

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 1 of 61

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Midwest Masonry Ad
- 2- Senior Citizens at RSVP Recognition
- 3- Rep. Noem's Column
- 4- Fall is a great time to mulch trees
- 5- Thinking About Health Column
- 7 - Finch is changing money management for the better
- 8- Living History Festival
- 9- Today in Weather History
- 9- City Council Meeting Agenda
- 10- Local Weather Forecast
- 11- Yesterday's Groton Weather
- 11- Today's Weather Climate
- 11- National Weather map
- 12- Golden Living Ad
- 12- Daily Devotional
- 13 - AP News

Today

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 broccoli, 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

20

National Punch Day

School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice or milk.

School Lunch: Turkey gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, tea bun, fruit.

Senior Menu: Roast pork, baked potato with sour cream, squash, apple sauce, Molasses cookie, whole wheat bread.

Anniversaries: • Chuck & Sheila Johnson

Birthdays: • Marjory Townsend • Jordan Fliehs

10:00am: **United Methodist Women's Bible Study**

10:00 am: **Bridge Card Tourney@ OG**

4:00pm: **JH FB hosts Milbank Area (7th at 4 p.m., 8th at 5 pm)**

4:30pm: **VB: hosts Warner (7th/C at 4:30, 8th/JV at 6:00, varsity to follow)**



GDILIVE.COM
livestream
Many Groton
Area activities are
Livestreamed by the
Groton Daily
INDEPENDENT
Your Main Source for Community News, Sports and Important Announcements

605/397-NEWS
(6397)

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**

© 2016 Groton Daily Independent

Midwest Masonry & Concrete Pumping

Greg Heilman, owner

405 E 1st Ave., Groton

Greg: 253/929-9137

Mike: 605/492-7041

midwestmasonry1@yahoo.com



Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 2 of 61



GROTON SENIOR CITIZENS AT BROWN COUNTY RSVP RECOGNITION EVENT IN ABERDEEN, SEPTEMBER 15. Kneeling, l-r- Wally Fischer and Lee Schinkel. Front row, Pat Larson. Back row, L-r, Eunice McCollister, Darlene Fischer. DeLoris Knoll, Ella Johnson, Beulah Hoops, Ruth and Bob Pray, and Grace Albrecht. Ella Johnson is Groton's president. Beulah and Ella were honored for 10 years of volunteer service, and Eunice, for 5 years.



Classroom to Career

Every few months, I have the opportunity to welcome a new business to the state. Almost every time, I hear versions of the following: "We started in (or expanded to) this area, because South Dakotans have the skills needed to do the job right – and the work ethic to do it right now." This is not by accident. In addition to smart economic policies that create opportunities for employers to grow, South Dakota has a strong tradition of starting careers in the classroom.

Much of this job-ready teaching is done through Career and Technical Education (or CTE) programs in high school. Shop and home-ec were the CTE classes of my generation (and maybe yours), but today, South Dakota's young people have access to courses that offer job-ready training in everything from IT and healthcare to skilled trades, like plumbing and welding. Organizations like FFA, DECA, FCCLA, and FBLA also offer CTE opportunities, giving young people hands-on experiences in leadership, problem solving, and communication – translatable skills that students can take with them regardless of where the job market may lead.

In addition to offering opportunities for young people to pursue good-paying jobs in industries that are critical to our economy, a strong CTE program equips employers with a skilled workforce, ready to fill the jobs that are available.

Earlier this month, I helped the House pass the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, which improves the federal programs that support many CTE opportunities in South Dakota and across the country.

It's been more than a decade since Congress weighed in on how federal investments into these programs are made. As a result, they no longer reflect the realities and challenges facing today's students and workers.

Among other things, our legislation offers states and localities more flexibility, so the programs implemented can better target the community's needs. Additionally, it encourages stronger engagement with local employers and meaningful credentialing so students are prepared to enter the workforce prepared for success.

Additionally, the legislation helps link high school curriculum to postsecondary education, investing equally in both areas. That's especially beneficial to South Dakota, which has some of the nation's top community colleges. In fact, Lake Area Technical Institute (LATI) near Watertown was just recognized as one of ten finalists for the 2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence – a distinction that could come with a \$1 million prize if LATI comes out on top. The final winner will be announced in March of next year, but regardless of the outcome, a spot in the finals is an incredible distinction.

I'm always proud to represent people with the work ethic of South Dakotans. Investing in CTE programs means we're investing into that work ethic and equipping young people in the classroom with the skills needed to be successful in the career of their choosing.

Fall Is a Great Time to Mulch Trees

"I know we're supposed to do something to our trees in the fall, but what?"

Tree owners often feel compelled to spray, prune or apply something to their trees and landscape plants on a regular basis. But, unless there is a specific reason to spray, prune or apply things to landscape trees, the best thing to "do" to keep your trees healthy is apply a layer of composted mulch.

"Fall is a great time to be out in the yard spreading shovels-full of composted woodchip mulch under your trees," says Tchukki Andersen, BCMA, CTSP* and staff arborist with the Tree Care Industry Association. "Trees with mulched root zones are usually larger, healthier, develop faster and have higher rates of survival than plants surrounded by turf grass or bare dirt. Mulches retain soil moisture and nutrients and reduce erosion and soil compaction."

Mulched trees also have fewer weeds growing near the trunk, which reduces the need for the roots to compete for limited resources. The soil under the mulch also likely stays warmer longer into the winter and also warms faster in the spring, helping extend the growing season for plants in colder regions.

Natural mulches are a favorite among professional arborists, who view wood chips as an excellent, attractive mulch for trees. Other natural mulches include bark chips, ground bark, composted lawn clippings, leaves and straw. These mulches are high in cellulose and low in nitrogen, and should be free of weed seeds.

Good mulching

How Wide is Wide? A good mulch bed should extend out at least three feet from a tree's trunk in all directions, though extending out to the dripline is preferred. This is where the fine, absorbing tree roots extend out into the soil, and mulch provides many health-related benefits for those roots. Keep all mulches several inches away from the base of the tree to avoid rot and diseases.

How Deep is Deep? The mulch bed depth should be maintained at 2 to 4 inches.

Go Ahead, Cover the Grass! If there is grass in the area that needs to be mulched, put a five-page layer of newspaper over the grass, get it wet, then add mulch on top (this will help keep the grass from growing up through the mulch).

Use the Right Mulch. For poor soils, use well-composted mulch to build up the nutrients. Soils that are healthy will do fine with a highly stable softwood bark (such as cypress bark), which doesn't break down as easily.

Measure the pH content. Checking the pH content of the mulch ensures it is compatible with the tree and soil.

Bad mulching

No Volcanoes, Please! The biggest no-no when mulching is to create a "mulch volcano" that is piled high around the base of the tree. This practice traps moisture around the tree trunk and root flare leading to decay and, eventually, structural failure.

Avoid Fine Mulch. Thick blankets of fine mulch can become matted and prevent the penetration of water and air.

Don't Let Mulch Sour. Low oxygen levels (from packed mulch) creates a toxic "sour" mulch - which may give off pungent odors. Even worse, the compounds produced during the souring process (methanol and acetic acid) can kill young plants.

Don't Keep Adding New Mulch on Top of the Old. While mulch does decompose, you do not want to accumulate excessive mulch year after year by adding fresh mulch every spring. If you want the look of fresh mulch, break up the old with a rake, and only add a layer of new on top if there is less than 4 inches in depth.

What can you do?

A professional arborist can assess your landscape and work with you to determine the best trees to plant. Contact the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA), a public and professional resource on trees and arboriculture since 1938. It has more than 2,300 member tree care firms and affiliated companies who recognize stringent safety and performance standards and who are required to carry liability insurance. TCIA has the nation's only Accreditation program that helps consumers find tree care companies that have been inspected and accredited based on: adherence to industry standards for quality and safety; maintenance of trained, professional staff; and dedication to ethics and quality in business practices. An easy way to find a tree care service provider in your area is to use the "Locate Your Local TCIA Member Companies" program. You can use this service by calling 1-800-733-2622 or by doing a ZIP Code search on www.treecaretips.org.

* Board Certified Master Arborist, Certified Treecare Safety Professional

THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

Obesity Rates Fall in a Few States but Are Still Far Higher Than in 1990

By Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health News Service

Is the message that the nation is getting too fat beginning to sink in?

The answer is "yes but," says the Trust for America's Health, a nonprofit, non-partisan group that aims to protect the health of communities and make disease prevention a national priority. And a study of health-care quality and quantity across the nation suggests some reasons why things are not improving uniformly.

Obesity is a disease, and for the last 13 years the Trust and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation have monitored obesity rates in the country, focusing on the proportion of a state's population that is obese. The study designates someone as obese whose body mass index (a measure based on height and weight) is 30 or higher.

This year's results show that after a decade in which every state's obese population rose, a few states have finally experienced a decrease.

"We're seeing the rates plateau albeit at a very high level," says Richard Hamburg, the interim president of the Trust.

Although rates have dropped in Montana, Minnesota, New York, and Ohio, even those decreased rates are still high. Twenty-six percent of adults in Minnesota were still considered obese, and nearly 30 percent were in Ohio. Even in the states with the lowest rates - Colorado, California, Utah, Montana, Hawaii and Massachusetts - rates remain between 20 and 25 percent.

Twenty-two of the 25 states with the highest adult obesity rates are in the South and Midwest, including Kansas and Kentucky, both of which experienced an increase.

To put this in perspective, Hamburg told me that in 1980 no state had a rate above 15 percent; in 1990 no rate was above 20 percent. "Colorado is the healthiest state but exceeded the 20 percent rate years ago," he said.

What happened? Hamburg explained that many societal changes have conspired to increase obesity rates. Children have less opportunity for physical activities; parents are no longer comfortable sending their kids out to play and telling them to come home by dark.

Other reasons?

Sedentary activities like computer games have replaced physical activity.

Many schools no longer offer physical education, and are not always open for physical activity after the school day ends.

More kids arrive at school via car or bus. In 1969, 89 percent of kids walked or rode their bikes to school. By 2009, the number had dropped to 35 percent.

Eating habits are different, too, with families eating more often in restaurants, including fast food establishments, and consuming more added sugars and fats. Many families eat at McDonalds or Burger King a few times a week, but even if they cooked at home, they might not be eating "healthy" because they don't have access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

Hamburg told me 30 million people don't have easy access to a supermarket; many residents in dense urban areas have to walk or take public transportation more than a mile to get more than a "convenience store" selection. Many in rural areas must drive 10 miles or more.

Powerful marketing from the food industry is also a culprit, beckoning consumers to eat pizza, overstuffed tacos, and sodas without regard for the effect on their weight or health.

I usually don't pay much attention to state rankings from various groups. Most people aren't going to move to another state just because it ranks better on whatever is being measured. But this time I did because as the obesity report came out, a personal finance website, WalletHub, announced its latest report "2016's States with the Best & Worst Health Care." And I was struck by a possible connection.

What did WalletHub have to say about those states in the South and Midwest with high numbers of people who are obese? Were they getting routine examinations, and dental care? Were physicians accepting Medicare? Were there adequate hospital beds particularly, in rural areas where many hospitals have closed?

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 6 of 61

Now I didn't attempt to do a scientific correlation, and there may be many reasons why a state's health-care system ranks high or low on the WalletHub site. But for me, the take-away from these studies is that communities must offer not only treatment for health problems relating to obesity but also ways to prevent the underlying cause in the first place.

Communities must have not just enough and appropriate medical facilities and personnel but also programs to encourage better eating habits and more physical activity.

The Trust report offers suggestions that point in that direction. To learn more about how your state ranks on both these studies, go to stateofobesity.org and wallethub.com.

What is your community doing to address the obesity problem? Write to Trudy at trudy.lieberman@gmail.com.

Fintech is Changing Money Management for the Better

By Nathaniel Sillin

Are you stressed about managing your money? Most of us are at one time or another. Whether you're trying to track your spending or invest spare change, fintech (financial technology) is here to ease your money worries. That's the promise of the entrepreneurs and engineers working in one of Silicon Valley's fastest growing industries.

Five Ways Fintech Can Help

Here are just a few examples of how fintech services could help you with your personal finances.

Budgeting easily and efficiently. There are budgeting apps that sync with your financial accounts to let you track your spending and savings in real time. You can even track spending in different categories, receive notifications when you exceed your budget and analyze the data to see where you spend most of your paycheck.

Saving money automatically. Apps can make it easy to grow your savings. Some services use algorithms to calculate how much you can afford to save, and then automatically transfer the money to your savings account.

Investing with minimal effort. Technology has made investing straightforward and inexpensive. Robo advisors are computerized investment management services that offer low fees, a simple setup and customized investment strategies. Using a robo advisor, you can let a computer create and manage your investment portfolio with just a few clicks.

Getting paid back quickly. Say goodbye to post-meal negotiation as you and your friends try to split the check. Mobile apps linked to checking accounts let you send and receive money instantaneously.

Comparing loan offers. There are online services that allow you to enter your information once and receive loan offers from competing lenders. The shopping tools let you compare interest rates and terms, which could save you money over the lifetime of the loan.

You might also be benefiting from fintech developments without realizing it. For example, new technology could be powering your bank's online chat service or suspicious activity alerts.

Keeping Your Finances and Information Secure

Even if a new app or service seems reputable, it's important to take steps to safeguard your finances and personal information.

Always research an app or service. Search the name of the app or company and look for reviews. Positive reviews by major media outlets are usually a good sign that the service is considered reliable.

Improve your password security. Password protection is an important aspect of online security. Don't use the same password for two accounts, financial or other, and try to use two-factor authentication, meaning someone can't log in with your password alone.

Use biometric authentication. Some banks offer biometric authentication that you can use to access your account from your phone. Rather than type in a password, the phone's camera or microphone can verify your identity with your fingerprint, eye, face or voice.

Enable location-based alerts. Geolocation tracking can add an extra layer of security to your account. With your permission, banks can use GPS data from your smartphone to help verify that you're with your card when it's used for a purchase.

Use several accounts. Keeping your assets in several accounts can help limit your risk. Even if one account is attacked, you'll have access to your other money while the financial institution looks into the matter and makes you whole.

Bottom Line: Fintech is changing the way people save, spend, borrow and manage their money. Though there are important security risks to consider, these new innovative and intuitive services offer something for everyone.

Nathaniel Sillin directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Practical Money Skills on Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney.



Dacotah Prairie Museum's

Living History Fall Festival

Saturday, September 24, 2016

11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Granary Rural Cultural Center

40161 128th St., Groton, SD

See The Past Come Alive!

THE SIGHTS, SOUNDS & TASTES OF HISTORY...

Live Music • Dacotah Territory Muzzleloaders • Spelling Bee for Kids at 1 p.m.
Prairie Fiber Arts Guild • Native American Culture • Prairie Flora & Fauna • Apple Press
Fort Sisseton History • Pioneer Home Life • One Room School • Museum Gift Shop
Old Fashioned Entertainment • Pie Social 1 - 4 p.m. • Kid's Activities & Much More!

Concessions by: **THE BRASS KETTLE**

**COME DRESSED IN FRONTIER
COSTUME—GET A PRIZE!**

FREE ADMISSION

Find the Granary:

5 Mi. North of US Hwy 12—Between Aberdeen & Groton.
Near Tacoma Park. Printable driving directions online.

Sponsored by Dacotah Prairie Museum

www.dacotahpraiemuseum.com
Granary Website: granaryfinearts.org



Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 9 of 61

Today in Weather History

September 19, 1991: Record to near record cold hit central and northeast South Dakota on this day. Temperatures fell into the 20s during the morning bringing a hard freeze to much of the area. Pierre and Mobridge had record lows of 24 degrees while Timber Lake set a record low of 21 degrees. Near record lows of 28 degrees and 22 degrees occurred at Aberdeen and Kennebec, respectively.

1947: A hurricane made landfall near the Chandeleur Islands, LA on this day. Wind gusts of 112 mph and a central pressure of 967 mb were measured at Moisant International Airport. A storm surge of 9.8 feet reached Shell Beach, Lake Borgne. Moisant Airport field was flooded by two ft. of water while Jefferson Parish was flooded to depths of 3.28 ft. New Orleans suffered \$100 million in damages. Total loss of life was 51 people. As a result of this storm, hurricane protection levees were built along the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain to protect Orleans and Jefferson Parishes from future storm surges.

