

Groton Daily Independent

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Today

Autumn Equinox

Business Women's Day
Elephant Appreciation Day
Hobbit Day

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

School Lunch: Chicken dumplings, French fries, broccoli and dip, fruit.

Senior Menu: Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas and carrots, peach cobbler, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: • Katie Kampa • Darin Krueger • Alex McKiver • Keegan Schelle • Jason Mettler • Rose Waage • Madison McNickle • Jay Peterson

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

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

10:00am: Boys golf at Sisseton

4:00pm: 7th Gr FB at Aberdeen Central

4:30pm: VB: at Sisseton (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)

23

Checkers Day
Dog in Politics Day
Native American Day

School Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, yogurt, fruit, juice or milk.

School Lunch: Chicken sandwich, baked chips, romaine salad, fruit.

Senior Menu: Spanish rice with hamburger, green beans, Mandarin oranges, chocolate pudding, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: • Carolyn Snyder • Duane Johnson

7:00pm: FB vs. Roncalli at Aberdeen Central

Apts for Rent

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

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

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Kristi Peterson Bookkeeping
Simple Solutions for YOU
605/216-4474 ~ peterson4@nvc.net



Kenny built wagon to remember the pioneers

The Terry and Kristin Kenny home at 610 N Main, Groton, was chosen as last week's Yard of the Week. It is unique in that he made the wagon from scratch and they decorated it for autumn. "I got the wheels from a side delivery rake and a corn planter, both which came from my dad and great uncle. Terry said it took him about 30 hours to make the wagon. "I enjoy history," he said. "And I enjoy the process of the Pioneers and like to reflect on what they used to do and how tough it was for them. They had a difficult journey. It's a memorial to the old timers as well as a yard decoration."

He also has a lantern on the wagon that used to belong to his grandmother. He put an electrical bulb in it so it illuminates at night. But the corn he had on the wagon did not last long. "The the squirrels are enjoying it and dining daily on it."

Pictured are Terry, holding their 12 year old Gizo, and Kristin Kenny.

The interview that was done on the Kenny's is featured at GDILIVE.COM.

Getting ready for the great Pumpkin Fest



Groton is getting ready for its first ever Pumpkin Fest! Above, Mayor Scott Hanlon brought in some decorated pumpkins and there is a story to be told there as well! David McGannon got three pumpkins from the Pumpkin Patch and he gave them to Lori

Westby. Westby had a lady in Aberdeen decorate them and the pumpkins were donated to the SPURS Fundraiser. Mayor Scott Hanlon was the high bidder for the pumpkins so they have returned back to Groton. You will see the pumpkins around town at various businesses and club meetings. Two decorated pumpkins will be given away at the Pumpkin Fest. The top right photo features David McGannon setting up a pumpkin display for the Kiwanis Meeting held Wednesday. A pumpkin will also be displayed at the Lions Club Meeting Thursday night.

There are so many individuals, organizations and other volunteers lined up to help with the Pumpkin Fest. April Abeln and David McGannon have been instrumental in getting the event planned and organized. Donations of offset expenses have been made. Councilman Eddy Opp at the last council meeting challenged all councilmen and city employees to \$20 for the event. At last count, all but one have stepped up to the challenge.

The event will be held Saturday, Oct. 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the City Park. The city will be hauling in extra picnic tables from the baseball complex for the children to paint their pumpkins. There will be hayrides to and from the pumpkin patch, face painting, a train ride for the little ones and inflatables. Lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Any one wanting to make a donation can contact April Abeln at City Hall.

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Homecoming Dress-up Days Next Week: General Theme is Disney Middle/High School

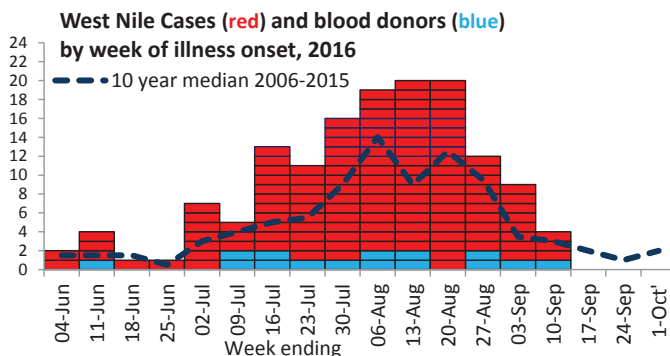
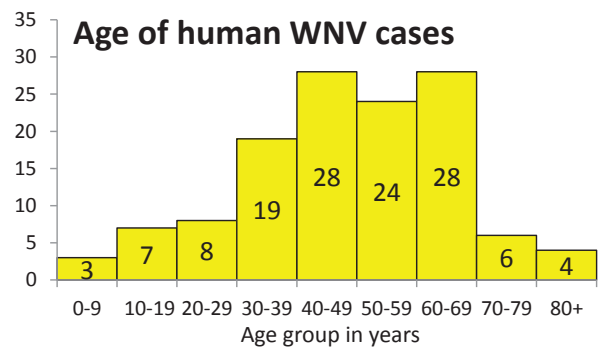
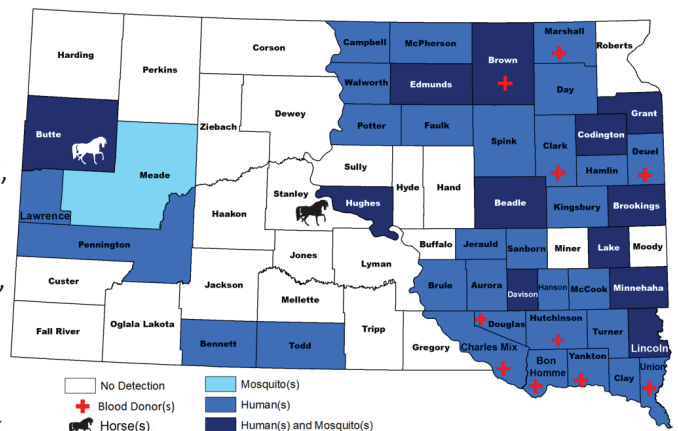
- Monday--Pajama Day
- Tuesday--Jersey Day
- Wednesday--Country Day
- Thursday--Color Day (seniors--black, juniors--white, sophomores--pink, freshmen--blue, 8th grade--green, 7th grade--yellow, 6th grade--purple, staff--red)
- Friday--Spirit Day

Elementary School

- Monday: Neon
- Tuesday: Pajama
- Wednesday: Hat
- Thursday: Stuffed Animal
- Friday: Spirit Day

West Nile update: South Dakota, 21 September 2016

- **127 human cases of West Nile virus disease** have been reported to the SD Department of Health.
- **Illness:** 18% neuroinvasive disease, 82% WNV fever, 31% hospitalized.
- **Deaths:** 2.
- **Viremic blood donors:** 15.
- **Counties with human WNV cases:** Aurora 3, Beadle 7, Bennett, Bon Homme 2, Brookings 6, Brown 15, Brule, Butte 2, Campbell, Charles Mix 8, Clark 4, Clay, Codington 3, Davison 2, Day 2, Deuel, Douglas 3, Edmunds, Faulk, Grant, Hamlin 3, Hanson 2, Hughes, Hutchinson 5, Jerauld 2, Kingsbury 2, Lake 3, Lawrence 7, Lincoln 5, Marshall 3, McCook 2, McPherson, Minnehaha 10, Pennington 2, Potter, Sanborn, Spink 7, Todd, Turner 2, Union, Walworth, Yankton 2.
- **Counties with viremic blood donors:** Bon Homme 2, Brown 2, Charles Mix, Clark, Deuel, Douglas, Marshall, Minnehaha, Spink Union, Yankton 3.
- **Counties with WNV positive horses:** Stanley, Butte.
- **Counties with WNV positive mosquito detections:** Beadle, Brookings, Brown, Butte, Codington, Davison, Edmunds, Grant, Hughes, Lake, Lincoln, Meade and Minnehaha.



SD Department of Health phone 800-592-1861
 SD Department of Health: <http://westnile.sd.gov>
 SDSU WNV risk assessment: <http://mosquito.sdstate.edu>
 CDC West Nile: www.cdc.gov/westnile



2017 GROTON DOG LICENSES AVAILABLE NOW!

Licenses due by Dec. 30, 2016
Fines start after Dec. 30, 2016

Must bring proof of rabies shot information for each dog to City Hall. Spayed or neutered dogs are \$5 per dog, otherwise \$10 per dog. If you no longer have any dogs, please let City Hall know ASAP.

Worrel Pumpkin Patch



Hours are
Saturdays and Sundays
10am-4pm thru Oct. 23rd.
Group appointments call
605-377-8133
Address is 13606 429th
Ave - Webster, SD
22 Miles East of Groton

We have a large variety of Pumpkins
(white, orange, blue, green)
Gourds, Straw Bales and Melons.
Check us out on Facebook at worrelpumpkinpatch



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.dacotahpraiiemuseum.com
Granary Website: granaryfinearts.org



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Today in Weather History

September 22, 1936: Abnormally warm conditions brought record temperatures to much of central and northeast South Dakota along with west central Minnesota on this day in 1936. Temperatures rose into the upper 90s and lower 100s during the afternoon hours. Pierre and Watertown set record highs of 99 degrees. Mobridge and Sisseton warmed to record highs of 101 degrees. Finally, Kennebec and Aberdeen rose to record highs of 102 and 103 degrees, respectively.

1810: A tornado striking Fernhill Heath had a width between 0.5 to 1 mile; making it the widest path ever in Britain.

1890: A severe hailstorm struck Strawberry, Arizona. Five days after the storm hail still lay in drifts 12 to 18 inches deep.

1913 - Des Moines, IA, experienced their earliest freeze of record. (The Weather Channel)

1961 - Hurricane Esther made a near complete circle south of Cape Cod. The hurricane then passed over Cape Cod and hit Maine. Its energy was largely spent over the North Atlantic Ocean, however, heavy rains over Maine resulted in widespread local flooding of cellars, low roads, and underpasses. (David Ludlum)

1983 - Forty-one cities reported record cold temperatures during the morning. Houston, TX, hit 50 degrees, and Williston ND plunged to 19 degrees. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Hurricane Emily, the first hurricane to roam the Caribbean in nearly six years, made landfall over the Dominican Republic late in the day, packing 125 mph winds. Emily killed three persons and caused thirty million dollars damage. A record high of 92 degrees at Miami FL was their fifth in a row. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - An early morning thunderstorm produced baseball size hail at Plainview, in Hale County TX. Late in the evening more thunderstorms in the Southern High Plains Region produced wind gusts to 75 mph at Plainview TX and Crosby TX. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)








1989 - Hurricane Hugo quickly lost strength over South Carolina, but still was a tropical storm as it crossed into North Carolina, just west of Charlotte, at about 7 AM. Winds around Charlotte reached 69 mph, with gusts to 99 mph. Eighty percent of the power was knocked out to Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Property damage in North Carolina was 210 million dollars, and damage to crops was 97 million dollars. The strongest storm surge occurred along the southern coast shortly after midnight, reaching nine feet above sea level at ocean Isle and Sunset Beach. Hugo killed one person and injured fifteen others in North Carolina. Strong northwesterly winds ushered unseasonably cold air into the north central U.S., in time for the official start of autumn, at 8" 20 PM (CDT). Squalls produced light snow in northern Wisconsin. Winds in Wisconsin gusted to 52 mph at Rhinelander. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

2005 - For the first time in the historical record, two hurricanes reached category-5 intensity in the Gulf of Mexico in a single season as Hurricane Rita intensified before making landfall (Katrina and Rita)

2006: The tristate area of Missouri, Illinois, and Kentucky was struck by the worst tornado outbreak in the recorded history during the month of September. One supercell produced a long-track F4 tornado across southeastern Missouri into southwestern Illinois. This tornado traveled 27.5 miles.

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| Today | Tonight | Friday | Friday Night | Saturday | Saturday Night | Sunday |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cloudy then Mostly Cloudy and Breezy | Slight Chance T-storms | Chance T-storms and Breezy | Chance T-storms and Breezy | Chance T-storms | Slight Chance T-storms then Partly Cloudy | Slight Chance Showers |
| High: 66 °F | Low: 56 °F | High: 71 °F | Low: 63 °F | High: 76 °F | Low: 51 °F | High: 62 °F |

Cool & Cloudy Today

Highs in the 60s
(5 to 10 degrees below normal)



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 9/22/2016 4:29 AM Central

Published on: 09/22/2016 at 4:33AM

A ridge of cool Canadian high pressure will remain over the region through tonight. Expect temperatures to top out in the 60s today, which is 5 to 10 degrees below normal for this time of year.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 70

Low Outside Temp: 56

High Gust: 27

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 103° in 1936

Record Low: 20° in 1995

Average High: 69°F

Average Low: 43°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 1.62

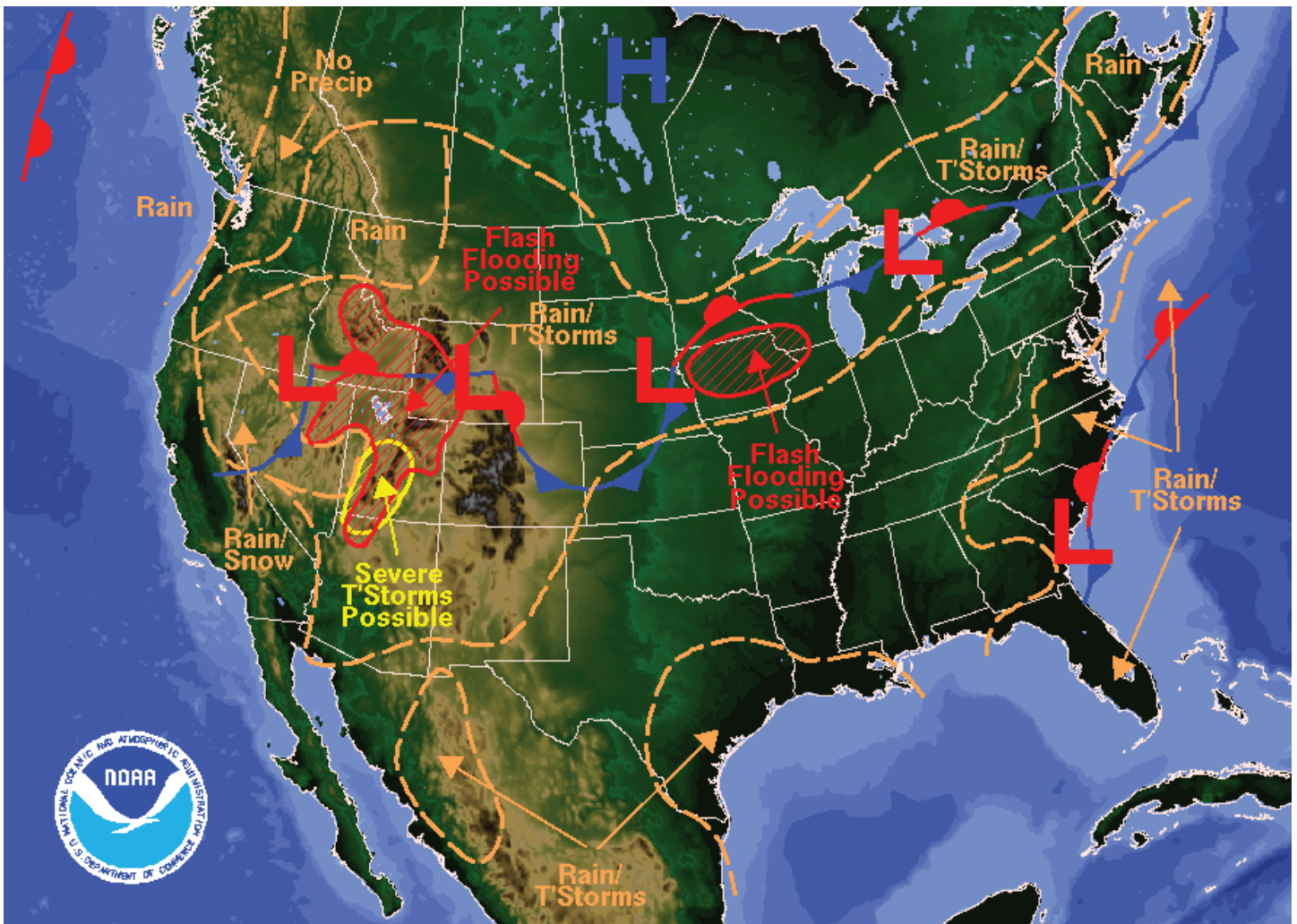
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.51

Average Precip to date: 17.91

Precip Year to Date: 13.17

Sunset Tonight: 7:30 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:22 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Thu, Sep 22, 2016, issued 4:52 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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TRYING TO FIND ME

A telephone salesman called a home and a small child answered the phone just above a whisper. "Hello," he said.

