

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 1 of 51

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Kristi Peterson Bookkeeping Ad
- 2- First Round Playoffs on GDILIVE.COM
- 3- Dollar General is Hiring ad
- 3- Netters lose to Milbank
- 4- Thinking About Health Column
- 6- Today in Weather History
- 7- Local Weather Forecast
- 8- Yesterday's Groton Weather
- 8- Today's Weather Climate
- 8- National Weather map
- 9- Golden Living Ad
- 9- Daily Devotional
- 10 - AP News

Tuesday, Oct. 25

School Breakfast: French toast sticks, links, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Spaghetti, meatsauce, garlic toast, fruit, carrots and dit.

Senior Menu: Baked pork chop, au gratin potatoes, Malibu blend vegetables, cookie, whole wheat bread.

7 p.m.: Football Playoffs - Groton Area hosts Redfield-Doland

Wednesday, Oct. 26

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

School Lunch: Cheese stick, tri tater, broccoli and dip, fruit.

Senior Menu: Creamed chicken, buttermilk biscuit, peas, Mandarin oranges, peanut butter cookie.

Thursday, Oct. 27

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

School Lunch: Hot dog, baked beans, fruit, romaine salad

Senior Menu: Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots, peaches, dinner roll.

1:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.: Parent-Teacher Conferences

6:45 p.m.: Parent Scholarship Presentation

ASVAB Test

Friday, Oct. 28

Faculty In-service - NO SCHOOL

All State Chorus and Orchestra in Sioux Falls

Saturday, Oct. 29

Oral Interp at Watertown

7 pm: All State Chorus and Orchestra in Sioux Falls

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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**Today at 7 p.m.
Football**

**Groton Area hosts Redfield/Doland
First Round of the Playoffs
Broadcast sponsored by**

**Allied Climate Professionals - Kevin Nehls
Bahr Spray Foam & Construction
Blocker Construction
Dollar General of Groton
Doug Abeln Seed Co
Groton Ford
Harry Implement of Ferney
Hefty Seed - Justin Hanson
James Valley Seed - Doug Jorgenson
James Valley Telecommunications
Johnson Agency
Ken's Food Fair of Groton
Lori's Pharmacy
McKiver Collision
Milbrandt Enterprises
Olde Bank Floral
Olson Development
Patios Plus
S&S Lumber
Subway of Groton
TNTax Business**

gdilive.com

Milbank Area squeaks past Groton Area, 3-2

Groton Area's volleyball team jumped out to a 2-0 lead, but then lost the next three games to lose the match to Milbank, 3-2. The match was played in Milbank.

Game scores were 25-18, 25-23, 20-25, 11-25 and 13-15.

In serves, Groton Area was 89 of 94 with seven ace serves. Katie Koehler was 16 of 16 with two ace serves, Audrey Wanner was 15 of 17 with two ace serves and Jessica Bjerke was 18 of 18 with one ace serve.

In attacks, Groton Area was 189 of 212 with 54 kills. Audrey Wanner was 49 of 57 with 16 kills, Taylor Holm was 39 of 40 with 11 kills and Gia Gengerke was 30 of 35 with 13 kills.

Groton Area was 180 of 185 in sets with 42 assists. Katie Koehler was 151 of 153 with 39 assists and Paityn Bonn was 15 of 18 with three assists.

Groton Area had 101 digs with Audrey Wanner having 30, Payton Maine 25 and Jessica Bjerke 19. The Tigers had six blocks with Taylor Holm having two solos and Gia Gengerke and Paityn Bonn each having

two assists.

Groton won the junior varsity match, 25-21 and 25-11, and Milbank Area won the C match, 16-26, 27-25 and 15-9.

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

- 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®

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THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

By Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health News Service

Ballot Measure Would Let California Negotiate Drug Prices

The fight in California over a ballot initiative that would begin to control the price of pharmaceuticals paid by state programs shows how difficult it is to “do something” about the high price of prescription drugs.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. drug spending rose 7 percent this year - the biggest increase in 24 years – and most Americans now think drug prices are unreasonable. So it’s not surprising the pharmaceutical industry is running scared and, with its deep pockets, is spending big to convince millions of Californians to vote “No” on Prop 61, a Nov. 8 ballot measure that would “do something.”

It’s a simple measure, says Roger Salazar, the spokesperson for the group “Yes On Prop 61.” It would require the state to pay no more for prescription drugs than the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs spends for the same medications. The VA negotiates prices with pharmaceutical companies, and federal law requires that the department get a discount of at least 24 percent off the drugs it buys.

That may seem reasonable considering the state spends billions on drugs it buys through such programs as CalPERS, the state employees retirement fund, the fee-for-service recipients in Medi-Cal, the state’s version of Medicaid, the state prison system, and an AIDS drug assistance program. Over time proponents say the measure could save the state billions. For CalPERS alone they argue the measure could save almost \$4 billion over 10 years. The state legislative office says the financial impact is “unknown.”

If proponent’s estimate of potential savings is correct, that’s hardly chump change. CalPERS, one of the country’s largest healthcare purchasers, saw its costs for specialty drugs - high-cost medicines for complex, chronic conditions - jump 30 percent in 2015.

