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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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Thursday, Sept. 1

Emma M. Nutt Day, the first woman telephone operator

National Cherry Popover Day

School Breakfast: Pancake on stick, fruit, juice or milk.

School Lunch: Submarines, baked chips, fruit. **Senior Menu:** Ham loaf, sweet potatoes, peas, Acini DePepi fruit salad, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: TJ Johnson • Adam Feser • Shannon Pfaff

1:30pm: St. John's Lutheran Nursery Circle

2:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Nigeria Circle 4:30pm: VB: Hosts Redfield-Doland

(7th/C at 4:30, 8th/JV at 6:00, varsity to follow)

Friday, Sept. 2

VJ Day, WWII

School Breakfast: Cheese omelet, fruit, juice or milk.

School Lunch: Quesadilla, Romaine salad, mixed vegetable, fruit.

Senior Menu: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, parsley buttered carrots, banana cake with icing, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Kylie Hawkins • Brad Larson • Austin Schuelke • Jackson Doeden • Katie Osterman • Lee Schinkel

7:00pm: FB hosts Mobridge-Pollock

Saturday, Sept. 3

Skyscraper Day

Birthdays: Amanda Sippel • Douglas Craig • Duane Fliehs • Orv Schaller • Lars Tunby

1:00pm: Soccer hosts Tea Area (girls at 1 p.m., boys at 3 pm)

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



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"Summer Road Trip" at the Granary Celebrates All American Fun The new exhibit, which will run August through September, is called "Summer Road Trip". It is located

The new exhibit, which will run August through September, is called "Summer Road Trip". It is located at the Granary Gallery, 5 miles north of US Highway 12 between Aberdeen and Groton. (map and directions on-line or call 626-7117.)

"Summer Road Trip" takes a light hearted look at an American summer tradition of loading the family in the car and adventuring to a warmer destination. Artifacts from the Dacotah Prairie Museum will blend with some vintage memorabilia to compose several destinations for summer fun including a beach scene; gathering garden abundance; mountain climbing; and cheering for the local baseball team – the "boys of summer"!

Included as a highlight to this exhibit will be the photographic work of John Eichinger. Complementing the summer fun memorabilia will be photographs taken in what he refers to as a "California Photographic Surfing Trip". The area John focused on for his picture taking was the miles of beach front between San Diego and San Francisco. Eichinger, who spends time each winter in California, started taking pictures at the age of 14 with a Kodak Brownie camera, a gift from his mother. From there he invested in his hobby further by buying his first Pentax 35mm camera in 1970 during his stint in the Army. One of his main focusses was and is capturing shots of vintage cars.

After a year of college art, Eichinger pursued mechanics and auto body work, leading to his career in restoring classic cars. The action surfing photos in this exhibit were captured with a Canon digital camera in California.

In addition to the photo-art which will be for sale, there will be beach and shade hats and classic bathing suits from the Museum collection, reminiscent of a summer day under the sun at a favorite beach. An Aberdeen Pheasant's uniform will bring to life an exciting day of cheering on the Home Team at the baseball diamond. Binoculars, a compass and hiking boots will focus and hiking and rock climbing in our State's favorite get-away, the Black Hills of South Dakota. A wicker picnic basket and child's metal garden tools from the Museum collection will evoke memories of summer bounty in the sights and smell of fresh garden produce.

Come join us for the heat of the season and the excitement of a summer road trip at the Granary Rural Cultural Center!

Hours: Saturday-Sunday, 1-4pm. Always free and welcoming the public.

Soup, Sandwich and Pie Luncheon

\$2 Each
Thursday, Sept. 8
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran Church

Craft and Bake Sale
Supplemental funds have been applied for from

Groton

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

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.

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2016 Pheasant Brood Survey Results Are In

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) has completed the annual pheasant brood survey and the results show a 20 percent decrease in the statewide pheasants-per-mile (PPM) index from 2015. The 2016 statewide PPM index is 3.05, down from last year's index of 3.83.

"After two consecutive years of substantial increases in the statewide PPM index, a slight retreat was observed this year. Of the 110 routes surveyed statewide, 38 showed an increase in PPM while 72 declined from 2015," stated Kelly Hepler, GFP Secretary. "Weather conditions and available habitat are key factors to pheasant production and annual PPM fluctuations. We want to remind hunters that this year's index is twice as high as the 2013 index and higher than the 2.7 PPM observed in 2014 when hunters harvested 1.2 million roosters. Good pheasant hunting opportunities will exist in 2016."

From late July through mid-August, GFP surveyed 110, thirty-mile routes across the state's pheasant range to estimate pheasant production and calculate the PPM index. The survey is not a population estimate, but rather compares the number of pheasants observed on the routes and establishes trend information. Survey routes are grouped into 13 areas, based on a local city, and the index value of each local city area is then compared to index values of the previous year and the 10-year average.

Survey results indicate the decrease was significant for the Chamberlain, Winner, Aberdeen, Huron, Mitchell, Yankton and Sioux Falls areas.

"Habitat continues to be at the forefront of the conversation and still remains a crucial factor in pheasant numbers," stated Hepler. "Bird numbers are higher in parts of the state where quality habitat conditions still exist, primarily on grasslands including those enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program as well as fields of cereal crops such as winter wheat. We continue to work hard in our Habitat Pays outreach efforts and in cooperation with landowners and partner organizations to provide an improved future for wildlife habitat in our state."

Public hunting opportunities are abundant in South Dakota. Over 1 million acres of publicly owned and private land leased through GFP's Walk-In Area Program and the James River Watershed Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program is available in the primary pheasant range of South Dakota. The 2016 public hunting atlas and a web-based interactive map of public lands and private lands leased for public hunting can be found online at http://gfp.sd.gov/hunting/areas.

"Each year, the results of this survey are highly anticipated by those with a strong interest in South Dakota's hunting heritage. The availability of pheasants and pheasant hunting opportunities across the state this fall should serve to enhance that tradition," concluded Hepler.

South Dakota's traditional statewide pheasant hunting season opens on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016, and runs through Jan. 1, 2017.

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Back-to-School Tech for Your Children

By Nathaniel Sillin

It's increasingly common to find classrooms filled with the blue hue of computer and tablet screens. Early education or postgraduate work, there's a shift towards technology-driven, or at least technology-aided, schooling.

Students that learn to use technology to stay organized, conduct in-depth research and collaborate with peers can also use these skills in college and their professional lives.

What devices might students need? Laptops, tablets and smartphones are the primary devices that many students use. Although your child likely doesn't need one of each, a graphing calculator is sometimes a second necessity for classes and standardized tests.

Some high schools have a one-to-one program and issue students a laptop or tablet that they can bring home. Other schools let students borrow devices while in class, or let students bring their own device.

While the upfront costs of purchasing a device are understandably higher, you might want to buy one anyway. You won't need to return it, and it can be used during summer breaks and subsequent years at no extra cost.

Saving money when purchasing your own tech. If you decide to buy a device, you may be able to save money by timing your purchase and comparison shopping.

Find discounts during annual sales. Back-to-school sales often include electronics, making this a good time to buy. Some manufacturers release new models between June and August, which can lead to an even better discount on last year's models. Labor Day and the holidays sales are prime deal times later in the year.

Use retailers' outlets. Manufacturers sometimes offer older models, open-box items, and refurbished electronics for a discount at their online outlet sites. The product might even be as good as new, but can't be sold at full price because the box is damaged. Check back often because the sites frequently post new items.

Look for student deals. Some software companies and electronics manufacturers offer student discounts to high schoolers, while others restrict the savings to current or incoming college students. Research policies from manufacturers, as well as online retailers, and compare them with your local stores' policies.

Educational discounts for homeschooling parents. Homeschooling parents may be eligible for manufacturers' educational discounts even if their child doesn't qualify for a student discount.

Shop at resellers. If you're looking for a particular type of tablet or laptop, search far and wide for the best price. There's no guarantee that buying directly from the manufacturer is cheapest.

Trade in old devices. Some retailers give you store credit for your old electronics. It's a good option if you have a device that's just gathering dust on a shelf.

Buy used. While used electronics may be older and slower than the latest model, that's not always a problem. For example, some standardized tests forbid test takers from using newer web-enabled graphing calculators. You can find used items online, at garage sales and in local Facebook buy/sell/trade groups. If there isn't a warranty or guarantee from a reputable company, determine the device's quality before making a purchase.

Always check for coupons and rebates. Whether you're shopping online or in a store, always check for coupons and discount codes. Researching the store's name plus "coupon code" will often result in a list of sites with the latest codes. Look for more savings by searching the product's name plus rebate.

Consider budget laptops. There are laptops available for just a few hundred dollars. Although these less expensive options may come at a compromise on performance or storage capabilities, they can be well suited for students' basic tasks.

Where you find the best deal can depend on what you're looking for, the time of year and one-off promotions. Consider all your options and weigh the pros and cons of buying an older or used device.

Bottom line: Understanding technology is a necessity for many of today's students and professionals. Ensuring students have access to technology at home could help them excel at school and later in life. While some devices can be costly, there are programs and opportunities that can help you save money if you know where to look.

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Gordon Nelson

Nelson recognized as HuntSAFE volunteer

Gordon Nelson, Groton, was recently recognized by the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department for his commitment, support, and leadership in educating youth on the development and awareness of safe and honorable hunting practices.

Nelson has served for twenty-eight years as a volunteer HuntSAFE instructor, passing onto younger generations his passion for hunting, safety, and other outdoor activities

Over 300 volunteers each year help to carry out this program that teaches firearms safety, conservation, and responsibility to thousands of students across the state. Finding good qualified instructors is not always easy, but South Dakota is blessed with many great Hunt Safe instructors.

"Without the dedication of hundreds of HuntSAFE volunteers across the state, the hunting heritage of South Dakota would be in jeopardy," said Jason Kool, GFP Hunt-SAFE coordinator.

"Hey, where's my Dakotafire?"

Dakotafire magazine will no longer be inserted into this newspaper.

You can, however, become a subscriber, and have a copy delivered right to your door!



We're still doing journalism that serves our mission:

sparking a rural revival in the Dakotas & beyond by encouraging conversations that help people rethink what's happening & reimagine what's possible.



\$25/year or \$40/two years

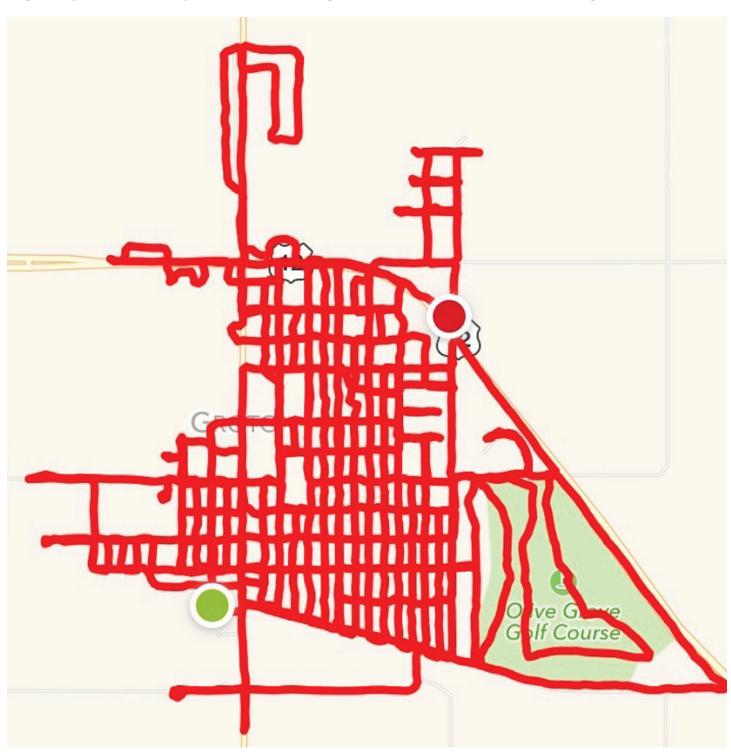
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Mosquito Control Wednesday Night

The City of Groton did mosquito control Wednesday night, travelling through the alleys, streets and avenues for a total of 38 miles. There was a SSE light wind from 3-5 mph and the temperature was 71 degrees, perfect for mosquito control. Eleven gallons of Evolver 4x4 was used during the control event.



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Today in Weather History

September 1, 1990: Several severe thunderstorms in northwest South Dakota dropped from penny to softball size hail during the afternoon and early evening hours which caused a good deal of structural damage to houses and farm buildings. The largest hailstone of 4 inches in diameter was reported at Sorum in Perkins County. There was also a wind gust to 86 mph measured at Buffalo during a severe thunderstorm.

September 1, 2010: A couple of weak tornados touched down briefly in the late evening west of Tulare with no damage occurring.

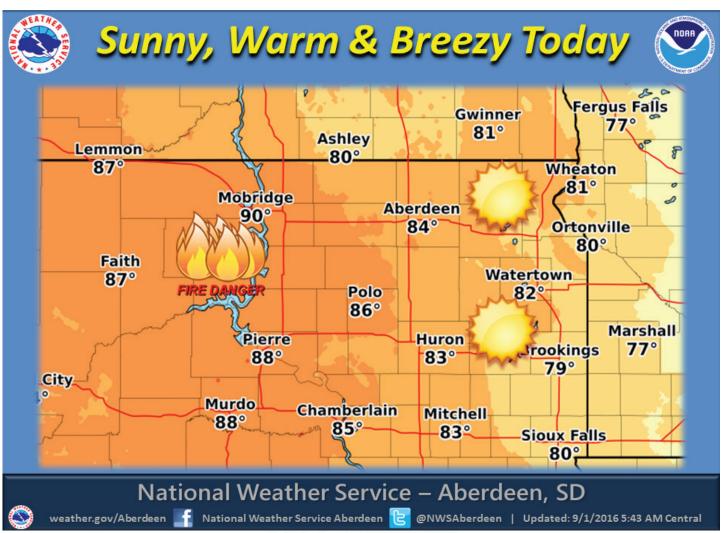
1862: The Battle of Ox Hill (or Chantilly) is also known as the only major Civil War battle to have been fought during a storm. "A severe thunderstorm erupted, resulting in limited visibility and an increased dependence on the bayonet, as the rain soaked the ammunition of the infantry and made it useless." From Taylor, Paul. He Hath Loosed the Fateful Lightning: The Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly), September 1, 1862.