"Is your mother in?" asked the salesman.

"Yes," he said in a hushed voice. "But she's busy."

"Well," the salesman continued, "is your father home?"

"Yes," came the quiet reply. "But he's busy too."

Wondering what was going on the salesman asked, "Well, what are they doing?"

"Looking for me," whispered the child. "I broke my mom's favorite vase and I'm hiding."

Hiding is the natural thing to do when we've done something that is wrong. It has a long heritage going back to the Garden of Eden when Adam said, to God, "I heard you, so I hid." Facing the Lord is not pleasant even though we know that He loves and will willingly forgive us if we ask.

Often when we are guilty of being disobedient or knowingly commit a sin, we fear approaching Him. But that is the time we need Him the most. We need to remember that He does not want to hurt us but to heal us. He is anxious to forgive us, restore our relationship with Him and grant us His pardon and peace. "If we confess, He is faithful and just to forgive."

Prayer: We know, Heavenly Father, that we do what is unacceptable to You when we sin. May we be swift to confess and repent and forsake what we know is wrong. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

The logo for Golden Living, featuring the words "golden" in orange and "living" in blue, with a stylized orange and blue wave graphic below.

We now accept

The logo for Avera Health Plans, featuring the word "Avera" in white on a blue background, with a white cross symbol to the right, and "Health Plans" in white below.

for out patient therapy.

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

News from the Associated Press

Interior Department touts efforts to protect sage grouse

By **DAN ELLIOTT, Associated Press**

DENVER (AP) — A broad effort to save the greater sage grouse across the West without resorting to the Endangered Species Act is making progress, Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said Wednesday.

“There’s some really good work going on,” Jewell said during a visit to a national wildlife refuge outside Denver, where she announced a year ago that the rare bird wouldn’t be listed as endangered or protected.

Instead, conservation agencies are relying on cooperation among federal, state and local governments as well as help from oil and gas companies and ranchers.

Endangered Species Act protection would have meant stricter restrictions on oil and gas exploration, grazing and other human activities.

Greater sage grouse live in 11 Western states. About 200,000 to 500,000 remain, down from a peak population of about 16 million.

The Interior Department released a report Wednesday listing steps taken so far to save the birds, whose habitat often overlaps with oil and gas fields and ranches.

The report includes a study by the federal Bureau of Land Management and the University of California-Davis on the effects of the noise of oil and gas exploration and wells on the birds.

Other steps include restoring and protecting sagebrush ecosystems, protecting sage grouse habitat from wildfires and allowing habitat exchanges that let energy companies and others offset damage to sage grouse habitat by financing improvements elsewhere.

The report had few details about restrictions on energy development and ranching, expected to be the most contested component of the conservation plan.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plans to review how effective the sage grouse efforts are in 2020.

At the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge outside Denver, Jewell met with more than a dozen officials from federal, state and local governments, conservation groups and private companies.

Paul Ulrich of Jonah Energy told Jewell the sage grouse program has been successful, but he said it is important to balance conservation with the economic benefits of oil and gas development.

Will McDowell of the Environmental Defense Fund praised habitat exchanges as an innovative solution.

Follow Dan Elliott at <http://twitter.com/DanElliottAP>. His work can be found at <http://bigstory.ap.org/content/dan-elliott>.

Former judge Wefald heading campaign opposing Marsy’s Law

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A former North Dakota attorney general and retired district court judge is leading an effort opposing a ballot measure that would incorporate victims’ rights provisions into the state constitution.

Robert Wefald says changing the constitution will do nothing to strengthen crime victim laws in the state. Wefald is chairman of a campaign committee that includes groups representing crime victims and defense attorneys and prosecutors.

Supporters believe the so-called Marsy’s Law will bolster the rights of crime victims.

The law is named after Marsalee “Marsy” Nicholas, who was killed by her ex-boyfriend in 1983. Her

brother, Henry Nicholas, is bankrolling a national effort to expand the law into more states, including the Dakotas.

Records show the California businessman has given more than \$1 million toward the effort in North Dakota.

Man accused of ramming vehicle, firing gun in Belle Fourche

BELLE FOURCHE, S.D. (AP) — Attorney General Marty Jackley says a Spearfish man has been arrested for allegedly ramming a vehicle off the street and then firing gunshots in Belle Fourche.

Jackley said Wednesday that 32-year-old Clayton Maynard faces charges of aggravated assault, commission of a felony while armed with a firearm, aggravated eluding law enforcement and driving under the influence.

Authorities say Maynard allegedly rammed the vehicle Tuesday. Two people fled, and officials accuse Maynard of firing multiple rounds.

The Rapid City Journal reports that neither of the car occupants was injured in the shooting that left at least four bullet holes in the front passenger window.

Authorities say Maynard was taken into custody without incident after a short pursuit. It wasn't immediately clear if he has an attorney in the case.

IHS accountability bill approved by US Senate committee

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's U.S. senators say a bill that has passed through a Senate committee would help ensure Native Americans receive quality care from the Indian Health Service.

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Wednesday approved the bill introduced by South Dakota U.S. Sen. John Thune and Sen. John Barrasso, a Republican from Wyoming.

The bill aims to increase transparency and accountability at the IHS and improve recruiting and retention practices at the often remote hospitals, issues the agency has struggled with for several years.

Thune, a Republican, says officials shouldn't shy away from the difficult work required to ensure tribal members receive quality care. GOP U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds of South Dakota says the plan is a step toward fixing the "broken IHS system."

The measure heads to the full Senate.

Man dies from injuries after pickup crash west of Spearfish

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol says a 30-year-old man has died in a one-vehicle crash west of Spearfish.

Authorities say the man died after he lost control of a pickup truck he was driving early Wednesday. The pickup rolled after sliding into the ditch.

The Highway Patrol says the driver was ejected from the truck and died from his injuries. A 27-year-old female passenger received serious injuries that weren't a threat to her life.

The Highway Patrol is investigating the crash.

Fall enrollment flat at South Dakota public universities

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Fall enrollment at the state's six public universities has remained flat compared to last year.

The South Dakota Board of Regents said Wednesday that headcount enrollment is at 36,531, up 92 students from 36,439 last year.

The number of full-time equivalent students decreased by roughly 84 students to about 26,600. The

number of full-time equivalent students is based on total credit hours generated by all students within the university system.

Mike Rush, the regents' executive director and CEO, says the board remains committed to increasing the number of students with higher education. He says the attention on growing enrollments is important for South Dakota's economic well-being.

South Dakota Film Festival kicks off in Aberdeen

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — The 10th edition of the South Dakota Film Festival kicks off Wednesday in Aberdeen.

More than 300 films were submitted to the festival, but only 65 will be screened, the Aberdeen American News (<http://bit.ly/2cZRGPI>) reported. The five-day schedule with nine viewing sessions includes short and feature-length films from different genres.

Organizer Tom Black said time has allowed organizers to establish connections in the film industry to get access to quality films and guests.

"One of the things we do and have done is go to other film festivals, and we meet other filmmakers," Black said. "And we've always had a strong connection to the filmmakers in the region — North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota. We stay in contact with guests in the past and they recommend others."

Tony Award nominee Stephen Tobolowsky, "Breakfast Club" star Anthony Michael Hall and former Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences president Hawk Koch are among the festival's guests this year.

Organizer Brent Brandt said the festival's best featured narrative, "West Virginia Stories," will be screened Wednesday night. Thursday evening will include four short films along with "The Sight of Stars," which has been named best student-animated film of the festival, and best short comedy film, "A Man Wakes Up."

Casey Weismantel, executive director of the Aberdeen Convention and Visitor's Bureau, said the festival drives extra traffic to Aberdeen businesses, but it is difficult to put a dollar figure to its economic impact.

"Yes, we see economic impact with restaurants, hotels and overnight stays, but the biggest thing they can pat themselves on the back for is exposure," Weismantel said. "Filmmakers, they take that Aberdeen style and location back with them."

Information from: Aberdeen American News, <http://www.aberdeennews.com>

North Dakota borrowing \$6M for pipeline protest costs

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A North Dakota legislative committee has approved an emergency request to borrow \$6 million to cover the cost of law enforcement related to the ongoing protest of the four-state Dakota Access oil pipeline.

The state's Emergency Commission, headed by Gov. Jack Dalrymple, voted Wednesday to borrow the funds from the state-owned Bank of North Dakota.

The leader of the state's National Guard says North Dakota has spent about \$1.8 million to date on law enforcement and other costs related to the protests, centered in south-central North Dakota.

Maj. Gen. Alan Dohrmann says Morton County has spent an additional \$400,000 in extra costs. The county may apply for reimbursement from the state.

The Republican governor has asked federal officials to reimburse the state for the additional law enforcement costs.

Inmate sues state corrections staff over kosher meals

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota prison inmate has filed a federal lawsuit alleging that state corrections staff and a food services company limit his ability to practice his religious beliefs by serving him non-kosher food.

The lawsuit brought last week by inmate James Irving Dale, who describes himself as Jewish, claims that the preparation practices for kosher meals in the kitchen at the state's medium-security prison do not conform to Jewish dietary laws.

The complaint names several defendants, including Sioux Falls-based Correctional Food Services and the wardens of the Mike Durfee State Prison and the South Dakota State Penitentiary.

Dale, 52, argues that the daily lunch and dinner rice entree for the "religious/kosher trays" is often not kosher and contains pork flavoring and pork byproducts. He also claims to have discovered that no rabbi has been to the prison "to certify, or bless, the kitchen where the rice entree, for the religious/kosher trays, is cooked or the area where the cold portion of the religious/kosher diet trays is prepared.

"Therefore no food that is, or was, cooked or prepared at (Mike Durfee State Prison) is, or was, kosher, even if it started out as kosher."

South Dakota Department of Corrections spokesman Michael Winder said Wednesday the agency does not comment on pending litigation.

A document provided by the department shows inmates can request a religious or alternative diet that is free of pork or pork products by completing an official form, which must be approved by a cultural activities coordinator within 30 days.

"The inmate's request for a religious or alternative diet may be granted if providing the diet/meal is within the inherent limitations of resources of the facility and does not limit or detract from the need for facility security, safety, health and good order and the approved operation of a uniform food service program," according to the department's policy.

Dale is serving a 15-year sentence on burglary-related charges and is scheduled to be released Nov. 1. His lawsuit asks for punitive and compensatory damages, including \$100 for each time he was served food that was not kosher.

Skimmer suspect in Aberdeen pleads guilty to identity theft

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — One of three men facing federal charges over skimmers that were planted on gas pumps in the Aberdeen region has admitted that he was involved in the scam.

The Aberdeen American News (<http://bit.ly/2d1Ftbt>) reports 29-year-old Robisdell Gonzalez-Abreau pleaded guilty Tuesday to identity theft.

Skimmers steal information from debit cards and credit cards when people use them to pay for gas.

Through an interpreter, Gonzalez-Abreau admitted having another person's credit card information and using it to make a purchase in North Dakota. He faces up to five years in prison when he is sentenced Dec. 12.

Forty-seven-year-old Wilmer Vargas-Rodriguez and 38-year-old Elivanjob Espinosa-Leon also face charges in the case. Vargas-Rodriguez is scheduled to face trial later this month, while Espinosa-Leon is expected to change his plea at a hearing in October.

About 300 people rally for jailed pipeline protester

MANDAN, N.D. (AP) — About 300 people have rallied outside a jail in Mandan to show support for a Dakota Access pipeline protester from South Dakota who remains in custody.

The Bismarck Tribune (<http://bit.ly/2djbmq>) reports 42-year-old Olowan Martinez is being held at the Morton County Correctional Center. She was arrested last week on a trespassing charge. The arrest triggered a warrant from Nebraska, where she is wanted on charges that include terroristic threats.

Martinez has consented to the extradition to Nebraska.

Protester Cody Hall says the rally's goal was to show Martinez that the group is "waiting for her to serve her time and just be back at camp."

The Morton County sheriff's office says Martinez is the only one of the 69 people who have been arrested in connection with anti-pipeline protests that remains in jail.

Information from: Bismarck Tribune, <http://www.bismarcktribune.com>

VA clinic moving from northwest Iowa into southeast S Dakota

SIOUX CITY, Iowa (AP) — The Department of Veterans Affairs clinic that serves veterans in northwest Iowa, northeast Nebraska and southeast South Dakota will be moving from Sioux City into a new South Dakota building after it's built.

Darwin Goodspeed is the director of the Sioux Falls (South Dakota) VA Health Care System, and he said Tuesday at a town hall meeting in Sioux City that he hopes to have the new Dakota Dunes clinic open within a year.

The new, 25,000-square-foot clinic is designed to serve 7,000 veterans a month, compared with the 7,000-square-foot Sioux City clinic that was designed to serve 1,500 veterans but now helps 4,000.

The clinic serves veterans in Woodbury, Plymouth and Cherokee counties in Iowa; Dakota and Dixon counties in Nebraska; and Clay and Union counties in South Dakota.

Full transcript of AP interview with Syrian President Assad

By The Associated Press

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — The Associated Press sat down with Syrian President Bashar Assad at a palace in downtown Damascus. Here's a full transcript of the interview:

Q: I will start by talking about the cease-fire in Syria. Russia, the U.S., and several countries say a cease-fire could be revived despite the recent violence and the recrimination. Do you agree, and are you prepared to try again?

A: We announced that we are ready to be committed to any halt of operations, or if you want to call it cease-fire, but it's not about Syria or Russia; it's about the United States and the terrorist groups that have been affiliated to ISIS and al-Nusra and al-Qaida, and to the United States and to Turkey and to Saudi Arabia. They announced publicly that they are not committed, and this is not the first attempt to have a halt of operations in Syria. The first attempt was in last February, and didn't work, I think, because of the United States, and I believe that the United States is not genuine regarding having a cessation of violence in Syria.

Q: Do you believe there could ever be a joint U.S.-Russian military partnership against the militants, as outlined in the deal?

A: Again, practically, yes, but in reality, no, because the United States doesn't have the will to work against al-Nusra or even ISIS, because they believe that this is a card they can use for their own agenda. If they attack al-Nusra or ISIS, they will lose a very important card regarding the situation in Syria.

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So, I don't believe the United States will be ready to join Russia in fighting terrorists in Syria.

Q: This week, the U.S. has said the coalition attack on Syrian troops was an accident. Do you accept that explanation?

A: No, no. It's not, because it wasn't an accident by one airplane for once, let's say. It was four airplanes that kept attacking the position of the Syrian troops for nearly one hour, or a little bit more than one hour. You don't commit a mistake for more than one hour. This is first. Second, they weren't attacking a building in a quartier; they were attacking a huge place constituted of many hills, and there was not terrorist adjacent to the Syrian troops there. At the same time, the ISIS troops or the ISIS militants attacked right away after the American strike. How could they know that the Americans are going to attack that position in order to gather their militants to attack right away and to capture it one hour after the strike? So it was definitely intentional, not unintentional as they claimed.

Q: Did Syria or Russia launch the attack on the Red Crescent convoy this week, and should Moscow be held responsible, as the White House has said?

A: No, first of all, there have been tens, maybe, of convoys from different organizations around the world, coming to different areas in Syria for the last few years. It has never happened before, so why to happen now, either by the Russians or the Syrians? No, it's a claim. And regarding the claim of the White House yesterday, accusing either the Syrians or the Russians. In that regard, I would say whatever the American officials said about the conflicts in Syria in general has no credibility. Whatever they say, it's just lies and, let's say, bubbles, has no foundation on the ground.

Q: So what happened to the convoy? Who should be held responsible?

A: Those convoys were in the area of the militants, the area under the control of the terrorists. That's what they should accuse first: the people or the militants, the terrorists who are responsible for the security of this convoy. So, we don't have any idea about what happened. The only thing that we saw was a video of a burnt car, destroyed trucks, nothing else.

