

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 1 of 59

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Olde Bank Floral Ad
- 2- Wings at Ken's
- 2- Bus Drivers Wanted
- 2- Bates Township Mowing Notice
- 2- Bates Township Right of Way Notice
- 3- City Council Agenda
- 3- Dollar General is Hiring
- 4- Lake Region Marching Festival Photos
- 12- Today in Weather History
- 12- Upcoming events at GDILIVE.COM
- 13- Local Weather Forecast
- 14- Yesterday's Groton Weather
- 14- Today's Weather Climate
- 14- National Weather map
- 15- Golden Living Ad
- 15- Daily Devotional
- 16 - AP News

**Saturday, Oct. 15**

Show Choir Coreography Workshop #1

**Sunday, Oct. 16**

Show Choir Coreography Workshop #1

## 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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**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)

*Fresh  
flowers,  
silks,  
home  
decor*



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Bank @  
Floral 

*& so  
much  
more*

 101 N. Main St., Groton ~ 397-8650  
www.oldebankfloral.com

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 2 of 59

## Bus Drivers Wanted

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

## Bates Township Mowing Notice

### BATES TOWNSHIP WEED NOTICE

OWNERS & TENANTS of Bates Township are hereby notified and required, according to law, to cut all weeds and grass in road ditches adjacent to their property or tenanted by them within Bates township on or before October 1, 2016 or same will be hired done by the township board and assessed property taxes at the rate of \$300 per half mile.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors  
Betty Geist  
Township Clerk

## Bates Township Right-Of-Way Notice

Bates Township Board of Supervisors reminds all landowners and tenants that the road right-of-way extends 33 feet from the center of the township road. This ditch is to be maintained and mowed. Any crops planted in the road right-of-way will be mowed and charged to the landowner, effective with the 2017 growing season.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors  
Betty Geist  
Township Clerk  
(0928.1005)

## THE CIRCUS SPORTS BAR & GRILL



**World  
Famous  
Wings  
have  
come to  
Groton!**

Serving Mondays from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

6 Wings	\$5.99
12 Wings	\$10.99
20 Wings	\$16.99
100 Wings	\$74.99

**For orders of 20  
wings or more,  
please call  
ahead!**

**605/397-8456**

**Ken's SUPER FAIR FOODS**  
**FOOD FAIR & SHELL EXPRESS**  
Groton ~ 397-8456 ~ kenssuperfair.com

## GROTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA October 17, 2016 - 7pm at the Groton Community Center

- 1) Minutes
- 2) Bills
- 3) Police Report-vehicle specifications
- 4) Request for Donation to Golden Living Center Halloween Candy
- 5) Health Insurance Renewal Info
- 6) 2016 Recreation Reports
- 7) Audit completion 2014-2015
- 8) Safety School authorization–Pierre–Nov 9-10
- 9) Heartland meeting reminder-Langford-Oct 19
- 10) Lowary - SDML conference report
- 11) Exe Session – Legal 1-25-2 (3)

## DOLLAR GENERAL IS HIRING!

Dollar General is a national discount retailer with over 13,000 stores employing more than 100,000 people. We offer the challenge and growth opportunities you desire. We are seeking energetic & hands-on team players to fill important roles in our stores!

**New Store Opening in Groton, SD.  
Need all Candidates to apply right away as  
the store will open in early December:**

**Store Manager  
Assistant Store Manager  
Lead Sales Associates  
Sales Associates**

**To apply, go to [www.dollargeneral.com/careers](http://www.dollargeneral.com/careers)**

- Click on "Store Careers", then click on "Apply Online"
- Click "Search by Location -> Zip Code" to search for positions in Groton, SD 57445
- Log in to apply

Again thank you for your interest in Dollar General.

*Dollar General Corporation is an equal opportunity employer*

**DOLLAR GENERAL®**

Save time. Save money. **Every day!**

## Lake Region Band Marching Festival

Groton hosted the Lake Region Band Marching Festival on Friday with windy conditions and temperatures in the mid 50s. There were 13 visiting bands plus the NSU marching band and Groton's two marching bands. After the parade on Main Street, everyone gathered at the football field where NSU put on an exhibition and the awards were handed out. The Band of Merit is considered second place and the Band of Distinction is considered first place.



**Groton Area High School (Exhibition)**



**Groton Area Middle School (Exhibition)**

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 5 of 59



Hoven MS/HS



Leola MS/HS

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 6 of 59



**Aberdeen Roncalli MS/HS  
Best Drum Line Award  
Combined Band of Merit Award**



**Ipswich MS/HS  
Combined Band of Distinction Award**

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 7 of 59



Northwestern MS/HS



Waubay MS/HS

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 8 of 59



Langford MS/HS



Aberdeen Simmons/Holgate Combined 8th Grade Marching Band  
Middle School Band of Distinction Award



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 9 of 59



**Milbank Area Middle School**



**Watertown Middle School  
Middle School Band of Merit Award**

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 10 of 59



**Great Plains Lutheran High School  
High School Band of Merit Award**



**Britton-Hecla High School**

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 11 of 59



**Warner High School  
High School Band of Distinction Award (Fourth Consecutive Year)  
People's Choice Award (Fourth Consecutive Year)**



**The Northern State University Marching Band from Aberdeen was the featured band this year.**

## Today in Weather History

October 15, 1880: A violent early season blizzard devastated Minnesota and the Dakotas. Winds gusted to 70 mph at Yankton, SD, and snow drifts 10 to 15 feet high were reported in northwest Iowa and southeast South Dakota. Canby Minnesota reported 20 feet high snow drifts from this storm. Saint Paul, MN reported a barometric pressure of 28.65 inches on the 16th. Piles of snow, which remained throughout the severe winter to follow, blocked railroads. The winter of 1880-81 is vividly portrayed in Laura Ingalls Wilder's Book: The Long Winter. Click [HERE](#) for more information from Dr. Mayes-Boustead.

October 15, 1992: Snow fell throughout the day across the north central and northwest part of the state with 2 to 6 inches occurring. There was a separate report of 7 inches near Harding in northwestern South Dakota.

1608: Evangelista Torricelli, the Italian physicist, and mathematician who invented the barometer, was born on this date. In 1644, Evangelista Torricelli built the first barometer with mercury.

1880 - A violent early season blizzard raked Minnesota and the Dakotas. Winds gusted to 70 mph at Yankton SD, and snow drifts 10 to 15 feet high were reported in northwest Iowa and southeast South Dakota. Saint Paul MN reported a barometric pressure of 28.65 inches on the 16th. Railroads were blocked by drifts of snow which remained throughout the severe winter to follow. Gales did extensive damage to ship on the Great Lakes. (15th-16th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1954: By 11 pm on the 15th, Hurricane Hazel had reached and crossed the waters of Lake Ontario, still sporting sustained winds as high as 60 mph. Hazel took direct aim at the heart of Toronto as it roared past at 49 mph. Toronto saw heavy rainfall before Hurricane Hazel on the 14th. The previous storm, in combination with the hurricane, resulted in significant flooding.

1966 - Iowa experienced its worst late season tornado of record. In just one minute a twister tore through the town of Belmond leveling 75 percent of the businesses, and 100 homes, causing more than eleven million dollars damage. (The Weather Channel)

1984: The Monday Night Football game in Denver, CO was played in a raging blizzard. 15 inches of snow fell with up to 34 inches reported in the nearby mountains. The Air Force Academy canceled classes for the first time in its' recorded history.

1987 - Unseasonably cold weather continued in the eastern U.S., with thirteen cities reporting record low temperatures for the date. The low of 34 degrees at Montgomery AL was their coldest reading of record for so early in the season. Lows of 32 degrees at Harrisburg PA and 34 degrees at Parkersburg WV marked their third straight morning of record cold. (The National Weather Summary)

The Livestream logo features a red and white stylized 'L' icon to the left of the word 'livestream' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

## Upcoming Events





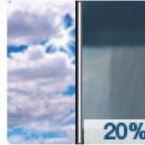
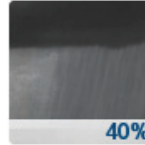

**Monday**

**VB: Florence/Henry**

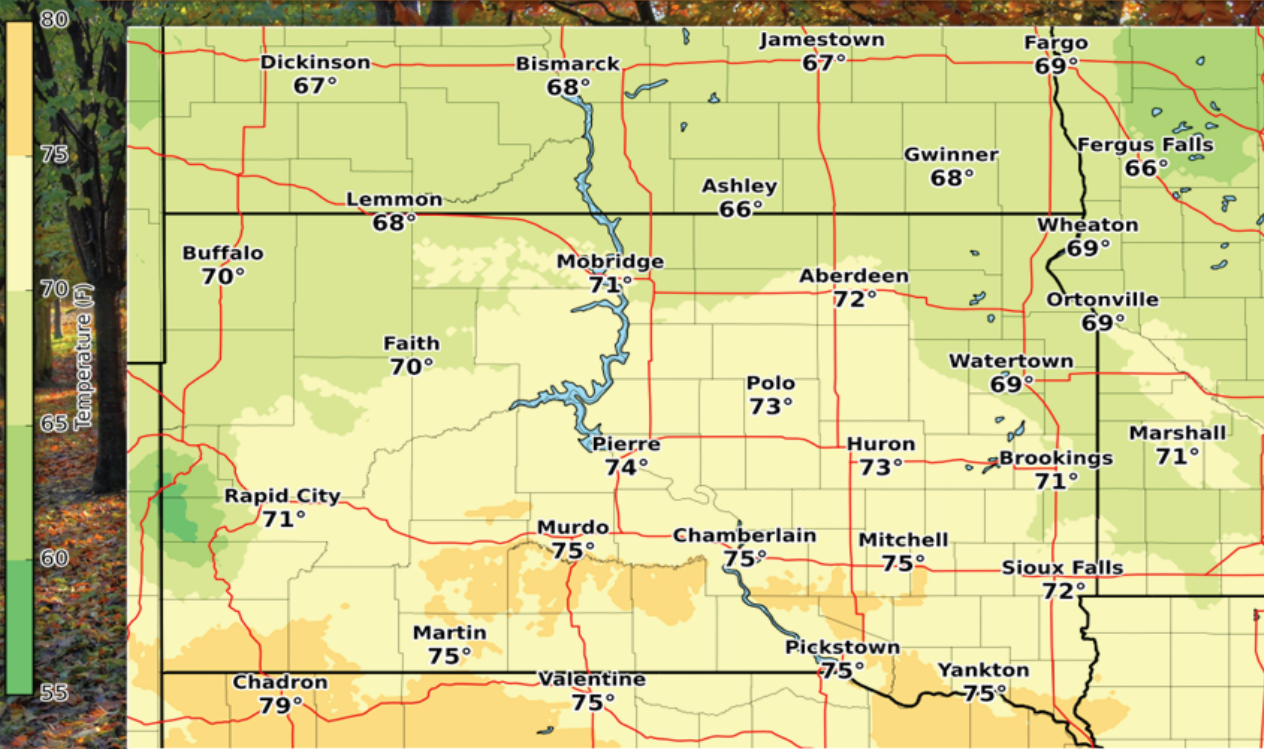
**gdilive.com**

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 13 of 59

Today	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
						
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny then Partly Sunny and Breezy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy then Slight Chance Showers	Chance Showers	Partly Sunny
High: 72 °F	Low: 42 °F	High: 74 °F	Low: 46 °F	High: 68 °F	Low: 45 °F	High: 60 °F

## Mild and Dry – Today's Highs



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

[weather.gov/Aberdeen](http://weather.gov/Aberdeen)

National Weather Service Aberdeen

@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 10/15/2016 3:59 AM

Published on: 10/15/2016 at 4:01AM

Today will be mild and dry with filtered sunshine.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 14 of 59

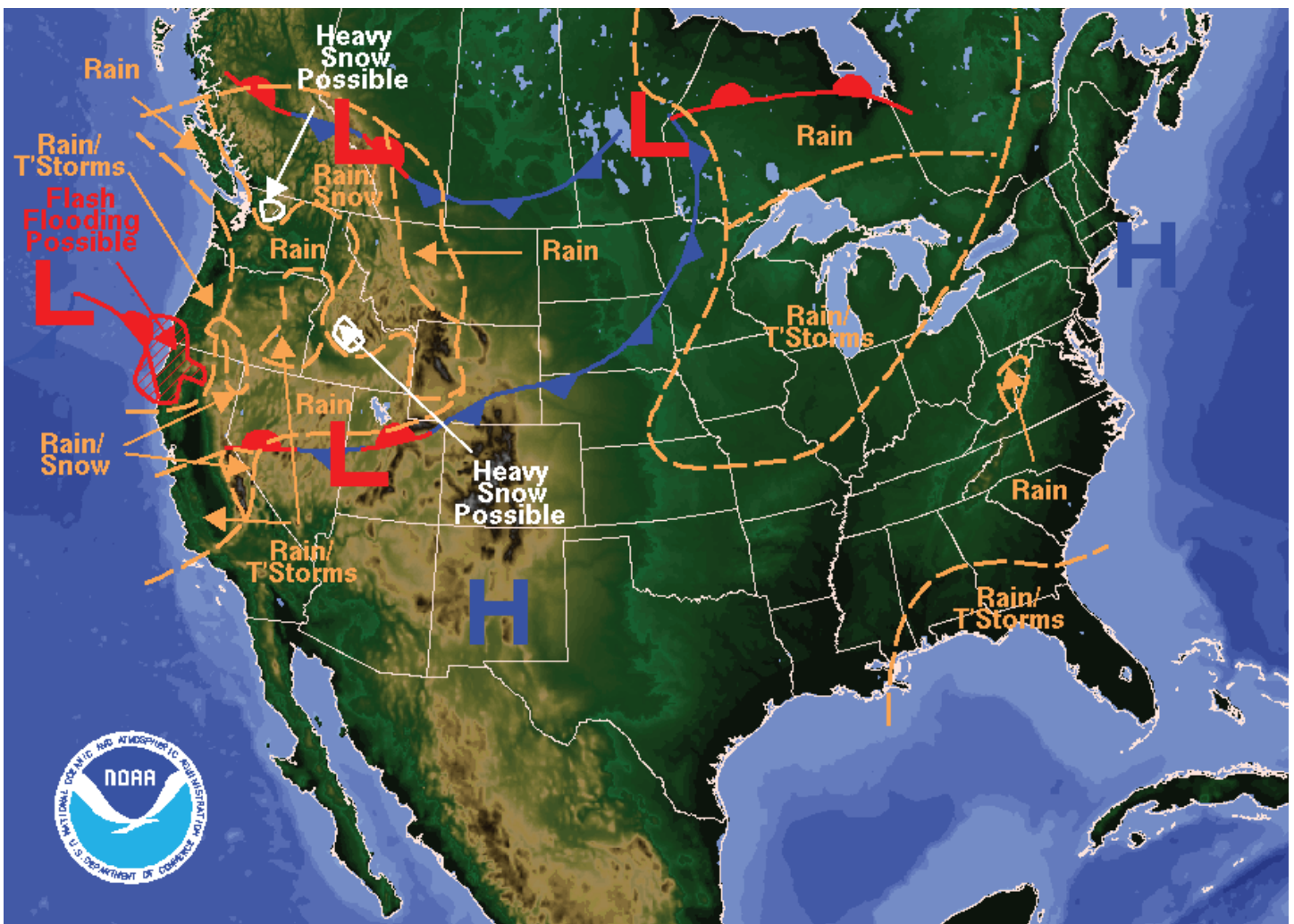
## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 71.9 F at 4:12 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 46.4 F at 5:53 AM**  
**High Gust: 33.0 Mph at 10:44 AM**

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

**Record High: 88° in 1958**  
**Record Low: 18° in 1992**  
**Average High: 58°F**  
**Average Low: 33°F**  
**Average Precip in Oct.: 1.09**  
**Precip to date in Oct.: 0.63**  
**Average Precip to date: 19.57**  
**Precip Year to Date: 13.83**  
**Sunset Tonight: 6:47 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:51 a.m.**



Weather Forecast for Sat, Oct 15, 2016, issued 4:56 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 15 of 59



## GOD AND THE CAFETERIA

After church one Sunday the head usher decided to take his family to the local cafeteria to eat. After they went through the line and selected their food, they sat at a table near a window. Little Margie unfolded her napkin, folded her hands, bowed her head and waited for the prayer of thanksgiving. After a moment or two she opened her eyes to see what the others were doing. To her surprise, her father had started to eat.

"Mom," she whispered quietly, "Dad has started to eat and we haven't thanked Jesus for the food. What's going on?"

"Hush," said her father. "People don't give thanks in a place like this."

"Why?" asked Margie. "Doesn't God go to cafeterias?"

Our thankfulness should not fluctuate with where we are or what is going on in our lives. Though our circumstances change and our feelings fluctuate, we must never forget that God is in all things doing what is in our best interest. Remember: He is always at work in our lives shaping us into the person He wants us to be.

When life's trials turn to triumphs we can rejoice with Paul and say, "Thanks be to God who gave us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" He always protects us and provides for us and is worthy of our thanks.

Prayer: We often forget, Father, that You love us with an everlasting love and that You are with us even though others forget about our pains and sorrows. Thank you! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: 1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The logo for Golden Living, featuring the words "golden" in orange and "living" in blue, with a curved orange line underneath.

**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 it.

**for out patient therapy.**

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

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 16 of 59

News from the  Associated Press

## Friday's Scores By The Associated Press

### PREP FOOTBALL

Aberdeen Central 27, Watertown 15  
Aberdeen Roncalli 57, Chamberlain 14  
Arlington/Lake Preston 16, DeSmet 8  
Avon 38, Andes Central/Dakota Christian 14  
Baltic 44, Parker 6  
Bison 24, Lemmon/McIntosh 20  
Bon Homme 42, Platte-Geddes 14  
Brandon Valley 35, Sioux Falls Lincoln 0  
Britton-Hecla 20, Hamlin 14  
Canistota 48, Menno-Marion 0  
Canton 46, Wagner 0  
Castlewood/Estelline 51, Elkton-Lake Benton 6  
Chester 50, Irene-Wakonda 26  
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 44, St. Francis Indian 28  
Clark/Willow Lake 50, Dakota Hills 0  
Colman-Egan 46, Dell Rapids St. Mary 6  
Colome 52, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 0  
Corsica/Stickney 41, Scotland 0  
Dell Rapids 21, Dakota Valley 3  
Deuel 48, Waverly-South Shore 16  
Douglas 14, Yankton 7  
Faith 50, Rapid City Christian 17  
Faulkton 48, Ipswich/Edmunds Central 6  
Flandreau 9, Beresford 7  
Gayville-Volin 37, Garretson 14  
Gregory 36, Kimball/White Lake 7  
Harding County 44, Herreid/Selby Area 6  
Harrisburg 26, Brookings 16  
Howard 48, Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 14  
Langford 57, Leola/Frederick 6  
Milbank Area 51, Sisseton 0  
Mitchell 42, Pierre 13  
Northwestern 35, Hitchcock-Tulare 0  
Philip 60, Edgemont 6  
Potter County 36, Sunshine Bible Academy 7  
Sioux Falls Christian 48, Elk Point-Jefferson 14  
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 24, Huron 13  
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 54, Rapid City Central 28  
Sioux Falls Washington 35, Rapid City Stevens 7  
Sioux Valley 13, McCook Central/Montrose 7  
Spearfish 21, Sturgis 16  
St. Thomas More 58, Belle Fourche 8  
Stanley County 55, New Underwood 6



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 17 of 59

Sully Buttes 53, Eureka/Bowdle 8  
Tea Area 28, Madison 25  
Timber Lake 50, McLaughlin 0  
Vermillion 34, Lennox 6  
Wall 48, Kadoka Area 12  
Warner 51, Tiospa Zina Tribal 0  
Webster 56, Tri-State 12  
West Central 14, Tri-Valley 0  
Winner 54, Redfield/Doland 0  
Wolsey-Wessington 54, Woonsocket/Wessington Springs/Sanborn Central 6

## Pheasant hunters flock to South Dakota for season opener

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON**, Associated Press

Pheasant hunting season opens this weekend in South Dakota, a state known for its bounty of the prized upland game bird. Hunters from around the world who come here are rarely disappointed: Only three times in the past 20 years has the annual harvest been under 1 million roosters.