1894: The Great Hinckley Fire, which burned an area of at least 200,000 acres or perhaps more than 250,000 acres including the town of Hinckley, Minnesota occurred on this day. The official death count was 418 though the actual number of fatalities was likely higher.

- 1897 Hailstone drifts six feet deep were reported in Washington County, IA. (The Weather Channel)
- 1914 The town of Bloomington, MI, was deluged with 9.78 inches of rain in 24 hours to establish a state record. (31st-1st) (The Weather Channel)
- 1955 The temperature at Los Angeles, CA, soared to an all-time high of 110 degrees during an eight day string of 100 degree weather. (David Ludlum)
- 1974: Lt. Judy Neuffer became the first female to fly a Hurricane Hunter aircraft through the eye of a hurricane.
- 1979 A home in Centerville TN was hit by lightning and totally destroyed. It marked the third time that the house had been hit by lightning since being built in 1970. (The Weather Channel)
- 1987 Cool Canadian air invaded the Midwest. Six cities reported record low temperatures for the date, including Indianapolis IN with a reading of 44 degrees. Hot weather continued in the northwestern U.S. Five cities reported record high temperatures for the date, including Hanover WA, where the mercury soared to 106 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)
- 1988 Thunderstorms produced heavy rain in the Upper Mississippi Valley. Ely, MN, was drenched with three inches of rain in two hours, and pelted with one inch hail. The heavy rain flooded streets and basements, and the high water pressure which resulted blew the covers off manholes. (The National Weather Summary)(Storm Data)
- 1989 Thunderstorms developing ahead of a cold front produced severe weather in Oklahoma during the late afternoon and evening hours. Thunderstorms produced hail two inches in diameter west of Arapahoe, and wind gusts to 70 mph at Luther and south of Harrah. Early morning thunderstorms over Indiana drenched Kokomo with five to eight inches of rain, and spawned a tornado which injured three persons at Bruce Lake. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today Tonight Friday Friday Saturday Saturday Sunday Night Night 70% Slight Chance Sunny Mostly Clear Sunny and Partly Cloudy Mostly Sunny T-storms Breezy and Breezy and Breezy T-storms then Likely Chance T-storms High: 83 °F Low: 61 °F High: 83 °F Low: 64 °F High: 83 °F Low: 64 °F High: 75 °F



Published on: 09/01/2016 at 5:45AM

Southerly winds will increase today, especially west river. Windy conditions will spread east of Friday and Saturday. This will also result in above average high temperatures for the reminder of the week.

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Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 84.0 F at 6:29 PM

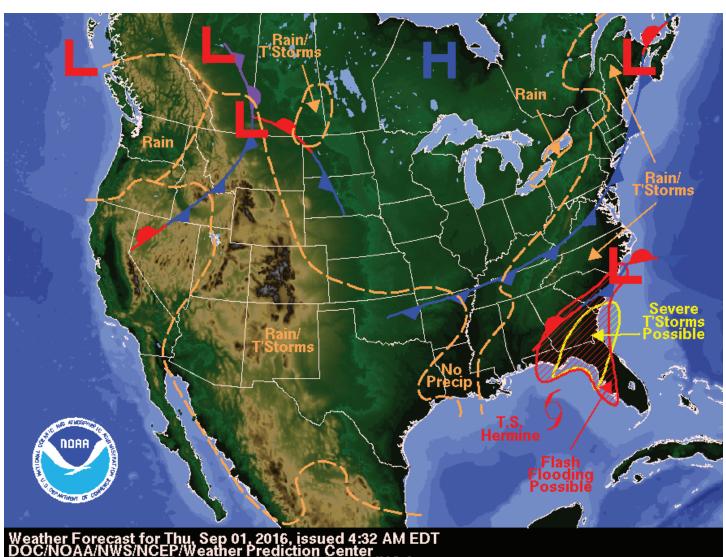
Low Outside Temp: 60.6 F at 5:07 AM High Gust: 11.0 Mph at 4:15 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 104° in 1913

Record Low: 30° in 1893 **Average High: 78°F Average Low:** 52°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 0.08 Precip to date in Sept.: 0.00 **Average Precip to date: 16.29 Precip Year to Date: 12.66** Sunset Tonight: 8:10 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:56 a.m.



ecast for Thu, Sep 01, 2016, issued 4:32 AM EDT NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center Mcreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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TURNING DEAF EARS

Roger was sent home from school with a note from his teacher. "Mrs. Arnold," the note read, "your son was involved in an incident in the cafeteria today at noon. He and two other students took the food from another student's tray and would not allow him to eat. He has been assigned a week of detention starting tomorrow."

After reading the note to Roger, Mrs. Arnold said, "Son, why did you do such a thing?"

After a moment's thought he replied, "Mom, the other guys asked me to help them and I thought it would be fun!"

"Shame on you Roger," said his mother. "When you are asked to do things that are wrong you should turn a deaf ear."

"But Mom," he protested, "I don't have a deaf ear."

It is difficult to go through one day without being tempted by Satan to disobey God. He's always there presenting one opportunity after another to get us to turn from the Lord and follow his invitation to break God's laws. However, being tempted to disobey God's teachings is not sin. Giving into a temptation to disobey God's commandments is.

Perhaps we can describe temptation as Satan peeking into the keyhole of our heart trying to find a weak spot. He comes without any warning or notice and will only leave when asked. Resist him and he flees.

Prayer: Alert us, Lord, to the subtleties of Satan when he begins to tempt us to follow him and turn from You rather than to worship You and obey Your Word. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Ephesians 4:25-31 ...do not give the devil a foothold...And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption...



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News from the App Associated Press

Midwest economic survey figures show slight improvement

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Figures from a survey of supply managers in nine Midwest and Plains states have risen slightly but still suggest slow or no economic growth ahead.

A report issued Thursday says the Mid-American Business Conditions index inched up to 47.8 in August from 47.6 in July.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss oversees the survey, and he says he expects the regional economy to underperform the national economy because of the region's heavy dependence on manufacturers linked to the weak sectors of agriculture and energy.

The survey results are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests economic growth. A score below that suggests decline. The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Fire damages strip mall in Sioux Falls; no one injured

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — No one was hurt in a fire that damaged a strip mall in Sioux Falls.

More than 30 firefighters responded to the scene about 11 p.m. Wednesday after people in a neighboring building noticed smoke.

Flames were contained to two of the mall's units, but smoke damage was reported throughout the building. It wasn't immediately clear how many stores the mall contained.

The cause of the fire was not immediately determined.

Governor designates September as Campus Fire Safety Month

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard has designated September as Campus Fire Safety Month to remind college students not to forget about fire safety.

Officials say the declaration is meant to encourage students with on- or off-campus housing to make sure their living areas are fire safe.

South Dakota Fire Marshal Paul Merriman says statistics indicate August and September are the worst months of the year for deadly campus-related housing fires.

Merriman says safety tips include being careful with cooking fires, candles and grills, as well as ensuring smoke alarms are functional.

Man found guilty of murder in ex-girlfriend's fatal stabbing

FORT PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A jury has convicted a South Dakota man of fatally stabbing his ex-girl-friend nearly two dozen times.

Thirty-four-year-old John Hemminger, of Aberdeen, was found guilty Wednesday of first-degree murder in the January 2015 death of Jessica Goebel. The conviction carries a mandatory life sentence.

Jurors in Fort Pierre returned the verdict in roughly five hours after attorneys presented closing arguments.

Authorities accused Hemminger of stabbing Goebel 23 times when she refused to take him back after a breakup. The Aberdeen American News reports prosecutors presented evidence showing that the DNA of Hemminger and Goebel was found on the knife blade authorities believe was used in the stab-

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bing.

Hemminger's defense maintained someone else is responsible for the killing, and that police bungled the investigation.

It wasn't immediately clear whether a sentencing hearing has been set and if Hemminger plans to appeal.

UN body says Sioux must have say in pipeline project MICHAEL ASTOR, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe must have a say with regard to a \$3.8 billion oil pipeline that could disturb sacred sites and impact drinking water for 8,000 tribal members, representatives of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues said Wednesday.

In a statement, the forum's chairman Alvaro Pop Ac called on the U.S. to provide the tribe a "fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent process to resolve this serious issue and to avoid escalation into violence and further human rights abuses."

Dalee Dorough, an Inuit member of the forum, which provides representation at the world body for indigenous peoples around the globe, said failure to consult with Sioux over the project violated the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Article 19 of the declaration, which the U.S. endorsed in 2010, says: "States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them."

"There has been a lack of good faith consultation with the indigenous people who will more than likely be impacted," Dorough said in telephone interview from Anchorage Alaska. "The U.N. declaration is fundamental because President Obama pronounced support for it and that they haven't been consulted consistent with the rights of that declaration is highly problematic."

Native Americans from reservations hundreds of miles around have joined the growing protest against the Dakota Access Pipeline, which will pass through Iowa, Illinois, North Dakota and South Dakota, causing the company to temporarily halt construction. Over the past few weeks, nearly 30 protesters have been arrested.

On August 25, 2016, the Standing Rock Sioux and hundreds of people gathered in Washington D.C. in opposition to the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. A judge is expected to rule on a lawsuit submitted by the Sioux against the Army Corps of Engineers for lack of consultation.

Noncustodial mother who took girls facing kidnapping charge

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Police in Rapid City say the noncustodial mother of two girls who took the children Tuesday night without permission is facing two counts of first-degree kidnapping.

Police say 22-year-old Alissa Hayes was arrested on the kidnapping counts Wednesday after she and her daughters were found at a Rapid City home. She also faces a drug charge after authorities found a loaded syringe in her purse that later tested positive for methamphetamine.

Police say Hayes took her 6- and 2-year-old daughters during a supervised visitation on Tuesday. Authorities say Hayes' father, 47-year-old Ronald Hayes, drove the vehicle in which the girls were taken away. He was also arrested on two counts of first-degree kidnapping.

It wasn't immediately clear whether either suspect has an attorney who could comment on the case.

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Oil pipeline protesters disrupt construction sites

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Arrests have been made in North Dakota and Iowa during protests against the construction of the Dakota Access oil pipeline.

Authorities cut free a man who bound himself to construction equipment and arrested at least two protesters Wednesday during a rally near Highway 6 outside St. Anthony, North Dakota.

The site is about 20 miles west of the main protest near the Standing Rock Sioux reservation, where pipeline construction has been halted for days.

Several anti-pipeline protesters also were arrested during a rally Wednesday in Boone, Iowa. The local sheriff's office says they could face misdemeanor trespassing charges after blocking access to a Dakota Access construction staging site.

In North Dakota, Highway Patrol Lt. Tom Iverson troopers briefly closed the highway due to the protest, and construction was temporarily halted.

Woonsocket man faces murder charge in home incident

WOONSOCKET, S.D. (AP) — A Woonsocket man has been arrested on a second-degree murder charge in connection with an incident at a home that also prompted authorities to lock down a school.

The state's attorney general's office says 33-year-old Matthew Walter Novak was arrested Wednesday after authorities responded to an incident at a Woonsocket home. Neither that office nor the Sanborn County sheriff's office has released details of the incident.

The victim has been identified as 25-year-old Jennifer Ann Gibson, of Woonsocket.

Woonsocket school district superintendent Rod Weber says police ordered him to lock down the school around 10:30 a.m., after officers had surrounded the home where the incident occurred. Weber says the lockdown lasted about 10 minutes.

It wasn't immediately clear whether Novak has an attorney who could comment on his behalf.

1st South Dakota school appears poised to have armed staffer JAMES NORD, Associated Press

COLTON, S.D. (AP) — The first South Dakota school district to allow approved employees to carry guns appears to be moving ahead with the program, though officials have declined to provide details, citing security reasons, and said they are "done talking about it."

One applicant from the Tri-Valley School District was approved for this summer's required training, but the state and the district won't identify him or her. Superintendent Mike Lodmel declined to confirm to The Associated Press whether the school sentinel program is even active, saying that the information could give a would-be attacker an advantage.

"We're pretty much done talking about it," Lodmel said. "We really feel we've answered every question we could possibly answer."

Tri-Valley adopted the program because of concern it could take too long for authorities to reach the rural school facility in a crisis, said Lodmel, whose district of about 900 students is about 25 miles northwest of Sioux Falls, where the Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office is located. Sheriff Mike Milstead said a deputy is assigned full-time to the district, and the office has contracts to spend time policing in area communities.

Both the school district and the attorney general's office, which conducted the applicant's 80-hour training that ended in August, declined to release most details requested by AP, citing exemptions in South Dakota's public records law.

Milstead, who approved the single application from Tri-Valley for the training, said he agreed with the

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secrecy because information about a sentinel's identity could make it easier for an assailant to carry out an effective attack.

"If my kid was in that school, I would not want that information to be publicized," Milstead said.

Milstead said the district has met the school sentinel guidelines set by statute, but isn't certain whether officials have fulfilled any added requirements that may have been imposed by the school board.

South Dakota lawmakers passed a school sentinel law in March 2013, a few months after the deadly Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Connecticut. Supporters argued that schools, particularly in rural areas, needed the option of arming teachers, administrators or volunteers. Tri-Valley's decision to get into the program came months after a teenage student at Harrisburg High School, about 35 miles away, was charged with attempted murder in the shooting and wounding of the principal.

The student was tackled after the shooting by Assistant Principal Ryan Rollinger, who, along with the school's activities director, held him down until deputies arrived.

At least seven states have passed laws authorizing schools or school boards to allow teachers and staff to carry firearms, though some of the laws are specific to private schools or specific counties, according to Joellen Kralik, a policy associate at the National Conference of State Legislatures.

At Tri-Valley, few people testified about the plan when it was before the school board, and two people who previously spoke critically of it declined to discuss it with the AP. A teachers' union staff representative for the service unit that includes Tri-Valley said he hadn't heard any concerns from members.

Lodmel estimated that at least 50 parents or community members have contacted him in "strong support" of the program.