Q: Several eyewitnesses have told AP that 20 missiles were launched against the convoy. There is footage of torn bodies. This does not seem as though it would be anything but an attack from the air. Eyewitnesses are also talking about barrel bombs, and as you are aware, your administration has been accused of using barrel bombs in some circumstances. You still think this was an attack from the ground by rebels?

A: Yeah, first of all, even the United Nations said that there were no airstrikes against that convoy. That was yesterday. Second, at the same time of that event, the terrorists were attacking the Syrian troops by missiles. They launched missile attacks, we didn't respond. Third, you cannot talk about eyewitnesses for such judgment or accusation. What are the credibility of those eyewitnesses, who are they? We don't know.

Q: We have eyewitnesses that were relatives, we have the White Helmets, we have many people saying that they witnessed helicopters in the air. Now, only the Syrians and the Russians have helicopters. Are you saying this is just invented?

A: Those witnesses only appear when there's an accusation against the Syrian Army or the Russian, but when the terrorists commit a crime or massacre or anything, you don't see any witnesses, and you don't hear about those White Helmets. So, what a coincidence. No, actually, we don't have any interest in doing so for one reason: because if we attack any convoy that's going to the civilians, we are working for the interest of the terrorists, that will play into their hands directly, in that regard we are pushing the civilians toward the terrorists, we put them in their laps, and we are providing the terrorists with a good incubator, something we wouldn't do. This is first. Second, we are, as a government, as officials, we are committed morally toward the Syrian people, morally, constitutionally, and legally, to help them

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in every aspect to have the basic needs for their livelihood.

Q: Your administration has denied the use of chemical weapons, of barrel bombs, despite testimony and video and the results of a U.N. investigation. We also are hearing similar denials about airstrikes on civilians and medical workers. Can this all be false allegations by your opponents?

A: First of all, the first incident of gas use in Syria was in Aleppo about more than three years ago, and we were the ones who invited the United Nations to send a delegation for investigations about the use of chemical weapons, and the United States objected and opposed that action for one reason; because if there's investigations, they're going to discover that the terrorists used gas, not the Syrian Army. In that regard, in that case, the United States won't be able to accuse Syria. That's why they were opposing that delegation. In every incident, we asked the United Nations to send a delegation, and we are still insisting on that position, that they have to send delegations to make investigation, but the United States is opposing. So, actually, if we've been using that, we wouldn't ask for investigation.

Q: To the international community, it seems as though none of the charges or accusations stick, that everything is denied, everything here is ok, by your administration. Do you not feel that that undermines the credibility? In other instances, the Americans for example admitted the attack on the Syrian military was a mistake. Now, you don't accept that, but from the Syrian administration, all the international community hears is denial.

A: Regarding which issue?

Q: Regarding the accusations of violations of human rights, of barrel bombs...

A: Look, if you want to talk about mistakes, every country has mistakes, every government has mistakes, every person has mistakes. When you have a war, you have more mistakes. That's the natural thing. But the accusations have no foundation regarding Syria. When they talk about barrel bombs, what are barrel bombs? It's just a title they use in order to show something which is very evil that could kill people indiscriminately, and as I said, because in the media "when it bleeds, it leads." They don't talk about bombs; they call it barrel bombs. A bomb is a bomb, what's the difference between different kinds of bombs? All bombs are to kill, but it's about how to use it. When you use an armament, you use it to defend the civilians. You kill terrorists in order to defend civilians. That's the natural role of any army in the world. When you have terrorists, you don't throw at them balloons or you don't use rubber sticks, for example. You have to use armaments. So, it's not about what the kind of armament, it's about how to use it, and they want to use it that time to accuse the Syrian Army of killing civilians. We don't kill civilians, because we don't have the moral incentive, we don't have the interest to kill civilians. It's our people, who support us. If you want to kill the Syrian people, who's going to support us as a government, as officials? No one. So, in reality, you cannot withstand for five years and more against all those countries, the West, and the Gulf states, the petrodollars, and all this propaganda, the strongest media corporations around the world, if you don't have the support of your own people. That's against the reality. So, no, we don't use it. I wouldn't say that we don't have mistakes. Again, that many mistakes that have been committed by individuals, but there's a difference between a mistake or even a crime that's been committed by an individual, and between a policy of crime that's been implemented or adopted by a government. We don't have such a policy.

Q: And yet the hundreds of thousands of Syrians who are fleeing the country, many drowning on the way, many of them say they are fleeing your forces. What exactly are they fleeing if this campaign doesn't exist, if this campaign of violence, indiscriminate against them...?

A: You have to look at the reality in Syria. Whenever we liberate any city or village from the terrorists, the civilians will go back to the city, while they flee that city when the terrorists attack that area, the opposite. So, they flee, first of all, the war itself; they flee the area under the control of the terrorists, they flee the difficult situation because of the embargo by the West on Syria. So, many people,

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they flee not the war itself, but the consequences of the war, because they want to live, they want to have the basic needs for their livelihood, they don't have it. They have to flee these circumstances, not necessarily the security situation itself. So, you have different reasons for the people or the refugees to leave Syria. Many many of them supported the government in the recent elections, the presidential elections, in different countries. So, that's not true that they left Syria because of the government, and those accusations mean that the government is killing the people, while the terrorists, mainly al-Qaida and al-Nusra and other al-Qaida-affiliated organizations or groups protected the civilians. Is that the accusation? No-one can believe it, actually.

Q: Let's turn our attention to the people that can't flee, the people who are in besieged cities around Syria. For example, Aleppo. To go back to the cease-fire agreement, aid was supposed to get into the city, but you did not hold up your end of the agreement. Why was that, and how can you really justify withholding aid to cities?

A: Again, if we talk about the last few years, many aid convoys came to different cities, so why does the Syrian government prevent a convoy from coming to Aleppo for example, while allowing the others to reach other areas? This is contradiction, you cannot explain it, it's not palatable. This is first. Second, if you look at the others areas under the control of the terrorists, we're still sending vaccines from the Syrian government's budget, we're still sending salaries to the employees from the Syrian government's budget. So, how can we do this and at the same time push the people toward starvation in other areas? More importantly, the terrorists who left liberated areas under what you call reconciliation or certain agreements in different areas, they left to fight with other terrorists in Syria while they send their families to live under the supervision of the government. Why didn't we put those families to starvation? So, this is contradicting, I mean what you're talking about is contradicting the reality, and we don't contradict ourselves.

Q: But the world saw the reality of Aleppo. There were U.N. convoys of aid that were not allowed into the city. Are you denying that that was the case?

A: The situation has been like this for years now. If there's really a siege around the city of Aleppo, people would have been dead by now. This is first. Second, more importantly, they've been shelling the neighboring areas and the positions of the Syrian Army for years, non-stop shelling of mortars and different kinds of lethal bombs. How could they be starving while at the same time they can have armaments? How can we prevent the food and the medical aid from reaching that area and we cannot stop the armaments from reaching that area, which is not logical?

Q: So what is your message to the people to Aleppo, who are saying the opposite, that they are hungry, that they are suffering malnutrition, that there are no doctors, that doctors have been targeted and killed in airstrikes, that they are under siege and they are dying? What is your message to them?

A: You can't say "the people of Aleppo" because the majority of the people of Aleppo are living in the area under the control of the government, so you cannot talk about the people of Aleppo. If you want to talk about some who allegedly are claiming this, we tell them how could you still be alive? Why don't you have, for example, an epidemic, if you don't have doctors? How could you say that we attacked, they accuse Syria of attacking hospitals, so you have hospitals and you have doctors and you have everything. How could you have them? How could you have armaments? That's the question. How can you get armaments to your people, if you claim that you have people and grassroots while you don't have food? They have to explain; I don't have to explain. The reality is telling.

Q: Yet, they say the opposite. They say they are surviving on whatever they can, on meager means, and they are a city under siege. You do not accept that Aleppo is a city under siege with people starving and hungry?

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A: Again, how can I prevent the food, and not prevent the armament? Logically, how? If I can prevent food, I should be able to prevent armaments. If I don't prevent armaments, that means everything else will pass to Aleppo.

Q: Have you been to Aleppo recently? Will you go to Aleppo?

A: Of course I will go.

Q: And how does it feel for you to see the devastation in parts of what was known as the jewel of Syria?

A: Devastation is painful, of course, but we can rebuild our country. We're going to do that. Someday the war will stop. The most painful is the devastation of the society, the killing, the blood-shedding, something we live with every hour and every day. But how would I think? I think when I see those pictures how would Western officials feel when they look at this devastation and these killing pictures and they know that their hands are stained with their blood, that they committed the crime directly in killing those people and destroying our civilization. That's what I think about.

Q: Yet, to the outside world, it feels as though the end justifies any means in your war on terror. Do you accept that?

A: They don't have morals, of course. This is a Machiavellian principle; the end justifies the means. We don't accept it, no. Your policy should be a mixture between your interests and how you reach your ends, but based on values. It cannot be only the end justifies the means, because for the criminals, ends justify the means, for thieves, for every illegal and immoral action, the end justifies the means. That's exactly what you mentioned in your question, this is the base, the foundation of the Western policy around the world these days.

Q: What is your message to the Syrians who have fled the country? Some of them didn't make it, others did. Do you call on them to come back, do you expect them to come back?

A: Of course. It's a loss, it's a great loss. The worst loss for any country is not the infrastructure or the buildings or the material loss; actually, it's the human resources loss, something we want to see coming back to Syria, and I'm sure that the majority of those Syrians who left Syria, they will go back when the security and when the life goes back to its normality and the minimal requirements for livelihood will be affordable to them, they will go back. I am not worried about this.

Q: Do you have any expectation of when that will happen, when Syria will be pacified to some degree that they can come back?

A: If we look at it according to the internal Syrian factors, I would say it's very soon, a few months, and I'm sure about that, I'm not exaggerating, but when you talk about it as part of a global conflict and a regional conflict, when you have many external factors that you don't control, it's going to drag on and no-one in this world can tell you when but the countries, the governments, the officials who support directly the terrorists. Only they know, because they know when they're going to stop supporting those terrorists, and this is where the situation in Syria is going to be solved without any real obstacles.

Q: So, let's just dwell on that point for a moment. Do you believe that within a couple of months the situation in Syria will have dramatically changed in your favor to the point that refugees can come back?

A: No, because I don't believe that in a couple of months Erdogan and the United States regime, and the Western regimes in general, and of course Saudi Arabia and Qatar, are going to stop the support of the terrorists. I don't see it in the next two months.

Q: So how can you really incite Syrians to come back in two months as you said?

A: I said if there are no external factors. I said if you look at it as an isolated case, as a Syrian case, which is theoretical, I mean, this is where you can say that in few months you can solve it. But now

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you're talking about an arena which is part of the international and regional arena, not isolated. So, this is why I said no-one has the answer when will it end.

Q: It's now one year since Russia got involved in the war. Before the intervention you were losing territory and control. Did you ever feel like you were losing the war?

A: We didn't look at it that way, to lose the war, because whenever you have Syrians working with the terrorists, it's a loss. How to lose the war, this is hypothetical question, to be frank. It's not about your feeling; it's about the reality. In the war, you lose areas, but you recapture another area. So, it is difficult to tell whether you are losing or gaining or it was a standstill. No-one has this answer. But definitely, after the Russian intervention and supporting the Syrian Army, legally of course, we felt much, much better. We captured many main cities, many main positions at the expense of the terrorists' areas.

Q: Even if you were to win the war, what would be left of your country and Syrian society? Will you have to think again about the prospect of a partition in Syria?

A: No, we never thought about it, and the majority in Syria don't believe in this, and I don't think the reality, in spite of this savage war, has created the atmosphere for such partition. Actually, in many areas, the social situation is much better, because when you want to talk about partition you need to find these borders between the social communities. You cannot have partition only on political bases or geographic bases. It should be social first of all when the communities do not live with each other. As a result of the war, many Syrians understand that the only way to protect your country is to live with each other with integration, not only in coexistence, which is actually more precise to call cohabitation, when people interact and integrate with each other on daily basis in every detail. So, I think in this regard I am more assured that Syria will be more unified. So, the only problem now that we face is not the partition, but terrorism.

Q: And yet you are not seen as a unifying force in Syria; people think that the society is torn apart. Just to use one example, on a personal level, you trained as a doctor and yet your administration stands accused of targeting medical and rescue workers as they race to save lives. How do you make peace with this? And is this a society that, after suffering such consequences, can really just forget the past and move on?

A: I cannot answer that question while it's filled with misinformation. Let us correct it first. We don't attack any hospital. Again, as I said, this is against our interests. If you put aside the morals, that we do not do it morally, if I put it aside, I am talking about now, let's say, the ends justify the means, if I want to use it, we don't have interest. This is how we can help the terrorists if we attack hospitals, schools, and things like this. Of course, whenever you have a war, the civilians and the innocents will pay the price. That's in any war, any war is a bad war. There is no good war. In any war, people will pay the price, but I'm talking about the policy of the government, of the army; we don't attack any hospital. We don't have any interest in attacking hospitals. So, what is the other part of the question? Sorry, to remind me.

Q: That's ok, that fits into the general question, but I would like to follow up with: others say the opposite, including medical workers and including the Syrian White Helmets. If you value their work, racing to the scene of whatever it may, to try and save lives, does that mean you would support the recent nomination of the White Helmets for a Nobel Peace Prize?

A: It is not about the White Helmets, whether they are credible or not, because some organizations are politicized, but they use different humanitarian masks and umbrellas just to implement certain agenda. But, generally if you want to talk about the humanitarian support, how can I attack hospitals while I am sending vaccines, for example? Just explain it. You tell me two different things, two contradicting things; one that I am talking about is reality, because everybody knows that we are sending

vaccines, the other one is that we are attacking hospitals. They do not match.

Q: Would you support them for a Nobel Peace Prize?

A: Who?

Q: The White Helmets.

A: What did they achieve in Syria? And how un-politicized is the Nobel Prize? That's the other question. So, if I get an answer to these two questions, I can answer you. But I would only give a prize to whoever works for the peace in Syria, first of all by stopping the terrorists from flowing towards Syria, only.

Q: My last question: The U.S. election is now just a few weeks away. How do you expect that a Clinton or Trump presidency would differ in terms of U.S. policy towards Syria, and specifically towards you?

A: The problem with every American candidate regarding the presidency, I am not talking only about this campaign or elections, but generally, that they say something during the campaign and they do the opposite after the campaign. As we see now the American officials, they say something in the morning and they do the opposite in the evening. So, you cannot judge those people according to what they say. You cannot take them at their words, to be frank. We don't listen to their statements, we don't care about it, we don't believe it. We have to wait till they become presidents, we have to watch their policy and their actions and their behaviors. We do not have a lot of expectations, we never had. We have hopes that we can see rational American presidents; fair, obey the international law, deal with other countries according to mutual respect, parity, etc., but we all know that this is only wishful thinking and fantasy.

Charlotte workers asked to stay home after night of violence

By JEFFREY COLLINS, Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Streets appeared calm early Thursday in downtown Charlotte after a second night of violent protests over the deadly police shooting of a black man, although at least three major businesses were asking their employees to stay home for the day as the city remained on edge.

Bank of America, Wells Fargo and Duke Energy all told employees not to venture into North Carolina's largest city after Gov. Pat McCrory declared a state of emergency Wednesday night and called in the National Guard after Charlotte's police chief said he needed the help.

Anger has continued to build over the shooting of 43-year-old Keith Lamont Scott by a black police officer on Tuesday afternoon and the wildly different accounts about what happened from authorities and Scott's family and neighbors.

A peaceful prayer vigil turned into an angry march and then a night of violence after a protester was shot and critically wounded as people charged police in riot gear trying to protect an upscale hotel in Charlotte's typically vibrant downtown. Police did not shoot the man, city officials said.

Video obtained and verified by The Associated Press, which was recorded right after the shooting, shows someone lying in a pool of blood as people scream and a voice yells for someone to call for help. People are then told to back up from the scene.

The unrest took many by surprise in Charlotte, the banking capital of the South with a population of 830,000 people, about 35 percent of them black. The city managed to pull through a racially charged shooting three years ago without the unrest that erupted in recent years in places such as Baltimore, Milwaukee and Ferguson, Missouri.

