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Today

National Cheeseburger Day

National Women's Friendship Day

Wife Appreciation Day

Anniversary: Eddy & Virginia Nehls **Birthdays:** Teresa Davies • Bret Fliehs

3:30pm: Emmanuel Lutheran fellowship at Golden

Living Center (School serves)

19

International Talk Like A Pirate Day National Butterscotch Pudding Day

School Breakfast: Cereal, yogurt, fruit, juice or milk **School Lunch:** Hot ham and cheese, sweet tots, romaine salad, fruit.

Senior Menu: Chicken alfredo, lemon buttered broc-

coli, fruit dessert, French bread

Anniversary: Morgan and Ginger McNickle **Birthdays:** Lanny Torguson • Diann Morehouse

6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

8:00am: Preschool Screening for 3 & 4 year-olds (8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)

4:00pm: Cross Country at Clear Lake

4:30pm: JV FB at Milbank Area

5:30pm: Groton Garden Club at Golden Living Center

7:00pm: City Council Meeting

7:30pm: St. John's Lutheran Literature Circle

Groton Chamber Ladies Night Out

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

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

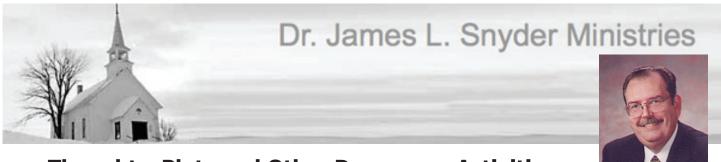
The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Thoughts, Plots and Other Dangerous Activities

One day this past week, I got up a little earlier than usual and to keep from waking up the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage I got my coffee and went to the back porch to enjoy a quiet early morning.

As I sat on the back porch drinking my coffee and taking in the early morning atmosphere, I noticed a bunch of birds sitting on the fence in the backyard. They were squawking at me as though I was the worst person in their world. I believe what they were screaming about was that I had not filled the bird feeder yet.

I screeched back at them and they only looked at me quizzically and kept on squawking. Obviously, they could not understand my accent.

Watching them for a few moments, I began to think. That is a very dangerous thing to do, especially so early in the morning and especially with a hot cup of coffee in your hand.

I began thinking about the fact that whenever I put the feed in the bird feeder none of the birds ever come and thank me for it. However, when I do not put feed in the birdfeeder they squawk and yell at me as though I had committed the unpardonable sin.

That's gratitude for you.

I tried explaining that I would put feed in the bird feeder when I got around to it. But right now, I explained, I'm just enjoying a quiet moment with my cup of coffee. Now, could you just leave me alone for a moment? And, quit all this fowl language.

I took another long sip of coffee and began reflecting more about this and how this was very typical of people. They complain when they don't get what they want, but when they get what they want to get rarely do they thank anybody. Their assumption is that they deserve what they want.

It reminded me of an incident in the life of Jesus when he healed 10 lepers. Only one of those lepers ever came back to thank Jesus for what he did. That seems to be very typical.

How much of what I expect do I really deserve?

Thinking about this brought me to the place of trying to figure out some little plot against these birds in my backyard. If they are not thankful for what I give them and if they are screeching at me when they do not get what they want, what could I do to get even with these little feathered rascals?

As I continued sipping my coffee, my brain was running at high speed trying to figure out how I could trick these birds into being a little more appreciative of what I do for them. After all, if I did not feed them they would not get fed.

One thought I had was I could put feed in the bird feeder and then tape shut all of the openings so that they could see the feed but they couldn't get to it. I liked that idea. Oh, how it would make them so aggravated to see all that food there and not able to get to it.

The more I thought about this idea the more devious my thinking became.

What if I would build something, like a trap, and put feed in the inside so that when they tried to get to it they would be trapped and could not get out. I could watch them and laugh and laugh.

They could not get to the feed and they could not get out of the feeder. Oh, how I like that idea.

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Soon my mind was putting out plot after plot getting even with these rascally, feathered minions teaching them a lesson or two. I was so impressed with all of these plots that I had to get a paper and pencil and start jotting them down. This was serious with me.

Suddenly, I heard a quiet voice from inside the door saying, "What are you doing so early?"

Looking around, there my wife stood at the door looking at me with the strangest of looks. I have seen strange looks from her, but this was the strangest.

It shocked me back into reality and for a brief moment, I almost told her what I was doing. I knew if I did that, I would be in deep trouble.

Coming up with a fresh plot I simply said, "I'm just enjoying the quietness of the morning."

"I think," she said, "I'll come out and join you and together we can enjoy the quietness of the morning." All my thoughts and plots came to an abrupt end.

Then she said, "I wonder why those birds over there on that fence are looking this way and squawking?" For a moment I thought I would explain it to her, but then I figured out she probably would not get the whole story. Or at least, she would wonder why in the world I was talking to birds. Then she would suggest that it was because I had a "birdbrain." That suggestion has come up quite a few times.

The apostle Paul stated it this way, "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:5).

When my thoughts focus on Christ, it lifts me above my circumstances.

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or e-mail jamessnyder2@ att.net or website www.jamessnyderministries.com.

Groton C &MA Church presents...

Psalty the singing Songbook's

Heart to Change the World
Sunday, September 18, 2016, 5:00pm

Musical performance by Kids' club/youth Group
supper to follow

All are welcome and encouraged to attend
706N Main Street, Groton

Girls Soccer: Groton 3, Garretson 0
Game played Saturday in Garretson

Harliegh Stange 7 shots 2 goals Emily Locke 4 shots 2 assists Jasmine Schinkle 1 shot Kenzie McNearny 2 shots Alexis Harder 1 shot Katie Koehler 1 shot 1 goal Devan Howard 4 saves

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Defending the United States

When I was working as governor of South Dakota, one of the most difficult parts of my job was sending off our men and women in uniform as they deployed overseas. I promised them I would do everything I could to make sure they came home safe and sound, and to take care of their families while they



were gone. Working in the Senate now, the defense of our country and support for our troops are still two of my top priorities. As I've said many times, the most important responsibility of the federal government is to provide for our national defense. Unless that responsibility is fulfilled, the freedoms we enjoy every day are in jeopardy.

In the Senate, we need to pass a defense appropriations bill each year to provide the necessary resources for our troops to conduct operations around the globe. Yet, Senate Democrats have blocked the defense appropriations bill from even being debated six times in this Congress. They have chosen this path of obstruction apparently to use the defense appropriations bill as a bargaining chip for some other spending they may identify in the future.

Supporting our troops should not be a partisan issue. It should be an issue where we can find consensus, and I hope that it can be the first step toward moving the Senate back to what we call "regular order" with regard to the budget process. This means passing not only the defense appropriations bill but all of the appropriations bills one-by-one, so that we have the opportunity to debate and consider the merits of each bill individually. Regular order is an important way to keep our spending priorities in check.

Another issue that impacts our national security is our soaring national debt. Three-fourths of our budget—mandatory federal spending and the interest on the debt—is on auto-pilot, and Congress has little ability to debate the merits of that part of the budget through the appropriations process. This leaves one-quarter of the annual budget for everything else - from education and infrastructure to national defense. The result is that budget caps and other efforts to rein in costs are narrowly focused on the one-quarter of the budget which Congress controls. Unfortunately that includes defense - the primary responsibility of the federal government.

By cutting the amount we spend on defense, we are putting our nation's security at risk. Sequestration has shrunk the size of our Army from 566,000 active-duty soldiers in 2011 to an estimated 450,000 at the end of 2017. This is despite the fact that threats against the United States continue to increase.

We made a promise to our troops that we would do everything we can to keep them safe. We should be prepared to make good on that promise. There is a very human price to underfunding our nation's armed forces. It is our men and women in uniform who will hurt the most if Congress does not give them the tools they need to perform their jobs. It's time to put aside our political arguments and agree on one thing: defending our great nation—and those who serve to protect it—is the primary responsibility of the federal government.

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John Thune U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA

On Prescribed Burns, Ask Those Who Know Best

Almost every rancher in western South Dakota whose operation includes or borders federal land is familiar with prescribed burns and the importance they play in land management. Prescribed or controlled burns remove residue, enhance new growth,



and they help prevent the spread of invasive species or disease. Perhaps most importantly, they help mitigate the risk of damaging forest or prairie fires. Prescribed burns, when conducted correctly, provide numerous benefits to the land and the surrounding landowners and communities. When set under unsafe circumstances, like hot, windy, or dry conditions, prescribed burns have the potential to destroy millions of dollars' worth of private property.

The federal government, including the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the National Park Service (NPS), use prescribed burns on federal land across the country. I'm a strong supporter of safe, controlled burns on federal land, but they must be well-planned and started under optimal conditions, and only after federal agencies have properly consulted with state and local officials.

There are two important examples in South Dakota that highlight what can happen when this local consultation is neglected. In April 2013, the USFS initiated a prescribed burn in northwestern South Dakota that was intended to clear a relatively small area of grassland. Wind and unusually dry ground conditions quickly turned this planned 100-acre burn into an out-of-control 16,000-acre blaze that torched millions of dollars of private property. Two years later, a similar burn was initiated in Wind Cave National Park. The Cold Brook fire, as it became known, quickly grew larger than what could be handled by crews on the ground, requiring considerable local firefighting resources. This fire also burned thousands of acres – fortunately within park boundaries. In both cases, had the USFS and NPS consulted with state and local officials, neither of the fires likely would have been started in the first place.

The collaboration concept is actually pretty simple. The farmers, ranchers, and state and local officials who walk the land on a daily basis – many of them have done so for years – are in the best position possible to help determine potential risks before prescribed burns are set. Many of these local property owners and officials themselves support prescribed burns, and when they are consulted, can help make sure burns are set on days when the danger is low.

I've been advocating to make this local collaboration part of the law, and we're a step closer to achieving that goal. My provision, which includes key portions of a standalone bill I introduced last year, the Prescribed Burn Approval Act of 2015, was unanimously approved by the Senate Agriculture Committee. If enacted, this common-sense approach would help streamline communication between federal agencies and folks in local communities and help prevent future out-of-control burns, which would protect landowners from unintended and potentially damaging consequences.

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GHS Homecoming Candidates

Groton Area High School homecoming coronation is set for Monday, September 26 at 7:30 p.m. Candidates are, back row from left, Trevor Pray, Shane Simon, McClain Lone, Sean Schuring, and Bennett Shabazz. Front row from left are Alexis Harder, Heather Lone, Macy Knecht, Paityn Bonn and Audrey Wanner.

Celebrating Family Day In South Dakota

A column by First Lady Linda Daugaard:

On Monday, Sept. 26, Dennis and I will celebrate Family Day. Family Day is a national initiative created by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse to promote family engagement as a way to help prevent substance abuse.

It's no secret that even in South Dakota we live in a time when our kids and grandkids are pressured to participate in unhealthy activities. Smoking, drinking and using other drugs often begin in adolescence and can lead to addiction. According to The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, nine out of 10 Americans who meet the medical criteria for addiction started smoking, drinking or using drugs before age 18.

It is crucial for the health and safety of our children that we do whatever we can to prevent substance use for as long as possible. I hope you will consider joining parents across the country in signing the Family Day STAR pledge. Commit to spending time with your family. Talk to your children about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. Most importantly, recognize the power you have to positively impact your kids.

On Sept. 26, do something to remind your family how much you love and support them. Find time to play with your kids, eat together as a family or just help your children with their homework. You can show your own Family Day activity by taking a selfie with your family and using the hashtag #myfamilyselfie on social media.

Parents and grandparents need to know what is on kids' minds. It's the little things – the everyday activities – that have a lasting impact on children, and these kinds of activities provide an opportunity for you to listen to your kids. One conversation could end up making all the difference.

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Today in Weather History

September 18, 2000: Mid-September record to near record heat occurred across central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota. Aberdeen, Kennebec, Pierre, and Wheaton all set record highs for the day. Aberdeen and Wheaton set record highs of 95 degrees. Kennebec rose to a record high of 99 degrees while Pierre rose to 104 degrees on this day in 2000. Some of the near record highs occurred at Timber Lake and Mobridge with 92 degrees and 97 degrees, respectively.

1926: The great "Miami Hurricane" produced winds of 138 mph that drove ocean waters into the Biscayne Bay drowning 135 persons. The eye of the hurricane passed over Miami, at which time the barometric pressure reached 27.61 inches. Tides up to twelve feet high accompanied the storm, which claimed a total of 372 lives.

1941: One of the greatest aurora borealis or northern lights ever observed in the central Atlantic and mid-central portions of the U.S. occurred on the night of September 18-19th. The displays continued from twilight until just before dawn and were observed as far south as Florida and southern California.

1987 - Early morning thunderstorms in northern Texas produced wind gusts to 65 mph at Sulphur Springs, and 2.50 inches of rain in one hour at Commerce, which caused widespread street flooding. Bonham TX received 4.50 inches of rain which also resulted in widespread street flooding as Pig Branch overflowed its banks. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - A strong cold front produced severe thunderstorms in the north central U.S. High winds behind the cold front gusted to 92 mph at Fort Collins CO, and up to a foot of snow blanketed the mountains of Montana, with seven inches reported at Great Falls. High winds in Colorado caused three million dollars damage. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

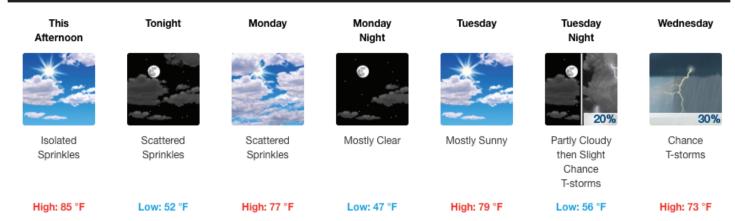
1989 - Hurricane Hugo hit Puerto Rico, producing wind gusts to 92 mph at San Juan, and wind gusts to 120 mph at Roosevelt Roads. Hugo produced a storm surge of four to six feet, and northeastern sections of the island were deluged with more than ten inches of rain. Hugo claimed the lives of a dozen persons in Puerto Rico, and caused a bilion dollars damage, including 100 million dollars damage to crops. Thunderstorms representing what remained of Hurricane Octave continued to bring heavy rain to the valleys of northern California. Heavier 24 hour rainfall totals included 3.15 inches at Redding, and 2.66 inches at Red Bluff. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

GROTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

September 19, 2016 - 7pm Groton Community Center

- 1) Minutes
- 2) Bills
- 3) 2nd Reading Ordinance 707- Fin Off as Emp rather than Appointed
- 4) Request for updated Airport Farm Contract
- 5) 211 program review
- 6) Reguest from Glacial Lakes to rejoin in 2017
- 7) Oct 14 Festival of Bands Request- Street Closing & Viewing stands
- 8) Oct 8 Pumpkin Festival Update McGannon
- 9) Heartland Budget Meeting Oct 19 Langford
- 10) Golf Course Area Drainage Pump Grant Request
- 11) Headstone Repair report
- 12) Draft of 2014-15 Audit available
- 13) Exe Session Legal or Personnel 1-25-2 (1) or (3)

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Warmer Temperatures Today! Ashley Lemmon ~ 7.7° 80° Wheaton Mobridge Aberdeen 77° Ortonville 7/3° Faith Watertown 82° 73° Polo 80° Marsha Huron Pierre 73° Brookings 83° 77° 73° Murdo Chamberlain Mitchell 84° 82° 78° Sioux Falls 75‡ Martin National Weather Service Aberdeen neebreda2WIN 🕞 🗐 weather.gov/Aberdeen Updated:9/17/2016 5:29 AM Central

Published on: 09/17/2016 at 5:31AM

Well above normal temperatures will be felt across the region today, with highs in the 80s. Winds will become breezy to windy this afternoon across central South Dakota, especially north central areas. The combination of gusty winds and humidity dropping into the 20s over central South Dakota this afternoon with bring high to very high fire danger.

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Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 78.6 F at 5:15 PM

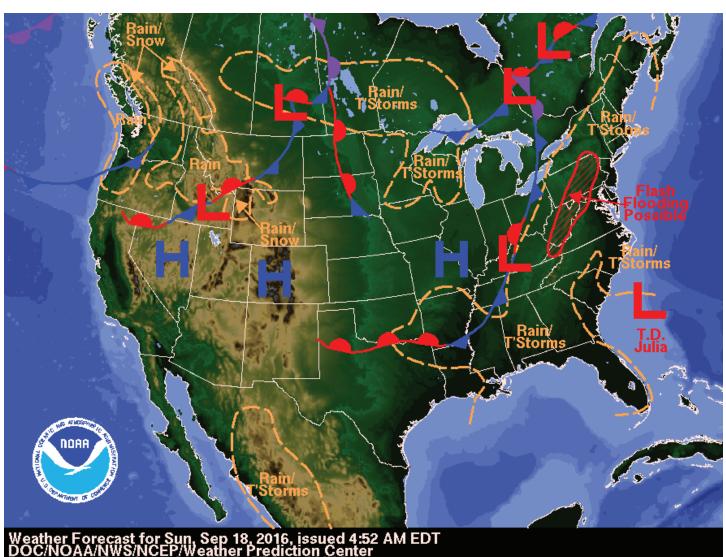
Low Outside Temp: 45.4 F at 7:34 AM High Gust: 14.0 Mph at 5:35 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 95° in 2000

Record Low: 22° in 1896 **Average High:** 71°F **Average Low:** 45°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 1.34 **Precip to date in Sept.:** 0.44 **Average Precip to date: 17.63 Precip Year to Date: 13.10** Sunset Tonight: 7:37 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:17 a.m.



Sun, Sep 18, 2016, issued 4:52 AM EDT EP/Weather Prediction Center ed on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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CHANGE YOUR COURSE!

It was a stormy night. The waves were high, the winds fierce and the stars hidden behind angry clouds. Suddenly, from the bridge of his ship, the captain saw lights in front of him in the distance. He immediately had his signalman send a message: "I'm the captain of a large battleship. Change your course ten degrees." Back came a reply: "I'm a seaman first class, Sir. You change your course ten degrees."

"I said I'm a captain. You are a seaman. I order you to change your course ten degrees," replied the captain.

"I would, Sir, but I'm on a lighthouse and can't change my course," came the message from the seaman. We find some great advice in Proverbs: "There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death." The path that many travel may "seem right" but it is not right. It may offer many options and choices that appear exciting and require few sacrifices, but ultimately they destroy the soul and lead to death.

The right choice often requires hard work and difficult decisions, self-sacrifice and doing without. They may demand changes in our lifestyle and force us to give up attractive surroundings and pleasurable experiences.

Giving in often requires giving up what matters most in life: living to please God and being blessed by Him.

Prayer: Often in life, Heavenly Father, we know the right thing to do. But knowing what is right and doing it is often difficult. Give us strength, we pray, to "do right." In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.



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News from the App Associated Press

Eagle Butte man sentenced to more than 3 years for assault

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man has been sentenced to more than three years in prison for an attack that left a man with a broken arm and numerous cuts.

Raymond Uses The Knife III, of Eagle Butte, pleaded guilty in June to assault resulting in serious bodily injury and failure to appear.

Authorities say Uses The Knife and three other men hit and kicked the victim repeatedly and then drove off together.

U.S. District Judge Roberto Lange sentence Uses The Knife to 37 months on the assault charge and two months on the failure to appear charge.

Uses The Knife must serve two years of supervised probation when he is released from prison.

US attorney's office hosting drug awareness week events

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. attorney's office in South Dakota is hosting a film and panel discussion in Sioux Falls as part of a weeklong national effort to call attention to heroin and opioid abuse.

The event is scheduled Tuesday evening at Augustana College. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a screening of the film, "Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict."

The film runs for about 60 minutes. It will be followed by a round table discussion featuring Ron Deist, resident agent in charge of the Sioux Falls Drug Enforcement Administration.

A similar event is scheduled in Pierre on Thursday.

Sainthood sought for Native American from South Dakota

By SETH TUPPER, Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Sainthood could be the next honor for the late Lakota holy man whose name was recently affixed to South Dakota's tallest peak.

A drive to canonize Nicholas Black Elk appears to be gaining momentum, the Rapid City Journal (http://bit.ly/2cM2BKN) reported. In March, some of his living relatives presented a petition to the Catholic Diocese of Rapid City. The petition, bearing 1,600 signatures, requested that the bishop of the diocese nominate Black Elk for sainthood through a process known as canonization.

"There are many who are waiting to share the joy of the day when Nicholas Black Elk, Sr., will be counted among the company of saints by Holy Mother Church," the petition said, in part.

The petition was presented to Bishop Robert Gruss and Deacon Marlon Leneaugh, the diocese's director of Native Ministries, by a group that included Black Elk's oldest living grandchild, George Looks Twice.