Ryan Fods, the mayor of Colton who has three children in the district, supports the armed sentinel program and the district's silence on it.

"It's just another thing the school board and administration are doing to help protect the students in the district and the staff in the district," Fods, a 1995 Tri-Valley graduate, said this week.

The law requires anyone acting as a school sentinel to successfully complete training designed by the same commission that sets training standards for law enforcement officers. It includes firearms proficiency, first aid, use of force and weapons retention and storage.

State regulations say a trainee must have a valid concealed weapons permit, have fingerprints taken by a law enforcement officer, get examined by a licensed physician and have a high school degree, among other requirements. Tri-Valley's policy calls for a psychological evaluation for sentinels.

Tri-Valley also has procedures in place for school sentinels to follow, but Lodmel declined to discuss them.

Sioux City police release details in parking lot shooting

SIOUX CITY, Iowa (AP) — Police say a Sioux City restaurant parking lot had been a meeting spot for a man who apparently killed himself after shooting the woman he had been meeting there.

On Tuesday police released the pair's names. The dead man was identified as 46-year-old Michael Hasson, of North Sioux City, South Dakota. The wounded woman was identified as 54-year-old Christine Fuentes, who lives in Sioux City. She was taken to Mercy Medical Center-Sioux City after Sunday evening's shooting in the Chili's lot just north of the Missouri River.

Police say the two drove separately to the lot, and then Hasson got into Fuentes' vehicle, where the shootings took place. Police say their investigation points to an attempted murder-suicide. Autopsy results are pending.

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Lawrence County voters reject rock quarry in scenic valley

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — Lawrence County residents have resoundingly rejected a proposed rock quarry in scenic Centennial Valley.

Nearly two-thirds of the 1,749 people who took part in Tuesday's special election voted against allowing Rapid City-based Mountain View Ranches LLC to develop a 192-acre sand, gravel and rock quarry off Crook City Road, according to Deputy Auditor Brenda McGruder.

The County Commission narrowly approved the project in June on a 3-2 vote, with dozens of conditions aimed at limiting the quarry's impacts on the surrounding area. Residents who still opposed it gathered enough petition signatures to force the public vote and a judge later rejected an attempt by Mountain View Ranches to block the election.

The company had challenged whether an election was legal, arguing that the county's approval was an administrative decision that couldn't be referred. Judge Randall Macy ruled that the issue was a legislative matter that could be subjected to a public vote.

Opponents feared the quarry would jeopardize historic trails and lead to other problems including noise, dust and road damage.

Mountain View Ranches said the area is appropriate for a quarry and that the operation wouldn't be disruptive. The company said only 10 acres would be operated at a time, and that land would be reclaimed as the work progressed.

Hawaii hit by strong rain, surf as tropical storm brushes by AUDREY McAVOY, Associated Press CATHY BUSSEWITZ, Associated Press

HILO, Hawaii (AP) — Heavy rains hit parts of Hawaii and strong waves pummeled shorelines as a downgraded yet potent Pacific storm passed near the island state.

Though Tropical Storm Madeline was no longer a hurricane, the weather's uncertainty couldn't let Hawaii's Big Island relax.

There were periods of intense rainfall Wednesday as the National Weather Service downgraded Madeline, with winds falling below hurricane strength of 74 mph.

Wind speed diminished steadily throughout the day and by 11 p.m. (2 a.m. PDT Thursday), they were swirling at 50 mph. Forecasters said continued weakening was expected.

Madeline's center was about 200 miles south of Hilo and moving west-southwest and away from the state at 14 mph. Though the storm was not predicted to make landfall on any Hawaiian island, the Big Island and Maui County remained under tropical storm warnings because of threats from wind and rain.

Strong winds were gusting on Oahu as a series of bright blue flashes lit up the night sky above Honolulu. The power went off in the hillside neighborhood but the lights in most of downtown Honolulu remained on. There was no rain accompanying the blustery weather and only scattered clouds whizzed by overhead.

On the Big Island, waves crashed into a seawall that surrounds Liliuokalani Gardens Park at Hilo Bay. Water accumulated on the grass of the gardens, leaving stairs of a pavilion partially submerged.

"That heavy rainfall is interspersed with sunny patches," said Kanani Aton, spokeswoman for Hawaii County Civil Defense.

Officials said residents should continue to be prepared for more rain, strong winds and high surf overnight. The rainfall may lead to dangerous flash floods and mudslides, the weather service warned.

"It doesn't matter if it's a strong tropical storm or a category 1 hurricane," said Eric Lau, a meteorologist with the weather service. "If you have 70 mph winds versus 75 mph winds, it's still a strong storm,

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so residents still need to be prepared."

Meanwhile, Hurricane Lester was about 1,000 miles from Hawaii and expected to drop to a tropical storm by Sunday.

Earlier on Wednesday, merchants boarded up shop windows along Hilo Bay and shoppers snatched supplies of food and water from grocery store shelves after initially being told the island could be hit by its first hurricane in a quarter-century.

"We are not out of the woods," Aton said. "At this point it is still a powerful storm, and we are working to remind the public to be storm ready."

Elsewhere, a tropical storm warning was issued early Thursday for a section of the U.S. East Coast as Tropical Storm Hermine approached Florida from the Gulf of Mexico.

The warning covered an area that extends from Marineland, Florida, northward to the South Santee River in South Carolina. A hurricane warning was already in effect for a section of Florida's Gulf coast from the Suwanne River to Mexico Beach.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center said Hermine was expected to become a hurricane by the time it makes landfall on Florida's coast Thursday night or early Friday. As of 5 a.m. EDT (2 a.m. PDT) Thursday, Hermine was centered about 275 miles west-southwest of Tampa, Florida, and is moving northnortheast near 12 mph.

In Hawaii, Peggy Beckett, a retiree and beekeeper, stopped at a Hilo supermarket to pick up onion bagels, cheese, cold cuts and salad to add to her canned food at home. She also has a cooler with ice plus a portable burner and batteries to get her through the storm.

Noting the lines of people at the market, Beckett said people were getting prepared but weren't panicking.

"There's always a lot of disbelief on the island that the storms will really be as big and bad as forecast," she said, noting that she and her partner had taken precautions to protect their beehives.

Employees boarded up windows at Hulakai Store, a surf shop in Hilo. "We'll probably keep it up till Sunday, waiting for the second one to come through," said supervisor Renee Balanga.

Gov. David Ige has issued an emergency proclamation for both storms, allowing the state to quickly spend money.

The Hawaiian islands of Maui, Molokai, Lanai and Kahoolawe were under a tropical storm watch, but there were no alerts for Oahu or Kauai.

Australian judge rules child will not be treated for cancer

PERTH, Australia (AP) — An Australian judge on Thursday ruled against a hospital in favor of a 6-year-old cancer patient's parents who want their son to die without further potentially life-saving treatment. Family Court Justice Richard O'Brien ruled that Oshin Kiszko's best interests would be served by palliative care for a rare brain cancer known as medulloblastoma.

"It is not about overarching considerations as to the right to life or the right to a peaceful death, nor is it about a philosophical consideration of the best interests of children generally," O'Brien said. "This case is solely about Oshin Kiszko, and how to determine what is in his best interests as a unique individual child in the specific circumstances which he now faces."

The boy was diagnosed with the a malignant tumor last year, but his parents, Angela Kiszko and Adrian Strachan, opposed the treatment recommended by doctors due to the risk of severe side effects, which include permanent intellectual impairment.

The Princess Margaret Hospital in Perth obtained a court order in March that forced Oshin to receive chemotherapy and he was given two cycles of the treatment.

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The court considered the hospital's application in May that Oshin should also be given radiotherapy. The court accepted the parents' pledge to continue chemotherapy instead.

The hospital's ethics committee was divided on whether Oshin should undergo cancer treatment.

But the case was back in court last week after the hospital and parents agreed there was no longer any benefit in continuing chemotherapy alone.

The hospital made a court application to force Oshin to have further medical treatment, including radiotherapy and chemotherapy. His parents argued he should receive palliative care.

After Oshin underwent brain surgery in December, he was given a 50 to 60 percent chance of surviving for five years if he underwent both chemotherapy and radiotherapy. His parents argued they should focus on improving his quality of life through palliative care.

"Specialist medical opinion confirmed that the delay in therapy had substantially reduced Oshin's chances of a cure, which are now remote," O'Brien said.

Generally in Australia, parents have the right to refuse a doctor's recommended treatment for their child. But a court can intervene if the parent's decision appears to go against the child's best interests.

Charity watchdog gives Clinton Foundation high marks EILEEN SULLIVAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A charity watchdog with an ongoing relationship with the Clinton Foundation gave the former first family's nonprofit high marks Thursday, after an evaluation prompted by the heightened interest in the organization.

The Clinton Foundation received four out of four stars — the highest rating that Charity Navigator gives after a close look at a charity's finances. The rating is based on annual federal tax documents. It was not intended to reflect whether Hillary Clinton kept donors to her family's foundation at appropriate arm's length or provided favored access as secretary of state.

Charity Navigator is a leading and respected organization that evaluates and rates charities so donors can make informed decisions about contributions. It was itself a member of the Clinton Global Initiative between 2012 and 2014. The Clinton group said Charity Navigator committed to spend an estimated \$2 million over four years through 2016 to review more charities and provide more detailed information about them in its reviews.

Charity Navigator also participated in a Clinton Global Initiative program in 2011 with other groups to identify worthy charities for U.S. veterans, journalism integrity and Islamic outreach, but Charity Navigator did not contribute money as part of that effort.

Charity Navigator's president, Michael Thatcher, told The Associated Press that the Clinton campaign did not influence the rating.

The four-star badge comes at a time when the Clinton Foundation is under intense scrutiny about whether Clinton granted donors access at the State Department. An AP analysis found that of 154 people outside government with private interests who met or spoke to Clinton by phone, 85 had contributed either personally or through their organizations to the foundation. The Clinton campaign said Clinton would have met with the donors, anyway, in her role as secretary of state.

The watchdog had previously rated the Clinton Foundation with four stars in 2007, and in 2012 downgraded it to three stars due to changes in its methodology. Its original four-star rating was based on the foundation's financial health and performance. In 2012, it also evaluated the charity on accountability and transparency. Charity Navigator requires five independent board members, but the foundation had only three during the 2009 fiscal year, Thatcher said. The downgrade came the same year that Charity Navigator was a member of the Clinton Global Initiative.

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The Clinton Global Initiative waived its membership fees for Charity Navigator, as it does for non-profits, nongovernment organizations and social entrepreneurs. Charity Navigator treated the \$20,000 waiver as an in-kind donation. Thatcher said his group joined Clinton's to mingle with world leaders and promote its ratings.

He said the new rating was unrelated to Charity Navigator's relationship with the foundation. "The numbers speak for themselves," he said.

The rating itself is a fixed algorithm, described in detail on the watchdog's website. It looks at the financial health of charities and their accountability and transparency. In the Clinton Foundation's case, it scored 94.74 out of 100. It was dinged on two minor issues, its donor privacy policy and its process for determining the chief executive officer's salary.

The Clinton Foundation and Clinton campaign could not immediately be reached for comment.

Charity Navigator currently evaluates 8,351 charities, and most get a three-star rating.

According to its 2014 consolidated tax report, the Clinton Foundation spends about 12 percent of its budget on running the foundation. Another charity watchdog, Charity Watch, previously gave the Clinton Foundation an "A" rating on a scale of A-F. Charity Watch has no connection to the Clinton Foundation, said its president, Daniel Borochoff. "We don't want money from charities we rate, because we believe in being an independent charity watchdog," he said.

Charity Navigator stopped rating the Clinton Foundation entirely in 2014 because it said changes in the foundation's business structure were incompatible with the way Charity Navigator calculates its ratings. After what Thatcher described as "unprecedented demand" for a rating for the Clinton Foundation, Charity Navigator asked the foundation to consolidate its tax forms in a way the watchdog could evaluate it. That led to Thursday's four-star rating.

Last year, Charity Navigator placed the foundation on its watchlist, a feature it added in 2014. A charity could have a four-star rating but also be on the watchlist, Thatcher said. In the Clinton Foundation's case, the group cited multiple concerns, including news reports about the foundation accepting donations from foreign governments. It had voluntarily sworn off that practice while Clinton led the State Department, but the donations started again when she left her post. This became a concern as she was expected to announce her presidential bid. Charity Navigator removed the foundation from its watchlist in December, after the foundation amended its tax returns and clarified its position on foreign donations.

Two of Trump's charities are listed as unrated on Charity Navigator's site because as private foundations they do not meet the watchdog's criteria for evaluation.

10 Things to Know for Today The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. TRUMP RETREATS FROM VOW TO DEPORT ALL LIVING IN U.S. ILLEGALLY

Yet, the billionaire sticks with an aggressive tone on illegal immigration and remains committed to building a physical wall along the U.S. border with Mexico.

2. WHO IS LIKELY HURT BY TRUMP MEETING

Mexico's Enrique Pena Nieto draws fire for what some are calling a national humiliation - failing to demand that the GOP nominee apologize for calling Mexican migrants rapists and criminals and for standing silently by while Trump repeats his promise to build a border wall.

3. BRAZIL'S NEW LEADER INHERITS PRESIDENCY ON SHAKY GROUND Michel Temer needs to fix a deteriorating economy, address the Zika virus outbreak and political insta-

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bility fed by a sprawling corruption probe.

4. AT LAKE TAHOE, OBAMA LINKS CONSERVATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

"You don't have to be a scientist. You have to read or listen to scientists to know that the overwhelming body of science shows us that climate change is caused by human activity," the president says.

5. WHERE 10,000 SYRIAN REFUGEES FIND NEW HOME

San Diego has received 626 Syrian refugees since October, more than any other place in the United States. Erie, Pennsylvania, Toledo, Ohio, and Boise, Idaho also accept a sizeable number of Syrians.

6. HURRICANE DOWNGRADED IN HAWAII

Officials say residents should continue to be prepared for more rain and strong winds, warning that the rainfall may lead to dangerous flash floods and mudslides.