The pharmaceutical industry, though, worries that if the measure passes in California, it could open the door for other states to follow. Even worse, it might lead to the federal government negotiating prices with drug companies as most other nations do. “It’s a fairly straightforward expansion of price controls,” is how Stephen Ubl, president of the drug makers trade group, described it last summer in an interview with the New York Times.

The drug industry has fought against such negotiations for decades. Recall that Medicare is prohibited by law from negotiating prices for the prescription drugs it pays for on behalf of 56 million beneficiaries. “We can’t negotiate for purchasing in one of the largest insurance systems in the world,” says former Medicare administrator Don Berwick.

The fight in California reveals one of the biggest political and powerful obstacles of all – money. Two weeks before the election, the drug industry had poured \$109 million into its campaign to defeat the measure, a sum that makes it the most expensive campaign for or against a single ballot initiative in the state’s history, according to Salazar’s group,

High on the list of companies giving money to defeat the measure are household names like Johnson & Johnson, Merck, and Pfizer, which each tossed in more than \$9 million.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 5 of 51

Their arguments have a familiar ring, similar to ones the drug industry has used before when price controls edged too close to their bottom lines. They argue that government interference with prices could lead to higher drug costs, treatment delays and even denial of coverage. They say the proposal offers little guidance for implementation.

Their tactics are familiar too. They've enlisted the help of several patient advocacy groups to support their position – groups like the California Hepatitis C Task Force and the Lupus Foundation of Southern California, which have received recent drug industry contributions.

When Los Angeles Times business columnist David Lazarus asked Kathy Fairbanks, the spokeswoman for the "No Prop 61" campaign, if she'd characterize high drug prices as a problem for patients, she said no, that's not how she would put it. "It's an issue, how about that?" She added healthcare costs are top of mind for a lot of people, but "Proposition 61 isn't the answer."

It's fair to ask: Then what is it? Two other weaker attempts in California to "do something" about drug prices failed this year. One was a measure to require insurers to give detailed information about drug costs and drug makers to give notice of future price increases. The other would have required more transparency about research and development, production and marketing costs for drugs with a wholesale price of more than \$10,000 a year.

The battle is being fought on the airwaves, and voters are confused.

Money talks! The question remains: When will the needs of the public and the health system in general talk louder?

What do you think should be done to control drug prices? Write to Trudy at trudy.lieberman@gmail.com.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 6 of 51

Today in Weather History

October 25, 1954: A storm dumped snow over the region with the highest snowfall amounts at Devils Tower with sixteen inches. Other snowfall totals from the area included four inches in Colony and Faith, eight inches in Custer and Lead, and eleven inches in Spearfish.

1918: The Canadian steamship Princess Sophia carrying miners from the Yukon and Alaska becomes stranded on Vanderbilt Reef. A strong northerly gale hampers rescue attempts the day before. The ship sinks on this day, killing the 268 passengers and 75 crewmen on board.

1921 - A hurricane with 100 mph winds hit Tampa, FL, causing several million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1977 - Dutch Harbor in Alaska reported a barometric pressure reading of 27.31 inches (925 millibars) to establish an all-time record for the state. (The Weather Channel)

1981 - A northbound tornado caused two million dollars damage to Bountstown, FL, in less than five minutes. Fortunately no deaths occurred along its six mile path, which was 30 to 100 yards in width. Radar at Apalachicola had no indication of a tornado or severe weather. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A storm system moving across the Saint Lawrence Valley produced 40 to 50 mph winds east of Lake Ontario. High winds downed some trees around Watertown NY, and produced waves seven feet high between Henderson Harbor and Alexandria Bay. Mason City IA and Waterloo IA tied for honors as cold spot in the nation with record lows for the date of 19 degrees. Severe thunderstorms in Oklahoma and northern Texas produced golf ball size hail and wind gusts to 65 mph. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1988 - Severe thunderstorms erupted over northeastern Texas during the late evening producing softball size hail at Newcastle and Jonesboro. Low pressure over James Bay in Canada continued to produced showers and gale force winds in the Great Lakes Region. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Low pressure over Nevada produced high winds in the southwestern U.S., and spread heavy snow into Utah. Winds gusted to 63 mph at the Mojave Airport in southern California. Snowfall totals in Utah ranged up to 12 inches at Snowbird, with 11 inches at Alta. "Indian Summer" type weather continued in the central and eastern U.S. Twenty cities in the north central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Highs of 77 degrees at Alpena MI and 81 degrees at Saint Cloud MN were the warmest of record for so late in the season. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2008: A storm packing winds of more than 60 mph hits central Alberta. In Edmonton, the strongest October wind ever recorded reaches 64 mph, cutting power to 4,000. The winds blow loose sheet metal, parts of billboards, garbage cans and pieces of trees around the city.