Black Elk is well-known to many Catholics and religious scholars and to readers of "Black Elk Speaks" and other books about him. His profile was further elevated in August when the U.S. Board on Geographic Names renamed Harney Peak, a 7,242-foot mountain in the Black Hills, to Black Elk Peak.

The drive to canonize Black Elk faces a multifaceted and potentially years-long process, but Mark Thiel, an archivist for Marquette University where many Black Elk materials are held, thinks the timing may be right for Black Elk's cause.

"While all causes are arduous," Thiel wrote in a summary of the effort, "the sainthood pathway and pace under Pope Francis is the best ever, and his advocacy for indigenous people and the earth reso-

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nates well with Black Elk who served Jesus and the Great Spirit while advocating for peace, love, and harmony among all of creation."

Saints can be martyrs — people who are killed because of their religious beliefs — or examples of virtuous living. Black Elk would fall under the latter category, having died a natural death in 1950 after working as a Catholic catechist for many years and leading an estimated 400 people to be baptized. He blended Christianity with the traditional Native American spirituality that he learned as a boy and young man during the years before his Oglala Lakota Sioux people were pushed onto the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in the late 1800s.

For the canonization process to begin, Bishop Gruss must formally open the cause. Leneaugh said the bishop is giving the matter careful consideration.

If the cause is opened, a diocesan tribunal would study relevant writing and testimony about Black Elk and submit evidence of Black Elk's worthiness for canonization to Bishop Gruss.

Gruss could then send the tribunal's documentation to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome. The congregation's theologians would examine the evidence and decide whether to forward it to the congregation's cardinals and bishops, who would consider whether to forward it to the pope.

The pope could then confer the title "Venerable" on Black Elk. Next, if a miracle could be attributed to Black Elk and verified by a team of experts, the pope could give Black Elk the title of "Blessed."

If a second miracle could then be attributed to Black Elk and verified, he could be declared a saint.

There are potential miracles in Black Elk's life story. Some people who knew Black Elk, for example, reported that he predicted a sign would appear in the heavens upon his death. The night of his wake, people reported seeing an incredible celestial display in the night sky, and some interpreted it as God's blessing on Black Elk. A Black Elk biographer, Michael Steltenkamp, has also noted that the display could have been a Perseid meteor shower.

Sometimes, miracles emerge after a potential saint's death. That happened in the case of the first Native American saint, Kateri Tekakwitha, an Algonquin-Mohawk woman who lived during the 1600s and was beatified in 1980 by Pope John Paul II.

In 2006, the family of a boy stricken with flesh-eating bacteria reported praying to Tekakwitha and receiving a miracle cure. That was considered Tekakwitha's second miracle, and she was canonized in 2012 by Pope Benedict XVI. The canonization ceremony in Rome was where Black Elk's grandson, George Looks Twice, met Thiel, the Marquette archivist.

Thiel hopes Black Elk's canonization proceeds faster than the 332 years it took for Tekakwitha following her death.

"While causes have taken hundreds of years," Thiel wrote, "many today are completed in just ten years."

Information from: Rapid City Journal, http://www.rapidcityjournal.com

Davison County seeks cheaper medical care options for jail

By JAKE SHAMA, The Daily Republic

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Drug use may lead to extensive jail time, but the user isn't the only one paying for the crime.

Through the first eight months of this year, jailed methamphetamine users have cost Davison County taxpayers about \$40,000, accumulated by medical and dental bills stemming from, in some cases, a lifetime of drug use, The Daily Republic (http://bit.ly/2cM26At) reported.

"All the different complications they may have due to using meth for as long as some of them have, it's anywhere from recovery or detoxing to medical or dental issues — because meth rots your teeth

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— to a variety of other (issues)," said Davison County Jail Administrator Don Radel. "Picking on meth is probably not the right way, but it's probably the highest one we see right now."

Radel estimated 50 percent of inmate medical expenses in the Davison County Jail this year is connected to meth use.

According to the Davison County Auditor's Office, the jail has spent \$79,338 paying for hospital visits, ambulance transports, prescription medications and other medical expenses from January through August, putting the jail on pace to surpass 2015's total of \$115,005 and already approaching the 2014 total of \$99,961.

But methamphetamine is not the only substance causing problems. Alcoholics often must be treated or detoxed, Radel said, and there was even one inmate about three years ago who used needles to inject fentanyl and contracted a flesh-eating disease on her arm, which permeated to her tendons and cartilage.

"Medical conditions due to substance abuse is high every year," Radel said.

Davison County Sheriff Steve Brink attributed the rising costs to a higher number of inmates.

"We're running quite a bit higher this year than normal, or than in the past, so that obviously is going to boost the cost up," Brink said.

Radel, on the other hand, said more inmates are requiring treatment and medications. For instance, he said there have been more pregnant women in custody this year.

"One trend we're seeing now is we're getting a lot of people going into treatment, and the county is paying for physicals," Radel said.

The types of medical procedures, meanwhile, varies year by year. About five years ago, the county even paid for heart surgery when an inmate was diagnosed with a hereditary problem.

The line item with the largest increase over the past year is clinic costs. In 2015, the jail paid \$3,700 in clinic bills. So far in 2016, the county has already paid \$6,500. Radel said the jail contracts with Mitchell Clinic, which sends someone three times a week for checkups.

But the real problem, Radel said, is the shifting of the burden onto counties. When someone becomes an inmate, all assistance programs, including welfare, Veterans Affairs and Indian Health Service benefits, are cut off.

"If we have an inmate in our jail who needs medical care, we can't access the veterans systems, the VA hospitals. If we have any Native Americans that may be treated at Indian Health Services ... once they become a county inmate, those services stop," Radel said. "Unfortunately, the system is kind of rigged, I guess you could call it that, to make it the county responsibility."

Some of these people receive benefits throughout the year, but as long as they are incarcerated, the programs stop, but the county is still responsible for their healthcare.

"To me, it would make more sense if those program just continued because somebody's paying for them, and it's the taxpayer, number one, whether it's the county taxpayer only or the bigger pool of the national taxpayer," Radel said.

Counties are also seeing increased costs coming from the state, as presumptive probation — implemented in 2013 — requires most first-offense, non-violent offenders, like drug users, to be placed on probation instead of going to prison. They are often given a short time in a local jail, but if they violate probation, they are the county's responsibility until they can be sentenced again.

And those inmates, many of them meth users, may have extensive medical bills stemming from their addictions.

Davison County also pays the medical bills of federal and state inmates who are temporarily residing

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in the jail after violating parole, for example. Although they may only be in town for a short time, these inmates have already racked up \$3,200 in medical bills, paid for by Davison County. They accumulated a total of \$800 in 2015 and \$2,850 in 2014.

The difference with these inmate costs comes at the end of the year, as the county is reimbursed for those expenses, Radel said.

Local inmates are expected to pay back their bills, too, but Radel said it rarely happens. Whenever an inmate who received medical care is released, the bills are sent to the county auditor, who places the bills in the lien system. If the county receives no response, the bills are turned over to a collection agency, but according to the auditor's office, reimbursement is rare.

Radel believes some inmates see jail time as an opportunity to receive overdue treatment. Over the course of two years, Radel said one man was checked into the jail five times for various offenses, and each time, he requested assistance with a dental problem. Because it wasn't an emergency, the request was denied.

"He wasn't doing the crime just so he could come in and get his medical care, but once he was here, he was going to take advantage of everything he felt he deserved," Radel said.

More often, Radel said inmates use medical excuses as a reason to get out of jail. One woman who purported to have a serious kidney problem has used her diagnosis as an excuse numerous times to be released.

"From my side of things dealing with inmates, it's an excuse for them to get out of jail — not a valid reason to get out of jail," Radel said.

Radel said a judge eventually caught onto the ruse and decided if the woman wasn't taking care of herself outside the jail, there was no immediate need for release.

Legislators changed state law in recent years so insurance providers are charged before the county, but many inmates are uninsured.

"Unfortunately, we're talking about inmates, and there's a low percentage of insurance carriers in the inmate world," Radel said. "It hasn't created that big of a difference as far as our repayment ratio in Davison County anyway."

The pharmacy tab is also on the rise, despite a switch at the end of last year from Walgreens to Lewis Drug, which sells many of the same prescriptions at a 30 to 40 percent discount. In 2015, the county paid more than \$48,600. This year, it's already paid more than \$44,300.

Radel said the jail's average prescription cost is \$400, but it had to pay \$3,000 for one inmate's medication this year, and mental-health drugs have been a large, continuing expense.

According to Davison County Commissioner Randy Reider, the Mitchell Clinic and Lewis Drug provide generic medications whenever possible to cut costs. Still, prescription costs are unpredictable for an organization like the jail, where the population changes so often.

The largest cuts are seen in hospital costs, which have fallen from about \$45,500 in 2015 to \$18,000 in the first eight months of 2016, and ambulance payments, which dropped from \$12,200 to \$4,800.

Still, Reider and the other commissioners are seeking a lower ambulance rate. The county contracts with the city of Mitchell to use the Department of Public Safety's ambulance service, which costs approximately \$500 per trip for basic life-support transport and \$1,000 for advanced life-support, Reider said.

Avera Queen of Peace and Mitchell Clinic offer the county a discounted Medicare rate, and the commission believes the ambulance service should be discounted as well.

If approved by the Mitchell City Council, the rates would fall to about \$325 and \$375, which could save the county about \$4,000, Reider said.

"It wasn't a big amount, but when you're talking about tax-exempt entities — the county, city, the

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hospital, things like that — when you're a tax-exempt entity, you probably could give us a better rate," Reider said.

The council denied the request in May, arguing the cost would simply be shifted from county taxpayers to city taxpayers. City officials also said the current rate for jail transports does not cover the cost to operate the ambulance service.

But Reider said he expects the commission to readdress the request in the future, as he sees cutting costs as an important task.

"It's always important," Reider said. "If you put things into conversation and start to talk, sometimes you find new ideas from strange places. We don't care where they come from. We just want to do the best we can."

The jail receives inmates from the sheriff's office, local police departments and the Highway Patrol, so it cannot avoid taking in a prisoner who may have upcoming medical bills.

But according to Brink, the sheriff's office occasionally decides it makes sense to allow some people to finish a hospital visit before making an arrest.

If a suspect is injured before being placed in custody, in a car crash following a pursuit, for instance, Brink said his office may wait until he or she is cleared by a doctor.

For brief visits, a deputy may remain at the facility until the suspect is released. But for longer visits, law enforcement relies on a hospital notification before the individual leaves the property. If no one calls and the person is released, Brink and his deputies must get an arrest warrant and begin searching. "We'll catch up with him, issue a warrant and get him that way," Brink said.

If the person is already an inmate at the jail, however, an officer must remain with the individual until he or she is cleared to leave.

"We sit hours and hours with inmates over there, for even new arrests or if they have some procedures and they're a flight risk, which most of them are," Brink said.

Another possibility, if the criminal charges are not too serious, is releasing the individual on a personal recognizance bond, in which an inmate is allowed to leave at no cost with a judge's approval, which means the would-be inmate is responsible for any medical costs. Radel supports such releases if the inmate meets certain requirements, as does Reider.

"I have tremendous confidence in our sheriff's department. I'm OK with those guys making decisions," Reider said. "When it gets to that and jailing and bonding, you have the court system. You have the law enforcement system. We tend to stand behind those guys and support them."

But Brink said the person's medical needs trump the financial concern, and the county will foot the bill if such care is needed.

"Paying for it is not the first thing we think about," Brink said. "Obviously, the person's health is the first thing, and we decide after that how we're going to deal with them."

Radel said the jail has good rapport with local doctors, who will make decisions about whether an inmate truly needs medical attention or not before they are checked in to a hospital.

But despite the costs, Radel said the jail will continue to provide the same level of medical care to all its inmates.

"Are we, as the sheriff's office, determining if they need to go to the hospital or clinic? No. That's all a medical issue the doctors handle," Radel said. "Medical care is one of those things that's required by the courts and laws. Unfortunately, the county's ultimately the one that pays for it."

Radel said officials have talked about hiring a medical professional, likely a physician assistant or an advanced-training nurse, who could work for the jail nearly full-time for screenings and some treatment in-house. A doctor could overrule any decisions the person made, but Radel said it could reduce many individual expenses.

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However, Radel said the county likely could not afford to hire someone in that capacity.

Brink said jail staff does what they can to avoid injuries caused by fights or the spread of infections from one inmate to another, and while changes, like swapping pharmacies, have been made, there is no clear solution to rising medical costs.

"There's all kinds of stuff that goes on back there we've got to deal with to make sure other people don't get sick," Brink said. "It's a very complicated issue. There's so much, it's hard to put your finger on."

Information from: The Daily Republic, http://www.mitchellrepublic.com

Cal Poly beats South Dakota St. 38-31

Eds: Cal Poly 38, S. Dakota St. 31. Adds details and quotes

Cal Poly's Joe Protheroe ran for 217 yards and two touchdowns against South Dakota State on Saturday, but that was only a part of the Mustangs' stunning offensive output. The Mustangs rolled up 601 yards in total offense to beat the Jackrabbits 38-31 in the teams' final nonconference tune-ups.

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Cal Poly's Joe Protheroe ran for 217 yards and two touchdowns against South Dakota State on Saturday, but that was only a part of the Mustangs' stunning offensive output.

The Mustangs (2-1) rolled up 601 yards in total offense to beat the Jackrabbits 38-31 in the teams' final nonconference tune-ups.

"Physically we were wearing them out pretty good," Cal Poly coach Tim Walsh said of his offense. "Our offensive line controlled the line of scrimmage and let our big boys do their running."

Protheroe led a 440-yard rushing assault and scored the game-winning touchdown on a 13-yard run straight up the middle with 2:28 left. The drive covered 84 yards and included three third-down conversions. The Mustangs converted 6-of-11 in the game.

South Dakota State coach John Stiegelmeier agreed that the Jacks were worn down at the end. "Without a doubt. They are physical and know what they are doing," he said. "You can't make an error. You're not going to win many football games unless it's a fluke if you can't stop the run."

Kyle Lewis caught five passes for 122 yards and a TD and ran for 66 yards and a score while Cal Poly (2-1) quarterback Dano Graves completed 9 of 11 passes for 161 yards.

"Dano Graves threw for 5,000 yards his senior year (high school). We knew he could throw it," Walsh said. "We established the run, which opened up the pass game."

The Mustangs led 17-10 at the half and put the game away with a 21-point fourth quarter. South Dakota State's last chance ended when Aaron Bouzos intercepted a Taryn Christion pass with 1:55 left and Cal Poly ran out the clock.

South Dakota State went up 7-0 on a 13-yard pass from Zach Lujan to Jake Wieneke with 9:42 left in the first quarter. Wieneke had nine catches for 114 yards and three scores, giving him eight in three games this season. Dallas Goedert added 101 yards on five catches.

"They're great players," Stiegelmeier said of his two big-play receivers. "But it's a team sport. You're not going to be able to win throwing to two guys."

Cal Poly answered on Lewis' 35-yard run with 3:56 left.

Chase Vinatieri kicked a 30-yard field goal with 14:14 left in the half to give SDSU a 10-7 lead.

Cal Poly took a 14-10 lead on Kori Garcia's 21-yard run with 10:11 left in the half and Casey Sublette extended it to 17-10 with a 22-yard field goal as time ran out.

The Jacks tied the game with 8:34 to play in the third quarter when Christion tossed a 4-yard TD pass to Wieneke. Christion was 20-for-33 for 252 yards and three TDs.

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The lead lasted only until Lewis' 33-yard TD pass from Graves with 13:46 left.

Goedert caught a 48-yard TD pass from Christion 18 seconds later to knot the game again. Goedert threw a defender to the ground to break a tackle at the 15 and sprinted in for the score.

Fifty seconds later, Protheroe broke through the line and raced 76 yards to break the tie with 12:38 left in the game.

Wieneke's 15 yard TD from Christion led to a 31-31 tie with 9:14 left.

Saturday's ScoresBy The Associated Press

Volleyball

Aberdeen Central def. Yankton, 25-10, 25-21, 25-15

Bison def. Bowman County, N.D., 25-23, 25-18, 25-15

Custer def. Edgemont, 25-19, 25-17, 25-14

Lower Brule def. Marty Indian, 25-17, 27-25, 25-20

Potter County def. Hitchcock-Tulare, 17-25, 25-18, 25-19, 25-22

Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Rapid City Central, 25-18, 25-16, 26-24

Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Rapid City Stevens, 25-18, 25-19, 16-25, 25-18

Sturgis Brown def. Red Cloud, 21-25, 25-15, 25-19, 25-21

Bon Homme Cavalier Clash Tournament

Pool Play

Pool A

Alcester-Hudson def. Andes Central/Dakota Christian, 25-19, 25-23

Alcester-Hudson def. Mitchell Christian, 25-12, 25-16

Andes Central/Dakota Christian def. Mitchell Christian, 25-16, 25-13

Parkston def. Mitchell Christian, 25-18, 23-25, 25-23

Parkston def. Andes Central/Dakota Christian, 25-23, 25-23

Parkston def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-22, 19-25, 25-19

Pool B

Gregory def. Canton, 25-17, 25-20

Northwestern def. Canton, 25-5, 25-8

Northwestern def. Gregory, 25-8, 25-12

Northwestern def. Vermillion, 25-18, 25-14

Vermillion def. Gregory, 25-27, 25-22, 25-4

Vermillion def. Canton, 25-13, 25-11

Pool C

Beresford def. Elk Point-Jefferson, 23-25, 25-20, 26-25

Bon Homme def. Beresford, 23-25, 25-18, 25-17

Bon Homme def. Elk Point-Jefferson, 25-8, 25-10

Bon Homme def. Platte-Geddes, 23-25, 25-18, 25-17

Elk Point-Jefferson def. Platte-Geddes, 25-17, 27-25

Platte-Geddes def. Beresford, 25-20, 25-18

Pool D

Parker def. Avon, 25-5, 25-18

Parker def. Wagner, 25-22, 25-16

St. Thomas More def. Wagner, 25-18, 27-25

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St. Thomas More def. Parker, 25-23, 23-25, 25-22

St. Thomas More def. Avon, 25-20, 25-18

Wagner def. Avon, 26-24, 25-13

Final

Northwestern def. St. Thomas More, 25-21, 25-9

Ouarterfinal

Bon Homme def. Alcester-Hudson, 26-24, 27-25

Elk Point-Jefferson def. Parkston, 7-25, 25-20, 25-19

Northwestern def. Parker, 25-16, 25-15

St. Thomas More def. Vermillion, 25-21, 25-17

Semifinal

Northwestern def. Bon Homme, 25-19, 25-21

St. Thomas More def. Elk Point-Jefferson, 21-25, 25-15, 25-15

Bridgewater-Emery Tournament

First Round

Bridgewater-Emery def. Tripp-Delmont/Armour, 25-21, 25-20

Ethan def. Mitchell JV, 25-21, 22-25, 26-24

Hanson def. Menno, 25-16, 25-18

Scotland def. Canistota, 17-25, 25-16, 25-22

Consolation Semifinal

Canistota def. Tripp-Delmont/Armour, 25-17, 25-14

Mitchell JV def. Menno, 25-21, 25-20

Semifinal

Bridgewater-Emery def. Scotland, 22-25, 25-14, 25-11

Ethan def. Hanson, 25-21, 22-25, 26-24

Seventh Place

Menno def. Tripp-Delmont/Armour, 25-20, 24-26, 25-17

Fifth Place

Mitchell JV def. Canistota, 25-18, 21-25, 25-16

Third Place

Hanson def. Scotland, 25-17, 25-11

Championship

Ethan def. Bridgewater-Emery, 25-13, 25-15

Britton-Hecla Tournament

Pool Play

Pool 1

Britton-Hecla def. Ipswich, 25-17, 25-20

Leola/Frederick def. Britton-Hecla, 25-13, 25-23

Leola/Frederick def. Ipswich, 25-20, 25-6

Pool 2

Herreid/Selby Area def. Tiospa Zina Tribal, 25-12, 25-17

Herreid/Selby Area def. Langford, 25-20, 25-21

Langford def. Tiospa Zina Tribal, 25-14, 25-22

Fifth Place

Ipswich def. Tiospa Zina Tribal, 25-20, 21-25, 25-12

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Third Place

Britton-Hecla def. Langford, 22-25, 25-12, 25-20

Championship

Herreid/Selby Area def. Leola/Frederick, 25-16, 24-26, 25-18

Hamlin Tournament

Deubrook def. Madison, 28-26, 25-19

Florence/Henry def. Clark/Willow Lake, 25-19, 22-25, 26-24

Sisseton def. Hamlin, 25-22, 26-24

Pool Play

Pool 1

Deubrook def. James Valley Christian, 25-17, 25-15

Deubrook def. Hamlin, 25-14, 25-15

Deubrook def. Florence/Henry, 25-20, 28-26

Florence/Henry def. James Valley Christian, 25-16, 25-21

Hamlin def. Florence/Henry, 25-15, 25-17

Pool 2

Madison def. Sisseton, 25-22, 25-11

Madison def. Deuel, 25-11, 25-19

Madison def. Clark/Willow Lake, 25-9, 25-12

Sisseton def. Deuel, 28-25, 25-14

Sisseton def. Clark/Willow Lake, 25-14, 25-23

Lake Preston Tournament

Arlington def. Webster, 23-25, 25-17, 25-19

Arlington def. Sioux Valley, 25-9, 25-16

Waubay/Summit def. Estelline, 25-16, 25-17

Webster def. Flandreau, 25-16, 25-18

Consolation

Arlington def. Waubay/Summit, 25-11, 25-13

Flandreau def. DeSmet, 29-27, 25-22

Sioux Valley def. Estelline, 25-20, 25-17

Webster def. Lake Preston, 25-23, 25-21

White River Triangular

Philip def. Wall, 25-13, 25-19, 25-13

Philip def. White River, 25-19, 25-10, 25-10

Wall def. White River, 13-25, 25-20, 25-16, 25-13

North Dakota comes back to beat South Dakota 47-44

Eds: APNewsNow. North Dakota 47, South Dakota 44, 2OT. Adds details and quotes. Adds Byline. Keaton Studsrud sneaked into the end zone from a yard out in double overtime, completing a 20-point comeback and lifting North Dakota to a 47-44 win over South Dakota in the 51st installment of the annual Potato Bowl. Both teams scored on the first play of the first overtime. The game itself was a replay of the last game played by the teams in 2011 when UND came from 20 points down to win in overtime. By JAMES PURSLEY

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) — South Dakota came from 21 points down to beat Weber State in double

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overtime last week. This week, North Dakota came from 20 points down to beat South Dakota 47-44 in double overtime.