1967 - Hurricane Beulah deluged Brownsville, TX, with 12.19 inches of rain in 24 hours, to establish a record for that location. Hurricane Beulah made landfall on the 20th near the mouth of the Rio Grande River, where a wind gust to 135 mph was reported by a ship in the port. (19th-20th) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Cool autumn-like weather invaded the Central Rockies. Temperatures dipped into the 30s and 40s, with readings in the teens and 20s reported in the higher elevations. Gunnison CO was the cold spot in the nation with a morning low of 15 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Thunderstorms developing along a fast moving cold front produced severe weather in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan. Eight tornadoes were reported, including five in Indiana. Thunderstorm winds gusted to 74 mph at Wabash IND. Winds associated with the cold front itself gusted to 69 mph at Kenosha WI. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Showers and thunderstorms produced heavy rain in the Middle and Northern Atlantic Coast Region. Cape Hatteras NC was deluged with nearly 3.50 inches of rain in three hours. Syracuse NY reported 1.77 inches of rain, a record for the date, and Chatham NJ reported an all-time record of 3.45 inches in one day. Hurricane Hugo headed for the Bahamas, and Tropical Storm Iris, following close on its heels, strengthened to near hurricane force. (The National Weather Summary)



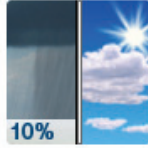
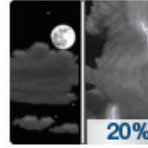



GROTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

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) Request 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)

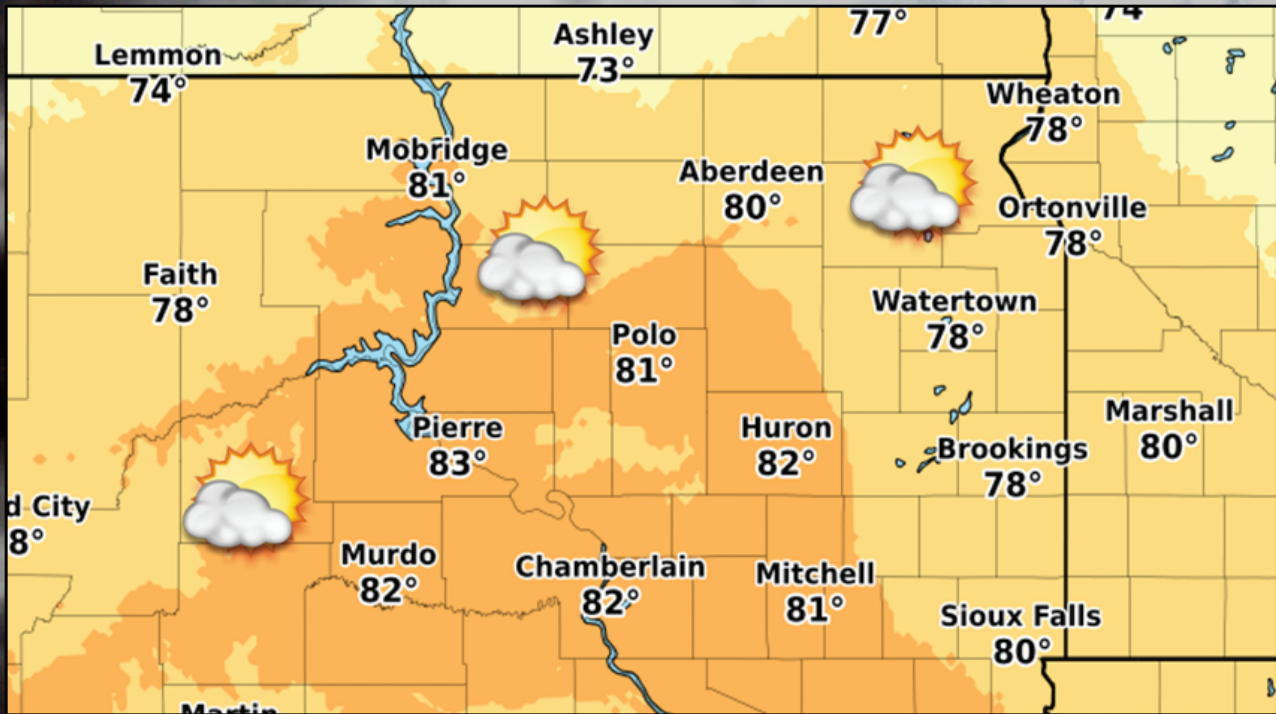
Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 10 of 61

| Today | Tonight | Tuesday | Tuesday Night | Wednesday | Wednesday Night | Thursday |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20% | 20% | 10% | 20% | 20% | 30% | |
| Isolated Showers then Sunny | Mostly Clear then Slight Chance Showers | Slight Chance Showers then Mostly Sunny | Partly Cloudy then Slight Chance T-storms | Slight Chance T-storms | Chance Showers | Mostly Cloudy |
| High: 80 °F | Low: 50 °F | High: 81 °F | Low: 56 °F | High: 71 °F | Low: 52 °F | High: 68 °F |



Early Morning Showers... ...Increasing Sunshine This Afternoon



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 9/19/2016 5:47 AM Central

Published on: 09/19/2016 at 5:52AM

A few light showers will move east across the area early this morning, but this activity will exit the area by mid-day with increasing sunshine into the afternoon. Temperatures will get warm once again, with highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s. Breezy winds will be felt across northern South Dakota, with high fire danger over north central South Dakota as humidity drops to around 20 percent this afternoon.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 12 of 61



I CAN'T HANDLE MUCH MORE!

Walter had recently been elected chairman of the deacons in his church. His pastor thought it would be beneficial to the church if the congregation knew him.

After introducing him, Rev. Simpson asked him to make a few remarks. He thought for a moment and then began by saying, "I am so grateful for the way God has blessed me. My business has grown tremendously in the last few years. It has provided me with enough money to purchase a new home with a lovely swimming pool. And I am planning on taking my family to Europe this summer. I am so blessed I can't handle much more. I don't know what more God could give me!"

"I do," replied an older and much wiser deacon sitting in the front row. "A good dose of humility."

Often when sharing God's blessings, people speak with arrogance rather than appreciation or sound greedy rather than grateful. We must always be mindful of God's mercy and without His loving-kindness realize that we would be no one or have nothing. What we have, we have because of His grace – beginning with our salvation.

Every breath, every heartbeat, every thought, every step we take or arm we lift or sight we see – and every sound we hear is a gift from Him. Whatever we have, we have because of His love, mercy and grace.

Prayer: Lord, we only fool ourselves when we think we have earned what we have. Help us to be mindful that without You, we are no one and would have nothing. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Micah 6:8 He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.



We now accept



for out patient therapy.

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

News from the Associated Press

19-year-old man injured in apartment complex shooting

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A 19-year-old man is recovering from a gunshot wound after police found him injured in the stairwell of a Sioux Falls apartment complex over the weekend.

Police in Sioux Falls say officers found the injured man around 1:15 p.m. Saturday. The man was shot in the leg.

Police say the man was taken to a local hospital to be treated for non-life threatening injuries. He has not been publicly identified.

Police say witnesses reported that an unknown suspect was seen leaving the apartment complex shortly after the incident.

Bradford trumps Rodgers in debut as Vikes beat Pack 17-14

Sam Bradford's debut was almost as dazzling as the new \$1.1 billion building itself. He completed 22 of 31 passes for 286 yards, two touchdowns and no turnovers to lead the Vikings to a 17-14 victory over the Packers

By DAVE CAMPBELL
AP Pro Football Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Aaron Rodgers has two NFL MVP awards and one Super Bowl ring, and he's in his ninth season as the starter for Green Bay.

Sam Bradford was never on a winning team over his first six years in the league. He had 15 days to learn Minnesota's offense, then lost his Hall of Fame caliber running back to injury in the third quarter.

Guess who was the more productive quarterback on Sunday night?

Bradford's debut was almost as dazzling as the new \$1.1 billion building itself. He completed 22 of 31 passes for 286 yards, two touchdowns and no turnovers to lead the Vikings to a 17-14 victory over the Packers.

"We won, and at the end of the day that's all that matters," Bradford said.

The new guy was sharp, though, and that matters a lot for the Vikings and their Super Bowl aspirations that took a hit when Teddy Bridgewater went down on Aug. 30 with a massive injury to his left knee. That triggered the bold trade with Philadelphia to bring in Bradford.

"He was the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft for a reason," Vikings cornerback Captain Munnerlyn said. "He was born for something like this."

Bradford and emerging weapon Stefon Diggs moved the ball just enough, and the defense did the rest, harassing Rodgers for five sacks and two fourth-quarter turnovers that quashed the comeback and sent the crowd of 66,813 into a deafening frenzy in celebration of the first regular season game at U.S. Bank Stadium.

"Anytime you join a new locker room, it's not easy at first," Bradford said. "These guys have had my back from day one."

Adrian Peterson limped off in the third quarter with a right knee injury, but the Vikings (2-0) proved they still have a lot of options. Diggs caught nine passes for 182 yards and a score. Kyle Rudolph hauled in the first touchdown. They held the Packers (1-1) to 65 total yards in the first half, withstanding an early touchdown pass by Rodgers to Jordy Nelson on a drive aided by two penalties by cornerback Terence Newman.

Rodgers, who ran for 29 yards and a touchdown, had trouble finding a rhythm. He was 12 for 21 for

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 14 of 61

154 yards in the second half, but the turnovers were costly. Instead, the Bradford-Diggs connection looked like it had been honed for half of a decade.

"When I first got here and started watching tape, he just kind of popped," Bradford said. "You just kind of notice him. He's always getting separation. He seems to always be finding a way to get open."

Here are the other top takeaways from the game:

PETERSON'S STATUS: Peterson left the stadium on crutches with a brace on his right leg. Zimmer said he was told the injury had already "calmed down" afterward, but the MRI exam on Monday will be the true test.

"He might miss a week. I don't know if he will or not," Zimmer said.

Peterson has netted only 50 yards on 31 rushes this season.

RODGERS SAYS R-E-L-A-X: Nelson's return has been a boost, but Green Bay's offense has still been missing the quick-strike, big-play ability it has long had under Rodgers. The Packers are still seeking their timing between Rodgers, Nelson, new tight end Jared Cook and the rest of the receivers.

Rodgers, who finished 20 for 36 for 213 yards, targeted Nelson 11 times but completed only five passes to him for 73 yards. Rodgers has a 57.1 completion percentage through two games, the lowest of his career since he's become a starter. The Packers were tied for last in the NFC last season with 5.7 yards per pass attempt, and they're at 5.0 now.

"I think we're close, at times," Rodgers said. "We just need to figure out what that identity is."

WAYNES' WORLD: With Xavier Rhodes sidelined for a second straight game because of a knee injury, Trae Waynes again became the workhorse cornerback.

The second-year player held his own, notwithstanding the pass interference and holding penalties he took on the same drive in the third quarter as the Packers moved to the 13 but turned the ball over on downs. Then came the interception at the Minnesota 41 with 1:50 left that sealed the victory.

"I was just fortunate to be in the right spot at the right time," Waynes said.

SECONDARY STRUGGLES: With starter Sam Shields still recovering from a concussion and rookie Josh Hawkins also out, Green Bay suited up three cornerbacks, though safety Micah Hyde was also used in coverage. Damarious Randall had a tough time matching up with Diggs, who had nine catches for 182 yards.

After allowing 320 yards passing by Blake Bortles in the opening win at Jacksonville, the Packers were vulnerable again against Bradford. They gave up gains of 44 and 46 yards to Diggs, who was clearly in sync with his new passer.

"When quarterbacks and receivers are on time," Randall said, "they're very tough to stop."

LOUD CROWD: After playing the last two seasons outside at TCF Bank Stadium, the Vikings have moved into the controlled climate that should help their passing attack. Most importantly, a stout defense can only be more dangerous when buoyed by the noise enhanced by the roof of the ship-shaped stadium.

The Packers handled the distraction relatively well, but the new building could prove to be louder than the old Metrodome and ought to be one of the noisiest places to play in the league.

"This building was rocking," Bradford said. "Our fans were tremendous."

Online:

AP NFL website: <http://www.pro32.ap.org> and AP NFL coverage on Twitter: http://www.twitter.com/AP_NFL

Follow Dave Campbell on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/DaveCampbellAP>

Bradford trumps Rodgers in debut as Vikes beat Pack 17-14

By DAVE CAMPBELL, AP Pro Football Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Aaron Rodgers has two NFL MVP awards and one Super Bowl ring, and he's in his ninth season as the starter for Green Bay.

Sam Bradford was never on a winning team over his first six years in the league. He had 15 days to learn Minnesota's offense, then lost his Hall of Fame caliber running back to injury in the third quarter.

Guess who was the more productive quarterback on Sunday night?

Bradford's debut was almost as dazzling as the new \$1.1 billion building itself. He completed 22 of 31 passes for 286 yards, two touchdowns and no turnovers to lead the Vikings to a 17-14 victory over the Packers.

"We won, and at the end of the day that's all that matters," Bradford said.

The new guy was sharp, though, and that matters a lot for the Vikings and their Super Bowl aspirations that took a hit when Teddy Bridgewater went down on Aug. 30 with a massive injury to his left knee. That triggered the bold trade with Philadelphia to bring in Bradford.

"He was the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft for a reason," Vikings cornerback Captain Munnery said. "He was born for something like this."

Bradford and emerging weapon Stefon Diggs moved the ball just enough, and the defense did the rest, harassing Rodgers for five sacks and two fourth-quarter turnovers that quashed the comeback and sent the crowd of 66,813 into a deafening frenzy in celebration of the first regular season game at U.S. Bank Stadium.

"Anytime you join a new locker room, it's not easy at first," Bradford said. "These guys have had my back from day one."

Adrian Peterson limped off in the third quarter with a right knee injury, but the Vikings (2-0) proved they still have a lot of options. Diggs caught nine passes for 182 yards and a score. Kyle Rudolph hauled in the first touchdown. They held the Packers (1-1) to 65 total yards in the first half, withstanding an early touchdown pass by Rodgers to Jordy Nelson on a drive aided by two penalties by cornerback Terence Newman.

Rodgers, who ran for 29 yards and a touchdown, had trouble finding a rhythm. He was 12 for 21 for 154 yards in the second half, but the turnovers were costly. Instead, the Bradford-Diggs connection looked like it had been honed for half of a decade.

"When I first got here and started watching tape, he just kind of popped," Bradford said. "You just kind of notice him. He's always getting separation. He seems to always be finding a way to get open."

Here are the other top takeaways from the game:

PETERSON'S STATUS: Peterson left the stadium on crutches with a brace on his right leg. Zimmer said he was told the injury had already "calmed down" afterward, but the MRI exam on Monday will be the true test.

"He might miss a week. I don't know if he will or not," Zimmer said.

Peterson has netted only 50 yards on 31 rushes this season.

RODGERS SAYS R-E-L-A-X: Nelson's return has been a boost, but Green Bay's offense has still been missing the quick-strike, big-play ability it has long had under Rodgers. The Packers are still seeking their timing between Rodgers, Nelson, new tight end Jared Cook and the rest of the receivers.

Rodgers, who finished 20 for 36 for 213 yards, targeted Nelson 11 times but completed only five passes to him for 73 yards. Rodgers has a 57.1 completion percentage through two games, the lowest of his career since he's become a starter. The Packers were tied for last in the NFC last season with 5.7

yards per pass attempt, and they're at 5.0 now.

"I think we're close, at times," Rodgers said. "We just need to figure out what that identity is."

WAYNES' WORLD: With Xavier Rhodes sidelined for a second straight game because of a knee injury, Trae Waynes again became the workhorse cornerback.

The second-year player held his own, notwithstanding the pass interference and holding penalties he took on the same drive in the third quarter as the Packers moved to the 13 but turned the ball over on downs. Then came the interception at the Minnesota 41 with 1:50 left that sealed the victory.

"I was just fortunate to be in the right spot at the right time," Waynes said.

SECONDARY STRUGGLES: With starter Sam Shields still recovering from a concussion and rookie Josh Hawkins also out, Green Bay suited up three cornerbacks, though safety Micah Hyde was also used in coverage. Damarious Randall had a tough time matching up with Diggs, who had nine catches for 182 yards.

After allowing 320 yards passing by Blake Bortles in the opening win at Jacksonville, the Packers were vulnerable again against Bradford. They gave up gains of 44 and 46 yards to Diggs, who was clearly in sync with his new passer.

"When quarterbacks and receivers are on time," Randall said, "they're very tough to stop."

LOUD CROWD: After playing the last two seasons outside at TCF Bank Stadium, the Vikings have moved into the controlled climate that should help their passing attack. Most importantly, a stout defense can only be more dangerous when buoyed by the noise enhanced by the roof of the ship-shaped stadium.

The Packers handled the distraction relatively well, but the new building could prove to be louder than the old Metrodome and ought to be one of the noisiest places to play in the league.

"This building was rocking," Bradford said. "Our fans were tremendous."

Online:

AP NFL website: <http://www.pro32.ap.org> and AP NFL coverage on Twitter: http://www.twitter.com/AP_NFL

Follow Dave Campbell on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/DaveCampbellAP>

Sioux Falls couple meets teen saved by heart of grandson

By VIRGINIA OLSON, Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Earlier this month, Roger and Julie Risty met the stranger who has their grandson's heart.

The Sioux Falls couple traveled to Pennsylvania, along with their daughter, Janece Risty, to meet Lance Frye, a college-bound young man who two years ago received 16-year-old Tyler Liebl's heart through organ donation, the Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2cM6NKA>) reported.

The Ristys were blindsided during the summer of 2014 when Tyler suffered a brain aneurism and died. An athlete, an avid snowboarder and a great student, Tyler was the oldest of five Risty grandchildren. He and his mother had lived in Sioux Falls, where Janece was assistant trainer for the SkyForce and Tyler attended Laura Wilder Elementary, before they moved to Newnan, Ga.

Roger and Julie Risty went to Georgia to say their goodbyes and attend Tyler's funeral.

"I have lost both of my parents, but nothing has been as bad as this. Losing Tyler has been the most difficult experience I have had to endure in my life," says Roger Risty, owner of Risty Benefits and a former Sioux Falls School Board member.

Though the loss of Tyler still weighs heavy, the family feels Tyler lives on. On the weekend of Sept. 2,

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 17 of 61

Roger, Julie and Janece traveled to Hunningdon, Penn., to meet 19-year-old Frye, who recently got his driver's license and a car for college.

Organ donors can open doors. It is a lifesaving event for somebody, says Julie Risty.

"The Fries are neat people, and Lance has a second chance at life. It seems Tyler's heart was made for two."

Frye knows a new heart brought him a new life.

"I was a Make-A-Wish kid," Frye says. "Before I got Tyler's heart, I needed a nurse beside me when I went to school. In fact, I never thought I would have a new heart. The best thing is I am never tired now."

"I was so glad I made this connection with Janece; I wanted to know everything about Tyler."

Janece had talked to her son about organ donation.

"When Tyler got his driver's license when he turned age 16, we talked about organ donation, and he checked the box. I know donating his organs would have been what he wanted."

Tyler's heart, liver and both kidneys, along with bone and tissue, were harvested, and then the machines that kept his body alive were shut down July 30, 2014. Twenty-three matches were found. A 24-year-old from Virginia received a kidney, a 64-year-old received the other kidney and liver, and Frye was 17 when he received Tyler's heart.

"It wasn't easy. But it was a good thing that Tyler could do something for the recipients and help somebody else," his mother says. "When I made my decision, I made peace with myself and the loss of my son."

"Tyler lived for nine days on life support at the Egleston Children's Hospital in Atlanta but never regained consciousness. The outlook was grim. I went to the chapel, prayed, then came to terms with his impending death. Losing him was devastating; he was my only child. Still, I felt he could live on if others got his organs."

Janece moved forward and told her parents of her decision.

"I told my dad, 'Dad, I am going to be OK. I gave my only son,'" she says. "My faith got me through because I have a strong, personal relationship with Christ."

Still, every day after Tyler's death was difficult.