Here's a look at the season, which opens Saturday, its potential for success and its effect on the state:

### FEWER FOWL

There's been a 20 percent drop in South Dakota's pheasant population from last year, according to an annual statewide roadside survey. But that doesn't tell the whole story, says Travis Runia, senior upland game biologist with the state Game, Fish and Parks Department.

The surveys might have been influenced by poor weather, he said, and this year's decrease comes after two years of substantial increases.

"Right now, we're still about double the level we were in 2013 and about 15 percent above where we were in 2014 ... it's still a vast improvement from where we were a couple of years ago," Runia said.

### MEGA-MONEYMAKER

The bird is big business in South Dakota.

Last year, nearly 85,000 nonresident pheasant hunters spent an estimated \$140 million in the state, and 65,000 resident hunters added another \$30 million, according to Game, Fish and Parks data.

Pierre, the state capital, is in the heart of prime pheasant hunting territory. Convention and Visitors Bu-



**FILE - In this Oct. 18, 2014 file photo, pheasant hunters work an area of grassy cover at the Waterfowl Production Area land near Colman, S.D. Pheasant hunting season opens Saturday Oct. 15, 2016 in South Dakota, a state known far and wide for its bounty of the prized upland game bird. The season draws hunters from around the world, and it rarely disappoints. (Joe Ahlquist /The Argus Leader via AP, File)**

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 18 of 59

reau Director Lois Ries helped greet hundreds of incoming hunters at the airport on Thursday and Friday with food and gifts to show the city's appreciation for the economic boost. Various other events were scheduled around the city for opening weekend.

"The whole town just goes really all out to welcome the hunters," Ries said. "The hospitality here — we really roll out the red carpet."

So do other cities. In September, officials announced that the large National Pheasant Fest & Quail Classic trade show will be held in Sioux Falls in 2018 — South Dakota's 100th pheasant hunting season.

## THAT'S A LOT OF MEAT

About 150,000 hunters killed more than 1.2 million pheasants last year in South Dakota. Officials expect a similar result this year.

"The pheasant abundance is still at a level that can provide good hunting. We're still expecting to harvest 1 million birds in the state" this year, Runia said.

## IF YOU GO

South Dakota has more than 1 million acres of land open to public hunting. The pheasant season runs through next Jan. 1. The daily limit is three roosters, and the possession limit is 15. Shooting hours are noon Central time to sunset for the first seven days of the season, and 10 a.m. Central to sunset the rest of the season.

The National Weather Service says high temperatures this weekend will range from the upper 60s to the lower 80s, with little chance of rain.

Follow Blake Nicholson on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/NicholsonBlake>

## Missing Rapid City minimum-security inmate apprehended

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have apprehended a minimum-security state prison inmate in Rapid City who had been placed on escape status.

Corrections officials say 43-year-old Sam Quiver was allowed to leave the Rapid City Community Work Center on Thursday to search for a work release job, and he failed to return. He was apprehended in the city Thursday night.

Quiver was sentenced in April to five years in prison for a burglary conviction in Bennett County.

## University of Jamestown to join GPAC in 2018

The University of Jamestown in North Dakota will move to the Great Plains Athletic Conference in the fall of 2018. The private school has been competing in the North Star Athletic Association since its inception in 2013. Before that the Jimmies were part of the now-defunct Dakota Athletic Conference. The GPAC is affiliated with the NAIA and currently consists of 11 private, faith-based colleges and universities in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota.

JAMESTOWN, N.D. (AP) — The University of Jamestown in North Dakota will move to the Great Plains Athletic Conference in the fall of 2018.

School and conference officials made the decision official on Thursday. Jamestown had applied to the conference last spring.

The private school has been competing in the North Star Athletic Association since its inception in 2013. Before that the Jimmies were part of the now-defunct Dakota Athletic Conference.

The GPAC is affiliated with the NAIA and currently consists of 11 private, faith-based colleges and universities in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota.

## Sanford Health, Mid Dakota Clinic on verge of merger

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Sanford Health is looking to absorb another health care provider in the Dakotas. Mid Dakota Clinic CEO Marvin Lein has told staff in an email that doctors have agreed to a merger, tentatively by the end of the year, The Bismarck Tribune reported (<http://bit.ly/2dSqqVE>).

"We will spend the rest of this year working with Sanford to create a smooth merger transition," Lein wrote.

Mid Dakota has nearly 100 physicians who serve patients in the Bismarck-Mandan area. It is a founding member of the PrimeCare health group, along with Bismarck-based CHI St. Alexius Health — a Sanford competitor — which has previously said it will continue to work with Mid Dakota if it chooses to join Sanford.

Sanford notified its employees of the potential merger in September.

"Our discussions have been very positive and, as a result, are moving to the next step," CEO and President Kelby Krabbenhoft and other executives said in a letter to staff.

Sanford Health was formed in 2009 when Sanford in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, merged with Meritcare in Fargo, North Dakota. Three years later, the new Sanford Health bought Medcenter One in Bismarck, with its hospital in the capital city and clinics in five other North Dakota cities.

Sanford now bills itself as one of the largest health systems in the nation, with hundreds of hospitals and clinics in nine states and three countries and 27,000 employees. It's the largest employer in the Dakotas.

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

## Global deal reached to limit powerful greenhouse gases

By **BRADLEY KLAPPER** and **IGNATIUS SSUUNA**, Associated Press

KIGALI, Rwanda (AP) — Nearly 200 nations have reached a deal, announced Saturday morning after all-night negotiations, to limit the use of greenhouse gases far more powerful than carbon dioxide in a major effort to fight climate change.

The talks on hydrofluorocarbons, or HFCs, were called the first test of global will since the historic Paris Agreement to cut carbon emissions was reached last year. HFCs are described as the world's fastest-growing climate pollutant and are used in air conditioners and refrigerators. Experts say cutting them is the fastest way to reduce global warming.

President Barack Obama, in a statement Saturday, called the new deal "an ambitious and far-reaching solution to this looming crisis."

The agreement, unlike the broader Paris one, is legally binding. It caps and reduces the use of HFCs in a gradual process beginning by 2019 with action by developed countries including the United States, the world's second-worst polluter. More than 100 developing countries, including China, the world's top carbon emitter, will start taking action by 2024, when HFC consumption levels should peak.

A small group of countries including India, Pakistan and some Gulf states pushed for and secured a later start in 2028, saying their economies need more time to grow. That's three years earlier than India, the world's third-worst polluter, had first proposed.

"It's a very historic moment, and we are all very delighted that we have come to this point where we can reach a consensus and agree to most of the issues that were on the table," said India's chief delegate, Ajay Narayan Jha.

Environmental groups had hoped that the deal could reduce global warming by a half-degree Celsius by the end of this century. This agreement gets about 90 percent of the way there, said Durwood Zaelke, president of the Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development.

Zaelke's group said this is the "largest temperature reduction ever achieved by a single agreement."

The new agreement is "equal to stopping the entire world's fossil-fuel CO2 emissions for more than two years," David Doniger, climate and clean air program director with the Natural Resources Defense Council, said in a statement.

It is estimated that the agreement will cut the global levels of HFCs by 80 to 85 percent by 2047, the

World Resources Institute said in a statement.

Experts said they hope that market forces will help speed up the limits agreed to in the deal.

HFCs were introduced in the 1980s as a substitute for ozone-depleting gases. But their danger has grown as air conditioner and refrigerator sales have soared in emerging economies like China and India. HFCs are also found in inhalers and insulating foams.

Major economies have debated how quickly to phase out HFCs. The United States, whose delegation was led by Secretary of State John Kerry, and Western countries want quick action. Nations such as India want to give their industries more time to adjust.

"Thank God we got to this agreement that is good for all nations, that takes into consideration all regional and national issues," said Taha Mohamed Zatari, the head of Saudi Arabia's negotiating team.

Small island states and many African countries had pushed for early timeframes, saying they face the biggest threat from climate change.

"It may not be entirely what the islands wanted, but it is a good deal," Mattlan Zackhras, the minister-in-assistance to the president of the Marshall Islands, said in a statement. "We all know we must go further, and we will go further."

The U.N. says the next meeting in 2017 will determine how much of the billions of dollars needed to finance the reduction of HFCs will be provided by countries.

HFCs are less plentiful than carbon dioxide, but Kerry said last month that they currently emit as much pollution as 300 coal-fired power plants each year. That amount will rise significantly over the coming decades as air conditioning units and refrigerators reach hundreds of millions of new people.

HFCs don't harm the ozone layer like chlorofluorocarbons and similar gases that were eliminated under the 1987 Montreal Protocol. The entire world ratified that agreement, helping to repair holes in the ozone that helps shield the planet from the harmful rays of the sun. The aim of this meeting was to attach an amendment to that treaty dealing specifically with HFCs.

"This is about much more than the ozone layer and HFCs. It is a clear statement by all world leaders that the green transformation started in Paris is irreversible and unstoppable," Erik Solheim, executive director of the U.N. Environment Program, said in a statement.

Environmental groups were already turning attention Saturday to other greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide.

"Acting on HFCs does not exempt us from acting on CO2 or other important greenhouse gases like methane. We emit considerably more carbon, and it lingers in the atmosphere for more than 500 years," Carol Werner, executive director of the Environmental and Energy Study Institute, said in a statement.

Associated Press videographer Khaled Kazzuha in Kigali contributed.

## As Syria's war rages, US and Russia back at diplomatic table

By BRADLEY KLAPPER, Associated Press

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Back where they started, the United States, Russia and other international players in Syria's civil war searched Saturday for a diplomatic process that could succeed where last month's collapsed cease-fire failed. With the Syrian and Russian governments pressing an offensive against rebel-held parts of Aleppo, no one was predicting a quick breakthrough.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is heading the new effort, joined by a familiar cast that includes Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and the top diplomats of Saudi Arabia, Iran, Turkey, Qatar, Egypt and Jordan.

Days of deadly airstrikes in Aleppo prompted Kerry last month to end bilateral U.S.-Russian engagement on Syria, including discussions over a proposed military alliance against Islamic State and al-Qaida-linked militants in Syria. And last week he accused Russia of war crimes for targeting hospitals and civilian infrastructure in the Arab country.

Nevertheless, Kerry was reuniting with Lavrov at the lakeside Beau-Rivage Palace in Lausanne, even scheduling a one-on-one meeting with him before the larger gathering. U.S. hopes of any diplomatic

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 21 of 59

progress appeared to rest squarely on Russia's cooperation.

The conflict has killed as many as a half-million people since 2011, contributed to Europe's worst refugee crisis since World War II, and allowed the Islamic State to carve out territory for itself and emerge as a global threat.

Residents of opposition-held eastern Aleppo have faced daily violence as Syrian President Bashar Assad's government seeks to take full control of the country's largest city. In an interview this week with a Russian media outlet, Assad said a military victory in Aleppo would provide the Syrian army a "springboard" for liberating other parts of the country.

Despite fiercely criticizing Syria and Russia, the United States doesn't seem to have an answer.

President Barack Obama and the Pentagon have made clear their opposition to any U.S. military strikes against Assad's military. The U.S. is uneasy with providing more advanced weaponry to the anti-Assad rebels because of their links to extremist groups. And sanctions on Moscow are seen as unlikely step, given their limited impact after Russia's annexation of Ukraine's Crimea territory in 2014 and the weak appetite among America's European partners for such action.

With no apparent Plan B, Obama directed his national security team on Friday to renew diplomatic efforts to reduce the bloodshed in Syria. The White House said it hoped the larger discussions with Russia and other key governments would "encourage all sides to support a more durable and sustainable diminution of violence."

Russia says it also wants a cease-fire, but describes the U.S. and its partners as the problem.

In an interview Friday with The Associated Press, Vitaly Churkin, Russia's U.N. ambassador, said this weekend's talks are focused on getting U.S.-backed, "moderate" opposition forces to break ranks with al-Qaida-linked fighters.

Given the collapse of several cease-fires in Syria in recent months, Washington doubts Moscow's seriousness. And with rebel-held Aleppo poised to fall, potentially in a matter of weeks, there is deep skepticism that the Syrian and Russian governments want to stop the fighting just yet.

Saturday's gathering also brings together many of the major protagonists in Yemen's war, and discussions on that are likely.

An investigation team with the Saudi-led coalition said Saturday that wrong information led to the bombing of a packed funeral in Yemen's capital last weekend that killed some 140 people and wounded more than 600.

The U.S., meanwhile, struck radar sites belonging to Yemen's Iran-backed Houthis this week after a U.S. Navy Ship took fire from the rebels.

## Thais flock to palace after king's death; caretaker in place

By NATNICHIA CHUWIRUCH and STEPHEN WRIGHT, Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Tens of thousands of Thai mourners thronged Saturday to the palace complex where King Bhumibol Adulyadej's body is being kept, as the government said a regent would be the caretaker of the monarchy until the crown prince takes over following his father's death.

Dressed in somber black and white, people from all over the country converged at the complex in Bangkok's historic center, hoping to get a glimpse of their beloved monarch, who died Thursday after prolonged illnesses that had incapacitated many of his organs. He was 88.

But confusion reigned outside the complex as police announced that it was closed for seven days. A while later, the complex gates were opened for people to visit one of the halls to sign a condolence book. The body, which is kept in another building, will not be revealed to the public for another 15 days, authorities said.

The crowds lining outside since dawn were subdued and orderly despite the swelling numbers. People shared food and handed each other water and wet towels to cope with the tropical heat.

While announcing the king's death, the prime minister had said that the heir apparent, Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, would ascend the throne. But hours later he said that the prince did not want to be

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 22 of 59

immediately named king because he wanted more time to grieve along with the rest of the nation.

Deputy Prime Minister Wissanu Krea-ngam appeared on television Friday evening to explain that the head of the Privy Council, an advisory body to the king, is automatically the regent until a new monarch is crowned.

There was no official statement that the council's head, 96-year-old Prem Tinsulanonda, had been named regent, creating uncertainty. But Wissanu said an announcement wasn't needed because the process is mandated by Thailand's constitution. Prem, a former prime minister, was one of Bhumibol's principal confidants and has ties to Bhumibol's popular daughter, Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn.

For ordinary Thais, the overwhelming focus was on grieving for Bhumibol, not the succession.

"I haven't even started to think about that; I'm still in mourning over the king," said Rakchadaporn Unnankad, a 24-year-old Bangkok office worker. "I left home at 6 a.m. to come here. We were queuing for so long before they told us that we can't go inside the palace. There were people who have been here since 4 or 5 a.m."

"My tears started flowing out of me without my realizing," she said, recalling the news of Bhumibol's death. "I didn't even want to hear the announcement."

Buddhist funeral ceremonies began Friday night after a royal motorcade brought Bhumibol's body from nearby Siriraj Hospital to the Grand Palace complex.

Bhumibol's death after 70 years on the throne was a momentous event in Thailand, where the monarch has been glorified as an anchor for a fractious society that for decades has been turned on its head by frequent coups. Over the past 10 years, Thailand has suffered particularly intense political turmoil pitting arch-royalists against those seeking a redistribution of economic and political power, allied with Thaksin Shinawatra, a populist prime minister ousted in a 2006 coup.

But in recent years, Bhumibol had suffered from a variety of illnesses and seemed far removed from the upheavals of Thai politics, including the 2014 coup that brought current Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, an army general, to power.

"His death means that the Thai political system must find an alternative focal point around which to unite the country's factionalized population," said Tom Pepinsky, a Southeast Asia expert at Cornell University.

He said one challenge that royalists will face is the possibility that the monarchy's popularity will be undermined by the crowning of Vajiralongkorn, who does not command the same respect his father did.

Another mourner, 48-year-old Suchart Warachawanwanich, said it was "appropriate" to not immediately accept the crown and let the nation grieve first.

A one-year mourning period for the government has been declared together with a 30-day moratorium on state and official events. But no substantial demands have been made of the private sector.

The government has only urged people to refrain from organizing entertainment events for a month, apparently mindful of the need to ensure that the sputtering economy, which relies heavily on tourism, does not suffer too much.

## AP Explains: What the new global climate agreement means

By CARA ANNA, Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Experts say cutting hydrofluorocarbons, or HFCs, is the fastest way to reduce global warming. The United States, the world's second-worst polluter, is among the countries that want to quickly phase out the use of HFCs, and now it is bound to take the earliest action, starting by 2019. Here's a look at what it all means.

### HOW WE GOT HERE: THE OZONE LAYER

In 1987, countries alarmed by the discovery of a huge hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica signed a treaty known as the Montreal Protocol to eventually end the use of chlorofluorocarbons, which at the time were used in refrigerators and aerosols such as hair spray. HFCs were introduced to replace them, and scientists realized only later that while they don't harm the ozone layer, they have a strong effect on global

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 23 of 59

warming. Their ability to trap the heat radiating off the Earth is hundreds or thousands of times more potent than that of carbon dioxide. HFCs, which are used in air conditioners, refrigerators and insulating foams, have become the latest target as the world tries to reduce global warming. They have been called the world's fastest-growing climate pollutants, though less plentiful than carbon dioxide, as more people in developing countries buy appliances.

## WHO WANTED WHAT, AND WHEN

The U.N. Environment Program has said that reducing HFCs under an extension of the Montreal Protocol could reduce global warming by a half-degree Celsius by the end of this century. Environmental groups came into the global meeting in Kigali, Rwanda, saying the step was essential to meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement on climate change, which was reached last year. The U.S., with Secretary of State John Kerry leading the delegation, was among the countries pushing for action within the next five years. China, the world's top polluter, was among the countries aiming at the middle of the next decade. India, the world's third-worst polluter, preferred as late as 2031, saying it needed time for its economy to grow.

## A SLEEPLESS NIGHT AND A DEAL

Not long after midnight Saturday, environmental groups said a deal had taken shape, but it took hours for countries to haggle every piece into place. The new agreement caps and reduces the use of HFCs in a gradual process. It begins by 2019 with action by developed countries including the United States. More than 100 developing countries, including China, will start taking action by 2024, when their HFC consumption levels should peak and start heading down. A small group of countries including India, Pakistan and some Gulf states secured a later start in 2028.