Quarterback Keaton Studsrud's 1-yard run on third down in the second overtime survived a review just two plays after UND (1-2) had a TD reversed by replay.

The game itself was a replay of the last game played by the teams in 2011 when UND came from 20 points down to win in overtime.

"Our guys kept faith," UND coach Bubba Schweigert said. "It didn't look good after the first drive of the third quarter but then our defense really came through and our offense made some great plays."

UND's John Santiago rushed 22 times for 140 yards, including a 25-yard TD on the first play of overtime. Santiago also hauled in a 7-yard TD pass.

USD quarterback Chris Streveler was 16 for 29 for 215 yards and four touchdowns. He threw a 25-yarder to Shamar Jackson on the Coyotes' first play of overtime to send it to a second overtime.

His third-down pass in the second overtime was knocked away and the Coyotes settled for a Miles Bergner 37-yard field goal.

Streveler, who ran for 90 yards, threw two interceptions, both of which were returned for scores.

UND's Deion Harris returned an interception 33 yards for the game-tying touchdown with 3:28 to play. Harris' pick-six was a carbon copy of Cole Reyes' pick and 33-yard return that gave UND a 7-3 lead in the first quarter.

Studsrud threw a 17-yard pass to Luke Stanley in OT and Santiago then appeared to win the game on an 8-yard run. But it was reversed and UND took two more tries to get 1 yard before Studsrud scored.

"That's really hanging in there and playing with heart," Schweigert said of the fourth quarter. "That's two fourth quarters in a row we've played very well. But we have to do better at the beginning of the game."

Studsrud was 12 for 25 for 177 yards and two TDs. He also ran for 48 yards.

The Coyotes seemed to take control in a 24-point second quarter.

Streveler threw three scoring passes in the last 4:52 of the first half to give the Coyotes (1-2) a 27-14 lead at the break. It went to 34-14 on Trevor Bouma's 4-yard run with 10:52 left in the third quarter.

Trailing 14-6 late in the first half, USD got a 30-yard TD pass from Streveler to Drew Potter with 4:52 left. With 2:41 left, the two teamed up on a 1-yard scoring pass and with 30 seconds left, receiver Riley Donovan ripped a pass out of the arms of UND defensive back Tyus Carter and ran 63 yards for a 27-14 lead.

Donovan caught four passes for 103 yards.

Bergner kicked field goals of 35 and 50 yards in the first half.

Studsrud threw an 11-yard TD pass to Travis Toivonen for 14-6 lead with 9:23 to play in the half.

Reid Taubenheim kicked a 32-yard field goal and Studsrud threw a 7-yard TD pass to Santiago with 11:33 to play in regulation. Taubenheim added a 28-yard field goal to get within 34-27 with 5:03 to play.

75 years of Mount Rushmore, a boon for tourism, creativity

By REGINA GARCIA CANO, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — It was a historian's idea: carve gigantic sculptures into the granite pinnacles of the Black Hills of South Dakota, significant Western figures like Lewis and Clark, Buffalo Bill Cody, Fremont, Red Cloud and Sacagawea.

"In the vicinity of Harney Peak ... are opportunities for heroic sculpture of unusual character," South Dakota Department of History Superintendent Doane Robinson wrote to a sculptor in Georgia in 1924.

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The sculptor, Gutzon Borglum, redefined the project entirely. Using jackhammers and dynamite, he began in 1927, first sculpting President George Washington, then Thomas Jefferson, followed by Abraham Lincoln and finally Theodore Roosevelt.

Next month, Mount Rushmore National Memorial marks 75 years of public pervasiveness, ending up in movies and comics and on quarter-dollar coins.

"Burglum told Robinson 'You are not thinking big enough. Western figures? That's not going to attract enough people. You need to think bigger," said Maureen McGee-Ballinger, the memorial's chief of interpretation and education.

Robinson was looking for ways to promote the state, particularly the Black Hills, McGee-Ballinger said. Plan B surely has served that purpose, with about 3 million people visiting every year.

"For the state, and the nation, Mount Rushmore is quite iconic," South Dakota State Historical Society Director Jay Vogt said. "It definitely put South Dakota on the map as a destination ... Because these are elected individuals on the mountain, who worked hard to preserve a nation whose creation was unique in and of itself, it really speaks to the idea that we are a country of free people."

Along the way, it has also found a place in pop culture. A chase scene in "North by Northwest," Alfred Hitchcock's 1959 classic starring Cary Grant and Eva Marie Saint, included a death-defying scramble over the presidents' faces.

"Alfred Hitchcock says he expects to realize his long ambition — filming a chase over the Mt. Rushmore Monument," The Associated Press reported in 1958. "He may be spoofing, but you never can tell with Hitchcock." Some scenes were filmed at the memorial, but the climbing of the faces were studio shots that used models of the mountain.

A 1983 special anniversary issue of the comic "Wonder Woman" features her face next to the stone Lincoln. T-shirts with the faces of superheroes instead of the presidents are available at Target and elsewhere. The memorial is a never-ending muse for political cartoonists, and in 2016, there's been no shortage of memes.

The memorial has also been featured in multiple coins, including a quarter issued by the U.S. Mint in 2013 that shows men adding the finishing details to Jefferson's face. The four faces have also been highlighted in postage stamps, and they are — of course — in the background of South Dakota's license plates.

To celebrate the milestone, the National Park Service held events during the summer in connection with its own 100th birthday.

The memorial should be lauded for several reasons, according to Debbie Ketel Speas, communications director for the nonprofit Mount Rushmore Society, especially its impact on the state's tourism industry and economic development, as well as the efforts of those who worked to make it a reality.

"When you look at what they achieved over 75 years ago, it's quite spectacular," she said.

Follow Regina Garcia Cano on Twitter at https://twitter.com/reginagarciakNO

South Dakota corn production forecast to be down 6 percent

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Agriculture says South Dakota's corn crop is forecast to be down 6 percent from last year.

The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service estimates that 753 million bushels of corn will be harvested for grain, based on Sept. 1 conditions. The average yield forecast is forecast at 142 bushels per acre, down 17 bushels from last year's record high.

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Soybean production is forecast at 209 million bushels, 11 percent below last year. Sorghum production is forecast at 13.9 million bushels, down 24 percent from last year.

US attorney's office hosting drug awareness week events

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. attorney's office in South Dakota is hosting a film and panel discussion in Sioux Falls as part of a weeklong national effort to call attention to heroin and opioid abuse.

The event is scheduled Tuesday evening at Augustana College. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a screening of the film, "Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict."

The film runs for about 60 minutes. It will be followed by a round table discussion featuring Ron Deist, resident agent in charge of the Sioux Falls Drug Enforcement Administration.

A similar event is scheduled in Pierre on Thursday.

Davison County seeks cheaper medical care options for jail By JAKE SHAMA, The Daily Republic

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Drug use may lead to extensive jail time, but the user isn't the only one paying for the crime.

Through the first eight months of this year, jailed methamphetamine users have cost Davison County taxpayers about \$40,000, accumulated by medical and dental bills stemming from, in some cases, a lifetime of drug use, The Daily Republic (http://bit.ly/2cM26At) reported.

"All the different complications they may have due to using meth for as long as some of them have, it's anywhere from recovery or detoxing to medical or dental issues — because meth rots your teeth — to a variety of other (issues)," said Davison County Jail Administrator Don Radel. "Picking on meth is probably not the right way, but it's probably the highest one we see right now."

Radel estimated 50 percent of inmate medical expenses in the Davison County Jail this year is connected to meth use.

According to the Davison County Auditor's Office, the jail has spent \$79,338 paying for hospital visits, ambulance transports, prescription medications and other medical expenses from January through August, putting the jail on pace to surpass 2015's total of \$115,005 and already approaching the 2014 total of \$99,961.

But methamphetamine is not the only substance causing problems. Alcoholics often must be treated or detoxed, Radel said, and there was even one inmate about three years ago who used needles to inject fentanyl and contracted a flesh-eating disease on her arm, which permeated to her tendons and cartilage.

"Medical conditions due to substance abuse is high every year," Radel said.

Davison County Sheriff Steve Brink attributed the rising costs to a higher number of inmates.

"We're running quite a bit higher this year than normal, or than in the past, so that obviously is going to boost the cost up," Brink said.

Radel, on the other hand, said more inmates are requiring treatment and medications. For instance, he said there have been more pregnant women in custody this year.

"One trend we're seeing now is we're getting a lot of people going into treatment, and the county is paying for physicals," Radel said.

The types of medical procedures, meanwhile, varies year by year. About five years ago, the county even paid for heart surgery when an inmate was diagnosed with a hereditary problem.

The line item with the largest increase over the past year is clinic costs. In 2015, the jail paid \$3,700 in

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clinic bills. So far in 2016, the county has already paid \$6,500. Radel said the jail contracts with Mitchell Clinic, which sends someone three times a week for checkups.

But the real problem, Radel said, is the shifting of the burden onto counties. When someone becomes an inmate, all assistance programs, including welfare, Veterans Affairs and Indian Health Service benefits, are cut off.

"If we have an inmate in our jail who needs medical care, we can't access the veterans systems, the VA hospitals. If we have any Native Americans that may be treated at Indian Health Services ... once they become a county inmate, those services stop," Radel said. "Unfortunately, the system is kind of rigged, I guess you could call it that, to make it the county responsibility."

Some of these people receive benefits throughout the year, but as long as they are incarcerated, the programs stop, but the county is still responsible for their healthcare.

"To me, it would make more sense if those program just continued because somebody's paying for them, and it's the taxpayer, number one, whether it's the county taxpayer only or the bigger pool of the national taxpayer," Radel said.

Counties are also seeing increased costs coming from the state, as presumptive probation — implemented in 2013 — requires most first-offense, non-violent offenders, like drug users, to be placed on probation instead of going to prison. They are often given a short time in a local jail, but if they violate probation, they are the county's responsibility until they can be sentenced again.

And those inmates, many of them meth users, may have extensive medical bills stemming from their addictions.

Davison County also pays the medical bills of federal and state inmates who are temporarily residing in the jail after violating parole, for example. Although they may only be in town for a short time, these inmates have already racked up \$3,200 in medical bills, paid for by Davison County. They accumulated a total of \$800 in 2015 and \$2,850 in 2014.

The difference with these inmate costs comes at the end of the year, as the county is reimbursed for those expenses, Radel said.

Local inmates are expected to pay back their bills, too, but Radel said it rarely happens. Whenever an inmate who received medical care is released, the bills are sent to the county auditor, who places the bills in the lien system. If the county receives no response, the bills are turned over to a collection agency, but according to the auditor's office, reimbursement is rare.

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"He wasn't doing the crime just so he could come in and get his medical care, but once he was here, he was going to take advantage of everything he felt he deserved," Radel said.

More often, Radel said inmates use medical excuses as a reason to get out of jail. One woman who purported to have a serious kidney problem has used her diagnosis as an excuse numerous times to be released.

"From my side of things dealing with inmates, it's an excuse for them to get out of jail — not a valid reason to get out of jail," Radel said.

Radel said a judge eventually caught onto the ruse and decided if the woman wasn't taking care of herself outside the jail, there was no immediate need for release.

Legislators changed state law in recent years so insurance providers are charged before the county, but many inmates are uninsured.

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"Unfortunately, we're talking about inmates, and there's a low percentage of insurance carriers in the inmate world," Radel said. "It hasn't created that big of a difference as far as our repayment ratio in Davison County anyway."

The pharmacy tab is also on the rise, despite a switch at the end of last year from Walgreens to Lewis Drug, which sells many of the same prescriptions at a 30 to 40 percent discount. In 2015, the county paid more than \$48,600. This year, it's already paid more than \$44,300.

Radel said the jail's average prescription cost is \$400, but it had to pay \$3,000 for one inmate's medication this year, and mental-health drugs have been a large, continuing expense.

According to Davison County Commissioner Randy Reider, the Mitchell Clinic and Lewis Drug provide generic medications whenever possible to cut costs. Still, prescription costs are unpredictable for an organization like the jail, where the population changes so often.

The largest cuts are seen in hospital costs, which have fallen from about \$45,500 in 2015 to \$18,000 in the first eight months of 2016, and ambulance payments, which dropped from \$12,200 to \$4,800.

Still, Reider and the other commissioners are seeking a lower ambulance rate. The county contracts with the city of Mitchell to use the Department of Public Safety's ambulance service, which costs approximately \$500 per trip for basic life-support transport and \$1,000 for advanced life-support, Reider said.

Avera Queen of Peace and Mitchell Clinic offer the county a discounted Medicare rate, and the commission believes the ambulance service should be discounted as well.

If approved by the Mitchell City Council, the rates would fall to about \$325 and \$375, which could save the county about \$4,000, Reider said.

"It wasn't a big amount, but when you're talking about tax-exempt entities — the county, city, the hospital, things like that — when you're a tax-exempt entity, you probably could give us a better rate," Reider said.

The council denied the request in May, arguing the cost would simply be shifted from county taxpayers to city taxpayers. City officials also said the current rate for jail transports does not cover the cost to operate the ambulance service.

But Reider said he expects the commission to readdress the request in the future, as he sees cutting costs as an important task.

"It's always important," Reider said. "If you put things into conversation and start to talk, sometimes you find new ideas from strange places. We don't care where they come from. We just want to do the best we can."

The jail receives inmates from the sheriff's office, local police departments and the Highway Patrol, so it cannot avoid taking in a prisoner who may have upcoming medical bills.

But according to Brink, the sheriff's office occasionally decides it makes sense to allow some people to finish a hospital visit before making an arrest.

If a suspect is injured before being placed in custody, in a car crash following a pursuit, for instance, Brink said his office may wait until he or she is cleared by a doctor.

For brief visits, a deputy may remain at the facility until the suspect is released. But for longer visits, law enforcement relies on a hospital notification before the individual leaves the property. If no one calls and the person is released, Brink and his deputies must get an arrest warrant and begin searching.

"We'll catch up with him, issue a warrant and get him that way," Brink said.

If the person is already an inmate at the jail, however, an officer must remain with the individual until he or she is cleared to leave.

"We sit hours and hours with inmates over there, for even new arrests or if they have some proce-

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dures and they're a flight risk, which most of them are," Brink said.

Another possibility, if the criminal charges are not too serious, is releasing the individual on a personal recognizance bond, in which an inmate is allowed to leave at no cost with a judge's approval, which means the would-be inmate is responsible for any medical costs. Radel supports such releases if the inmate meets certain requirements, as does Reider.

"I have tremendous confidence in our sheriff's department. I'm OK with those guys making decisions," Reider said. "When it gets to that and jailing and bonding, you have the court system. You have the law enforcement system. We tend to stand behind those guys and support them."

But Brink said the person's medical needs trump the financial concern, and the county will foot the bill if such care is needed.

"Paying for it is not the first thing we think about," Brink said. "Obviously, the person's health is the first thing, and we decide after that how we're going to deal with them."

Radel said the jail has good rapport with local doctors, who will make decisions about whether an inmate truly needs medical attention or not before they are checked in to a hospital.

But despite the costs, Radel said the jail will continue to provide the same level of medical care to all its inmates.

"Are we, as the sheriff's office, determining if they need to go to the hospital or clinic? No. That's all a medical issue the doctors handle," Radel said. "Medical care is one of those things that's required by the courts and laws. Unfortunately, the county's ultimately the one that pays for it."

Radel said officials have talked about hiring a medical professional, likely a physician assistant or an advanced-training nurse, who could work for the jail nearly full-time for screenings and some treatment in-house. A doctor could overrule any decisions the person made, but Radel said it could reduce many individual expenses.

However, Radel said the county likely could not afford to hire someone in that capacity.

Brink said jail staff does what they can to avoid injuries caused by fights or the spread of infections from one inmate to another, and while changes, like swapping pharmacies, have been made, there is no clear solution to rising medical costs.

"There's all kinds of stuff that goes on back there we've got to deal with to make sure other people don't get sick," Brink said. "It's a very complicated issue. There's so much, it's hard to put your finger on."

Information from: The Daily Republic, http://www.mitchellrepublic.com

At least 15 protesters arrested at Iowa pipeline work site

SANDUSKY, Iowa (AP) — At least 15 people were arrested Saturday during a protest intended to block the construction of a major oil pipeline through southeast Iowa.

More than 150 protesters gathered at the work site entrance of the \$3.8 billion Dakota Access Pipeline in Sandusky, a Mississippi River town across the river from Illinois and five miles north of Missouri.

Protesters were arrested after walking through a line of private security and Lee County sheriff's deputies who were standing in front of the driveway to the work site, according to the Burlington Hawk Eye newspaper.

Last month, 30 protesters were arrested at different pipeline construction site in Iowa on trespassing charges. All but one of them took responsibility for the action and were ordered to pay just over \$270 in fines and fees. One pleaded not guilty and faces a trial.

The pipeline would stretch 1,172 miles over four states once complete, transporting oil from North

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Dakota's Bakken formations to Illinois. It also would cross 18 Iowa counties and 1,300 parcels of land. Saturday's peaceful protest was organized by a 35-year-old Des Moines woman, Jessica Reznicek, who has been camped just outside the work site after getting arrested twice for blocking its entrance last month.

"We have a great influx of folks who come in on the weekends and support us when they can," Reznicek said.

Protester Carolyn Scherf of Dubuque said she's concerned the finished pipe could leak or break and contaminate rivers. Scherf says protesters successfully stopped work on the pipeline on Saturday.

"There's precedent for oil pipelines leaking or breaking," Scherf told the Dubuque Telegraph Herald. "If that were to occur under the Mississippi River, we would be in trouble."

Brenda Knox of Donnellson said she fears the pipeline would harm Iowa's soil if it leaked.

Two phone messages left Saturday with the Lee County sheriff's office weren't immediately returned. On Friday, a federal appeals court ordered a halt to construction of another section of the pipeline in North Dakota.

The pipeline, a project of the Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners, has drawn widespread protests and several lawsuits. Thousands of protesters have built an encampment in North Dakota in solidarity with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, which opposes the project. The company has said it would generate an estimated \$33.1 million in sales tax revenue during construction and \$27.4 million in local property tax revenue during its first year of service. It also will require an estimated 4,000 local construction workers to complete the project.

Packers rule CB Sam Shields out for Vikings game

Eds: APNewsNow. Should stand.

The Green Bay Packers say that Sam Shields won't play in Sunday night's game against the Minnesota Vikings after the cornerback was evaluated for a concussion this week. The Packers had initially listed Shields as doubtful on the injury report before ruling him out completely on Saturday. He missed practice this week while going through the NFL's concussion protocol.

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — The Green Bay Packers say Sam Shields won't play in Sunday night's game against the Minnesota Vikings after the cornerback was evaluated for a concussion this week.

The Packers initially listed Shields as doubtful on the injury report before ruling him out on Saturday. He missed practice this week while going through the NFL's concussion protocol .

Shields got hurt late in last week's season-opening win at Jacksonville. He also missed four games late last season because of a concussion.