7. G20 GOVERNMENTS ENDORSE TRADE BUT TIGHTEN CONTROLS

China hopes its status as G20 host will give it more sway in managing the global economy and makes trade a theme of the meeting in Hangzhou, a scenic lakeside city southwest of Shanghai.

8. AS SOMALIA'S CAPITAL STRIVES FOR NORMALITY, SECURITY FORCE WEAKENS

The 22,000-strong African Union force protecting the country faces funding cuts and troop shortages, which experts say could further destabilize the Horn of Africa nation.

9. TNT'S CRAIG SAGER HANGS TOUGH IN LEUKEMIA BATTLE

The basketball broadcaster says he is still hopeful to return to NBA courts after the season begins, perhaps in November.

10. WHICH TREND DOMINATES U.S. OPEN FASHION

Ultra-bright, neon hues of yellow, pink and orange are exploding all over the courts at Flushing Meadows, with players decked out in loud outfits that go together with loud matches and loud audiences.

Indonesia screens for Zika as Singapore infections mount NINIEK KARMINI, Associated Press STEPHEN WRIGHT, Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Indonesia is screening travelers from neighboring Singapore for the mosquito-borne Zika virus as the city-state reports a growing number of infections and its first case of a pregnant woman testing positive.

Indonesian Health Ministry spokesman Oscar Primadi said Thursday that health officials are recommending that the Foreign Ministry issue an advisory against nonessential travel to Singapore, particularly for pregnant women.

Singapore on Wednesday said it had identified 22 new Zika cases in one particular area of the city and its first case involving a pregnant woman.

Zika has mild effects for most people but doctors believe infection during pregnancy can result in babies with small heads, which is known as microcephaly, and other serious developmental disorders. Singapore had 155 cases as of Wednesday.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is advising travelers to Singapore to take precautions such as protecting themselves against mosquito bites, and because the virus can also be sexually transmitted, to use condoms or not have sex.

Primadi said thermal imaging equipment to detect abnormal body temperatures was installed at eight Indonesian ports with routes serving Singapore, including the capital Jakarta's airport.

He said travelers will also be given a health questionnaire so they will recognize symptoms and know to immediately report to health authorities.

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On Thursday, Malaysia's Health Ministry said a 58-year-old woman who traveled to Singapore had become that country's first Zika case.

Health Minister S. Subramaniam said the woman and her husband visited Singapore for three days from Aug. 19. The woman developed a rash a week after her return and later tested positive for Zika in her urine, he said. Her daughter in Singapore tested positive for Zika on Tuesday.

"We can conclude that it is rather easy to get infected by the virus when visiting places that has outbreak, including Singapore," he said. "Proactive action from the community can help stop the spread of Zika virus in Malaysia."

Subramaniam said the virus was believed to be imported from Singapore because the woman started experiencing symptoms on the same day as her daughter.

The ministry has started control activities such as eliminating mosquito breeding sites and fog spraying in her residential area and other places that the patient had visited.

Indonesia has not yet reported any local Zika infections but an Indonesian woman in Singapore is among those infected there.

Trump retreats from vow to deport all living in US illegally JILL COLVIN, Associated Press STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Donald Trump is retreating from his vow to deport the nation's entire population of people living in the country illegally, even as he sticks with an aggressive tone on illegal immigration and remains committed to building a physical wall along the U.S. border with Mexico.

The Republican nominee for president promised Wednesday to remove millions of people living in the country illegally if elected president, warning that failure to do so would jeopardize the "well-being of the American people."

"Anyone who has entered the United States illegally is subject to deportation," Trump said in a highly anticipated speech, which took place mere hours after his surprise meeting with Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto in his first trip abroad as the GOP nominee.

But the billionaire New Yorker also said the effort of a proposed immigration task force in a Trump administration would focus on removing criminals, people who have overstayed their visas and other immediate security threats.

Left unanswered by Trump: What would happen to those who have not committed crimes beyond their immigration offenses?

Aimed at ending weeks of confusion over just where he stands on immigration, Trump's fiery speech was filled with applause lines for his loyal supporters.

Any person living in the country illegally who is arrested "for any crime whatsoever," he said, will immediately be placed into deportation proceedings. "There will be no amnesty," he added, saying immigrants in the country without permission who wish to seek legal status or citizenship must return to their home countries in order to do so.

But there was no direct mention of a core promise of his primary campaign — to create a "deportation force" that would remove all of the estimated 11 million immigrants living in the country illegally.

Trump instead repeated the standard Republican talking point that only after securing the border can a discussion begin to take place about all such immigrants, ducking the major question that has frustrated past congressional attempts at remaking the nation's immigration laws.

That omission didn't bother Dan Stein, who leads the Federation for American Immigration Reform, a

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group that pushes for stricter immigration policies. He called Trump's speech the outline of "a coherent and workable strategy."

"But even more important than the details of the plan itself," Stein said, "Trump laid out the most fundamental principle for true immigration reform: The policy exists to protect and serve 'the well-being of the American people,' and 'protect all aspects of American life."

Critics, meanwhile, said Trump's glossing over the fate of people who are peacefully living in the U.S. without permission doesn't make up for his overall approach.

"It is still the most extreme position of any modern presidential candidate," said Frank Sharry, a leading immigration advocate. "It is deeply unpopular with voters, and profoundly un-American."

Even as he beat a retreat from his earlier pledge to deport all illegal immigrants from the country, Trump's aggressive tone in Phoenix marked a shift from earlier in the day. A much more measured Trump described Mexicans as "amazing people" as he appeared alongside Pena Nieto in Mexico's capital city.

The good feelings from his first meeting with a head of state as his party's presidential nominee lasted only a short time, as a dispute arose in the hours after he left Mexico City over the most contentious part of the billionaire's plans to fight illegal immigration — his insistence that Mexico must pay to build a physical wall along the roughly 2,000-mile U.S. southern border.

Trump told reporters during his afternoon appearance with Pena Nieto that the two men didn't discuss who would pay for a cost of construction pegged in the billions. Silent at that moment, Pena Nieto later tweeted, "I made it clear that Mexico will not pay for the wall."

With the meeting held behind closed doors, it was impossible to know who was telling the truth.

Trump told the rowdy Arizona crowd that he respects the Mexican president. "We agreed on the importance of ending the illegal flow of drugs, cash, guns and people across our border and to put the cartels out of business," he said.

Yet, standing on American soil, he addressed directly a question he sidestepped when asked in Mexico. "Mexico will pay for the wall, 100 percent," the New York businessman said. "They don't know it yet, but they're going to pay for the wall."

The Mexican president, however, said on Twitter that the subject was among the first things the men discussed. "From there, the conversation addressed other issues, and developed in a respectful manner," Pena Nieto wrote.

Trump was cheered in Arizona, but his appearance in Mexico sparked anger and protests. The candidate is deeply unpopular in Mexico due in large part to his deriding the country as a source of rapists and criminals as he kicked off his campaign. He piled on in the months to come, attacked the country over free trade, illegal immigration and border security.

Campaigning in Ohio, Democrat Hillary Clinton jabbed at Trump's Mexican appearance as she promoted her own experience working with foreign leaders as the nation's chief diplomat.

"People have to get to know that they can count on you, that you won't say one thing one day and something totally different the next," she told the American Legion in Cincinnati.

AP EXPLAINS: What's at stake in Hong Kong post-protest vote KELVIN CHAN, Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Hong Kongers head to the polls Sunday to choose candidates for the semiautonomous city's legislature, in the first major election since 2014 pro-democracy street protests. That movement drew world attention to the former British colony's struggle over stunted democratic development under Chinese rule and paved the way for a burgeoning independence movement that's

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complicating the upcoming vote. Here's a look at the issues:

'UMBRELLA' ACTIVISTS ARE CHALLENGING BEIJING

Candidates from a new wave of activist groups that emerged in the wake of the student-led "Umbrella" or "Occupy" movement are challenging established pro-Beijing and "pan-democrat" parties for seats in the Legislative Council, or Legco. With the nonviolent 2014 protests failing to yield any concessions from Beijing over its plan to restrict elections for the city's top leader, many activists support more confrontational tactics and radical action. In all, 214 candidates are running for 35 seats.

WILL PRO-DEMOCRACY CAMP GET ENOUGH SEATS

Pro-democracy candidates will compete with each other and with a narrower range of candidates from well-funded pro-Beijing parties. The voting results, expected Monday, will reflect to some extent the degree of anti-Beijing sentiment in Hong Kong, as authorities take an increasingly hard line. But they'll also be colored by the pro-Beijing side's ability to muster resources, and by the pro-democracy camp's disorganization. The main thing to watch for will be whether pro-democracy parties hold on to at least one third of council seats, enough to block legislation. They currently hold 27 of 70 seats.

GOVERNMENT THREATENS ACTION AGAINST INDEPENDENCE CALLS

A key theme of this year's vote is a growing call for independence from China, which took control of the city from Britain in 1997. Such talk was once considered unthinkable but has become commonplace as residents fret over Beijing's tightening grip. A university poll in July of about 1,000 people found 17.4 percent supported independence, though only 4 percent thought it possible. This summer, election officials disqualified six candidates for pro-independence views and required candidates to sign a pledge that Hong Kong is an inalienable part of China. On Tuesday the Hong Kong government threatened it would take unspecified action against candidates advocating independence, though it did not name any.

OTHER OPTIONS ON THE TABLE

Not all the newcomers advocate independence. Some want Hong Kong-focused localism and others desire full autonomy. Rookie candidate Nathan Law's Demosisto party proposes a referendum on "self-determination" for Hong Kong. The party was founded in April by Law, 23, and 19-year-old activist Joshua Wong, both of whom were sentenced to community service last month for joining a unlawful assembly that sparked the 2014 protests.

DEMOCRATS WANT DIRECT ELECTION FOR LEADER

Council elections are held every four years. Half of the 70 seats are not up for citywide election; they are tied to various business and trade groups, such as finance, fishing and medicine, and people in those sectors will decide who fills them. People with Communist Party ties dominated many of these "functional constituencies," and pro-democracy groups want the special-interest seats eliminated. They also want direct elections for Hong Kong's top leader, currently hand-picked by a committee of mostly pro-Beijing elites. China's government insists on screening out unfriendly candidates.

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Some civil rights sites at risk of being lost to history RUSSELL CONTRERAS, Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A once-thriving all-black settlement in the New Mexico desert is a ghost town that rarely appears on maps. Tour buses pass but never stop at a Houston building where Latino activists planned civil rights events. Motels that welcomed minority motorists along 1950s Route 66 sit abandoned.

From a Civil War battlefield where Hispanic Union soldiers fought to birthplaces of civil rights leaders, sites linked to the nation's struggle for racial equality are overlooked, neglected and absent from travel guides.

Some states like Alabama, once known for discrimination and violence, are making strides to preserve historic sites. Advocates say it's time that more states and local communities work to draw attention to the sites before they are lost forever to memory and time.

The efforts come amid a demographic shift that indicates the U.S. population will be majority-minority by mid-century, highlighting a need to cover all history.

"I think generally we need to be more inclusive," said Rita Powdrell, president of the African American Museum & Cultural Center of New Mexico. "There are a lot of sites that should be recognized and remembered because they tell our story."

In Albuquerque, for example, there are no detectable markers for black civil rights advocate and 1950 Nobel Peace Prize Ralph Bunche, who attended school in the city. There also are no historic makers for David C. Marcus, an Albuquerque High School graduate who represented Latinos in landmark desegregation cases in California, including Mendez v. Westminster that challenged Orange County's segregated school system.

Though funds are limited, efforts are underway to save some sites.

In Houston, a nonprofit recently formed to restore a building that served as a meeting place for Latino civil rights groups during the 1950s, said Ray Valdez, president of the League of United Latin American Citizens' LULAC Council 60.

It was there that Gus Garcia and other legendary lawyers met to map out desegregation cases, and John J. Herrera planned the historic meeting with President John F. Kennedy the night before his assassination.

"Previous LULAC leaders left it in bad shape," Valdez said. "They hadn't paid property taxes on it for several years. They hadn't kept maintenance on it for several years."

The nonprofit hopes to use the building as a community center and museum on Mexican-American history, Valdez said.

Not all states and cities are letting time bury memories of their civil rights sites. In Alabama, for example, tourism officials invite visitors to experience such places as the University of Alabama's Foster Auditorium, where Gov. George Wallace stood at the entrance to prevent two black students from entering. The students were later allowed to enroll after President Kennedy placed the Alabama National Guide under federal control.

In nearby Birmingham, the city promotes a civil rights heritage trail. Visitors can see more than 70 sites of national merit designated by the National Register of Historic Places in Birmingham's Civil Rights District. Among those sites are the 16th Street Baptist Church, where four young black girls were killed in a church bombing. Statues of civil rights marchers are at locations of critical demonstrations.

In Oakland, California, there are markers around the city to highlight locations connected to the Black Panther Party of the late 1960s.

And also in Albuquerque, city officials are working on a revitalization plan for the De Anza Motor Lodge. The empty and fenced off building was one of the motels that offered lodging to black and

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Hispanic travelers along the famed Route 66 from Chicago to Los Angeles during segregation.

New Mexico's Tourism Department also promotes the state's Hispanic and Native American heritage, encouraging visitors to take a trip to Taos Pueblo or Santa Fe Plaza. But little is done to promote Blackdom, the all-black frontier ghost town that some advocates say could be turned into a tourism attraction.

The state also doesn't have a marker in the northern New Mexico ghost town of Dawson, the birthplace of United Farm Workers co-founder Dolores Huerta. Recently, the Albuquerque Public Schools named a school after pioneer Latino scholar George I. Sanchez, who was born in the city.

New Mexico Office of African American Affairs executive director Yvette Kaufman-Bell said it will take a community effort to bring attention to these sites, including creating simple informative, tourist brochures. "It's up to us to tell our own history," she said.

10,000 Syrian refugees find new home in US ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

EL CAJON, Calif. (AP) — On Sunday, Nadim Fawzi Jouriyeh participated in a ceremony in Amman, Jordan, to mark the United States hitting its target of taking in 10,000 Syrian refugees in a year-old resettlement program. On Wednesday, the 47-year-old former construction worker and his family were walking grocery aisles, stocking up on roasted chicken, milk and lemons for their new home outside San Diego.