## Emails show concern over Bill Clinton's Wall Street speech

By **MATTHEW DALY**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Clinton's campaign asked former President Bill Clinton to cancel a speech to a Wall Street investment firm last year because of concerns that the Clintons might appear to be too cozy with Wall Street just as the former secretary of state was about to announce her White House bid, newly released emails show.

Clinton aides say in hacked emails released Friday by the anti-secrecy group WikiLeaks that Hillary Clinton did not want her husband to cancel the speech, but after a "cool down period" was eventually convinced that canceling was the right step.

Campaign manager Robby Mook said he realized canceling the lucrative speech would disappoint both Clintons but "it's a very consequential unforced error and could plague us in stories for months."

The Clintons' paid speeches have been an issue throughout the campaign, particularly Hillary Clinton's private speeches to Wall Street firms. Hillary Clinton earned about \$1.5 million in speaking fees before launching her presidential campaign, while Bill Clinton reaped more than \$5 million from banking, tech and other corporate interests, according to financial documents filed by Hillary Clinton.

The campaign has never released transcripts of Hillary Clinton's speeches, but the hacked emails did reveal excerpts flagged by her advisers as potentially concerning.

In the excerpts, Clinton talked about dreaming of "open trade and open borders" in the Western Hemisphere. She also says politicians sometimes need to have "both a public and a private position" on issues.

Bill Clinton was scheduled to speak to Morgan Stanley executives in April 2015, a few days after his wife was set to launch her bid for president.

"That's begging for a bad rollout," Mook wrote in a March 11, 2015, email.

In a later email, Mook says he feels "very strongly that doing the speech is a mistake" with serious potential consequences for Hillary Clinton's campaign. "People would (rightfully) ask how we let it happen."

Hillary Clinton was scheduled to campaign in Iowa, "where caucus goers have a sharply more negative view of Wall Street than the rest of the electorate," Mook wrote. "Wall Street ranks first for Iowans among a list of institutions that 'take advantage of every day Americans,' scoring twice as high as the general

election electorate. ... This is a very big deal in my view."

Clinton's longtime aide, Huma Abedin, assured Mook the next day that Clinton was fine with canceling the speech, especially if Bill Clinton agreed. The candidate "just needed a cool down period," Abedin wrote.

The emails were among thousands published this week by WikiLeaks, which has been releasing a series of emails hacked from the accounts of Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta.

U.S. intelligence officials last week blamed the Russian government for a series of breaches intended to influence the presidential election. The Russians deny involvement.

Podesta's hacked messages offer insight into the various strategies and responses considered by those close to Clinton as they grappled with pitfalls in her bid for the Democratic presidential nomination, including the 2009 decision to use a private email server while serving as secretary of state.

In a separate email, Clinton aides discussed how to explain her 2001 support for an overhaul of the nation's bankruptcy system. Sanders was citing past criticism by Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., as evidence of Clinton's favoritism to Wall Street.

Clinton defended the vote in a TV interview earlier this year, saying she pursued language to ensure women received child support if a spouse went into bankruptcy. In a Feb. 7 email, adviser Ann O'Leary noted that Clinton had overstated her case: "She said women groups were all pressuring her to vote for it. Evidence does not support that statement."

Clinton spokeswoman Jennifer Palmieri said Friday that the campaign has taken unspecified precautions to secure its emails. Asked whether officials were considering releasing all of Podesta's emails at once, Palmieri said, "That is what the Russians would like us to do and we are not going to do that."

Emails released Friday also show that Clinton's daughter, Chelsea, used a second alias to communicate with her mother's campaign: Anna James. Chelsea Clinton also used the alias Diane Reynolds, according to emails previously made public.

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Associated Press writers Julie Pace, Catherine Lucey, Andrew Taylor and Mary Clare Jalonick contributed to this report.

Follow Matthew Daly: <http://twitter.com/MatthewDalyWDC>

## 22 homes destroyed in northern Nevada wildfire

By **SCOTT SONNER, Associated Press**

RENO, Nev. (AP) — A trio of wind-whipped wildfires burning along the Sierra Nevada destroyed 22 homes north of Carson City, forced hundreds of evacuations at Lake Tahoe and temporarily closed a major highway connecting Reno to the mountain lake.

Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval declared a state of emergency as hundreds of firefighters battled the most dangerous fire, which is still threatening hundreds of structures in the Washoe Valley along Interstate 580 and U.S. Highway 395 between Reno and Carson City.

No serious injuries have been reported but four firefighters were treated for smoke inhalation Friday, said Tia Rancourt, spokeswoman for the Sierra Front Interagency Fire Dispatch Center.

The wildland blaze that continued to burn out of control Friday night has charred about 3 square miles of brush and timber. It forced the closures of numerous schools and roads, and triggered widespread power outages.

Federal disaster funds were approved late Friday to help cover firefighting costs in the parched area that has only recently shown signs of recovering from a five-year drought

About 500 firefighters were on the scene Friday night at the so-called Little Valley fire, which broke out about 1:30 a.m. in the mountains between Lake Tahoe and Washoe Valley about 8 miles north of Carson City

Fire officials reported zero containment, but said crews working in difficult terrain were aided by afternoon rains, and the winds that were gusting in excess of 50 mph died down as the afternoon wore on.

"We've made good progress on the homes we are currently protecting," said Truckee Meadows Fire



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 25 of 59

Battalion Chief Alex Kukulus.

But "we are not out of the woods," he told reporters. "We have active fire in the whole area and still no real containment."

More crews were on their way from as far away as the San Francisco Bay Area.

"When we ramp this thing up this evening, we hope to have 1,000 firefighters in the area," Kukulus said Friday afternoon.

In addition to the homes, 17 outbuildings have burned. A fire engine also suffered significant damage.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore said the cause of the blaze was under investigation. But he said it started in an area where a controlled burn was conducted earlier this week.

The powerful winds fanning the flames reached gusts in excess of 100 mph over the top of the Sierra early Friday. Nearly 10,000 residents were without power at one point. NV Energy said it was restored to all but about 1,000 by 7 p.m.

Moore said emergency dispatchers received a report of "a glow" in hills west of Washoe Valley at 1:38 a.m.

Crews arrived to find about 5 acres burning. But he said it "grew rapidly and quickly spread to 50 acres" in the winds gusting in excess of 70 mph at the time.

"It was surreal to wake up to a mountain that was on fire," resident Kevin Elvrum told KTVN-TV.

More than 100 homes and ranches are scattered throughout the rural valley bordering Washoe Lake. The ones that have burned are along the forested edge of the valley where it meets the eastern front of the Sierra just west of the lake.

One belonged to Dennis Hof, who owns the Moonlite Bunny Ranch brothel east of Carson City. He's running for the state Assembly as a Libertarian in the November election.

Hof told the Reno Gazette-Journal he wasn't there at the time but neighbors phoned to tell him his house was burning in the forest south of Reno. He posted photos of it reduced to rubble on his Twitter account Friday afternoon.

Kukulus was hopeful the winds would subside enough early Saturday to allow for the use of some helicopters or air tankers.

"We have lots of air ordered up, but yet to put any up because of the wind," Kukulus said. "They are ready at a moment's notice."

Evacuation centers were set up in Reno and Carson City for displaced residents as well as pets and livestock.

The governor issued an emergency declaration shortly after he left a special session of the Legislature in Carson City around noon to get a briefing on the situation. The fire delayed the start of the session.

Officials for the Federal Emergency Management Agency authorized the use of U.S. fire management assistance to cover as much as 75 percent of the eligible firefighting costs because the threats posed would constitute a major disaster.

The fire that prompted the evacuation of 500 homes on the south end of Lake Tahoe was estimated to be 25 percent contained, thanks in part to rain showers from the storm packing the powerful winds. That fire has burned about 200 acres and forced the closure of part of California Highway 89 but fire officials said they were getting the upper hand on the blaze Friday evening.

Firefighters also snuffed out another fire that destroyed at least one structure and had temporarily closed the Mount Rose Highway connecting Reno to Lake Tahoe.

## After the scandal, Wells Fargo's damage becomes apparent

By KEN SWEET, AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — It's going to get worse for Wells Fargo before it gets better.

In the wake of the biggest scandal in the bank's 164-year history, distrustful customers are not opening as many checking accounts or applying for credit cards, and branch visits and meetings between customers and bankers are down, too.

Wells has also been hit with several lawsuits from customers, employees and shareholders. There are calls from politicians for fraud charges against the bank. And Wells almost surely faces settlements and fines

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 26 of 59

way beyond the \$185 million it agreed to pay regulators when the scandal broke wide open last month. Or, as Wells Fargo executives put it to Wall Street analysts, using what has become a remarkably common term in this age of corporate malfeasance, the bank's legal expenses are likely to be "lumpy." Wells Fargo executives, including newly appointed CEO Tim Sloan, are having trouble quantifying what the long-term effect on the bottom line will be.

Investors expect Wells to walk away from this crisis mostly intact, but it is apparent that the bank's recovery will be long and arduous.

For now, "our immediate priority is restoring trust in Wells Fargo," Sloan said in a conference call with investors Friday.

The San Francisco-based bank is engulfed in a crisis that started in mid-September, when Wells reached a settlement over allegations that its employees opened up to 2 million bank and credit card accounts without customers' authorization in order to meet high sales goals.

Under pressure from politicians and investors, CEO John Stumpf abruptly retired on Wednesday.

On Friday, Wells reported third-quarter earnings of \$5.6 billion, down from \$5.8 billion a year earlier. That is not a good measure of the effects of the scandal, which didn't break until the quarter was nearly over.

But at Wells' 6,000 U.S. branches, there are signs that customers are backing away, even though the bank says it clamped down on the abuses over a year ago.

Wells reported a drop in what it calls banker and teller "interactions" in September from both a year ago and from August. Also, consumer checking account openings dropped 25 percent in September from a year earlier and 30 percent from August. Consumer applications for Wells credit cards also fell sharply in September.

In addition, referrals for mortgages from Wells' retail branches were down 24 percent from August. Wells is the nation's biggest mortgage lender.

What all of this could mean for Wells' balance sheet is difficult to quantify. Not every credit card application will result in an opened credit card account. Not every account opened will get used, carry a balance, and get charged interest.

"We are beginning to try to calculate whether there will be a trend at all," Wells Fargo CFO John Shrewsbury said in an interview. "The income implications for us, if at all, are down the road."

To help recover from the scandal, Wells has announced a series of changes in how it deals with customers. Every customer will get an email after an account is opened to confirm the person opened it, and electronic signatures will be required on all new checking, savings and credit card account applications.

The bank is also eliminating sales goals for its employees and announced a new "mystery shopper" program in which people will go undercover as customers to make sure employees are doing their jobs right.

Wells is also taking steps to ensure that employees who call the bank's ethics hotline to report abuses are not retaliated against, something that is said to have happened in the past.

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Ken Sweet covers banks and consumer financial issues for The Associated Press. Follow him on Twitter at @kensweet.

## **New allegations of sexual misconduct rock Trump campaign**

**By STEVE PEOPLES and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press**

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — Battered by sordid new accusations of sexual misbehavior, Donald Trump fought back in ever-more-remarkable fashion Friday, acting out one woman's allegation onstage and suggesting another was not attractive enough to merit his attention. He defiantly denied a week's worth of accusations that have all but consumed his presidential bid just over three weeks before the election.

"She would not be my first choice, that I can tell you," Trump said of one woman in a rambling attack on his female accusers as he campaigned in battleground North Carolina.

The New York businessman said his staff wanted him to avoid the topic altogether but that he couldn't resist defending himself. He blamed the growing story on his Democratic opponent Hillary Clinton and an

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 27 of 59

international media conspiracy, describing his female accusers as "sick" people seeking fame or money. "The only thing I can say is hopefully, hopefully, our patriotic movement will overcome this terrible deception," he declared.

Trump assailed The New York Times in particular, noting its connection to Mexican billionaire Carlos Slim, who is a major shareholder in the media company.

Spokesman Arturo Elias Ayub later said Slim doesn't know Trump at all "and is not the least bit interested in his personal life."

Trump's running mate, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, promised Friday morning the campaign would soon release evidence against the women that would show Trump's innocence. More than 12 hours later, the Trump campaign released a statement in which an accuser's cousin said he was "shocked and bewildered" by her account.

John Barry of Mission Viejo, California, said in the statement that Summer Zervos, a former contestant on NBC's "The Apprentice," "wishes she could still be on reality TV, and in an effort to get that back she's saying all of these negative things about Mr. Trump."

Zervos said during a Friday news conference that the former reality television star became sexually aggressive at a Beverly Hills hotel in 2007.

Pence remarked at "the enormous coverage of these, of these really unfounded allegations, unestablished allegations, compared to an avalanche of emails coming out of Hillary Clinton's years as secretary of state."

Indeed, Friday marked another day on which WikiLeaks released thousands of emails that had been stolen from Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta's personal account.

The new batch showed that Hillary Clinton's campaign asked former President Bill Clinton to cancel a speech to an investment firm last year because of concerns that the Clintons might appear to be too cozy with Wall Street just as she was about to announce her candidacy.

Clinton aides say in the emails that Hillary Clinton did not want her husband to cancel the speech but was eventually convinced. The Clintons' paid speeches have been an issue throughout the campaign, particularly lucrative speeches to Wall Street.

The Clinton campaign, citing information it says is from the FBI, says the hacks are being investigated as part of a broader attack on Democratic Party leaders that may involve Russia.

Clinton herself spoke Friday of a need for national healing.

"I take no satisfaction in seeing what Trump does and says because it hurts — it hurts me and it hurts our country," she said in a speech at a fundraiser.

Polls suggest Trump has fallen further behind Clinton nationally and in most battleground states. Early in-person voting is underway in 20 states, including Ohio, where President Barack Obama railed against Trump a day after first lady Michelle Obama declared in a passionate speech, "Enough is enough."

The Obamas both seized on Trump's words, captured in a video released last week, bragging about kissing and groping women without their permission. The 70-year-old billionaire has apologized, but also repeatedly dismissed his comments as "locker room talk."

"You don't have to be a husband or a father to know that that kind of language, those kinds of thoughts, those kinds of actions are unacceptable. They're not right. You just have to be a decent human being," President Obama charged in Columbus, Ohio.

Two more women, meanwhile, came forward Friday with allegations against Trump.

Zervos, appearing at a news conference with attorney Gloria Allred, said Trump kissed her open-mouthed and touched her breasts in a private room.

And in a story published online Friday, Kristin Anderson told The Washington Post that she was sitting on a couch with friends at a New York nightclub in the early 1990s when a hand reached up her skirt and touched her through her underwear.

Anderson, then in her early 20s, said she pushed the hand away, turned around and recognized Trump as the man who had groped her.

Trump mocked Anderson's claim onstage as he campaigned in North Carolina, pausing to reach out

his hand to touch an imaginary woman as his accuser described. "I just heard this one. It's like, it's like unbelievable," he said.

Even before the mounting allegations, there was evidence that Trump's troubles were hurting the Republican Party's ability to raise money.

The Republican National Committee has raised about 25 percent less over the past three months than it did over the same period four years ago, when Mitt Romney was atop the ticket.

The RNC said Friday that it raised \$39.4 million last month, compared to \$48.4 million in September 2012. It says it has raised \$262.3 million since January 2015, about \$20 million more than it had by this time in 2012.

Friday's accusations against Trump are in line with similar allegations by women in articles by The New York Times and the Palm Beach Post. Separately, a People magazine reporter offered a first-person account accusing Trump of attacking her in 2005 while she was in Florida to interview him and his pregnant wife.

He specifically rejected the People magazine accuser's claim at the North Carolina rally. "She is a liar. She is a liar," Trump said. "These people are sick."

Meanwhile, House Speaker Paul Ryan delivered a high-profile speech on Friday criticizing Clinton and promoting Republicans in next month's elections.

The nation's top elected Republican did not, however, say the words "Donald Trump."

Peoples reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Josh Lederman in Columbus, Ohio, Julie Bykowicz and Hope Yen in Washington and Scott Bauer in Madison, Wisconsin, contributed to this report.

## **3 arrested in alleged bomb plot targeting Somalis in Kansas**

**By ERIC TUCKER and ROXANA HEGEMAN, Associated Press**

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Three members of a Kansas militia group were charged Friday with plotting to bomb an apartment complex that's home to Somali immigrants in the western Kansas meatpacking town of Garden City, a thwarted attack prosecutors say was planned for the day after the November election.

The arrests were the culmination of an eight-month FBI investigation that took agents "deep into a hidden culture of hatred and violence," Acting U.S. Attorney Tom Beall said.

A complaint unsealed Friday charges Curtis Wayne Allen, 49; Patrick Eugene Stein, 47; and Gavin Wayne Wright, 49, with conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction. Their first court appearance is Monday.

Prosecutors said the men don't yet have attorneys. Publicly listed phone numbers for the men couldn't immediately be found.

The men are members of a small militia group that calls itself "the Crusaders," and whose members espouse sovereign citizen, anti-government, anti-Muslim and anti-immigrant extremist beliefs, according to the complaint.

The complaint alleges group members chose the target based on their hatred for Muslims, people of Somali descent and immigrants — and out of a desire to inspire other militia groups and "wake people up."

The FBI began a domestic terrorism investigation of the group in February, and a confidential source attended its meetings in southwestern Kansas.

In a June meeting, Stein brought up the Orlando nightclub shooting, and proposed carrying out a similar attack against Muslim refugees in Garden City, according to the complaint.

They ultimately decided to target the apartment complex because of the number of Somalis who lived there and the fact that one of the apartments was used as a mosque. The complex houses about 120 Somali residents, Beall said.

The complaint said that Stein discussed the explosives used in the 1995 bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City by Timothy McVeigh.

The men, who were arrested in Liberal on Friday morning, performed surveillance of the apartment building and prepared a manifesto, Beall said.

In a profanity-laced conference call that law enforcement monitored, Stein said the only way "this coun-

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 29 of 59

try's ever going to get turned around is it will be a bloodbath," according to the complaint.

If convicted, the men could be sentenced to up to life in federal prison without parole.

Heidi Beirich, director of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Intelligence Project, called the details of the plot disturbing, saying it "should serve as a warning to those who traffic in the politics of fear and bigotry."

Garden City is home to a Tyson Foods beef slaughterhouse that has drawn a diverse immigrant population to the area.

Dr. John Birky, a physician who's helping to create a clinic and working with refugees on a language program, said some local residents fear the refugees, mistakenly associating them with militants in Somalia.

"People do express more of a general sentiment of, 'Why are we letting these refugees in here? Why are we? They're taking our jobs, plus they're Muslim,'" he said.

Birky said between 300 and 500 Somali refugees live in the area. The state Department for Children and Families said that of the 906 refugees who arrived in Kansas from October 2014 through January 2016, 68 were from Somalia, or 7.5 percent.

Garden City Mayor Chris Law said in a statement that he was shocked by the planned attack, and Birky called it "crazy."

Birky said most are fleeing militants in Somalia and want to assimilate once they reach Kansas.