Reserve Josh Hawkins will also miss the Vikings game with a hamstring injury. The Packers were down to three healthy cornerbacks on their active roster in Damarious Randall, Quinten Rollins and LaDarius Gunter. Micah Hyde, who plays throughout the secondary, can also slot in at cornerback.

Online: AP NFL website: www.pro32.ap.org and AP NFL Twitter feed: www.twitter.com/AP_NFL

Authorities call NYC explosion a bombing, say motive unknown By JAKE PEARSON, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Investigators scrambled to find out who planted a bomb that rocked a bustling New York City neighborhood and why Sunday, scouring shrapnel, forensic traces and surveillance video for any link to an unexploded pressure-cooker device found a few blocks away.

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There seemed to be more questions than answers hours after the Saturday night blast that injured 29 people in Manhattan. All of them have since been released from the hospital.

"We just know there was a bombing," Mayor Bill de Blasio said at briefing at New York Police Department's headquarters. "That much we do know."

Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who toured the site of the blast in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood, said there didn't appear to be any link to international terrorism. He said a second device found blocks away from the bombing appeared "similar in design" to the first.

That device — described by a law enforcement official as a pressure cooker with wires and a cellphone attached to it — was removed early Sunday morning by a bomb squad robot and is being examined by forensic experts.

The official spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the official wasn't authorized to speak publicly about an ongoing investigation.

A pipe bomb explosion in Seaside Park, New Jersey, before a charity 5K race to benefit Marines and sailors earlier Saturday didn't appear to be connected to the Manhattan bombing, and each bomb contained different materials, officials said, but added that they weren't ruling anything out yet. The race was canceled and no one was injured.

The New Jersey device contained evidence of a black powder, while the device that exploded in Manhattan had residue from an explosive called Tannerite, said a federal law enforcement official.

The official wasn't authorized to discuss details of the ongoing investigation and spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity.

Tannerite is often used in target shooting to mark a shot with a cloud of smoke and small explosion.

The bombing rocked the city's Chelsea neighborhood, a mostly residential part of Manhattan's west side known for its art galleries and large gay population.

Witnesses described hearing a deafening blast, and surveillance video footage captured images of nearby windows being blown out by the explosion as people sprinted away from the scene.

"It was extremely loud, almost like thunder but louder," said Rudy Alcide, a bouncer at a nightclub near the blast.

Members of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force are investigating the blast along with New York Police Department detectives, fire marshals and other federal investigators. As a precaution, Cuomo said he was deploying an additional 1,000 state troopers and members of the National Guard throughout New York City.

The first device, which exploded on West 23rd Street at about 8:30 p.m., appeared to have been caused by an improvised explosive device placed inside a toolbox in front of a building undergoing construction, the law enforcement official said.

The second device, found later inside a plastic bag on West 27th Street, appeared to be a pressure cooker with wiring and a cellphone attached to it, the official said.

Federal investigators in Quantico, Virginia, will examine evidence from the explosions in New York and New Jersey.

Associated Press writers Karen Matthews, Ezra Kaplan and Maria Sanminiatelli in New York and Eric Tucker, Kevin Freking and Alicia A. Caldwell in Washington contributed to this report.

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FBI: Beaches reopened after pipe bomb blast, probe ongoing By BRUCE SHIPKOWSKI, Associated Press

SEASIDE PARK, N.J. (AP) — Jersey Shore beaches were reopened Sunday as an investigation continued into a pipe bomb explosion at a seaside community before thousands of runners were to participate in a charity 5K race to benefit Marines and sailors.

Officials would not say if they believe the Saturday afternoon blast in Seaside Park was terror-related or had any connection with an explosion that rocked a crowded Manhattan neighborhood Saturday night, injuring 29 people.

Special Agent Michael Whitaker, a spokesman for the FBI office in Newark, said state and federal investigators were canvassing the Seaside Park area Sunday and conducting interviews. He said travel restrictions imposed after the blast had been lifted.

He declined further comment, citing the ongoing investigation. New Jersey state police also wouldn't comment and referred questions about the blast to the FBI.

Appearing Sunday on CNN's "Inside Politics" with Jake Tapper, Gov. Chris Christie said state police had "some promising leads" but no suspects. The Republican governor said people should not jump to conclusions about who may be responsible for the blast or what the motive was.

Christie said that by his own definition, he personally considered the blasts "terrorism" as well as a knife attack at a Minnesota mall.

No injuries were reported in the seaside explosion. The race had been scheduled to start shortly before the blast occurred, but was delayed due to the large numbers of people registering for the race and reports of an unattended backpack being found.

Officials noted that if the race had started on time, a "good number of people" would have been running past the area where the explosion occurred.

"The fortunate thing here in New Jersey is that no one was injured," Christie said. "We pray for those people who were injured in those other attacks."

Meanwhile, residents in Seaside Park hoped things would return to normal soon.

Joggers, walkers and bikers were out and about Sunday on the boardwalk and nearby streets. Some stopped to take pictures of the site where the blast occurred and of television trucks that remained in the area.

"It's the first time I'm leery of walking around and everything," borough resident Don Bernabe told the Asbury Park Press. "I walked by the first set of garbage cans back there coming this way, and it was weird, but that feeling went away. You never get that feeling around here. Ever."

Another resident, Maggie Powell, voiced similar concerns.

"I have to admit, yes, this whole thing is pretty disconcerting. You don't think these types of things can happen around here, but something like this reminds you it can happen anywhere. It's sad, actually," she said.

Violations claims growing in Russian national election By JIM HEINTZ and NATALIYA VASILYEVA, Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Complaints of election violations in the Russian parliamentary vote were increasing Sunday amid reports of a record low turnout in Moscow, signaling voter apathy and a likely decrease in state employees being coerced to vote.

The voting for the 450 seats in the State Duma, the lower house of parliament, was not expected to substantially change the distribution of power, in which the pro-Kremlin United Russia party holds an

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absolute majority. But the perceived honesty of the election could be a critical factor in whether protests arise following the voting.

Massive demonstrations broke out in Moscow after the last Duma election in 2011, unsettling authorities with their size and persistence.

Voter turnout in Moscow appeared to be much lower than in 2011, indicating that the widespread practice of coercing state employees to vote in previous elections wasn't as prevalent this time around.

The turnout by 6 p.m. (1500 GMT; 11 a.m. EDT) was at a record low of 29 percent, compared to over 50 percent five years earlier.

Previous elections have shown that the regions with the highest turnout were where voters, mostly state employees, were pressured to cast ballots.

Grigory Melkonyants, co-chairman of the election monitoring group Golos, attributed the weak showing on Sunday to voter apathy aided by almost invisible campaigning by the ruling party and the opposition alike.

Melkonyants said on the Dozhd online television station it also reflected less anxiety among local authorities to produce a high turnout.

Golos had received more than 2,000 complaints of suspected vote rigging from all over the country by early afternoon.

Among the potential violations he cited were long lines of soldiers voting at stations where they were not registered and voters casting their ballots on tables instead of curtained-off voting booths.

A video posted on YouTube appeared to show a poll worker in the southern Rostov region dropping multiple sheets of paper into a ballot box.

On Sunday morning, Russia's election commission head said results from voting in a Siberian region could be annulled if allegations of vote fraud there are confirmed.

A candidate from the liberal Yabloko party in the Altai region of Siberia told state news agency Tass that young people were voting in the name of elderly people unlikely to come to polling stations.

Independent election observers and opposition candidates on Sunday reported busloads of people arriving at their polling stations in Moscow to vote, fueling speculations of multiple voting with the help of absentee ballots.

Deputy Interior Minister Alexander Gorovoy said in televised comments that police are looking into the potential of fraud in both Altai and in Rostov, but said he had not seen "the actual facts of the so-called cruise voting."

Melkonyants of Golos said most of the complaints the organization received from Moscow were about those groups of voters although he said he "couldn't categorically say that this is a violation."

"But observers perceive it as a trick which local officials could be using in order to boost the turnout in their districts," Melkonyants said, adding that the bus passengers also may have been coerced to vote in violation of Russian law.

Elections Commission head Ella Pamfilova conceded that boosting the turnout in the areas where it was expected to be low might explain the voters traveling by bus and denied suggestions of multiple voting.

"Wherever they go, they can't influence results of the vote. It makes no difference where a person votes for the party of their choice," she said.

Pamfilova is a well-known human rights activist whose appointment five months ago to head the election commission brought expectations that this year's vote would see fewer controversies about violations. Pamfilova pledged to stand down if the election is proven to be rigged.

This election is a departure from the two previous votes for the Duma, in which seats were distributed

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on a national party-list basis; this year, half the seats are being contested in single districts. Independent candidates were also allowed, although only 23 met the requirements to get on the ballot, according to the elections-monitoring mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Pre-election polling by the independent Levada Center indicated that only the four parties now in parliament — United Russia, the Communists, the nationalist Liberal Democrats and A Just Russia — would get enough nationwide votes to be allotted seats. Prospects for the single-district races were unclear.

Many voters at a polling station in southwest Moscow said the only reason to cast a ballot was to take votes away from United Russia, which has dominated the parliament for more than a decade.

Alexei Krugly, 63, said he voted for Yabloko because he "feels even more distaste for others."

"They're just as bad as everyone, but I stand for diversity," he said. "This time I came (to vote) because Yabloko got its act together and I think it has chances to make it to the Duma."

Voters also seemed anxious about the Russian economy, which has been battered by lower oil prices and economic sanctions from the West.

"The economy needs a boost," Nikolay Kovalenko, 20, a first-time voter who went with the Kremlin-friendly business oriented Party of Growth, said. "United Russia been around for too long, we need to try something new."

In Moscow, a man claiming to have a bomb threatened to blow up a polling station. Mayor Sergei Sobyanin said on Twitter that the man was quickly arrested and Russian news agencies said no bomb was found.

In the Ukrainian capital Kiev, dozens of right-wing protesters gathered around the Russian embassy, where a voting station was set up. At least one demonstrator was detained in a scuffle with police. Another demonstration took place outside the Russian consulate in Odessa, where four protesters were arrested.

The Latest: Shoppers describe chaos during mall attack

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (AP) — The Latest on the stabbing of eight people at a central Minnesota shopping mall (all times local):

11:50 a.m.

Three college freshmen who were shopping at a Minnesota mall when a man stabbed eight people say they saw two bloodied men stumble from a hallway.

Sydney Weires (weerz) says she was at Crossroads Center mall with two friends Saturday night when they heard a scream. She says she saw a man who looked like a security guard sprint down a hallway, and then two men stumbled out.

She says one had blood on his face, and the other had blood on his back. The men screamed to get out of the mall because someone had a knife.

Weires says she and her friends ran out of the mall.

Authorities say all of the injured are expected to survive. They say the suspect was dressed in a private security uniform and reportedly made references to Allah.

An off-duty police officer shot and killed him.

11:10 a.m.

A Minnesota hospital official says three of the eight people who were attacked at a mall remain hospitalized.

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- St. Cloud Hospital spokeswoman Chris Nelson said Sunday that the other five people were released and that none of the three still at the hospital has injuries that are considered life-threatening.
- St. Cloud's police chief, Blair Anderson, earlier said that of the eight people who were stabbed in Saturday night's attack, only one remained hospitalized.

Authorities say a man dressed in a private security uniform started stabbing people and reportedly made references to Allah. An off-duty police officer shot and killed him.

10:20 a.m.

The FBI says it is assisting local police in the investigation into a man who stabbed and wounded eight people at a Minnesota mall.

Like the police, Minnesota FBI spokesman Kyle Loven declined to say Sunday if investigators believe Saturday night's attack at the Crossroads Center mall in St. Cloud was a terrorist act.

Authorities say a man dressed as a security guard stabbed eight people and reportedly mentioned Allah and asked a victim if they were Muslim before attacking them.

The Islamic State group has claimed the attacker was one of its own, though it's unclear if the group planned or even knew of the attack ahead of time.

An off-duty police officer shot and killed the attacker.

None of the victims had life-threatening wounds.

10 a.m.

An Islamic State-run news agency claims the man who stabbed and wounded eight people at a mall in Minnesota before being shot dead by an off-duty police officer was a "soldier of the Islamic State."

The IS-run Rasd news agency reported the claim on Sunday, saying the attacker had heeded calls from the extremist group for attacks in countries that are part of a U.S.-led anti-IS coalition.

It was not immediately clear if the extremist group had planned the attack or even knew about it beforehand. IS has encouraged so-called "lone wolf" attacks. It has also claimed past attacks that are not believed to have been planned by its central leadership.

All eight victims from Saturday's attack were treated at a hospital for wounds that weren't life-threatening and all but one of them were later released.

2:40 a.m.

Eight people were injured during a stabbing attack at a Minnesota shopping mall that ended with the suspected attacker — who was dressed in a private security uniform and made references to Allah — shot dead by an off-duty police officer, authorities said.

St. Cloud Police Chief Blair Anderson says eight people were taken to St. Cloud Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries following the attack first reported about 8:15 p.m. Saturday at the Crossroads Center. One person was admitted. No further details were released.

Anderson said an off-duty police officer from another jurisdiction shot and killed the unidentified suspect, who was armed with a knife and wearing a private security firm uniform at the time of the attack. St. Cloud is about 70 miles (112.65 kilometers) northwest of Minneapolis.

Syrian army regains areas lost to IS after US-led airstrike By BASSEM MROUE, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Islamic State militants shot down a Syrian warplane on Sunday as Syrian forces regained ground lost to the extremists following a U.S.-led airstrike that hit government forces the day before, state media said.

The U.S. military says it may have unintentionally struck Syrian troops while carrying out a raid against IS in eastern Syria on Saturday. The incident has threatened an already fragile U.S. and Russian-bro-

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kered cease-fire that has largely held despite dozens of alleged violations on both sides.

Opposition monitoring groups said warplanes struck rebel-held neighborhoods in the northern city of Aleppo for the first time since the cease-fire went into effect on Monday, wounding several people. In southern Syria, government helicopters dropped barrels bombs on a rebel-held village, killing eight people.

Moscow laid the blame squarely on the opposition after activists reported the strikes. Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov said in an emailed statement that both "terrorists and the opposition" are using the truce to "boost their forces and prepare for renewed hostilities."

Konashenkov says Moscow still has not been able to contact the U.S.-backed opposition to coordinate cease-fire efforts despite Washington's assurances. He says the U.S. has not even tried to get the opposition to hold its fire.

Syria meanwhile called Saturday's U.S.-led airstrikes on the outskirts of the eastern city of Deir el-Zour a "dangerous and blatant aggression against the Syrian Arab Republic and its army."

The Foreign Ministry's statement, sent to the presidents of the United Nations and the U.N. Security Council, said American warplanes repeatedly attacked Syrian army positions on Saturday afternoon. It said the airstrikes were "on purpose and planned in advance," and killed dozens of Syrian soldiers.

Russia's military said it was told by the Syrian army that at least 62 soldiers were killed in the Deir el-Zour air raid and more than 100 wounded. The Russian air force has been carrying out strikes across Syria to bolster President Bashar Assad's forces for nearly a year, and the two militaries work in close coordination.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which relies on a network of activists inside Syria, said the U.S.-led coalition struck army positions in Tharda mountain and a nearby artillery division, killing 90 troops and wounding 110.

Russia said the United States was being obstructive and deceptive regarding the airstrike. A Foreign Ministry statement on Sunday said that in an emergency U.N. Security Council session the United States took "an unconstructive and indistinct position."

The Americans "not only turned out to be unable to give an adequate explanation of what happened, but also tried, as is their custom, to turn everything upside down," the statement said.

Iran, another close ally of Syria's government, also condemned the U.S. raid, saying it violated Syria's sovereignty and "showed that terrorist groups enjoy U.S. support in Syria."

Earlier Sunday, the Syrian state-run SANA news agency quoted an unnamed military official as saying that dozens of IS fighters were killed in the air and ground offensive on Tharda mountain. IS had claimed that its fighters captured Tharda mountain, which overlooks the city's government-controlled airport.

The Syrian military official said government troops had regained control of areas the extremists captured "as a result of the American aircraft aggression."

State TV later reported that a Syrian warplane was shot down while carrying out attacks on IS militants in the Deir el-Zour province, adding that the pilot was killed. IS-linked media also reported the incident.

The Observatory confirmed the downing of the Russian-made MiG warplane over Tharda mountain. It said that intense airstrikes by Russian warplanes have killed at least 38 IS fighters since Saturday.

The Syrian military said the coalition airstrike hit a base in Deir el-Zour that was surrounded by IS, allowing the extremists to advance and overrun Syrian army positions in the area.

Tens of thousands of people live in government-held neighborhoods of Deir el-Zour under an IS siege. Government areas have been relying on airlifted aid. IS also controls much of the surrounding province,

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which borders Iraq.

Also Sunday, the Syrian government and opposition reported violations of the cease-fire that went into effect on Monday. The cease-fire does not include IS and al-Qaida-linked militants.

The Syrian army said in a statement last week that the seven-day truce ends at midnight Sunday.

Syrian state media said insurgents shelled residential areas in the northern city of Aleppo and the central province of Homs. The opposition's Local Coordination Committees also reported that government warplanes attacked the central rebel-held town of Rastan.

The Observatory and Ahmad al-Masalmeh, an opposition activist based in the southern province of Daraa, said government helicopter gunships dropped barrel bombs on the village of Dael, killing six and wounding a large number of people. In Aleppo, warplanes fired missiles at three neighborhoods, wounding several people, according to the LCC and the Observatory.

Also on Sunday, some four million students headed to 15,000 schools for the start of a new school year, state media said. Syria's five-year conflict has damaged hundreds of schools and forced thousands of young Syrians to drop out.

Associated Press writers Albert Aji in Damascus, Syria, Jim Heintz in Moscow and Maamoun Youssef in Cairo contributed to this report.

Police: Man stabs 8 at Minnesota mall before cop kills him By JEFF BAENEN, Associated Press

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (AP) — A man in a private security uniform stabbed eight people at a Minnesota shopping mall, reportedly mentioning Allah and asking at least one victim if they were Muslim before an off-duty police officer shot and killed him, authorities said.

All eight victims were treated at a hospital for wounds that weren't life-threatening, St. Cloud police Chief Blair Anderson said at a news conference. A St. Cloud Hospital spokeswoman, Chris Nelson, said five of the eight were released and three remain hospitalized. No further details of their conditions were released.

The attack happened at around 8 p.m. Saturday at the Crossroads Center in St. Cloud, a city of about 65,000 people 60 miles (95 kilometers) northwest of Minneapolis.

A man in a security uniform and armed with a knife stabbed people in several locations in the mall, including corridors, businesses and common areas, the chief said. He said an off-duty police officer from another jurisdiction shot and killed the suspect, though he didn't say where that officer serves.

Anderson said the man reportedly made at least one reference to Allah and asked a victim if they were Muslim before attacking them. But he declined to call it an act of terrorism, saying the motive was still unknown.

"We will be diligent and get to the bottom of this," Anderson said. "Starting tomorrow, things won't be the same here."

An Islamic State-run news agency, Rasd, claimed Sunday that the attacker was a "soldier of the Islamic State" who had heeded the group's calls for attacks in countries that are part of a U.S.-led anti-IS coalition.

It was not immediately clear if the extremist group had planned the attack or even knew about it beforehand. IS has encouraged so-called "lone wolf" attacks. It has also claimed past attacks that are not believed to have been planned by its central leadership.

Anderson didn't identify the attacker, but he said police had had three previous encounters with him,

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mostly for minor traffic violations. He said authorities have no reason to believe anyone else was involved in the attack. The FBI is helping with the investigation.

"The entire mall is an active crime scene," Anderson said.

A police spokesman, Sgt. Tim Burke, declined to say Sunday whether the attacker worked as a security guard at the mall or was just posing as one.

The attack began shortly after an explosion in a crowded New York City neighborhood injured 29 people. A suspicious device was found a few blocks away and safely removed. Hours before that, a pipe bomb exploded in Seaside Park, New Jersey, shortly before thousands of runners were due to participate in a charity 5K race. There was no indication that any of the incidents were linked.

The St. Cloud mall remained on lockdown following the attack, and authorities eventually released those inside. It was closed on Sunday.

Photos and video of the mall taken hours after the incident showed groups of shoppers waiting to be released, including some huddled together near a food court entrance.

Harley and Tama Exsted, of Isle, were in St. Cloud to watch their son play in a college golf tournament and were in the mall when the attack happened.

"All of a sudden I heard pop, pop," Harley Exsted told the St. Cloud Times. "I thought someone tipped over a shelf. All of a sudden these people started running. I just saw everybody running our way."

The couple were unharmed and said they helped another woman who was running from the scene to her car.

Adonis Samuels, 42, of St. Cloud, was outside the mall where his wife Roxanne works as a manager at Clinique at Macy's.