"I felt like something was missing," she says. "A day didn't go by that I didn't think of my son. I decided to reach out to those who received Tyler's organs. I wanted them to know the joy I felt that part of him lived on and that I had no guilt or remorse."

Under donor policies, she couldn't write to the families directly.

"Donor and recipient families have to communicate through organ procurement companies for the first year," she says. "LifeLink in Atlanta told me that we had to exchange at least five letters before they would release our information for each other."

For two years, she communicated and was able to connect with Frye. This summer, the Frye family made a bold step, inviting the Ristys to their home to meet. Roger and Julie accompanied their daughter to Pennsylvania. The families met together at a church.

"When we heard that we would have a chance to meet Lance, it was thrilling," Roger says. "It helped in our own grieving process."

Janece shed tears, but she was joyful because she saw her son's heart live on physically and metaphorically.

"Tyler had a loving, caring, compassionate and righteous heart. That is the heart Lance received."

Julie Risty says the weekend with the Fries brought fullness.

"There was a lot of joy, peace and comfort that Lance has a new life because of Tyler," she says. "That weekend brought happiness from a tragedy. We have a new family with the Fries."

Lance Frye vividly remembers when he got the phone call that changed his life. He had been on the list for a new heart for three months. He got the call at 10:21 p.m. July 30, 2014, and was told to be at the hospital at midnight, the same day Tyler died.

"I woke up from the six-hour surgery and knew it was still me but not my own heart," he says. "My old heart was so large, twice as big as my fist. I felt better, and my body started working better right away."

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

Immigrant from Mexico reflects on journey to US, Yankton

By RANDY TRAMP, Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — Aron Bernal Sabino came to America because of poor conditions in Mexico, and for a better life.

"When growing up, whatever was hunted or fished, we ate," he told the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan (<http://bit.ly/2cM4y9Y>). "Many times I went hungry."

Now a resident of Yankton, Sabino looks back on the long process of finding a new home.

In 2000, he entered the United States illegally and has since become legal.

"I crossed into the United States illegally, which now I know was wrong. I wanted to do the right thing and make it legal," he says.

He crossed the U.S. border near Nogales, Arizona, with a group of people.

"It was a hot afternoon," Aron said. "I had to climb and jump from a twelve-foot fence. I was scared."

He found out later that another group that had been nearby had been caught by the border patrol.

From there he traveled to Phoenix, then to Norfolk, Nebraska. His sister lived in Norfolk and arranged transportation across the country. When he arrived in Norfolk, his first job was roofing.

With the help of Justice for our Neighbors, Sabino received a work permit in 2012 and also with their help he started the process to become a legal citizen. Justice for our Neighbors educates, advocates and gives legal representation to immigrants.

He would have to renew his work permit each year, paving the way to citizenship. (He can apply for citizenship in 10 years and Sabino plans to do that.) His first step was to apply for and get approved for a waiver for the U.S. government to forgive him for crossing the border illegally. He received it.

The next step came in July of this year. Aron returned to Mexico and started the process to become a permanent resident. Sabino needed an immigration visa. He applied and received an interview date. On that date, he traveled back to Mexico to the U.S. embassy in Ciudad, Juarez.

On day one in Ciudad, Sabino had to get all his immunizations. On day two, he was fingerprinted.

Then came the day of decision: Day three.

First, an official went through all his paperwork, ensuring it was correct. After that step, Sabino was told to wait until his name was called.

"There were a lot of people in the waiting room, probably over a hundred," he said. "There were two doors, those that were approved and those who weren't."

While sitting in the waiting room, Sabino felt confident he'd exit the door for those who'd been approved.

When his name was called, he went inside a room. An interviewer asked him several questions. Are you married? How many kids do you have? Where did you illegally enter the United States and when? The interviewer looked at his file as he answered the questions. One wrong answer would terminate the process and he would be denied.

During the entire process, Sabino said, he prayed to God that he wouldn't be nervous. "I was sur-

prised at how calm I was." Aron knew he passed when the interviewer drew a smiley face on his paper. "I was happy."

At the present time, Sabino's parents and his brothers live in Cuatro Bancos, Mexico. Sabino sends money back to them. He's concerned for them because there's a lot of violence, robbing, killing and beheading.

"It's happening all the time," Sabino says.

When Sabino thinks about America, he says this, "This country is blessed by God. America has a lot of things, that where I'm from doesn't have. In Mexico, a person can work all day, and still not have enough to feed a family."

Sabino is appreciative and grateful to be here to raise his family. He and his wife, Andrea, who was born in Yankton, have six kids.

"I thank Jesus for the blessing. I feel very happy and welcome in Yankton. It's a good place to raise my family and it has a lot of job opportunities," Sabino said.

He ends with saying, "It feels like home."

Information from: Yankton Press and Dakotan, <http://www.yankton.net/>

1 of 5 devices near train station explodes; no injuries

ELIZABETH, N.J. (AP) — A suspicious device found in a trash can near a train station exploded early Monday as a bomb squad was attempting to disarm it with a robot, officials said.

Elizabeth Mayor Christian Bollwage said the FBI was working to disarm one of five devices found in the same bag in a trash can by two men at around 8:30 p.m. Sunday near the Elizabeth train station. The men had reported seeing wires and a pipe coming out of the package, Bollwage said.

There was no immediate report of injuries or damage. The mayor warned that other explosions were expected.

FBI agents and police converged on an apartment above a fried chicken restaurant near the train station before 6 a.m. Monday, but it was not clear whether their search of the dwelling was connected to the explosion.

New Jersey Transit service trains resumed service on the Northeast Corridor and North Jersey Coast Line at 5:30 a.m. Monday, but they faced residual delays because service was suspended after the devices were found.

Amtrak was operating on a modified schedule.

Train passengers reported being stuck on Amtrak and NJ Transit trains for hours Sunday night, while some trains moved in reverse to let passengers off at other stations. Amtrak said 2,400 passengers were affected and trains were being brought in to other stations for people to get other transportation.

It wasn't clear when the Elizabeth station would be open, a threat to cause major issues on the Monday morning commute into New York.

The discovery of the suspicious package came a day after an explosion in Manhattan injured 29 people, and an unexploded pressure-cooker device was found four blocks away in New York City. Also Saturday, a pipe bomb exploded about an hour from the Elizabeth train station in Seaside Park, New Jersey, forcing the cancellation of a military charity 5K run. Officials said it didn't appear that those two incidents were connected, though they weren't ruling anything out.

Investigators didn't immediately comment on whether they thought the Elizabeth incident was connected to either of the two blasts.

Bollwage said that he wasn't willing to say that Elizabeth had become a target and that it was possible

that someone worried about the authorities was trying to get rid of the package.

"I'm extremely concerned for the residents of the community, but more importantly extremely concerned for everyone in the state and country where someone can just go and drop a backpack into a garbage can that has multiple explosives in it," Bollwage said. "You have to wonder how many people could have been hurt."

—
This story has been corrected to show that the bag was found at around 8:30 p.m., not 9:30 p.m.

Authorities probe ties between blasts, devices in 2 states

By JAKE PEARSON and ALICIA A. CALDWELL, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Authorities questioned several people early Monday as they worked to determine whether there was a connection between explosive devices found over the weekend in two states: an explosion in a Manhattan neighborhood, an unexploded pressure cooker device blocks away, a pipe bomb blast at a Jersey shore town and five explosive devices at a New Jersey train station.

On Sunday night, FBI agents in Brooklyn stopped "a vehicle of interest" in the investigation of the Manhattan explosion, according to FBI spokeswoman Kelly Langmesser.

She wouldn't provide further details, but a government official and a law enforcement official who were briefed on the investigation told The Associated Press that five people in the car were being questioned at an FBI building in Manhattan.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk about the ongoing investigation.

No one has been charged with any crime, and the investigation is continuing, Langmesser said.

Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo, touring the site of Saturday's blast that injured 29 people in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood, said there didn't appear to be any link to international terrorism. He said the unexploded pressure cooker device appeared "similar in design" to the bomb that exploded in Chelsea, but he didn't provide details.

On Sunday, a federal law enforcement official said the Chelsea bomb contained a residue of Tannerite, an explosive often used for target practice that can be picked up in many sporting goods stores. The discovery of Tannerite may be important as authorities probe whether the two New York City devices and the pipe bomb at the Jersey shore are connected.

Cellphones were discovered at the site of both bombings, but no Tannerite residue was identified in the New Jersey bomb remnants, in which a black powder was detected, said the official, who wasn't authorized to comment on an ongoing investigation and spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity.

The pipe bomb exploded Saturday in Seaside Park, New Jersey, before a charity 5K race to benefit Marines and sailors. The race was canceled and no one was injured.

Late Sunday, five suspicious devices were found near a train station in Elizabeth, New Jersey. Elizabeth Mayor Christian Bollwage said the devices were found in a bag in a trash can by two men who reported seeing wires and a pipe coming out of the package. One of the devices exploded as a bomb squad used a robot to try to disarm it. No injuries were reported.

There was no immediate word on whether the devices were similar to those in nearby Seaside Park or New York City.

Officials haven't revealed any details about the makeup of the pressure cooker device, except to say it had wires and a cellphone attached to it. On Sunday night, police blew up the device, rendering it safe. A forensic examination of the device will be sent to the FBI Laboratory at Quantico, Virginia, police said.

Homemade pressure cooker bombs were used in the Boston Marathon attacks in 2013 that killed

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 21 of 61

three people and injured more than 260.

On Sunday, a team of five FBI agents searched an Uber driver's vehicle that had been damaged in the Manhattan blast. The driver had just picked up three passengers and was driving when the explosion occurred, shattering the car's windows and leaving gaping holes in the rear passenger-side door.

The Chelsea explosion left many rattled in a city that had marked the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks only a week earlier and that was schedule to hold a United Nations meeting Monday to address the refugee crisis in Syria.

Witnesses described a deafening blast that shattered storefront windows and injured bystanders with shrapnel in the mostly residential neighborhood on the city's west side.

One New Yorker, Anthony Stanhope, was in his apartment when the blast went off. At first he thought it was thunder and lightning.

"Then all of a sudden, car horns went off, and I thought, 'Oh, my God, this isn't lightning. This is too loud,'" Stanhope said. "This is a bomb."

Caldwell reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Karen Matthews, Maria Sanminiatelli, Michael Balsamo and Dake Kang in New York and Eric Tucker and Kevin Freking in Washington contributed to this report.

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

1. LINKS PROBED BETWEEN BLASTS, DEVICES IN TWO STATES

Law enforcement is questioning several people as they try to determine any possible connection between an explosion in New York City and a pipe bomb blast in a Jersey Shore town.

2. DEVICE NEAR NJ TRAIN STATION EXPLODES WHILE FBI INVESTIGATES

A suspicious device, one of five in the same bag, found in a trash can near an Elizabeth train station detonates as a bomb squad was attempting to disarm it with a robot, officials say.

3. RAMIFICATIONS OF MINNESOTA MALL STABBINGS

If it were an act of terror, it would realize fears of an attack in the immigrant-rich state that has struggled to stop the recruiting of its young men by extremists' groups.

4. WHAT OBAMA, IRAQI LEADER HAVE PLANNED

The U.S. president and Iraqi prime minister will strategize about the upcoming offensive to take back Mosul as they meet on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly.

5. UN HOLDS FIRST-EVER SUMMIT ON REFUGEES, MIGRANTS

The issue of what to do about the world's 65.3 million displaced people takes center stage at the U.N. General Assembly in New York.

6. REFORM FOR CONFINED FISHERMEN PROMISED

Lawmakers respond to an AP investigation by saying they will help hundreds of foreign workers who have been confined to Hawaii commercial fishing boats for years without basic labor protections.

7. BUDGET DEAL COULD FREE IMPERILED LAWMAKERS TO CAMPAIGN

Congressional negotiators are working to complete a spending bill to prevent an election-season government shutdown and provide money to battle the Zika virus.

8. DOCTORS ADVISE AGAINST CODEINE FOR KIDS' COUGHS, PAIN

Pediatricians strengthen their warnings about prescribing codeine for children because of reports of

deaths and risks for dangerous side effects, including breathing problems.

9. HBO TAKES TOP HONORS AT EMMYS

The fantasy saga "Game of Thrones" passes "Frasier" as the most decorated prime-time TV series ever, while Julia Louis-Dreyfus wins a record-breaking sixth Emmy as best comedy actress for "Veep."

10. TOUGH DAY ON GRIDIRON FOR STARS

Adrian Peterson, Jimmy Garoppolo, DeMarcus Ware, Josh McCown, Danny Woodhead, Jonathan Stewart and Arian Foster all were felled by injuries in Week 2 of the NFL season.

Hawaii lawmakers promise reform for confined fishermen

By MARTHA MENDOZA and MARGIE MASON, Associated Press

State and federal lawmakers are promising to improve conditions for hundreds of foreign fishermen working in Hawaii's commercial fleet, and at least one company has already stopped buying fish from the boats following an Associated Press investigation that found the men have been confined to vessels for years without basic labor protections.

Whole Foods halted buying seafood caught by foreign crew until it's clear the men are treated fairly. On Sunday, the Hawaii Seafood Council said that starting Oct. 1, the Honolulu Fish Auction will sell fish only from boats that have adopted a new, standardized contract aimed at assuring no forced labor exists on board.

The AP report found commercial fishing boats in Honolulu were crewed by men from impoverished Southeast Asia and Pacific Island nations who catch prized swordfish, ahi tuna and other seafood sold at markets and upscale restaurants across the country. A legal loophole allows them to work on the American-owned, American-flagged boats without visas as long as they don't set foot on shore. The system is facilitated by the U.S. Coast Guard and Customs and Border Protection.

While many men appreciate the jobs, which pay better than they could get back home, the report revealed instances of human trafficking, tuberculosis and food shortages. It also found some fishermen being forced to defecate in buckets, suffering running sores from bed bugs and being paid as little as 70 cents an hour.

On Capitol Hill, Hawaii's congressional delegation — U.S. Sens. Mazie Hirono and Brian Schatz along with Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, all Democrats — said they were exploring legislative solutions after being startled by the findings about the state's \$110 million industry, which ranks fifth among the country's highest-grossing fisheries.

"It is completely unacceptable that the inhumane treatment of any workers, foreign or not, is legal under U.S. federal law," Hirono said in a statement.

In Honolulu, state Rep. Kaniela Ing, chair of the Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs committee, asked state Attorney General Doug Chin to weigh in on whether boat owners should be regulated under Hawaii rules. If so, Ing said there would likely be an injunction ordered to halt labor or business violations. If not, he said he would introduce legislation to protect the workers, who labor up to 22 hours a day.

"That loophole doesn't mean it's OK to treat them like slaves," Ing said.

Chin said he was reviewing the request.

The Hawaii report is part of the AP's ongoing investigation into human trafficking and labor abuse in the global seafood industry. Last year, reporters found some fishermen locked in a cage on the remote Indonesian island of Benjina. Others were buried under fake names. Their catch was traced to the United States, and the reporting led to more than 2,000 slaves being freed.

Federal law requires that U.S. citizens make up 75 percent of the crew on most commercial fishing

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 23 of 61

vessels in America; the fleet in Hawaii has an exemption carved out years ago, largely by lawmakers no longer in office.

"We always would want workers to have decent working conditions," said Hawaii Gov. David Ige. He added that the AP report "highlighted how sometimes people fall in a loophole and they don't get the full protections of labor laws that most of us enjoy."

After the story was published, boat owners in Hawaii and seafood sellers quickly formed a task force which they said was creating a universal contract. They said they are working with buyers and government officials.

"I am confident that through this process we will ferret out any vessel from the fleet that is involved in forced labor, labor abuse or substandard working conditions and treatment of the crew," said John Kaneko of the Hawaii Seafood Council.

The investigation found the fishermen are paid as little as \$350 a month, but many also get small bonuses, lifting their monthly pay to \$500 or \$600. A lucky few earn a percentage of the catch, making it possible to triple their wages.

Most of the approximately 700 crewmembers in the Hawaii fleet are from the Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam and the tiny Pacific island nation of Kiribati. Because they have no visas, they aren't allowed to fly into the country, and are instead picked up at foreign ports and brought to Honolulu by boat.

Some crewmembers are from Micronesia and the Marshall Islands and carry green cards because of a special relationship with the U.S. A few are locals from Hawaii as well. They are allowed to leave the docks when they come in after their three-week fishing trips, but the rest are detained on board by captains who are legally required to keep their passports. Neither U.S. Customs nor the boat association could provide a detailed breakdown of crew nationalities.

John Myking owns two boats and has been fishing for more than 30 years. He crews his vessels mostly with men from Micronesia and the Marshall Islands, but also sometimes hires workers born and raised in the state. He said their pay can range anywhere from \$800 to \$2,000 a month when the fish are biting, to sometimes much less depending on the catch. He is considering adding Indonesian crew to one of his boats because he says it's hard to find local fishermen, but added he believes the men should be allowed to fly into Hawaii and be given visas to leave their ships. He condemned labor abuses.

"If there is a problem with guys being abused, I definitely agree it should be straightened out," he said, adding that many foreign fishermen return to Hawaii repeatedly over many years to work on the fleet. "I guess there are a few bad apples here and there."

The boats dock occasionally at ports along the West Coast, including San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf, but mainly at Piers 17 and 38 in Honolulu. Their catch ends up at eateries and seafood counters across the country, from Roy's restaurants to markets like Whole Foods and Costco. Companies that responded condemned labor abuse and said they would investigate.

Whole Foods is suspending sales from boats with foreign crew, but will continue to buy seafood from "local, day-boat fishermen with proven fair labor practices," such as vessels with just one or two workers, often friends or relatives, said spokeswoman McKinzey Crossland.

Environmental, labor and anti-trafficking advocates called for reform.

Kris Coffield, executive director of the Honolulu-based anti-trafficking group IMUAlliance, said he's been receiving complaints from foreign fishermen for the past three or four years.

"Among the fishermen we've worked with, there are questions about whether there's debt bondage going on," he said. To get their jobs, some workers have to pay exorbitant fees to agencies that they will never be able to pay back, Coffield said.

Debt bondage is a form of modern-day slavery by the State Department's definition.

In a statement, the Washington, D.C.-based Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking called for the gaps in law and policy to be closed.