"They're trying to make a better life for their families here," he said. "They want to pursue the American dream."

Friday's arrests and charges prompted the Council on American-Islamic Relations to call on state and federal law enforcement agencies across the nation to increase protection for mosques and other Islamic institutions. The group also cited reports of threats against a Michigan center and anti-Muslim graffiti at a New Jersey mosque.

"We ask our nation's political leaders, and particularly political candidates, to reject the growing Islamophobia in our nation," Nihad Awad, the group's national executive director, said in a statement.

The case is the latest involving militia groups in the state. Earlier this year, a planned armed protest outside a Wichita mosque prompted the Islamic Society of Wichita to cancel an appearance by a speaker whom protesters believed supported terrorism.

The Justice Department's National Security Division created a new position a year ago to help coordinate investigations into violent homegrown extremism, like the one that resulted in the three arrests.

Eric Tucker reported from Washington. Associated Press writer John Hanna contributed to this story from Topeka.

## Debris flies as tornado, rain wallop Northwest

By STEVEN DUBOIS and MARTHA BELLISLE, Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A tornado struck an Oregon beach town Friday, sending debris flying and toppling power lines and trees as strong winds and heavy rain walloped the Pacific Northwest.

Thousands of people were without power as utility crews in the region prepared for what's expected to be an even rougher storm on Saturday.

In Seattle, a 4-year-old boy and his father were injured by a falling tree branch. The Seattle Fire Department said the child suffered serious injuries and the father minor injuries.

The Coast Guard and other agency officials near Port Angeles, Washington, had made several trips to rescue 40 teenagers and six adults who became stranded at an outdoor recreation camp after they lost power and downed trees blocked their way out.

The National Weather Service in Portland, Oregon, urged people to stay off roads as multiple streets in the city were flooded and impassable after heavy rains hit the area Friday evening.

The tornado was reported on the northern Oregon coast. Tillamook County Sheriff Andy Long said it touched down in the city of Manzanita about 8:20 a.m. There were no reports of injuries.

Debbie Harmon, owner of the Amanita Galley, said most of the damage is near the beach and downtown.

"It was a normal beach storm, which we get a lot of, and then out of nowhere the wind went 'whooooo,'" she said.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 30 of 59

she said. "Suddenly the whole sky was filled with debris. It was just crazy. And then it just stopped."

The mayor declared a state of emergency — a necessary step for the small town 90 miles west of Portland to be eligible for federal disaster money.

Long said two businesses were destroyed and one home is uninhabitable. He says other homes have roof damage. The Red Cross opened a shelter for those affected.

Julee Ward, who lives between Manzanita and Nehalem, said she awoke to violent thunderstorms and an eerie, dark sky. Her husband went outside to check on things after 8 a.m. and called for her to come out.

"Behold there was this big tornado flying about a mile away from our house," she said. "There was debris flying everywhere ... you could see the debris up in the funnel."

Video shot by her husband showed a massive funnel spilling down from dark clouds.

"You could hear it howling too, which was the crazy part," she added.

The National Weather Service said another twister made landfall about 9 a.m. near Oceanside, Oregon, but no damage was reported. A total of 10 tornado warnings were issued.

The heavy rain created dangerous conditions throughout the region, as drivers tried to see out rain-pounded windshields and navigate through standing water on roads.

In Oregon, Portland General Electric reported that more than 4,000 customers were without power early Friday. Pacific Power reported that 2,800 customers in coastal communities had no lights, down from a peak of more than 15,000.

At one point, 15,000 customers were without power in Seattle.

Portland had the rainiest Oct. 13 in its history. In addition, the National Weather Service says a 103-mph wind gust was recorded at Cape Meares.

In Washington, Puget Sound Energy responded to scattered outages affecting thousands of people throughout the day. Lightning strikes hit the southwest Washington coast.

In northern Nevada, winds gusting up to 76 mph fueled a 750-acre wildfire that burned out of control south of Reno, forcing evacuations.

Meteorologists expect a lull before the remnants of Typhoon Songda, which wreaked havoc in the western Pacific days ago, hit the Pacific Northwest on Saturday. Forecasters say wind gusts as high as 70 mph could sweep through Seattle. Mayor Ed Murray urged residents to avoid the city's many parks during the wet weekend weather.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was rushing to fix a 300-foot section of a rocky coastal retaining wall in La Push, Washington. The jetty had previously failed and the only thing remaining was a gravel berm, according to spokeswoman Patricia Graesser. A breach of the wall would expose the Quileute reservation, a Coast Guard station, and marina to direct Pacific wave action.

The same weather system is expected to affect Northern California, bringing rain, wind and coastal flooding to the San Francisco Bay Area through part of Saturday.

The storm also carried the potential for flash flooding in central Idaho, where nearly 300 square miles of mountainous terrain burned in a blaze earlier this year.

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Bellisle reported from Seattle. Associated Press writers Alina Hartounian in Phoenix, Gene Johnson and Lisa Baumann in Seattle, Kristen Bender in San Francisco, Scott Sonner in Reno, Nevada, and Rebecca Boone in Boise, Idaho, contributed.

## Trump denounces 'lies and smears' as more women come forward

By MICHAEL BIESECKER and MICHAEL R. BLOOD, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Two more women came forward Friday to accuse Donald Trump of unwanted sexual touching, including a former contestant from a reality show that starred the Republican presidential nominee.

The latest accounts come after several women reported in recent days that Trump groped or kissed them without their consent.

# Groton Daily Independent

**Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 31 of 59**

At a campaign rally in North Carolina on Friday, Trump sought to discredit his accusers. He said because there were no witnesses to the interactions, the allegations were not credible.

"Right now I am being viciously attacked with lies and smears," Trump said at an outdoor amphitheater. "It's a phony deal. I have no idea who these women are."

Trump also suggested the women who have come forward to accuse him were not physically attractive enough to merit his attention. "Believe me, she would not be my first choice, that I can tell you," he said when speaking of one of the women.

Summer Zervos, a former contestant on "The Apprentice," said Trump made unwanted sexual advances toward her at a Beverly Hills hotel in 2007, while photographer Kristin Anderson alleged Trump sexually assaulted her in a New York nightclub in the early 1990s.

Zervos, 41, appeared at a news conference Friday with Gloria Allred, a well-known Los Angeles attorney. Zervos was a contestant on "The Apprentice" in 2006 and said she later contacted Trump to inquire about a job with one of his businesses.

Zervos said she had an initial meeting with Trump, where he discussed a potential job with her. When they parted, he kissed her on the lips and asked for her phone number, she said.

She said weeks later Trump called to invite her to meet him at the Beverly Hills Hotel, where she said she was expecting to have dinner with the New York billionaire. Instead, she described a series of unwanted kisses and touching by Trump, which she said she repeatedly rejected.

"He tried to kiss me again ... and I said, 'Dude, you're tripping right now,' attempting to make it clear I was not interested," she said.

Zervos said Trump eventually stopped and began talking as if they were in a job interview. She said she was later offered a low-paying job at a Trump-owned golf course.

At the time, Trump had recently married his third and current wife, Melania Trump, and the couple had an infant son.

Zervos said she is a Republican and has no political agenda in coming forward. Allred said her client told her parents and others about the incident shortly after it occurred.

In a statement released by his campaign, Trump denied he was ever alone in a hotel room with Zervos and claimed to have only a vague recollection of meeting her. He lashed out at the media for creating "a theater of absurdity that threatens to tear our democratic process apart and poison the minds of the American public."

Late Friday, the Trump campaign released a statement in which a cousin of Zervos said he was "shocked and bewildered" by her account.

John Barry of Mission Viejo, California, said in the statement that Zervos "wishes she could still be on reality TV, and in an effort to get that back she's saying all of these negative things about Mr. Trump."

In a story published online Friday, Anderson told The Washington Post that she was sitting on a couch with friends at a New York nightclub in the early 1990s when someone's hand reached up her skirt and touched her through her underwear.

Anderson, then in her early 20s, said she pushed the hand away, turned around and recognized Trump as the man who had groped her. Then recently divorced, Trump was then a frequent presence in the New York tabloids, and he was regular presence on the Manhattan club scene.

"He was so distinctive looking — with the hair and the eyebrows. I mean, nobody else has those eyebrows," Anderson, 46, told the newspaper. She said the assault was random and occurred with "zero conversation."

Anderson did not respond to a phone message from The Associated Press. She told the newspaper said she does not back Trump or Hillary Clinton, the Democratic nominee.

The Post said it contacted Anderson after a friend she had told about the incident recounted it to a reporter. Other friends also told the Post that Anderson recounted the same story to them years ago.

Zervos' and Anderson's decisions to speak publicly about her experience follows last week's disclosure by the Post of a 2005 video in which Trump boasted that his celebrity gave him the ability to grab women "by the p----. You can do anything." Trump apologized for those remarks, but also dismissed them as

“locker-room talk.”

Also Friday, Melinda McGillivray, 36, of Palm Springs, Florida, told the AP that Trump’s denial in last Sunday’s presidential debate that he had ever groped women prompted her to come forward after years of brushing off an incident from 2003.

She told The Palm Beach Post for a story published on Thursday that while she was backstage at a concert at Trump’s Mar-a-Lago resort, when he grabbed her buttocks.

“I wanted to do this so I can be a role model for my daughter,” McGillivray said. “I wanted to be that courageous woman that she sees every day, but in that moment she saw vulnerability and she saw a scared little girl.”

Biesecker reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Jill Colvin in Greensboro, North Carolina, and Kelli Kennedy in Lake Worth, Florida, contributed to this report.

Follow Michael Biesecker and Michael R. Blood on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/mbieseck> and <https://twitter.com/MichaelRBloodAP>

## The Latest: Cousin ‘bewildered’ by Trump accuser’s account

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Latest on the U.S. presidential race (all times EDT):

11:15 p.m.

Donald Trump’s campaign says the cousin of one of the women who has accused him of an unwanted sexual advance is “shocked and bewildered” by her account.

In a statement from Trump’s campaign, John Barry of Mission Viejo, California, says Summer Zervos “wishes she could still be on reality TV, and in an effort to get that back she’s saying all of these negative things about Mr. Trump.”

Earlier Friday, Zervos said at a news conference in Los Angeles that Trump kissed her and touched her breasts in a private room at the Beverly Hills Hotel in 2007.

Zervos was a contestant on Trump’s reality TV show, “The Apprentice.” Barry says Zervos often praised Trump after appearing on the show.

Berry says Zervos invited Trump to visit her restaurant earlier this year, and the Republican declined. Berry says, “Summer’s actions today are nothing more than an attempt to regain the spotlight at Mr. Trump’s expense.”

8:50 p.m.

Donald Trump is suggesting a boycott of the next issue of People Magazine after it published a story by a writer who claims Trump forcibly kissed her during an interview break.

It’s one of a handful of allegations of groping and assault that have emerged against Trump in recent days.

Trump insists the allegations are “100 percent false” and says he’s the victim of “one of the great political smear campaigns in the history of our country.”

He says that when someone has met thousands of people, “it’s not hard to find a small handful of people willing to make false smears for personal fame” or perhaps financial or political gains.

He is telling a crowd in Charlotte, North Carolina, “you would be very impressed, actually, with my life in so many regards, including that regard.”

8:40 p.m.

Tim Kaine is taking a break from the campaign trail to attend his 40th high school reunion in Kansas City, Missouri.

The Democratic vice presidential nominee is watching a Rockhurst High School football game with fellow members of the class of 1976. Walking onto the field, Kaine said it “feels great” to see old friends.

Kaine’s lighthearted homecoming marks a stark departure from the dark turn the presidential contest has taken in recent days. Multiple women are now accusing Republican nominee Donald Trump of making



# Groton Daily Independent

**Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 33 of 59**

unwanted sexual advances. In response, Trump is alleging the media and Hillary Clinton are engaging in a conspiracy to silence ordinary Americans.

Kaine did not address the latest developments Friday. He also attended a Dallas fundraiser earlier in the day.

8:30 p.m.

Days after saying his shackles were off, Donald Trump is dramatically disassembling his teleprompters after a technical malfunction.

Trump was speaking to a rally crowd in Charlotte, North Carolina, when he mentioned the devices that he'd shunned during the primaries hadn't been running for the prior 20 minutes.

When Trump tried to move one of the devices out of the way, the screen fell off the stand.

"Hey get this thing out of here, will you?" he said. "I like it much better without the teleprompters."

He later approached the other device and played around with the glass for a second before placing it on the floor.

Trump says he won't pay for the broken devices — and will get a discount on the sound after a speaker malfunctioned.

"Whoever runs this place is not doing very well," he jokes.

8:20 p.m.

Donald Trump is trying to demonstrate his strength with women in the face of new allegations of sexual assault.

Trump is kicking off a rally in Charlotte, North Carolina, by showing off members of his "Women for Trump" coalition.

They include his daughter-in-law, Lara Trump, who appeared onstage, clad in hot pink, along with two women who appeared on his "The Apprentice" reality show and performed a call-and-response cheer.

Trump also met with a group of local faith leaders ahead of his rally.

The efforts come as yet more women have come forward claiming that Trump inappropriately groped or assaulted them years ago. Trump has dismissed the allegations as smears and lies.

7:40 p.m.

Hillary Clinton says at a surprise stop in Seattle that the election has been "incredibly painful" but the country is going to "have to keep working together" after Election Day.

Clinton says at a campaign office that she takes "absolutely no satisfaction" in what is happening with rival Donald Trump. She says it "sends a terrible message to so many people here at home and around the world."

Clinton was joined by Gov. Jay Inslee and Sen. Patty Murray at the campaign office.

She says Democrats need a "big, big vote" in Washington state, both in person and by mail.

She says voters shouldn't be discouraged from voting on Election Day "if they start seeing returns coming in from the East Coast."

6:15 p.m.

Donald Trump denies he was ever alone in a hotel room with a former contestant from his reality show who has accused him of aggressive, unwanted sexual advances.

The Republican presidential nominee says in a written statement Friday he has only a vague recollection of Summer Zervos. The 41-year-old Zervos has accused Trump of accosting her in a Beverly Hills hotel room in 2007.

Trump says he never acted inappropriately toward Zervos, who competed on "The Apprentice."

In his statement, Trump lashes out at the media for creating "a theater of absurdity that threatens to tear our democratic process apart and poison the minds of the American public."

Trump has denied a series of allegations of sexual misconduct that have arisen in the past week, calling

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 34 of 59

his accusers liars.

6:10 p.m.

President Barack Obama is tweeting the link to a website aimed at stopping sexual assault as more women have come forward with allegations of unwanted sexual advances by Donald Trump.

Obama on Friday tweeted a link to the "It's on Us" site, where people can sign a pledge to fight sexual assault and get information about the importance of obtaining consent.

Obama doesn't mention Trump in the tweet. But he says: "Clearly, we still have more to do to prevent sexual assault and the thinking that leads to it. That starts with us."

5:20 p.m.

Donald Trump has had a private audience with Cardinal Timothy Dolan, New York's Catholic archbishop. The cardinal's spokesman, Joseph Zwilling, says Dolan met with Trump Friday morning at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan.

Zwilling says Trump requested the meeting several weeks ago. He says it is Dolan's practice to meet with anyone who asks, including politicians seeking elected office.

Zwilling says the topics discussed would remain private. A Trump spokeswoman did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Trump is slated to appear with Dolan again, this time alongside opponent Hillary Clinton, next week at the annual Al Smith charity dinner.

5:10 p.m.

A protester at a Donald Trump rally was placed in a headlock by a Trump supporter after displaying an upside-down American flag.

Trump was speaking at a rally in Greensboro, North Carolina, when the protester held up the flag. It was unclear what he was protesting, but Trump quickly took notice, instructing security to get him out.

Video taken shortly after that shows the supporter forcefully pushing the protester up the aisle and putting him in a headlock.

Police quickly intervened.

The supporter received high-fives from other Trump fans as he returned to his seat. He was later seen being escorted out of the venue.

5:05 p.m.

Hillary Clinton is trying to strike a chord of unity at the end of a negative campaign against rival Donald Trump.

Clinton is telling supporters in Seattle that it's important for her campaign to win the election to demonstrate a "positive" and "unifying vision of America that I believe in."

The Democratic presidential says that message will help show the country that "America's best days are still ahead of us."

Clinton says there's a lot about the election that is "dispiriting" and "unsettling." She says she takes no satisfaction in seeing what Trump does because "it hurts me and it hurts our country."

Clinton was speaking at a large fundraiser in Washington state that also featured hip-hop duo Macklemore and Ryan Lewis.

3:30 p.m.

Donald Trump is warning President Barack Obama that women could wrongly accuse him of sexual assault, as he claims has happened to him.

Several women have come forward in recent days accusing the Republican presidential nominee of groping them or kissing them without permission.

Trump has tried to discredit the women, mocking their appearances and accounts.

But Trump said at a rally in Greensboro, North Carolina, that those women "could say it about anybody."

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 35 of 59

And he says the president of the United States "better be careful" because women could say the same thing about him.

3:25 p.m.

A former contestant on "The Apprentice" says Donald Trump made unwanted sexual contact with her at a Beverly Hills hotel in 2007.

Summer Zervos appeared at a news conference Friday with attorney Gloria Allred. Zervos is among several women who have made sexual allegations against the Republican nominee. He has strenuously denied them.

Zervos was a contestant on Trump's show in 2006. She said she later contacted Trump about a job.

Zervos said after their initial meeting, Trump kissed her on the lips and asked for her phone number.

She said weeks later, Trump invited her to meet him at a hotel. Zervos says during that meeting, Trump became sexually aggressive, kissing her open-mouthed and touching her breasts.

Zervos says she rejected Trump's advances and he began talking as if it were a job interview. She said she was offered a low-paying job at a Trump-owned golf course.

Allred says her client told her parents and others about the incident shortly after it occurred.

3:10 p.m.

Donald Trump is accusing a "sick media" of trying to take down his presidential campaign in cahoots with rival Hillary Clinton's campaign.

Speaking at a rally Friday in Greensboro, North Carolina, Trump targeted Carlos Slim, the Mexican billionaire who owns a share of The New York Times.

Trump declared that "we can't let" Slim influence the election.

Trump has threatened to sue the Times for a story that featured two women who accused Trump of sexual misconduct.

Trump is accusing the media of fabricating stories about a slew of women who have made similar accusations in recent days. Trump says the stories are lies.

He said, "our media is indeed sick and it's making our country sick. And we're going to stop it."

3:05 p.m.

Donald Trump is claiming that "this whole election is being rigged."

Trump, speaking Friday in North Carolina, repeated his incendiary claim that the November election was not being conducted honestly. That's an unprecedented assertion that challenges America's tradition of peaceful democracy.

The Republican nominee said "the process is rigged" and declared that "the whole thing is one big fix."

Trump also again blasted the media, claiming the coverage of him has been biased. His latest target was Carlos Slim, the Mexican billionaire who owns a share of The New York Times.

Trump declared in Greensboro that "we can't let" Slim influence the election. Trump has also threatened to sue The New York Times over a story featuring two of the women who have accused him of sexual assault.

3 p.m.

