can't be enforced at institutions that receive federal education funds."

Several cases seeking to challenge or defend the law were assigned to Schroeder, while another case is pending in a separate federal court.

North Carolina Senate leader Phil Berger and House Speaker Tim Moore issued a statement maintaining that the law represents "commonsense protections to keep grown men out of bathrooms and showers with women and young girls" and saying they were pleased that the ruling only extended to the three plaintiffs.

Friday's decision hinged largely on a ruling by a federal appeals court in favor of a transgender teen seeking to use the boys' restrooms at his Virginia high school. Schroeder noted that appeals' court decision remains the law throughout the 4th Circuit, even though the U.S. Supreme Court temporarily put its enforcement on hold while it considers whether to hear the Virginia case.

UNC law professor Maxine Eichner said she was struck by the fact that the judge — who was appointed by Republican President George W. Bush — carefully weighed the plaintiffs' hardships in the more than 80-page ruling.

"The judge took real care in looking at the facts," she said.

She said that while the ruling only applies to the three plaintiffs, it could embolden North Carolina's public school systems to tailor their restroom access policies to the needs of transgender students.

"A school system could say: 'The writing is on the wall, and we can't lawfully enforce HB2,'" she said. "They also could say, 'We are going to stick this out and wait until a court actually grants an order that applies to us.'"

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Aug. 27, the 240th day of 2016. There are 126 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 27, 1883, the island volcano Krakatoa erupted with a series of cataclysmic explosions; the resulting tidal waves in Indonesia's Sunda Strait claimed some 36,000 lives in Java and Sumatra.

On this date:

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In 1776, the Battle of Long Island began during the Revolutionary War as British troops attacked American forces, who ended up being forced to retreat two days later.

In 1908, Lyndon Baines Johnson, the 36th president of the United States, was born near Stonewall, Texas.

In 1928, the Kellogg-Briand Pact was signed in Paris, outlawing war and providing for the peaceful settlement of disputes.

In 1939, the first turbojet-powered aircraft, the Heinkel He 178, went on its first full-fledged test flight over Germany.

In 1949, a violent white mob prevented an outdoor concert headlined by Paul Robeson from taking place near Peekskill, New York. (The concert was held eight days later.)

In 1957, the USS Swordfish, the second Skate Class nuclear submarine, was launched from the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Maine.

In 1962, the United States launched the Mariner 2 space probe, which flew past Venus in December 1962.

In 1965, influential Swiss-born architect Le Corbusier, 77, died in Cap Martin, France.

In 1975, Haile Selassie (HY'-lee sehl-AH'-see), the last emperor of Ethiopia's 3,000-year-old monarchy, died in Addis Ababa at age 83 almost a year after being overthrown.

In 1979, British war hero Lord Louis Mountbatten and three other people, including his 14-year-old grandson Nicholas, were killed off the coast of Ireland in a boat explosion claimed by the Irish Republican Army.

In 1989, the first U.S. commercial satellite rocket was launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida — a Delta booster carrying a British communications satellite, the Marcopolo 1.

In 2008, Barack Obama was nominated for president by the Democratic National Convention in Denver.

Ten years ago: A Comair CRJ-100 crashed after trying to take off from the wrong runway in Lexington, Kentucky, killing 49 people and leaving the co-pilot the sole survivor. Two Fox News journalists, Steve Centanni and cameraman Olaf Wiig, were freed by militants nearly two weeks after being kidnapped in Gaza City. The action series "24" won Emmys for best drama series and best actor for Kiefer Sutherland; "The Office" was honored as best comedy.

Five years ago: Hurricane Irene, after striking Puerto Rico and the Bahamas, pushed up the U.S. east coast, prompting evacuations in New York City and leaving major flood damage in Vermont. Hundreds of soldiers and federal agents raided a casino in Monterrey in northern Mexico, two days after an arson attack on a gambling house killed 52 people.

One year ago: Visiting residents on tidy porch stoops and sampling the fried chicken at a corner restaurant, President Barack Obama held out the people of New Orleans as an extraordinary example of renewal and resilience 10 years after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Ex-NBA star Darryl Dawkins, 58, whose board-shattering dunks earned him the moniker "Chocolate Thunder" and helped pave the way for breakaway rims, died in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Today's Birthdays: Author Lady Antonia Fraser is 84. Actor Tommy Sands is 79. Bluegrass singer-musician J.D. Crowe is 79. Musician Daryl Dragon is 74. Actress Tuesday Weld is 73. Actor G.W. Bailey is 72. Rock singer-musician Tim Bogert is 72. Actress Marianne Sagebrecht is 71. Country musician Jeff Cook is 67. Actor Paul Reubens is 64. Rock musician Alex Lifeson (Rush) is 63. Actor Peter Stormare is 63. Actress Diana Scarwid is 61. Rock musician Glen Matlock (The Sex Pistols) is 60. Golfer Bernhard Langer is 59. Country singer Jeffrey Steele is 55. Gospel singer Yolanda Adams is 55. Country musician Matthew Basford (Yankee Grey) is 54. Writer-producer Dean Devlin is 54. Rock musician Mike Johnson

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is 51. Rap musician Bobo (Cypress Hill) is 48. Country singer Colt Ford is 47. Actress Chandra Wilson is 47. Rock musician Tony Kanal (No Doubt) is 46. Actress Sarah Chalke is 40. Actor RonReaco (correct) Lee is 40. Rapper Mase is 39. Actress-singer Demetria McKinney is 38. Actor Aaron Paul is 37. Rock musician Jon Siebels (Eve 6) is 37. Actor Shaun Weiss is 37. Contemporary Christian musician Megan Garrett (Casting Crowns) is 36. Actor Kyle Lowder is 36. Actor Patrick J. Adams is 35. Actress Karla Mosley is 35. Actress Amanda Fuller is 32. Singer Mario is 30. Actress Alexa PenaVega is 28. Actor Ellar Coltrane is 22. Actress Savannah Paige Rae is 13.

Thought for Today: "Doing what's right isn't the problem. It is knowing what's right." — Lyndon Baines Johnson, 36th President of the United States (1908-1973).