In 2013, Charlotte police charged one of their own, Randall Kerrick with voluntary manslaughter within days, after the white officer shot an unarmed black man who had been in a wreck and was looking

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for help. The jury deadlocked and the charge was dropped last summer. The city saw a few protests but no violence.

On Wednesday, hundreds of protesters who were shouting "black lives matter" and "hands up, don't shoot" left after police fired flash grenades and tear gas after the shooting. But several groups of a dozen or more protesters stayed behind, attacking people, including reporters, shattering windows to hotels, office buildings and restaurants and setting small fires.

At one point, television news helicopters showed protesters on the loop highway around downtown, trying to stop cars for several minutes before police arrived.

"My heart bleeds for what our great city is going through," McCrory said on WBTV-TV. He was mayor of Charlotte for 14 years before becoming governor.

Authorities said three people and four police officers were injured, but those figures had not been updated early Thursday morning. Videos and pictures on Twitter showed reporters and other people being attacked.

The violence happened amid questions about what happened when Scott was shot and killed in the parking lot of his condominium complex. Police did not release dashboard or body camera footage, but said Scott had a gun and refused several orders to drop his weapon. Scott's family and neighbors said he was holding a book.

"He got out of his car, he walked back to comply, and all his compliance did was get him murdered," said Taheshia Williams, whose balcony overlooks the shady parking spot where Scott was Tuesday afternoon. She said he often waited there for his son because a bicycle accident several years ago left him stuttering and susceptible to seizures if he stayed out in the hot sun too long.

Charlotte Police Chief Kerr Putney was angered by the stories on social media, especially a profanity-laced, hourlong video on Facebook, where a woman identifying herself as Scott's daughter screamed "My daddy is dead!" at officers at the shooting scene and repeating that he was only holding a book.

Putney was adamant that Scott posed a threat, even if he didn't point his weapon at officers, and said a gun was found next to the dead man. "I can tell you we did not find a book," the chief said.

Not long after the Facebook video was posted Tuesday night, the first night of destructive protests began near the shooting scene, about 15 miles northeast of downtown Charlotte. Dozens of demonstrators threw rocks at police and reporters, damaged squad cars, closed part of Interstate 85, and looted a stopped truck and set a fire. Authorities used tear gas to break up the protests.

The distrust of police continued after Wednesday's shooting of the protester. Many demonstrators did not believe city officials' assertion that officers did not shoot the protester.

"We protesting. Why the hell would we target each other?" Dino Davis said. "They say it was the tear gas, and it looked like one the tear gas exploded. But I think it was a rubber bullet because some of those rubber bullets can penetrate."

Police said the plainclothes officer who shot Scott, identified as Brently Vinson, has been placed on leave, standard procedure in such cases. Three uniformed officers at the shooting scene had body cameras; Vinson did not, police said.

Calls for police to release the video increased. North Carolina has a law that takes effect Oct. 1 requiring a judge to approve releasing police video, and Putney said he doesn't release video when a criminal investigation is ongoing.

But that video may be the only thing that calms Charlotte, said John Barnett, who runs a civil rights group called True Healing Under God, or THUG.

"Just telling us this is still under investigation is not good enough for the windows of the Wal-Mart,"

he said.

On Wednesday, wooden pallets barricaded the entrance to a Wal-Mart near the protest site that had apparently been looted.

Associated Press writers Josh Replogle, Stephanie Siek, Tom Foreman Jr., Jonathan Drew, Martha Waggoner and Steve Reed 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. AP EXCLUSIVE: ASSAD BLAMES US FOR SYRIA TRUCE COLLAPSE

Syria's president says U.S. airstrikes on Syrian troops in the country's east were "definitely intentional," lasting for an hour, and rejects U.S. accusations that Syrian or Russian planes struck an aid convoy in Aleppo.

2. VIOLENT PROTESTS ROIL CHARLOTTE

Anger in North Carolina's biggest city, the latest to erupt after the death of a black man by police, escalates amid the wildly different stories about what happened from authorities and the victim's family and neighbors.

3. AP: THAIS FAIL TO DELIVER REFORMS IN SEAFOOD INDUSTRY

Thailand promised almost a year ago to compensate slave fishermen and industry leaders vowed to bring all fish processing in-house. That hasn't happened.

4. CREWS RUSH TO RESTORE POWER IN BLACKED-OUT PUERTO RICO

Repair workers toil through the night trying to restore electricity to the island nation's 3.5 million people after a fire at a power plant blacked out the entire U.S. territory.

5. WHEN OBAMA SPEAKS, PEOPLE HEAR 'DONALD TRUMP'

As he carries out the final few months of his presidential duties, voters can't help but wonder what the role would look like if it were inhabited by the brash billionaire.

6. WHAT POLICE IN TULSA HAVE DONE

They've distributed dash-cam and aerial footage, 911 calls and police radio traffic with unusual swiftness following last week's shooting death of an unarmed black man by a white officer.

7. REMOTE ALASKA PORT CLINIC GOES MODERN WITH TELEMEDICINE

A new partnership with an Anchorage hospital will virtually beam critical care doctors 800 miles away to the emergency room on Alaska's Unalaska Island, home to Dutch Harbor.

8. CHICAGO'S MAYOR TO OFFER CITY CRIME PLAN

Rahm Emanuel will deliver a comprehensive public safety plan for the nation's third-largest city amid a troubling spike in street violence and an ongoing federal probe of his police department.

9. MARION COTILLARD ADDRESSES 'WHIRLWIND NEWS'

The star of "The Artist" and "Rust and Bone" announces her pregnancy on Instagram and shoots down rumors of any romantic involvement with Brad Pitt.

10. NBA SENDS PLAYERS MEMO SEEKING IDEAS FOR SOCIAL CHANGES

Pro basketball players are being urged to reach out to league and union officials to try and come up with ways to create "positive change" in communities around the country.

Obama speaks, and listeners hear nothing but 'Donald Trump'

By JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — It doesn't matter what President Barack Obama says these days, his listeners are bound to hear two words: Donald Trump.

With his proclivity for dominating the conversation, the Republican presidential nominee is forcing Obama's final few months to be viewed almost entirely through the prism of campaign politics. As Obama carries out his presidential duties, voters can't help but wonder what the role would look like if it were inhabited by the brash billionaire.

At the United Nations this week, Trump trailed the president both metaphorically and physically, as world leaders took stock of what a dramatic shift a Trump presidency would mean for American leadership.

The fusion of the campaign with real-world governing was on vivid display Monday when White House and State Department officials mingled in the same Manhattan hotel lobby where Trump's advisers were gathered as their candidate met upstairs with Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi.

Obama was staying in the hotel, while Trump was using the meeting to try to show his readiness to go head-to-head with a foreign leader. Democrat Hillary Clinton met with the Egyptian at the same hotel earlier in the day.

The next day, Obama's final speech to the U.N. General Assembly took him on a world tour of global hotspots and areas of progress. Yet social media and news coverage of his address was preoccupied with what he said — or was believed to have said — about Trump. On three occasions in the speech, Obama urged leaders not to put up "walls" around their nations.

"The world is too small for us to simply be able to build a wall and prevent it from affecting our own societies," Obama said near the end of his speech. Referring to the Zika virus, he said later, "mosquitoes don't respect walls."

Though he never mentioned him by name, Obama and his speechwriters were clearly cognizant that the observations were sure to be perceived as pejorative references to Trump. The Republican has built his unlikely campaign around a steadfast promise — mocked by some, hailed by others — to build a border wall and force Mexico to pay for it.

Yet Obama had a deeper message, too, one unrelated to Trump but uniquely suited for an address to the 193-member global body. Across the globe, nations rich and poor are confronting the rise of nationalist, fear-driven sentiment that has led some countries to reflexively seek to retrench behind their own borders.

In Britain, anger about the perceived consequences of regional integration led this year to a stunning vote to exit the European Union. Embedded in that movement were concerns about immigration that have also cropped up in other parts of Europe, not to mention the U.S.

Though Trump and other Americans have raised concerns about accepting Syrian refugees, the issue in the U.S. pales in severity compared to Europe and the Middle East, where millions of refugees have overwhelmed host countries and led to deep resentment of politicians like German Chancellor Angela Merkel who advocated generous refugee resettlement policies.

At the U.N., Obama also urged leaders not to tolerate the stoking of class divisions by those who feel they've been left behind by globalization — "a crude populism," as Obama put it.

To be sure, those transnational concerns are of the same flavor as ones that Trump has found ripe for political exploitation. But Obama isn't worried about Trump alone: He's consistently sought to use his perch on the world stage to offer an alternative viewpoint. Obama advocated strongly against Britain's EU exit, or Brexit, and this week organized a U.N. summit to pressure nations to take more refugees.

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Julian Zelizer, a presidential historian at Princeton University, said it's natural at this late stage of an administration for the president's words and actions to be taken in the context of the election. He said that's especially true this year because Trump had built much of his campaign around a rejection of Obama and his policies, from diplomatic engagement to his health care law.

"It's very, very hard generally for anything he says to be removed from this campaign context, certainly within the United States," Zelizer said.

On many occasions, Obama has been explicit about the fact that his words are intended specifically about Trump. He's said questions about the GOP nominee come up in every meeting with a foreign leader, and he's emphatically declared Trump to be unfit to inhabit his role as commander in chief.

Those direct challenges to Trump are likely to grow more frequent as Obama, over the next six weeks, spends a large portion of his time on the campaign trail rallying for Clinton. At a rally for the Democrat last week in Philadelphia, Obama derided Trump as a callous champion of the uber-rich, and then turned his attention to praising Clinton.

"She knows that love trumps hate," Obama said.

Reach Josh Lederman on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/joshledermanAP>

US, Russia take Syria battle to new heights **By MATTHEW LEE and BRADLEY KLAPPER, Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — The United States and Russia are taking their differences over the conflict in Syria to new heights, after trading ferocious allegations of duplicity and malfeasance at the United Nations Security Council.

After a fractious meeting of the council on Wednesday, Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov were set to duel again over Syria at a gathering of the roughly 20 nations that have an interest in Syria. Thursday's meeting of the International Syria Support Group comes after the two men blamed each other for spoiling the country's cease-fire that they had agreed to earlier this month. Each has blamed the other for violations.

Kerry called for all warplanes to halt flights over aid routes, while Lavrov suggested a possible three-day pause in fighting to get the truce back on track.

Thursday's meeting comes a day after Kerry and Lavrov abandoned diplomatic niceties in a fractious public debate over Syria, blaming each other for the failure of a week-old truce and offering only temporary patches to stem the bloodshed.

In a U.N. Security Council session originally envisioned to enshrine the Sept. 9 truce, world powers rued the possibility of a darker phase in the conflict amid increased attacks on humanitarian workers. The council's nations all sought to revive the U.S.-Russian cease-fire deal, but once again illustrated why they've been unable for more than five years to stop Syria's civil war.

"Supposedly we all want the same goal. I've heard that again and again," a visibly angry Kerry told the council. "Everybody sits there and says we want a united Syria, secular, respecting the rights of all people, in which the people of Syria can choose their leadership. But we are proving woefully inadequate in our ability to be able to get to the table and have that conversation and make it happen."

While the U.S. and Russia have previously butted heads over several proposed resolutions critical of the Syrian government, Wednesday's agenda didn't even include a suggested course of action. Instead, the two-hour discussion served as a warm-up act for a Thursday meeting blocks away in New York that will include Kerry, Lavrov and their counterparts from more than a dozen European and Arab countries.

Kerry blamed Russia, lambasting what he portrayed as a cynical response to an airstrike on a hu-

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humanitarian aid convoy this week that killed 20 civilians and raised "profound doubt" about Russia's and Syria's willingness to abide by the cease-fire. The U.S. believes that a Russian-piloted aircraft carried out the strike, said a senior American official, who wasn't authorized to speak publicly on the matter and demanded anonymity.

Russia has denied U.S. claims that it was responsible, but Kerry focused on its shifting explanation of what might have happened.

First, Kerry said, Russian President Vladimir Putin's press secretary described the attack as a "necessary response" to an alleged offensive by al-Qaida-linked militants elsewhere in the country. Then, a Russian ambassador said forces were targeting another area.

Russia's Defense Ministry followed by saying the aid convoy was accompanied by militants in a pickup truck with a mortar, Kerry said, adding that no such evidence exists. Then, the ministry denied any Russian or Syrian involvement as its spokesman suggested, in Kerry's words, that "the food and the medicine just spontaneously combusted."

"This is not a joke," Kerry exclaimed, urging all to stop the "word games that duck responsibility or avoid the choices ... with respect to war and peace, life and death." His pleas crossed paths with another statement by Russia's government, this time suggesting a U.S. coalition Predator drone was operating nearby when the convoy attack occurred. The Pentagon said no drone was in the area at the time.

It was one of Kerry's most bitter exchanges with Moscow as secretary of state, laced with invective and outrage.

But he also offered one concrete suggestion to revive diplomatic hopes: to ground all aircraft in key areas, focused on protecting aid routes in northern Syria. It was unclear if Russia and Syria would agree.

Kerry's words came immediately after Lavrov's own barbs, underscoring a breakdown in trust since the pair sealed the cease-fire agreement and potential U.S.-Russian military partnership against the Islamic State and al-Qaida 12 days ago. Much of the international community hailed that outcome, only to watch it unravel amid an upsurge in violence that included an accidental U.S. strike that killed more than 60 Syrian soldiers.

Lavrov, whose country has helped the Syrian government shore up its position, said the U.S. bore the biggest responsibility for peace by separating opposition forces from terrorists. He called for the U.N. to expand its terrorism list to include groups at the fringes of a U.S.-backed rebel umbrella group and called Washington's errant strike an "outrageous violation."

The Russian also cited a series of truce violations by U.S.-backed rebel groups near the northern city of Aleppo. And in a not-so-subtle jab at Washington, he called Syria's conflict, as well as those in Iraq and Libya, the "direct consequence" of foreign military interventions and "political engineering."

Lavrov and Kerry's speeches laid bare their widely divergent views of a war that has killed up to a half-million people, contributed to Europe's worst refugee crisis since World War II and allowed the Islamic State to emerge as a global terror threat.

Lavrov on Wednesday mentioned the possibility of a three-day period of "silence."

Remote Alaska port clinic goes modern with telemedicine

By RACHEL D'ORO, Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — The only clinic in one of the nation's busiest commercial fishing ports is so remote that even conventional telemedicine for emergencies has been impossible for its limited staff — until this week.

Starting Thursday, a new partnership with an Anchorage hospital will virtually beam critical care doc-

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tors 800 miles away to the emergency room on Unalaska Island, home to Dutch Harbor.

But instead of transmissions with fiber-optics, which are nowhere near the isolated Alaska island, the team putting together the system is relying on satellite technology in what is believed to be a first in the country for telemedicine.

The clinic, Iliuliuk Family and Health Services, brings to nine the number of providers served by the electronic intensive care unit at Anchorage's Providence Alaska Medical Center.

"We are kind of mix-mashing everything together to try to make this work," Sharon Compton, services manager of the hospital's eICU office, said after a recent demonstration of the Dutch Harbor link.

The new system will provide real-time camera links between emergency doctors and clinic staffers during medical emergencies, such as injuries among the Bering Sea crabbing fleet made famous by the Discovery Channel show "Deadliest Catch."

The idea is to help stabilize patients before transporting them out of town and to help with triage during major events like a ship sinking.

From afar, doctors will be able to view X-rays and patient charts and talk directly with patients on camera instead of consulting with medics by phone and email.

There are some unknowns about how the system will work, with likely slowdowns in satellite reception because of the region's notoriously bad weather.

During the recent demonstration, pre-launch kinks prevented the rolling-cart-mounted camera in Dutch Harbor from being pivoted remotely. But the camera otherwise performed impressively, sending back crystal-clear video of clinic staffers as they chatted with a critical care doctor.

The new service was lauded by Seattle-based crabbing boat owner Lance Farr, who has been badly hurt twice in his decades of working in the Bering Sea.

Several years ago, he almost severed a finger in a dockside engine accident. He was stabilized at the clinic before being flown to Anchorage for further treatment. In 1996, Farr broke his foot at Dutch Harbor after dropping an engine on it. He spent the night at the clinic under the care of nurses before being flown out the next day.

In hindsight, having his care visually monitored by emergency room specialists would have provided a morale boost, as well as invaluable expertise, Farr said.

"It would be a good thing, I would think, to have a real physician being able to advise the people out there," he said.