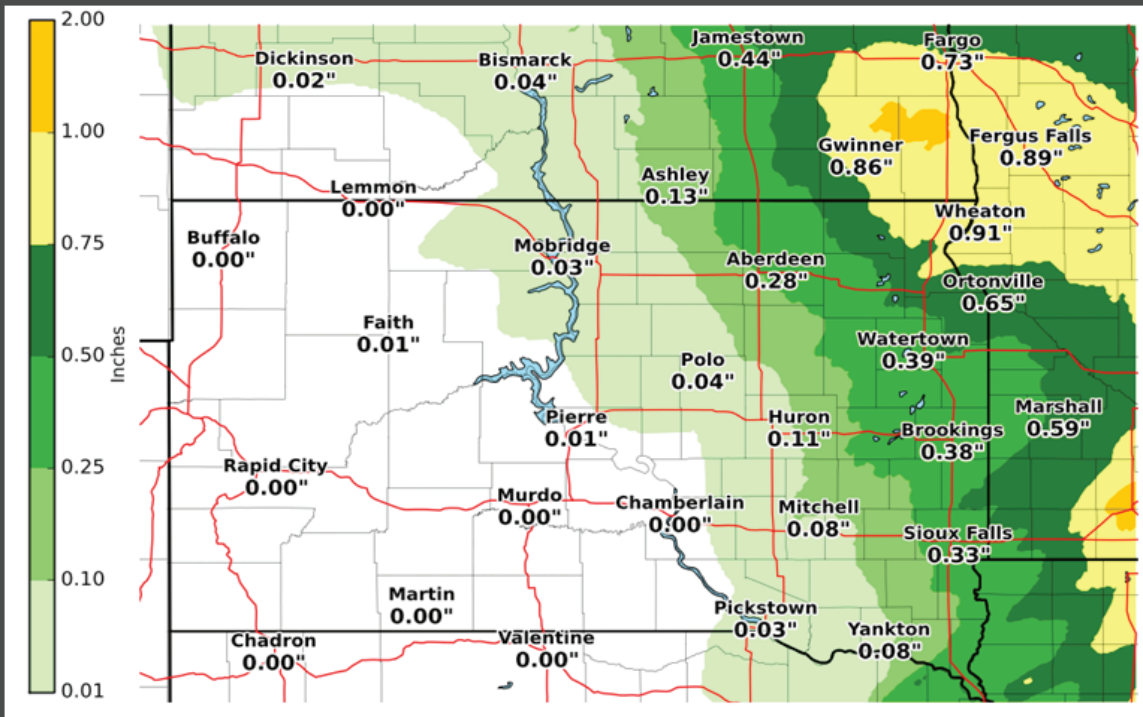
Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 7 of 51

Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
						
30% → 70%	60%					
Chance Showers then Showers Likely	Showers Likely	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny
High: 53 °F	Low: 43 °F	High: 54 °F	Low: 39 °F	High: 64 °F	Low: 45 °F	High: 63 °F



Possible Rainfall Amounts Today through Tonight



Published on: 10/25/2016 at 5:26AM

A storm system crossing the region will bring a good chance for showers today through tonight. Locations along and east of the James River valley will have the best potential of seeing widespread moderate rainfall. The storm system will push east of the region by Wednesday morning, leaving behind mostly cloudy skies.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 8 of 51

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 56.6 F at 3:28 PM

Low Outside Temp: 25.7 F at 7:31 AM

High Gust: 18.0 Mph at 10:22 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 81° in 1989

Record Low: 10° in 1942

Average High: 53°F

Average Low: 29°F

Average Precip in Oct.: 1.72

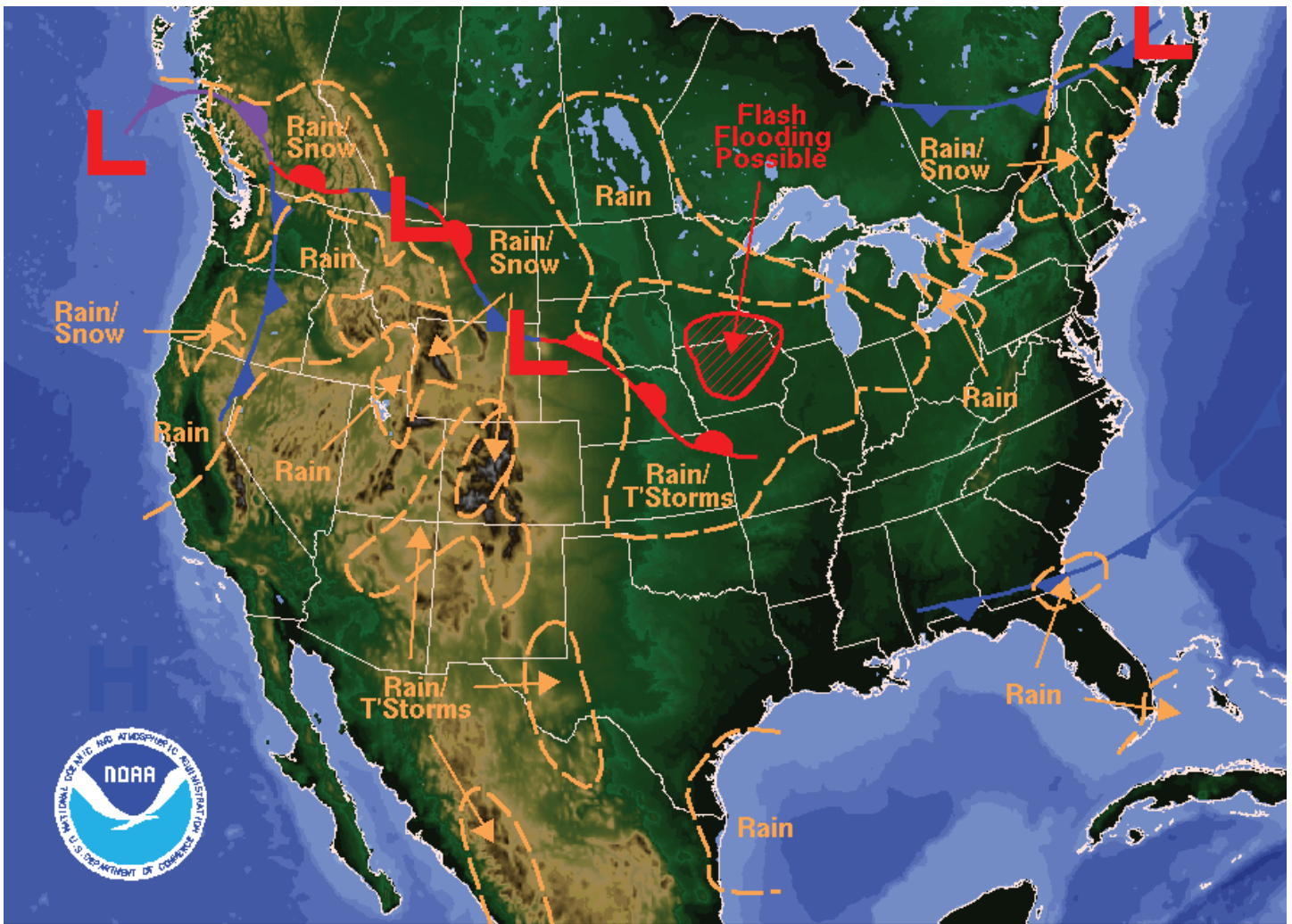
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.63