"She called me on the phone and told me she was hiding under the counter with a customer," Samuels said. She later called and said she was safe in a secured area.

Samuels remained outside, watching for her. He said he'd seen her through the glass doors at one point so he knew she was safe.

Associated Press writer Bassem Mroue in Beirut and Amy Forliti in Minneapolis contributed to this report.

World leaders to focus on refugee crisis and Syria at UN By EDITH M. LEDERER, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — World leaders meeting at the United Nations starting Monday will be trying to make progress on two intractable problems at the top of the global agenda — the biggest refugee crisis since World War II and the Syrian conflict now in its sixth year which has claimed over 300,000 lives.

Against a backdrop of rising ethnic and religious tension, fighting elsewhere in the Mideast and Africa, extremist attacks across the world and a warming planet, there are plenty of other issues for the 135 heads of state and government and more than 50 ministers expected to attend to try to tackle.

"It's no secret there's a lot of fear out there," U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power told reporters Thursday, citing the uncertainties sparked by Britain's vote to leave the European Union, the threat posed by the Islamic State extremist group, and attacks in many parts of the world by IS and other terrorist groups.

But Syria, where a tense cease-fire brokered by Moscow and Washington went into effect last Monday, remains at the top of the agenda at the U.N. General Assembly's annual ministerial meeting. An ap-

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parently errant airstrike on Saturday in which the U.S. military may have unintentionally struck Syrian troops while carrying out a raid against the Islamic State group could deal a crushing blow to the U.S.-Russian-brokered cease-fire. The cease-fire, which does not apply to attacks on IS, has largely held for five days despite dozens of alleged violations on both sides.

The U.N. Security Council held a closed emergency meeting Saturday night at Russia's request to discuss the airstrike. The acrimonious meeting offered a harbinger of the difficulties ahead as the U.S. and Russia remain suspicious of each other's intents in Syria. U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power accused Russia of pulling "a stunt" that is "cynical and hypocritical" in calling for the meeting while not taking similar action in response to atrocities committed by Syrian President Bashar Assad's regime. Russian Ambassador Vitaly Churkin said he had never seen "such an extraordinary display of American heavy-handedness" as displayed by Power.

The acrimony over the airstrike could spill over into a Security Council ministerial meeting on Syria scheduled for Wednesday. Russia was pushing for a resolution to endorse the cessation of hostilities and look ahead, but the U.S. refused to make public details of the cease-fire deal citing "operational security." Churkin earlier had called the U.S. uncooperative and said most likely "we're not going to have a resolution."

With the truce still fragile, no sign yet of humanitarian aid deliveries, and supporters and opponents of the Syrian government trading accusations, diplomats said there may be a meeting Tuesday of some 20 key countries on both sides who are part of the International Syria Support Group to chart the next steps.

The spotlight during the week is also certain to shine on three leaders, who are all scheduled to speak at the assembly's opening ministerial session on Tuesday morning.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon who steps down on Dec. 31, and U.S. President Barack Obama who will leave office in January, will be addressing the 193-member world body for the last time. And British Prime Minister Theresa May will be making her debut on the world stage less than three months after the vote to leave the European Union.

In U.N. corridors and at private meetings, the question of Ban's successor will be a hot topic. Portugal's former Prime Minister Antonio Guterres has topped all four informal polls in the Security Council but he could be vetoed, possibly by Russia, and there are constant rumors of new candidates throwing their hats in the ring.

The U.S. presidential race is already a hot topic at the U.N., and no doubt leaders will be privately discussing the impact of a victory by Hillary Clinton, and especially Donald Trump, on the United Nations where the United States is the largest financial contributor and has veto-wielding power in the Security Council.

In one of the week's highlights, the secretary-general has invited leaders to a first-ever U.N. Summit on Refugees and Migrants on Monday.

According to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, an "unprecedented" 65.3 million people were displaced at the end of 2015, an increase of more than 5 million from a year earlier and the highest number since World War II. They include 21.3 million refugees, 3.2 million asylum seekers, and 40.8 million people internally displaced within their own countries.

""More countries must resettle more people who have been forced from their homes," Ban told reporters Wednesday. "And everyone, everywhere, must stand up against the animosity that so many refugees, migrants and minority communities face."

The political declaration set to be adopted calls for separate Global Compacts for refugees and migrants to be adopted within two years. But human rights groups complained that it was watered down,

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eliminating Ban's proposal to resettle 10 percent of the world's refugees annually.

At a follow-up summit on Tuesday called by Obama, at least 45 countries are expected to make pledges that will meet or exceed U.S. goals of increasing humanitarian aid by \$3 billion, doubling resettlement and lawful admission spots, and increasing access to education for one million youngsters and access to employment by one million, a U.S. official said, speaking on condition of anonymity ahead of the summit.

"We are not going to solve the refugee crisis on Tuesday," U.S. envoy Power said, "but I think you'll see an important show of political will from leaders around the world."

According to the United Nations, 545 meetings have been requested and Ban will take part in 62 events.

The U.N. chief, who has made climate change a top priority, has organized an event Wednesday for countries to deliver their ratifications of the Paris Declaration to tackle global warming. He is hoping to get the required 55 countries representing 55 percent of greenhouse gas emissions, if not Wednesday, by the end of the year.

Nigeria's Foreign Minister Geoffrey Onyeama, whose government is battling the insurgency by Boko Haram Islamic extremists, told reporters Friday that addressing "this global phenomenon of terrorism" will be high on his country's agenda along with tackling the U.N. development goals for 2030 and promoting a new U.N. body to focus on youth.

The Security Council is holding a ministerial meeting Thursday on improving aviation security, and it could meet again if agreement is reached on a resolution to support the nuclear test ban treaty which will likely single out North Korea, the only country to conduct tests in the 21st century.

The parties to the Iran nuclear deal are also scheduled to meet Thursday as well as the Quartet of Mideast mediators — the U.S., U.N., EU and Russia — who are trying to get Israel and the Palestinians back to the negotiating table.

Trump, Clinton respond to New York City explosion By KEN THOMAS AND JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — Donald Trump appeared to pre-empt New York City officials when he declared Saturday evening that a "bomb went off" in New York City before officials had released details.

"I must tell you that just before I got off the plane a bomb went off in New York and nobody knows what's going on," Trump said, minutes after stepping off his plane during a rally at an airport hangar in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

He continued: "But boy we are living in a time -- we better get very tough, folks. We better get very, very tough. It's a terrible thing that's going on in our world, in our country and we are going to get tough and smart and vigilant."

The Republican presidential nominee made the comments around 9:10 p.m., shortly after the explosion in Manhattan's crowded Chelsea neighborhood and as emergency officials were responding to the blast.

Local authorities have said they believed the explosion, which injured 29, was an "intentional act," but declined to answer questions about the cause at a news conference that began about two hours after Trump spoke.

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said then that it was "too early to determine specifically what the incident was caused by" and that the investigation was still underway.

A spokeswoman for Trump did not respond to an email asking whether Trump was briefed about the

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incident before taking the stage.

Trump's rival Hillary Clinton, meanwhile, sought to present a more cautious response, underscoring the difference between the two candidates' styles.

Clinton was briefed on the incidents shortly after her speech to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation dinner in Washington.

After landing in suburban New York City, Clinton told reporters she had been briefed "about the bombings in New York and New Jersey and the attacks in Minnesota." She said, "we need to do everything we can to support our first responders — also to pray for the victims. We have to let this investigation unfold."

Clinton was referring to a pipe bomb that exploded in a New Jersey shore town and reports of a shooting and the stabbings of eight people at a Minnesota mall.

Clinton, asked about Trump's saying that a "bomb" had gone off in New York, said it was "important to know the facts about any incident like this," adding, "I think it's always wiser to wait until you have information before making conclusions, because we are just in the beginning stages of trying to determine what happened."

Thomas reported from White Plains, New York. Associated Press writer Jill Colvin contributed to this report from Washington.

Amid hefty tourism drop, Turkey hopes to weather storm By MENELAOS HADJICOSTIS, Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — With summer drawing to a close, Turkey is counting the cost of a tough year that saw a string of terrorist bombings and the fallout from a diplomatic spat with Moscow that cut deep into the country's crucial tourist trade.

And then right bang in the middle of summer, the economic backdrop got more precarious after an attempted military coup that saw more than 270 people killed, the imposition of a state of emergency and the subsequent arrest and dismissal of thousands of supposed sympathizers.

Turkey's Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Simsek conceded the failed coup on July 15 and its aftermath have "weakened" the economy even as he praised its resilience in the face of such adversity.

Tourism, a crucial foreign-currency earner for a country in constant need of foreign currency to plug a yawning current account deficit, has borne the brunt of the economic fallout.

That's mainly due to a precipitous 89 percent drop in Russian tourist arrivals after a diplomatic fallout between the two countries brought on by Turkey's downing of a Russian warplane last year. Russia was Turkey's second-largest tourist market with 4.5 million people visiting places like Turkey's tourism capital Antalya in 2014.

With many Russians holidaying elsewhere, Turkey stands to lose between \$8 and \$10 billion in tourism revenue by the end of the year, according to Cetin Gurcun, Secretary General Turkey's travel agency association TURSAB. No amount of deals could fully plug that gap.

"If we consider the volume of the Russian market, it's not easy to fill the void," Gurcun told The Associated Press.

Turkey-Russia relations are now back on track, but Gurcun doesn't expect the Russian market to rebound before next year.

It wasn't just Russians who have stayed away from Turkey's beaches and the cultural delights of places like Istanbul.

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Thomas Cook, the British-based holiday company, said recently that demand for Turkish holidays was "significantly below last year's level" and that its overall bookings for the summer 2016 season were down by 5 percent largely because of this particular "geopolitical disruption."

Official Turkish figures for the whole of the summer tourist season have yet to be released. But it's clear there's been a hit. June and July alone saw tourism arrivals plunge an annual 40 and 36 percent, respectively.

And with fewer tourists, retail sales have suffered. Sami Kariyo, head of the United Brands Association, an umbrella group representing 150 member companies and 500 brands, said lower tourism numbers have translated into a five percent drop in revenues.

Industry too. The most recent figures showed that industrial production in July fell by almost 5 percent year-on-year in July, the sharpest fall since the start of the current data series in 2005.

"The coup attempt in July seems to have a very marked negative impact on economic activity," said William Jackson, senior emerging markets economist with Capital Economics.

All in all, the Turkish economy has suffered a shock — or series of shocks — and growth forecasts have been revised down. Turkey is expected to post what — at first glance — looks like reasonable growth this year of a little more than 3 percent. But before the attempted coup, most independent economic forecasters had penciled in Turkish economic growth of around 4 percent this year.

That's a big change, especially for a developing economy that's been used to way-more over much of the past 25 years or so. Living standards could face a squeeze, further exacerbating the uncertainty many feel within the country.

Erhan Aslanoglu, professor of economics at Istanbul's Piri Reis University, said Turkey's economy is tough enough to weather the worst of the storm, but needs more than 4 percent growth to continue pushing down on unemployment.

"It's better than many European countries, but not enough for Turkey," he said.

Another concern is that foreign investors will look elsewhere if Turkey turns increasingly authoritarian Turkey. Foreign investors are badly needed for the financing of Turkey's sizeable current account deficit, which stood at around 4.5 percent of the country's annual GDP in 2015.

The great fear for many is that Turkey is moving toward a more authoritarian model of governance — a trend that could further dent any hopes that the country has of joining the European Union.

Since the coup was seen off, tens of thousands of civil servants and government bureaucrats have been dismissed while scores of businesses have been shut down over suspicion of being linked to Pennsylvania-based Islamic cleric Fethullah Gulen whom Turkey blames for the attempted coup, a charge Gulen rejects.

"The rule of law is extremely important," Atilla Yesilada, an analyst with emerging markets consultancy GlobalSource Partners, said.

Top 25 Takeaways: Action Jackson and The Ville on the riseBy RALPH D. RUSSO, AP College Football Writer

Week three of the college football season set the tone for the College Football Playoff race and will rearrange the AP Top 25 poll.

Observations, thoughts and takeaways from a weekend during which new national championship contenders emerged and other hopefuls were all but eliminated.

1. In a season filled with returning stars and high-profile Heisman Trophy contenders, Louisville quarterback Lamar Jackson has passed them all to become the must-see player of 2016. Conjuring up memories of Michael Vick, Vince Young and Marcus Mariota, the sophomore is the Heisman front-

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runner and so far nobody is close.

- 2. Clemson's DeShaun Watson gets to make his counterpoint to Jackson in two weeks, when No. 5 Clemson hosts the Cardinals, who will be making a big jump from No. 10 in the rankings Sunday.
- 3. Jackson was the star, but the beat down of Florida State was thorough and well-rounded. The Cardinals' defense, which features three big-time players who transferred to Louisville Devonte Fields, Shaq Wiggins and Josh Harvey-Clemmons smothered the Seminoles.
- 4. For all of his missteps throughout his career, Louisville coach Bobby Petrino is one of the best offensive minds in football. But he has never had a quarterback like Jackson. Credit Petrino for modernizing his scheme, which had previously been built around more traditional pocket passers, and embracing spread principles that allow Jackson to flourish.
 - 5. Why not Louisville No. 1 when the new AP Top 25 comes out Sunday?
 - 6. Because Alabama.
- 7. Though Nick Saban still has plenty to be upset about after the Crimson Tide gave up 524 yards in snapping a two-game losing streak to No. 19 Mississippi.
- 8. Alabama ran for 334 yards, with quarterback Jalen Hurts getting 146 on 18 carries. The transformation that started with Blake Sims in 2014 has moved into the next phase. The Crimson Tide is a spread team now.
 - 9. Louisville at No. 6 Houston on Nov. 17. Just so you know.
- 10. Who's out? Ole Miss, No. 14 Oklahoma and No. 18 Notre Dame . It's the middle of September and your chances of making the playoff are basically gone. Enjoy the rest of your seasons.
- 11. Urban Meyer has never lost a road game at Ohio State. He improved to 19-0 by beating up Oklahoma . Only Alabama reloads like the Buckeyes.
- 12. Just keep underestimating Michigan State. The Spartans have now won 12 of the last 18 games under Mark Dantonio in which they were underdogs.
- 13. Barring injury, the only Georgia quarterback to take a meaningful snap over the next three seasons should be Jacob Eason.
- 14. Do not assume Houston wins the American Athletic Conference. USF (3-0) won going away at Syracuse and hosts Florida State in Tampa next Saturday. Willie Taggart's Bulls and Tom Herman's Cougars do not play in the regular season, but could be moving toward quite a conference title game.
- 15. Beating No. 22 Oregon might not qualify as the signature win it was just a few years ago, but it will get Nebraska into the rankings. With a favorable schedule ahead, there is reason for optimism in the Mike Riley era in Lincoln for the first time.
- 16. It feels as if Tommy Armstrong Jr. has been at Nebraska longer than Tom Osborne. Not quite. The senior quarterback might never be beloved, but there is still time for him to be appreciated.
- 17. Oregon went 1 for 5 on 2-point conversions in a 3-point loss and had its NCAA-record streak of 82 straight games with a touchdown pass broken.
 - 18. The Mark Helfrich confidence meter in Eugene has probably hit a new low .
- 19. North Dakota State did it again , and at this point if you're surprised the Bison, the five-time defending FCS champions, beat No. 13 Iowa, you are simply not paying close enough attention. North Dakota State is 5-0 against Power Five teams since 2010.
- 20. The de facto Big Ten West leader: Western Michigan. The Boat-Rowing Broncos dominated Illinois and also have a victory against Northwestern.
- 21. There is no easy way for Penn State to play it halfway. Keep many of the alumni happy by giving an occasional nod to Joe Paterno , while trying to put the Sandusky scandal to rest.
- 22. Under Al Golden, Miami too often played poorly even with the talent advantage. Props to coach

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Mark Richt (and Brad Kaaya) for not allowing the Hurricanes to get ambushed at Appalachian State.

- 23. No big deal, coach Butch Jones, just the biggest game of your career next week when No. 15 Tennessee faces No. 23 Florida. The Vols did not look ready for the Gators against Ohio, but Florida's got its own problems. Luke Del Rio went out with injury against North Texas.
- 24. How about instead of shortening the games, schools stop scheduling games where the teams have no business being on the field with each other?
- 25. The best thing to happen Saturday: Army beat UTEP to start the season 3-0, just days after teammate Brandon Jackson was killed in a car accident.

Follow Ralph D. Russo at www.Twitter.com/ralphDrussoAP

The Latest: Suspicious device removed from 2nd NYC location

NEW YORK (AP) — The Latest on an explosion in Manhattan. (all times local): 2:45 a.m.

Police have removed a suspicious device from a Manhattan location four blocks from the site of an explosion that injured more than two dozen people.

The New York Police Department tweeted early Sunday that the device has been safely removed from West 27th Street by the bomb squad. Police say it was to be taken to the department firing range in the Bronx.

Police had earlier advised residents on the block where the device was found to stay away from windows facing 27th Street.

An explosion rocked the block of West 23rd Street between Sixth and Seventh Avenues at 8:30 p.m. Saturday. Officials said 29 people were injured. Most of the injuries were minor.

The blast is under investigation, and Mayor Bill de Blasio said it did not appear to be an act of terrorism.

1:15 a.m.

Donald Trump may have moved ahead of New York City officials when he declared Saturday evening that a "bomb went off" in the city before officials had released details.

Trump made the announcement minutes after stepping off his plane during a rally at an airport hangar in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He told the crowd, "we better get very tough, folks."

The Republican presidential nominee made the comments around 9:10 p.m., shortly after the explosion in Manhattan's crowded Chelsea neighborhood and as emergency officials were responding to the blast.

Trump's rival Hillary Clinton, meanwhile, sought to present a more cautions response, underscoring the difference between the two candidates' styles.

Clinton was briefed on the incidents shortly after her speech to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation dinner in Washington.

12:30 a.m.

A law enforcement official tells The Associated Press that a second device officers are investigating a few blocks from the scene of a Manhattan explosion appears to be a pressure cooker attached to wiring and a cellphone.

The source, speaking on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak

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about an ongoing investigation, says the device was found inside a plastic bag on West 27th Street.

Police are advising residents of the block where the device was found to stay away from windows facing 27th Street.

The pressure-cooker device was found four blocks from the location on West 23rd Street where an explosion injured more than two dozen people Saturday night.

— By Jake Pearson

11:45 p.m.

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio says there is no reason to think that an explosion in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood had a terrorist connection, but he did call the blast an "intentional act."

The mayor also said there is no specific connection to a pipe bomb explosion in the New Jersey shore town of Seaside Park earlier Saturday at a charity run. There were no injuries in that incident.

Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro says a total of 29 people were injured in the Chelsea blast. He says one person's injuries were serious and the rest were minor.

Police Commissioner James O'Neill says officers are investigating a possible second explosive device a few blocks away from the explosion at about 8:30 p.m. on West 23rd Street.

11 p.m.

A law enforcement official tells The Associated Press that an explosion in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood appears to have come from a construction toolbox in front of a building.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the person wasn't authorized to speak about an ongoing investigation.

Police say 26 people have sustained minor injuries in the explosion on West 23rd Street.

Mayor Bill de Blasio and police officials are expected to brief reporters at the scene.

The blast happened in front of a residence for the blind. Witnesses say the explosion at about 8:30 p.m. blew out the windows of businesses in the area.

By Karen Matthews.

10:20 p.m.

Police and firefighters are at the scene of a possible explosion in New York City, and authorities say 25 people suffered minor injuries.

Police spokesman J. Peter Donald said on Twitter that the possible explosion happened at about 8:30 p.m. Saturday on West 23rd Street in the Chelsea section of Manhattan. He says several people were taken to hospitals with injuries. The Fire Department tweeted that none of the injuries appear to be life-threatening.

No detail about the extent of damage was immediately available.

Chris Gonzalez, visiting from Dallas, was having dinner with friends at a restaurant. The 26-year-old says she heard and felt a blast. She said the restaurant went quiet.

Witnesses say FBI and Homeland Security officials are also at the scene.

The reports of a possible blast come hours after a pipe bomb exploded in Seaside Park, New Jersey, shortly before thousands of runners participated in a charity 5K race to benefit Marines and sailors.

9:40 p.m.

Police and firefighters are at the scene of a possible explosion in New York City.

The Fire Department says the blast was reported shortly before 9 p.m. Saturday on West 23rd Street

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in the Chelsea section of Manhattan.

No information about injuries or about the extent of the damage was immediately available.

City Councilman Corey Johnson, who represents the area, told cable news station New York 1 that FBI and federal Homeland Security officials were on the scene, in addition to New York City police.

Numerous emergency vehicles are in the area, which is a major thoroughfare with many restaurants.

The reports of a possible blast comes hours after a pipe bomb exploded in Seaside Park, New Jersey, shortly before thousands of runners participated in a charity 5K race to benefit Marines and sailors.