The city of Unalaska has just 4,600 year-round residents, but the population swells to 16,000 or more during the region's two main fishing seasons, when boat crews and processing workers flood the town with dozens of languages and cultures. That means more potential for patients, including people who don't speak English.

The clinic averages more than 300 after-hours emergency room visits a year, with about a third of those patients flown elsewhere, often to Anchorage, for more complete treatment.

Fishing-industry emergencies at sea can mean significant delays to appropriate medical treatments when the injured must first be carried by rescue helicopter to Dutch Harbor. Injuries can range from deep cuts and broken bones to back injuries and amputations.

"These guys are pretty tough out here, and they will, you know, continue to fish until they can't get out of bed anymore," said James Novotny, nurse practitioner at the clinic.

The drastically shifting population can put a strain on clinic staffing in this rural setting. So can the inability to afford emergency specialists or much in the way of diagnostic equipment.

Then there's the challenge of living in such a far-flung spot, which makes finding and keeping medical staff difficult, according to clinic medical director, Ann Nora Ehret, an osteopathic doctor who has

wanted to tap into telemedicine since joining the staff in 2013. Only recently did the clinic hire a second doctor after the position was vacant for nearly a year.

Adding the long-distance help will be invaluable, Ehret said.

"I think it could be a game changer for recruiting, retention and for the care of the patients," she said. "We are getting the support we need in an austere environment."

Follow Rachel D'Oro at <https://twitter.com/rdoro>

WHY IT MATTERS: Executive Authority **By ERICA WERNER, AP Congressional Correspondent**

WASHINGTON (AP) — THE ISSUE: "Your Majesty" isn't in the American political lexicon. But when a president sets a major policy by edict, skirting Congress, it invariably sets off a debate that traces back to the time of kings and queens — and the Founding Fathers who rejected the authority of the crown.

Lawmakers cry foul when a president, especially of the other party, usurps their authority through executive action. Defenders say it can be the only way to get something done when those lawmakers tie everything up in knots.

President Barack Obama has used his executive authority expansively, most notably on the issue of immigration, where he moved unilaterally to curb deportations for millions of immigrants in this country illegally. The Supreme Court deadlocked in June over the major portion of the immigration executive actions, effectively killing the plan for the rest of Obama's presidency. He's tested the limits of executive authority in other areas, too, as have presidents before him.

WHERE THEY STAND

On immigration, Democrat Hillary Clinton has pledged that as president she would work to restore the Obama programs and go further. Republican Donald Trump said he would make sure Obama's "unconstitutional actions" never come back.

But Republicans including House Speaker Paul Ryan have been openly concerned about some of Trump's comments that suggest he, too, might pursue an "imperial presidency." He's supported reinstating water boarding and other extreme forms of torture; has indicated he would revisit libel protections of journalists, notwithstanding the First Amendment; and has suggested the military would follow his orders even if illegal.

WHY IT MATTERS

Obama claimed that congressional inaction gave him no choice but to act on his own on immigration. And indeed as long as the House remains in GOP hands, action on a comprehensive immigration bill is unlikely, making presidential initiative a major arena of advancement on that issue.

However, the Constitution created a system of checks and balances meant to ensure that America could not be hijacked into becoming a monarchy like the one the nation had just freed itself from. Republicans argue that under Obama, an undue amount of authority has accrued to the executive branch, and that to ensure the intended functioning of our democracy that power must be checked. This election season a few lawmakers, including Republican Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida, have campaigned on promises to check executive power next year no matter who is in the White House.

Obama has also used his executive authority to change certain elements of his health care law, and has flexed his authority in other areas as well, like the environment. The White House even mulled

closing the Guantanamo Bay prison via executive action though the administration ultimately did not pursue that route.

In 2014 Obama famously promised to get around a balky, GOP-led Congress with the tools at his disposal, saying "I've got a pen, and I've got a phone" and pledging to use his pen to sign executive orders "that move the ball forward."

This story is part of AP's "Why It Matters" series, which will examine three dozen issues at stake in the presidential election between now and Election Day. You can find them at: <http://apne.ws/2bBG85a>

Growing up with Vinny as part of the soundtrack of my life

By TIM DAHLBERG, AP Sports Columnist

It was in the middle of the Barry Bonds home run chase, and I was sitting with Vin Scully in the broadcast booth at Dodger Stadium.

The Dodgers were playing the Giants, and Vin had been kind enough to agree to an interview before the game. I was writing a column about his views on Bonds, though the conversation would eventually cover everything from his days at Fordham to Willie Mays.

First, though, I had a confession to make.

"I was one of those kids with the transistor radio," I told him. "Under the pillow at night, listening to the game."

I don't remember what Vin said in response, but I'm sure it was gracious because Vin Scully is nothing if not gracious. It's simply in his DNA, and has been since he was a kid growing up in New York.

Yes, he had probably heard the same thing a thousand times before. Somehow, though, I still had to tell him how much it meant.

His voice has been part of the soundtrack of my life for so long I can't remember ever being without it. His presence on the radio every spring was always a reminder that while everything changes, this never did.

It changes now, for reasons as ancient as mankind. We all get old, and Vin is no exception, even if he has weathered the ravages of time well. He's still remarkable at age 88, but wants to get out before people start whispering about his age.

His last game after 67 years calling the Dodgers will be in San Francisco. Fittingly enough it's on the 80th anniversary of when he was walking home from grammar school, and saw in the window of a Chinese laundry that the Giants had been beaten by the Yankees in the World Series.

I've considered him a friend for the better part of a half century, even though before that day we had never met. Our friendship was always a bit one-sided, with Vin in front of the microphone and me listening wherever I could.

It pains me that he's walking away after 67 years. Not just because I'll miss him, but because there is a sobering realization that there simply isn't any more.

No more Vinny to greet us wherever we may be on a beautiful night from Dodger Stadium. No more descriptions of how glorious the mountains beyond Dodger Stadium look in the fading sunlight from his perch behind home plate.

No more seamlessly weaving stories in between pitches about players or things you didn't know.

I'm hardly alone. If anything, I'm just one of many in a loosely formed community that calls Vinny their own.

And we all have our own stories to tell about the hours listening to his soothing voice.

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It could have been any summer evening at Dodger Stadium. Often it was a non-descript game somehow made interesting in the way only Vinny could.

"Deuces are wild," he might say in the seventh inning. "Two on, two out, a 2-2 count. Score tied 2-2."

My favorites were from the 1960s Dodgers of my youth when any ball hit out of the infield was thought of as an offensive explosion. On the rare occasion there would be a Dodger home run, and Vinny would match it with a call.

"A way back, she is gone!!!" Vinny would call out, drawing out the words for added dramatic effect.

I knew him while riding in my dad's car from my first baseball game in the L.A. Coliseum. I knew him on an elementary school playground, transistor radio to my ear, as Sandy Koufax mowed down the Yankees in the opening game of the 1963 World Series.

I knew him on a June evening in 1968 when Don Drysdale set a scoreless streak of 58 2/3 innings. Two days earlier, Robert Kennedy had been assassinated just a mile or two away after winning the California presidential primary and the world seemed to be falling apart.

Somehow, Vinny brought a bit of comfort, just like he did on so many nights with the little red radio under my pillow and his voice taking me to places both near and far away.

"Hi everybody and a very pleasant evening to you wherever you may be," he would greet me, and I was pretty sure he was talking just to me.

My two sons are grown now but they have similar memories because Vinny was always on in our house or in our cars. They grew to love him too, and there's not too many summer days that go by without a call or a text from one of them about Vinny telling the history of beards during a game or describing how the Beatles escaped Dodger Stadium in an ambulance after they played there.

Vin made calls that will live in baseball history. He memorialized Henry Aaron's home run to pass Babe Ruth and Kirk Gibson's home run to win Game 1 of the 1988 World Series.

He brought me into a Dodger Stadium one September night in 1965. At the time I'd never been to Dodger Stadium, but I could picture myself there when he called out the time on the scoreboard as Koufax was pitching a perfect game against the Cubs.

"I would think that the mound at Dodger Stadium right now is the loneliest place in the world," he said in the ninth inning. "He is one out away from the promised land, and Harvey Kuenn is comin' up."

Vinny thought Koufax was the best pitcher ever, and on that we definitely agreed. He and I are also in agreement that Willie Mays is the best player we ever saw, though he actually saw Mays and I mostly only heard Vin describe the great things he did.

His final game at Dodger Stadium — where he has described nearly 5,000 games over the years — will be Sunday against the Rockies. Vin said this week that he hoped to focus on the game and not let his impending departure overshadow it, as if that's possible.

Then it's three final games in San Francisco. He'll do those in typical Vinny style, trying not to draw undue attention to himself.

"And then I will go home," he said.

We wish that he wouldn't, wish that he would suddenly change his mind and announce that he'll be back for another season. It's just a wish, and after 67 years he owes us nothing, particularly his time.

He wants to watch his grandkids — he has 16 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren — play ball. Yes, he'll miss the games, but mostly he'll miss the people at the ballpark.

"I will miss all of that, I know I will," he said. "I will just do the best I can to live with it."

We'll do the best we can to live without Vin, too. For some of us lucky enough to have been along for a lot of the ride it will be harder than others.

It was a few weeks after I first saw Vin that a hand addressed envelope came in the mail. Inside was a note from him thanking me for my nice words about him.

I've seen him several times since, but have never mentioned that my kids had it framed for me. It now hangs in a prominent spot on my office wall, and I make sure everyone who visits gets a look.

Even so, Vin Scully thanking me just doesn't seem right.

Not with all that I have to thank him for.

Tim Dahlberg is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press and a Southern California native. Write to him at tdahlberg@ap.org or <http://twitter.com/timdahlberg>

2 potential bombing witnesses seen with suitcase are sought

By **JAKE PEARSON** and **MEGAN TRIMBLE**, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Investigators of last weekend's bombings have released an image of two men who took a suitcase they found on a city street, possibly without realizing a wired pressure cooker they removed from it and left behind could have blown them to bits.

Police investigating the bombings in New York and New Jersey have been saying for several days they were looking for the men, who they stressed were being sought as potential witnesses in the case, not as suspects.

"They're not in any jeopardy of being arrested," Jim Watters, chief of the New York Police Department's counterterrorism unit, said on Wednesday. "We have no reason to believe they're connected."

Federal prosecutors have charged Ahmad Khan Rahami with detonating a pipe bomb in a New Jersey shore town on Saturday morning and a pressure cooker bomb in New York City's Chelsea neighborhood later that night. Thirty-one people were injured in the New York blast. A second pressure cooker bomb left in Manhattan didn't explode and is the subject of the latest public plea.

Prosecutors said surveillance video shows Rahami rolling a suitcase down the street, then abandoning it on the sidewalk where that second device was found.

A few minutes later, two men pass by the luggage and appear to admire it, police said. They then remove a pressure cooker from the luggage, leave the pressure cooker on the sidewalk and walk away with the luggage.

"I think they were more interested in the bag, not what they were taking out," Watters said, adding that they were "very, very lucky" the bomb didn't explode.

In court papers, a public defender sought a court appearance for Rahami, an Afghan-born U.S. citizen, so he can hear the federal terrorism charges against him.

On Wednesday night, Manhattan U.S. Magistrate Judge Gabriel W. Gorenstein refused a request by Federal Defenders of New York to schedule an initial appearance for Rahami on federal charges, even if it must be conducted remotely from a hospital bed.

The judge noted that court rules require an arrested person be brought before the court "without unnecessary delay."

He said there is no evidence contrary to government claims that Rahami remains held on state charges in New Jersey and has not yet been arrested on the federal charges.

The judge was also unpersuaded by federal defender claims that federal law enforcement is involved in detaining and questioning Rahami.

"In fact, this question is very much in dispute," Gorenstein wrote.

Rahami, 28, was arrested on Monday following a shootout with police in Linden, New Jersey. He is being held on \$5.2 million bail, and he faces state charges of attempted murder of police officers.

Attorney General Loretta Lynch said Rahami will be moved to New York to face federal charges in the

"near future."

In a bloodied journal recovered by investigators, Rahami made references to Osama bin Laden, American-born Muslim cleric Anwar al-Awlaki and former Army officer Nidal Hasan, who went on a shooting rampage in Ford Hood, Texas, according to a federal complaint.

In one section, the complaint says, Rahami wrote: "Death to your oppression."

Two federal law enforcement officials said Rahami's wife, thought to be a Pakistani national, will return soon to the United States. One of the officials said the wife made a statement to authorities after walking into the U.S. Embassy in the United Arab Emirates. The other official said investigators believe she left the U.S. for Pakistan in June. The officials spoke on the condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss the ongoing case.

Meanwhile, Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo, touring the site of the Manhattan blast on Wednesday, said he believes insurance companies will cover most of the losses incurred by those whose businesses and homes were damaged. But he said if there are gaps in coverage, the state would pay for anything left outstanding from its emergency funds.

Also Wednesday, a homeless man who took a backpack from a garbage can near a train station in Elizabeth, New Jersey, on Sunday night, not knowing it contained pipe bombs prosecutors say were made by Rahami, said he's grateful he didn't prompt an explosion.

"I don't like to think about what could have happened, but I'm just so blessed and glad it didn't," Lee Parker said. "I still have my nine lives, I guess, and I'm going to keep trying to live them well."

Trimble reported from Elizabeth. Associated Press reporters Verena Dobnik and Larry Neumeister in New York and Eric Tucker in Washington, D.C., contributed to this report.

Marion Cotillard announces pregnancy, denies Pitt reports

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Marion Cotillard is announcing her pregnancy and shooting down rumors of any romantic involvement with Brad Pitt.

"This is going to be my first and only reaction to the whirlwind news that broke 24 hours ago and that I was swept up into," the Oscar-winning actress wrote in a statement posted Wednesday on Instagram.

The star of such films as "Inception" and "Rust and Bone" said that she is "not used to commenting on things like this nor taking them seriously but as this situation is spiraling and affecting people I love, I have to speak up."

Cotillard affirmed her longtime relationship with actor Guillaume Canet. The couple are parents to a 5-year-old son. She said in her Instagram post alongside a photo of bird soaring through the sky that he is "the only one that I need" and they are expecting another child.

The actress, who won an Academy Award in 2008 for her performance as the legendary French singer Edith Piaf in "La Vie en Rose," stars with Pitt in the upcoming World War II romantic thriller "Allied."

Several reports this week suggested a relationship between Cotillard and Pitt was the reason Angelina Jolie filed for divorce on Monday.

"This crafted conversation isn't distressing," Cotillard wrote. "And to all the media and the haters who are quick to pass judgment, I sincerely wish you a swift recovery."

Cotillard says she hopes Jolie and Pitt "will find peace in this very tumultuous moment."

A spokeswoman for Cotillard didn't immediately respond to messages seeking comment about the post.

This article has been corrected to say that Marion Cotillard won the Oscar in 2008 and to show that she was in the film "Inception" instead of "The Artist."

NY bombing case most high-profile since Boston bombing

By ERIC TUCKER and LARRY NEUMEISTER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal charges portraying Manhattan bombing suspect Ahmad Khan Rahami as a man bent on murderous destruction set the stage for the most anticipated terror prosecution since the Boston Marathon bombing.

As separate cases wind through federal courts in New Jersey and New York, prosecutors are sure to reveal more about the bombings that injured 31 people and the evidence that led to Rahami's capture early Monday morning after a shootout with police. A courtroom airing of those allegations is likely to conjure memories of the attempted Times Square bombing in 2010 and the Boston explosion three years later — unusual incidents in which a defendant was captured alive after an attack was attempted or carried out.

This latest prosecution is in keeping with the Justice Department's commitment to use America's civilian court system for terrorism cases.

Though the Obama administration — facing stiff opposition — abandoned its 2009 plan to transfer some Guantanamo Bay detainees to Manhattan federal court for trial, the Justice Department has since cited a series of high-profile successes — including one in New York against the son-in-law of Osama bin Laden — as proof that the U.S. criminal justice system can secure swift convictions and harsh punishment against terrorism defendants. The military tribunal system, meanwhile, has been snarled by delay.

"No one can point to any example of a civilian criminal prosecution where any of the issues we were worried about actually manifested," including attacks on a trial or inappropriate disclosures of national security information, said Stephen Vladeck, a national security law professor at the University of Texas.

"All of the concerns that have been raised, I think, are belied by the record," he added.