Average Precip to date: 20.20

Precip Year to Date: 13.83

Sunset Tonight: 6:30 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:05 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Tue, Oct 25, 2016, issued 4:41 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 9 of 51



WHAT'S IN A NUMBER?

When Harlan Sanders turned forty he realized that he could not point to anything in his life that could be considered a success. Whatever he attempted to do, failed. One day someone said to him, "Harlan, life begins at forty!" It jolted him in so much that it awakened his faith and he determined to begin again.

After a time of prayer he decided to open a service station. Shortly after its opening he added a luncheonette. One of his meals was fried chicken. To make it tastier he came up with a "special" batter and called it the Harlan Sanders' Kentucky Fried Chicken. People enjoyed it so much that they soon recommended it to their friends. It brought him fame and fortune and the Governor of Kentucky made him a "Kentucky Colonel." Soon people everywhere were buying the "Colonel's" Kentucky Fried Chicken.

By God's grace and the Colonel's faith, what had been a life of failure and frustration became a life with a future and personal fulfillment. But his new life did not begin at forty. It began when God became the main ingredient of his life's "recipe."

When God becomes the main "ingredient" in our life, everything will become new. With Him as the centerpiece and His Word as our guide, we can overcome any obstacle or difficulty that stands in the way of our success.

Prayer: Let us always remember, Lord, that all things are possible when we trust in You and desire to honor You with the gifts and talents You have given us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Philippians 4:13 I can do anything through him who gives me strength.

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**

News from the Associated Press

Protesters set up camp in project's path for the 1st time

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON** and **JAMES MacPHERSON**, Associated Press

CANNON BALL, N.D. (AP) — American Indians and others who oppose the construction of the Dakota Access oil pipeline have set up a new camp on private land in North Dakota, moving their long-running protest directly in the project's path for the first time.

Many of those gathered at the encampment Monday vowed they would stay put until the four-state pipeline is scrapped. The group erected tents and teepees over the weekend, arguing that the land, which was recently purchased by the pipeline development company, rightfully belongs to Native Americans under a more than century-old treaty.

"We never ceded this land," Joye Braun, a protest organizer, said.

But the local sheriff's office called it trespassing.

A spokeswoman said the office wouldn't immediately remove the more than 100 people because it didn't have the manpower. Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier said at a news conference Monday that authorities put out a call for help earlier this month and six states are sending officers. He would not say if the goal was to remove the protesters.

Safety remains the No. 1 priority, and authorities are attempting to negotiate with camp leaders, he said.

The development company, Texas-based Energy Transfer Partners, didn't return a request for comment Monday.

The \$3.8 billion pipeline, most of which has been completed, crosses through North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Illinois. Opponents worry about potential effects on drinking water on the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's reservation and farther downstream on the Missouri River, as well as destruction of cultural artifacts, including burial sites.

On Monday, dozens of people were milling around the new protest site, some cooking over campfires.

Loren Bagola, who joined the protest from the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota, said the demonstrators want to remain peaceful.

"We are here to pray for our ancestors that were desecrated and pray the pipeline people will find an alternative," he said. "We pray for their workers, too. We pray for police officers and their families. We all have one thing in common: We want clean drinking water."

But Vanessa Dundon, a Navajo from White Cone, Arizona, said the protesters were ready to use the hay bales and large logs stacked at the site to block the adjacent highway.