It didn't take long for Jouriyeh, his 42-year-old wife and four children, ages 8 to 14, to feel welcome. "America is a beautiful country," he said through an Arabic translator at the office of the International Rescue Committee in El Cajon, a San Diego suburb that has been a magnet for Iraqis and, more recently, Syrians who are fleeing war. "The way they treat people and the people of America are very nice ... When you go down the streets, everyone smiles at you. Even if they don't know you, they just smile at you."

San Diego, the nation's eighth-largest city, has received 626 Syrian refugees since Oct. 1, more than any other in the United States. Many smaller cities have accepted outsized number of Syrians, including Erie, Pennsylvania (205), Toledo, Ohio (109), and Boise, Idaho (108).

California and Michigan are neck-and-neck among states for receiving the most Syrian refugees, followed by Arizona, Texas and Illinois. Cities with large numbers include Chicago (469), Glendale, Arizona (384), Troy, Michigan (325) and Dallas (293).

Refugees are typically assigned to cities where they have family and friends or, failing that, where there is an established community of immigrants who share their culture, said David Murphy, executive director in San Diego for the International Rescue Committee, one of nine organizations that helps refugee settle in the United States.

In El Cajon, population 100,000, some store signs on Main Street are in Arabic. Merchants, bank tellers and school teachers speak the language.

Three decades ago, an Iraqi Chaldean immigrant settled in El Cajon and the impact "snowballed" into a large Arabic-speaking community, Murphy said. Iraqis have been coming for years but Syrians are relatively new.

"It's really kind of tough to know how they're going to do. They haven't been here long enough to start businesses or anything like that," Murphy said.

Jouriyeh, who left school after ninth grade in his native Homs to work, fled his war-ravaged city for Jordan in 2014. Daily bombings frightened the children as the Syrian government retook the city. Jouriyeh had to stay indoors for three days straight because it was too dangerous to go to work.

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A drive to the Jordanian border that would normally take two hours required three days as the family tried to avoid roadblocks, arrest and crossfire. Jouriyeh said about 80 people were killed in his convoy. Extensive vetting by the International Organization of Migration and the U.S. State and Homeland Security departments in Jordan led him to San Diego.

The U.S. said its target of resettling 10,000 Syrian refugees in the 2016 fiscal year was reached Monday, more than a month ahead of schedule and the night Jouriyeh reached San Diego. The U.S. resettlement program focuses on the most vulnerable refugees, including those who were subjected to violence or torture or are sick.

Close to 5 million Syrians have fled civil war since 2011. Most struggle to survive in tough conditions in neighboring countries, including Jordan, which hosts close to 660,000 Syrian refugees.

The future of the U.S.'s role may be tied to presidential politics. Republican nominee Donald Trump said Wednesday that he would suspend arrivals from Syria, portraying them as a potential security threat.

Jouriyeh said his top priorities are to find a job, enroll his children in school and find permanent housing. He wouldn't say if he would ever return to Syria.

"We hope our children succeed in education and be able to have a good future here," he said.

Their days are filled with chores like opening a bank account and getting a phone. International Rescue Committee offers classes on English, job-hunting and citizenship.

While grocery shopping on Wednesday, a Syrian vendor who came to the United States in 2010 introduced himself to Jouriyeh and asked about his journey. The strangers chatted pleasantly for a few minutes and said goodbye.

AP FACT CHECK: Trump on immigration ERICA WERNER, Associated Press NICHOLAS RICCARDI, Associated Press

EDITOR'S NOTE _ A look at the veracity of claims by political figures.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wednesday was supposed to be the day Donald Trump clarified his immigration stance. But in a key speech on that subject, he misstated facts about immigration policy, life for those in the country illegally and their impact on the U.S. economy.

A look at some of his statements in an Arizona rally in the evening and after a meeting earlier in the day with Mexico's president:

TRUMP: "President Obama and Hillary Clinton have engaged in gross dereliction of duty by surrendering the safety of the American people to open borders."

THE FACTS: Trump actually praised President Barack Obama in the past for deporting an unprecedented number of people during his first term, a record that does not square with an accusation of supporting an "open" border.

Obama increased Border Patrol staffing to an all-time high of 21,444 agents in 2011 and his administration has virtually ended the practice of "voluntary returns," or turning back Mexicans without any consequences.

Both Obama and Clinton support a more lenient policy than Trump has proposed, but what they lay out is not an open border.

Clinton has promised to extend Obama's actions that would let people brought to the country illegally as children remain in the country, as well as to let some parents of U.S. citizens stay. Both seek legisla-

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tion that would allow most of the estimated 11 million immigrants in the country illegally to stay if they pass a background check, learn English and pay taxes. However, those who fail the background check or commit crimes would be deported.

TRUMP, on people illegally in the U.S.: "They're treated better than our vets."

THE FACTS: People in the country illegally do not have the right to work, vote or receive most government benefits. A modest number have been exempted from deportation because of an Obama administration action but most live under the risk of being removed from the country.

Veterans are guaranteed government health care and because almost all are citizens, the right to vote and other government benefits.

The quality of their care has been criticized by Trump and others but people in the country illegally do not have equivalent rights to health care, except for emergency treatment. Public hospitals are required to provide emergency medical care regardless of immigration status.

TRUMP: "When politicians talk about immigration reform they usually mean the following: amnesty, open borders, lower wages ... It should mean improvements to our laws and policies to make life better for American citizens."

THE FACTS: No politician of either party who supports overhauling immigration laws supports "amnesty," but the meaning of "amnesty" varies depending on who is talking.

The sweeping and bipartisan immigration bill that passed the Senate in 2013 was derided by opponents as amnesty, but supporters including GOP Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida disputed that, noting numerous requirements imposed on immigrants in the country illegally along a 13-year path to citizenship, including paying penalties.

The bill proposed spending tens of billions of dollars to double the number of U.S. Border Patrol agents and greatly increase border security. And the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office studied the bill and projected that it would lower wages for the entire workforce slightly over the first 10 years after becoming law, but would then increase wages for the entire workforce by even more, at the same time boosting economic output and increasing the GDP.

TRUMP, on the number of people in the U.S. illegally: "Our government has no idea. It could be 3 million, it could be 30 million. They have no idea."

THE FACTS: The government actually has an idea. The Homeland Security Department estimates there are 11.4 million people in the United States illegally. Few in the immigration debate challenge that estimate.

The figure comes from an analysis of the most recent Census Data. The government compares the number of people whom the Census reports as foreign-born with the number of people who have been admitted legally and gained citizenship. The most recent estimate dates to January 2012. It roughly matches the estimates of demographers from the Pew Foundation, which issues its estimates more rapidly than the government.

Experts believe the number of people in the U.S. illegally has been steadily declining as Mexicans and others return to their home country and illegal border crossings dwindle.

TRUMP, on ending the practice of releasing people who are caught crossing the border illegally, pending a court appearance: "We are going to end catch-and-release ... Under my administration, anyone who illegally crosses the border will be detained until they are removed out of our country and back to

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the country from which they came."

THE FACTS: Many of the releases in question were ordered by courts. They were not a policy of the Obama administration.

A federal judge in Los Angeles ruled last year the federal government's detention of children and their mothers who were caught crossing the border illegally violated a 1997 court settlement. In July, an appeals court narrowed the scope, saying children must be quickly released but not their parents. From October through July, 48,311 unaccompanied children were arrested crossing the border from Mexico; many more children were caught with their families.

Many crossing the border illegally claim asylum, which must be adjudicated by an immigration judge. People can claim asylum because they are being persecuted or fear persecution on grounds of race, religion, nationality, membership in a social group or political opinion.

TRUMP, on preventing people from overstaying their visas and remaining in the country illegally: "We will finally complete the biometric entry-exit visa tracking system, which we need desperately. For years Congress has required biometric entry-exit visa tracking systems but it has never been completed. The politicians are all talk, no action. Never happens, never happens ... In my administration we will ensure that this system is in place."

THE FACTS: Trump is correct in focusing on visa overstays as a source of much illegal immigration. The biometric system he wants to complete, though, presents enormous logistical, technical and financial challenges, and he gave no details how he would address it differently than his predecessors.

Congress mandated the system first in 1996 and only now has the Obama administration begun implementing it on select flights at nine airports and at a border crossing between San Diego and Tijuana, Mexico.

The scope of the problem is immense - and not one that Trump's proposed border wall could fix.

The U.S. admits more than 45 million people annually on tourist, student and work visas. The government says 99 percent of them leave when required. But 1 percent overstay their visas, and that's more than 450,000 people annually.

TRUMP, after meeting Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto: "I shared my strong view that NAFTA has been a far greater benefit to Mexico than it has been to the United States and that it must be improved upon. ... I expressed that ... we must take action to stem this tremendous outflow of jobs from our country. It's happening every day, it's getting worse and worse and worse, and we have to stop it." THE FACTS: The loss of manufacturing jobs is generally attributed to China, not Mexico.

Some U.S. companies have moved jobs to Mexico — the Carrier Corp. recently decided to relocate an air conditioning factory there from Indiana. But there is little data to show that the trend is getting "worse and worse."

No reliable annual measures exist of job flows between the U.S. and Mexico. The United States hemorrhaged manufacturing jobs from 2000 to 2010, when more than 5.5 million were lost, but most economists blame the emergence of China as a manufacturing powerhouse and the increasing automation of many factories.

Recently, manufacturing has done a bit better: Since 2010, U.S. manufacturing jobs have increased by about 900,000. And many economists credit NAFTA with helping the U.S. auto industry by providing a cheap source of parts that otherwise might have been sourced in China. A report by the Center for Economic and Policy Research argued that imports of subsidized U.S. agricultural products put as many as 2 million Mexican farmers out of work. And since NAFTA's implementation in 1994, Mexico has grown

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more slowly than many of its Latin American counterparts.

TRUMP: "We didn't discuss that. We didn't discuss who pays for the wall, we didn't discuss." ... "We did discuss the wall. We didn't discuss payment of the wall. That'll be for a later date."

PENA NIETO on Twitter, in Spanish: "At the beginning of the conversation with Donald Trump I made it clear that Mexico will not pay for the wall."

THE FACTS: The facts may depend on what your definition of a discussion is. If the Mexican president opened with a comment that his country won't pay for the wall and Trump did not respond to it, that may not have been a discussion in his mind. But the subject, it seems, came up. The Trump campaign's brief statement on the meeting did not quibble with Pena Nieto's account. It said the meeting "was not a negotiation."

Associated Press writers Elliot Spagat in San Diego and Christopher S. Rugaber contributed to this report. Riccardi reported from Kansas City, Mo.

WHY IT MATTERS: Debt ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press

EDITOR'S NOTE _ One in an AP series examining issues at stake in the presidential election and how they affect people

WASHINGTON (AP) — THE ISSUE: The federal government is borrowing about 1 out of 7 dollars it spends and steadily piling up debt — to the tune of about \$14 trillion held by investors. Over the long term, that threatens the economy and our pocketbooks.

Most economists say rising debt risks crowding out investment and forcing interest rates up, among other problems. At the same time, rapidly growing spending on federal health care programs like Medicare and the drain on Social Security balances caused by the rising tide of baby boomers could squeeze out other spending, on roads, education, the armed forces and more.

It takes spending cuts, tax increases or both to dent the deficit — and presidential leadership. Law-makers instead prefer higher spending and tax cuts.

WHERE THEY STAND

Neither Hillary Clinton nor Donald Trump has really focused on the debt.

Trump has promised huge tax cuts that would, in fact, make the debt explode by trillions of dollars over the coming decade, though details are fuzzy. Trump has also shown no interest in curbing expensive benefit programs like Medicare and has actually criticized prior Republican efforts to balance the budget. He also wants big spending increases for veterans, the military and infrastructure projects — even suggesting that the government should take on new debt for such projects because interest rates are so low.

Clinton, by contrast, is proposing tax increases on the wealthy. But she wouldn't use the money to bring down the debt. Instead, she'd turn around and spend it on college tuition subsidies, infrastructure and expansion of President Barack Obama's health care law. She also wants to get rid of that law's so-called Cadillac tax on generous employer-provided health plans.

If elected, Clinton is expected to face a hostile GOP-controlled House, making her goal of tax increases for new spending highly unlikely to be achieved, even if Democrats take back the Senate.

Most economists believe that rising debt, especially when measured against the size of the economy,

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is a serious threat to the long-term economic health of the country. Very low interest rates have made the nation's debt relatively easy to handle — for now.

But as debt continues to grow, economists fear rising interest rates are inevitable, as the government's demand to borrow competes with private borrowers needing capital for investments. If debt slows the economy down, tax revenues would fall and create even more pressure on the budget and raise the possibility of a European-style fiscal crisis. In that event, policymakers might have no choice but tax increases or large benefit cuts.

Then there's the question of generational fairness. The federal budget is dominated by programs that help the elderly — Medicare and Social Security. Their growth is squeezing programs like education, infrastructure, national parks and scientific research, just to name a few. At the same time, the steadily growing debt, both in nominal terms and when measured against the economy, is a burden that future generations will have to bear.

America's debt problem can't be wished away, but there's little evidence the political system is up to the challenge. Part of the reason is increased polarization between the parties and an increasingly rancorous atmosphere in Washington. It's also true that politicians across the spectrum fear the political consequences of taking the difficult steps required to cut the deficit. That won't change whoever is elected to succeed Obama.

Poll: More voters trust Clinton on health care RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — From Medicare to medical costs, more voters trust Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton to do a better job on health care issues facing the nation, according to a poll out Thursday. But they're not holding out hope for big improvements.

The survey from the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation also found that the future of Medicare and overall access and affordability are the top health care issues for voters. Neither of those is getting much attention in a campaign that has been dominated by questions of character and temperament.

On the basic pocketbook question, the poll found that 36 percent of voters feared their own access to affordable care would get worse if Republican Donald Trump is elected, versus 24 percent who worried their own situations would worsen under Clinton. Just over half said a Clinton presidency would not make much difference to their own personal access, while 37 percent felt the same way about Trump.

"Even though Hillary Clinton is trusted by more of the public on these issues, they have pretty low expectations that things will get better, no matter who wins," said Kaiser polling chief Mollyann Brodie. (The foundation is not associated with health insurer Kaiser Permanente.)