"Until the United States puts its own house in order," it said, "it will be difficult to convince other governments to seriously combat modern slavery in their own countries."

AP reporters Cathy Bussewitz, Caleb Jones and Jennifer Sinco Kelleher in Honolulu contributed to this report.

Follow Martha Mendoza and Margie Mason on Twitter at: @mendozamartha and @MargieMasonAP

Read the entire Seafood From Slaves series: <http://www.ap.org/explore/seafood-from-slaves/>

Obama, Iraqi leader to strategize on fight to reclaim Mosul

By JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — President Barack Obama and Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi will strategize about the upcoming offensive to take back the northern city of Mosul when they meet on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly.

Increasingly, and not without irony, Iraq has become the bright spot in Obama's campaign against the Islamic State group, though profound challenges remain. In neighboring Syria, the chaotic civil war continues to plague efforts to defeat IS extremists, but in Iraq, cooperation with Abadi's forces has helped the U.S.-led coalition wrest back half the territory that IS once held, according to the U.S.

Yet a key city remains under IS control: Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city and the extremist group's stronghold in the country. An intensely difficult urban fight to oust IS from Mosul is expected to ramp up in the next two to three months, following recent victories in reclaiming other Iraqi cities including Fallujah and Ramadi.

Some 1 million people could be displaced by the battle in Mosul, U.S. and U.N. officials say. Washington considers the Iraqi government's handling of the displacement to be a major test case for reconciliation in Iraq, given the blend of sectarian groups with an interest in the northern city's future.

"We've always believed that progress on the battlefield needs to be accompanied by continued political progress among Iraq's different communities," Ben Rhodes, Obama's deputy national security adviser, said ahead of the meeting scheduled for Monday.

He said that Obama and Abadi planned to discuss preparation for an "effective and sustainable campaign to liberate Mosul."

The session comes at a critical time for Obama, who has just a few months left in office to make progress against IS before passing on the conflict to his successor. The Obama administration considers Abadi to be a major improvement over the sectarian approach of his predecessor, Nouri al-Maliki, though Abadi has faced serious domestic political challenges in recent months.

Obama's meeting with the Iraqi leader marks the start of a hectic week of diplomacy as he makes his final appearance as president at the annual U.N. gathering.

Obama also planned to meet Monday with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and socialize with U.S. diplomats who work at the U.N. He was also to raise money in private for Senate Democrats, a day after holding another fundraiser for Hillary Clinton. The Democratic presidential nominee was holding her own program of meetings with foreign leaders attending the U.N. summit as she works to portray her-

self as more presidential than Republican Donald Trump.

On Tuesday, Obama will give his farewell speech to the General Assembly, meet with Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, and co-host a summit on the refugee crisis stemming largely from the Syria conflict. The U.S. has told invited countries they must show up with significant commitments in hand to resettle and support more refugees.

Obama planned to take part Wednesday in a U.S.-Africa forum and meet with Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos before returning to Washington.

Associated Press writer Darlene Superville contributed to this report.

Minnesota mall stabbing could be realization of terror fears

By JEFF BAENEN and AMY FORLITI, Associated Press

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (AP) — Authorities are investigating the stabbings of nine people at a Minnesota mall as a potential act of terrorism — a finding that would realize long-held fears of an attack in the immigrant-rich state that has struggled to stop the recruiting of its young men by groups including the Islamic State.

A young Somali man dressed as a private security guard entered the Crossroads Center mall over the weekend wielding what appeared to be a kitchen knife. The city's police chief said the man reportedly made at least one reference to Allah and asked a victim if he or she was Muslim before attacking. The rampage ended when the man was shot dead by an off-duty police officer. None of the injured suffered life-threatening wounds.

The motive is still unclear, but FBI Special Agent-in-Charge Rick Thornton said Sunday the stabbings were being investigated as a "potential act of terrorism," and the Islamic State claimed responsibility. Authorities were digging into the attacker's background and possible motives, looking at social media accounts, his electronic devices and talking to his associates, Thornton said.

It doesn't appear anyone else was involved in the attack, which began at around 8 p.m. and was over within minutes, Police Chief Blair Anderson said.

Leaders of the Somali community in central Minnesota united Sunday to condemn the stabbings. They said the suspect — identified by his father as 22-year-old Dahir A. Adan — does not represent them, and they expressed fear about a backlash.

Minnesota has the nation's largest Somali community, with census numbers placing the population at about 40,000 but community activists saying it's even higher.

The community has been a target for terror recruiters in recent years. More than 20 young men have left the state since 2007 to join al-Shabab in Somalia, and roughly a dozen people have left in recent years to join militants in Syria. In addition, nine Minnesota men face sentencing on terror charges for plotting to join the Islamic State group.

The possibility of an attack on U.S. soil has been a major concern for law enforcement. Stopping the recruiting has been a high priority, with law enforcement investing countless hours in community outreach and the state participating in a federal project designed to combat radical messages. If Saturday's stabbings are ultimately deemed a terrorist act, it would be the first carried out by a Somali on U.S. soil, said Karen Greenburg, director of the Center on National Security at Fordham University School of Law.

St. Cloud Mayor David Kleis said an attack like Saturday's is the type of worry that keeps him "up at night."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 26 of 61

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.

Authorities didn't identify the attacker. The identification of Adan came from his father, Ahmed Adan, who spoke to the Star Tribune of Minneapolis through an interpreter. Ahmed Adan said his son was born in Kenya but was Somali and had lived in the U.S. for 15 years. Local activists also identified Dahir Adan as Somali.

Ahmed Adan said police told him around 9 p.m. Saturday that his son had died at the mall, and that police had searched the family's apartment, seizing photos and other materials. He said police said nothing to him about the mall attack, and that he had "no suspicion" that his son had been involved in terrorist activity, the newspaper reported.

Police had had three previous encounters with the attacker, mostly for minor traffic violations, Anderson said.

A spokesman for St. Cloud State University confirmed that Adan was a student there, but had not been enrolled since the spring semester. Spokesman Adam Hammer said Adan's intended major was information systems, which is a computer-related field.

Anderson said the man began attacking people right after entering the mall, stabbing people in several spots inside. The victims included seven men, one woman and a 15-year-old girl.

Five minutes after authorities received the first 911 call, Jason Falconer, a part-time officer in the city of Avon, shot and killed the attacker. Anderson said Falconer fired as the attacker was lunging at him with the knife, and continued to engage him as the attacker got up three times.

"He clearly prevented additional injuries and potential loss of life," Anderson said. "Officer Falconer was there at the right time and the right place," he said.

The attack in St. Cloud, a city of about 65,000 people, 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 immediate indication that the incidents were linked.

The mall was expected to reopen Monday after being closed 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.

Sydney Weires, 18, and two of her friends were shopping when the stabbings happened. Weires said she saw a man who appeared to be a security guard sprinting down the hallway, and then two men stumbled out.

"One was covered in blood down his face," she said, and the other man had blood on his back. "They were screaming, 'Get out of the mall. Someone has a knife,'" Weires said.

Falconer, who was shopping when he confronted the attacker, is the former police chief in Albany, which is about 15 miles northwest of St. Cloud, and the president and owner of a firing range and firearms training facility, according to his LinkedIn profile. His profile says he focuses on firearms and permit-to-carry training, and also teaches "decision shooting" to law enforcement students at St. Cloud State University.

No one answered the door late Sunday at a home address listed for Falconer, and a voicemail box for

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 27 of 61

a telephone listing was full and not accepting new messages. In a brief interview with the Star Tribune, Falconer said he had "been trying to stay away from it all, for the time being."

He told the newspaper he wasn't hurt and declined to talk further, citing the ongoing investigation for not saying more.

— Associated Press writer Bassem Mroue in Beirut, Lebanon, contributed to this report. Forliti reported from Minneapolis.

'Game of Thrones,' 'Veep' take top honors at Emmys

By LYNN ELBER, AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Game of Thrones" conquered the Emmy kingdom Sunday, honored as top drama for the second consecutive year and becoming the most honored prime-time TV series ever on a night of surprises and sharp political jabs.

"Veep" repeated as best comedy series and its star, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, won a record-breaking sixth Emmy as best comedy actress. Jeffrey Tambor's trophy as top comedy actor for "Transparent" also was his second.

But the top drama acting trophies were far from predictable: Rami Malek of "Mr. Robot" and Tatiana Maslany of "Orphan Black" were the winners, both overcoming heavyweight competition.

"Oh, my God. Please tell me you're seeing this too," said a stunned Malek, who plays an emotionally troubled engineer caught up in a dangerous hacking conspiracy.

"Game of Thrones," the fantasy saga based on George R.R. Martin's novels, received a total of 12 awards Sunday and at last weekend's technical arts ceremony for a cumulative 38, besting "Frasier" by one to claim most prime-time series awards ever.

The Emmys proved more adroit than the Oscars at recognizing and honoring diversity in Hollywood's top ranks, with trophies going to minority actors and behind-the-scenes artists including writers Aziz Ansari and Alan Yang of "Master of None."

But Viola Davis of "How to Get Away with Murder" failed to repeat her 2015 best drama actress win, the first for a woman of color.

Tambor, who plays a transgender character on "Transparent," called on Hollywood to make him the last non-transgender actor to get such a role.

A shaking Louis-Dreyfus ended her speech by dedicating the trophy to her father, who she said died Friday. Before that, she honed in on GOP contender Donald Trump's campaign.

"I'd also like to take this opportunity to personally apologize for the current political climate," she said. "I think that 'Veep' has torn down the wall between comedy and politics. Our show started out as a political satire but it now feels more like a sobering documentary."

She promised to "rebuild that wall and make Mexico pay for it."

Her victory gave her six best comedy wins — five for "Veep," one for "The New Adventures of Old Christine" — and broke her tie with Candice Bergen and Mary Tyler Moore.

Maggie Smith was honored as best supporting actress in a drama series for the final season of "Downton Abbey." It was her third win for playing the formidable dowager. As has become her custom, she didn't attend the ceremony. After Smith's win, Kimmel said her Emmy would not be mailed to her but would be kept in the Microsoft Theater's Lost and Found until she shows up to claim it.

Ben Mendelsohn of "Bloodline" won as best supporting drama actor and also was a no-show.

John Oliver captured the top variety talk series award for "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver," besting competitors including Jerry Seinfeld and host Jimmy Kimmel — who received barbed consolation

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 28 of 61

on stage from Matt Damon, his longtime faux nemesis. The loss "makes a lot of sense," Damon said. "The People v. O.J. Simpson," which earned the second-highest number of nominations, converted five to trophies Sunday.

The dramatic retelling of the football star's murder trial was honored as best limited series and writing, and earned awards for stars Courtney B. Vance, Sterling K. Brown and Sarah Paulson.

Paulson, who played prosecutor Marcia Clark, brought her as a guest and singled her out from the stage.

Clark was not the "the two-dimensional cardboard cutout that I saw on the news" but a "whip-smart" woman dedicated to justice for the case's victims, Nicole Brown and Ronald Goldman.

Regina King claimed the award for supporting actress in a limited series for "American Crime," her second trophy for the program.

Louie Anderson was honored as best supporting actor in a comedy series for his portrayal of a loving but tough mom in "Baskets."

"Mom, we did it!" Anderson shouted, hoisting his trophy and dedicating the award to his late mother, Ora Zella Anderson. "I have not always been a good man but I play one hell of a woman."

"Saturday Night Live" cast member Kate McKinnon won the trophy for best supporting actress in a comedy for, officially, playing various characters. But she knew who to credit.

"Thank you, Ellen DeGeneres, thank you, Hillary Clinton," she said, naming two of the famous people she's caricatured on the show.

The Democratic presidential contender responded quickly with a tweet: "Congratulations on your Emmy, Kate! Big fan of yours, too."

The ceremony started out with a political edge. In a video bit, Jimmy Kimmel was shown trying to get to the ceremony and encountering former GOP presidential contender Jeb Bush as a limo driver.

"Did you know you could make \$12 an hour working for Uber?" a game Bush said, smiling. He advised Kimmel that "if you run a positive campaign, the voters will ultimately make the right choice"— then told Kimmel curtly it was a joke.

In his opening monologue, the host said he was holding "Celebrity Apprentice" producer Mark Burnett responsible for the "Donald Trump phenomenon."

In an attempt at comedy that fell flat, the ceremony announcer indicated that Bill Cosby would be taking the stage. After an awkward silence, Kimmel said it was a joke — the TV star embroiled in decades-old accusations of sexual assault wasn't invited.

A pair of key changes made by the TV academy may have affected the outcomes in Sunday's 27 categories. It revised how votes are cast and counted, switching from a ranking and points system to letting voters simply check off their top choice. That sharpened the selection process and might have affected past winners who managed to collect enough second-place votes to overcome the competition.

In another revision, this one implemented last year, voting was expanded from blue-ribbon panels to — depending on the award — giving substantially more or all of the academy's 20,000-plus members the chance to vote for finalists.

Online:

<http://www.emmys.org>

Rock my chain? Maggie Smith Rule? Memorable Emmy moments

By MARK KENNEDY, AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A look at the memorable moments at the Emmy Awards.

A GOOD SHIFT

Jimmy Kimmel, who first hosted a pedestrian Emmys in 2012, came back and did much better — relaxed, sarcastic without being mean, and quick on his feet. His opening skit included jokes with former GOP presidential candidate Jeb Bush (“Did you know you can make \$12 an hour driving for Uber?”) and his opening monologue tweaked Donald Trump by goofing on Mark Burnett, who created “The Apprentice.” He also made fun of the smugness of his audience: “In Hollywood, the only thing we value more than diversity is congratulating ourselves on how diverse we are,” he said. The only truly odd note was a poor attempt at a Bill Cosby joke. But his banter with Matt Damon and his goofing on Maggie Smith made up for it.

ROCK MY WHAT?

The new way to say I love you, Emmy-style, is “you rock my chain,” which is a lyric reference from Jay-Z to, naturally, Beyonce. Actor Sterling K. Brown, who won for his role in “The People v. OJ Simpson: America Crime Story,” started it off by thanking his wife: “I got the hottest chick in the game rocking my chain.” A few awards later, Brown co-star Courtney B. Vance kept the riff going by thanking his wife, Angela Bassett, with obvious adoration: “To the woman that rocks my chain,” he said. But things got odder when British writer Steven Moffat, who won for “Sherlock: The Abominable Bride,” tried to get into the act. To his spouse he said: “Not only does she rock whatever that was but she actually produces the show.” British-born comedian Jon Oliver couldn’t quite swing it either: “On a personal level I’ve got to thank my wife, the hottest chain — I don’t know either.”

COUNT ON THE DOWAGER COUNTESS

Maggie Smith, who had won three Emmys for playing the snarky and witty Dowager Countess on “Downton Abbey” — and been nominated for six more — won again in absentia for the final season of the PBS series. But Kimmel chastised her at the top of the show for her consistent no-shows with a new law, the Maggie Smith Rule — winners had to be present to accept the award or it would go to the next person on the list. So when Smith won for best supporting actress, Kimmel pulled a Kanye West and, unscripted and hilariously, returned to the stage to snag the trophy himself. “No, no, no, no, no,” Kimmel said. “We’re not mailing this to her. Maggie, if you want this, it’ll be in the lost and found.”

THANK YOUR DATE

Sarah Paulson, who played former O.J. Simpson prosecutor Marcia Clark, brought Clark to the Emmys and apologized to her in front of millions for not being kind in the past. “The more I learned about the real Marcia Clark, not the two-dimensional cardboard cutout that I saw on the news, but the complicated, whip-smart, giant-hearted, mother of two who woke up every day, put both feet on the floor, and dedicated herself to righting an unconscionable wrong,” Paulson said, “the more I had to recognize that I, along with the rest of the world, had been superficial and careless in my judgment and I am glad to be able to stand here today in front of everyone and tell you I’m sorry.”

FIRST TIME WINNERS

First-time Emmy winners Tatiana Maslany, who plays multiple characters on “Orphan Black,” and Rami Malek, who plays a hacker on “Mr. Robot,” were gracious and touching in their acceptance speeches. “Please tell me you’re seeing this too,” Malek said when he got onstage. “I play a young man who is, I think, like so many of us, profoundly alienated,” he told the crowd. For her part, Maslany also seemed dazed when her name was called: “I should have had this written down,” she said. Later she had the audience eating out of her hand when she said: “I feel so lucky to be on a show that puts women at

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 30 of 61

the center.”

A HEAD-SCRATCHING MOMENT

During one pause in the trophy conveyor belt, Kimmel managed to make a bizarre moment of things rarely combined — peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches, the TV show “Stranger Things” and O.J. Simpson. The pause was for the now-required feed-the-guests bit, and the host brought out — on bikes, of course — the young cast from the Netflix sci-fi thriller to deliver what he said were 7,000 sandwiches his mother had made. As if that wasn’t enough, Kimmel then joked about the meal’s “juice” boxes — a reference to Simpson’s football nickname — and wondered if Simpson was watching the show from prison and rooting for “The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story.” Kimmel even managed to mock people who shy away from gluten and take a jab at the makers of the EpiPen.

TEARS AND LAUGHTER

Julia Louis-Dreyfus, who won her fifth consecutive trophy as leading actress in a comedy series for “Veep,” revealed that her heart was aching after the death of her father two days before. “I’d like to dedicate this to my father, William Louis-Dreyfus, who passed away on Friday,” she said. “And I’m so glad that he liked ‘Veep’ because his opinion was the one that really mattered. Thank you.” The former “Seinfeld” star later saw her show win its second consecutive comedy series trophy. Showrunner David Mandel honored her in his acceptance speech: “I know it sounds like we work a lot of hours, but this should be an easy job because I get to work with Julie Louis-Dreyfus, who just makes it easy.”

Mark Kennedy is at <http://twitter.com/KennedyTwits>

This story has been corrected to note that Sterling K. Brown won before Courtney B. Vance.

The Latest: Emmy winners wined, dined at Governor’s Ball

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The latest on Sunday’s 68th annual Primetime Emmy Awards at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles. All times local.

9:45 p.m.

The first post-show stop for most Emmy guests is the Governors Ball across the street from the Microsoft Theater, an event that transforms a normally drab Los Angeles Convention Center meeting hall into a fairy-tale-like garden.