9 p.m.

Firefighters are at the scene of a possible building explosion in New York City.

The Fire Department says the blast was reported shortly before 9 p.m. Saturday on West 23rd Street in the Chelsea section of Manhattan.

No information about injuries or about the extent of the damage was immediately available.

Obama urges black voters to rally for Hillary Clinton By KEVIN FREKING, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is making it clear that if the African-American community fails to turn out for the presidential election and support Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, he's taking it personally.

Obama delivered his final keynote address to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Saturday night and said his name may not be on the ballot, but issues of importance to the black community were.

And he realizes that a victory for Republican Donald Trump could undo much of what he has done. Clinton also made a pitch at the same dinner for African-Americans' support.

The Republican nominee campaigned in Houston, where he talked to a gathering of the Remembrance Project, a group founded to remember those killed by people living illegally in the U.S. and to press for tougher laws.

Colonial announces construction of temporary pipeline By JACOB JORDAN, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Colonial Pipeline says it is beginning construction of a temporary pipeline that will bypass a leaking section of its main gasoline pipeline in Shelby County, Alabama.

According to AL.com (http://bit.ly/2cvk9ZU), Colonial gave no timetable Saturday as to when that bypass line would be completed or what path it would take, according to

Fuel supplies in at least five states — Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and the Carolinas — were threatened by the spill, and the U.S. Department of Transportation ordered the company responsible to take corrective action before the fuel starts flowing again.

The company has acknowledged that between 252,000 gallons and 336,000 gallons of gasoline leaked from a pipeline near Helena, Alabama, since the spill was first detected Sept. 9. It's unclear when the spill actually started.

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Snoop Dogg honored in politically charged BET Hip-Hop Awards By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr., Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Snoop Dogg said he initially felt misunderstood at the beginning of his rap career that ended up turning into a legendary one while accepting his "I Am Hip Hop" honor during a politically-charged BET Hip-Hop Awards show near Atlanta.

Rapper Kendrick Lamar surprised attendees Saturday evening by introducing and handing Snoop the award during the 11th annual awards, which was taped. Lamar, in front of a packed crowd at the Cobb Energy Performing Centre, said the ultra-smooth West Coast rapper "paved a way into many hearts" with his authentic rap flow and infectious persona.

Hip-hop royalty from Dr. Dre to Pharrell Williams paid homage to Snoop, a legend in his own right.

"He mastered the game through tests and challenges that earned him the respect of a college professor, except his game came from the streets," Lamar said. "He put (me) on game, so I would avoid the same pitfalls. ... Snoop Dogg was the God, and continues to be so."

During his acceptance speech, Snoop encouraged up-and-coming rappers to continue to "push the envelope" in being creative and original.

"To all the young rappers in the game, a lot of people don't understand you. Y'all are misunderstood," he said. "I was misunderstood at the beginning. So you got to keep pushing, be original and diverse. Hip-hop was created many years ago and it's taken people so many places. You have to be who you are."

When Snoop Dogg wasn't being honored, the show focused its attention toward police brutality of African-Americans.

Wearing all black, T.I. performed his politically-charged song "We Will Not" as a stage full of people sporting dark attire held up "Black Lives Matter" signs. The rapper said he was motivated to write the song after hearing about a series of deaths of black people including Sandra Bland, who died while in police lockup after a traffic stop, and Philando Castile who was fatally shot by police during a traffic stop. Castile was licensed to carry and had a firearm in his car.

Rapper Big K.R.I.T. and Lecrae, a Christian rapper, expressed their thoughts on the matter through their own poems and radio host Sway Calloway stood alongside Khaled and said "we're at war." Actor Shameik Moore encouraged people to cast their vote.

T.I. said at the end of his performance that blacks should unite adding that "they can't kill us all."

Before the show, Snoop said it felt "amazing" to be honored by the network. He broke through under the guidance of hit maker Dr. Dre, releasing his 1993 debut album "Doggystyle," which featured iconic songs including "Gin and Juice" and "What's My Name?"

"He means so much to hip-hop," rapper Young Jeezy said. "There are so many who look up to him. He paved a way for so many, and that's why everybody knows him as Uncle Snoop."

Rapper Gucci Mane, recently released from prison, hit the stage first. He performed four songs, kicking his set off with "First Day Out" and "First Day Out Tha Feds" during his performance. The rapper made his return after being released in late May from a Federal Correctional Institution in Terre Haute, Indiana.

He served a three-year sentence after pleading guilty to aggravated assault for attacking a fan at an Atlanta nightclub. That sentence ran concurrently with a 39-month federal sentence he was given in 2014 for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

First-time host DJ Khaled followed with "Holy Key" with soul singer Betty Wright and a choir dressed in gold.

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There were several recorded freestyle sessions, known as The Cypher, featuring several artists including Lil Wayne and comedian Kevin Hart, who rapped shirtless wearing dark sunglasses. During Hart's rap, some laughed while other applauded his efforts.

Lamar took home Lyricist of the Year, Fat Joe and Remy Ma won Track of the Year award for their song "All the Way Up." The Hustler of the Year honor went to DJ Khaled, and Best New Hip-Hop Artist was earned by Chance the Rapper, who was not in attendance.

Rapper Designer closed out the show with "Timmy Turner."

The show will air on BET on Oct. 4.

This version of the story corrects the title of the song performed by T.I. to "We Will Not."

Online:

http://www.bet.com/shows/hip-hop-awards/nominees.html

Follow Jonathan Landrum Jr. on Twitter: http://twitter.com/MrLandrum31

This story has been corrected to show that Sandra Bland died while in police lockup and Philandro Castille had a licensed firearm in his car when he was shot by police, not that they both were shot by police while unarmed.

Gas prices up, stations running out after pipeline spill By JACOB JORDAN, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Lines formed at gas stations across the South on Saturday and drivers who were able to find fuel had to pay more for it in some cases, as prices edged up following a pipeline spill in Alabama.

Fuel supplies in at least five states — Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and the Carolinas — were threatened by the spill, and the U.S. Department of Transportation ordered the company responsible to take corrective action before the fuel starts flowing again.

Colonial Pipeline Co. must conduct testing and analysis on the failed section of the pipeline, according to the U.S. Transportation Department, which is investigating the spill in rural Alabama.

The company has acknowledged that between 252,000 gallons and 336,000 gallons of gasoline leaked from a pipeline near Helena, Alabama, since the spill was first detected Sept. 9. It's unclear when the spill actually started.

Drivers in Atlanta found some pumps completely dry or they had to pay 20 cents more because, according to a sign on the pump, the gas had to be pulled from Savannah.

"I just came in to town so this is shocking to me," said Gina Dorman, as she filled up her nearly empty tank. She said she tried to get gas at several pumps at the service station before finding one that had gas flowing.

At a Kroger gas station a couple of miles away, orange cones were set up where cars usually park to get fuel. The pumps were completely dry and attendants were not sure when they would get more gas. Many drivers said they didn't know about the spill.

Rob Gomes said his wife called him and told him to fill up after hearing about the shortage.

"We were out, so we said, let's gas up," he said.

Colonial Pipeline announced Saturday it is beginning construction of a temporary pipeline that will bypass a leaking section of its main gasoline pipeline in Shelby County, Alabama, according to AL.com

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(http://bit.ly/2cvk9ZU).

Colonial gave no timetable as to when that bypass line would be completed or what path it would take.

Tennessee Emergency Management Director Patrick Sheehan tried to reassure drivers.

"Tennessee's consumers need to maintain their normal driving and fuel buying habits. If consumers fill up unnecessarily, top off their tanks when they aren't close to empty, and fill multiple containers at the pumps, then our petroleum retailers will not be able to keep up with the demand of the fuel supply," he said.

Quik Trip spokesman Mike Thornbrugh said several stations in South Carolina were seeing outages.

"When you have a pipeline of that magnitude go down, it just shows everybody unfortunately how fragile the system is and it doesn't take much to cause some hiccups," he told WYFF (http://bit.ly/2cy6o1H).

In a statement Saturday, the Alpharetta, Georgia-based company said that repair work had begun in an effort to return the pipeline to service "as rapidly and safely as possible."

The company said it is shipping as much gasoline as possible on its distillate mainline, Line 2, in order to mitigate the impact of the pipeline that has been shut down. Colonial earlier said most of the leaked gasoline is contained in a retention pond near the city of Helena and there's no public safety concern.

Motorists could pay even more for gasoline in coming days, although experts say that any spike in service-station prices should only be temporary.

In response to the shutdown, the governors in Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee announced they would lift restrictions on the number of hours that truck drivers delivering fuel can work, in hopes of preventing fuel shortages. Governors can suspend federal transportation regulations during emergencies.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency waived requirements this week that metro areas with air quality issues in Georgia and Tennessee use a cleaner-burning type of gasoline during the summer months. That requirement of the Clean Air Act expired at midnight Thursday.

Sanders urges turned-off voters to turn out for Clinton By JULIE CARR SMYTH, Associated Press

KENT, Ohio (AP) — In a pair of university stops in battleground Ohio on Saturday, Bernie Sanders used his enduring popularity with young voters to urge support for Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. It's just that his crowds aren't what they used to be.

The Vermont senator praised his former Democratic rival's agenda as the right choice for millennial and union voters and said those who are turned off by their choices in the election should still turn out, even if they think "everybody's horrible."

Sanders told gatherings at the University of Akron and Kent State that Republican Donald Trump's statements against Muslims, women, Mexicans and other groups threaten to unravel decades of work to improve equality.

"We can't in 2016 accept bigotry as the cornerstone of any campaign," he said.

Sanders also promoted Clinton's positions on climate change, a minimum wage increase and tuition-free public college.

"When you talk to your friends and they say, 'I'm not going to vote, everybody's horrible,' ask them how much they're going to leave school in debt," Sanders said. "Ask them about that."

About 200 attended his Akron rally; about 600 showed up at Kent State. It was a far cry from the

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throngs overflowing his events during his heated contest with Clinton in the primary season. Even so, Sanders struck home with some as he asked people to swing behind Clinton.

"Before today, I was not persuaded one bit, but I think Bernie made a pretty convincing case," said Dallas Tucholski, a 20-year-old University of Akron senior wearing a T-shirt plastered with Sanders faces. "I trust Bernie; I think he's the one good, honest politician that's left out there. For him to stay out on the trail — he doesn't need to do this — you can tell he cares about us and cares about the future. So I'm going to take his advice and vote for Hillary Clinton."

But many rally attendees remained undecided.

Sam Woofter, 18, a computer engineering major at Akron, said he's having a difficult time picking an alternative to Sanders.

"I voted for him in the primaries, and yelled at my friends for not voting for him in the primaries," he said. All he can tell his friends now, is that, "You should have voted in the primaries."

Shaheeda Haque, 17, said many friends at Akron plan to stay home. They dislike Trump and believe Hillary's "terrible, or a snake or whatever."

"I definitely think that Hillary needs Bernie to get up there and endorse her, because he just has so much millennial support behind him," she said. "So I think it's pretty important for us to feel secure, for us to hear from this man that we trust that we can trust Hillary Clinton."

Her friend, Lily Crissey, 18, a political science major, said she's leaning toward Clinton because a vote for a third party is impractical and "like giving your vote to Trump."

Jacob Berlin, 20, who drove to the Sanders rally in Kent from Pittsburgh, said he wants to follow Sanders' advice and vote for Clinton — but right now he can't.

"I trust his judgment and I value his opinion, but when it's just me and the ballot box, I'm not sure I'm going to be able to push her button," he said. For now he's supporting Libertarian Gary Johnson. "I think among my peers we're all in the same boat that it would be better to get him up in the polls than have to vote for the lesser of two evils," he said.

But Toni Brooks, 27, a sales professional in Fairlawn, said she believes seeing Sanders and Clinton team up will make a difference with young voters disenchanted by the tone of the 2016 campaign.

"When you see the buffoonery we see on television every day, it does want to make you lose faith," she said. "But a united front is really helpful."

Iranian cyclist dies after crash in Paralympics road race By STEPHEN WADE, AP Sports Writer

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — An Iranian cyclist died after crashing in a road race at the Rio de Janeiro Paralympics on Saturday.

He was Bahman Golbarnezhad, aged 48, the International Paralympics Committee said.

It said he received emergency treatment on the course and was transported to a Rio hospital where officials said he died.

"This is truly heart-breaking news, and the thoughts and condolences of the whole Paralympic Movement are with Bahman's family, friends, and teammates, as well as the whole of the National Paralympic Committee of Iran," IPC President Philip Craven said in a statement.

The IPC said it believes this is the first death in a Paralympics.

The IPC said Golbarnezhad crashed about 10:40 a.m. local time on a mountainous stretch of the road cycling course. The IPC said he suffered cardiac arrest on the way to the hospital.

The cause of the crash was not clear, and officials said it was being investigated.

"The Paralympic family is united in grief at this horrendous tragedy, which casts a shadow over what

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have been great Paralympic Games," Craven added.

The Iranian flag was lowered to half-staff in the Paralympic Village, and at the venue where Iran faces Bosnia and Herzegovina in a men's sitting volleyball final on Sunday.

A moment of silence will also be held at Sunday's closing ceremony in Maracana Stadium.

"This is very sad news for sport and for the Paralympic movement." Carlos Nuzman, head of the Rio Olympic organizing committee, said in a statement. "Our hearts and prayers are with Bahman's family, his teammates and all the people of Iran."

A Paralympic biography said Golbarnezhad was born in Shiraz, Iran. He also competed in the London Paralympics but didn't medal. He was competing in the C4-5 races for athletes with lower limb impairments or amputations.

This was his second race in Rio. On Wednesday, he finished 14th in a time trial.

Doctor declares Trump running mate Pence to be healthy By SCOTT BAUER, Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Mike Pence has released a letter from his doctor vouching for his "excellent" health. The letter summarizes the medical history of the Republican vice presidential nominee and says he can maintain his high level of work and exercise routines "without limitations."

The letter about Pence, the 57-year-old governor of Indiana, was dated Thursday and came after Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton and her running mate, Tim Kaine, also provided some details of their medical history. The health of the candidates has become an issue since Clinton stumbled at a 9/11 memorial event and revealed afterward that she had been diagnosed with pneumonia.

Pence's letter is written by Dr. Michael Busk with the St. Vincent Health, Wellness and Preventive Care Institute in Indianapolis. He summarizes Pence's medical history and results of a physical examination from July 6.

Busk said that Pence had basal cell carcinomas — skin cancer — removed from his face in 2002 and 2010. He also had surgery in August 2015 to repair a hernia. Pence last had a colonoscopy in 2009 and no polyps were found. Busk said the only medication Pence takes is Claritin for seasonal allergies, he does not smoke or drink alcohol, has diet-controlled heartburn and exercises four times a week.

Pence also has a condition known as "left bundle branch block," which causes the heart's left ventricle to contract later than the right ventricle. Pence had "extensive evaluations" at the hospital in 2014 following the discovery of that condition, and Busk said "the cardiologists feel you have a very good and strong heart."

Pence's main form of exercising is bicycling, and the doctor said he also walks and climbs stairs extensively. Pence is 5-feet, 10-inches tall and weighs 208 pounds. His blood pressure at the July exam was 116/81 and his cholesterol was 216.

"Overall you are in excellent general and cardiovascular health," the doctor wrote. "You are medically able to maintain your high level of professional work and your physical activity programs without limitations."

Measuring Occupy Wall Street's impact, 5 years later By DEEPTI HAJELA and MICHAEL BALSAMO, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — For a time, Occupy Wall Street was everywhere with its grass-roots encampments — first in New York City, then globally — and the refrain, "We are the 99 percent!"

And then it was gone. Its most famous camp in lower Manhattan was cleared out in an overnight

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police raid two months after it started, and other Occupy locations fizzled soon thereafter.

But five years later, demonstrators gathered once again in New York City's Zuccotti Park on Saturday to commemorate the movement and what they said has been its lasting impact.

About two dozen attended the gathering, many holding signs to demand political and banking reform. Others chanted, blew whistles and carried photo cutouts of political figures, including former Attorney General Eric Holder. As the group recounted its time occupying the park, tour groups stopped to catch a glimpse of the action.

Occupy Wall Street takes some of the credit for introducing income inequality into the broader political discourse, for inspiring the fight for a \$15 minimum wage and, most recently, for creating a receptive audience for the Democratic presidential campaign of Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

"Everyone knows we were right," said Caleb Maupin, who was working in the insurance industry when he first joined the movement five years ago. "We had a major campaign for president with Bernie Sanders. The campaign was like a giant Occupy Wall Street rally, talking about the 99 percent and the one percent because millions of people know we were right."

Maupin, who said he would rush to Zuccotti Park every night after work, was arrested twice during the group's two-month encampment. He said it helped shape the country's political discourse.

And some political observers even draw a line between the movement and the rise of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, who tapped into the vein of suspicion against the power of elites — the 1 percent — that Occupy made ubiquitous.

"We had sort of a deep-down effect on activists all around the world," said Kalle Lasn of the Vancouver, British Columbia-based "Adbusters" magazine, among those who put out the call for a protest of Wall Street to take place Sept. 17, 2011. "We politicized a whole generation of young people who didn't quite know what to do with their activism and their feelings of anger."

While critics of Occupy took issue with it at the time for its lack of specific demands, a clear organizational structure or strategies for next steps, it has come to resonate politically, said Heather Gautney, a sociology professor at Fordham University.

She pointed to Sanders' campaign, saying Occupy's injection of income inequality into the discourse paved the way for the senator's calls to get money out of politics, rein in Wall Street banks and provide free public college education.

Nicholas Kiersey, a political science professor at Ohio University, said Trump's political presence is part of Occupy's impact, as well.

"If Bernie Sanders represented a left-wing popular suspicion that had felt all of a sudden very legitimate in expressing its grievances, Trump, I think, represents the mirror of that from the right," he said. "They both, in a sense, have ridden the momentum of popular dissatisfaction."

Other social movements have followed Occupy, such as the Fight for \$15, a minimum-wage campaign that started with fast-food workers in New York City in 2012 and has spread, with victories in states, including New York and California.

The environmental movement was also inspired by the idea that a small handful of elites were using their power to accumulate wealth at the expense of the many, said Guido Girgenti, an organizer with the group 350.org.

Occupy, Girgenti said, helped jumpstart "a new kind of climate movement" that questions the power of the fossil fuel industry.

"How do we overcome that power, how do we take back our government so we can actually have solutions that work for the people, that work for the planet?" Girgenti said.

Harrison Schultz, 33, of Brooklyn, said Occupy also helped educate people about the need for govern-

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ment and banking reform.

"I learned way more about how the banking system works, how our government is supposed to work and how to take control of the banks and the government," he said.

Occupy supporter Lasn remains convinced of the movement's importance.

"I see Occupy Wall Street as being another one of those great historical moments, when something surprising happened and a whole generation got politicized," he said. "After a generation gets politicized, then who knows what the hell they're going to do after that?"

Follow Deepti Hajela at www.twitter.com/dhajela

For nominees, Emmy Day can be a break from calorie counting By MIKE CIDONI LENNOX, AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Given what the cameras add, Hollywood stars start out some 10 pounds behind the game. Little wonder so many actors are serious weight watchers.

But even those most diligent about diet and exercise give in to temptation on occasion, with Emmy day __ this Sunday __ being a likely contender. Chances are, for many Emmy nominees, something wickedly caloric their way will come.

Friday night in West Hollywood, the Television Academy threw its annual weekend-of bash for performer nominees, who revealed Emmy-day plans from wakeup time.

"Sunday morning, I'm going to try to eat," said Keegan-Michael Key, a four-time nominee this year, including outstanding supporting actor in a comedy series for the sketch show "Key & Peele."

"It might be the only time I eat a full meal all day," he explained. "So, I like to go and eat something bad. Like IHOP. Or figure out exactly the minute that In-N-Out opens, and go have an In-N-Out burger __ like at 9:30 in the morning."

Then comes the makeup — lots of makeup, Key noted as he pointed to his bald head. This happens at home.

"The makeup artist drinks wine. Girlfriend drinks wine. I drink wine. We all have our wine when we do the makeup, which you'd think would screw it all up. It doesn't. And then we get in our car and we get moving."

Four-time nominee Felicity Huffman is already a 2005 Emmy winner for "Desperate Housewives" and, this year, has a second nod as lead actress in a limited series or movie for her role in "American Crime." Since actor-husband William H. Macy has previously logged two wins, they've got this Emmy-day thing down.

"I think what we'll do after coffee ... is, we'll be taking a run," said Huffman, before joking, "then a cigarette and some bacon."