There have been political suggestions, including from Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, that terror suspects like Rahami be treated as enemy combatants, which would deny them certain constitutional rights.

But there's extremely limited and unsettled precedent legal for doing that when a suspect is captured on U.S. soil. One 2002 instance involved Jose Padilla, a U.S. citizen who was first held as an enemy combatant before being prosecuted and convicted in federal court. And the Obama administration has time and again expressed its support for the civilian criminal justice system.

"There are lots of different ways for the government to throw the book at Rahami in civilian court," Vladeck said. "Our post 9/11-criminal counterterrorism regime is not soft."

Rahami has been hospitalized since his arrest in Linden, New Jersey. He had not spoken with investigators as of Tuesday evening.

Some, Republicans in particular, have complained that warnings against self-incrimination interfere with intelligence gathering during the interview process. But the Justice Department permits agents to question suspects and use their statements, without first advising them of their right to remain silent, when there's an immediate concern for public safety — an exception invoked in some past terror investigations.

Randall Jackson, a former federal prosecutor who worked on the case against the Times Square bomber and now is in private practice, said investigators are surely hoping Rahami will talk.

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"It's safe to say that in any investigation like this where you're dealing with an apprehended suspect of this type, every effort will be made to obtain all the useful information you could possibly obtain from that person," he said.

Though federal charges were lodged against Rahami Tuesday in criminal complaints in New Jersey and New York, U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara, the top federal prosecutor in Manhattan, said Wednesday his office had already arranged for U.S. marshals to bring Rahami to New York for trial.

"We have a good track record of getting it done properly," Bharara said.

The complaints filed Tuesday were placeholders for more formal grand jury indictments in coming months that may lay out additional details and charges.

If he chooses to face trial, Rahami will follow a notorious roster of men enamored with militant Islamic teachings brought to a Manhattan courthouse blocks from the World Trade Center.

They include six of the men who bombed the trade center in 1993, killing six people and injuring more than 1,000 others, and 10 others convicted in 1998 bombings that killed 224 people, including a dozen Americans, at U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. The courthouse has also hosted numerous other terrorism trials, including those stemming from failed plots to bomb New York City landmarks in 1993 and bring down a dozen U.S. jets over the Far East in 1995.

The current complaints allude to laudatory references in Rahami's notebook for Fort Hood shooter Nidal Hasan and for Anwar al-Awlaki, the American-born cleric killed in a 2011 drone strike.

Prosecutors pressed terrorism-related charges against Rahami, including weapons of mass destruction counts, but the complaints do not tie him to any particular terror group.

"You don't need to talk about terrorism in most of these prosecutions," said David Deitch, a former federal counterterror prosecutor. "If this guy planted bombs, he committed a crime regardless of what his motive was."

Bharara left no doubt about how prosecutors view the case. The evidence, he said, will "show this was a premeditated act of terror."

Neumeister reported from New York.

While illuminating, Tulsa videos leave out key details

By JILL BLEED, Associated Press

Police in Tulsa, Oklahoma, broadly released dashcam and aerial footage, 911 calls and police radio traffic with unusual swiftness following last Friday's shooting death of an unarmed black man by a white officer.

But what actually transpired on the Tulsa street between Terence Crutcher and officer Betty Shelby remains murky.

WHAT THE VIDEOS SHOW

Two different views — one from a police helicopter and the other from officer Tyler Turnbough's dashboard camera — provide the most illuminating footage. They both show the 40-year-old Crutcher walking with his hands in the air toward his SUV, which is stopped in the middle of the street and straddling the center line. A female officer is following him.

As Crutcher approaches the driver's side of the SUV, more officers walk up and Crutcher appears to lower his hands and place them on the vehicle. A man inside a police helicopter overhead says: "That looks like a bad dude, too. Probably on something."

The officers surround Crutcher — blocking a clear view from the camera — and he suddenly drops to the ground. Someone on the police radio says, "I think he may have just been tasered." Then almost

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immediately, a woman's voice yells on the police radio: "Shots fired!" Crutcher is left lying in the street.

The officers slowly back away. Crutcher, his white shirt stained with blood, lies on the ground alone and unattended for nearly two minutes before an officer puts on medical gloves and begins to examine him.

Emergency medical responders arrive about four minutes after he is shot.

WHAT THE VIDEOS DON'T SHOW

The videos don't show what happened when Shelby first encountered Crutcher and the roughly two minutes that follow before other officers arrived.

No dashcam footage exists from Shelby's car because she didn't activate her emergency lights — which in turn switches on the camera — when she came upon the abandoned vehicle in the roadway. No body camera footage exists, because Tulsa police have not implemented the devices for officers, despite receiving a federal grant to do so last year.

Also absent is audio that could have captured exchanges between Crutcher and Shelby. A 911 caller reported an abandoned SUV, left running in the middle of the road with the driver's side door open. Shelby, en route to a domestic violence call, encounters the abandoned vehicle and eventually radios into dispatch, "Hold traffic. I got a subject who won't show me his hands," but nothing captures what went on between Shelby and Crutcher prior to other officers showing up.

In dashcam and aerial footage, all doors of Crutcher's SUV are closed, so there is no view of what is inside.

There's no close-up, unobscured view of Crutcher before Shelby fired the fatal shot.

WHAT POLICE HAVE SAID

A Tulsa police spokeswoman initially told reporters that Crutcher refused requests to put his hands in the air. After the footage was released Monday suggesting otherwise, spokeswoman Jeanne MacKenzie said she was relying on reports from officers at the time.

Tulsa Police Chief Chuck Jordan said Monday that Crutcher did not have a gun on him or in his SUV. He promised a thorough investigation.

Police have held back many details in the case, citing the investigation, but Sgt. Dave Walker confirmed Tuesday that investigators found the drug PCP in Crutcher's vehicle. Also Tuesday, Sgt. Shane Tuell confirmed Shelby had a stun gun at the time but did not use it.

WHAT THE OFFICER'S ATTORNEY HAS SAID

Shelby's attorney, Scott Wood, has told the Tulsa World the situation unfolded for nearly two minutes before the police footage started. He said Crutcher repeatedly ignored Shelby's commands and didn't respond to her questions. He said Crutcher reached toward his pockets or into them several times against Shelby's orders not to do so.

Wood said Shelby has completed drug-recognition expert training and thought Crutcher was acting like he might be under the influence of PCP.

Shelby was concerned about Crutcher reaching toward his pockets because a person with a weapon often touches it to make sure it's still there, Wood said.

He said she drew her handgun after Crutcher walked toward the police car's passenger side and started to put his hand in his left pocket. He said she radioed dispatch to report that she was with someone who wasn't complying with her demands.

Wood said Shelby cleared — or checked — the SUV from the driver's side and was about to clear the

passenger side when Crutcher approached from the east. Another officer arrived and drew his stun gun, the lawyer said, adding that the stun gun and handgun were fired simultaneously because both officers perceived the same threat.

He said Crutcher's head was tilted but his eyes were on Shelby. Wood said Shelby recalled Crutcher mumbling incoherently when she asked him if the SUV belonged to him.

Shelby opened fire when Crutcher's "left hand goes through" the SUV window, Wood said.

WHAT THE FAMILY AND THEIR ATTORNEYS HAVE SAID

The family and their attorneys say the video clearly shows Crutcher wasn't threatening the officers. The attorneys also provided an enlarged photo from police footage that appears to show the SUV's window rolled up, which would contradict Shelby's claim that Crutcher was reaching inside his vehicle.

Whether Crutcher possessed or used drugs is also irrelevant, the lawyers said.

"If a case like this with clear video can't be appropriately dealt with justly, then what case can be?" one of them, Damario Solomon-Simmons, has said. "Once people lose hope in our justice system, everything else falls down, and we cannot afford that in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and we cannot afford that in the United States of America."

Crutcher was a church-going man and a father of four who was gunned down for being "a big bad dude," his twin sister, Tiffany Crutcher, has said, referring to the "bad dude" comment from the police helicopter footage.

Bleed reported from Little Rock, Arkansas. Associated Press writer Justin Juozapavicius contributed to this report from Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Team USA scrambling for answers after World Cup ouster

By **STEPHEN WHYNO, AP Hockey Writer**

TORONTO (AP) — Members of Team USA gathered for a few drinks after they were eliminated from the World Cup of Hockey.

There was a lot to discuss.

The United States was surprised by Team Europe and wasn't good enough against Canada, leading to two losses and a cascade of questions. John Tortorella as coach? Too much grit? Not enough skill? What might change after another all-too-familiar early exit from an international tournament? The pipeline of young talent for next time around?

A few days isn't enough time to answer all those questions, especially for players whose job was to play a certain style of hockey — not put together a roster or pick the coaching staff.

"I liked our team," winger Zach Parise said Wednesday. "I thought we played hard. It's not a player's job to speculate who should or shouldn't be on the team before or after the tournament."

Phil Kessel took his shot. Left off the team along with scoring forwards Kyle Okposo and Tyler Johnson and defensemen Justin Faulk, Kevin Shattenkirk and Cam Fowler, the Stanley Cup-winning Pittsburgh Penguins winger tweeted after the U.S. loss: "Just sitting around the house tonight (with) my dog. Felt like I should be doing something important, but couldn't put my finger on it."

U.S. management went with a sandpaper style of play that resulted in a silver medal at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics but hasn't worked since. Center David Backes said he believes that style of hockey can still win if executed correctly.

"To come here and flop like we did is extremely disappointing," defenseman Ryan Suter said. "Obviously we have to examine ourselves and what more could we have done and how can we get better

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for future tournaments.”

The 0-2 start revealed the Americans brought too much physicality to a skill game. Canada, Russia, Team North America and others have thrived with fast-paced, entertaining hockey. Speed has been king at this international tournament, but Backes noted that the Americans “weren’t going to out-skill Canada.” With the aim of beating Canada, U.S. general manager Dean Lombardi instead built a big team with an edge in hopes of neutralizing the talent of the top hockey power in the world.

Instead, the World Cup showed that depth of talent is everything. Leaving more skilled players at home was too much to overcome.

Kessel was the Americans’ leading scorer and best player at the 2014 Sochi Olympics, but he was left off the roster. Hand surgery after the playoffs may have put his availability in doubt, but USA Hockey’s management team clearly overlooked him and others.

The U.S. opted for old-guard players like forward Brandon Dubinsky, defensemen Jack Johnson and Erik Johnson and grinder Justin Abdelkader. Tortorella, as old-school a coach as there is, wanted to play his brand of hockey and stood by the roster construction and style.

Canada outclassed the U.S. in a 4-2 whacking Tuesday night that wasn’t as close as the score. Not only could the Americans not beat the tournament favorite but they weren’t able to knock them around, either.

“As a team we have some bigger guys who are physical,” Canada captain Sidney Crosby said. “It doesn’t mean they have to chase hits.”

In the aftermath of the loss, players talked about hitting the post and being close. They also defended their teammates against criticism, even while conceding the results weren’t good enough.

“There’s perhaps a gut check for everybody that’s on this team to know or to evaluate really what they were able to give or what they gave for the red white and the blue,” Backes said.

Tortorella was not made available to reporters on Wednesday. Lombardi was expected to speak Thursday before the U.S. finishes round-robin play with a meaningless game against the Czech Republic, which also failed to reach the semifinals.

Patrick Kane, who did not score a goal in two games after winning the Hart Trophy as the NHL MVP last season, wouldn’t blame his coach for this failing.

“Tortorella is just one of the most passionate guys I’ve ever seen about hockey,” Kane said. “I’ll never say a bad thing about him. He’s just a great coach. We didn’t show up for him.”

Lombardi and other executives will take heat for the World Cup debacle, though it might lead to philosophical changes about how to beat Canada and win elite tournaments. It will help at future events to have players like Auston Matthews, Johnny Gaudreau, Jack Eichel, Brandon Saad and Seth Jones, all of whom played on the 23-and-under Team North America and weren’t eligible for the U.S. team.

“There is definitely a fantastic future coming here,” Tortorella said Tuesday night. “There are some good young kids there that I think they’ll bring some juice to the program.”

For now, there is the final game against the Czechs. Parise said the U.S. won’t repeat what it did in against Finland in the bronze medal game at the Sochi Olympics, essentially mailing it in.

“All of us probably really regretted what happened that game,” Parise said. “You ask yourself, ‘Could we have played harder with the bronze medal on the line?’ ... We’ll come and play hard just like there is a spot on the line to get in.”

Follow Stephen Whyno on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/SWhyno>

Clinton, Trump decry latest police shootings of black men

By JILL COLVIN and KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton decried a fresh round of police-involved shootings on Wednesday, with the Republican nominee saying he was “very troubled” by the killing of a black man by a white police officer in Oklahoma.

Courting black voters who have long spurned Republicans, Trump’s event in Cleveland Heights’ New Spirit Revival Center took a bizarre turn when he was introduced by boxing promoter Don King, who used a racial slur as he made the case for black voters to support Trump. In an interview later, Trump called for a national expansion of “stop-and-frisk,” the police tactic that a federal judge ruled can be discriminatory against minorities.

Trump’s latest foray into the black community not only sought to connect with voters in Cleveland, home to a large community of African-American voters key to Clinton’s prospects in Ohio, but also with moderate suburban voters, who frequently hear Clinton describe Trump as extreme.

King, introducing Trump, raised eyebrows when he said a black man is always framed by his skin color, recalling that he once told pop icon Michael Jackson “if you’re poor, you’re a ‘poor Negro.’ If you’re rich, you’re a ‘rich Negro.’” An educated black man is “an intellectual negro.”

King, who is black, continued: “If you’re a dancing and sliding and gliding n----- I mean Negro — you are ‘a dancing and sliding and gliding Negro.’” Gasps and laughs could be heard from the audience.

The King incident underscored the often clumsy way in which Trump has made his appeal to minority voters. Many black community leaders and voters have been offended by his dire depiction of life in minority communities. Trump’s outreach has also been viewed cynically as an attempt by his campaign to soothe concerns among more moderate, suburban voters.

At the end of the Ohio church event organized by members of his diversity coalition, Trump was asked about recent high-profile police shootings in Oklahoma and North Carolina. Trump said 40-year-old Terence Crutcher, who was killed in Friday’s Tulsa, Oklahoma, shooting, “looked like he did everything you’re supposed to do. And he looked like a really good man.”

“This young officer, I don’t know what she was thinking. I don’t know what she was thinking but I’m very, very troubled by that,” Trump said, calling it a “terrible situation.”

But hours later he called for the expanded use of stop-and-frisk, a police tactic that a federal judge has ruled can be discriminatory against minorities. Trump said during a Fox News town hall taping that the tactic, which gives police the ability to stop and search anyone they deem suspicious, had “worked incredibly well” in New York, where it was expanded under former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Current New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, a Democrat who supports Clinton, slammed Trump’s call for more stop-and-frisk as “appalling” and disputed Trump’s account of how well it worked. De Blasio suggested Trump is “either ignorant about the history of the city or he’s lying about it.”

Clinton notably made no direct mention of Trump in a speech in Orlando, Florida, focused on helping people with disabilities thrive in the U.S. economy. She pointed to the Oklahoma and North Carolina shootings at the start of her remarks, saying it added two more names “to a long list of African-Americans killed by police officers. It’s unbearable and it needs to become intolerable.”

Clinton has made curbing gun violence and police brutality a central part of her candidacy. She has campaigned alongside a group of black women called the “Mothers of the Movement,” who advocated for more accountability and transparency by law enforcement. The group includes the mothers of Eric Garner, Trayvon Martin and Michael Brown, black victims of high-profile killings.

Trump, joined by running mate Mike Pence at the Ohio event, has routinely praised police officers in

his speeches to supporters. But after reading from notes about the role of the black church in the civil rights movement and vowing to help struggling black Americans, Trump questioned the Tulsa officer's reaction in shooting Crutcher, who was unarmed.

Video of the shooting, which Trump cited, shows Crutcher's hands up as officers approach and Crutcher then appears to place his hands on a vehicle before the officers surround him. He then drops to the ground. Someone on the police radio says, "I think he may have just been tasered." Then almost immediately, someone can be heard yelling, "Shots fired!" Crutcher is left lying in the street.