Donald Trump is criticizing the appearance of a woman who accused him of sexual assault.

Trump, in denying the accusations again, said if "you looked at the horrible woman" who made the latest accusation, "you'd say 'I don't think so.'"

It was not immediately clear which of the women Trump was denigrating at the rally Friday in Greensboro, North Carolina. Several have accused him of groping and unwanted kisses.

The Republican presidential nominee said "phony accusers" were making accusations against him "for a little fame."

# Groton Daily Independent

**Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 36 of 59**

Trump said he "has no idea who these women are" and said that his supporters would believe him "because you people know me for a lot of years."

2:50 p.m.

Donald Trump's strategy in the final weeks of the presidential election appears to be aimed at lowering turnout by making Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton as unpopular and distasteful to voters as he is.

Yet early voting numbers, Democratic enthusiasm and historical trends show that approach isn't likely to help Trump.

His only path would actually be to expand his support, something he has struggled to do since winning the Republican nomination.

Trump and his aides don't come out and say he wants a low voter turnout. But Trump ally Roger Stone says the Republican nominee wants to drive women away from Clinton, and polls have suggested that the GOP nominee himself is unlikely to be the beneficiary of any defections.

1:45 p.m.

Another woman has come forward to say she was sexually assaulted by Donald Trump. His campaign denies the allegation.

Kristin Anderson tells The Washington Post that she was sitting on a couch with friends at a New York nightclub in the early 1990s when someone's hand reached up her skirt and touched her through her underwear.

Then in her early 20s, Anderson tells the newspaper in story posted online Friday that she pushed the hand away, turned around and recognized Trump as the man who had groped her.

Trump's campaign spokeswoman says, "Mr. Trump strongly denies this phony allegation by someone looking to get some free publicity. It is totally ridiculous."

The Post says it contacted the 46-year-old Anderson after a friend she told about the incident recounted it to a reporter. Other friends also told the Post that Anderson told them the same story years ago.

Anderson's account comes after several other women have reported that Trump groped or kissed them without their consent. The Republican presidential nominee has denied the allegations.

12:05 p.m.

President Barack Obama says "democracy is on the ballot" in the presidential election.

Obama is warning voters that Donald Trump poses a risk to the America's democratic political system. He's calling out Trump for claiming the election is rigged against him.

Obama told Hillary Clinton supporters at a rally Friday in Cleveland that some nations do rig elections. He said they are tyrannies that oppress their people. Obama said the U.S. has fought against those things.

Obama said in a democracy, a politician can't just ban journalists "that you don't like." He cited the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment protections for freedom of the press.

11:35 a.m.

President Barack Obama is saying that all of America's progress under his administration over the last eight years "goes out the window" if voters elect Donald Trump.

Obama is holding a rally Friday for Hillary Clinton in Cleveland. He's urging Ohio Democrats to cast their votes now, with early voting under way in the state.

The president said America is better than Trump's remarks about women, minorities and other groups. He said you don't have to be a husband or father to know his comments about how he treats women are "not right." He said you just have to be a decent human being.

Obama was interrupted briefly by a pro-Trump protester shouting about Bill Clinton and rape allegations. Obama suggested the protester may have been paid to be at the rally.

10:55 a.m.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 37 of 59

The national Republican Party raised about \$9 million less last month than it did in September 2012. The Republican National Committee's fundraising challenges come as presidential nominee Donald Trump struggles to retain support from top elected Republicans.

The RNC said Friday it raised \$39.4 million in September. Federal Election Commission records show that in September 2012, it raised \$48.4 million. Mitt Romney was the party's nominee then.

Over the two-year period leading to the election, the party's fundraising is up by almost \$20 million. That's according to the RNC statement and FEC records.

8:25 a.m.

Mike Pence says evidence is forthcoming that will help his running mate, Donald Trump, refute allegations by several women of sexual assault.

Pence told Fox News on Friday that "the campaign is working on bringing that out."

Pence also complained that the media unfairly focused on the sexual assault allegations instead of newly released hacked emails apparently from Hillary Clinton's campaign. He said emails from Clinton advisers show "religious bigotry."

He was referring to an exchange in which one aide suggested that being Catholic is a more "socially acceptable" conservative religion than being evangelical.

Pence, an evangelical, said Clinton should denounce "these kinds of demeaning statements."

3:30 a.m.

Donald Trump contends he doesn't know and never even met some of the women accusing him of sexual assault.

Rejecting his claims of being the victim of false stories, Hillary Clinton and ally Michelle Obama say Americans are learning more about Trump's unacceptable behavior every day.

Four women have told publications detailed stories about encounters with Trump that ended with groping, kissing and other unwanted sexual advances.

Trump denied the allegations again and again Thursday as supporters cheered him in Florida and Ohio, states central to his election effort.

WikiLeaks released a new batch of hacked emails from Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta's account. They indicated that Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign had tried to move the Illinois Democratic primary to a later date, believing it might help her.

## Stadium deal passes, Raiders move to Vegas looks more likely

By MICHELLE RINDELS, Associated Press

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP) — Nevada took a giant step closer to becoming home of the Raider Nation on Friday, after state lawmakers narrowly approved a hotel tax increase that would put \$750 million in public money toward an NFL stadium partly funded by billionaire casino mogul Sheldon Adelson.

A cadre of lobbyists for the project strained over the past week to overcome conservative anxiety over a tax increase and liberal objections to subsidizing one of the world's richest men, eventually securing the bare minimum number of Assembly votes to hit the required two-thirds majority. Republican Gov. Brian Sandoval, who views the \$1.9 billion stadium as a way to ensure Las Vegas' continued dominance in tourism, is expected to sign the deal Monday in Las Vegas.

Raiders owner Mark Davis praised Sandoval and lawmakers in a statement.

"All parties have worked extremely hard to develop and approve this tremendous stadium project that will serve as a proud new home for the entire Raider Nation," he said.

But it's far from settled that Oakland's team will move to Las Vegas, a city that's only now ending its drought of professional sports after landing an NHL expansion team over the summer. Oakland still holds out hope that it can keep the Raiders from leaving them a second time, and a relocation needs the blessing of three-fourths of NFL team owners — a conservative bunch that's historically shunned Las Vegas

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 38 of 59

because of its legalized sports betting.

Still, proponents who envision Raiders games in Sin City by 2020 will have a persuasive bargaining chip to show when NFL owners meet next week: The prospect of a sparkling, 65,000-seat domed venue close to the Las Vegas Strip, backed by \$650 million from Adelson, \$500 million from the Raiders and the NFL and a \$750 million public investment.

"It's exciting," said Andy Abboud, chief lobbyist for casino mogul Adelson's Las Vegas Sands, after the financing deal passed its toughest vote on Friday. "But this is really about jobs, and I think at the end of the day people saw this as a fantastic economic stimulus package."

Sandoval called lawmakers into a rare special session to consider the deal, which raises a 12 percent hotel tax in the Las Vegas area by up to 1.4 percentage points to fund the stadium and a convention center expansion. Casino industry heavy-hitters from Wynn Resorts, MGM Resorts and Caesars Entertainment urged lawmakers not to miss the game-changing business venture backed by their competitor, Adelson.

Construction workers from the Laborers Union festooned the legislative building in Carson City with silver-and-black flags, pleading with lawmakers to give them back jobs that dried up in the recession and also threatening to sabotage the campaigns of Democrats who voted against the deal.

Eventually, the Senate voted 16-5 and the Assembly voted 28-13 for the bill. Opponents included both Republicans and Democrats, many of whom balked that the Legislature put new tax revenue toward a stadium instead of bolstering Nevada's bottom-ranking public education system and mental health services.

"We are funding luxury items before we're taking care of our needs," said Democratic Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson, who opposed the deal. "I don't let that happen in my home and I'm not going to let it happen ... in this house."

The public contribution will be larger in raw dollars than for any other NFL stadium, although the public's share of the costs — 39 percent — is smaller than for stadiums in cities of a similar size, such as Indianapolis, Cleveland and Cincinnati.

Critics pointed out that some outside economists, including Stanford professor and sports economist Roger Noll, have panned the deal as a boondoggle based on outlandish financial expectations. Defenders of the stadium say Las Vegas' outsized tourism economy, with 150,000 hotel rooms and 42 million visitors each year, is just so different than other markets that are more dependent on locals.

"If we take the visitor component out of our economic impact model, it is negative," said economic analyst Jeremy Aguero, who helped develop the deal. He said he didn't disagree with analyses that other cities have been burned in stadium deals, but "it's inappropriately applied here."

Proponents project 451,000 new visitors will come to Las Vegas as a result of the stadium, ushering in \$620 million in economic impact. That's based on the stadium hosting 46 events, including 10 NFL games, 6 UNLV football games and a variety of concerts, sports and other events.

The deal puts \$420 million toward renovating and expanding a dated convention center, which proponents say will help Las Vegas accommodate the largest conferences and keep its edge against competitors like Orlando. The two projects are projected to bring 25,000 construction jobs and 14,000 permanent jobs to the Las Vegas area.

Tourists, mostly, will finance the improvements. They can expect to pay about \$1.50 more per night on their hotel bill for an average-priced room on the Las Vegas Strip.

## Thailand's tourism likely to weather king's mourning period

By TODD PITMAN, Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Concerts and colossal beach parties in Thailand have been canceled. An annual floating lantern festival meant to placate the country's goddess of water will not take place.

And closed for the first time in years: red-light districts in the heart of the Thai capital filled with seedy go-go bars so irrepressible they managed to stay open even through past military coups.

The death Thursday of Thailand's revered King Bhumibol Adulyadej has plunged this Southeast Asian nation into an unprecedented period of mourning, and it is likely to stay that way for some time.

# Groton Daily Independent

**Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 39 of 59**

But calm — not chaos — prevails, and the closures are unlikely to last more than a few weeks or have any serious long-term impact on tourism or the country's stunning beach resorts, which remain open.

While the military government has issued no specific guidance to anxious foreigners, Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha has made clear that life must go on. The government declared Friday a public holiday to give Thais a chance to grieve, but Prayuth said businesses should remain open to ensure the nation does not "lose its credibility."

Tourism accounts for about 10 percent of government revenue and 30 million visitors a year. It is among the few bright spots in an economy that has slumped since the army ousted a democratically elected government in 2014.

Bhumibol, who passed away at the age of 88, was monarch for 70 years — so long that most Thais have known no other. He was deeply beloved, and his loss was felt nationwide, visible in the tears of millions of residents who dressed in black and revered him as a father figure. On Friday, thousands of tearful mourners gathered outside Bangkok's gold-gilded Grand Palace, one of the nation's top tourist attractions, to await the arrival of the king's body in a royal procession at the Temple of the Emerald Buddha, or Wat Phra Kaew.

The government declared a one-year mourning period together with a 30-day moratorium on state and official events. It also urged people to refrain from organizing entertainment events for a month.

Canada called on its citizens to "refrain from any behavior that may be interpreted as festive, disrespectful or disorderly," while Britain urged its nationals to "respect the feelings and sensitivities of the Thai people at this time ... (and) wear somber and respectful clothing when in public."

The U.S. Embassy called on Americans "visiting or residing in Thailand to join us in showing respect by maintaining decorum during this extended period of profound mourning."

No foreign government advised its nationals to cancel trip plans.

Despite a subdued atmosphere, most bars and restaurants in Bangkok remained open late Thursday across the capital, and alcohol flowed freely. Some, though, shut on their own or were instructed to do so by authorities.

Bangkok's Nana Plaza, a three-story complex of go-go bars filled with scantily-clad women that is popular with sex tourists, announced Friday it was closing to "pay respect and mourn the passing of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great." Soi Cowboy, another prominent red-light district in Bangkok, was also shut.

In the capital's Thonglor neighborhood, one businessman said police ordered his nightclub to close and told him several other bars and restaurants he ran needed to remain low key.

"Concerts, clubs, anything that makes a party must remain shut. Restaurants can still serve food and alcohol, but loud music is not allowed, no live bands," he said, recounting orders given by the police. He asked not to be identified because he feared authorities could shut his remaining businesses if he is seen as being critical.

On Thursday, Richard Barrow, a Bangkok-based travel blogger, tweeted: "Many tourists asking if they should cancel their holiday. Some ask if the situation is dangerous. There is no reason at this time to cancel."

Still, some tourists' plans to see particular events may already be ruined.

In the northern city of Chiang Mai, the city government announced the annual Yi Peng Festival set for mid-November — in which tens of thousands of lanterns float into the sky — has been canceled.

On the island of Koh Phangan, organizers of the renowned "Full Moon" party, which had been set to begin Oct. 17, called the event off.

And in Bangkok, a sold-out concert featuring British singer Morrissey, the former frontman of The Smiths, was also canceled.

Khaosod English, a local media outlet which reported numerous cancellations in the capital, offered prudent advice to its readers for upcoming events: "Call ahead first."

## Nations reach deal to reduce HFCs, environmental groups say

By **BRADLEY KLAPPER, Associated Press**

KIGALI, Rwanda (AP) — Environmental groups early Saturday said nations have reached a deal to limit the use of greenhouse gases far more powerful than carbon dioxide as part of efforts to fight climate change.

At issue are hydrofluorocarbons, or HFCs, which are used in air conditioners and refrigerators and have been described as the world's fastest-growing climate pollutants.

Observers said the agreement, set to be announced shortly, would cap the use of HFCs beginning in 2019, led by developed countries including the United States, the world's second worst polluter. More than 100 developing countries including China, the world's top carbon emitter, would start taking action in 2024.

Observers said a small group of countries including India, Pakistan and some Middle East states pushed for and secured a later start in 2028, arguing that their economies need more time to grow. That's three years earlier than India, the world's third worst polluter, had first proposed.

Scientists have said an agreement could put a half-degree Celsius dent in global warming by the end of the century.

"Compromises had to be made, but 85 percent of developing countries have committed to the early schedule starting 2024, which is a very significant achievement," Clare Perry, UK Climate Campaign Leader with the Environmental Investigation Agency, said in a statement.

Environmental groups called this meeting the first real test of global will after the historic Paris Agreement to cut carbon emissions was reached last year.

The new agreement is "equal to stopping the entire world's fossil-fuel CO2 emissions for more than two years," David Doniger, climate and clean air program director with the Natural Resources Defense Council, said in a statement.

Experts said they hope that market forces will help speed up the limits agreed to in the deal.

HFCs were introduced in the 1980s as a substitute for ozone-depleting gases. But their danger has grown as air conditioner and refrigerator sales have soared in emerging economies like China and India. HFCs are also found in inhalers and insulating foams.

Major economies have debated how fast to phase out HFCs. The United States, whose delegation was led by Secretary of State John Kerry, and Western countries want quick action. Nations such as India want to give their industries more time to adjust.

Small island states and many African countries had pushed for quick action, saying they face the biggest threat from climate change.

"It may not be entirely what the islands wanted, but it is a good deal," the minister-in-assistance to the president of the Marshall Islands, Mattlan Zackhras, said in a statement. "We all know we must go further, and we will go further."

HFCs are less plentiful than carbon dioxide, but Kerry said last month that they currently emit as much pollution as 300 coal-fired power plants each year. That amount will rise significantly over the coming decades as air conditioning units and refrigerators reach hundreds of millions of new people.

HFCs don't harm the ozone layer like chlorofluorocarbons and similar gases that were eliminated under the 1987 Montreal Protocol. The entire world ratified that agreement, helping to repair holes in the ozone that helps shield the planet from the harmful rays of the sun. The aim of this meeting was to attach an amendment to that treaty dealing specifically with HFCs.

## All about Clinton: Issues at intersection of money, politics

By **NANCY BENAC, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — You wouldn't think there was much left to learn about Hillary Clinton after her nearly four decades in the public arena.

But Clinton's time as secretary of state and as a private citizen after her failed 2008 presidential campaign have generated new issues revolving around the intersection of money, politics, privilege and privacy.

Her use of a private email setup as secretary of state has stirred up a hornet's nest over her loose han-



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 41 of 59

dling of classified material and fed the perception she tries to play by her own set of rules.

Her big haul of money from private speeches to Wall Street interests after she left the government stoked questions about whether she would really look out for ordinary Americans. Recent leaks about the content of those speeches have fed into talk about whether there are really two Clintons — one public, one private, as she pretty much acknowledged in communications that she intended to stay private.

And Clinton's links to her family's foundation while she was secretary of state have transported age-old questions about the influence of money into an all-new context. Never before have there been husband and wife presidencies, with all the swirling interests and potential conflicts that sort of power couple would bring.

A look at some of what's been learned about Clinton over the course of the campaign:

—TOP-DOLLAR SPEECHES. Clinton's lucrative speeches to Wall Street interests behind closed doors in the run-up to her presidential campaign were a frequent topic of primary-season criticism by Democratic rival Bernie Sanders, who depicted Clinton as part of a system rigged to benefit the rich. In the 18 months before announcing her second presidential campaign, Clinton addressed private equity investors in California, bankers in South Carolina and brokers in Florida. An AP analysis found that over a 15-year period, Clinton and her husband made at least \$35 million by giving 164 speeches to financial services, real estate and insurance companies after leaving the White House in 2001.

—SECRETS REVEALED. Clinton's refusal to release the transcripts of those speeches was an ongoing issue during the campaign — until WikiLeaks took matters out of her hands and released hacked campaign emails containing excerpts of her speeches starting last week. The excerpts suggest she took a more accommodating tone toward Wall Street in private than she did in public. While offering herself in public as a product of middle-class America, Clinton acknowledged in a private 2014 speech: "Obviously, I'm kind of far removed because the life I've lived and the economic, you know, fortunes that my husband and I now enjoy." In a speech transcript from 2013, she said that negotiating deals sometimes requires "a public and a private position" to get things done. That fed into suspicions Clinton is not always straight with voters about what she wants to accomplish.

—EMAIL ALARMS. Revelations in 2015 that Clinton used a private email account and server when she was secretary of state set off a number of alarms: What was she hiding? Was classified material compromised? Was she trying to avoid public records requirements? Word that Clinton had deleted tens of thousands of emails that she said were unrelated to official business only added to the intrigue. A review by the State Department's internal watchdog concluded the practice violated several policies for the safekeeping and preservation of federal records. A separate yearlong FBI investigation found no evidence that Clinton or her aides intended to break laws governing the handling of classified information. But FBI Director James Comey concluded, "There is evidence that they were extremely careless in their handling of very sensitive, highly classified information." The case was closed without any criminal charges.

—THE FOUNDATION. From the beginning of Clinton's tenure as secretary of state, there were questions about how to ensure that all the money flowing into the Clinton Foundation, particularly contributions from foreigners, didn't influence her dealings in government. A number of guidelines were put in place to guard against conflicts of interest. Even so, an AP review of Clinton's calendars and daily schedules found that more than half the people with private interests outside of government whom she met with while secretary of state gave money — either personally or their companies or groups had given it — to the Clinton Foundation. The AP's review did not include Clinton's many meetings with foreign diplomats or government employees, instead focusing on the discretionary meetings she agreed to have. The meetings did not appear to have violated conflict-of-interest guidelines and the Clinton campaign noted some were with high-profile people who a secretary of state would likely always meet with. But the meetings fed into Republican accusations that access to Clinton was available to donors.