Maura Tierney, nominee for outstanding supporting actress in a drama series for "The Affair," said on her Emmy morning, "I'll eat something. But I get really nervous." She said she'll be staying in a downtown Los Angeles hotel near the Microsoft Theater, where the Emmys are taking place, because the long ride in from home is so nerve-wracking. "I don't know what I'll eat," Tierney said. "Maybe a few nuts and berries." A long pause. "I'm kidding."

Niecy Nash definitely has plans in place.

"I will probably have a little breakfast, a little champagne, do a little canoodling with my husband, then put creams and potions on my face believing they'll make me look younger," said Nash, who is nominated for outstanding supporting actress in a comedy for "Getting On."

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After that: "Get slid into some sort of Spanx," she said, "to bind everything."

Padma Lakshmi, a nominee for outstanding reality competition series as a producer of "Top Chef," said she'll start out the day nutritionally angelic. But she'll likely be a devil by the after parties.

"I eat a really good breakfast. Not a lot of bread," she said. But hours later, "All those parties will have those little push carts with hamburgers."

Her expected response to such temptations: "I'm done with all you red-carpet people! I'm finally letting my stomach push out," she said, laughing.

The 68th Emmy Awards airs on ABC at 8 p.m. EDT Sunday.

Tight security as annual Oktoberfest opens in Munich By PAUL WHEATLEY, Associated Press

MUNICH (AP) — Heavy rain and stricter security did little to dampen the spirits of beer lovers at the start of this year's Oktoberfest, which opened Saturday in the Bavarian city of Munich.

Mayor Dieter Reiter tapped the first keg at noon with a respectable two strikes, to the approval of thousands of thirsty visitors gathered in one of 14 vast tents on Munich's Theresienwiese fairground.

Responding to a series of attacks in recent months, authorities decided to erect a metal fence, ban large bags, install more surveillance cameras and make visitors go through security checks to enter the festival grounds this year.

In the bloodiest incident, a German teenager fatally shot nine people at a Munich mall before killing himself. Two other attacks were carried out by asylum-seekers and claimed by the Islamic State group; several people were wounded, but only the attackers were killed.

"Personally, nothing that has happened has changed my opinion about coming to the Oktoberfest," said Nico Baunbach, a 34-year-old exhibition manager from Munich who was dressed in traditional Lederhosen, felt jacket, checkered shirt and Bavarian Haferl shoes tied to the side.

"Terrorism is in fact reducing," Baunbach said. "We're only concerned now because it looks like it's arrived in Germany."

The attacks have fed a sense of unease in Germany about the arrival of more than a million migrants since the start of last year — many of them refugees from war-torn countries such as Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. Security officials have acknowledged that while the vast majority of migrants are lawabiding and peaceful, a small minority may be coming to Germany with criminal intent.

Still, while authorities say there is a "high abstract danger" of an attack at the 17-day festival which is expected to draw 6 million visitors, police have stressed that there's no indication of any concrete threats.

Munich police plan to have some 600 officers on hand, about 100 more than last year, during peak times. Another 450 security guards will also check bags and keep an eye on the sometimes inebriated visitors.

Despite the large attendance — up to 600,000 visitors turn up on some days — there have been few major incidents at the festival, which was first held in 1810 to celebrate the marriage of Crown Prince Ludwig of Bayaria to Theresa of Saxony.

The festivities were repeated annually in October, but were later brought forward to start in September when the temperatures in Bavaria are usually warmer.

In 1980 a far-right extremist set off a bomb killing 12 people and himself, and wounding more than 200.

Last year, police reported responding to 2,017 incidents, including fistfights and stolen wallets and

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purses. Some 20 sexual crimes were reported, including one attempted rape.

Tim Harris, a Briton who works for a pharmaceuticals company in neighboring Switzerland, said he had no second thoughts about coming to the Oktoberfest.

"I come here every year to see my friends and you can't let these things stop you doing what you like to do," said the 36-year-old. "That said, some people I work with were due to come, but because of the fence and the reported security issues they canceled."

Sebastian Schneider, a 36-year-old online marketer from Munich, blamed the lower turnout partly on the weather. After weeks of fierce sunshine the skies opened and temperatures dropped across Germany on Friday.

Frank Jordans in Berlin contributed to this report.

Trump: Disarm Clinton's bodyguards, 'let's see what happens' By JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Donald Trump was making his usual sarcastic call for Hillary Clinton's Secret Service agents to be stripped of their firearms when he added an aside to his rally remarks: "Let's see what happens to her."

Soon after, Clinton's campaign said such a reference to violence was out of bounds.

Trump has long incorrectly suggested his Democratic opponent wants to overturn the Second Amendment and take away Americans' right to own guns. In Miami on Friday, his riff about confiscating the agents' guns went further.

"I think that her bodyguards should drop all weapons. They should disarm, right?" Trump asked the crowd. "Take their guns away, she doesn't want guns. Take their — and let's see what happens to her. Take their guns away. OK, it would be very dangerous."

Trump's meaning was not immediately clear and a campaign spokeswoman did not immediately respond to a request for an elaboration.

But the Clinton campaign had a quick reaction. Her campaign manager, Robby Mook, released a statement saying Trump "has a pattern of inciting people to violence. Whether this is done to provoke protesters at a rally or casually or even as a joke, it is an unacceptable quality in anyone seeking the job of Commander in Chief.

"This kind of talk should be out of bounds for a presidential candidate," Mook wrote.

A Secret Service spokeswoman declined to comment.

The seemingly ominous comment evoked a remark Trump made last month that many Democrats condemned as a call for Clinton's assassination. Speaking at a rally in North Carolina, the Republican nominee erroneously said his opponent wants to "abolish, essentially, the Second Amendment."

He continued: "By the way, if she gets to pick her judges, nothing you can do, folks. Although the Second Amendment people, maybe there is, I don't know."

Within minutes, the Clinton campaign condemned the remark. Mook said then, "A person seeking to be the president of the United States should not suggest violence in any way."

Trump later disputed that criticism, saying everyone in his audience knew he was referring to the power of voters and "there can be no other interpretation."

Trump, who has the endorsement of the National Rifle Association, eventually took to Twitter to say the Secret Service had not contacted him about the remarks.

The comments Friday in Miami came hours after Trump finally reversed his long-held position that

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President Barack Obama was not born in the United States. Appearing in Washington, he said Obama was born in the United States but then incorrectly suggested that the Clinton campaign had started the conspiracy theory.

Trump ignored questions from reporters about his switch and has yet to explain why he abandoned the "birther" stance that fueled his political fame and was viewed by critics as an attempt to delegitimize the nation's first African-American president.

While campaigning in South Florida, which has a large Cuban-American population, Trump also said that if he's elected president, he will reverse Obama's efforts to normalize relations with Cuba — unless the country abides by certain "demands." Among those, he said, would be religious and political freedom for the Cuban people and the freeing of all political prisoners.

Trump says he'll "stand with the Cuban people in their fight against communist oppression."

The comment marks yet another reversal for the GOP candidate, who previously said he supported the idea of normalized relations, but wished the U.S. had negotiated a better deal.

Trump also said the U.S. has a broader obligation to stand with oppressed people — a comment that seems at odds with his "America first" mantra. "The next president of the United States must stand in solidarity with all people oppressed in our hemisphere, and we will stand with oppressed people, and there are many," he said.

He added that the people of Venezuela "are yearning to be free, they are yearning for help. The system is bad. But the people are great."

Trump has often cited the country as a model of a failed state, warning that if Clinton is elected, she'll turn the U.S. into Venezuela.

Associated Press writer Jill Colvin in Washington contributed to this report.

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Historic recognition: Washington's family tree is biracial By MATTHEW BARAKAT, Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — George Washington's adopted son was a bit of a ne'er-do-well by most accounts, including those of Washington himself, who wrote about his frustrations with the boy they called "Wash."

"From his infancy, I have discovered an almost unconquerable disposition to indolence in everything that did not tend to his amusements," the founding father wrote.

At the time, George Washington Parke Custis was 16 and attending Princeton, one of several schools he bounced in and out of. Before long, he was back home at Mount Vernon, where he would be accused of fathering children with slaves.

Two centuries later, the National Park Service and the nonprofit that runs Washington's Mount Vernon estate are concluding that the rumors were true: In separate exhibits, they show that the first family's family tree has been biracial from its earliest branches.

"There is no more pushing this history to the side," said Matthew Penrod, a National Park Service ranger and programs manager at Arlington House, where the lives of the Washingtons, their slaves and Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee all converged.

President George Washington had no direct descendants, and his wife Martha Custis was a widow when they married, but he adopted Martha's grandchildren — "Wash" and his sister "Nellie" — and raised them on his Mount Vernon estate.

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Parke Custis married Mary Fitzhugh in 1804, and they had one daughter who survived into adulthood, Mary Anna Randolph Custis. In 1831, she married her third cousin — Lee, who then served as a U.S. Army lieutenant.

Outside the marriage, Parke Custis likely fathered children with two of his stepfather's slaves: Arianna Carter, and Caroline Branham, according to the exhibits at Arlington House and Mount Vernon.

The first official acknowledgment came in June when the Park Service re-enacted the 1821 wedding of Maria Carter to Charles Syphax at Arlington House, the hilltop mansion overlooking the capital that Custis built (and Lee later managed) as a shrine to his adoptive stepfather. A new family tree, unveiled at the re-enactment, lists the bride's parents as Parke Custis and Arianna Carter.

"We fully recognize that the first family of this country was much more than what it appeared on the surface," Penrod said at the ceremony.

The privately run Mount Vernon estate explores this slave history in "Lives Bound Together," an exhibition opening this year that acknowledges that Parke Custis also likely fathered a girl named Lucy with slave Caroline Branham.

Tour guides were hardly this frank when Penrod started at Arlington House 26 years ago. Staffers were told to describe slave dwellings as "servants' quarters," and "the focus was on Lee, to honor him and show him in the most positive light," Penrod said.

He said no new, definitive evidence has surfaced to prove Parke Custis fathered girls with slaves; rather, the recognition reflects a growing sense that African-American history cannot be disregarded and that Arlington House represents more than Lee's legacy, he said.

Scientific proof would require matching the DNA of Carter and Branham descendants to the progeny of his daughter and the Confederate general, because the Parke Custis line runs exclusively through the offspring of his daughter and Robert E. Lee.

Stephen Hammond of Reston, a Syphax descendant, has researched his family tree extensively. He said the Park Service's recognition of the Custis' paternity is gratifying. "It's become a passion of mine, figuring out where we fit in American history," Hammond said.

Hammond said he and his cousins have yet to approach the Lee descendants to gauge their interest in genetic tests, and it's not clear how they feel about the official recognition — several didn't respond to Associated Press requests for comment.

Some family records are kept at Robert E. Lee's birthplace, Stratford Hall, but research director Judy Hynson said she knows of none that acknowledge Parke Custis fathered slaves.

"That's not something you would write down in your family Bible," Hynson said.

The circumstantial evidence includes the Carter-Syphax wedding in Arlington House — an unusual honor for slaves — and the fact that Parke Custis not only freed Maria Syphax and her sons before the Civil War, but set aside 17 acres on the estate for her.

Indeed, after Mount Vernon was seized by Union forces, an act of Congress ensured that land was returned to Maria Syphax's family. New York Sen. Ira Harris said then that Washington's adopted son had a special interest in her -- "something perhaps akin to a paternal instinct."

Oral histories also argue for shared bloodlines.

Maria Carter's descendants know, for example, that her name was pronounced "Ma-RYE-eh," not "Ma-REE-uh," said Donna Kunkel of Los Angeles, who portrayed her ancestor at the re-enactment.

"As a kid I would always tell people I was related to George Washington, but no one would believe me," she said.

Branham descendants include ZSun-nee Miller-Matema of Hagerstown, Md., who said "my aunt old me that if the truth of our family was known, it would topple the first families of Virginia."

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She said she discovered her truth by happenstance in the 1990s, when she spotted a portrait with a family resemblance while researching at the Alexandria Black History Museum for a stage production. A museum staffer soon sat her down with records. Eventually, she traced her ancestry to Caroline Branham, who appears in documents written in the first president's own hand.

"I just couldn't believe it," she said. "Gen. Washington was taking notes on my Caroline?"

As slaves, the women could not consent to the sexual advances of the plantation owner's adopted son, but Kunkel said she tries not to think of the acts as rape.

"I try to focus on the outcome. He treated Maria with respect after the fact," she said.

Incorporating these family histories into the nation's shared story is particularly important at a time of renewed racial tension, Miller-Matema said.

"We're all so much a part of each other," she said. "It just makes no sense any more to be a house divided."

Obama aims to define his global leadership in last UN speech By JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In one of his last major appearances on the world stage, President Barack Obama will try to define how his leadership has made the planet safer and more prosperous when he gives his farewell speech to the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday.

Obama's challenge at the annual gathering of world leaders is to cast the past eight years as ones of overall progress, without glossing over the profound problems that have eluded his diplomacy. His successes in galvanizing action on climate change and encouraging democratic changes in Cuba and Myanmar are tempered by crises across the Middle East and North Korea's nuclear threat, which has only strengthened.

Obama's U.N. ambassador, Samantha Power, said that when Obama came into office in early 2009, the U.S. was isolated. She said Obama had told fellow leaders he planned a "new era of engagement" that recognized countries must address common threats together.

"I think it's hard to overstate the transformative effect that this approach has had," Power said.

After raising money for Democrats on Sunday in New York, Obama planned to open his week of diplomacy by meeting with Iraq's prime minister, Haider al-Abadi, on Monday. Obama is counting on the Baghdad government to bridge sectarian divides and help fight the Islamic State group.

On Tuesday, Obama will deliver his U.N. address, attend a lunch with Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, meet with CEOs and host a summit on refugees. The U.S. has urged other nations to take in more migrants and help address the unprecedented refugee crisis stemming from Syria's civil war.

Obama is scheduled to meet on Tuesday with President Muhammadu Buhari of Nigeria, an African country struggling with a homegrown threat from the IS-linked extremist group Boko Haram. On Wednesday, Obama will participate in a U.S.-Africa forum and meet with Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos before returning to Washington.

Not on Obama's schedule is a formal meeting with the new president of the Philippines, Rodrigo Duterte. His antagonistic tone toward the U.S. was most clearly demonstrated this month when he called Obama a "son of a bitch," leading Obama to cancel a planned first meeting in Laos.

Back in 2009, when Obama first stood in the General Assembly Hall, he was the fresh-faced leader whose status as America's first black president had inspired hopes for a post-racial world. From the podium, Obama said he was fully aware "of the expectations that accompany my presidency" across the globe.

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"These expectations are not about me," Obama said. "Rather, they are rooted, I believe, in a discontent with a status quo that has allowed us to be increasingly defined by our differences, and outpaced by our problems. But they are also rooted in hope: the hope that real change is possible, and the hope that America will be a leader in bringing about such change."

He spoke of winding down wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, fighting climate change, and pursuing his "goal of a world without nuclear weapons." Obama would return to that third theme just three months later while accepting the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway, an honor that the former Nobel chief would later acknowledge had been premature.

In the years since, Obama brokered a global emissions-cutting agreement, brought the vast majority of U.S. troops home from war zones, and secured an historic deal with Iran to limit its nuclear program in exchange for sanctions relief.

The list of foreign trouble spots is just as long.

In Syria, a civil war has killed roughly half a million people. Though the U.S. has pursued a diplomatic course, including most recently a deal with Russia, Obama has come under heavy criticism for refusing to consider sending in U.S. troops.

His refugee summit appeared partly designed to blunt criticism that Obama is insufficiently disturbed by the millions of displaced Syrians.

The U.S. has been largely unable to get Russia to stop menacing in Ukraine or give back Crimea. Fresh conflicts have broken out in Libya and Yemen, and Obama has acknowledged that defeating IS will be an incomplete project the next president will inherit.

Officials said the week could include a Security Council session endorsing the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. The need for forceful global action on that issue was thrust into public view in the weeks before the U.N. gathering when North Korea conducted its fifth nuclear test.

Yet Obama's commitment to the nuclear issue has been called into question given the slow pace of progress in reducing nuclear stockpiles and his reluctance to enact a no-first-use policy for America's nuclear arsenal.

Reach Josh Lederman on Twitter at http://twitter.com/joshledermanAP

WHY IT MATTERS: Issues at stake in election

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

IRAN

Last year's nuclear deal with Tehran has removed for now the threat of a U.S.-Iranian military confrontation. But the deal rests on shaky ground.

The accord curtailed Iran's nuclear program, pulling it back from atomic weapons capability in exchange for the end of many economic sanctions.

But the next president could have his or her hands full, dealing with Iran in general and the agreement in particular. Various restrictions on Iran start ending in about seven years.

For Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, it's basically a question of continuity versus change.

As secretary of state, Clinton helped lay the groundwork for the pact. She supports it, while taking a generally tougher tone on Iran than President Barack Obama.

Trump hates the deal. But he contends that he can renegotiate its terms.

Both are prepared to use force to prevent Tehran from acquiring the bomb. If the deal collapses or

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expires without sufficient safeguards, that possibility is back in play.

REFUGEES

With millions of Syrians displaced by a yearslong war and hundreds of thousands of people fleeing to Europe, countries around the world are being pressed to help resettle people seeking refuge.

The United States pledged to accept 10,000 such refugees by the end of the budget year in September and did so, a month early.

Republicans have balked at the idea of allowing people from Syria into the United States and Donald Trump has called for a halt on refugee resettlement for them. He says vetting of these refugees is inadequate.

Hillary Clinton has pledged to expand the Syrian refugee program and allow as many as 65,000 such refugees into the United States.

The fate of the program almost certainly hinges on the outcome of the November election.

CHILD CARE/PAY EQUITY

In much of the U.S., families spend more on child care for two kids than on housing. And if you're a woman, it's likely you earn less than your male colleagues. That's according to the latest research, which suggests that while the U.S. economy has improved, women and their families are still struggling to make the numbers work.

Clinton wants a 12-week government-paid family and medical leave program, guaranteeing workers two-thirds of their wages up to a certain amount. Trump proposes six weeks of leave for new mothers, with the government paying wages equivalent to unemployment benefits. Both candidates propose tax relief for child care costs. Trump's plan provides for a new income tax deduction for child care expenses, other tax benefits and a new rebate or tax credit for low-income families. Clinton says no family should spend more than 10 percent of its income on child care and has called for child-care subsidies and tax relief offered on a sliding scale.

Clinton also favors forcing businesses to disclose gender pay data to the government for analysis. Trump says only that working moms should be "fairly compensated."

Women comprise about 57 percent of the labor force and many of them have young children. If they aren't getting paid enough to make ends meet, more families will seek out government aid programs or low-quality, unlicensed daycares for their children.

EDUCATION

Education is a core issue not just for students and families, but for communities, the economy, and the nation as a global competitor.

The country has some 50 million K-12 students. Teaching them, preparing them for college and careers, costs taxpayers more than \$580 billion a year, or about \$11,670 per pupil per year. A better education usually translates into higher earnings.

And while high school graduations are up sharply and dropout rates down, the nation has a ways to go to match the educational outcomes elsewhere. American schoolchildren trail their counterparts in Japan, Korea, Germany, France and more.

For students seeking higher education, they face rising college costs and many are saddled with debt. Hillary Clinton has proposed free tuition at in-state public colleges and universities for working families with incomes up to \$125,000 — free for families, that is, not for taxpayers. Donald Trump has focused on school choice, recently proposing to spend \$20 billion in his first year in office to expand programs

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that let low-income families send their children to the local public, private, charter or magnet school that they think is best.

IMMIGRATION

The future of millions of people living in the U.S. illegally could well be shaped by the presidential election. The stakes are high, too, for those who employ them, help them fit into neighborhoods, or want them gone.

Republican Donald Trump at first pledged to deport the estimated 11 million immigrants in the country illegally. Not only that, he'd build a wall all along the Mexican border. But his position has evolved. He's sticking to his vow to build the wall and make Mexico pay. But he's no longer proposing to deport people who have not committed crimes beyond their immigration offences. Still, he's not proposing a way for people living in the country illegally to gain legal status.

Democrat Hillary Clinton, in contrast, would overhaul immigration laws to include a path to citizenship, not just legal status.

Illegal immigration has been at nearly 40-year lows for several years. It even appears that Mexican migration trends have reversed, with more Mexicans leaving the U.S. than arriving. Billions of dollars have been spent in recent years to build fencing, improve border technology and expand the Border Patrol.

Nonetheless the Mexican border remains a focal point for those who argue that the country is not secure.

CLIMATE CHANGE

It's as if Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton live on two entirely different Earths: one warming, one not. Clinton says climate change threatens us all, while Trump repeatedly tweets that global warming is a hoax.

Measurements and scientists say Clinton's Earth is much closer to the warming reality. And it is worsening.

The world is on pace for the hottest year on record, breaking marks set in 2015, 2014, and 2010. It is about 1.8 degrees warmer than a century ago.