Trump's meeting came after street demonstrations continued into the early hours of Wednesday in Charlotte, North Carolina. On Tuesday, 43-year-old Keith Lamont Scott was fatally shot by Charlotte police officer Brentley Vinson, who is black. Officers say Scott was armed and posed a threat. Police used tear gas to disperse protesters during the demonstrations that left about a dozen officers injured.

Thomas reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Catherine Lucey in Orlando, Florida, and Bill Barrow in Cleveland contributed to this report.

Family, neighbors: Tulsa man was changing his life, generous

By JUSTIN JUOZAPAVICIUS and SEAN MURPHY, Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — An unarmed black man shot dead in the middle of a street by a white Oklahoma police officer had run-ins with the law dating back to his teenage years and recently served four years in prison.

But those closest to Terence Crutcher described him as a church-going father who was starting to turn his life around. After marking his 40th birthday with his twin sister last month, Crutcher sent her a text that read, "I'm gonna show you, I'm gonna make you all proud."

Crutcher was due to start a music appreciation class at a local community college Friday, the day Tulsa police officer Betty Shelby fatally shot him outside his abandoned SUV.

The shooting was captured by a police helicopter and a cruiser dashcam, though it's not clear from the footage what led Shelby to draw her gun or what orders officers gave Crutcher. An attorney for Crutcher's family said Crutcher committed no crime and gave officers no reason to shoot. Shelby was put on paid administrative leave.

Crutcher had been arrested in the past. In 1995 in nearby Osage County, officers said they saw him fire a weapon out a vehicle window. Records show Crutcher was ordered to exit the vehicle for a pat-down search and began making a movement to his right ankle before an officer managed to get control of him. A .25-caliber pistol was found in his right sock, according to an affidavit.

Crutcher received suspended sentences after entering a no-contest plea to charges of carrying a weapon and resisting an officer, court records show.

Oklahoma prison officials confirmed Crutcher also served four years in prison from 2007 to 2011 on a Tulsa County drug-trafficking conviction.

Court records show officers used force against Crutcher on at least four separate occasions, including a 2012 arrest on public intoxication and obstruction complaints. In that case, an officer used a stun gun on Crutcher twice while he was face down on the ground because the officer said Crutcher didn't comply with at least three orders to show his hands, a police affidavit states. Crutcher's father showed up while he was being arrested and told the officers that his son had "an ongoing problem" with the drug PCP, the affidavit states.

"Nobody claimed that he was a perfect individual. Who is perfect? But that night he was not a crimi-

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nal," said Crutcher family attorney Melvin Hall regarding Crutcher's criminal record. "He did not have any warrants. He had not done anything wrong. He had a malfunctioning vehicle, and he should have been treated accordingly."

Neighbors described Crutcher as friendly and generous. They said he lived with four young children, cooked barbecue meals that he'd share with others and often belted out gospel songs in his driveway.

The Rev. Willie Lauderdale, whose church is near Crutcher's home, said Crutcher wasn't a member but would come sing some Sundays.

Camellia Bryant said her children and Crutcher's would have sleepovers. She said he was known throughout the neighborhood.

Crutcher would drink alcohol sometimes "but he always kept it at home" and didn't drive, Melrita Gilliam said.

Lauderdale said: "I never seen him raging or nothing out there."

Two 911 calls before the shooting described an SUV abandoned in the middle of the road. One caller said the vehicle's driver was acting strangely, adding, "I think he's smoking something."

Sgt. Dave Walker confirmed Tuesday that investigators found a vial of PCP in Crutcher's SUV. A toxicology report could take several weeks.

Attorneys for Crutcher's family said the family didn't know whether drugs were found in the SUV, but that even if they were, it wouldn't justify the shooting.

PCP or phencyclidine can cause slurred speech, loss of coordination and a sense of strength or invulnerability, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the National Institute on Drug Abuse. At high doses, it can cause hallucinations and paranoia.

"To try and come now with some bogus justification, to say that he had PCP — well, let's look at the video," said civil rights leader the Rev. Al Sharpton, speaking alongside Crutcher's family Wednesday in New York.

"We saw his hands up. We didn't see what was in the car, and it has nothing to do with the actions taken because the officers couldn't see what was in the car," Sharpton said. "His hands were up as his father has instructed young black men in Tulsa to do."

The police video shows Crutcher walking with his hands in the air toward his SUV that was in the middle of the road. A female officer is following him. As Crutcher approaches the driver's side, more officers walk up and Crutcher appears to lower his hands and place them on the vehicle.

The officers surround him and suddenly he drops to the ground. Someone on the police radio says, "I think he may have just been tasered." Then almost immediately, a woman's voice yells on the police radio: "Shots fired!" Crutcher is left lying in the street.

Police Chief Chuck Jordan has said Crutcher had no weapon on him or in his SUV.

Shelby's attorney, Scott Wood, told the Tulsa World that Crutcher wasn't following commands and that Shelby was concerned because he kept reaching for his pocket as if he had a weapon.

"He has his hands up and is facing the car and looks at Shelby, and his left hand goes through the car window, and that's when she fired her shot," Wood said.

Attorneys for Crutcher's family dispute that, pointing to an enlarged photo from police footage that appears to show Crutcher's window was rolled up.

Local and federal investigators are trying to determine whether Shelby should face charges and whether Crutcher's civil rights were violated.

This story has been corrected to show that the quote about not seeing Crutcher 'raging' was from Lauderdale, not Gilliam.

Associated Press writer Karen Matthews in New York contributed to this report.

IRS chief tells House panel he does not deserve impeachment

By ALAN FRAM, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chief of the IRS fended off Republican demands Wednesday that he should lose his job, telling the House Judiciary Committee that he'd made statements about missing emails that later proved wrong but had done nothing to merit impeachment.

At a four-and-one-half hour hearing on whether to oust him, John Koskinen repeatedly said he'd cooperated fully with congressional investigators probing why his agency — before he joined it — subjected tea party groups seeking tax exemptions to excessive scrutiny. Conservatives leading a campaign-year effort to remove him said Koskinen has headed an agency that destroyed emails investigators wanted and he should pay the price.

"When you destroy documents that are under subpoena, somebody's got to be held accountable for that. And that starts with you," said Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, chairman of another committee that has had a long-running investigation of the IRS' treatment of conservative organizations.

Koskinen told lawmakers that when he testified in June 2014 that no documents had been destroyed since congressional investigations began, he didn't know that three months earlier, IRS workers had mistakenly destroyed backup tapes bearing thousands of emails.

"In retrospect, I would have been better advised to say, 'To the best of my knowledge,'" Koskinen told the Judiciary panel. He added later, "No one lied, no one covered up."

With Republicans divided and GOP leaders offering no support, the impeachment effort is ensured of an eventual defeat. Last week, members of the conservative House Freedom Caucus agreed to not force a House impeachment vote until after the November elections — even though it seemed likely to lose — in exchange for Wednesday's hearing.

The conservatives say Koskinen obstructed congressional investigations by lying, ignoring subpoenas and heading an agency that destroyed documentation.

Investigations by the Justice Department and the IRS' independent inspector general have found no evidence that that Koskinen or the agency purposely destroyed evidence or that its actions against the conservative groups were politically motivated. The inspector general concluded that the backup tapes were mistakenly erased by IRS workers in Martinsburg, W.Va.

"The old midnight shift guys in Martinsburg excuse," scoffed Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, leader of the Freedom Caucus.

Koskinen and Democrats have criticized the impeachment effort, saying Republicans are short-circuiting the House's usual practice of having a formal, in-depth process. Democratic lawmakers called it a political circus that was distracting from problems like the recent killings of unarmed blacks by police officers and of law enforcement officers.

"We keep grandstanding while America is burning," said Rep. Cedric Richmond, D-La.

Several Democrats tried turning the tables on Republicans by asking Koskinen questions about GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump's taxes and charitable foundation.

Asked whether people under IRS audit are free to release their returns or IRS letters informing them they are being audited, Koskinen said they are. Trump has said he's not released his returns because he is being audited.

After the hearing, Jordan said he was hoping the Judiciary committee would hold an additional hear-

ing on Koskinen or vote on impeaching him.

"We have a better chance of winning the vote on the floor if we can actually get a vote out of the Judiciary committee," Jordan said in an interview.

Judiciary panel Chairman Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., declined to answer reporters' questions about what the next steps would be.

In May 2013, the IRS conceded that during the 2010 and 2012 elections, it subjected conservative groups seeking tax exemptions to excessively harsh examinations. Many groups with those tax exemptions play major roles in political campaigns, and they are not required to reveal donors.

Your TV may use more energy than you think, group charges

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE, AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — An environmental group accused three major television manufacturers Wednesday of misleading consumers and regulators about how much energy their high-definition screens devour by designing them to draw less power during government testing than in ordinary use.

The Natural Resources Defense Council concluded that the TVs made by Samsung, LG Electronics and Vizio saddle households with an extra \$120 million in electricity bills each year and generate tons of additional pollution.

The added expense works out to about \$10 to \$20 per household annually over the anticipated decade-long life of the typical widescreen TV.

Both Samsung and LG Electronics disputed the findings.

"It appears that some major manufacturers have modified their TV designs to get strong energy-use marks during government testing but may not perform as well in consumer homes," said Noah Horowitz, senior scientist and director for the NRDC's center for energy efficiency standards.

The report called to mind elements of the Volkswagen emissions scandal in which the automaker duped U.S. regulators by using sophisticated software to turn on emissions controls when the cars were being tested and turn them off during real-world driving.

Samsung and LG did not break any laws, according to the report, but rather exploited weaknesses in the Department of Energy's system to measure electricity usage.

The behavior "smacks of bad faith," Horowitz said.

The findings were based on an analysis of high-definition TVs with screens spanning at least 55 inches made in 2015 and 2016. The estimates on electricity costs are based on high-definition TVs with screens 32 inches and larger.

The study concluded that Samsung and LG exploited the testing system to get better scores on the yellow "EnergyGuide" labels that appear on sets in stores. Those scores often influence the buying decisions of consumers looking to save money on utility bills.

Samsung and LG sets have a dimming feature that turns off the screens' backlight during the 10-minute video clip used in government tests, according to the study. But that does not typically happen when the sets are being used in homes to watch sports, comedies, dramas and news programming.

The reason the TVs perform differently during tests is because the government relies on an 8-year-old clip that stitches together 260 separate scenes that rapidly change, keeping the backlight off. The NRDC study found scenes lasted longer in a football game, the HBO comedy "Silicon Valley," the AMC drama "Breaking Bad" and a CNN program. The longer scenes resulted in the picture staying brighter, drawing more electricity than in government tests.

LG spokesman John Taylor wrote in an email that the company was "confident that our products are

being tested properly and are delivering energy efficiency in real world use.”

Samsung said the government-tested ratings are based on the factory settings for the picture — something that most consumers do not change. That is consistent with the report, which assumes that two-thirds of consumers leave those settings in place.

The company did not comment on what happens to energy usage when the settings are changed except to say that consumers should have the option to choose the picture they want.

Vizio did not respond to requests for comment.

The NRDC called on the Department of Energy to test energy usage with a montage of clips mirroring how TV is typically watched in homes. The department said Wednesday that it is reviewing whether it needs to change its testing to keep up with the latest TV technology.

The analysis also found that Samsung, LG and Vizio disable energy-saving features in their TVs when consumers change the factory setting on the picture with a remote control. The report estimated that happens in one-third of all homes.

The energy-saving feature is turned off with little or no warning on the screen, sometimes doubling the amount of electricity consumed, according to the NRDC report. This potential uptick in energy usage is not detected in government testing either.

Other TV sets made by Sony and Philips did not deactivate their power-saving features when changes were made to the default setting for the picture, according to the study.

Add it all up, and the report estimates that total electricity bills during a decade of watching the high-definition TVs will be \$1.2 billion higher than the energy ratings imply. The higher energy usage generates an additional 5 million metric tons of carbon pollution, potentially affecting the climate, the report warned.

This story has been corrected to change the reference to the yellow power-rating label to “EnergyGuide” instead of “Energy Star.”

World leaders rage against neighbors on 2nd day of UN debate

By ALEXANDRA OLSON, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — World leaders from Pakistan to Ukraine unleashed their regional grievances Wednesday, taking the stage of the U.N. General Assembly to rage against their neighbors and presenting a picture of a chaotic world consumed by intractable conflicts.

A few paces from the General Assembly hall, the United States and Russia bitterly attacked each other during a Security Council meeting meant to salvage Syria’s faltering cease-fire. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon implored Syria’s warring parties to lay down their arms.

In the midst of the anger, a few bright spots emerged on the second day of the annual U.N. gathering of heads of states. Colombia basked in world praise when it presented its newly reached peace agreement with leftist rebels to the Security Council. Former political prisoner Aung San Suu Kyi made her first General Assembly speech since she formed a democratically elected government in Myanmar.

But on the International Day of Peace, tensions from all parts of the planet filled the halls of the United Nations.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang voiced his country’s mounting frustration with ally North Korea’s pursuit of nuclear weapons, highlighting the urgency of reaching “a comprehensive political solution on the Korean nuclear issue.”

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe devoted about half of his address to North Korea, which earlier

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this month conducted its fifth nuclear test in defiance of repeated Security Council resolutions intended to constrain its weapons development.

Abe said North Korea this year fired three missiles into Japan's exclusive economic zone and it was a matter of luck that no ships or aircraft were damaged. He urged unity in the Security Council to confront the North Korean threat.

"We must concentrate our strengths and thwart North Korea's plans," Abe said.

Some of the angriest words came from the rivalries between Pakistan, Afghanistan and India.

Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif delivered a blistering attack on neighboring India while, across the world, gunbattles raged for a second day between Indian soldiers and suspected rebels in the disputed territory of Kashmir.

Sharif demanded a U.N. investigation against "brutalities perpetrated by the Indian occupying forces," saying "innocent Kashmiri children, women and men" have been killed, blinded and injured.

Moments earlier, Pakistan came under attack from Afghanistan.

Vice President Sarwar Danesh said "merciless attacks from terrorist groups" against its civilians are being planned and organized on Pakistani territory. He said Afghanistan has repeatedly asked Pakistan to destroy known terrorist safe havens but there has been no change in the situation.

Sharif shot back that Pakistan has suffered from spillover of Afghanistan's internal conflicts for more than three decades and "progress will be assured only when the Afghan parties themselves conclude that there is no military solution to the Afghan war."

There was positive news in Ukraine, where the government and separatist rebels agreed Wednesday to pull back troops and weapons from several areas in eastern Ukraine in an attempt to uphold a fragile peace agreement reached last year.

But at the United Nations, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko lambasted Russia for being "the instigator and major participant" in the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

"The terrorist component of the undeclared hybrid war that Russia wages against Ukraine is evident," Poroshenko said.

Respite from the invective came from Colombia, which appeared at the annual U.N. gathering as a country in peace for the first time in five decades.

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos devoted almost his entire speech to the peace deal reached with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, which will be signed in Cartagena later this month and must be submitted to a national referendum on Oct. 2.

"A new Colombia greets the international community today," Santos said. "A Colombia full of hope. A Colombia that, without a war, is ready to reach its highest potential and to be a positive factor in the global context."

He later met with President Barack Obama, who praised the peace accord as an "achievement of historic proportions."

Ban commended Santos for his "vision and determination."

"In a time of armed conflicts in many other places, peace in Colombia sends a powerful message of hope in the world," Ban said.

Associated Press writers Matthew Pennington, Alina Heineke, George Jahn and Maria Danilova contributed to this story.

Report: Staff shortages hamper US wildlife refuges

By GILLIAN FLACCUS, Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Hundreds of national wildlife refuges that provide critical habitat for migratory birds and other species are crippled by a staffing shortage that has curtailed educational programs, hampered the fight against invasive species and weakened security at facilities that attract nearly 50 million visitors annually, a group of public employees and law enforcement said Wednesday.

Staffing at the nation's 565 wildlife refuges and related properties shrank nearly 15 percent in the past decade, and more than one-third of those locations don't have any staff on site, the Washington, D.C.-based Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility said. More than half of the refuges no longer have their own manager and have been combined into massive "complexes" that are overseen by someone who might be hundreds of miles away, said Jeff Ruch, executive director of the nonprofit alliance.

The report raises concerns about low staffing levels given the recent armed takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in remote southeast Oregon. More than two dozen occupied the refuge's headquarters in January, launching a 41-day standoff with authorities that ended two weeks after one of them was fatally shot.