—DONOR NETWORK. Clinton's political fortunes are inextricably tied to her husband's, and so are her finances. A Washington Post investigation in November 2015 toted up an unparalleled \$3 billion that the

Clintons had raised over four decades for their various political campaigns and the charitable foundation started after Bill Clinton left office. Nearly \$2 billion of that total went to the foundation. The Clintons' cultivation of this vast and loyal donor network helped Hillary Clinton mount a formidable presidential campaign but also has served to undercut her image as a champion of the middle class un beholden to moneyed interests.

—OLD BUSINESS. There are plenty of Clinton issues from days of old that lurk in the background of this campaign. Among them: the impeachment of Bill Clinton for the Monica Lewinsky affair, Hillary Clinton's big profits from trading commodities as Arkansas first lady, and Whitewater, the name of the Clintons' failed land deal in which neither was ultimately found to have done wrong. Donald Trump has tried, in particular, to make a new issue of how Hillary Clinton handled the allegations of sexual improprieties leveled at her husband. Trump claims that Clinton bullied and shamed her husband's accusers. Hillary Clinton did work behind the scenes to discredit his accusers; there is no clear or independent evidence that she bullied them.

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## Clinton says she takes 'no satisfaction' in Trump's actions

By KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — With Donald Trump on the defensive, Hillary Clinton says she is taking "no satisfaction" in his actions and promising to repair the damage and project a message of unity during the campaign's final weeks.

Hours after her Republican rival furiously defended himself against multiple allegations of sexual misconduct, Clinton spoke Friday of the need for national healing in a Seattle fundraising speech that also saw her call upon Americans to help her govern if she's elected president.

"This election is incredibly painful. I take absolutely no satisfaction in what is happening on the other side with my opponent," Clinton said while visiting a Seattle campaign field office. "I am not at all happy about that because it hurts our country, it hurts our democracy, it sends terrible messages to so many people here at home and around the world."

The Democratic presidential nominee said earlier at a Seattle fundraiser that while she understands many voters want to "turn away," her supporters need to help her win the election to "demonstrate the positive, optimistic, confident, unifying vision of America that I believe in and that I think, together, we can demonstrate America's best days are still ahead of us."

While President Barack Obama is ending his two terms with high approval ratings, Clinton's struggles with high unfavorability ratings and questions about her honesty could undermine any electoral mandate she might achieve in November.

So as Trump has dealt with a firestorm that started last week with the release of an 11-year-old videotape of him bragging about kissing and groping women, Clinton is increasingly aiming her message not only at Democrats but at disaffected Republicans and independents turned off by the spectacle.

At her fundraiser at the Paramount Theatre, where Trump backers gathered outside on a blustery day, one bearing a sign that read, "Hillary for Prison 2016," Clinton struck a tone of conciliation. She said she wanted people "to start looking after each other again," and that while she would aim to pass laws and seek "some real national commitments," people needed to support each other at the end of an acrimonious campaign season.

"I will be asking for your help. I need your help not just to win this election but to govern and to heal the divides that exist in our country right now," Clinton said. "I do believe there isn't anything we can't do once we make up our minds to do it."

The former secretary of state said those challenges extend across the globe, saying she had talked to many foreign leaders who complained about Trump's praise of Russian President Vladimir Putin or her opponent's calls for a temporary ban on foreign Muslims entering the country.

"So make no mistake, we do have to repair the damage which he has done, which we will do. But on

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 43 of 59

both domestic and national security grounds, repudiating his candidacy sends exactly the right message," she said.

Leading in many battleground state polls, Clinton's team is assessing the possibility of expanding the map to compete in traditional Republican states like Utah, Georgia and Arizona. She is preparing for next week's final debate in Las Vegas and then an intense stretch of campaigning. While she continues to call Trump unqualified to be president, much of her message appears aimed beyond November — and into a possible first term.

"Bringing people together to solve problems is key to our democracy. There's no question about it," Clinton said. "And I want us to do that in a spirit of mutual respect, listening to one another, having each other's backs."

On Twitter follow Ken Thomas at @kthomasDC.

## All about Trump: A presumed golden touch dims on closer look

By NANCY BENAC, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — There's nothing like a presidential campaign to shine a bright light into the nooks, crannies and back alleys of a candidate's life. And there's nothing like Donald Trump in the annals of U.S. politics.

Some of what's been revealed about Trump's predatory personal interactions, business dealings, legal tactics and management style would come as no surprise to those who've made a career out of following the billionaire's rise to prominence. But ordinary Americans who began the 2016 campaign with a passing impression of Trump as the outspoken mogul of "Apprentice" fame now have far more information to draw upon as Election Day nears.

Despite his curated image as the businessman with the golden touch, Trump's track record in business isn't as magical as he would have people think. Yes, he is rich. Yes, he has had his share of success. But he's also kept company with any number of questionable business associates, had quite a share of projects go bust, left a string of contractors in the lurch, exaggerated his wealth and bragged of using his star power to impose himself sexually on women.

Another thing people discovered about Trump this year is all the things they still don't know. He hasn't released his tax returns, records of charitable giving, detailed medical records, immigration files for his wife and more. That penchant for secrecy is coupled with an aggressive strategy to muzzle business and campaign employees by requiring them to sign nondisclosure agreements.

A look at some of what's been learned about Trump during the campaign:

—TAX TURMOIL. Trump is the first presidential nominee in four decades to refuse to release his tax returns. The secrecy has spawned speculation that Trump doesn't pay federal income taxes, isn't as wealthy as he claims or is hiding something else about his business entanglements. The intrigue deepened when The New York Times reported that Trump lost so much in one year that he could have avoided federal income taxes for as many as 18 years. Trump subsequently admitted that he had paid no federal income taxes for many years.

—TV TURMOIL. From the outside, NBC's "The Apprentice" was an instant hit that helped turn Trump into a household name, even if its ratings did slip over time. Insiders told AP that Trump repeatedly demeaned female crew and contestants over the years, rating women by the size of their breasts and talking about which ones he'd like to have sex with. None of that made it into the show, of course. But the revelations added to persistent questions about Trump's behavior toward women.

—BEYOND BANTER. Days after "The Apprentice" revelations, The Washington Post came out with a 2005 video in which Trump is captured bragging about kissing women at will, groping their genitals and trying to have sex with them. Trump dismissed the explosive video as nothing more than locker-room banter and said he'd never done the things he talked about in the video. But it caused a number of top GOP officials to call for Trump to step down from the ticket and prompted a number of women, outraged by his denials, to step forward to say they had been targets of his lechery.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 44 of 59

—CHARITABLE GIVING. Trump claims he's given millions to charity. But there's a big question mark about that. An AP investigation found that the overwhelming majority of recent gifts distributed by the Trump Foundation had been made with other people's money, not contributions from the candidate. And it turns out Trump has used his foundation's money to pay legal settlements for his for-profit businesses, The Washington Post reported. The New York attorney general's office this month ordered Trump's foundation to stop fundraising immediately in the state, saying it isn't registered to do so.

—SHADY CHARACTERS. For all Trump's talk about seeking out the best people, his business associates over the years have included a significant number of questionable characters. He partnered with the son of an Azerbaijani government minister suspected by U.S. diplomats of laundering money for Iran's military. He named a Mafia-linked government informant as a senior adviser and supported a convicted cocaine dealer in a letter to a federal judge. He hired a convicted felon to be the superintendent of Trump Tower. On two development deals, he partnered with convicted criminals, one convicted in a Mafia-linked stock fraud scheme. More recently, Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort resigned after AP reported that he had helped a pro-Russian Ukrainian political party secretly route at least \$2.2 million to two prominent Washington lobbying firms in 2012, doing so in a way that effectively obscured the party's efforts to influence U.S. policy.

—CASINO WOES. Trump's six corporate bankruptcies after his big gamble on three Atlantic City casinos were no secret when he began his campaign, but the circumstances have come into sharper focus over the past year. Trump continues to blame his casinos' troubles on an economic downturn that walloped the whole industry. But in fact, two of his casinos' bankruptcies occurred in years when overall Atlantic City gambling revenue was rising.

—UNPAID BILLS. Multiple reports over the past year have documented Trump's refusal to pay various contractors who worked for him. USA Today found at least 60 lawsuits, as well as hundreds of liens, judgments and other government filings that document people who accused Trump and his businesses of failing to pay them. The Wall Street Journal, likewise, documented hardball tactics that shortchanged Trump's suppliers. During the bankruptcy of the Taj Mahal Casino in the early 1990s, some contractors who'd helped Trump build the property went under because Trump's company didn't pay what it owed them — millions of dollars in some cases. Trump refused to pay in full 253 contractors who had helped build the Taj. Trump's bankers gave him a \$450,000 monthly allowance while his debts were renegotiated.

—HEAD START. Trump perpetuates a self-made-man persona, stressing that he started out with a "small" \$1 million loan from his father that he later repaid. He doesn't mention that he also received loan guarantees, bailouts and a drawdown from his future inheritance. Reporter Tim O'Brien noted in a 2005 book that Trump drew \$10 million from his future inheritance during hard times, and inherited a share of his father's real estate holdings, which were worth hundreds of millions when they were eventually sold off.

—BRANDING. In recent years, Trump has been known more for licensing use of his name than for building things. Not all those branding deals have been seamless. Condo buyers at failed Trump-named properties in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Tampa, Florida, and Baja, Mexico, have claimed in lawsuits that the billionaire misled them into believing he was more involved in the projects than just lending his name. Trump won the Fort Lauderdale case and settled those in Baja and Tampa.

—TRUMP UNIVERSITY. Trump faces class-action lawsuits in California and New York alleging that his Trump University, which offered real estate seminars and classes around the country, pressed students to pay up to \$35,000 for mentorships and failed at its promise to teach success in the business. While marketing materials said that Trump had "handpicked" employees for the operation, in court testimony he acknowledged that he couldn't recall names of his employees. New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman sued Trump University in 2013 alleging it had committed fraud and fleeced 5,000 people out of millions of dollars.

—LEGAL TACTICS. Trump caused a firestorm when he complained in February that Gonzalo Curiel, the judge handling the California Trump University class-action lawsuit, couldn't be fair, citing the judge's Mexican heritage. Trump also tried to get a judge pulled off a New York case in 2011, and he called the

judge on a 2009 case biased.

—MODELS-IMMIGRATION. Cracking down on illegal immigration has been a huge part of Trump's campaign pitch, but his own modeling agency has come under scrutiny for its use of foreign models who came to the U.S. on tourist visas that did not allow them to work in the country. Mother Jones reported that Trump Model Management profited from work by models who didn't have work visas.

—BUSINESS DEBT. Trump's substantial real estate holdings also represent a substantial pile of debt. The New York Times reported that while Trump promotes himself as beholden to no one, his companies have at least \$650 million in debt. It also reported that much of his wealth is tied up in passive partnerships that owe an additional \$2 billion to various lenders.

—WHAT TRUMP SAID. BuzzFeed listened to dozens of Trump appearances on "The Howard Stern Show" from the late 1990s through the 2000s. Its headline pretty well summed up the results: "Donald Trump said a lot of gross things about women on 'Howard Stern.'"

—MADE IN AMERICA? For all of Trump's emphasis on keeping jobs in the U.S., it turns out Trump's private companies and the clothing line run by his daughter Ivanka routinely sell clothes and other products made in China and other Asian countries.

—ZIP IT. The say-anything candidate has a thing against loose lips. In both his businesses and his presidential campaign, Trump requires nearly everyone to sign legally binding nondisclosure agreements that keep them from releasing any confidential or disparaging information about Trump, his family or his companies. He's not afraid to sue those he thinks violate the confidentiality agreements.

—LAWSUITS GALORE. When Trump isn't happy with his business partners or patrons, he's not afraid to sue. On the flip side, his businesses have attracted an outsized share of lawsuits over the years. A USA Today investigation found that Trump and his businesses have been involved in thousands of suits over the past 30 years. Nearly half the suits were related to his casinos, and most of those involved suits against gamblers who failed to pay their debts. In the first presidential debate, Hillary Clinton highlighted a discrimination case from 1973, when the Justice Department sued Trump and his father for refusing to rent apartments at one of their developments to blacks. Trump said the suit was settled without an admission of guilt. The government said in the settlement that Trump and his father had "failed and neglected" to comply with the Fair Housing Act.

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## A decade of crop loss from Hurricane Matthew in Haiti

By **BEN FOX** and **DAVID MCFADDEN**, Associated Press

LES CAYES, Haiti (AP) — As Hurricane Matthew roared across southwestern Haiti, Joselien Jean-Baptiste huddled with his family while the wind whipped at his little house. When it was finally safe to venture outside at dawn the 60-year-old farmer realized his troubles had only just begun.

The storm knocked down part of the house where he lives with his wife and six children outside of Les Cayes, leaving only a small section of corrugated metal still intact. But that was the least of his problems. The field he had worked for 25 years was a scene of violent upheaval. His rice was swamped with river water; the mango and breadfruit trees were split like matchsticks; his corn flattened or torn from the ground by fierce winds.

"It is going to take us a long, long time to get back on our feet," Jean-Baptiste said.

Haitian and international agricultural officials say it could be a decade or more before the southwestern peninsula recovers economically from Hurricane Matthew, which struck hard at the rugged region of more than 1 million people that is almost completely dependent on farming and fishing.

The Civil Protection agency said Friday that the death toll from Hurricane Matthew, which made landfall here on Oct. 4, had risen to 546, though it was likely to climb higher as reports continued to trickle in from remote areas. Likewise, the statistics about economic losses are still approximate, but appear to be catastrophic.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 46 of 59

In the Grand-Anse region, nearly 100 percent of crops and 50 percent of livestock were destroyed, according to the World Food Program. On the outskirts of Les Cayes, where Jean-Baptiste lives, more than 90 percent of crops were lost and the fishing industry was "paralyzed" as material and equipment washed away, the organization said.

Re-planting vegetable crops can be done relatively quickly and rice fields begin to recover as floodwaters recede, but the loss of mature fruit trees that families nurtured for a generation is a staggering blow. "It will take at least 10 years for nature to do what it needs to do to grow the trees back," said Elancie Moise, an agronomist and senior agriculture ministry official in the south.

Grapefruit, banana and avocado trees were wiped out along with important root crops such as yams, which were inundated with water or damaged by the whipping wind, Moise said. Vetiver, a grass that is used to produce fragrances and is an important export for Haiti, appears to have sustained some root damage but may be one of the few crops to make it, he added.

There are widespread reports of rising prices in the outdoor markets that line the region's rural roads and of people struggling to find food. "Already there are some people, if you ask them what they ate for dinner last night, they won't be able to answer you," Moise said.

This is a region that only recently began recovering from a drought that had decreased crop production by half. Now, farmers like Jean-Baptiste are wading through the ankle-deep water in their rice fields desperately searching for stalks that may have survived and can still be sold. Many have nothing to salvage. Trees such as bread fruit and coconut palms can't even be sold for charcoal because the wood isn't suitable. People are also trying to save what fruit they can, but most wasn't yet ripe.

"It took a long time for these trees to get strong and now all my coffee has been lost. Our plantains and vegetables, everything is gone," said Rico Lifete, who works a small plot in the craggy mountains outside the coastal city of Jeremie and managed to save his dozen chickens by keeping them inside his stone-and-stucco shack with his family.

Haiti as a whole is largely deforested, with an estimated 2 percent of its original forest cover left because of decades of misuse of the land and the cutting of trees to make charcoal for cooking. But this western peninsula that juts out along the Caribbean Sea had been comparatively lush. It includes the cloud-shrouded mountains of Pic Macaya National Park, which was declared a biosphere reserve by UNESCO in 2016. Until Hurricane Matthew, the narrow roads along the coast were shaded by soaring rows of palms.

Now, it looks like the whole place has been put through a blender. The palms, those that haven't crashed through the roofs of houses and churches, look like they were given a bad haircut, crudely hacked away at the top. The breadfruit and mango trees behind the home of Oscar Corentin, in a village west of Les Cayes, were a tangle of fallen limbs and bare branches.

Corentin and his extended family inherited this piece of land from his mother, and the trees were there when he was born. Asked how old he is, the wiry, bare-chested farmer, who looks to be in his 60s, dismissively waves a machete, saying "I've lost count." His younger cousin says she is 64. The fruit sustained dozens of people, including his seven grandchildren and her 12. "I lost everything," he said. "Please show the world what is going on."

The effects are being felt not only by the farmers who rely on their marginal farmland to eke out a living, but also in the street markets far from the worst-hit districts. Farmers such as Celeo Marcelin have been combing through their remaining crops trying to find anything to salvage for sale, and not finding much. "There's nothing left," he said.

International aid groups say the widespread crop damage will require an influx of seed packs for replanting once the immediate needs of emergency water, food and medicine are met.

"We are aware that it will be more effective to distribute seeds to farmers timed with their next planting season, in early 2017, ideally with fertilizer or compost to help replenish the soil which has been flooded in saltwater," said Jean-Claude Fignole, a senior Oxfam official in Haiti.

A "flash appeal" for Haiti issued by the U.N. humanitarian agency in Geneva was not getting anywhere near the level of support officials are seeking, with only about 5 percent pledged so far of the \$120 million

requested. The lack of immediate help has caused frustration, with some people in the village where Jean-Baptiste lives just east of Les Cayes trying to force an aid truck to stop and clashing with peacekeepers on a recent afternoon.

"Everything is gone here," he said, "people are going to just leave."

## **US removes limits on bringing in Cuban rum, cigars**

**By MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN, Associated Press**

The Obama administration announced Friday that it is eliminating a \$100 limit on the value of Cuban rum and cigars that American travelers can bring back from the island.

The administration is also lifting limits on cargo ship travel between the U.S. and Cuba and easing U.S. and Cuban researchers' ability to conduct joint medical research. The measures are contained in a new round of regulatory changes meant to ease U.S. trade with Cuba.

The Obama administration has now made six sets of changes loosening the U.S. trade embargo on Cuba in hopes that the normalization of relations with the island will not be reversed by a future administration. This round is expected to be the last before President Barack Obama leaves office.

Cuban rum and cigars will now be subject to the same duties as alcohol and tobacco from other countries, meaning most travelers will be able to bring back as many as 100 cigars and several bottles of rum. Because high-end Cuban cigars can sell for more than \$100 apiece outside Cuba, every U.S. traveler can now legally bring back many thousands of dollars of Cuban products, potentially generating hundreds of millions of dollars in new annual revenue for the Cuban state.

The change does not mean that Cuban rum and cigars will be available for sale in the U.S. — the change is aimed at tobacco and alcohol brought home for personal use.

The previous limit restricted travelers to a combined value of \$100 in rum and cigars, although enforcement of the limit notably declined after President Barack Obama declared detente with Cuba on Dec. 17, 2014.

The head of U.S. affairs at Cuba's Foreign Ministry, Josefina Vidal, said the measures are "a significant step," but she said they have "a very limited character" and leave in place restrictions on investment in most parts of the Cuban economy.

She also complained that the rationale for the measures is that that they are meant to encourage "subversive" changes on the island.