Protests have been going on in the area for months, including at a much larger encampment on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' land about a half-mile away.

Demonstrators do not have a federal permit to be on the Corps' land, but the agency has said it wouldn't evict them due to free speech reasons. Authorities have criticized that decision, saying the site has been a launching point for protests at construction sites in the area.

In September, protesters and private security clashed after construction crews removed topsoil on the ranch. Authorities said four security guards and two guard dogs were injured; the tribe says protesters reported that six people had been bitten by security dogs, and at least 30 people were pepper-sprayed.

More than 260 people have been arrested since demonstrations began in August, nearly half of whom were arrested over the weekend during a large protest at a pipeline construction site.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 11 of 51

Monday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Alcester-Hudson def. Viborg-Hurley, 25-11, 25-18, 25-16
Andes Central/Dakota Christian def. Gregory, 25-18, 25-9, 25-22
Avon def. Gayville-Volin, 25-16, 25-23, 25-12
Baltic def. Flandreau, 20-25, 25-20, 25-21, 25-21
Beresford def. Dell Rapids, 25-23, 17-25, 29-31, 25-20, 15-12
Bison def. Harding County, 21-25, 27-25, 22-25, 25-18, 15-11
Canistota def. Freeman, 21-25, 25-15, 25-6, 25-17
Castlewood def. Estelline, 25-22, 23-25, 25-11, 27-25
Chester def. Arlington, 27-25, 19-25, 25-11, 25-6
Corsica/Stickney def. Mitchell Christian, 20-25, 25-21, 14-25, 26-24, 15-13
Custer def. St. Thomas More, 25-16, 24-26, 25-15, 25-11
Dakota Valley def. Tea Area, 16-25, 25-9, 25-21, 25-11
DeSmet def. Dell Rapids St. Mary, 25-10, 25-13, 25-11
Deubrook def. Florence/Henry, 25-15, 13-25, 25-19, 22-25, 21-19
Douglas def. Belle Fourche, 25-23, 25-19, 27-25
Ethan def. Tripp-Delmont/Armour, 25-17, 25-13, 25-11
Faith def. Newell, 25-10, 25-5, 25-18
Hamlin def. Sisseton, 25-18, 25-14, 25-21
Hanson def. McCook Central/Montrose, 25-22, 25-23, 28-30, 26-24
Herreid/Selby Area def. Ipswich, 18-25, 25-13, 25-22, 25-12
Jones County def. Chamberlain, 25-23, 25-19, 25-22
Kimball/White Lake def. Colome, 27-25, 19-25, 25-16, 25-17
Lemmon def. Dupree, 25-23, 25-20, 25-23
Lyman def. Stanley County, 25-21, 29-27, 25-10
Madison def. Parkston, 22-25, 25-21, 25-18, 25-18
Menno def. Scotland, 25-12, 16-25, 25-20, 25-19
Milbank Area def. Groton Area, 18-25, 23-25, 25-20, 25-11, 15-13
Miller def. Highmore-Harrold, 25-16, 25-13, 25-9
Mitchell def. Pierre, 25-16, 25-22, 25-20
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Sanborn Central/Woonsocket, 18-25, 25-12, 25-16, 25-23
Northwestern def. Leola/Frederick, 25-15, 25-12, 25-3
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland def. Colman-Egan, 25-20, 25-18, 27-25
Parker def. Howard, 25-10, 25-19, 25-20
Philip def. New Underwood, 25-18, 25-13, 25-17
Pine Ridge def. Edgemont, 25-23, 21-25, 25-27, 25-22, 15-12
Potter County def. Eureka/Bowdle, 25-7, 25-18, 25-18
Rapid City Christian def. Kadoka Area, 19-25, 25-14, 25-20, 20-25, 15-11
Redfield/Doland def. Clark/Willow Lake, 22-25, 25-23, 25-17, 25-21
Sioux Falls Christian def. Lennox, 26-24, 25-3, 25-12
Sioux Valley def. Garretson, 25-5, 25-16, 25-13
Spearfish def. Lead-Deadwood, 25-16, 16-25, 23-25, 25-20, 15-9
Timber Lake def. Edmunds Central, 25-9, 25-5, 25-9
Valentine, Neb. def. Bennett County, 25-18, 25-23, 25-20
Wagner def. Burke/South Central, 25-22, 25-17, 25-18
Waverly-South Shore def. Great Plains Lutheran, 25-21, 28-26, 25-18
Webster def. Tiospa Zina Tribal, 25-11, 25-11, 25-8

West Central def. Tri-Valley, 27-25, 25-18, 25-18
White River def. St. Francis Indian, 25-18, 25-23, 25-19
Winner def. Platte-Geddes, 25-23, 25-18, 10-25, 25-18
Wolsey-Wessington def. Lake Preston, 25-23, 25-15, 25-17

With treaty claim, pipeline protesters move to private land

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON** and **JAMES MacPHERSON**, Associated Press

CANNON BALL, N.D. (AP) — The long-running dispute over the Dakota Access oil pipeline expanded to private land recently purchased by the pipeline builders, with protesters who say the area rightfully belongs to Native Americans setting up camp and vowing to stay put until the project is stopped.