Clinton has played a prominent role on health care issues for more than 20 years, since she emerged on the national scene as the leader of the failed effort to pass a bill providing health care for all in her husband's first presidential term. She's a candidate of continuity, expressing strong support for Medicare, Medicaid, and President Barack Obama's health care law. She's proposed incremental improvements but no sweeping changes.

Trump's views on health care seem fluid. He has said he wouldn't cut Medicare and he won't stand for people "dying on the street," but his health care plan is basically a collection of Republican talking points. He'd repeal "Obamacare," and he has expressed support for a House GOP plan to limit Medicaid spending and turn the program for low-income people over to the states.

Both candidates have said they'd authorize Medicare to negotiate drug prices. That puts Trump at odds with most Republicans, who see Medicare negotiations as nothing more than the government

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dictating prices.

Republican policy experts say they expect House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin to take the GOP lead on health care if Trump is elected. Ryan favors a major overhaul of Medicare for future retirees, gradually replacing open-ended government coverage with a limited payment that beneficiaries could use for a range of insurance options.

Women's access to reproductive health accounted for the biggest trust gap between Clinton and Trump. Sixty-four percent of voters — and 71 percent of women voters — said they trusted Clinton to do a better job. The numbers for Trump were 28 percent and 20 percent, respectively.

On the future of Medicare, 53 percent of voters said they trusted Clinton, compared to 38 percent trusting Trump. Interestingly, voters age 65 and older were much more closely divided, with 47 percent saying they trusted Clinton and 44 percent trusting Trump.

The split on Medicaid was 54 percent trusting Clinton and 37 percent trusting Trump. On the overall access and affordability of health care, 52 percent trusted Clinton, compared with 39 percent saying Trump would do better.

Clinton led by double-digit margins on most issues, but the closest split — 9 percentage points — was on the fate of the Obama health care law. Fifty percent said they trusted Clinton, compared with 41 percent for Trump. The public remains divided over the 2010 health overhaul, with 42 percent holding an unfavorable view, and 40 percent favoring it.

The Kaiser foundation poll was conducted from Aug. 18-24 among a nationally representative random digit dial telephone sample of adults that included 1,020 registered voters. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 4 percentage points for registered voters.

TNT's Craig Sager hangs tough in leukemia battle KRISTIE RIEKEN, AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — The chemotherapy has diminished Craig Sager's once lustrous chestnut hair to a few unruly strands, and on this day of hope a simple green T-shirt and blue shorts adorn the man known by millions for his ostentatious wardrobe and easy rapport with the NBA's elite.

He methodically extended a long, skinny arm to an IV pole holding the stem cells he is counting on to save his life. There was silence as he cradled the tube, watching the crimson liquid drip, drip, drip in a perfect cadence into the cannula feeding it into his cancer-stricken body.

TNT's most beloved basketball broadcaster received a rare third bone marrow transplant on Wednesday as an aggressive form of leukemia continues to take its toll. The 65-year-old Sager has battled acute myeloid leukemia since 2014, and announced in March that he was no longer in remission.

Sager knows the odds are against him. Yet, he is unfazed.

"I like to gamble," he told The Associated Press. "I like to bet on horses, I like to bet on dogs, I like to bet on a lot of things. I've bet on a lot of things with a lot higher odds than this."

Two other times Sager has received a bone marrow transplant with stem cells, and in both instances it put him into remission for several months. His son, Craig Sager II, was the donor then. This time, the anonymous 20-year-old donor was considered a perfect match.

Sager has been hospitalized for a month and has another month-long stay ahead. He hasn't thought a lot about the random man whose bone marrow could change everything for him. But when he learned of his age he expressed a possibly only half-serious concern.

"My only thing was I was afraid that when he signed up to be the donor he may have been in some drunk fraternity house, trying to impress his date," Sager said with a smile. "And they call him up the

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next day and say: 'Want to come down to the hospital?' and he's like: 'What?'"

His fears turned out to be unfounded.

"He came through," Sager said.

It is the latest of close to 100 procedures Sager has endured in his well-publicized fight and it was performed at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. Sager began the transplant at about 11:30 a.m. Central time and it wasn't complete until more than 10 hours later.

Dr. Muzaffar Qazilbash, Sager's stem cell transplantation physician, researched thousands of such transplants at MD Anderson over the last 15 years to illustrate just how uncommon Sager's procedure was.

"It's less than 1 percent of the total number of transplants," Qazilbash said. "It's very rare to have three transplants."

Sager, who has worked for TNT for more than three decades, calls himself coachable and said he's open to trying anything doctors believe might help.

"I've had every chemo in the alphabet, most of them more than once," he said. "Some of them that aren't even in the alphabet, they're just numbers — clinical trials. But I bet if you added all those up it would have to be like 60- or 70-something. I've had 23 bone marrow aspirations. Having one isn't fun and I've had 23. So that's been tough."

Despite the rigors of treatment and how they can ravage his body, he's never thought about giving up. In fact, he gets angry when he meets other patients who say they're grown weary of fighting.

"Man, life is too beautiful, too wonderful, there's just too many things," he said. "It's not just you. It's your family and kids and all. Fight. Fight until the end. Fight as hard as you can."

With his radiant smile and TV-perfect persona it takes time to peel back the layers of positivity and catch a glimpse of how hard that fight can be.

"His attitude is (that) nobody wants to hear it," said Stacy Sager, his wife, full-time caregiver and No. 1 fan. "And so it makes you reflect on yourself and the things that you say when you're complaining about little things in life and trivial things and it just puts things in perspective."

But there are times, often as night creeps into early morning, where it all becomes too much. No medication can help.

"I've never had any of those days where I've actually said why me, or I can't do it," he said. "But I'll have some dark nights where I'll be here by myself and maybe getting some medicine that's making me jump around like a rabbit. And I'm in pain and I've got chills and I've got fever and I've got everything mixed into one and I'm throwing up and have diarrhea ... and I'll just say: 'Stacy, I need you.'

"And she'll come to me and just hold me and it just makes it better," he said.

A few days before his transplant, Stacy came down with a bad cold and doctors sent her home, fearful she'd transmit her illness to her husband. Hall of Famer and TNT colleague Charles Barkley heard she couldn't be there for a couple of days and hopped on a plane from Phoenix.

The problem was that Sir Charles had hip replacement surgery less than a month ago and wasn't cleared to travel. He said his doctor was livid when he learned Barkley had defied orders and flown halfway across the country. Barkley informed the doctor that it was an emergency — though it was hard to know who was there for whom.

"Craig Sager is one of the most interesting people I've ever met," Barkley said. "We go to see Sager to cheer him up and by the time you leave you're like, 'Is anything wrong with him?' He has the most positive attitude ... when you go to try and cheer him up his attitude is so upbeat he cheers you up."

Sager has found inspiration in a little girl who lost her fight with cancer before her ninth birthday. He befriended Lacey Holsworth and her family while working on a story about her illness and remained

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friends with her parents after she died in April 2014. Holsworth had cheered on the Michigan State basketball team and had a close friendship with star Adreian Payne.

Last weekend, her parents visited Sager in his Houston hospital room. They left him with a more tangible reminder of her bravery.

"They brought me little Lacey's boots that she used to always wear to games and a picture of her wearing them," Sager said, clutching the high-top cheetah footwear accessorized with laces made from silk ribbons. "That little girl was so amazing. Fought for all of those years, was always positive, always cheerful, always brought other people's spirits up. So if I'm laying here feeling bad, I just think about Lacey and it puts everything in perspective."

Sager is also bolstered by his drive to be back on the sideline for the NBA season. He doesn't expect to have recovered from Wednesday's transplant in time for the season-opener on Oct. 25, but aims to return by early November for more of the gentle sparring with the likes of Spurs coach Gregg Popovich.

It would be a victory not just for him, but for all the people his fight has inspired.

"It means that you're surviving and you're winning," he said. "That you're knocking down obstacles and clearing hurdles that are put in front of you and you're doing them with flying colors."

On Wednesday, five colorful balloons were tied to one side of his hospital bed. Several had birthday greetings and two said: "Happy birthday, it's your big day."

Festive, yes. But Sager was born in June.

"When you get stem cells they say it's your new birthday," Stacy explained. "So this is his fourth birthday."

Sager tried to downplay the pageantry surrounding the event, saying it wasn't "a big deal."

That earned a sweet, yet stern, admonishment from his beloved wife.

"It is a big deal," she said. "It's giving you life."

Britain's May hopes to assure Chinese over nuclear plant LOUISE WATT, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — On her first visit to China as Britain's prime minister, Theresa May will try to reassure Beijing that she wants to strengthen ties despite her delay on a decision over whether to approve a Chinese-backed nuclear power plant in southwestern England.

The visit marks a testing point for relations that seemed on the upswing just months ago. While the mood in Beijing is that a post-Brexit Britain needs China more than ever, such assurances may be long in coming.

May's predecessor David Cameron heralded a "golden decade" in bilateral ties, but he quit after Britain voted in June to separate from the European Union. In a perceived slight to China, May abruptly launched a review into the Hinkley Point C power plant project that Beijing is counting on to boost its nuclear technology exports.

Chinese leaders will be looking for signs that May is "going to go ahead with it like before," an unlikely prospect given that the project is under review until this fall, said Steve Tsang, professor of contemporary Chinese studies at Britain's University of Nottingham.

"I would expect that she would really want try to use this opportunity to reassure the Chinese that Hinkley Point C doesn't mean that (Britain) does not want a good relationship with China," said Tsang. "It's a very wide-ranging relationship; there are many different dimensions to it. It shouldn't all hang on something like Hinkley Point."

May, who will be attending this weekend's G20 summit in the eastern Chinese resort city of Hangzhou, has already dispatched an envoy to assure Beijing that she looks forward to working more closely with

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China in economic, trade and global affairs.

The Hinkley Point C plant, to be built by French energy giant EDF with backing from China General Nuclear Power Corp., would be Britain's first new nuclear facility in 20 years and would seek to address its future energy needs.

China's government-run nuclear industry is based on foreign technology, but has spent two decades developing its own with help from Westinghouse Electric Co., France's Areva and EDF and other partners. A separate export initiative is based on an alliance between Westinghouse and a state-owned reactor developer.

Although the reason for the Hinkley Point C's review hasn't been revealed, critics say it's a bad financial deal for Britain. The plant's technology is untested, and serious concerns remain about a Chinese state-owned company investing in key infrastructure that could give Beijing major political leverage in the event of a conflict.

China General Nuclear Power Corp. would finance a third of the plant's 18 billion pound (\$23.6 billion) construction cost and take the lead on designing and building a second nuclear plant in southeast England. British acceptance of Chinese technology will ease the way for it to be sold around the world, a potential gold mine for China's budding nuclear industry.

Security and commercial issues surrounding the plant extend even beyond Britain. In April, the U.S. government indicted China General Nuclear Power Corp. for allegedly conspiring to illegally produce nuclear material in China with the help of experts in the U.S. without the government authorization required by U.S. law.

The company has said that it understands the new British government's need to familiarize itself with the project given its importance to the country's energy safety.

China's state media, however, took a much harsher line.

"Apparently, London's so-called 'national security' concerns ... could well endanger the bright new prospects the two nations' leaderships have agreed to foster," the official Xinhua News Agency said in a commentary that labeled Britain's actions as "China-phobia."

"After divorcing the E.U., Britain would be foolish to decline stronger trade ties with China, whose markets remain home to tremendous business opportunities," Xinhua added.

It remains to be seen whether Beijing will gain by upping the political ante. Some British politicians were already wary of the Cameron government's enthusiasm for courting Chinese investment, while soft pedaling human rights issues that resonate with much of the British public. That came after Cameron incurred Beijing's wrath by meeting in 2012 with the Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, considered a separatist by Beijing. The meeting prompted China to suspend high-level diplomatic contacts for 14 months while imperiling a raft of trade deals.

Overall, Chinese observers say they don't expect any fundamental change in relations under May. Since both countries are major powers, their strategic diplomacies won't change much based on their leaders' personal preferences, said Zhang Yao, a former director of the Center for European Studies at the Shanghai Institute of Foreign Studies.

The G20 offers an opportunity for May and Chinese President Xi Jinping "to better understand each other" and agree on how they want to develop future relations, Zhang said.

Cameron's departure was a disappointment for the Chinese government, which expected a lot from him because of his efforts to promote bilateral relations, whereas some ordinary Chinese and academics think differently, said Zhang Lihua, director of the Center of Sino-European Studies at Beijing's elite Tsinghua University.

"I regard him as a political speculator because he risked the fortune of (Britain) for the benefit of

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his party and his personal political career," Zhang said, referring to Cameron's decision to hold the EU referendum.

"Although we are not familiar with Theresa May, she might be less speculative and more a person of principle than Cameron," Zhang said.

At Lake Tahoe, Obama links conservation to climate change JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

STATELINE, Nev. (AP) — Standing beneath the forest-green peaks of the Sierra Nevada, President Barack Obama drew a connection Wednesday between conservation efforts and stopping global warming, describing the two environmental challenges as inseparably linked.

Obama used the first stop on a two-day conservation tour to try to showcase how federal and local governments can effectively team up to address a local environmental concern like iconic Lake Tahoe, which straddles California and Nevada. Obama told a sunbaked crowd of several thousand in a small lakeside town that "our conservation effort is more critical, more urgent than ever."

"When we protect our lands, it helps us protect the climate of the future," Obama said, joined by Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada, California Gov. Jerry Brown and Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif.

Obama's brief stop along the Nevada-California border came at the start of an 11-day international tour that will take the president to Asia for his final time as president. Throughout the trip, Obama is hoping to elevate issues of climate change and conservation as he works to lock in his environmental legacy.

Addressing leaders of island nations later Wednesday in Honolulu, Obama urged countries large and small to unite behind a common effort on climate and to "row as one," arguing that no nation can tackle the issue itself.

"When it comes to climate change, there's a dire possibility of us getting off-course, and we can't allow that to happen," Obama said.

The lush island offered Obama a chance to emphasize a theme he's returned to frequently in his climate campaign: that remote islands are the most vulnerable to rising sea levels and should help lead the fight to slow global warming.