Surrounded by ferns and delicate flowers dangling from the ceiling, actors Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele of “Key and Peele” fame shared their table at the black-tie event with their Emmy statuettes.

Other winners made their way to the trophy engraving bar, where they had their Emmys personalized.

Sarah Paulson and Sterling K. Brown, who played prosecutors in the multi-Emmy winning “The People v. O.J. Simpson,” showed off their newly engraved trophies as they posed with real-life Simpson prosecutor Marcia Clark.

Other Emmy winners at the party included “Transparent” creator Jill Soloway and Patton Oswalt, who won for writing for a variety special.

8:45 p.m.

The Emmys are over, as is Jimmy Kimmel’s joke-filled stretch as host in which he poked fun at television royalty and presidential politics.

The Associated Press’ Frazier Moore writes (<http://apne.ws/2cj8Esq>) in his review of the three-hour

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 31 of 61

ceremony — which Kimmel managed to end on time — that the host did a capable and often breezy job of moving the show along.

Moore writes that Kimmel had many winning quips, whether he was poking fun at producer Mark Burnett for giving rise to Donald Trump through “Celebrity Apprentice,” or passing out PB&J sandwiches he said his mom made.

Moore writes that the result was that Kimmel actively engaged with the ceremony and never left the stage for too long as is often the case during Hollywood awards shows

8 p.m.

“Game of Thrones” is the winner of the best television drama series Emmy Award.

The HBO fantasy series follows characters as they vie for power in a fictional world rife with brutality, magic, and dragons.

The show also won the best drama award last year.

7:55 p.m.

“Veep” is the winner of the Emmy Award for best comedy series.

It is a repeat win for the HBO series, which stars Julia Louis-Dreyfus as a fictional U.S. politician who ascends to the presidency.

Earlier Sunday, Louis-Dreyfus won the Emmy for best comedy actress.

7:50 p.m.

Tatiana Maslany is the Emmy Award winner for best actress in a drama series for her role in “Orphan Black.”

It is the first Emmy win for Maslany, who plays multiple characters in the BBC America series. All of her characters are clones with distinct personalities and lives.

Maslany has drawn praise for her versatility in playing the roles, which range from suburban mom to ruthless assassin, during the show’s four seasons.

7:45 p.m.

Rami Malek is the Emmy Award winner for best actor in a drama series for his role in “Mr. Robot.”

Malek plays a hacker recruited by an anarchist into a conspiracy to wipe out all consumer debt in the USA Network series.

The second season of “Mr. Robot” is currently airing and the critically acclaimed series has been a springboard for Malek’s career. This is his first Emmy win.

The show’s season finale airs later this week.

7:30 p.m.

Ben Mendelsohn is the winner of the Emmy Award for best drama supporting actor for his “Bloodline” role.

Mendelsohn won for his portrayal of the black sheep of a prominent Florida Keys family who manages to complicate the lives of his mother and siblings, even from beyond-the-grave.

7:25 p.m.

Maggie Smith is the winner of the best drama supporting actress Emmy Award for her role on “Downton Abbey”

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 32 of 61

It is Smith's fourth Emmy win and her third for playing the Dowager Countess of Grantham on the series, which aired for six seasons on PBS.

She did not appear at Sunday's ceremony, and host Jimmy Kimmel had joked early in the show that all winners would have to be present to receive their awards.

After Smith's win Kimmel said her Emmy would not be mailed to her but would be kept in the Microsoft Theater's Lost and Found until she shows up to claim it.

7:10 p.m.

"Transparent" creator Jill Soloway says Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump is "one of the most dangerous monsters," comparing him to Hitler.

Soloway made the comment speaking to reporters backstage at the Emmys after winning the best director prize. She said, "Any moment that I have to call Trump out for being an heir to Hitler, I will."

During its second season "Transparent" related the current state of transgender people to the situation facing Jews in Nazi Germany before the Holocaust.

Soloway said Sunday that Trump, like Hitler, has "otherized" people to gain political power, including, disabled people, Muslims, Mexican-Americans and women who don't "look like beauty pageant contestants."

—Lindsey Bahr (@ldbahr)

7 p.m.

"The People v. OJ Simpson: American Crime Story" has won the Emmy Award for best limited TV series.

The FX series recreates moments from Simpson's double-murder trial in Los Angeles focusing on prosecutors and a "Dream Team" of defense lawyers handling a case dubbed "The Trial of the Century."

The series, which starred Courtney B. Vance as defense attorney Johnny Cochran, Sarah Paulson as prosecutor Marcia Clark and Cuba Gooding Jr. as Simpson, received the second most Emmy nominations this year.

Vance, Paulson and co-star Sterling K. Brown, who played prosecutor Christopher Darden, won acting Emmys for the series.

6:50: p.m.

Courtney B. Vance is the winner of Emmy for best actor in a limited series for the show "The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story."

Vance won for his portrayal of late defense attorney Johnny Cochran, who led a legal "Dream Team" in the successful defense of NFL great O.J. Simpson on double murder charges.

The series won three Emmy acting awards on Sunday, including for Sterling K. Brown and Sarah Paulson for their portrayals of prosecutors Christopher Darden and Marcia Clark.

Both Vance and Brown gave prominent shout-outs to their wives.

Vance ended his acceptance speech with a political message, shouting, "Obama out! Hillary in!"

6:40 p.m.

Sarah Paulson is the winner of the Emmy Award for best actress in a limited series for her role in "The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story."

It is Paulson's first Emmy win and comes for her portrayal of prosecutor Marcia Clark, who endured

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 33 of 61

widespread criticism as she tried to convict NFL legend O.J. Simpson of double murder under the glaring spotlight of the so-called "Trial of the Century."

Paulson's co-star Sterling K. Brown, who played prosecutor Christopher Darden in the series, won the best supporting actor award and she thanked him in her acceptance speech.

Paulson also thanked Clark, who she brought to the Emmys, and apologized to her for having a two-dimensional view of the prosecutor before signing on to play her onscreen.

6:30 p.m.

It wasn't a gag, Jimmy Kimmel, the kids from "Stranger Things" and dozens of volunteers really did pass out lunch bags with peanut butter and jelly sandwiches — to some people at Sunday's Emmy Awards.

The free snacks were just for those seated in the Microsoft Theater's orchestra section. The folks in the loge and balcony areas were out of luck.

Taraji P. Henson and Kate McKinnon were among the stars who grabbed a bag.

During a commercial break, a female announcer warned attendees with peanut and gluten allergies that the sacks were filled with nuts and bread.

Kimmel repeated that warning during the show, joking that those with allergies should be careful because he had only one EpiPen.

— Derrick J. Lang (@derrickjlang)

6:15 p.m.

The Emmy Awards, as fans know, is more than just an awards competition but a fashion show as well.

One of those who might have won an Emmy for red-carpet attire, if it was a category, was Kristen Bell, who wore a low-cut champagne chiffon ball gown with just enough sparkle running through its floral print.

Angela Bassett stood out in lemon yellow with cape sleeves and a full train, while Shiri Appleby wore an optimistic sky blue sparkler.

A roundup of fashion choices by The Associated Press (<http://apne.ws/2cB8WMO>) noted that several attendees, including singer-songwriter Tori Kelly and actress Kathryn Hahn, opted for velvet, a trendy fabric used by several designers at this year's New York Fashion Week.

Kerry Washington, who is pregnant with her second child, wore a strapless gown that had a front cutout for her baby bump.

While women's fashion is most scrutinized on the red carpet, a few actors gained attention.

Terrence Howard of "Empire" wore a black-and-white check tuxedo jacket with a patterned bow tie.

Fred Armisen opted for a black tuxedo with some unorthodox accessories — Frankenstein bolts on his neck.

— Leanne Italie.

6:05 p.m.

"The Voice" is getting the chance to sing the same tune again, winning the best reality competition Emmy Award for the second year in a row.

The NBC singing competition pairs would-be stars with some of the top talents in the music industry, including judges Blake Shelton and Adam Levine.

6 p.m.

Jeffrey Tambor is the winner of the Emmy Award for best comedy actor for his role in "Transparent."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 34 of 61

Tambor plays a retired professor who becomes a transgender woman as the Amazon show looks at how the transition impacts her grown children.

This is the second year in a row Tambor has won the best comedy actor Emmy.

Earlier in Sunday's Emmy show Tambor introduced a tribute to the late Garry Shandling whose "Larry Sanders Show" he co-starred in.

5:50 p.m.

Julia Louis-Dreyfus is the winner of the Emmy Award for best comedy actress for her role in "Veep" It's a five-peat for Louis-Dreyfus, who has won the category the four previous years for her role as politician Selina Meyer in the HBO comedy.

In accepting the award, Louis-Dreyfus said she'd like to apologize for the current state of American politics, joking that her show seems to have morphed from comedy to documentary during the current contentious election season.

Turning serious a moment later, she fought back tears as she dedicated the award to her father, who died Friday.

Louis-Dreyfus has been an Emmy favorite for years, winning comedy acting awards for "Seinfeld" and "The New Adventures of Old Christine" before dominating the category with her work on "Veep."

5:30 p.m.

Kate McKinnon has won the Emmy for best supporting actress on a comedy series for her role on "Saturday Night Live."

It is McKinnon's first Emmy win for her work on the NBC comedy show, in which she plays a variety of roles.

Those roles include impersonations of public figures such as Hillary Clinton, Justin Bieber and German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Clinton was among those she thanked in her acceptance speech.

5:20 p.m.

Louie Anderson is the winner of the Emmy Award for best supporting actor in a comedy series.

Anderson won for his role on the FX comedy, in which he plays the mother of a man trying to achieve his dream of becoming a professional clown.

The night's first award winner, Anderson thanked his mother, adding he stole many aspects of her personality for his Emmy-winning role.

5:15 p.m.

Sarah Paulson and her real-life doppelganger, O.J. Simpson prosecutor Marcia Clark, joined forces at Sunday's Emmy Awards.

Paulson is nominated for her portrayal of Clark in the FX series: "The People v. OJ Simpson: American Crime Story." She had promised to bring the former prosecutor to Sunday's Emmys.

The two sat next to each other at the awards show, leading Emmy host Jimmy Kimmel to quip, "'Are you rooting for O.J. to win this time?'"

Simpson was acquitted.

The FX series was a retelling of Simpson's double murder trial and included several behind-the-scenes moments that focused on Clark and her personal life while dealing with the so-called "Trial of the Century."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 35 of 61

4:55 p.m.

It's nearly showtime and several Emmy Awards show attendees are seeking respite from the 90-degree weather outside, lining up inside the Microsoft Theater lobby to purchase \$9 glasses of bubbly from a concession stand.

"Transparent" actress Kathryn Hahn, "The Simpsons" actor Hank Azaria and YouTube star "Burnie" Burns are among the celebs lined up at the concession stand, where hot dogs are also selling for \$5.50 apiece.

For nominees still waiting to get inside the theater a red-carpet fast lane that leads directly to the front of the theater's orchestra section has been opened up.

"Ladies and gentlemen, please take your seats in the theater, our pre-show will begin in just a few minutes," an announcer is cooing as people scramble to find their seats.

— Derrik J. Lang (@derrickjlang)

4:45 p.m.

The kids from the Netflix sci-fi phenomenon "Stranger Things" are making the most of their newly anointed popularity, hamming it up on Sunday's Emmys red carpet and chatting up bleacher fans.

Thirteen-year-old Gaten Matarazzo flashed his signature grin, while Caleb McLaughlin posed for photos and shook hands with several excited onlookers. Meanwhile, fans cooed over 13-year-old Millie Bobby Brown's sleek black dress.

"Game of Thrones" and "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" actress Gwendoline Christie also stopped to pose for a few selfies while "Key and Peele" nominee Keegan-Michael Key and "UnReal" star Shiri Appleby walked by and waved.

—Lindsey Bahr (@ldbahr on Twitter)

4 p.m.

Judith Light is being fully transparent when she tells bleacher fans how difficult it is to walk a red carpet in heels.

"I can't walk, but thanks," the actress, nominated for her role in a comedy series for the Amazon Instant Video show "Transparent," said as she responded to shouts and cheers from fans in the red-carpet bleachers.

Light was one of the first stars to walk the carpe Sunday, along with fellow nominees Felicity Huffman and her husband, William H. Macy.

—Lindsey Bahr (@ldbahr on Twitter)

3:45 p.m.

It's another hot, hot, hot year on the Emmys red carpet.

With temperatures in the 90s in downtown Los Angeles on Sunday, one woman in the fan bleachers outside the Microsoft Theater was wheeled out on a stretcher by paramedics.

She was alert, sipping water and smiling but had become dehydrated. Her condition prompted event staff to remind everyone present to remember to keep drinking water.

Staffers also fetched little Emmy-branded water bottles for anyone who asked.

Others in the bleachers came prepared with umbrellas, books and snacks while waiting for things to get going.

Only a few nominees had arrived 90 minutes before show time but the red carpet was bustling with

security checks and other pre-show activity.

—Lindsey Bahr (@ldbahr on Twitter)

3:15 p.m.

Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck is asking Emmys attendees to remain vigilant in the wake of explosions in New York City and New Jersey.

Beck says there are no known credible threats to security in Los Angeles, but those attending Sunday's Emmys in downtown Los Angeles should report any suspicious activity.

Downtown LA is an especially busy place Sunday, with the Rams playing their first home football game in 22 years at the nearby Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Beck says Los Angeles police are constantly assessing security threat levels in the wake Saturday's two explosions.

Officials in New York are trying to determine who was responsible for an explosion that injured 29 in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood. New Jersey law enforcement is trying to determine if a pipe bomb that exploded at a seaside community was related to terrorism.

—Anthony McCartney (@mccartneyap)

FBI questions car's occupants in NYC blast probe

By JAKE PEARSON and ALICIA A. CALDWELL, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Agents with the FBI pulled over a car on a highway in Brooklyn on Sunday night and were questioning the vehicle's occupants in connection with the investigation into the New York City bombing that injured 29 people, authorities said.

Agents stopped "a vehicle of interest in the investigation" at 8:45 p.m. Sunday, according to FBI spokeswoman Kelly Langmesser

She wouldn't provide further details, but a government official and a law enforcement official who were briefed on the investigation said five people in the car were being questioned at an FBI building in lower Manhattan.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak about the ongoing investigation.

No one has been charged with any crime and the investigation is continuing, Langmesser said.

The bomb that rocked a bustling Manhattan neighborhood contained residue of an explosive often used for target practice that can be picked up in many sporting goods stores, a federal law enforcement official said Sunday, as authorities tried to unravel who planted the device and why.

The discovery of Tannerite in materials recovered from the Saturday night explosion may be important as authorities probe whether the blast was connected to an unexploded pressure-cooker device found by state troopers just blocks away, as well as a pipe bomb blast in a New Jersey shore town earlier in the day.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo, touring the site of the blast in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood, known for its vibrant arts scene and large gay community, said there didn't appear to be any link to international terrorism. He said the second device appeared "similar in design" to the first, but did not provide details.

"We're going to be very careful and patient to get to the full truth here," Mayor Bill de Blasio said Sunday. "We have more work to do to be able to say what kind of motivation was behind this. Was it a political motivation? A personal motivation? What was it? We do not know that yet."

Cell phones were discovered at the site of both bombings, but no Tannerite residue was identified in the New Jersey bomb remnants, in which a black powder was detected, said the official, who spoke to

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 37 of 61

The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to comment on an ongoing investigation.

Authorities said the Manhattan bombing and the blast 11 hours earlier at the site of a 5K race to benefit Marines and sailors in Seaside Park, New Jersey, didn't appear to be connected, though they weren't ruling anything out. The New Jersey race was cancelled and no one was injured.

Officials haven't revealed any details about the makeup of the pressure-cooker device, except to say it had wires and a cellphone attached to it.

Technicians in Quantico, Virginia, were examining evidence from the Manhattan bombing, described by witnesses as a deafening blast that shattered storefront windows and injured bystanders with shrapnel in the mostly residential neighborhood on the city's west side. All 29 of the injured people were released from the hospital by Sunday afternoon.

On Sunday night, investigators examined a suspicious device found in a trash can near a train station in Elizabeth, New Jersey, that forced the suspension of service on the busy Northeast Corridor line.

Elizabeth Mayor Christian Bollwage said two men called police and reported seeing wires and a pipe coming out of the package after finding it at about 9:30 p.m. Sunday.

Earlier Sunday, a team of five FBI agents searched an Uber driver's vehicle that had been damaged in the Manhattan blast, ripping off the door panels inside as they examined it for evidence.

The driver, MD Alam, of Brooklyn, had just picked up three passengers and was driving along 23rd Street when the explosion occurred, shattering the car's windows and leaving gaping holes in the rear passenger-side door.

"It was so loud," the 32-year-old Alam said. "I was so scared. There was a loud boom and then smoke and I just drove away."

Alam said he hit the gas and tried to take his passengers to their destination in Queens, but pulled over along Madison Avenue and 39th Street. He went to a local police precinct to file a report for his insurance company and police contacted the FBI.

The explosion left many rattled in a city that had marked the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks only a week earlier and where a United Nations meeting to address the refugee crisis in Syria was scheduled on Monday.

"People didn't know what was going on, and that's what was scary," said Anthony Zayas, an actor who was in the Chelsea neighborhood Saturday night when the bomb went off. "You didn't know if was coming from the subway beneath you, you didn't know if there were other bombs, you didn't know where to go."

Tannerite, which is often used in target practice to mark a shot with a cloud of smoke and small explosion, is legal to purchase and can be found in many sporting goods stores. Experts said a large amount would be required to create a blast like the one Saturday night, as well as an accelerant or other ignitor.

Police and federal spokespeople wouldn't comment on the presence of explosive material recovered at the scene.

The bomb in Manhattan appeared to have been placed near a large dumpster in front of a building undergoing construction, another law enforcement official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the ongoing investigation, told the AP. The second device, described by the same official as a pressure cooker with wires and a cellphone attached to it, was removed early Sunday by a bomb squad robot and New York City police blew it up in a controlled explosion Sunday evening, authorities said.

Homemade pressure cooker bombs were used in the Boston Marathon attacks in 2013 that killed three people and injured more than 260.