The protesters erected tents and teepees on the property along the pipeline route over the weekend. The local sheriff's office called it trespassing, but said it wouldn't immediately remove the more than 100 people because it didn't have the manpower.

"We can't right now," Morton County sheriff's spokeswoman Donnell Preskey told The Associated Press.

Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier said at a news conference Monday that authorities put out a call for help earlier this month and Wisconsin, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming, Indiana and Nebraska are sending officers.

Kirchmeier would not say if the goal was to remove the protesters. Safety remains the No. 1 priority, and authorities are attempting to negotiate with camp leaders, he said.

The land is owned by pipeline developer Energy Transfer Partners, which bought it last month from a rancher for an undisclosed price. The Texas-based company did not immediately respond to an email seeking comment Monday.

The protesters, many of whom are Native Americans who have been demonstrating against the four-state pipeline for months, said in a statement Sunday that the land is theirs by an 1851 treaty and they won't leave until the pipeline is stopped.

"We never ceded this land," Joye Braun, a protest organizer said in a statement.

The \$3.8 billion pipeline, most of which has been completed, crosses through North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Illinois. Opponents worry about potential effects on drinking water on the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's reservation and farther downstream on the Missouri River, as well as destruction of cultural artifacts, including burial sites.

On Monday, dozens of people were milling around the site, some cooking over campfires.

Loren Bagola, who joined the protest from the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota, said the demonstrators want to remain peaceful.

"We are here to pray for our ancestors that were desecrated and pray the pipeline people will find an alternative," he said. "We pray for their workers too. We pray for police officers and their families. We all have one thing in common: We want clean drinking water."

But Vanessa Dundon, a Navajo from White Cone, Arizona, said the protesters were ready to use the hay bales and large logs stacked at the site to block the adjacent highway.

The ranch purchased by the company last month is more than a century old and is within a half-mile of a larger encampment on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' land where the Standing Rock Sioux and hundreds of others have gathered in protest.

Protesters do not have a federal permit to be on the corps' land, but the agency said it wouldn't evict them due to free speech reasons. Authorities have criticized that decision, saying the site has been a launching point for protests at construction sites in the area.

In September, protesters and private security clashed after construction crews removed topsoil on the ranch. The incident came one day after the Standing Rock Sioux filed court papers saying it found several sites of "significant cultural and historic value" along the pipeline's path.

Authorities said four security guards and two guard dogs were injured; the tribe says protesters reported that six people had been bitten by security dogs, and at least 30 people were pepper-sprayed.

More than 260 people have been arrested since demonstrations began in August, nearly half of whom

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 13 of 51

were arrested over the weekend during a large protest at a pipeline construction site.

North Dakota Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem has asked the company to explain its purchase of the ranch and how it complies with the state's Depression-era anti-corporate farming law.

North Dakota law generally bars corporations from owning agricultural land unless the property is controlled by a farm family, though there are some exceptions.

The company said in a letter delivered to Stenehjem's office Monday that it purchased the land "in an effort to enhance safety of its workers." The company said it would transfer ownership of the land or use it "for some other use" that complies with state law after the pipeline is built.

Trial of man accused of shooting Patrol trooper being moved

CHAMBERLAIN, S.D. (AP) — Trial for a Kimball man accused of shooting a South Dakota Highway Patrol trooper nearly two years ago is being moved out of Brule County to better ensure an impartial jury.

The Daily Republic reports (<http://bit.ly/2eK84R5>) that Judge Bruce Anderson on Friday agreed to move the trial of 43-year-old Donald London, possibly to the Tripp County town of Winner.

Anderson didn't immediately rule on a defense request to dismiss the case.

London has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity to charges including attempted murder in the January 2015 shooting of Patrol Sgt. John Koenig, who recovered.

London's 67-year-old father, Michael London, had been accused of aiding in the assault before he died a year ago.

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

South Dakota Volleyball Polls

By The Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Here is the South Dakota Sportswriters Association volleyball poll for the week of Oct. 17, 2016. Teams are listed with first place votes in parenthesis, record, points and previous ranking:

Class AA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs
1. Harrisburg (9)		18-2	45	1
2. Roosevelt -		18-9	36	2
3. Stevens -		21-7	26	3
4. Mitchell -		16-5	19	4
5. Huron -		15-7	8	RV

Others receiving votes: O'Gorman 17-12.

Class A

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Dakota Valley (7)		(7)	25-2	43	1
2. S.F. Christian (2)		(2)	23-4	38	2
3. Custer -		31-0	24	4	
4. Bon Homme -		-	23-4	20	3
5. Mobridge-Pollock -		-	21-5	10	5

Others receiving votes: None.

Class B

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Northwestern (9)		(9)	28-1	45	1
2. Warner -		-	25-4	35	2

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 14 of 51

3. Chester Area	-	20-6	26	3
4. Sully Buttes	-	26-1	19	4
5. Parker	-	21-5	10	5

Others receiving votes: None.

South Dakota asked to fill juvenile justice reform gaps

ST. LOUIS, S.D. (AP) — A year and a half after the governor signed a package of juvenile justice reforms, school administrators in South Dakota say the law gives them few options for addressing students' lesser offenses, such as skipping class.