But it's more than temperatures. Scientists have connected man-made climate change to deadly heat waves, droughts and flood-inducing downpours.

Studies say climate change is raising sea levels, melting ice and killing coral. It's making people sicker with asthma and allergies and may eventually shrink our bank accounts.

The American Association for the Advancement of Sciences says warming can be highly damaging to people and the planet and potentially irreversible.

ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

It's the Goldilocks conundrum of American politics: Is the government too big, too small or just right? Every four years, the presidential election offers a referendum on whether Washington should do more or less.

Donald Trump favors cutting regulation and has promised massive tax cuts, but his plans are expected to add trillions to the national debt. Unlike most conservatives, he supports eminent domain and has spoken positively about government-run health care. And don't forget that massive border wall. Hillary Clinton has vowed new spending on education and infrastructure that could grow government, too. She strongly supports "Obamacare," which most small government proponents see as overreach.

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At its heart, the debate about government's reach pits the desire to know your basic needs will be cared for against the desire to be left alone. For the last few decades, polls have found Americans generally feel frustrated by the federal government and think it's wasteful. A smaller government sounds good to a lot of people until they're asked what specific services or benefits they are willing to do without.

DEBT

The federal government is borrowing about one out of seven dollars it spends and steadily piling up debt. Over the long term, that threatens the economy and people's 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. Lawmakers instead prefer higher spending and tax cuts.

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

Trump has promised massive tax cuts that would drive up the debt and he's shown little interest in curbing expensive benefit programs like Medicare.

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 health care.

TRADE

In this angry election year, many American voters are skeptical about free trade — or hostile to it. The backlash threatens a pillar of U.S. policy: The United States has long sought global trade. Economists say imports cut prices for consumers and make the U.S. more efficient.

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

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

Donald Trump vows to tear up existing trade deals and to slap huge tariffs on Chinese imports.

But trade deals have far less impact on jobs than forces such as automation and wage differences between countries. Trump's plans to impose tariffs could start a trade war and raise prices.

SUPREME COURT

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

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

The ninth justice will push the court left or right, depending on whether Democrat Hillary Clinton or

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Republican Donald Trump becomes president. President Barack Obama has nominated Merrick Garland to take Scalia's seat, but the Republican Senate has refused to consider Garland's nomination, in an effort to prevent a liberal court majority.

CHINA

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

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

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

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

INCOME INEQUALITY

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

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

Donald Trump offers a blunter message about a system "rigged" against average Americans. To bring back jobs, Trump has promised new trade deals with better terms, greater infrastructure spending than Clinton foresees and tax cuts that he says would propel stronger growth (though independent analysts say his budget plans would raise deficits).

OPIOID EPIDEMIC

More than 28,000 Americans died from overdosing on opioids in 2014, a record high for the nation. That's 78 people per day, a number that doesn't include the millions of family members, first responders and even taxpayers who feel the ripple of drug addiction in their daily lives.

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

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

Donald Trump says the wall he wants to build along the southern border is essential to stopping the

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flow of illegal drugs into the country. Hillary Clinton, meanwhile, pledges to spend \$10 billion to increase access to prevention, treatment and recovery services, among other things.

NORTH KOREA

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

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

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

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

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

HEALTH CARE

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

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

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

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

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

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

AMERICA AND THE WORLD

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

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

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

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

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VOTING RIGHTS

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

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

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

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

Associated Press writers Bradley Klapper, Anne Flaherty, Jennifer C. Kerr, Alicia A. Caldwell, Seth Borenstein, Josh Lederman, Andrew Taylor, Kathleen Ronayne, and Paul Wiseman, Mark Sherman, Josh Boak, Matthew Pennington, Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar, Robert Burns and Hope Yen in Washington contributed to this report.

This story is part of AP's "Why It Matters" series, which will examine three dozen issues at stake in the presidential election between now and Election Day. You can find them at: http://apne.ws/2bBG85a

Trump criticized for bait and switch on 'birther' statement By DAVID BAUDER, AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump's renouncement of birtherism came with some media gamesmanship that compelled television news networks to air 20 minutes of endorsements by retired military men before the candidate briefly got to the point.

"We all got Rick-rolled," said CNN's Jake Tapper, a reference to the Internet prank of replacing an expected link with a video of singer Rick Astley's 1987 hit, "Never Gonna Give You Up."

The bad blood continued after the Friday morning event when the Trump campaign barred text reporters and a television producer from joining him on a tour of the new Trump International Hotel in Washington. In response, cable and broadcast networks refused to use any video of the tour.

Trump's long-expressed doubts that Obama was born in the United States — despite a birth certificate proving Obama's eligibility for the presidency — resurfaced with a Washington Post interview on Thursday where Trump would not say whether or not he believed the president was born in Hawaii in 1961.

With criticism of his birther movement starting anew, Trump's campaign signaled that the candidate would address the issue Friday at a Washington event. When Trump stepped to the podium at 11:04 a.m. EDT, he was carried live on CNN, Fox News Channel and MSNBC.

Following a short statement that didn't address the birther issue, Trump stepped aside for a succession of Medal of Honor recipients to approach the microphone and endorse him.

The networks stuck with the event, essentially a Trump commercial, until Fox News Channel pulled away at 11:25 a.m. for a studio discussion and the other two networks shortly followed suit. By 11:30,

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Trump stepped back to the podium and all the networks went back to him live.

After claiming that opponent Hillary Clinton had started the birther discussion, a false claim for which he offered no evidence, Trump took credit for ending it.

"President Barack Obama was born in the United States," Trump said. "Period. Now we all want to get back to making America strong and great again."

He then stepped away without taking questions.

Tapper called the appearance "a disservice to the people who were offended by that movement, people who thought it was racist."

"What they did was tease us, play us," said CNN's Dana Bash, saying the networks would not have aired the veterans' statements otherwise.

Bash isn't likely to find much sympathy among Trump supporters, many of whom distrust and dislike the media. Ripping reporters is a time-honored tactic among Republican office-seekers, and Trump has eagerly joined in.

"It was political and media genius," said Melissa Francis during the Fox News program "Outnumbered." What it amounted to was the equivalent of over \$1 million worth of free media time for Trump, estimated Democratic strategist Chris Kofinis.

"You don't think Hillary wants her events to be covered like this? Of course she does," Kofinis said. "It's more than a question of fairness. It really is a question of responsibility. This is not a reality TV show. I'm not sure that everyone has come to terms with that."

The cable networks need to take greater control over their airtime and not just cede it on the promise of getting news, or the hope of getting a boost in viewership, said Mark Feldstein, a former broadcast journalist and now a professor at the University of Maryland.

"They are more than willing to swallow the bait because they know the ratings are going to go up when Trump goes on the air — even when their credibility goes down when they realize he has conned them," he said.

It comes after a TV-friendly day where Trump discussed some of his medical records with talk show host Mehmet Oz, drawing laughter and applause when the television doctor said Trump had high testosterone levels, and "Tonight" show host Jimmy Fallon playfully mussed the candidate's hair during a light-hearted interview.

Following the Washington event, Trump's campaign invited the television network's pool camera to join him on a tour of his Washington hotel. Reporters were barred. ABC News producer Candace Smith, Friday's pool representative who usually accompanies the camera operator and reports back to her colleagues about what she saw, tweeted that she was "physically restrained" from doing so.

For Trump, it ensured that no one would immediately question what CNN's John King called "the biggest flip-flop of the campaign."

Television networks agreed not to use the camera person's footage. "The TV pool traditionally doesn't participate in events that our reporters or producers are not allowed to attend," said Bryan Boughton, Fox News Washington bureau chief and current chairman of the TV pool.

Associated Press writer Lisa Lerer in Washington contributed to this report.

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Guantanamo prisoner says Saudi 'royal' involved in terrorism By BEN FOX, Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — An accused al-Qaida bomb-maker who went to college in Arizona told military officials at the U.S. base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, that he believed an unnamed member of the Saudi royal family was part of an effort to recruit him for violent extremist acts before the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, according to a newly released transcript.

Ghassan Abdallah al-Sharbi said a religious figure in Saudi Arabia used the term "your highness" during a telephone conversation with a man, just before urging al-Sharbi to return to the U.S. and take part in a plot against the U.S. that would involve learning to fly a plane.

The Sept. 11 commission found there was no evidence to indicate that the Saudi government as an institution or Saudi senior officials individually had supported the attacks, and the kingdom's government has consistently denied it had any role in the plot.

It was early 2001, and al-Sharbi had only recently returned from the United States, where he had taken some flight school courses in Phoenix with two men who would become hijackers in the 9/11 attacks.

Al-Sharbi described the conversation in June to the Periodic Review Board, which assesses whether Guantanamo prisoners can be released. The Pentagon on Thursday posted a transcript, with parts blacked out, on the website of the board, which includes representatives from six U.S. agencies and departments.

The statement is convoluted and lacks important details, such as whether the "religious figure" might be close to any Saudi officials. It does not indicate who the Saudi royal might be. The term can be used for thousands of members of the Saudi royal family; al-Sharbi did not say he met the man.

Al-Sharbi also appears to be struggling with illness. He tells the board he had just come from the detainee hospital, is "really exhausted, and nauseous and lethargic," and uses what is described as a "manual breathing device."

His statement adds to a list of suggestive but hardly definitive clues about possible involvement by members of the Saudi establishment in the Sept. 11 attacks, in which 17 of the 19 hijackers were Saudi.

The Saudi Embassy in Washington declined to comment on the al-Sharbi transcript. In the past, the Saudis have pointed to the 9/11 Commission, FBI investigations and other probes that found no Saudi government or royal family involvement in the attacks.

Those denials have not ended speculation about possible Saudi involvement. Congress recently approved legislation that would allow 9/11 families to sue the kingdom for any role in the plot.

Al-Sharbi says he listened as the "religious figure" spoke to the man — whom al-Sharbi believes was a royal — as they discussed al-Sharbi's qualifications for returning to the U.S. for jihad. "I remember, 'yes, your highness, yes your highness,' and he was talking to him about me," al-Sharbi said.

Saudi Arabia has battled with al-Qaida over the years, but there have been consistent allegations, including by Guantanamo prisoners, of financial and other support by officials and members of the royal family for al-Qaida-linked charities, said terrorism consultant Evan Kohlmann, who reviewed the 28-page transcript at the request of The Associated Press.

"The Saudi royal family is quite large and diverse, and it is no secret that various members were once reputed for their patronage of Islamist causes and charities," Kohlmann said. "In that light, it is hardly ridiculous that al-Sharbi would have encountered a Saudi royal who sympathized with al-Qaida and Osama Bin Laden." Bin Laden was a Saudi citizen.

The prisoner's candor about his health also may add to what is otherwise a plausible allegation, said

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Max Abrahms, an assistant political science professor at Northeastern University who studies terrorism. Abrahms also reviewed the transcript.

"He is very open that he is really struggling physically, that he's exhausted, that he has been under serious medication," Abrahms said. "But on the other hand it lends additional credibility to his statement because it's not very deliberate and not memorized."

A Guantanamo spokesman, Navy Capt. John Filostrat, said the military does not disclose details about detainees' health. "Overall, the general health of detainees is good," he said.

Al-Sharbi attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona, from 1999-2000, according to the review board website.

In the transcript, the prisoner described living with various Americans, including a Phoenix police officer, in Arizona and California before returning to Saudi Arabia in the summer of 2000.

After telling the "religious figure" that he had some practice on a flight simulator and could learn to fly more easily than others, al-Sharbi says he agreed to return to the U.S and they began to discuss details. But al-Sharbi never went, for reasons that are unclear in the transcript.

The review board profile says al-Sharbi went to Afghanistan in the summer of 2001, trained with al-Qaida and then went to Pakistan, where he learned how to make remote-controlled explosive devices and teach the skill to others. He was captured there in a house with Abu Zubaydah, whom the U.S. has called an al-Qaida "facilitator." He, too, is confined at Guantanamo.

When captured, the FBI found a buried a cache of documents nearby, including an envelope from the Saudi Embassy in Washington that contained al-Sharbi's flight certificate, according to a document known as File 17, which was declassified earlier this year and names people the hijackers were in contact with in the United States before the attacks, including diplomats of the kingdom.

In July, the review board declined to approve his release from Guantanamo, where he is among 61 prisoners still held.

Associated Press writer Deb Riechmann in Washington contributed to this report.

Trump closes door on one falsehood, opens door to another By JILL COLVIN and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even as Donald Trump sought to close the door on the false conspiracy theory that President Barack Obama wasn't born in the United States, he peddled another lie by claiming that his Democratic rival, Hillary Clinton, was behind it. There is no evidence that is true.

"Hillary Clinton and her campaign of 2008 started the birther controversy. I finished it," Trump declared Friday in a brief statement at the end of a televised campaign appearance in which he touted his new hotel and his endorsements from military veterans.

"President Barack Obama was born in the United States, period," he added. "Now we all want to get back to making America strong and great again."

It was a spectacle that exemplified all the most extraordinary aspects of Trump's unorthodox candidacy: his ability to game the media, his embrace of conspiracy theories, and his pattern of repeating fallacies, even in the face of contradicting facts. And it centered around the "birther" issue that fueled his political rise.

His appearance, in a sprawling ballroom at Trump International Hotel near the White House, turned into a de facto commercial for his campaign and property, as the major cable news networks aired the full event live in anticipation of comments Trump had hyped for hours.

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"I'm going to be making a major statement on this whole thing and what Hillary did," he told the Fox Business Network. "We have to keep the suspense going, OK?"

While some backers of Clinton's primary campaign against Obama eight years ago raised the question of Obama's birthplace, Clinton herself has long denounced it as a "racist lie."

"Trump has spent years peddling a racist conspiracy aimed at undermining the first African-American president," Clinton tweeted after his event. "He can't just take it back."

Trump was the most prominent proponent of the "birther" idea, using it to build his political profile and his conservative credentials. Friday marked the first time he said in no uncertain terms Obama was U.S. born, but he left without taking questions and did not explain how or when he'd come to that conclusion.

As late as Wednesday, Trump was refusing to acknowledge Obama was born in Hawaii, saying in an interview that he'd "answer that question at the right time."

Hours later, Trump campaign spokesman Jason Miller issued a statement that suggested the question had been settled five years ago — by Trump. Yet the facts do not match Miller's description of the issue.

"In 2011, Mr. Trump was finally able to bring this ugly incident to its conclusion by successfully compelling President Obama to release his birth certificate," Miller said.

"Mr. Trump did a great service to the president and the country by bringing closure to the issue that Hillary Clinton and her team first raised," he added.

In fact, Trump repeatedly continued to question Obama's birth in the years after the president released his birth certificate. In August 2012, for example, Trump was pushing the issue on Twitter.

"An 'extremely credible source' has called my office and told me that @BarackObama's birth certificate is a fraud," he wrote.

Even in January of this year, Trump sounded skeptical when asked whether he now believed the president was a natural-born citizen.

"Who knows? Who cares right now? We're talking about something else, OK?" Trump said in a CNN interview. "I mean, I have my own theory on Obama. Someday I'll write a book."

Trump's reversal comes as he works to win over African-American voters, many of whom have been turned off by his attempt to delegitimize the nation's first black president.

Obama said Friday that he hoped the election would focus on more serious issues — and that he was "pretty confident about where I was born."

Associated Press writers Ken Thomas and Josh Lederman contributed to this report.

Follow Colvin and Lemire on Twitter at https://twitter.com/colvinj and https://twitter.com/JonLemire

Police end lock down of Denver hospital amid gun report

DENVER (AP) — Police locked down a Denver hospital complex Friday amid reports that gunshots were fired and a man was seen carrying a rifle on the grounds.

Officer Tyrone Campbell said a room-by-room search of Rose Medical Center was completed Friday night, and everyone who was told to shelter in place has been allowed to go home.

Police are still looking for a man who was seen with a gun earlier in the day. He was described as white, in his mid-30s and wearing a flannel shirt and hat.

No injuries were reported, and investigators did not confirm if any shots had been fired.

During the lockdown, police officers carrying long guns surrounded the facility east of downtown, and

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several roads were closed and blocked by patrol cars.

Armed officers climbed to the roofs of buildings, and an adjacent Veterans Administration hospital also was locked down as a precaution.

Campbell said authorities received multiple telephone calls reporting shots had been fired in the area surrounding the medical center shortly after 4:15 p.m.

Today in HistoryBy The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Sept. 18, the 262nd day of 2016. There are 104 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 18, 1793, President George Washington laid the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol.

On this date:

In A.D. 14, the Roman Senate officially confirmed Tiberius as the second emperor of the Roman Empire, succeeding the late Augustus.

In 1759, the French formally surrendered Quebec to the British.

In 1810, Chile made its initial declaration of independence from Spain with the forming of a national junta.

In 1927, the Columbia Phonograph Broadcasting System (later CBS) made its on-air debut with a basic network of 16 radio stations.

In 1931, an explosion in the Chinese city of Mukden damaged a section of Japanese-owned railway track; Japan, blaming Chinese nationalists, invaded Manchuria the next day.

In 1947, the National Security Act, which created a National Military Establishment and the position of Secretary of Defense, went into effect.

In 1959, during his U.S. tour, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev visited Wall Street, the Empire State Building and the grave of President Franklin D. Roosevelt; in a speech to the U.N. General Assembly, Khrushchev called on all countries to disarm.

In 1961, United Nations Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold (dahg HAWM'-ahr-shoold) was killed in a plane crash in northern Rhodesia.

In 1970, rock star Jimi Hendrix died in London at age 27.

In 1975, newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst was captured by the FBI in San Francisco, 19 months after being kidnapped by the Symbionese Liberation Army.

In 1981, a museum honoring former President Gerald R. Ford was dedicated in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

In 1990, the city of Atlanta was named the site of the 1996 Summer Olympics.

Ten years ago: An Iranian-American telecommunications entrepreneur, Anousheh Ansari (ah-NOO'shuh an-SAH'-ree), took off on a Russian rocket bound for the international space station, becoming the world's first paying female space tourist. Aboard the space station, an oxygen generator overheated and spilled a toxic irritant, forcing the crew to don masks and gloves in the first emergency ever declared aboard the 8-year-old orbiting outpost.

Five years ago: Dominique Strauss-Kahn, former head of the International Monetary Fund, broke his silence four months after a New York hotel maid accused him of sexual assault, calling his encounter with the woman a "moral failing" he deeply regretted, but insisting in an interview on French television that no violence was involved. A magnitude 6.9 earthquake shook northeastern India and Nepal,

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resulting in some 100 deaths. For a second year, Emmy Awards for drama and comedy went to "Mad Men" and "Modern Family."

One year ago: The Environmental Protection Agency said Volkswagen had intentionally skirted clean air laws by using software that enabled about 500,000 of its diesel cars to emit fewer smog-causing pollutants during testing than in real-world driving conditions; the EPA ordered VW to fix the cars at its own expense. President Barack Obama announced he would nominate longtime Pentagon official Eric Fanning to be the Army's new secretary; Fanning became the nation's first openly gay leader of a military service. Authorities in Boston announced that they had identified "Baby Doe," a young girl whose body was found on Deer Island in Winthrop the previous June, as two-year-old Bella Bond. (The boyfriend of Bella's mother was charged with murder while the mother was accused of helping conceal the body; both have yet to stand trial.)

Today's Birthdays: Voice actress June Foray is 99. Singer Jimmie Rodgers is 83. Actor Robert Blake is 83. Actor Fred Willard is 83. Actor Eddie Jones is 82. Gospel singer Bobby Jones is 78. Singer Frankie Avalon is 76. Actress Beth Grant is 67. Rock musician Kerry Livgren is 67. Actress Anna Deavere Smith is 66. Basketball Hall of Fame coach Rick Pitino is 64. College Football Hall of Famer and retired NFL player Billy Sims is 61. Movie director Mark Romanek is 57. Baseball Hall of Famer Ryne Sandberg is 57. Alt-country-rock musician Mark Olson is 55. Singer Joanne Catherall (Human League) is 54. Actress Holly Robinson Peete is 52. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ricky Bell (Bell Biv Devoe and New Edition) is 49. Actress Aisha Tyler is 46. Former racing cyclist Lance Armstrong is 45. Opera singer Anna Netrebko is 45. Actress Jada Pinkett Smith is 45. Actor James Marsden is 43. Actress Emily Rutherfurd is 42. Actor Travis Schuldt is 42. Rapper Xzibit is 42. Comedian-actor Jason Sudeikis is 41. Actress Sophina Brown is 40. Actor Barrett Foa is 39. Talk show co-host Sara Haines (TV: "The View") is 39. Actress Alison Lohman is 37. Actors Brandon and Taylor Porter are 23. Actor C.J. Sanders is 20.

Thought for Today: "We want the facts to fit the preconceptions. When they don't it is easier to ignore the facts than to change the preconceptions." — Jessamyn West, American author (1902-1984).