The administration has described its policy goal as aimed at helping the Cuban people improve their lives by winning greater economic and political freedom from the single-party state.

"Challenges remain - and very real differences between our governments persist on issues of democracy and human rights - but I believe that engagement is the best way to address those differences and make progress on behalf of our interests and values," Obama said in a statement announcing the changes.

Rum and cigar production is entirely government-run under Cuba's centrally planned communist economy. While the first regulatory changes focused narrowly on helping Cuba's growing private sector, Friday's new rules are almost entirely aimed at similarly state-run industries including shipping and medical products.

The new changes also allow cargo ships to visit U.S. ports directly after docking in Cuba. They had been barred from U.S. ports for 180 days after visiting Cuba. Cuba blamed that measure for harming its ability to import and export and dampening hopes that a new military-run port in the city of Mariel could serve as a major link in the regional cargo shipping system.

A senior Obama administration official said the new regulations' focus on Cuban state enterprise should not be interpreted as a shift away from helping ordinary Cubans.

"We have designed the policy very much to have the maximum benefit to the Cuban people, broadly, but in so doing we are not restricting engagement with the Cuban state. That has been clear since Dec. 17, 2014," the official said in a conference call with reporters held on condition of anonymity. "The Cuban people continue to be at the center of everything we're doing."

More than 160,000 American travelers visited Cuba last year and that figure is expected to double this year. Hundreds of thousands of Cuban-Americans visit family on the island each year and will also be able to take advantage of the new measure, which comes a month and a half before the restart of commercial

flights to Havana after more than 50 years.

Michael Weissenstein on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/mweissenstein>

## Man pleads not guilty to murder in crash that killed 5 teens

By LISA RATHKE, Associated Press

BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP) — A man who drove the wrong way on an interstate before crashing into a car, killing five teenagers, pleaded not guilty on Friday to five counts of murder as he recovers in a hospital from his injuries in last week's wreck.

Steven Bourgojn was wheeled into a conference room at the University of Vermont Medical Center by a state trooper and a health care worker. His eyes were closed, and he made no comments during the proceeding. His lawyer entered the pleas for him.

The judge ordered a competency hearing and agreed with the prosecutor's request that Bourgojn, of Williston, be held without bail. If convicted, Bourgojn, who's 36 years old, would face 20 years to life in prison on each murder count.

Police say Bourgojn, while driving the wrong way last Saturday night on Interstate 89, hit the teens' car and then stole a police cruiser. They say he then turned around and sped the wrong way again on the interstate back toward the crash, hitting at least seven other vehicles.

Chittenden County prosecutor T.J. Donovan said Bourgojn displayed "a wanton disregard" for human life, driving about 5 miles the wrong way as motorists honked at him to stop. Donovan said Bourgojn was driving 79 mph when he hit the teenagers' car and 107 mph when he hit the other vehicles while driving the police cruiser.

Authorities are awaiting the results of toxicology tests on Bourgojn, but Donovan has said they have no evidence he was drunk at the time.

Bourgojn told a witness at the scene of the first crash that he must have lost control and that he didn't know what happened, Donovan said.

Mary Harris, 16, of Moretown; Cyrus Zschau, 16, of Moretown; Liam Hale, 16, of Fayston; Janie Cozzi, 15, of Fayston; and Eli Brookens, 16, of Waterbury, died in the crash. Four were Harwood Union High School juniors; the fifth attended Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, New Hampshire.

Court documents filed in support of the charges say a search of Bourgojn's home found he was facing foreclosure and other financial difficulties as well as legal proceedings for domestic issues and a custody dispute with his ex-girlfriend over their 2-year-old daughter. He recently left his job, Donovan said.

A police officer who responded to the first crash told a state police investigator that Bourgojn has post-traumatic stress disorder, but the officer did not elaborate. Bourgojn served in the U.S. Army at Fort Benning in Georgia between August 1999 and November 1999.

Police said in an affidavit that Bourgojn visited a hospital emergency room hours before the deadly mayhem and saw a physician assistant. They said someone called the Howard Center, which provides crisis and counseling services, but the center didn't screen Bourgojn. But the prosecutor said Friday it's unclear whether the Howard Center had been called.

Bourgojn also faces trial on an unrelated domestic assault charge involving his ex-girlfriend. A police affidavit says Bourgojn hit his girlfriend in the head and threatened to throw her down the stairs in May. Prosecutors said a court awarded custody of the child last month to the ex-girlfriend.

## An anxious journey to check on a flooded home, then relief

By TAMARA LUSH, Associated Press

LUMBERTON, N.C. (AP) — Elmer McDonald rolled up his blue jeans and sloshed into the ankle-deep floodwater on his street. The cool water was the color of strong tea.

In his left hand, he carried keys to his trailer. The 36-year-old father of four hoped to find out exactly



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 49 of 59

what Hurricane Matthew had left behind.

McDonald — known as Moe to his friends in Lumberton — had tried to return Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, but each day, the current was too strong, the water too deep. Maybe Thursday would be the day he finally got inside. The water on the street had receded and now covered only about a city block.

The sky was bright blue, the sun not too warm. It would have been a perfect fall day if folks here weren't dealing with the worst natural disaster to hit this city in a generation.

McDonald was one of thousands who evacuated. About 1,200 people had to be rescued by boat or plucked from their roofs by helicopters. Two of North Carolina's 24 fatalities occurred in Robeson County, where Lumberton is the seat.

People throughout the flood zone are anxious to get back to their homes to see what is salvageable. Many, like McDonald, do not have flood insurance.

With an Associated Press reporter and photographer in tow, McDonald set out. He walked with rhythmic splashes up the road's double yellow line and talked of his life — how he was from Baltimore, how he'd once been shot in the foot and been homeless.

Maybe that's why he wasn't scared when the water deepened, first to his calves, then his knees, then his hips.

"I've been through a lot, a lot of stuff. This right here ain't bothering me."

A soggy sofa sat half submerged, making one wonder what else was in the water.

"Everything. All kinds of stuff. Snakes, water moccasins, maybe a gator. Trash, debris. There's probably all type of metal and glass in here," he said.

McDonald's kids range from 16 months to 17 years old. None was home at the time of the storm. Before the rain, the little ones went to stay with their grandma, who has water and power.

He and his wife didn't leave until the waters rose. They hastily piled everything they could grab onto tables and counters, then packed a few items and fled. McDonald returned to try to get paperwork out of a car in his backyard, but the water was too high. He helped neighbors move their cars to higher ground.

What he wasn't able to do: grab his tools.

"I'm a workin' man," he said. "I got my own construction company, roofing, but it don't look so good now because all my tools probably gone up the river."

All of the homes on the street were encircled by brown water. One family had to leave dogs behind.

"Man, the water's coming up, y'all gotta get outta here," I told that guy," he said, pointing to a neighbor's home where a fluffy dog barked. McDonald said the dog had been on the hill in back of the property, but he guessed it somehow swam to the porch. That neighbor was going to try to get to his home later Thursday, he added.

"I just hope that people don't move, that everybody can save their houses," he murmured.

At McDonald's property line, there was a dip in the earth and his feet hit rocks.

"The last time I come through here it was this deep," he said, motioning with his hand at the top of his stomach. The water was now knee-deep.

As he approached his home, his gait slowed. The water rippled through the yard.

"It's about what I expected it was going to be like," he said. The grass of his front lawn felt slimy and soft beneath his feet.

The little brown and white home was surrounded by water. Surely it too would be inundated. How could it not?

Bracing his hands on the wooden stair rail leading to the front door, McDonald stepped gingerly. The wood had grown slick in a matter of days.

"I had a boat tied here and got three trash bags of clothes when I made this crayon mark," on the second step, he said.

He stuck the key in the door and looked down. The beige carpet was slightly damp, not sopping wet.

Everything else was dry.

His eyes went wide as he scanned the dark living room. "Oh my goodness," he said. "It's amazing. It's amazing. I thought it was all going to be gone. It's a blessing. That's what it is."

Slowly, he walked into the kitchen, which smelled like rotting food. The floor was dry. He opened the back door, and the covered wooden porch was dry, too. The remnants of the final grilled dinner he had with his wife were still in a pan.

The car out back was mostly submerged, as was his shed with the tools. But almost everything else was unscathed.

"It's all right," he said. "I didn't think I was going to see this when I came home. I thought everything was going to be gone. I think it's still livable. I hope so."

He knows he won the equivalent of a coin toss in the disaster game. Some of his neighbors and many fellow Lumberton residents will not be so fortunate.

It's unclear if there will be hidden, lingering problems. Are the floorboards under the carpet all right? Is the foundation solid? And what of his tools? Will he be able to return to work soon?

For people like McDonald who live mostly paycheck-to-paycheck, the aftermath of a storm can grind on for weeks and be financially devastating.

But for now, he's celebrating his good luck. As he walked through his trailer, he showed a little grin and grabbed a bottle so he could wade to the neighbor's and give the thirsty barking dog some water.

"And I always complained about how small it was," he said. "I won't ever do that again. I'll never complain again."

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Follow Tamara Lush on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/tamaralush> .

## Ryan plugs GOP campaign agenda, but no mention of Trump

By SCOTT BAUER and ALAN FRAM, Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — House Speaker Paul Ryan did it again Friday — he spoke about the choices in this year's elections without uttering the words "Donald Trump."

Four days after privately telling House Republicans that he would no longer defend or campaign for his party's presidential nominee, Ryan, R-Wis., tore into Democrat Hillary Clinton and liberals for pursuing a government-heavy agenda for elites. He said a GOP-run Congress would block at least parts of their plans.

But in nearly 45 minutes of remarks to college Republicans, the closest he came to mentioning Trump was in describing the presidential race's tone and warning students away from behavior that sounded suspiciously like things that have characterized Trump's now flagging campaign.

"Look, I know this election has taken some dark, sometimes some very dark turns," Ryan said, without elaborating.

He also advised his audience, "Don't get into a personality contest, don't talk about the latest Twitter storm from somebody."

At other moments, he sounded reminiscent of first lady Michelle Obama, who's become a Democratic sensation on the campaign trail of late with advice like, "When they go low, you go high."

"Don't go to emotion and don't impugn another person's emotion," Ryan told the students. "And when that's coming at you, take the high ground."

Ryan's appearance came a week after the release of a 2005 video showing Trump boasting about forcing sexual contact with women, a blockbuster moment in the campaign. It also followed recent reports in which some women have accused Trump of groping them over past decades, claims he has said are false.

Ryan answered questions from the students — who also did not use Trump's name — but did not talk to reporters. Similarly, he delivered remarks Thursday to business people without taking questions afterward.

In recent weeks, many congressional Republicans have avoided using Trump's name, at times using phrases like "our party's nominee." Ryan never mentioned Trump during two brief campaign appearances for House candidates in Pennsylvania last week.

After the Trump video was released, Ryan rescinded an invitation for him to appear at a Wisconsin political event last weekend, though he has not dropped support for Trump.

Trump has responded with tweets suggesting a sinister plot and calling Ryan ineffective, highlighting an

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 51 of 59

extraordinary schism between the senior most elected GOP official and the party's White House candidate. And some GOP lawmakers have threatened to oppose letting Ryan serve as speaker in the new Congress, assuming Republicans remain in control of the House.

Ryan used his remarks to attack Clinton and her Democratic allies, drawing a contrast that many Republicans believe can help their congressional candidates win re-election. Polls show she has surged ahead in the race for the White House, and Ryan has told his fellow House Republicans that he will spend the remaining weeks until the Nov. 8 elections campaigning to help them keep control of the chamber.

He told the students that Democrats want to increase bureaucratic control of peoples' lives and confirm liberal judges and promised, "A Republican Congress will not stand for this."

Ryan said Clinton's "stronger together" slogan actually means, "We are stronger if we are all subject to the state. What she means is we are stronger if we give up our ties of responsibility to one another and hand all of that over to government."

He also pressed for the GOP agenda that he rolled out last summer that focuses on such issues as cutting regulations, overhauling the tax code and replacing President Barack Obama's health care law.

Fram reported from Washington. Associated Press writer Donna Cassata in Washington contributed to this report.

## Obama administration: Budget deficit increases to \$587B

By ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government ran a \$587 billion budget deficit for the just-completed fiscal year, a 34 percent spike over last year after significant improvement from the record deficits of President Barack Obama's first years in office.

Friday's deficit news, while sobering, does not appear bad enough to jolt a gridlocked Washington into action to stem the flow of red ink. It came in an annual report by the Treasury Department and the White House budget office.

In the presidential campaign, intractable budget deficits and growing debt have been mostly neglected by Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump.

The latest figures show that the government is borrowing 15 cents of every dollar it spends. Government spending went up almost 5 percent to \$3.9 trillion in fiscal 2016, but revenues stayed flat at \$3.3 trillion.

Obama came to power after the 2008 financial crisis and as the economy was still emerging from a deep recession, and the deficit spiked to \$1.4 trillion, which required Treasury to borrow 40 cents for every dollar spent by the government. It remained above \$1 trillion for three more years before declining to \$439 billion last year as the U.S. economy continues to slowly grow.

"The Obama Administration's agenda has spurred durable economic growth and the longest streak of job growth on record, while sharply reducing the deficit to a sustainable level," said Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said in a statement. "We have built a solid foundation for continued investment in economic growth and opportunity for all, while maintaining fiscal discipline and using fiscal space appropriately to grow the economy."

Now, the Congressional Budget Office is predicting deficits will, more or less, remain in the \$600 billion range for the next several years. Those are eye-popping numbers to the average person, but they represent about 3 percent of the size of the economy, a level many economists say is bearable.

Trump is promising tax cuts estimated to cost \$6 trillion or so in the coming decade and has criticized congressional Republicans, including House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, for proposing to cut Medicare and other government programs. Clinton promises to increase taxes on the wealthy and spend the money on college tuition subsidies, infrastructure and expansion of President Barack Obama's health care law.

"There's no leadership on the campaign trail. What both Clinton and Trump have said, essentially, is, 'Here are the new things that I want to do,'" said Douglas Holtz-Eakin, a GOP economist and president of the American Action Forum think tank. "What that's really saying is: 'I have no play to fix the existing

problem. None.' So they have no plan."

If Clinton wins, many Washington observers believe the chronically gridlocked capital city will remain unable to act on major issues such as the deficit, taxes or weaknesses in Obama's 2010 health care law.

"We just have big philosophical differences," Ryan told a home-state group of college Republicans on Friday, adding that a Clinton victory would mean "having more of the same stalemate."

The deficit issue has largely fallen in prominence in Washington in recent years, due in large part to its fall from record highs and a sense of resignation that Obama and congressional Republicans simply can't agree on ways to cut it after some failed attempts in recent years. Most economists don't believe the deficit is very worrisome in the short term.

"It's totally manageable. There's literally nothing there to worry about," said left-leaning economist Dean Baker of the Center for Economic and Policy Research. "What's the interest rate on 10-year bonds or the 30-year bond? If actors in the financial markets thought there was any plausible probability of this sort of fiscal crisis ... we'd be looking at 10-year rates of maybe 5, 6, 7 (percent)."

But the picture over the long run is more problematic, at least under a conventional view that if deficits continue to rise the national debt grows, government borrowing would "crowd out" private lending and force up interest rates. And if interest rates go up, the government would have to pay much more to finance the more than \$14 trillion in Treasury debt held by investors.

"We're going into a debt spiral and, depending how far down you get in that spiral you have a sovereign debt crisis," said Holtz-Eakin, a former GOP-appointed CBO director. "That's just running a big risk for the budget and the economy."

## Russian city inaugurates statue to bloody Ivan the Terrible

By HOWARD AMOS, Associated Press

OREL, Russia (AP) — Despite protests and court battles, the Russian city of Orel has unveiled the country's first monument to Ivan the Terrible, the bloody 16th-century czar who massacred his subjects by the thousands and even reportedly killed his own son.

At a ceremony Friday, officials inaugurated the statue of Ivan on horseback, wielding both a sword and a cross, in the city (pronounced ahr-YOL) 350 kilometers (225 miles) south of Moscow. The region's governor likened the brutal czar — favorably — to current Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"We have a great, powerful president who has forced the whole world to respect and defer to Russia — just like Ivan the Terrible did in his time," Vadim Potomsky said at the ceremony.

Ivan, who reigned from 1547 to 1584, was responsible for violence including the Novgorod Massacre, which killed thousands. But he is also respected as both key to Russia's establishing itself as an empire and as a patron of the arts, including commissioning the landmark St. Basil's Cathedral, which dominates Red Square in Moscow.

The czar's moniker reflects his mixed reputation — in Russian, it can mean not only "terrible" but also "formidable."

The erection of the statue comes as Russia, encouraged by Putin, is undergoing a broad reassessment of its history. The current Russian narrative justifies violence and repression if it's seen as having been necessary to strengthen the Russian state, including atrocities ordered by Soviet dictator Josef Stalin.

Among the crowd of 1,000 who witnessed the monument's inauguration in Orel was Alexander Zalodanov, the burly leader of the pro-Putin biker group Night Wolves.

On the other side of the political spectrum, some activists in Orel had held protests against the statue and launched an unsuccessful court attempt to block it. One of them, Natalia Golenkova, told The Associated Press she had been assaulted walking home one night and warned to stop her opposition to the statute.

"Who was a fan of Ivan the Terrible? Stalin," she said. "Tyrants love tyrants."

## Nigeria's president says wife 'belongs to my kitchen'

By The Associated Press

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) — Nigeria's first lady has openly questioned her husband's work and said she may not support him if he runs again — comments that President Muhammadu Buhari laughed off, saying, "I don't know which party my wife belongs to, but she belongs to my kitchen and my living room and the other room."

His comments to reporters in Germany prompted German Chancellor Angela Merkel, standing at his side, to give him a short glare and then laugh.

In an interview with the BBC Hausa-language service broadcast Friday, Aisha Buhari said her husband did not know many top government appointees, and she accused them of not sharing the vision of his All Progressives Congress party. She did not name names.

Muhammadu Buhari, who was briefly a military dictator in the 1980s, was elected in his fourth run at the presidency in 2015 on the back of a coalition that includes former foes and opportunists who abandoned the former governing party of defeated President Goodluck Jonathan.

Buhari has not said whether he will run again in 2019.

"He is yet to tell me, but I have decided as his wife that if things continue like this up to 2019, I will not go out and campaign again and ask any woman to vote like I did before. I will never do it again," Aisha Buhari said.

In his comments to reporters, Muhammadu Buhari also said he hopes his wife will remember that he ran for president three times before succeeding on the fourth effort. "So I claim superior knowledge over her and the rest of the opposition, because in the end I have succeeded. It's not easy to satisfy the whole Nigerian opposition parties or to participate in the government."

Some Nigerians on social media blasted the president's comments as misogynistic, comparing him to U.S. Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump.

Aisha Buhari, a mother and grandmother, has a master's degree in international affairs and strategic studies from the Nigerian Defense Academy and studied at beauty schools in the United Kingdom and Dubai. As first lady, she has championed maternal and child health. According to the bio she links to from her Twitter account, she "is currently undertaking a counseling course on co-dependency in the U.K."