Students cited for such misconduct would have faced probation or juvenile detention two years ago, the Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2dDayjt>) reported. Currently, the consequence is a \$100 fine and two additional strikes before more serious consequences.

"To miss (school) and only pay a fine or ticket, they probably don't see that as a significant consequence," said James Nold, assistant superintendent for the Sioux Falls School District. "So then they continue to do what they're doing."

The overhaul was intended to divert students from detention centers and into counseling programs.

Education leaders said they support that goal, but some said the state has yet to fund or set the alternatives to detention.

"If we're going to save money on the incarceration, then we would like to see that money invested ... whether it's a diversion program (or) counseling," West Central Superintendent Jeff Danielsen said.

The intention was to implement four types of the community-based counseling programs. But only one of the programs has been implemented so far.

A group of school administrators from the Sioux Falls area met with lawmakers, state officials and local law enforcement last week to discuss shortcomings. Another meeting is scheduled for Wednesday.

Rep. Mark Mickelson said he anticipates an "amicable process" toward finding a solution.

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

Habitat for Humanity to deconstruct Rapid City homes

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The Black Hills Area Habitat for Humanity says it plans to deconstruct several homes and buildings in Rapid City, rather than build them.

Pennington County is donating a row of homes for the project, and Habitat for Humanity will tear down the structures to create part to be sold through its retail outlet or used in future home projects.

Executive director Scott Engmann told The Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/2dGZISa>) that the group will pull out items like doors, trim, old plumbing fixtures, cabinets and flooring. Engmann said the county's donation of the properties helps to fill the need for more affordable housing and keeps materials out of landfills.

He said this is a unique opportunity because the organization usually gets to deconstruct one home at a time.

"The ReStore recycling process extends the life of our landfills by reducing the amount of materials dumped," Engmann said. "The combined recycling impact of our Black Hills stores, not including material sold to consumers, is an estimated 50 tons per year, the equivalent of 40 Honda Civics."

The county plans to use the area where most of the homes are currently located for a parking lot to serve new facilities planned for the former National American University building.

County Attorney Jay Alderman says the structures left behind by the nonprofit organization will provide training for police and fire officials who don't normally get the chance to train.

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

Northern State University gets \$35 million in donations

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — Northern State University in Aberdeen has received two donations of \$20 million and \$15 million that will be used to help finish a new academic building and two new residence halls in the next few years.

The \$20 million gift will be used for the new dorms. The university also received a \$20 million interest-free loan for a new math and science building where the football practice field is currently located, according to The Aberdeen News (<http://bit.ly/2e8bm2t>).

University president Timothy Downs says the math and science building, which was first proposed with a \$35 million budget in 2015, will be a gateway on campus. A proposed timeline calls for regents to give final approval for the building's design in September 2017.

The sources of the donations are anonymous, but Downs says they'll probably become public sometime this month.

The elimination of the practice field has renewed a conversation about the potential for a new on-campus stadium. Football coach Tom Dosch said there is hope for an on-campus stadium, but there are no immediate plans.

"We are going to see what all the options are, but an on-campus stadium is ultimately what we are shooting for and not just for football. The idea would be to use it for a lot of different things campus-wide, (soccer), intramurals and everything. We would obviously be a part of that. That is the vision and what we are shooting for, but there are a lot of things that have to happen," Dosch said.

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

Madison man sentenced to 50 years in death of 3-year-old boy

MADISON, S.D. (AP) — A Madison man has been sentenced to serve 50 years in prison for the death of a 3-year-old boy in his care a year ago.

Twenty-two-year-old Jacob Meinders was charged with murder and other counts in a September 2015 incident in which the boy was found injured at a Madison residence and taken to a Sioux Falls hospital, where he later died.

Meinders initially reported the boy had fallen down a flight of stairs. Authorities determined the boy had been physically abused.

Meinders pleaded guilty last month to manslaughter, and prosecutors dropped murder and abuse counts. The Daily Leader reports (<http://bit.ly/2eC3w1K>) that Meinders was sentenced Friday to 75 years in prison with 25 years suspended. He also was ordered to pay \$16,300 in restitution.

Information from: The Madison Daily Leader, <http://www.madisondailyleader.com>

Militants attack Pakistan police academy, killing 59

By ABDUL SATTAR, Associated Press

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP) — Militants wearing suicide vests stormed a Pakistani police academy in the southwestern city of Quetta overnight, killing at least 59 people, mostly police cadets and recruits, and waging a ferocious gunbattle with troops that lasted into early hours Tuesday.

Pakistani officials feared the death toll could rise further, as the four-hours-long siege — one of the deadliest attacks on Pakistan's security forces in recent years — left 117 wounded, some of them in critical condition.

The assault caught many of the recruits asleep in their dorms and forced cadets and trainers to jump off rooftops and run for their lives to escape the attackers.

By mid-day Tuesday, conflicting claims of responsibility emerged. The Islamic State group, which is waging war in Syria and Iraq where it has declared a self-styled caliphate, posted a claim on the group's media arm, the Arabic-language Amaq news agency. It said three IS fighters killed 60 police recruits in

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 16 of 51

Quetta but the claim was not confirmed by Pakistani officials and IS did not offer any previously unknown details about the assault.