To that end, the president planned an unusual presidential visit Thursday to Midway Atoll, a speck of land halfway between Asia and North America where Obama recently expanded the Papahanau-mokuakea Marine National Monument. Then the president heads to China for the Group of 20 major economies summit where climate change is once again expected to be high on the agenda.

In Nevada, Obama paid tribute to picturesque Lake Tahoe, which at 22 miles long and 12 miles wide would cover all of California with more than a foot of water if it were emptied. A major tourist attraction along with the area's casinos and ski resorts, the lake has been a major source of concern for environmentalists for decades, as underwater visibility began sharply receding.

Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid, who leaves office next year and invited Obama to attend the summit's 20th anniversary, said thanks to nearly \$2 billion in spending since 1997, Lake Tahoe is now "more pristine than it has been in decades." And California Gov. Jerry Brown, hailing the bipartisan support the lake restoration has enjoyed, called it proof that "beauty transcends politics."

Scientists believe an array of factors such as storm-water runoff, car traffic and nearby construction have fueled the loss of clarity in the alpine lake, leading to major investments over the last 20 years by Congress, private groups, local authorities and the states of California and Nevada. The latest threat to the lake — warming temperatures that have altered the underwater physics — dovetails with Obama's

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emphasis on how America's most treasured natural wonders are already suffering the consequences of climate change.

Unveiling modest new steps to preserve the lake and its region, the White House said the Interior Department would spend nearly \$30 million on wildfire prevention in the area, while other agencies would work on storm-water management, algae monitoring and geothermal energy exploration.

In a veiled swipe at Republicans, Obama mocked those who have questioned whether climate change is occurring or whether humans are to blame.

"You don't have to be a scientist," Obama said. "You have to read or listen to scientists to know that the overwhelming body of science shows us that climate change is caused by human activity."

Mexican president likely hurt by 'ill-advised' Trump meeting CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN, Associated Press MARK STEVENSON, Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — President Enrique Pena Nieto's decision to meet with possibly Mexico's mostdisliked man is turning into a public relations disaster for him, with social media posters and politicians calling it a national humiliation likely to lower the president's already historically low popularity ratings.

Not only did Pena Nieto not demand that Donald Trump apologize for calling Mexican migrants rapists and criminals, but he stood silently by in their joint press conference while the Republican candidate repeated his promise to build a border wall between the countries.

"This is an insult and a betrayal," said artist Arturo Meade as he joined a protest against Wednesday's meeting in Mexico City. "What can this meeting bring us except surrealism in all its splendor?"

Televisa news anchor Carlos Loret de Mola marveled that Trump would dare come to Mexico and reiterate his intention to build the wall. "The humiliation is now complete," he tweeted.

Particularly irksome to Mexicans was that Pena Nieto appeared to do little to push back against Trump's earlier negative statements about Mexican migrants and unpopular proposals.

Pena Nieto "did not even take a really strong stand and talk to Mr. Trump directly to his face and tell him exactly why his stances are not acceptable to Mexicans," said Tony Payan, director of the Mexico Center at Rice University's Baker Institute. "He sounded tepid and too soft. He essentially rolled over and allowed Mr. Trump to get away with his own goals without getting anything in return."

Pena Nieto did say that Mexicans felt "aggrieved" and had disagreements with Trump, but most felt that it was not enough.

Javier Urbano Reyes, a professor in the department of International Studies at the Iberoamerican University in Mexico City, said he thought Trump gained a little with the meeting but Mexico's president lost a lot.

"Without a doubt, my perception is that it is going to make it even worse, even stronger the drop in approval," he said, referring to Pena Nieto's near 20-percent approval rating, according to recent polls. Former Mexican President Vicente Fox said Trump was trying to boost his sagging campaign. "He fooled him (Pena Nieto)."

Pena Nieto and Trump even appeared to disagree about what was said in the meeting.

Standing next to Pena Nieto, Trump said the topic of who would pay for the wall would be discussed later. Pena Nieto, at the time, said nothing about the wall.

Hours later, Pena Nieto said in a tweet that he had told Trump clearly in their private meeting that Mexico would not pay. It seemed to contradict Trump's statement that payment wasn't discussed, but the president's office said only that Pena Nieto made his statement and the topic was dropped.

Later Wednesday night, in a speech on immigration in Phoenix, Arizona, Trump made building the

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wall the featured element of his immigration plan. He referred to Pena Nieto as a "wonderful, wonderful president," but reaffirmed the pledge he had not repeated in Mexico: "They don't know it yet, but they're going to pay for the wall."

Many Mexicans wonder why Pena Nieto agreed to the meeting.

Payan hypothesized that Pena Nieto had little good news to give in his state-of-the-nation address scheduled for Thursday and was looking for a distraction with the "ill-advised" meeting.

"Maybe Pena saw the opportunity to distract the attention of the Mexican people," he said.

Writer Angeles Mastretta tweeted that Mexicans saw "what was expected: a president who isn't capable of demanding apologies ... how sad."

Brazil's Michel Temer inherits presidency on shaky ground PETER PRENGAMAN, Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The permanent ouster of deeply unpopular President Dilma Rousseff by Brazil's Senate means that a man who is arguably just as unpopular is now faced with trying to ease the wounds of a divided nation mired in recession.

Long known as an uncharismatic backroom wheeler-dealer, Michel Temer inherits a shrinking economy, a Zika virus outbreak that has ravaged poor northeastern states and political instability fed by a sprawling corruption probe that has tarred much of the country's political and business elite — himself included.

So far he's struggled in the nearly four months he's served as interim president following Rousseff's May impeachment, which suspended her from office while a final trial was prepared. The Senate's 61-20 vote on Wednesday to permanently remove her means Temer, who had been her vice president, will now serve out her term, which ends in late 2018.

Just hours after Rousseff was removed, Temer assured the nation his administration was up to the task.

"From today on, the expectations are much higher for the government. I hope that in these two years and four months, we do what we have declared — put Brazil back on track," he said.

Temer also denied that the proceedings were a coup against Rousseff, which she repeatedly claimed throughout the process.

"Putschist is you," he said, referring to Rousseff. "It's you who is breaking the constitution."

Temer said he planned to attend the G20 meetings in China this weekend, mentioning bilateral meetings that leaders from Spain, Japan, Italy and Saudi Arabia have already requested.

"We are traveling to show the world that we have political and legal stability," he said. "We have to show that there is hope in the country."

Whether Temer can convince Brazilians that he is worth a real shot is unclear.

He appeared tone-deaf with his first move in May: appointing an entirely white, male Cabinet to oversee a nation of 200 million people where more than 50 percent identify as black or mixed-race.

Three of Temer's ministers had to quit within days of being named because of corruption allegations. And so far he has struggled to build consensus around key reforms, such as slimming the country's pension system.

Government ministers are promising progress now that "interim" is no longer part of Temer's title.

"With the end of the interim period and a vote of more than 60 senators, the investors will start bringing jobs again," said Cabinet chief Eliseu Padilha.

So far that message hasn't resonated with most Brazilians, however. Just 14 percent said they approved of Temer's performance in a July poll by Datafolha. On the flip side, 62 percent said they wanted

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new elections to resolve the crisis. The poll interviewed 2,792 people July 14-15 and had a 2 percentage point margin of error.

New elections would first require that Temer resign, which he has no intention of doing.

The son of Lebanese immigrants, the 75-year-old Temer quietly rose through Brazil's political ranks, building a reputation as a negotiator who could forge deals among political rivals. His reserved manner earned him the nickname the "Butler." The only thing flashy about him is his wife, 32-year-old Marcela Temer, an ex-beauty pageant contestant who tattooed Temer's name on her neck.

As a leader of the country's biggest party, the ideologically flexible Brazilian Democratic Party Movement, Temer won election as head of the lower house of Congress for nearly a decade.

A political marriage of convenience led the leftist Rousseff to choose the Sao Paulo congressman as her vice presidential running mate in 2010. Their formal if frosty relationship endured as the country continued a decade and a half-long boom.

But by the time the pair was re-elected in 2014, the economy began to unravel and street protests erupted.

Prosecutors and judges uncovered a web of billions of dollars of kickbacks at the state oil giant Petrobras. The two-year probe has ensnared dozens of businessmen and politicians across the political spectrum.

Although Rousseff has never been personally implicated, many blame her for the graft because much of it happened while her party was in power. Temer, on the other hand, has been directly implicated: In a plea bargain, former Sen. Sergio Machado said that Temer asked him to channel \$400,000 in Petrobras kickbacks to 2012 Sao Paulo mayoral candidate in Temer's party. Temer denies wrongdoing and has not been charged.

Temer also is banned from running for office the next eight years because Sao Paulo's electoral court found him guilty of violating campaign spending laws in 2014.

Those things add to vehement opposition from Rousseff and her backers, who brand him a "usurper" and say he was brought into office to help squelch the corruption probe and restore the authority the country's elite.

"They think that they beat us, but they are wrong," said Rousseff on Wednesday in her first remarks after being removed from office.

Late Wednesday night, a group of unhappy Rousseff supporters smashed windows of bank branches, other businesses and a police SUV in the city of Sao Paulo. Anti-riot police tried to quell the demonstration with stun grenades and tear gas.

Rousseff supporters have promised to try to impeach Temer, though analysts say that's unlikely.

"Temer's party is the biggest in the Chamber of Deputies and in the Senate. That alone makes an impeachment process unlikely," said Jose Luiz Niemeyer, a professor of international relations at Ibmec, a Rio-based university.

Trump vows to remove millions living in country illegally JILL COLVIN, Associated Press CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN, Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Seeking to end confusion over his aggressive but recently muddled language on immigration, Donald Trump vowed Wednesday to remove millions of people living in the country illegally if he becomes president, warning that failure to do so would jeopardize the "well-being of the American people."

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Yet the Republican presidential nominee failed to outline what he would do with those who have not committed crimes beyond their immigration offenses — a sharp retreat after promises during his primary campaign to create a "deportation force" to remove the estimated 11 million immigrants living in the country illegally.

Trump instead repeated the standard Republican talking point that only after securing the border can a discussion begin to take place about what to do about those who remain, ducking the major question that has frustrated past congressional attempts at remaking the nation's immigration laws.

Yet the fiery speech was filled with applause lines for Trump's loyal supporters, including his insistence that immigrants in the country without permission who wish to seek legal status or citizenship must return to their home countries in order to do so.

He also drew cheers when he outlined plans to create a special task force that would prioritize the deportation of criminals, people who have overstayed their visas and other immediate security threats.

"Anyone who has entered the United States illegally is subject to deportation," Trump charged in the highly anticipated speech, which took place hours after Trump met with Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto. Any person living in the country illegally who is arrested "for any crime whatsoever," he said, will immediately be placed into deportation proceedings.

He added, "There will be no amnesty."

Trump also promised to restrict legal immigration, calling for a commission that would keep the percentage of foreign-born people in the country to "historic norms."

At 12.9 percent, the U.S. now has its highest percentage of foreign-born residents since 1920. Trump argues the high levels of immigration, both legal and illegal, have injured American workers by depressing wages.

"We have to listen to the concerns that working people, our forgotten working people, have over the record pace of immigration and its impact on their jobs, wages, housing, schools, tax bills and general living conditions," Trump said.

The aggressive tone in Phoenix marked a shift from earlier in the day, when a much more measured Trump described Mexicans as "amazing people" as he appeared alongside Pena Nieto in Mexico's capital city. It was his first meeting with a head of state as his party's presidential nominee.

Shortly after the joint appearance, a dispute arose over the most contentious part of the billionaire's plans to fight illegal immigration — his insistence that Mexico must pay to build a physical wall along the roughly 2,000-mile U.S. southern border.

Trump told reporters during the afternoon appearance that the two men didn't discuss who would pay for a cost of construction pegged in the billions. Silent at that moment, Pena Nieto later tweeted, "I made it clear that Mexico will not pay for the wall."

With the meeting held behind closed doors, it was impossible to know who was telling the truth. But the clash cast a cloud over the meeting and threatened to overshadow the evening address.

Trump told the rowdy Arizona crowd that he respects the Mexican president. "We agreed on the importance of ending the illegal flow of drugs, cash, guns and people across our border and to put the cartels out of business," he said.

Yet, standing on American soil, he addressed directly a question he sidestepped when asked in Mexico. "Mexico will pay for the wall, 100 percent," the New York businessman said. "They don't know it yet, but they're going to pay for the wall."

The Mexican president, however, said on Twitter that the subject was among the first things the men discussed. "From there, the conversation addressed other issues, and developed in a respectful manner," Pena Nieto wrote.

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Trump's hard-line rhetoric on immigration, backed by an "America First" foreign policy, has defined his outsider presidential bid.

Critics accuse Trump of fueling xenophobia and white nationalist rhetoric. His supporters cite the flow of drugs across the border and Trump himself has repeatedly highlighted victims of crimes committed by immigrants in the country illegally, something he made a big part of his Wednesday night speech.

Before he took the stage, he was introduced by a series of speakers, including some parents whose children were killed by people living in the country illegally. They belong to a group called The Remembrance Project and shared stories of loss with the thousands-strong crowd.

Trump was cheered in Arizona, but his appearance in Mexico sparked anger and protests. The candidate is deeply unpopular in Mexico due in large part to his deriding the country as a source of rapists and criminals as he kicked off his campaign. He piled on in the months to come, attacked the country over free trade, illegal immigration and border security.

Former Mexican President Vicente Fox bluntly told the celebrity businessman that, despite Pena Nieto's hospitality, he was not welcome.

"We don't like him. We don't want him. We reject his visit," Fox said on CNN, calling the trip a "political stunt."

Campaigning in Ohio, Democrat Hillary Clinton jabbed at Trump's Mexican appearance as she promoted her own experience working with foreign leaders as the nation's chief diplomat.

"People have to get to know that they can count on you, that you won't say one thing one day and something totally different the next," she told the American Legion in Cincinnati.