The occupiers were protesting the prosecution of two ranchers who set fires on federal lands. Seven of them are now on trial in federal court in Portland.

The crisis set off alarm bells and prompted officials to spend \$6 million from an already tight budget to move law enforcement officers to preserves scattered in remote locations across the West, said David Houghton, president of the National Wildlife Refuge Association. Many refuges are patrolled by a single officer who covers several states.

Some refuge managers have since sent their law enforcement officers to additional training or updated security plans.

"People are paying attention to that whole dynamic. I only have one law enforcement officer here and she covers the entire range of refuges, and she's by herself," said Michelle Potter, who manages seven refuges and three other habitats in and around Long Island, New York. "I worry about safety."

Vanessa Kauffman, a spokesman for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, declined to comment on the study but did acknowledge a tight budget in a phone interview with the AP. The agency oversees the refuge system.

"The budget determines the staff, and if you have attrition and you have a shortened budget, you're not going to be able to replace staff," said Kauffman. "We do what we can."

The refuges, as well as 178 other federally protected areas dedicated to waterfowl habitat and wetland preservation, attract 47.5 million visitors a year for bird-watching, hunting, fishing and educational activities, but their primary mission is the preservation of critical habitat for fragile species. Many, but not all, are in remote areas.

Because they are focused on wildlife preservation, refuges are less well known by the public than their flashier, selfie-friendly cousins at the National Park Service, yet they have expanded rapidly in recent years as funding has shrunk.

Since 2010, the overall refuge budget dropped by \$17 million to \$486 million while the system added more than 700 million acres, said Houghton.

Much of that expansion comes from the addition of two massive marine monuments, including one designated in the Atlantic Ocean last week by President Barack Obama that includes 5,000 square miles of underwater canyons and mountains off the New England coast.

Meanwhile, existing refuges are struggling to complete their mission with a staff so pared down that some can't keep on volunteers because there's no one to manage them.

In Rhode Island, for example, a refuge complex cut educational programs for school children by 20 percent, lost its visitor center manager and hasn't been able to treat huge swaths of land for invasive species.

Charlie Vandemoer oversees five refuges in Rhode Island but has security from only one officer who also patrols refuges in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

He relies on more than 23,000 volunteer hours a year to get the most critical work done and recently sent his solitary law enforcement officer for additional training.

"If it wasn't for volunteers, they'd have to shut the doors," said Marvin Plenert, a retired manager in Portland who used to oversee the Western region. "It's pathetic, is what it is."

This version of the story corrects the spelling of Marvin Plenart to Marvin Plenert.

Airstrike hits medics in Syria as UN moves to resume aid

By PHILIP ISSA, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — An airstrike in northern Syria killed four medics responding to an earlier bombing raid, a relief group said Wednesday, as the U.N. announced it would resume aid deliveries suspended after an attack on a convoy two days ago that killed 20 people.

The escalation of violence against humanitarian workers has all but destroyed a cease-fire that took effect on September 12, and has stoked tensions between the truce's architects, the U.S. and Russia, which have traded blame for running it into the ground.

The U.N. said convoys to priority areas would be resumed, with deliveries planned as early as Thursday. "Our obligation to civilians on all sides is to go where and when we can with relief," said Jan Ege-land, a senior U.N. humanitarian official focused on Syria. "We hope to resume convoys tomorrow and Friday, but still work on security guarantees.

But air raids continued in other parts of Syria, with activists reporting at least 23 civilians killed in the besieged parts of Aleppo city and the nearby rebel-held Idlib province.

The attack that killed the medics took place shortly after they arrived at the scene of an airstrike in the rebel-held town of Khan Touman on Tuesday. As the medics deployed, planes circled around and struck the area again, Dr. Oubaida Al Moufti, vice president of the International Union of Medical Care and Relief Organizations, said. Al-Moufti initially said that five medics were killed. The group later said two nurses and two ambulance drivers were killed, while a third nurse remains in critical condition.

Syrian government forces have been accused of carrying out "double tap" attacks throughout the 5-1/2 year war, placing paramedics and rescue workers in peril.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said nine militants, some of them belonging to the Fatah al-Sham Front, an al-Qaida-linked group previously known as the Nusra Front, were also killed in the "double tap" attack.

It was not immediately clear who carried out the strike. Aircraft from Syria, Russia and the U.S.-led coalition are targeting the Fatah al-Sham Front, which along with the Islamic State group was excluded from the cease-fire.

The airstrike on a Syrian Arab Red Crescent convoy Monday night prompted international condemnation over attacks targeting humanitarian facilities and workers. U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon described the convoy strike as a "sickening, savage and apparently deliberate attack." The convoy was carrying U.N. aid.

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The U.S. initially said it believed Russian or Syrian government jets were behind the attack on the aid convoy. But a senior U.S. official said Wednesday that Washington has determined with a very high degree of confidence that the attack was carried out by a Russian piloted aircraft.

Moscow denied that Russian or Syrian aircraft were behind the attack, saying there was a fire in the cargo. Defense Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov said a U.S. Predator drone was in the area of the convoy attack when it happened.

In New York on Tuesday, Russian and U.S. diplomats insisted that the cease-fire, which went into effect nine days ago, was not dead, despite soaring violence. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and his counterpart Sergey Lavrov exchanged blame in a public session on Syria at the U.N. Security Council.

The Syrian military said the truce expired Monday night, shortly before presumed Russian or Syrian government jets launched a sustained aerial attack on Aleppo's opposition-held neighborhoods.

The cease-fire was intended in part to allow humanitarian convoys to reach besieged and hard-to-reach areas throughout Syria. The U.N. estimates that some 6 million Syrians live in such areas.

On Wednesday, Syrian opposition activists said suspected government airstrikes in the northern city of Aleppo and the rebel-held Idlib province killed 23 civilians, including at least five children.

The Observatory, which relies on a network of activists inside Syria, said at least 11 civilians, including three children and three women, were killed Wednesday during air raids on several rebel-held neighborhoods of Aleppo.

Ibrahim Alhaj, a member of the volunteer first responders known as the Syria Civil Defense, said 24 people were killed in the Aleppo strikes.

In nearby Idlib, the Observatory said 12 civilians, including two children, were killed in at least eight air raids.

Elsewhere in Syria, airstrikes on the opposition-run town of Talbiseh, outside of the central city of Homs, killed two civilians and wounded tens of others, according to the activist-run Talbiseh Media Center.

The town is besieged by government forces. The Observatory said government jets subjected the town to heavy bombardment Wednesday morning.

State TV meanwhile said a Syrian warplane crashed after carrying out a combat mission against Islamic State militants northwest of the capital, Damascus. The pilot was rescued, according to an unnamed military official quoted on state TV.

The IS-affiliated news agency Amaq said the group downed the plane in the eastern Qalamoun mountains after the aircraft carried out four raids. IS shot down a government aircraft on Sunday in the eastern Deir el-Zour province.

Associated Press writers Jamey Keaten in Geneva, Lolita C. Baldor in Washington, Jeffrey Schaeffer in Paris, Sarah El Deeb in Beirut, and Albert Aji in Damascus, Syria, contributed to this report.

Donald Trump Jr. becomes campaign flashpoint

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump is trying to run a more disciplined campaign, going easy (for him) on slip-ups and inflammatory tweets lately. His eldest son is another story.

In recent tweets, Donald Trump Jr. likened Syrian refugees to a poisoned bowl of Skittles candy, spread an incendiary story suggesting Muslim men are preying on Western women and used a cartoon character appropriated by white supremacists. He's one of his father's most prominent advisers.

The three adult Trump children, who are running their father's company in his absence, have been

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valuable assets in the campaign. Daughter Ivanka introduces him at major events like his convention acceptance speech and last week's rollout of a policy on child care. Sons Donald Jr. and Eric Trump do frequent interviews and campaign stops and have become popular figures with donors, who often cite Trump's kids as evidence the nominee is a good father and a good person.

Donald Trump Jr., though, has been raising eyebrows with some of his own pronouncements recently, such as a pair of tweets within 24 hours warning about refugees allowed in the U.S. In the first, he posted a tweet featuring a bowl of the candy Skittles with a warning: "If I had a bowl of skittles and I told you just three would kill you, would you take a handful?" The tweet went on: "That's our Syrian refugee problem."

The photo, a popular image on the extreme right, quickly drew condemnation. Skittles parent company, Wrigley Americas, offered a terse response from Denise Young, vice president of corporate affairs: "Skittles are candy. Refugees are people. We don't feel it's an appropriate analogy." The photo of the bowl of Skittles was taken by a refugee from Turkey now living in Britain, who denounced Trump for using it.

Nick Merrill, a spokesman for Hillary Clinton, tweeted: "This is disgusting."

Then on Tuesday morning, Trump Jr. linked to a news article posted on the conservative news site Breitbart with the incendiary headline: "Europe's Rape Epidemic: Western Women Will Be Sacrificed at the Altar of Mass Migration." The article suggests that Muslim men are a menace to Western women and are prompting European leaders "to follow the Islamic way entirely; they've decided to place restrictions on the freedoms of their own women."

Trump Jr., 38, did not return a request for comment from The Associated Press but defended his comment to the Deseret News on Wednesday, saying "We've seen what's going on in Europe. We can't be naive to that and pretend that's not happening there."

"If there's one death associated with it because we messed up and we didn't do it right, that's a problem for me," Trump told the Utah newspaper.

A Trump spokesman suggested that "the media's run out of things to attack Mr. Trump on, and so now they scour the social media accounts of his family looking for things to blow out of proportion."

"Here's the reality: This is a family that's passionate about changing America by bringing real positive change to Washington," said Jason Miller, the Trump campaign's senior communications adviser. "They're not political insiders, and their honesty and connection with real people is what's made them so popular with voters also seeking change."

This is not the first time Trump Jr. has used imagery that some believe carries xenophobic or racist connotations.

Last week he posted a doctored image of himself, his father and several other prominent Trump allies next to Pepe the Frog, a cartoon character whose image has been used by white supremacists. He's also retweeted an academic who has argued that anti-Semitism is a "logical" response to Jewish control of the world's banks. And last week he made what resembled a Holocaust-themed joke in a radio interview, suggesting that if Republicans behaved in the same way Democrats are in 2016, the media would be "warming up the gas chamber."

Trump Jr. said later he was referring to capital punishment.

He muddied the political waters again when he told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review his father shouldn't release his tax returns because it would "distract" from the celebrity businessman's "main message." The elder Trump has repeatedly said the reason he has not released his returns is because they are being audited by the Internal Revenue Service.

To be sure, the Republican nominee himself previously retweeted white supremacists and his new

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campaign CEO is the head of Breitbart News, a choice that prompted Clinton to suggest that Trump was "helping a radical fringe take over the Republican Party."

Trump Jr. and wife Vanessa — who have five children — spent about 90 minutes Monday in New York City with 18 supporters of the pro-Trump super PAC, Rebuilding America. Laurance Gay, the group's director, said Trump Jr. spoke passionately about his time in the campaign with his father and how much he enjoys mingling with working-class men and women.

And Trump Jr., who gave a well-received convention speech, is the only Trump family member to star in a campaign commercial. He appears in an ad showing his father hugging and kissing his young grandchildren.

At a rally Tuesday in North Carolina, Trump supporter Pam Guy, who runs a pharmacy with her husband in Thomasville, brushed off the fuss over the Skittles tweet.

"It just makes us more endeared to them because of what they have to go through when they're just being sincere and honest," she said.

What political news is the world searching for on Google and talking about on Twitter? Find out via AP's Election Buzz interactive. <http://elections.ap.org/buzz>

Associated Press writers Julie Bykowicz in New York and Jill Colvin in High Point, North Carolina, contributed to this report.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Sept. 22, the 266th day of 2016. There are 100 days left in the year. Autumn arrives at 10:21 a.m. Eastern time.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 22, 1776, during the Revolutionary War, Capt. Nathan Hale, 21, was hanged as a spy by the British in New York.

On this date:

In 1792, the first French Republic was proclaimed.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, declaring all slaves in rebel states should be free as of Jan. 1, 1863.

In 1911, pitcher Cy Young, 44, gained his 511th and final career victory as he hurled a 1-0 shutout for the Boston Rustlers against the Pittsburgh Pirates at Forbes Field.

In 1927, Gene Tunney successfully defended his heavyweight boxing title against Jack Dempsey in the famous "long-count" fight in Chicago.

In 1938, the musical comedy revue "Hellzapoppin'," starring Ole (OH'-lee) Olsen and Chic Johnson, began a three-year run on Broadway.

In 1949, the Soviet Union exploded its first atomic bomb.

In 1950, Omar N. Bradley was promoted to the rank of five-star general, joining an elite group that included Dwight D. Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur, George C. Marshall and Henry H. "Hap" Arnold.

In 1964, the musical "Fiddler on the Roof," starring Zero Mostel, opened on Broadway, beginning a run of 3,242 performances. The secret agent series "The Man from U.N.C.L.E.," starring Robert Vaughn and David McCallum, premiered on NBC-TV.

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In 1975, Sara Jane Moore attempted to shoot President Gerald R. Ford outside a San Francisco hotel, but missed. (Moore served 32 years in prison before being paroled on Dec. 31, 2007.)

In 1985, rock and country music artists participated in "Farm Aid," a concert staged in Champaign, Illinois, to help the nation's farmers.

In 1991, the London newspaper The Mail published an interview with former intelligence agent John Cairncross, who admitted being the "fifth man" in the Soviet Union's notorious British spy ring.

In 1996, actress-singer Dorothy Lamour died at her North Hollywood home at age 81.

Ten years ago: A high-speed maglev train crashed in northwestern Germany, killing 23 people in the first fatal wreck involving the high-tech system. Three Christian militants were executed in Indonesia for leading attacks on Muslims in May 2000 that left at least 70 people dead. Hewlett-Packard Co. Chairwoman Patricia Dunn resigned in the wake of the company's ill-fated investigation of boardroom media leaks. Actor Edward Albert died in Malibu, California, at age 55.

Five years ago: A group of European researchers at the world's biggest physics lab in Switzerland claimed to have measured a subatomic particle, a neutrino, traveling faster than the speed of light, a finding that challenged Einstein's theory of relativity (however, the results were refuted by other scientists). American diplomats led a walkout at the U.N. General Assembly as Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (ah-muh-DEE'-neh-zahd) fiercely attacked the United States and major West European nations as "arrogant powers" ruled by greed and eager for military adventurism. Pope Benedict XVI arrived in Germany on his first state visit to his homeland.

One year ago: Pope Francis arrived from Cuba on the first visit of his life to the United States; President Barack Obama, his wife and daughters personally welcomed the pontiff at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington. Chinese President Xi Jinping (shee jihh-peeng) arrived in Seattle for a three-day visit before heading to Washington. Volkswagen AG acknowledged putting emissions-cheating software in millions of vehicles worldwide. Baseball Hall of Famer Yogi Berra, 90, died in West Caldwell, New Jersey.

Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall of Fame manager Tommy Lasorda is 89. Former NBA Commissioner David Stern is 74. Actor Paul Le Mat is 71. Musician King Sunny Ade (ah-DAY') is 70. Capt. Mark Phillips is 68. Rock singer David Coverdale (Deep Purple, Whitesnake) is 65. Actress Shari Belafonte is 62. Singer Debby Boone is 60. Country singer June Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 60. Singer Nick Cave is 59. Rock singer Johnette Napolitano is 59. Actress Lynn Herring is 59. Classical crossover singer Andrea Bocelli (an-DRAY'-ah boh-CHEL'-ee) is 58. Singer-musician Joan Jett is 58. Actor Scott Baio is 56. Actress Catherine Oxenberg is 55. Actress Bonnie Hunt is 55. Actor Rob Stone is 54. Musician Matt Sharp is 47. Rock musician Dave Hernandez is 46. Rhythm-and-blues singer Big Rube (Society of Soul) is 45. Actress Mireille Enos is 41. Actress Daniella Alonso is 38. Actor Michael Graziadei (GRAHT'-zee-uh-day-ee) is 37. Actress Ashley Drane (Eckstein) is 35. Actress Katie Lowes is 34. Rock musician Will Farquarson (Bastille) is 33. Actress Tatiana Maslany (TV: "Orphan Black") is 31. Actor Tom Felton is 29. Actress Juliette Goglia is 21.

Thought for Today: "Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns." — George Eliot, English author (1819-1880).