Officials solicited tips from the public, telling reporters at a news conference in the New York Police

Department's headquarters that they didn't know who set off the bomb or why.

An additional 1,000 state troopers and members of the National Guard were placed at transit hubs and other points throughout New York City and extra police officials were patrolling Manhattan, officials said. Members of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force were investigating the blast along with New York Police Department detectives, fire marshals and other federal investigators.

Meanwhile, a law enforcement official said federal investigators had discounted a claim of responsibility on the social blogging service Tumblr. Investigators looked into it and didn't consider it relevant to the case, said the official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss an ongoing investigation.

Caldwell reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Karen Matthews, Maria Sanminiatelli, Michael Balsamo and Dake Kang in New York, and Eric Tucker and Kevin Freking in Washington contributed to this report.

The Latest: Suspicious device checked at NJ train station

NEW YORK (AP) — The Latest on an explosion hitting a crowded Manhattan neighborhood (all times local):

12:30 a.m.

Investigators are examining a suspicious device found in a trash can near a New Jersey train station, and service on the busy Northeast Corridor line has been suspended.

Elizabeth Mayor Christian Bollwage says two men called police and reported seeing wires and a pipe coming out of the package after finding it at about 9:30 p.m. Sunday.

Bollwage says the Union County bomb squad's robotic device indicated the package the men left under a train trestle could be a live bomb. He says the FBI and state police will decide how to remove the device.

New Jersey Transit says service has been suspended between Newark Liberty Airport and Elizabeth. New York's emergency management department says that New Jersey-bound Amtrak trains are being held at New York Penn Station.

—By Josh Cornfield

11:30 p.m.

Authorities say FBI agents pulled over a car on a highway in Brooklyn and are questioning the vehicle's occupants in connection with the investigation of the bombing in Manhattan.

FBI spokeswoman Kelly Langmesser says agents stopped "a vehicle of interest in the investigation" at 8:45 p.m. Sunday.

She wouldn't provide further details, but a government official and a law enforcement official who were briefed on the investigation said five people in the car were being questioned at an FBI building in lower Manhattan.

The two officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk about an ongoing investigation.

Langmesser said no one has been charged with any crime and the investigation is continuing.

9 p.m.

A team of five FBI agents have searched an Uber driver's vehicle that had been damaged in the Manhattan blast, ripping off the door panels inside as they examined it for evidence.

The driver, MD Alam, had just picked up three passengers and was driving along 23rd Street when the

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 39 of 61

explosion occurred, shattering the car's windows and leaving gaping holes in the rear passenger-side door.

Alam said Sunday he hit the gas and tried to take his passengers to their destination in Queens, but pulled over along Madison Avenue and 39th Street. He went to a local police precinct to file a report for his insurance company and police contacted the FBI.

8 p.m.

New York City police say they've blown up the second device found blocks away from where a bomb exploded in Manhattan.

The New York Police Department says the controlled detonation took place at a police facility in the Bronx on Sunday evening. They said the device has been rendered safe and that a forensic examination of the device will be conducted at the FBI Laboratory at Quantico, Virginia.

The second device was discovered Saturday night by state troopers after a bomb exploded in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood. Twenty-nine people were injured in that blast. They've all since been released from hospitals.

The second device was described by a law enforcement official as a pressure-cooker with wires and a cellphone attached to it. It was taken from the scene by a bomb removal robot.

6:15 p.m.

Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck is asking Emmys attendees to remain vigilant in the wake of explosions in New York City and New Jersey.

Beck says there are no known credible threats to security in Los Angeles, but those attending Sunday's Emmys in downtown Los Angeles should report any suspicious activity.

Downtown LA is an especially busy place Sunday, with the Rams playing their first home football game in 22 years at the nearby Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Beck says Los Angeles police are constantly assessing security threat levels in the wake Saturday's two explosions.

Officials in New York are trying to determine who was responsible for an explosion that injured 29 in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood. New Jersey law enforcement is trying to determine if a pipe bomb that exploded at a seaside community was related to terrorism.

5:30 p.m.

A law enforcement official says federal investigators have discounted a claim of responsibility for the New York City bombing on the social blogging service Tumblr.

The official says investigators looked into it and don't consider it relevant to the case. The official was not authorized to discuss an ongoing investigation and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity

Earlier in the day, another official said that the FBI was aware of the posting and evaluating its authenticity.

The Saturday night blast in Manhattan injured 29 people. Authorities have not yet determined who is behind the blast or a motive. Gov. Andrew Cuomo said it didn't appear to be linked to international terrorism.

Associated Press writer Eric Tucker in Washington contributed to this report.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 40 of 61

5:20 p.m.

New York City police say they're going to blow up the second device found blocks away from where a bomb exploded in Manhattan on Saturday night.

The New York Police Department says the controlled detonation will take place at a police facility in the Bronx on Sunday evening.

The second device was discovered by state troopers after a bomb exploded in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood on Saturday night. Twenty-nine people were injured in that blast. They've all since been released from hospitals.

The second device was described by a law enforcement official as a pressure-cooker with wires and a cellphone attached to it. It was taken from the scene by a bomb removal robot.

Police have not said what, if any, forensic evidence they've collected from that device.

4:15 p.m.

Hillary Clinton is condemning what she calls "apparent terrorist attacks" in New York, New Jersey and Minnesota.

Officials in New York said Sunday they were still trying to determine who was behind an explosion that rocked the Chelsea neighborhood and what the motivation was. New Jersey law enforcement would not say if a pipe bomb that exploded at a seaside community was terror-related.

Officials said an attack at a Minnesota mall in which a man stabbed nine people was being investigated as a possible act of terrorism; an Islamic State-run news agency called the attacker a "soldier of the Islamic State."

In a statement Sunday, the Democratic presidential candidate said law enforcement officials in New York and New Jersey need support as they investigate.

Clinton said of the Minnesota attack, "this should steel our resolve to protect our country and defeat ISIS."

2:30 p.m.

A spokesman says the United Nations is assessing security in the wake of an explosion in New York's Chelsea district as the organization prepares to host world leaders arriving for the General Assembly.

U.N. Spokesman Stephane Dujarric said Sunday that security inside the complex "is being assessed on a constant basis."

He pointed out that security outside the U.N. is the responsibility of the host country.

"We receive great cooperation and appreciate the support from the federal authorities and the NYPD throughout the year, and especially during the General Assembly to keep staff, delegates and visitors safe," Dujarric said.

Twenty-nine people were injured in the Saturday night blast. They have been treated and released from a hospital.

2:05 p.m.

The FBI is evaluating a claim of responsibility for the New York City bombing on the social blogging service Tumblr.

A law enforcement official told The Associated Press on Sunday that the FBI is aware of the posting and was working to determine its authenticity. The official wasn't authorized to discuss an ongoing investigation by name and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The bomb went off Saturday night in Manhattan's Chelsea neighborhood, injuring 29 people. All of them have been released from the hospital.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 41 of 61

A second device was later found inside a plastic bag blocks away, and it appeared to be a pressure cooker with wiring and a cellphone attached to it. A robot removed the device safely.

Associated Press writer Eric Tucker in Washington contributed to this report.

1:45 p.m.

Federal investigators in Quantico, Virginia, are examining evidence from Saturday's explosions in New Jersey and New York.

According to one federal law enforcement official, devices in both explosions included cellphones, but the New Jersey device contained evidence of a black powder explosive. The official says in the New York incident, the device that exploded had residue from an explosive called Tannerite.

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

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

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio says there's no evidence that the two incidents are related, but a connection hasn't been ruled out.

Associated Press writer Alicia A. Caldwell contributed to this report from Washington, D.C.

12:35 p.m.

New York City's mayor says an explosion that rocked a Manhattan neighborhood Saturday night was caused by a bomb.

But Bill de Blasio said Sunday that authorities don't yet know who made it, who set it off or the motivation behind it.

An explosion on a residential street in the Chelsea neighborhood injured 29 people. All of the injured have been released from the hospital.

Earlier Sunday, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said the bombing didn't appear to have any link to international terrorism.

A second device was discovered blocks away, removed by a bomb squad robot and is being examined at a police facility.

Investigators want to determine how it was made and whether it is similar to the device that caused the first blast.

Authorities say there was no structural damage from the blast.

10:35 a.m.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo says there's no evidence that an explosion that rocked a crowded Manhattan neighborhood, injuring 29 people, had any link to international terrorism.

Cuomo spoke Sunday morning near the site of the Saturday night blast on West 23rd Street in the Chelsea neighborhood. He noted that the device in Manhattan appeared to be different than a pipe bomb explosion earlier Saturday in New Jersey and said he didn't believe the two were connected.

Authorities found a second device in Manhattan a few blocks away from the one that exploded and removed it.

Cuomo says the injured have been released from the hospital. Most of the injuries were minor.

The Democratic governor also said that 1,000 additional law enforcement officers were being deployed as a precaution.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 42 of 61

3:45 a.m.

An explosion rocked a crowded Manhattan neighborhood and injured 29 people, and a suspicious device discovered blocks away from the scene was safely removed. Mayor Bill de Blasio ruled out any terror connections, but called the blast an "intentional act."

Early Sunday, police said an investigation into a third suspicious package turned up a bag of trash.

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

The blast is under investigation. A law enforcement official tells The Associated Press that the second device discovered a few blocks from the scene appeared to be a pressure cooker attached to wiring and a cellphone.

UN holds first-ever summit on refugees and migrants

By MICHAEL ASTOR, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The issue of what to do about the world's 65.3 million displaced people takes center stage at the United Nations General Assembly on Monday when leaders from around the globe converge on New York for the first-ever summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants.

With more people forced to flee their homes than at any time since World War II, leaders and diplomats are expected to approve a document aimed at unifying the U.N.'s 193 member states behind a more coordinated approach that protects the human rights of refugees and migrants.

"It's very interesting because if we are able to translate that paper into a response in which many actors are going to participate, we will solve a lot of problems in emergency responses and in long-term refugee situations like the Syrian situation," Filippo Grandi, the U.N.'s High Commissioner for Refugees told The Associated Press.

That may prove an uphill struggle, however, as the document is not legally binding and comes at a time that refugees and migrants have become a divisive issue in Europe and the United States.

A number of countries rejected an earlier draft of the agreement that called on nations to resettle 10 percent of the refugee population each year, something that has led a number of human rights groups to criticize the document as a missed opportunity. The U.S. and a number of other countries also objected to language in the original draft that said children should never be detained, so the agreement now says children should seldom, if ever, be detained.

"Instead of sharing responsibility, world leaders shirked it. The U.N. summit has been sabotaged by states acting in self-interest, leaving millions of refugees in dire situations around the world on the edge of a precipice," Amnesty International Secretary General Salil Shetty said in a statement.

Shetty said the agreement merely kicks the can down the road by calling for separate global compacts for refugees and migrants to be adopted within two years.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, whose report on refugees and migrants laid the basis for the summit document, said he was aware of the criticism from non-governmental groups.

"While we all wish it could be a stronger outcome document ... all 193 member states had to agree on their commitment. As you will see, my report was a strong one," Ban said. "I hope that, as the two compacts are adopted over the coming year and a half, some stronger language and commitment and elements from the report will reappear in the course of this negotiation."

More concrete progress is expected at a follow-up summit on Tuesday called by President Barack

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 43 of 61

Obama, where at least 45 countries are expected to make pledges that are in line with U.S. goals of increasing humanitarian aid by \$3 billion, doubling resettlement and increasing access to education for one million youngsters and access to employment for another million of the displaced.

"You hear all around the world the U.N. hasn't handled the refugee crisis. The way the U.N. will handle the refugee crisis is if all of us countries within the U.N. step up and dig deep and face those political headwinds that we all face, to do more, to give more, to take on a greater share of the resettlement challenge," said Samantha Power, the U.S. ambassador to the U.N.

Power said prior to the pledging summit with world leaders, Obama will host a meeting with top executives from 50 companies to discuss what the private sector can do to help address the problem.

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. They include 21.3 million refugees, 3.2 million asylum seekers, and 40.8 million migrants.

According to the U.N. Refugee Agency, refugees are people forced to flee due to armed conflict or persecution, while migrants chose to move in search of a better life.

Trump supporters struggle to sideline 'birther' issue

By LAURIE KELLMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump's most prominent supporters insisted Sunday that he's put the burden of "birtherism" behind him with his concession that President Barack Obama was born in the United States. But like their candidate, they tried to blame Hillary Clinton's campaign and rejected any notion that Trump's political identity is founded on five years of peddling the false rumor that Obama was born elsewhere.

"It's over," said Trump's running mate, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence.

But saying Trump's admission of the error was behind him — as two sitting governors and several other Trump supporters did across the Sunday talks shows— doesn't necessarily make it true. The issue is nearly certain to come up during Trump and Clinton's first debate, Sept. 26.

The episode reflects Trump's penchant for spreading unsubstantiated claims when he stands to gain from them and his refusal to apologize or take responsibility when he's been wrong. That operating style did not stop the billionaire developer from vanquishing 16 Republican challengers and capturing the GOP nomination. But in a one-on-one battle with Clinton, it can add up to a character questions with three debates and mere weeks to go before the Nov. 8 elections.

Recent polls suggest Trump may have benefited in recent weeks by his own newfound discipline and Clinton's missteps. She called half of Trump's supporters "deplorables" — then apologized for saying "half" — only to fall ill with pneumonia and wobble during an abrupt exit from this year's 9/11 memorial ceremony. For hours, Clinton's campaign obfuscated about what was wrong with her. It was the worst stretch of her campaign, and during it, a newly confident Trump for the first time in several weeks began to veer off his written remarks.

After scripted well wishes for her recovery, he returned to questioning her stamina as she prepared to resume campaigning last week. "You think Hillary would be able to stand up here for an hour and do this?" he asked at a rally. "I don't think so."

And on Friday, he made his usual sarcastic call for Hillary Clinton's Secret Service agents to be stripped of their firearms, then added an aside to his rally remarks: "Let's see what happens to her."

An uproar ensued over what Clinton supporters said was Trump's newest suggestion of violence against her. On Sunday, Pence called that interpretation "absolute nonsense," adding on ABC that

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 44 of 61

Trump was only suggesting Clinton has been protected by gun-toting security guards for decades. Pence said Trump's point was that "she'd change her attitude about the right to keep and bear arms" if she didn't have a security detail. In fact, Clinton has not challenged the constitutional right to bear arms, despite calling for some stronger gun control measures.

Clinton's campaign on Sunday largely let Trump's stands-ins on TV splash around in the morass of "birtherism" while it grappled with her critical challenge: winning young voters who don't trust her and whose support has waned in recent weeks. Running mate Tim Kaine argued there are five "litmus test" issues that show the former secretary of state, not Trump, stands with millennials. The issues, he said, are climate science, women's health, LGBT equality, immigration and college affordability.

But Trump's high-profile supporters weren't focused on issues. One by one, they argued Trump didn't start the birther fable, that he's the victim of a biased media and that people don't care about the birther issue, anyway.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, who's heading up Trump's transition team and has long said Obama was born in the U.S., insisted on CNN that "the birther issue is a done issue."

He blamed a Clinton aide for saying that Clinton herself pushed questions about Obama's birthplace during the 2008 Democratic presidential primary. But that aide, Clinton's 2008 campaign manager Patti Solis Doyle, told CNN that a volunteer county coordinator in Iowa forwarded an email that promoted the debunked theory. She said she apologized to Obama's campaign chief, made clear "this is not coming from us" and Clinton dismissed the coordinator when she learned about the matter.

Meantime there's plenty of evidence that Trump, beginning in 2011, became the chief promoter of "birtherism" as he considered running for president in 2012.

Christie asserted Trump had not pushed the issue: "It wasn't like he was talking about it on a regular basis."

But in August 2012, in just one example of Trump bringing the subject up, he tweeted: "An 'extremely credible source' has called my office and told me that @BarackObama's birth certificate is a fraud."

As recently as January, Trump sounded skeptical on whether he now believed the president was a natural-born citizen eligible under the Constitution to be president.

"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." On Friday, he finally acknowledged: "President Barack Obama was born in the United States, period."

Follow Laurie Kellman on Twitter at: <http://www.twitter.com/APLaurieKellman>

Syrian truce receives new blows with airstrikes, shelling

By **BASSEM MROUE**, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Syria's fragile cease-fire started to unravel on Sunday with the first aerial attacks on rebel-held neighborhoods of Aleppo and a southern village that killed at least eight people, violations that came as tensions between the American and Russian brokers of the deal worsened following a deadly U.S. strike on Syrian government forces.

The air raid by the U.S.-led coalition killed dozens of Syrian soldiers and led to a harsh verbal attack on Washington by Damascus and Moscow. The U.S. military says it may have unintentionally struck Syrian troops while carrying out a raid against the Islamic State group in eastern Syria on Saturday.

The seven-day cease-fire is supposed to end at midnight Sunday, according to a Syrian army statement issued last week. The U.S. and Russia have said that if it holds for seven days, it should be

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 45 of 61

followed by the establishment of a Joint Implementation Center for both countries to coordinate the targeting of Islamic State and al-Qaida-linked militants.

Despite largely holding, the cease-fire has been repeatedly violated by both sides, and aid convoys have not reached besieged rebel-held neighborhoods of Aleppo, Syria's largest city and one-time commercial center, which has been the center of violence in recent months. Aid delivery to Aleppo is part of the U.S.-Russia cease-fire deal.

Earlier this month, Syrian government forces and their allies captured areas they lost south of the city, re-imposing a siege on its opposition-held eastern neighborhoods. More than 2,000 people were killed in 40 days of fighting in the city, including 700 civilians, among them 160 children, according to a Syrian activist group.

Syrian state TV reported Sunday that dozens of residents had left rebel-held areas in Aleppo and were taken to shelters in the government-controlled part of the city.

Also Sunday, Aleppo's governor, Hussein Diab, called on insurgents in the eastern neighborhoods to turn themselves in, hand over their weapons and take advantage of an amnesty decree issued recently by Syrian President Bashar Assad.

"We are at a new stage that requires making the decision to embrace reconciliation," Diab said in a statement carried by the state news agency, SANA. He urged insurgents to halt what he called the bloodshed and destruction and affirmed that all who turned themselves in and surrendered their weapons would be treated well and allowed to return to normal life.