Hurricane warning downgraded for Hawaii's Big Island AUDREY McAVOY, Associated Press CATHY BUSSEWITZ, Associated Press

HILO, Hawaii (AP) — Forecasters on Wednesday downgraded Hurricane Madeline to a tropical storm as it veered past Hawaii's Big Island, but officials reiterated warnings to prepare for heavy rain and strong winds.

The National Weather Service downgraded the storm as its sustained winds fell below hurricane strength of 74 mph.

By 5 p.m. (8 p.m. PDT), sustained winds swirled at 65 mph, and forecasters said continued weakening over the coming days was expected.

Its center was passing to the south and wasn't expected to make landfall on any Hawaiian island. Still, the Big Island and Maui County were under tropical storm warnings.

"It doesn't matter if it's a strong tropical storm or a category 1 hurricane," said Eric Lau, a meteorologist with the weather service. "If you have 70 mph winds versus 75 mph winds, it's still a strong storm, so residents still need to be prepared."

Meanwhile, Hurricane Lester was about 1,000 miles from Hawaii and expected to drop to a tropical storm by Sunday.

The developments came as merchants boarded up shop windows along Hilo Bay and shoppers snatched supplies of food and water from grocery store shelves after initially being told the island could be hit by its first hurricane in a quarter-century.

"Hopefully our roofs stay on, and our houses don't float way or get blown away," Big Island resident Mitzi Bettencourt said as she covered walls of glass windows while the island was under the hurricane warning. "It's like, 'Oh my God, are we going to get flattened or what?""

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Elsewhere, the National Hurricane Center said Tropical Storm Hermine had formed in the Gulf of Mexico and was centered about 315 miles from Tampa, Florida. It was expected to pick up speed and approach the northwest Florida coast Thursday night; a hurricane warning was issued for the area. A warning was dropped about a tropical depression that had been moving toward North Carolina.

In Hawaii, Peggy Beckett, a retiree and beekeeper, stopped at a Hilo supermarket to pick up onion bagels, cheese, cold cuts and salad to add to her canned food at home. She also has a cooler with ice plus a portable burner and batteries to get her through the storm.

Noting the lines of people at the market, Beckett said people were getting prepared but weren't panicking.

"There's always a lot of disbelief on the island that the storms will really be as big and bad as fore-cast," she said, noting that she and her partner had taken precautions to protect their beehives.

Bettencourt manages several vacation rental properties, and her own home sits a few blocks from the ocean. She and her neighbors were stocking their pantries, stowing lawn furniture and preparing for power outages.

Employees boarded up windows at Hulakai Store, a surf shop in Hilo. "We'll probably keep it up till Sunday, waiting for the second one to come through," said supervisor Renee Balanga.

Gov. David Ige has issued an emergency proclamation for both storms, allowing the state to quickly spend money. Big Island schools were closed and about a dozen facilities were outfitted as emergency shelters.

President Barack Obama is scheduled to visit Oahu this week. The White House was tracking the weather but didn't anticipate changing Obama's schedule.

The Hawaiian islands of Maui, Molokai, Lanai and Kahoolawe were under a tropical storm watch, but there were no alerts for Oahu or Kauai.

On the Big Island, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park was closed.

The U.S. Coast Guard asked crews of barges and ships to prepare to leave Hilo Harbor and told oceangoing vessels to seek sheltered waters until storm conditions subside.

Brazil's President Rousseff ousted from office by Senate PETER PRENGAMAN, Associated Press MAURICIO SAVARESE, Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) — Brazil's Senate on Wednesday voted to remove President Dilma Rousseff from office, the culmination of a yearlong fight that paralyzed Latin America's largest nation and exposed deep rifts among its people on everything from race relations to social spending.

While Rousseff's ouster was widely expected, the decision was a key chapter in a colossal political struggle that is far from over. Her vice president-turned-nemesis, Michel Temer, was immediately sworn in as president with Rousseff's allies vowing to fight her removal.

Rousseff was Brazil's first female president, with a storied career that includes a stint as a Marxist guerrilla jailed and tortured in the 1970s during the country's dictatorship. She was accused of breaking fiscal laws in her management of the federal budget.

"The Senate has found that the president of the federal republic of Brazil, Dilma Vana Rousseff, committed crimes in breaking fiscal laws," said Chief Justice Ricardo Lewandowski, who presided over the trial

Opposition lawmakers, who made clear early on the only solution was getting her out of office, argued that the maneuvers masked yawning deficits from high spending and ultimately exacerbated the reces-

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sion in a nation that had long enjoyed darling status among emerging economies.

Nonsense, Rousseff countered time and again, proclaiming her innocence up to the end. Previous presidents used similar accounting techniques, she noted, saying the push to remove her was a bloodless coup d'etat by elites fuming over the populist polices of her Workers' Party the last 13 years.

The opposition needed 54 of the 81 senators to vote in favor for her to be removed. They got many more, winning in a landslide of sorts, 61-20.

"Today is the day that 61 men, many of them charged and corrupt, threw 54 million Brazilian votes in the garbage," Rousseff tweeted minutes after the decision.

Rousseff won re-election in 2014, garnering more than 54 million votes.

In a second Senate vote about 30 minutes later, Rousseff won a minor victory as a measure to ban her from public office for eight years failed. The 42-36 vote fell short of the 54 votes needed for passage.

In the background of the entire fight was a wide-ranging investigation into billions of dollars in kick-backs at state oil company Petrobras. The two-year probe has led to the jailing of dozens of top businessmen and politicians from across the political spectrum, and threatens many of the same lawmakers who voted to remove Rousseff.

Rousseff argued that many opponents just wanted her out of the way so they could save their own skins by tampering with the investigation, which Rousseff had refused to do.

Many lawmakers and Brazilians nationwide, meanwhile, blamed Rousseff for the graft even though she has never been personally implicated. They argued that she had to know, as many of the alleged bribes happened while her party was in power.

Rousseff's removal creates many questions that are not easily answered. Temer will serve out the remainder of her term through 2018. He was expected to address the nation in the evening.

But Brazilians have already gotten a taste of Temer's leadership, and they are clearly unimpressed.

In May, Temer took over as interim president after the Senate impeached and suspended Rousseff. The 75-year-old career politician named a Cabinet of all-white men, a decision roundly criticized in a nation that is more than 50 percent nonwhite. Three of his ministers were forced to resign within weeks of taking their jobs because of corruption allegations, which also follow Temer and threaten his hold on power.

When Temer announced the opening of the Olympics on Aug. 5, he was so vociferously booed that he remained out of sight for the remainder of the games.

Rousseff's allies have vowed to appeal to the country's highest court. While previous petitions to the court have failed to stop the impeachment process, at the very least legal wrangling will keep the issue front and center.

Late Wednesday night, a group of unhappy Rousseff supporters smashed windows of bank branches, other businesses and a police SUV in the city of Sao Paulo. Anti-riot police tried to quell the demonstration with stun grenades and tear gas.

The decision to remove Rousseff also leaves many question marks over the economy, expected to decline for a second straight year. Temer has promised to pull the country of 200 million people from its recession by tackling reforms that have long been taboo, such as slimming public pensions.

But he has not been able to accomplish much the last three months as interim president, and it remains to be seen whether Congress will be willing to work with him.

Several polls have shown that Brazilians prefer new elections to solve the crisis.

For that to happen, however, Temer would have to be removed from office or resign, something he clearly has no intention of doing. Speaking to the nation in televised address Wednesday evening, Temer hit back at Rousseff.

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"Putschist is you," he said, referring to Rousseff's accusation that he had led the charge to oust her. "It's you who is breaking the constitution."

Temer said he had tasked his Cabinet with pushing forward budget and pension reforms as well as proposals to create jobs.

"From today on, the expectations are much higher for the government. I hope that in these two years and four months, we do what we have declared — put Brazil back on track," he said.

Speaking to supporters at the presidential residence, Rousseff promised to mount a strong opposition, but didn't elaborate.

"This coup is against social movements and unions and against those who fight for their rights," she said. "Rights for the young people to make history, rights for the black, indigenous, LGBT and women."

Asian markets waver on mixed signals from China, Japan data TERESA CEROJANO, Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Asian markets were mixed Thursday as China and Japan, the region's two biggest economies, reported contrasting data.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 rose 0.1 percent to 16,896.53. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index was 0.5 percent up at 23,094.52. China's Shanghai Composite index fell 0.2 percent at 3,080.87. Australia's S&P ASX 200 lost 0.2 percent to 5,422.70. Southeast Asian markets were mixed.

WALL STREET: U.S. stocks took small losses Wednesday as energy companies fell with the price of oil and chemical and materials companies traded lower. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 53.42 points, or 0.3 percent, to 18,400.88. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gave up 5.17 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,170.95. The Nasdag composite dipped 9.77 points, or 0.2 percent, to 5,213.22.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "As the dog days of summer drew to a close, markets seemed to be steadily coming back into life yesterday, although not in the good way, more in the sell-off way," said IG market analyst Angus Nicholson. "This is setting up to be another difficult session for Asia-Pacific markets."

CHINA MANUFACTURING: An official monthly gauge of Chinese manufacturing for August came in at a better-than-expected 50.4, on a 1-100 scale with 50 marking the break between contraction and expansion. The results reflect improved expectations among factory managers and upticks in production and orders.

JAPAN'S MALAISE: A Ministry of Finance survey showed spending on factories and equipment in the April-June quarter was weaker than expected. The strength of the Japanese yen is pinching exporters who reaped windfall gains when the yen sank to near 120 yen per dollar. "Today's data on capital spending showed a fall that broadly matched the drop in non-residential investment in the preliminary estimate of Q2 GDP. The upshot is that the second estimate of GDP, due next Thursday, should confirm that the economy stagnated last quarter," Marcel Thieliant of Capital Economics said in an analysis.

OIL: Benchmark U.S. crude gained 25 cents at \$44.95 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Wednesday, it dropped \$1.65 to \$44.70 a barrel. Brent crude, used to price international oils, rose 30 cents to \$47.19.

CURRENCIES: The dollar fell to 103.27 yen from 103.29 yen the previous day. The euro fell to \$1.1154 dollars from \$1.1161

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Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Sept. 1, the 245th day of 2016. There are 121 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 1, 1939, World War II began as Nazi Germany invaded Poland.

On this date:

In 1715, following a reign of 72 years, King Louis XIV of France died four days before his 77th birthday. In 1807, former Vice President Aaron Burr was found not guilty of treason. (Burr was then tried on a misdemeanor charge, but was again acquitted.)

In 1905, Alberta and Saskatchewan entered Confederation as the eighth and ninth provinces of Canada.

In 1914, the last passenger pigeon in captivity, "Martha," died at the Cincinnati Zoo.

In 1923, the Japanese cities of Tokyo and Yokohama were devastated by an earthquake that claimed some 140,000 lives.

In 1941, the first municipally owned parking building in the United States opened in Welch, West Virginia.

In 1945, Americans received word of Japan's formal surrender that ended World War II. (Because of the time difference, it was Sept. 2 in Tokyo Bay, where the ceremony took place.)

In 1951, the United States, Australia and New Zealand signed a mutual defense pact, the ANZUS treaty.

In 1969, a coup in Libya brought Moammar Gadhafi to power.

In 1976, U.S. Rep. Wayne L. Hays, D-Ohio, resigned in the wake of a scandal in which he admitted having an affair with "secretary" Elizabeth Ray.

In 1983, 269 people were killed when a Korean Air Lines Boeing 747 was shot down by a Soviet jet fighter after the airliner entered Soviet airspace.

In 1995, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland. (The hall opened to the public the next day.)

Ten years ago: Mexican President Vicente (vih-SEN'-tay) Fox was forced to forego delivering his final state-of-the-nation address in person after leftist lawmakers stormed the stage of Congress to protest disputed July elections; Fox instead gave his speech on television. An Iranian passenger plane caught fire on landing in Mashhad, killing 28 of the 148 people on board. Nellie Connally, the former Texas first lady who was riding in President John F. Kennedy's limousine when he was assassinated, died in Austin, Texas, at age 87.

Five years ago: In a fiery broadcast from hiding, Libya's Moammar Gadhafi warned that loyalist tribes in his main strongholds were armed and preparing for battle. Leaders and envoys from 60 countries and the U.N. met in Paris for talks with Libya's rebel-led National Transitional Council to map the country's future.

One year ago: President Barack Obama stared down a melting glacier in Alaska in a dramatic use of his presidential pulpit to sound the alarm on climate change. Invoking "God's authority," Rowan County, Kentucky, Clerk Kim Davis denied marriage licenses to gay couples again in direct defiance of the federal courts, and vowed not to resign, even under the pressure of steep fines or jail. Lt. Charles Joseph Gliniewicz (GLIHN'-uh-wihts), a police officer for Fox Lake, Illinois, was found shot to death after reporting he was pursuing a group of men; authorities eventually concluded that Gliniewicz's death was

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a suicide. Actor Dean Jones, 84, died in Los Angeles.

Today's Birthdays: Former Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird is 94. Actor George Maharis is 88. Conductor Seiji Ozawa (SAY'-jee oh-ZAH'-wah) is 81. Attorney and law professor Alan Dershowitz is 78. Comedian-actress Lily Tomlin is 77. Actor Don Stroud is 73. Conductor Leonard Slatkin is 72. Singer Archie Bell is 72. Singer Barry Gibb is 70. Rock musician Greg Errico is 68. Talk show host Dr. Phil McGraw is 66. Singer Gloria Estefan is 59. Former White House Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers is 55. Jazz musician Boney James is 55. Singer-musician Grant Lee Phillips (Grant Lee Buffalo) is 53. Country singer-songwriter Charlie Robison is 52. Retired NBA All-Star Tim Hardaway is 50. Rap DJ Spigg Nice (Lost Boyz) is 46. Actor Ricardo Antonio Chavira is 45. Actor Maury Sterling is 45. Rock singer JD Fortune is 43. Actor Scott Speedman is 41. Country singer Angaleena Presley (Pistol Annies) is 40. Actor Boyd Holbrook is 35. Actress Zoe Lister-Jones is 34. Rock musician Joe Trohman is 32. Actress Aisling (ASH'-ling) Loftus is 26.

Thought for Today: "The most dangerous of all falsehoods is a slightly distorted truth." — Georg Christoph Lichtenberg, German scientist (1742-1799).