Muhammadu Buhari had campaigned on promises to crack down on corruption and turn the tide against the Boko Haram insurgency. His government yesterday announced the first negotiated release of 21 of 218 Chibok schoolgirls kidnapped by Boko Haram in 2014.

However, Nigeria's northeast faces a famine that threatens to kill tens of thousands of children after Boko Haram disrupted the region's transportation and farming. Some areas remain dangerous and inaccessible.

Nigeria has also fallen into recession amid slumped oil prices and lost its position as Africa's biggest petroleum producer as militants attacked pipelines in the south.

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Associated Press writers Michelle Faul in Johannesburg, David Rising in Berlin and Robbie Corey-Boulet in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, contributed to this report.

## Accidental shootings kill a child every other day

By RYAN J. FOLEY, LARRY FENN and NICK PENZENSTADLER, Associated Press

Hours earlier, he was a happy 4-year-old who loved Ironman and the Hulk and all the Avengers. Now, as Bryson Mees-Hernandez approached death in a Houston hospital room, his brain swelling through the bullet hole in his face, his mother assured the boy it was OK to die.

"When you are on the other side," his mother, Crystal Mees, recalls telling him, "you are going to see Mommy cry a lot. It's not because she's mad. It's because she misses you."

And this: "It's not your fault."

But whose fault was it?

# Groton Daily Independent

**Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 54 of 59**

Bryson shot himself last January with a .22-caliber Derringer his grandmother kept under the bed. It was an accident, but one that could be blamed on many factors, from his grandmother's negligence to the failure of government and industry to find ways to prevent his death and so many others.

The Associated Press and the USA TODAY Network set out to determine just how many others there have been.

The findings: During the first six months of this year, minors died from accidental shootings — at their own hands, or at the hands of other children or adults — at a pace of one every other day, far more than limited federal statistics indicate.

Tragedies like the death of Bryson Mees-Hernandez play out repeatedly across the country. Curious toddlers find unsecured, loaded handguns in their homes and vehicles, and fatally shoot themselves and others. Teenagers, often showing off guns to their friends and siblings, end up shooting them instead.

Using information collected by the Gun Violence Archive, a nonpartisan research group, news reports and public sources, the media outlets spent six months analyzing the circumstances of every death and injury from accidental shootings involving children ages 17 and younger from Jan. 1, 2014, to June 30 of this year — more than 1,000 incidents in all.

Among the findings:

—Deaths and injuries spike for children under 5, with 3-year-olds the most common shooters and victims among young children.

—Accidental shootings spike again for ages 15-17, when victims are most often fatally shot by other children but typically survive self-inflicted gunshots.

—States in the South are among those with the highest per capita rates of accidental shootings involving minors.

Another finding: The vast majority of shooters and victims are boys. A shooting last year in Shreveport, Louisiana, is a case in point.

Cameron Price, 4, and his 6-year-old brother, Ka'Darius, were riding their bikes outside the Levingston Motel, where their family had taken a \$30-a-night room.

They decided to go inside, into a room where several adult acquaintances of their parents had been smoking marijuana. A gun was sitting out, and Ka'Darius thought the chrome and black .40-caliber pistol was a toy.

Then a single shot rang out, and the bullet fatally struck the younger boy.

Ka'Darius later told police he "pushed the bad button" and he understood his brother "had a hole in his head," was going to the hospital and not coming home.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that 74 minors died from accidental discharges of firearms in 2014, the latest year for which comparable data are available. The AP and USA TODAY analysis counted 113 for that year, suggesting the federal government missed a third of the cases.

While accidental shootings account for only a fraction of firearm deaths in the U.S., gun safety advocates have long argued that they are largely preventable.

They demand stricter laws requiring guns to be kept locked up and unloaded. But gun rights supporters argue those measures make guns less useful in emergencies; citing CDC statistics, the National Rifle Association argues in public statements that such deaths have declined significantly in recent decades and that the chance of a child dying in a firearms accident is "one in one million."

Bob Anderson, chief of the mortality statistics branch of the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, suggested the NRA was citing statistics that underestimate the risk guns represent to children. He said the undercount documented by the AP and USA TODAY Network is "significant and important," but not surprising.

The agency has long suspected that its statistics on accidental firearms deaths are too low, he said.

Gun safety advocates have urged a public health approach that includes more government research, more public awareness and stricter state laws.

That is just what Crystal Mees is advocating in Texas after the death of her son at her mother's house.

Mees had given birth months earlier to a baby girl and needed sleep, so she had taken Bryson and his

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 55 of 59

2-year-old sister there to spend the night.

It began as a typical night. After their baths, Bryson asked if he could hop in bed with his grandfather, who was already asleep. His grandmother, Anna Sperber, said yes, before she fell asleep on the living room couch with the younger girl.

When Sperber got up to get a blanket hours later, she saw Bryson face down on the bedroom floor. She thought he had fallen asleep.

Then she noticed the lump on his head and panicked when she saw the pistol she kept under her bed lying next to him. He had shot himself above the right eye.

Crystal Mees blames her mother for her son's death and no longer talks to her or brings her two children around; she says she had warned her to keep the gun out of children's reach. She plans to push for a "Bryson's law" in Texas to make it easier for prosecutors to bring charges against adults who allow children access to firearms.

Both women attended the funeral, where relatives dressed up as Bryson's beloved Avengers. He was buried with Legos, toy cars and his grandfather's favorite cologne.

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Larry Fenn is a data journalist for The Associated Press.

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Follow Ryan Foley at <https://twitter.com/rjfoley> and Nick Penzenstadler at <https://twitter.com/npenzenstadler>

## Thai king's body at Grand Palace for people to pay respects

By VIJAY JOSHI and NATNICHA CHUWIRUCH, Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Buddhist funeral ceremonies began Friday in Bangkok's Grand Palace complex for King Bhumibol Adulyadej before his body is displayed for people to pay respects to the monarch revered by many Thais as their father and a demigod.

Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, dressed in white military finery and a black armband, sat near orange-robed monks as they chanted in the high-ceilinged Phiman Rattaya palace. Once a residential building, the palace is now used as the main venue for state funerals.

Earlier, a royal convoy led by a van carrying Bhumibol's body and monks drove to the Grand Palace complex from Siriraj hospital, where the king died Thursday at age 88. The hospital had been his virtual home for years as doctors treated him for various illnesses afflicting his lungs, liver, kidneys, brain and blood.

The convoy drove the short distance across the Chao Phraya river to the sprawling royal complex, a major tourist attraction replete with resplendent palaces, museums and temples.

Thousands of people sat four to five rows deep on both sides of the road, sobbing openly and bowing deeply as the convoy passed. Most held portraits of the king in regal yellow robes. Some without portraits pulled currency notes from their wallets: all bank notes carry the king's face. Many had camped 24 hours since Thursday.

"I wanted to send off his majesty," said Nateimon Chitrakon, 39, standing on a bridge over the river. "He was the love of all Thais."

Those who were unable to get close watched the momentous event on television. At Bangkok's main railway station, a crowd gathered in front of a large public screen. Many wept as they watched the cortege drive slowly.

"I am a bit worried now he's not here," said Wilanya Keawnod, a student. "Past problems have been resolved smoothly because of him."

Railway authorities are expected to run more trains in the coming days to cope with the anticipated surge in travelers wanting to get to Bangkok to join in the mourning.

Most Thais had known no other king. Bhumibol, the world's longest-reigning monarch, had been on the throne for 70 years. His son, Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, who is to ascend the throne, followed the king's body in a yellow Mercedes van. Accompanying Vajiralongkorn was his consort, Lt. Gen. Suthida

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 56 of 59

Vajiralongkorn na Ayudhaya. Behind them were dozens of cars.

The body will lie at the Temple of the Emerald Buddha, or Wat Phra Kaew, inside the Grand Palace complex for an undisclosed duration. No date has been set for the cremation.

Friday marked the first day in 70 years that Thailand has been without a king as Vajiralongkorn asked for more time to mourn with the rest of the nation before ascending the throne. The constitution says that in the absence of a king, the head of the Privy Council will become the regent, but it is vague about the situation in which the heir apparent hasn't taken over.

The government declared a public holiday and people across the shaken nation donned black, their eyes swollen and red with hours of weeping. Many were still sobbing — in building halls, elevators, shops — in spontaneous outbursts of emotion that reflected the deep love and respect Bhumibol commanded.

The momentous news of his death, announced in a palace statement, had long been both anticipated and feared. But the nation remained stable and life continued largely as usual with most shops, banks and tourist sites open.

A one-year mourning period for the government has been declared together with a 30-day moratorium on state and official events. But no demands have been made of the private sector. The government has only urged people to refrain from organizing entertainment events for a month, apparently mindful of the need to ensure that the sputtering economy does not suffer. Tourism is one of Thailand's biggest revenue earners, and entertainment remains an integral part of it.

The stock market and banks remained open, as did Thai embassies worldwide. After plunging for days, the Thai stock market opened higher, rising more than 4 percent in morning trading in a sign of renewed confidence.

Television channels were running non-stop programs devoted to the life of the king. Although a constitutional monarch, Bhumibol wielded enormous political power and served as a unifying figure during Thailand's numerous political crises.

But in recent years, he suffered from a variety of illnesses and remained publicly detached from recent political upheavals, including the 2014 coup that brought Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, an army general, to power.

"His death means that the Thai political system must find an alternative focal point around which to unite the country's factionalized population," said Tom Pepinsky, a Southeast Asia expert at Cornell University.

He said one challenge that royalists will face is the possibility that the monarchy's popularity would be undermined by the crowning of Vajiralongkorn, who does not command the same respect his father did.

Bhumibol Adulyadej (pronounced poo-mee-pon ah-dun-yaa-det) became king in 1946. He anchored the Southeast Asian country through violent upheavals at home and communist revolutions next door with a blend of majesty and a common touch.

So revered was Bhumibol that his portraits are displayed in virtually every Thai home and business, generally depicting him in arduous travels to remote villages, where he often went to see the situation of his subjects first hand.

But recently, whenever Bhumibol appeared in public, he was in a wheelchair, waving feebly at his subjects. Even those rare appearances stopped as he became confined to the hospital.

He died a little before 4 p.m. on Thursday, the palace said. It said he passed away peacefully.

"He is now in heaven and may be looking over Thai citizens from there," Prayuth said in a statement. "He was a king that was loved and adored by all. The reign of the king has ended and his kindness cannot be found anywhere else."

Besides Vajiralongkorn, the king is survived by his 84-year-old wife Sirikit who is also ailing and has rarely been seen in public in years. The couple has three daughters — Princess Sirindhorn, the most beloved royal after her father; Princess Ubolratana; and Princess Chulabhorn Walailak. Sirindhorn is unmarried, Ubolratana is divorced from her American husband and their two daughters live in the U.S., Chulabhorn is also divorced and has two daughters.



Associated Press journalists Jerry Harmer, Kiko Rosario and Tassanee Vejpongsa contributed to this report.

## South Sudan starves as aid blocked, money spent on fighting

By JUSTIN LYNCH, Associated Press

AWEIL, South Sudan (AP) — The mother faced an anguished decision: choosing which of her children to save.

With hunger gripping this remote region of South Sudan, Elizabeth Athiel could either get urgent medical attention for her 8-month-old daughter, Anger, or make sure her other five children could eat.

The little girl was shockingly thin, but the medical clinic was a half-day's walk away, and she would have to wait there for days until recovery. "I can't leave the others alone here," Athiel said, holding Anger in her arms. It is not known what later happened to the child.

Her family is another victim of South Sudan's civil war — in a part of the country that hasn't even seen fighting.

Here in the government stronghold of Northern Bahr el Ghazal region, there are indications of famine. One-third of children in the region are estimated to be acutely malnourished. If resources remain limited, more children will die, said Mahimbo Mdoe, the UNICEF representative in South Sudan.

The food crisis is evidence of how the conflict has devastated South Sudan's ability to function. Since December 2013, tens of thousands of people have been killed. More than one million refugees have fled. The U.N. calls South Sudan one of the world's worst humanitarian crises.

Even as President Salva Kiir and his government have repeatedly promised full humanitarian access to this and other areas, South Sudanese officials have restricted aid amid hostility at the international community over its attempts to calm the fighting and protect civilians.

During a visit by The Associated Press to Aweil in mid-September, aid airdrops by the World Food Program had been suspended because the government imposed what it called additional security requirements. They later resumed but were suspended again this week.

Minister of Information Michael Makuei recently told reporters that WFP had been "intransigent" with his government.

"Did they come here for humanitarian services? They came there for their own ulterior objectives," Makuei said, reflecting some officials' view that the U.N., with its peacekeeping mission and aid agencies, had too much authority.

Meanwhile, South Sudan's government spends 44 percent of its budget on military and security, but just 11 percent on health, education and humanitarian affairs, according to the finance ministry.

"The government knows that it doesn't have to spend money on health care and education because the international community is always going to do it for them, and they can spend it on weapons instead," one diplomat said on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

South Sudan has long suffered from periods of hunger. The fighting has only made it worse.

Between 4 and 5 million people are at risk of death if they do not receive food assistance, according to WFP, and Northern Bahr el Ghazal has been hit hardest. Roughly 60 percent of the population faces levels of hunger described as "crisis," "emergency" or "catastrophic," according to U.N. agencies.

"I used to eat three times per day. Now I eat once," said Nyibol Dut, a mother who said the price of two liters of grain had reached 350 South Sudanese pounds, compared to 20 pounds two years ago.

Aweil's dusty streets were lined with ripe tomatoes, onions, and watermelon, but most are unaffordable. Here, food prices are 10 times higher than they were last year, according to the government.

Civil war has "affected trade seriously," said Aweil Governor Ronald Ruay Deng as he sat under a tree in his walled compound. But he defended government restrictions on aid delivery, calling security crucial for any humanitarian response.

At times, aid workers in South Sudan hardly know who to deal with for permission to operate. They described a dizzying web of middlemen from the government, opposition and local defense militias that is the source of many delays.

"In a country that doesn't act like a country, permission from the president just isn't sufficient," one

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 58 of 59

humanitarian official said, speaking on condition of anonymity for fear of retribution from the government.

Amid the hunger crisis, some South Sudanese are doing the unthinkable. They have fled by the tens of thousands into neighboring Sudan, the country they fought for years before achieving South Sudan's independence in 2011 as the world's youngest country.

At least 50,000 South Sudanese have even moved to Sudan's conflict-ridden Darfur region this year, the U.N. has said.

Taril Tong confirmed that many in his village have moved to Sudan after heavy rains destroyed crops, but he said he won't join them.

"This is our country," he said proudly.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Oct. 15, the 289th day of 2016. There are 77 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Oct. 15, 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a bill creating the U.S. Department of Transportation. The revolutionary Black Panther Party was founded by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale in Oakland, California.

On this date:

In 1783, the first manned balloon flight took place in Paris as Jean-Francois Pilatre de Rozier ascended in a basket attached to a tethered Montgolfier hot-air balloon, rising to about 75 feet.

In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte, the deposed Emperor of the French, arrived on the British-ruled South Atlantic island of St. Helena, where he spent the last 5 1/2 years of his life in exile.

In 1905, Claude Debussy's "La Mer" (The Sea), a trio of symphonic sketches, premiered in Paris.

In 1914, the Clayton Antitrust Act, which expanded on the Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890, was signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson.

In 1917, Dutch dancer Mata Hari, convicted of spying for the Germans, was executed by a French firing squad outside Paris.

In 1940, Charles Chaplin's first all-talking comedy, "The Great Dictator," a lampoon of Adolf Hitler, opened in New York.

In 1945, the former premier of Vichy France, Pierre Laval, was executed for treason.

In 1946, Nazi war criminal Hermann Goering (GEH'-reeng) fatally poisoned himself hours before he was to have been executed.

In 1969, peace demonstrators staged activities across the country as part of a "moratorium" against the Vietnam War.

In 1976, in the first debate of its kind between vice-presidential nominees, Democrat Walter F. Mondale and Republican Bob Dole faced off in Houston.

In 1990, Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev was named the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. South Africa's Separate Amenities Act, which had barred blacks from public facilities for decades, was formally scrapped.

In 1991, despite sexual harassment allegations by Anita Hill, the Senate narrowly confirmed the nomination of Clarence Thomas to the U.S. Supreme Court, 52-48.

Ten years ago: A strong earthquake struck the Big Island of Hawaii, damaging buildings and roads but apparently causing no deaths. Three members of Duke University's lacrosse team appeared on CBS' "60 Minutes" to deny raping a woman who'd been hired to perform as a stripper (Collin Finnerty, Reade Seligmann and David Evans were later exonerated). Pope Benedict XVI named four new saints of the Catholic Church.

Five years ago: Italian riot police fired tear gas and water cannons in Rome as violent protesters hijacked a peaceful demonstration against corporate greed, smashing bank windows, torching cars and hurling

# Groton Daily Independent

**Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 105 ~ 59 of 59**

bottles. Iran's Foreign Ministry dismissed U.S. accusations that Tehran was involved in a plot to assassinate the Saudi ambassador in Washington, saying the claims had no "legal logic." The Texas Rangers finished off the Detroit Tigers to become the American League's first repeat champion in a decade with a 15-5 win in Game 6 of the ALCS. Former Hollywood superagent Sue Mengers died in Beverly Hills, California.

One year ago: President Barack Obama abandoned his pledge to end America's longest war, announcing plans to keep at least 5,500 U.S. troops in Afghanistan when he leaves office in 2017 and hand the conflict off to his successor. Ken Taylor, Canada's ambassador to Iran who'd sheltered Americans at his residence during the 1979 Iran hostage crisis, died in New York at age 81.

Today's Birthdays: Former auto executive Lee Iacocca is 92. Jazz musician Freddy Cole is 85. Singer Barry McGuire is 81. Actress Linda Lavin is 79. Rock musician Don Stevenson (Moby Grape) is 74. Actress-director Penny Marshall is 73. Baseball Hall of Famer Jim Palmer is 71. Singer-musician Richard Carpenter is 70. Actor Victor Banerjee is 70. Former tennis player Roscoe Tanner is 65. Singer Tito Jackson is 63. Actor-comedian Larry Miller is 63. Actor Jere Burns is 62. Actress Tanya Roberts is 61. Movie director Mira Nair is 59. Britain's Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson, is 57. Chef Emeril Lagasse is 57. Rock musician Mark Reznicek (REHZ'-nih-chehk) is 54. Singer Eric Benet is 50. Actress Vanessa Marcil is 48. Singer-actress-TV host Paige Davis is 47. Country singer Kimberly Schlapman (Little Big Town) is 47. Actor Dominic West is 47. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ginuwine is 46. Actor Devon Gummersall is 38. Actor Chris Olivero is 37. Christian singer-actress Jaci (JAK'-ee) Velasquez is 37. Actor Brandon Jay McLaren is 36. Rhythm-and-blues singer Keyshia Cole is 35. Tennis player Elena Dementieva is 35. Actor Vincent Martella is 24. Actress Bailee Madison is 17.

Thought for Today: "The conventional view serves to protect us from the painful job of thinking." — John Kenneth Galbraith, Canadian-born American economist (1908-2006).