Moscow laid the blame for Sunday's violence squarely on the opposition. 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 said the U.S. has not even tried to get the opposition to hold its fire.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry fired back in an interview with CNN, saying Russia needs to stop Assad from attacking the opposition and blocking aid delivery.

Kerry said Assad was a "spoiler" in the cease-fire, and called on Moscow to "stop the grandstanding, stop the showboating, and get the humanitarian assistance going."

Kerry also said it was important to set up the Joint Implementation Center in order to prevent the "terrible thing that happened yesterday, that we all acknowledge and regret but it happens when you have conflict." He appeared to be referring to the U.S.-led airstrikes in eastern Syria.

Earlier Sunday, Islamic State militants shot down a Syrian warplane as Syrian forces regained ground lost to the extremists following Saturday's airstrike, state media said.

Syria called Saturday's U.S.-led strikes 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 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.

Australian planes were also involved in the errant air raid. Defense Minister Marise Payne told Australian Broadcasting Corp. on Monday that Australia is taking part in a U.S. review of the airstrikes. She declined to say whether Australia fighter jets were involved or support aircraft.

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull told reporters in New York on Sunday that he regrets "the loss of life and injury to any Syrian personnel affected." He said Australian rules of engagement were to target the Islamic State movement.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 46 of 61

Russia's military said it was told by the Syrian army that at least 62 Syrian 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 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, put the toll higher, saying 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 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 Deir el-Zour province, adding that the pilot was killed. IS-linked media also reported the incident.

The Observatory said that intense airstrikes by Russian warplanes had 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, which borders Iraq.

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

Syrian state media said insurgents shelled residential areas in the northern city of Aleppo and the central province of Homs.

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

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

Early results: Ruling party winning Russian parliament vote

By JIM HEINTZ and NATALIYA VASILYEVA, Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Early results on Sunday showed Russia's ruling United Russia party winning in the parliamentary election amid reports of election violations and visible voter apathy in the country's two largest cities.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 47 of 61

With more than 22 percent of the ballots counted, United Russia was recording 50.3 percent of the vote for party-list seats and was far ahead in single-district contests.

The Liberal Democrats and Communists were both recording about 15 percent and A Just Russia had 6 percent. Neither of the two parties which openly oppose President Vladimir Putin was seen making it into the parliament.

The results are likely to change as votes are counted from the western parts of Russia that are more urbanized and where opposition sentiment is stronger. But the election for the 450-seat State Duma, the lower house of parliament, is unlikely to substantially change the distribution of power, in which the United Russia party has held an absolute majority for more than a decade.

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.

Russian Election Commission chief Ella Pamfilova, who pledged to clean up the notoriously rigged system when she assumed the post earlier this year, said as the polls closed that she saw no reason to nullify the vote in any location, conceding, however, that the election "wasn't sterile."

Putin, who formally is not a United Russia member, turned up at its election headquarters shortly after the first results were announced and congratulated the would-be lawmakers.

"Things are tough but people still voted for United Russia," he said. "It means that people see that United Russia members are really working hard for people even though it doesn't always work."

Putin referred to the unusually low turnout as "not the highest," but said it was good enough for the Kremlin party to win an absolute majority.

Voter turnout in Russia's largest cities appeared to be much lower than five years ago, 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 in Moscow, compared to over 50 percent five years earlier, and under 20 percent in St. Petersburg, Russia's second-largest city.

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

Independent political analyst Dmitry Oreshkin, in remarks on the online television channel Dozhd, described the low turnout as the urbanite's "sofa sit-in."

"It's a form of protest, it's escapism," Oreshkin said. "People want to stay away from politics."

Grigory Melkonyants, co-chairman of the election monitoring group Golos, said the lower voter turnout reflected less anxiety among local authorities to produce a high turnout.

Mikhail Kasyanov, a former prime minister and leader of the Parnas party, said after the first votes were counted that he was concerned about the low turnout: "Citizens had no faith in elections as an institution. This is the result of government policies. It's their fault."

Golos had received more than 2,000 complaints of suspected vote rigging from all over the country by early afternoon. Among the reported violations were long lines of soldiers voting at stations where they weren't registered, and voters casting their ballots on tables instead of curtained-off voting booths.

Videos posted on YouTube appeared to show poll workers in several regions in southern Russia dropping multiple sheets of paper into a ballot box.

In the Siberian region of Altai, a candidate from the liberal Yabloko party claimed that young people were voting in the name of elderly people unlikely to come to polling stations. Pamfilova said the results

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 48 of 61

from Altai could be annulled if allegations of vote fraud there were confirmed.

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

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.

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.

"It makes no difference where a person votes for the party of their choice," she said.

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

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."

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.

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, but said it didn't appear to be connected to an explosion that rocked a crowded Manhattan neighborhood Saturday night, injuring 29 people.

They said each bomb contained different materials, but added that they weren't ruling anything out yet. The New Jersey device contained evidence of a black powder.

Special Agent Michael Whitaker, a spokesman for the FBI office in Newark, said state and federal investigators were still 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

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 49 of 61

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.

In the Cards: Louisville surges to No. 3 in the AP Top 25

By RALPH D. RUSSO, AP College Football Writer

Louisville surged to No. 3 in The Associated Press college football poll on Sunday, matching the best ranking in school history, and Ohio State moved up to No. 2 behind Alabama.

The Crimson Tide received 50 first-place votes after coming from 21 points down to win 48-43 at Mississippi on Saturday. The Buckeyes moved up one spot after an emphatic 45-24 victory at Oklahoma.

No team made a bigger move than Louisville, which jumped seven spots and received six-first place votes after Lamar Jackson and the Cardinals beat Florida State 63-20. The Seminoles slid 11 spots to No. 13.

The Cardinals were No. 3 on Nov. 5, 2006, during coach Bobby Petrino's first stint with Louisville.

North Dakota State didn't make the rankings, but received 74 points after upsetting Iowa — the most points ever for a Football Championship Subdivision team. Iowa dropped out.

POLL POINTS

CHARGING BISON

North Dakota State, the five-time-defending FCS national champion, set a record for most points AP poll received by team from Division I football's second tier. Ten FCS teams have received votes in the poll since 2007, after Appalachian State's victory against Michigan prompted the AP to declare that voters could include teams playing in what was once called I-AA.

North Dakota State, which is 5-0 against Power Five teams since 2010, received votes during each season from 2010-14.

UP

— No. 15 Miami moved up 10 spots after winning 35-10 at Appalachian State.

— No. 10 Texas A&M jumped seven places after a 29-16 road victory against Auburn.

— No. 8 Michigan State moved up four spots after beating Notre Dame 36-28 on the road.

DOWN

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 50 of 61

— Florida State's loss to Louisville was the third-most lopsided for a team ranked No. 2 and its drop in the poll was the largest by a No. 2 team since Southern California fell to No. 13 after losing to Stanford 21-14 on Sept. 15, 2012.

— Two weeks after vaulting into the poll, Texas dropped 10 spots to No. 21 after losing a wild game at California.

— No. 23 Mississippi and No. 25 Oklahoma both managed to stay in the rankings after dropping to 1-2 on the season. The Rebels, who opened the season with a loss to Florida State, dropped four spots. The Sooners, who lost their opener to Houston, fell 11 spots.

Six times previously teams have been ranked with 1-2 records since the poll expanded to 25 in 1989. The last 1-2 team to be ranked was Notre Dame on Sept. 12, 1999.

IN

— No. 20 Nebraska is back in the rankings for the first time since Dec. 7, 2014 after beating Oregon 35-32.

— No. 22 San Diego State is ranked for the first time since 1995.

— No. 24 Utah moved to 3-0 after beating San Jose Stater 34-17 on the road.

OUT

— Iowa's loss to North Dakota State cost the Hawkeyes a place in the rankings.

— Notre Dame is out for the first time since the second half of the 2014 season.

— Oregon essentially gave its spot to Nebraska.

CONFERENCE CALL

SEC — 8

Big Ten — 5

ACC — 4

Big 12 — 3

Pac-12 — 3

American — 1

Mountain West — 1

RANKED vs. RANKED

No. 11 Wisconsin at No. 8 Michigan State. The Badgers sleep-walked through a victory against Georgia State before starting a daunting stretch that includes back-to-back games against the Spartans and No. 4 Michigan.

No. 19 Florida at No. 14 Tennessee. The Gators have won 11 straight meetings, but won't have quarterback Luke Del Rio (knee).

No. 12 Georgia at No. 23 Mississippi. The Bulldogs have found their quarterback of the future and present in Jacob Eason.

No. 10 Texas A&M vs. No. 17 Arkansas at Arlington, Texas. The Aggies and Razorbacks went to over-time last season.

AP Sports Writer Paul Montella contributed.

AP college football coverage at www.collegefootball.ap.org

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

AP college football website: collegefootball.ap.org

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 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.

ON FOOTBALL: From top to bottom, teams already feeling pain

By **BARRY WILNER, AP Pro Football Writer**

From the top of the NFL to the bottom of the heap, teams are already feeling the pain. From injuries.

Key performers are dropping like they’ve been through two months of the season, not two weeks. The

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 52 of 61

latest: Adrian Peterson , Jimmy Garoppolo, DeMarcus Ware, Josh McCown, Danny Woodhead, Jonathan Stewart and Arian Foster.

The Patriots, perhaps the league's best team, appear to be down to their third QB. The Browns, possibly the NFL's worst team, also is might be working on No. 3.

Most worrisome, though, is Peterson, the 2012 league MVP and Minnesota's cornerstone on offense. He has remarkable recovery skills — Peterson tore the ACL in his left knee in the second-to-last game of the 2011 season, then played all of 2012 and rushed for more than 2,000 yards. But this is four years later, it's the other knee, and he was unable to put pressure on his leg as he hobbled off the field. Then Peterson needed helped getting to the locker room.

He was on crutches after the game, wearing a brace on his right leg. Coach Mike Zimmer said he was told the injury had "calmed down."

"He might miss a week. I don't know if he will or not," Zimmer said.

Garoppolo hardly is a star with two pro starts in his resume. But he sure was doing a nice imitation of Tom Brady while the four-time Super Bowl champion is serving his four-game "Deflategate" suspension.

Now Jimmy G's immediate future is in doubt after taking a monstrous hit from Miami linebacker Kiko Alonso on a second-quarter pass play. Garoppolo barely was able to move his shoulder as he walked off the field.

As usual, Patriots coach Bill Belichick wasn't supplying much info on his third-year quarterback, saying only the team will take a day-to-day approach. Rookie Jacoby Brissett finished off the win.

"This game is a 100 percent injury rate," Patriots receiver Julian Edelman said. "It's football and everyone's just gotta do their job a little bit better."

Cleveland lost starting quarterback Robert Griffin III last week with a shoulder problem. Now McCown is plagued by the same kind of hurt, though he finished Sunday's 25-20 loss to Baltimore.

Unable to lift his left arm after the game, McCown said he plans to play next week at Miami. With only rookie Cody Kessler on the roster for the position, maybe a one-armed McCown, 37, is a better choice for the woeful Browns.

"We will see," he said. "My mindset is that everything will be all right and we will move ahead business as usual."

Denver's superb defense isn't anchored by the 34-year-old Ware, but he's an important component. The linebacker/pass rush specialist broke his right forearm against Indianapolis.

No one in Denver was sure if Ware would require surgery, could heal without it, or might even be able to play with the injury.

Losing Ware isn't a deal breaker for the Broncos, but the defending champions recognize their defense must stay strong and deep for them to contend again.

Of the three significant injuries to running backs, Woodhead's seems to be the worst. The versatile Chargers sparkplug was taken off the sideline on a cart with an apparent right knee issue.

In their opener, the Chargers lost top wideout Keenan Allen for the year. Philip Rivers could be without two of his most dependable sidekicks, although it's helped San Diego that 2015 first-round pick Melvin Gordon has emerged at running back.

Miami's Foster went down with a groin injury. He already was struggling with a hamstring issue and is coming off surgery to repair his Achilles tendon.

Stewart, Carolina's workhorse back, was hurt in the Super Bowl and it damaged the Panthers' attack in February. Although coach Ron Rivera claims his team is deep at the position, Stewart is a mainstay. If his hamstring injury is a major one, it's a blow to the NFC champs.

As Edelman said, injuries are unavoidable in pro football. Often, the healthiest team when winter hits winds up playing for and probably walking off with the Lombardi Trophy.

Most troubling, though, is when the injury bug hits so soon. Many a team's talented roster has been torn asunder by a lack of health, including Baltimore and Dallas a year ago. It's important, yet difficult, to avoid thinking that if September is so hurtful, what will the rest of the schedule be like?

But the approach has to be a positive one, even when untested quarterbacks are calling signals and Hall of Fame caliber running backs are hobbled.

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

Pro-painkiller echo chamber shaped policy amid drug epidemic

By MATTHEW PERRONE and BEN WIEDER, Associated Press and Center for Public Integrity

For more than a decade, members of a little-known group called the Pain Care Forum have blanketed Washington with messages touting prescription painkillers' vital role in the lives of millions of Americans, creating an echo chamber that has quietly derailed efforts to curb U.S. consumption of the drugs, which accounts for two-thirds of the world's usage.

In 2012, drugmakers and their affiliates in the forum sent a letter to U.S. senators promoting a hearing about an influential report on a "crisis of epidemic proportions": pain in America. Few knew the report stemmed from legislation drafted and pushed by forum members and that their experts had helped author it. The report estimated more than 100 million Americans — roughly 40 percent of adults — suffered from chronic pain, an eye-popping statistic that some researchers call deeply problematic.

The letter made no reference to another health issue that had been declared an epidemic by federal authorities: drug overdoses tied to prescription painkillers. Deaths linked to addictive drugs like OxyContin, Vicodin and Percocet had increased more than fourfold since 1999, accounting for more fatal overdoses in 2012 than heroin and cocaine combined.

An investigation by The Associated Press and The Center for Public Integrity reveals that similar feedback loops of information and influence play out regularly in the nation's capital, fueled by money and talking points from the Pain Care Forum, a loose coalition of drugmakers, trade groups and dozens of nonprofits supported by industry funding that has flown under the radar until now.

Hundreds of internal documents shed new light on how drugmakers and their allies shaped the national response to the ongoing wave of prescription opioid abuse, which has claimed the lives of roughly 165,000 Americans since 2000, according to federal estimates.

Painkillers are among the most widely prescribed medications in the U.S., but pharmaceutical companies and allied groups have a multitude of legislative interests beyond those drugs. From 2006 through 2015, participants in the Pain Care Forum spent over \$740 million lobbying in the nation's capital and in all 50 statehouses on an array of issues, including opioid-related measures, according to an analysis of lobbying filings by the Center for Public Integrity and AP.

The same organizations reinforced their influence with more than \$140 million doled out to political campaigns, including more than \$75 million alone to federal candidates, political action committees and parties.

That combined spending on lobbying and campaigns amounts to more than 200 times the \$4 million spent during the same period by the handful of groups that work for restrictions on painkillers. Meanwhile, opioid sales reached \$9.6 billion last year, according to IMS Health, a health information company.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 54 of 61

"You can go a long, long way in getting what you want when you have a lot of money," said Professor Keith Humphreys of Stanford University, a former adviser on drug policy under President Barack Obama. "And it's only when things get so disastrous that finally there's enough popular will aroused to push back."

Obama gave his first speech on the opioid epidemic last fall. In July, Congress passed its first legislation targeting the crisis, an election-year package intended to expand access to addiction treatment. But the law includes little new funding and no restrictions on painkillers, such as mandatory training for prescribers, a step favored by federal advisory panels.

Obama administration officials say they have tried to strike a balance between controlling the harms of opioids and keeping them available for patients.

"We did not want to deny people access to appropriate pain care," said Michael Botticelli, Obama's drug czar. "We were all trying to figure out what the balance was, and that's still the case going forward."

Painkillers are modern versions of ancient medicines derived from the opium poppy, also the source of heroin. Prescription opioids were long reserved for the most severe forms of pain associated with surgery, injury or terminal diseases like cancer.

That changed in the 1990s with a surge in prescribing for more common ailments like back pain, arthritis and headaches. A combination of factors fueled the trend, including new medical guidelines, insurance policies and pharmaceutical marketing for long-acting drugs like OxyContin.

The drug's manufacturer, Purdue Pharma, pleaded guilty and agreed to pay more than \$600 million in fines in 2007 for misleading the public about the risks of OxyContin. But the drug continued to rack up blockbuster sales, generating more than \$22 billion over the last decade.

Despite having no physical address or online presence, the Pain Care Forum hosts high-ranking officials from the White House, Food and Drug Administration and other agencies at its monthly gatherings.

Purdue's Washington lobbyist, Burt Rosen, co-founded the forum more than a decade ago and coordinates the group's meetings, which include dozens of lobbyists and executives.

Purdue declined to make Rosen available for interviews and did not answer specific questions about its lobbying activities or financial support for forum participants. Purdue said it supports a range of advocacy groups, including some with differing views on opioids.

"In practice and governance, the Pain Care Forum is like any of the hundreds of policy coalitions in Washington and throughout the nation," the company said in a statement, adding: "Purdue complies with all applicable lobbying disclosure laws and requirements."

While Purdue, Endo Pharmaceuticals and other members have maintained the forum does not take policy positions, the AP and Center for Public Integrity's reporting shows the group's participants have worked together to push and draft federal legislation, blunt regulations and influence decisions around opioids.

Opioid drugmakers say they are striving to improve the safety of their products and how they are used. They point to new harder-to-crush pills and initiatives that, among other things, allow states to share databases designed to spot "doctor shopping" by patients.

Elsewhere, experts are reevaluating the effectiveness of opioids for most forms of chronic pain, noting little long-term research.

"The biggest myth out there is that there's a conflict between reducing our dependence on opioids and improving care for patients in pain," said Dr. Caleb Alexander, co-director of Johns Hopkins University's Center for Drug Safety and Effectiveness. "It's an artificial conflict, but there are lots of vested

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 55 of 61

interests behind it.”

‘THE EPIDEMIC OF PAIN’

By spring 2014, the figure that 100 million Americans suffered from chronic pain was getting new attention: as a talking point for the nation’s top drug regulator.

The head of the FDA used the statistic to illustrate the importance of keeping painkillers accessible, despite the escalating toll of opioid addiction and abuse in American communities.

In an online essay, then-Commissioner Dr. Margaret Hamburg said reducing the toll was a “highest priority,” but that her agency had to “balance it with another major public health priority: managing the pain that affects an estimated 100 million Americans.”

That line populated her speeches and interviews for months.

But Michael Von Korff of the Group Health Research Institute, whose research contributed to the statistic, said the number has no connection to opioids. Instead, he said, it mostly represents “people with run-of-the-mill pain problems who are already managing them pretty well.”

Von Korff’s work is funded by federal, foundation and health insurance sources. He also is an officer with Physicians for Responsible Opioid Prescribing, a group pushing for restrictions on the drugs.

Pain Care Forum participants spent nearly \$19 million on lobbying efforts that included the legislation requiring federal research on pain and the Institute of Medicine report that first highlighted the figure.

Concerns about the use of the statistic in connection with opioids and ties between some of the report authors and the pharmaceutical industry were covered by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel in 2014.

Nearly half the experts assembled by the Institute of Medicine to write the 364-page report had served as leaders in Pain Care Forum-affiliated groups, such as the American Pain Foundation, the American Pain Society and the American Academy of Pain Medicine — all supported by industry funding.

Hamburg said in an email that the report was “another piece of scientific literature that helped inform the broader field,” which her agency had no role in producing.

The Pain Care Forum discussed the legislation that led to the report at its first meeting in February 2005, according to notes by one of the group’s principal members, The American Pain Foundation. Memos from the now-defunct foundation are among hundreds of documents obtained through public information requests by the AP and the Center for Public Integrity from the city of Chicago, which accused six drugmakers of misleading the public about opioid risks in an ongoing lawsuit.

In June 2006, the forum organized a Capitol Hill briefing headlined “The Epidemic of Pain in America.” Briefing materials included statements like: “Appropriate use of opioid medications like oxycodone is safe and effective and unlikely to cause addiction in people who are under the care of a doctor and who have no history of substance abuse.”

Attendees were asked to support a bill from then-Congressman Mike Rogers, which would later be rewritten by the forum and reintroduced in 2007 and 2009, according to the memos. It called for the Institute of Medicine — now a part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine — to develop a comprehensive report on pain in America. Parts of the legislation eventually passed with Obama’s sweeping health care overhaul of 2010.

Rogers, a Republican from Michigan, received at least \$310,000 in contributions from forum groups from 2006 to 2015, which went to his campaign and to a leadership account that he could use to donate to his peers.

Rogers, who left office last year, rejected the idea that he was influenced by the contributions, and said he began working on pain issues as a state senator after helping his brother through a series of back surgeries.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 56 of 61

"I think they said, 'This guy is a champion, he's doing something we believe in and we want to support guys like that,'" he said.

Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and former Sen. Chris Dodd, D-Conn., who together introduced the Senate version of the bill, received more than \$360,000 and \$190,000 respectively from forum participants.

Staffers for Hatch did not respond to repeated requests for comment. Dodd, who left office in 2011, said in a statement: "Sen. Hatch and I worked together to increase awareness and understanding of this serious medical condition in the hopes of providing relief to the millions of Americans who suffer from chronic pain."

Phil Saigh, the executive director of the American Academy of Pain Medicine, said he informed the Pain Care Forum years ago that his group did not consider itself a member of the coalition. Yet the academy has continuously appeared in directories of forum participants since 2006, including as late as 2013, the most recent documents available.

The academy and the American Pain Society say some of the funding they receive from drugmakers is in the form of grants used for expenses tied to educational meetings and events. Both organizations also operate separate "corporate councils," in which companies are granted meetings with physicians in exchange for annual payments up to the \$20,000 range.

Jennifer Walsh, a spokeswoman for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, said, "We stand by our report, the committee, and the process that produced it."

Experts who could personally profit from reports are prohibited from serving on its committees, she added. But the academies, which advise the federal government on scientific and medical topics, declined to release financial disclosure forms completed by panelists.

Those on opposite sides of the opioids debate agree that the report raised important points about pain treatment, including warnings about the addictiveness of painkillers.

After the report's release in June 2011, the American Pain Foundation received \$150,000 from Purdue to promote its findings through the Pain Care Forum. The foundation planned "congressional briefings and hearings" and "meetings with the leadership of various federal agencies," according to a November 2011 letter.

The foundation closed the next year. Senate investigators had asked about the nonprofit receiving nearly 90 percent of its funding from industry.

Meanwhile, a handful of lawmakers tried to draw attention to rising rates of painkiller abuse.

In 2010, then-Rep. Mary Bono, R-Calif., co-founded the Congressional Caucus on Prescription Drug Abuse, which focused on educating lawmakers about drug abuse. She clipped newspaper stories from her colleagues' home states, but recalled, "They'd just say 'Yeah, yeah, yeah,' and move on to more pressing matters."

Bono, whose family had dealt with opioid addiction, drafted legislation in 2010 designed to curb opioid prescribing by requiring the FDA to limit the labeling for OxyContin and related drugs to "severe pain." OxyContin had long been marketed for a broader indication listed on the label as "moderate-to-severe pain."

According to Bono, a Purdue lobbyist visited her and threatened to pull back on its state-level funding for drug abuse initiatives.

"They were just letting it be known that if I didn't play nicer with them, they could cause some things to happen that I wouldn't like," she said.

Purdue said in a statement that it met with Bono to support "her efforts to stop prescription drug abuse." The company says it does not oppose measures that "improve the way opioids are prescribed," even when they could reduce sales. Former Rep. Bill Brewster, D-Oklahoma, a contract lobbyist for Pur-

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 57 of 61

due at the time, said in an email that he recalled the conversation as "cordial and constructive."

Purdue spent nearly \$800,000 on lobbying efforts that included Bono's bill and subsequent versions of it. Pain Care Forum participants gave her campaigns more than \$60,000 from 2006 through 2012.

Bono's bill, the Stop Oxy Abuse Act, never received a congressional vote or hearing, even after Republicans regained control of the House in the November 2010 elections. She lost her congressional seat in 2012.

'WHAT'S A REGULATOR TO DO?'

In June 2012, a senior FDA official gave a presentation to the Pain Care Forum titled: "FDA and Opioids: What's a regulator to do?"

For several years, the FDA had been developing risk-management plans to reduce misuse of long-acting opioids like OxyContin. With oversight of drugmakers and their marketing efforts, the agency seemed perfectly positioned to tackle the problem.

But the plans that the FDA laid out lacked the major reforms suggested by the agency itself in 2009, when it announced the initiative. Instead of mandatory certification training for doctors and electronic registries to track opioid prescriptions to patients, the FDA official outlined much milder steps: Drugmakers would fund optional classes for prescribers and supply pharmacy brochures to patients about opioid risks.

Over several years, the FDA seemed to have backed away from any significant restrictions.

"It was my observation that the staff at FDA had really bought into the idea that pain was greatly undertreated in the United States," said Dr. Elinore McCance-Katz, former chief medical officer with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration, a federal health agency.

As early as December 2008, the Pain Care Forum was developing a strategy to "inform the process" at the FDA, according to meeting minutes from the American Pain Foundation.

When the FDA sought public comment on how to proceed, the forum helped generate more than 2,000 comments opposing new barriers to opioids, according to a 2010 foundation memo. Additionally, the forum produced a 4,000-signature petition opposing electronic registries for opioid prescriptions, which advocacy groups said would stigmatize patients.

Finally, in July 2010, the FDA assembled a panel of outside advisers — primarily physicians — to review its plans to manage opioid risks, including voluntary doctor training.

During a comment period, several members of the public warned it was a mistake. Dr. Nathaniel Katz, a former FDA adviser turned pharmaceutical consultant, traveled from Boston to implore the panel to support tougher requirements.

"The days of prescribers not being trained how to safely prescribe the number one medication in the United States have to be brought to an end by you today," said Katz, who had previously chaired the FDA panel, according to a meeting transcript.

Ultimately, the panel voted 25-10 against the measures developed by the FDA, saying they would have little effect on opioid abuse. But the FDA put them in place anyway, one month after the agency briefed the Pain Care Forum on the plans. The FDA is not required to follow the recommendations of its advisory panels.

Agency officials said they decided that requiring certification for opioid prescribers would have been overly burdensome and disrupted care for patients.

"You can't imagine the bitter screeds we hear from the prescribing community about the paperwork involved," said Dr. Janet Woodcock, head of the FDA's drug center. She added that the opioid crisis fundamentally stems from individual prescribing decisions, saying, "We don't regulate medical practice."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 58 of 61

In the last two years, the FDA has placed several limitations on opioids, including adding new bolded warnings to immediate-release opioids such as Vicodin and Percocet. But prescriber training remains optional, even after a second FDA advisory panel again recommended the step earlier this year. Woodcock says the agency is still weighing that recommendation.

Currently, states such as Massachusetts are imposing their own physician-training requirements, a development that Katz attributes to a lack of federal action.

"The FDA failed to make a decision that could have averted many of the thousands of deaths we're seeing per year," Katz said. "So when people continue to die and communities continue to be devastated, then others will arise to do the policing."

CHARTING A 'SAFER COURSE'

It was a federal agency hundreds of miles from Washington that finally sidestepped the influence of the pain care lobbyists.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, located in Atlanta, overcame threats of congressional investigation and legal action to publish the first federal guidelines intended to reduce opioid prescribing earlier this year.

Essentially, the agency said the risks of painkillers greatly outweigh the benefits for the vast majority of patients with routine chronic pain. Instead, the guidelines said, doctors should consider alternatives like non-opioid pain relievers and physical therapy.

For more than 15 years, CDC officials have tracked the precipitous rise in painkiller overdoses, which has been followed by a similar surge in heroin deaths. The CDC called the painkiller trend an epidemic in 2011, pushing Washington officials to do the same. The agency's director, Dr. Tom Frieden, labeled opioids "dangerous medications" that "should be reserved for situations like severe cancer pain."

When the CDC drafted its opioid guidelines, it moved quickly and quietly, initially giving outside groups just 48 hours to comment on draft guidelines distributed last September.

Opioid proponents said the guidelines were not based on solid evidence and criticized the CDC for not disclosing outside experts who had advised the effort, alleging that they included physicians who were biased against painkillers.

One pharma-aligned group, the Washington Legal Foundation, said the lack of disclosure constituted a "clear violation" of federal law. And a longtime Pain Care Forum participant — now known as the Academy of Integrative Pain Management — asked congressional leaders to investigate how the CDC had developed the guidelines. A House committee asked the CDC to turn over documents about its advisers, but staffers said the probe did not uncover any violations.

Some of the most vigorous pushback came from Pain Care Forum affiliates embedded in the federal system. Under the 2010 pain legislation backed by the forum, the NIH had created a 19-member panel to coordinate pain research made up of federal officials, civilian physicians and pain advocates.

At the group's December meeting, panelists with connections to the Pain Care Forum called the CDC's approach "horrible" and "shocking."

Dr. Richard Payne, a former board member of the American Pain Foundation, questioned whether the experts advising the CDC had "conflicts of interests in terms of biases, intellectual conflicts that needed to be disclosed."

Payne himself had received more than \$16,240 in speaking fees, meals, travel and other payments from drugmakers, including Purdue, between 2013 and 2015, according to federal records.

Myra Christopher, a long-time Pain Care Forum participant, said the panel should inform the CDC that it could not support the opioid guidelines and that their release should be delayed.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 59 of 61

Christopher holds a chair at the nonprofit Center for Practical Bioethics, which receives funding from opioid drugmakers, and her position was established through a \$1.5 million gift from Purdue. Both she and Payne also served on the Institute of Medicine panel on pain in America.

Christopher and Payne said they were thoroughly vetted before serving on the panel and disclosed their past work and activities. Federal officials who oversee the panel responded that all members met federal requirements to serve, including completing financial disclosure forms, though the NIH said those cannot be publicly released.

One week after the NIH panel's critique, the CDC said it would delay finalizing its guidelines to allow more public comment and released a list of advisers. One of 17 "core experts" advising the agency reported serving as a paid consultant to Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll, the law firm suing multiple opioid drugmakers on behalf of the city of Chicago.

In March, the final guidelines appeared.

The first recommendation for U.S. doctors: "Opioids are not first-line therapy" for chronic pain. It was a statement considered common practice by many doctors as recently as the early-1990s, a decade before the Pain Care Forum formed in Washington.

"We're trying to chart a safer and more effective course for dealing with chronic pain," Frieden said. "We don't expect any magic. We don't expect things to be better in 15 months when it's taken 15 years to get this much worse."

Reporters Geoff Mulvihill of The Associated Press and Liz Essley Whyte of The Center for Public Integrity contributed to this report.

Follow Perrone on Twitter at https://twitter.com/AP_FDawriter and Wieder at <http://twitter.com/benbwieder>

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, Sept. 19, the 263rd day of 2016. There are 103 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 19th, 1796, President George Washington's farewell address was published. In it, America's first chief executive advised, "Observe good faith and justice toward all nations. Cultivate peace and harmony with all."

On this date:

In 1777, the first Battle of Saratoga was fought during the Revolutionary War; although British forces succeeded in driving out the American troops, the Americans prevailed in a second battle the following month.

In 1881, the 20th president of the United States, James A. Garfield, died 2½ months after being shot by Charles Guiteau; Chester Alan Arthur became president.

In 1906, addressing the annual dinner of The Associated Press in New York, Mark Twain said, "There are only two forces that can carry light to all the corners of the globe — only two — the sun in the heavens and The Associated Press down here."

In 1915, vaudeville performer W.C. Fields made his movie debut as "Pool Sharks," a one-reel silent comedy, was released.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 60 of 61

In 1934, Bruno Hauptmann was arrested in New York and charged with the kidnap-murder of Charles A. Lindbergh Jr.

In 1945, Nazi radio propagandist William Joyce, known as "Lord Haw-Haw," was convicted of treason and sentenced to death by a British court.

In 1959, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, in Los Angeles as part of his U.S. tour, reacted angrily upon being told that, for security reasons, he wouldn't get to visit Disneyland.

In 1960, Cuban leader Fidel Castro, in New York to visit the United Nations, angrily checked out of the Shelburne Hotel in a dispute with the management; Castro ended up staying at the Hotel Theresa in Harlem.

In 1970, the situation comedy "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" debuted on CBS-TV.

In 1982, the smiley emoticon was invented by Carnegie Mellon University professor Scott E. Fahlman, who suggested punctuating humorously intended computer messages with a colon followed by a hyphen and a parenthesis as a horizontal "smiley face." :-)

In 1985, the Mexico City area was struck by a devastating earthquake that killed at least 9,500 people.

In 1996, IBM announced it would extend health benefits to the partners of its gay employees.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush, speaking to the U.N. General Assembly, tried to quell anti-Americanism in the Middle East by assuring Muslims he was not waging war against Islam. U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan delivered an emotional farewell address, appealing to the world to unite against human rights abuses, religious divisions, brutal conflicts and an unjust world economy. Thailand's army commander staged a coup, ousting Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra (TAHK'-sin SHIN'-uh-wah) over accusations of corruption. Actress Elizabeth Allen, 77, died in Fishkill, New York.

Five years ago: In a White House address, a combative President Barack Obama demanded that the richest Americans pay higher taxes to help cut soaring U.S. deficits by more than \$3 trillion. Mariano Rivera set a major league record with his 602nd save, closing out the New York Yankees' 6-4 win over the Minnesota Twins. Dolores Hope, the sultry-voiced songstress who was married to Bob Hope for 69 years and sometimes sang on his shows for U.S. troops and on his television specials, died in Los Angeles at age 102.

One year ago: Pope Francis, arriving in Havana, hailed detente between Cuba and the United States as a model of reconciliation for the world as he launched a 10-day tour of the former Cold War foes. President Barack Obama paid tribute to black women for their role in helping shape American democracy as he delivered the keynote address to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's annual awards dinner. Jackie Collins, 77, the bestselling author of dozens of novels including "Hollywood Wives," died in Los Angeles.

Today's Birthdays: Author Roger Angell is 96. Host James Lipton (TV: "Inside the Actors Studio") is 90. Actress Rosemary Harris is 89. Former Defense Secretary Harold Brown is 89. Actor Adam West is 88. Actor David McCallum is 83. Singer-songwriter Paul Williams is 76. Singer Bill Medley is 76. Singer Sylvia Tyson (Ian and Sylvia) is 76. R&B singer Freda Payne is 74. Golfer Jane Blalock is 71. Singer David Bromberg is 71. Actor Randolph Mantooth is 71. Rock singer-musician Lol Creme (10cc) is 69. Former NFL running back Larry Brown is 69. Actor Jeremy Irons is 68. Actress Twiggy Lawson is 67. TV personality Joan Lunden is 66. Singer-producer Daniel Lanois (Ian-WAH') is 65. Actor Scott Colomby is 64. Musician-producer Nile Rodgers is 64. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Reggie Williams is 62. Singer-actor Rex Smith is 61. Rock singer Lita Ford is 58. Actor Kevin Hooks is 58. Actress Carolyn McCormick is 57. Celebrity chef Mario Batali is 56. Actress-comedian Cheri Oteri is 54. Country singer Jeff Bates is 53. Country singer Trisha Yearwood is 52. News anchor Soledad O'Brien is 50. Rhythm-and-blues singer Espraronza Griffin (Society of Soul) is 47. Celebrity chef Michael Symon

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 19, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 080 ~ 61 of 61

is 47. Actress Sanaa Lathan (suh-NAH' LAY'-thun) is 45. Actress Stephanie J. Block is 44. Rock singer A. Jay Popoff (Lit) is 43. "Tonight Show" host Jimmy Fallon is 42. TV personality Carter Oosterhouse is 40. Actress-TV host Alison Sweeney is 40. Rock musician Ryan Dusick is 39. Folk-rock singers-musicians Tegan (TEE'-gan) and Sara Quin are 36. Actor Columbus Short is 34. Rapper Eamon is 33. Christian rock musician JD Frazier is 33. Actor Kevin Zegers is 32. Actress Danielle Panabaker is 29.

Thought for Today: "Start every day off with a smile and get it over with." — W.C. Fields, American comedian (1880-1946).