Earlier, a little-known breakaway faction of the Pakistani Taliban, known as the Hakimullah group, also issued a statement claiming responsibility for the attack. Pakistani officials, doubting the group's capabilities in staging such a coordinated and spectacular assault, also could not confirm that claim.

While most of the casualties were police cadets and others at the academy, some of the army personnel who responded to the assault were also among those killed, said Shahzada Farhat, police spokesman in Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan province.

The attack in Quetta began at 11:30 p.m. on Monday, said Baluchistan Home Minister Sarfraz Bugti, with the militants shooting and killing a police guard at the watch tower before storming into the academy, located on the outskirts of Quetta.

Baluchistan officials had earlier received "intelligence reports that some terrorists have entered the province" but had no indications about possible targets.

"We had tightened security, which is why they could not do it in the city and chose a target on the outskirts," said Baluchistan's chief minister, Sanaullah Zehri.

There were also disparate figures as to the number of attackers. Provincial police chief Ahsan Mahboob said four gunmen were involved in the assault while a military statement later said there were up to six attackers.

About 700 cadets, trainees, instructors and other staff were inside the academy when it was attacked, Bugti said, adding that the gunbattle with the militants lasted for at least four hours.

Once inside the academy grounds, Pakistani media said the gunmen headed straight to the dorms housing the cadets and trainees and opened fire, shooting indiscriminately. Some of the cadets jumped off the rooftops and through windows to try to escape.

"They were rushing toward our building, firing," one cadet told Pakistani Geo TV news channel. "We rushed for safety toward the roof and jumped down in the back of the building."

Another recruit, his face covered in blood, told the station the gunmen shot at whoever they saw. "I ran away, just praying God might save me," he said.

After the attack, Pakistani forces tightened security around the academy and Quetta hospitals where the wounded were taken. Footage aired on local television stations showed ambulances rushing out of the main entrance of the academy as fire engines struggled to put out fires set off by the explosions from the attackers' suicide vests.

Most of those being treated at the city hospitals had gunshot wounds, although some sustained injuries jumping off the rooftop of the hostel housing the cadets to escape the gunmen.

"This war isn't over," said Pakistani Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan. "The enemy is weakened, but not eliminated."

Maj. Gen. Sher Afgan, head of the Pakistani paramilitary force which is primarily responsible for the province, claimed the attackers had received instructions from commanders in neighboring Afghanistan. He said they were most likely from the banned Lashker-e-Jhangvi Al-Almi militant group affiliated with al-Qaida and the Taliban. The Sunni militant group has mainly targeted minority Shiite Muslims whom its members consider to be infidels.

The paramilitary chief spoke before the Islamic State and the Hakimullah group's claims surfaced.

Afghanistan condemned the attack and dismissed Pakistan's allegations that the assault was planned from bases inside Afghanistan. "Afghanistan is the biggest victim of terrorism and denounces all terrorist attacks," said Mohammad Haroon Chakhansuri, spokesman for Afghan President Ashraf Ghani.

In a separate statement, Ghani also condemned the attack, saying that "terrorism is a threat throughout the region, which is reflected in the brutal act today in Quetta."

Pakistan maintains that militants fleeing army operations in the tribal regions regularly escape across the border, finding safe havens inside Afghanistan. For his part, Ghani has been deeply critical of Pakistan, saying it has provided safe havens to the Taliban and in particular the violent Haqqani network.

For over a decade, Baluchistan has been the scene of a low-intensity insurgency by nationalist and sepa-

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 17 of 51

ratist groups demanding a bigger share in the regional resources. Islamic militants and Sunni sectarian also have a presence in the province.

Pakistan has carried out several military operations against militants in country's lawless tribal regions along Afghanistan border, including a major push that started mid 2014 in North Waziristan, a militant base. The Islamic militants have killed tens of thousands of people in their bid to overthrow Pakistan's government and install their own harsh brand of Islamic law.

Later Tuesday, a roadside bomb killed a police official escorting a polio team that was travelling in north-western Pakistan as part of a vaccination campaign, according to Furqan Bilal, a police superintendent in Peshawar. Militant attacks on polio teams are common in Pakistan as Taliban and other extremists denounce such vaccination campaigns as a Western conspiracy.

Associated Press Writers Zarar Khan and Asif Shahzad in Islamabad; Riaz Khan in Peshawar; Ishtiaq Mahsud in Dera Ismail Khan, Pakistan, and Amir Shah in Kabul, Afghanistan, contributed to this report.

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

1. DEATH TOLL IN PAKISTAN POLICE ACADEMY ATTACK RISES

Militants storm a police training center in restive Baluchistan province, opening fire, detonating explosive vests and killing 59, authorities say.

2. AMERICA FAR FROM UNITED

AP surveyed the country over the past half year and found a country caught up in a toxic presidential campaign that magnified its disagreements, and left it longing for harmony.

3. THREATENED IN MOSUL, IS USES ALTERNATIVE TACTICS

Last week's assault on Kirkuk offers a glimpse at the kind of asymmetrical and bloody response the Islamic State group might mount as Iraqi forces converge on its last major urban bastion in the country.

4. HOW AUTISM IN GIRLS MAY HELP REVEAL DISORDER'S SECRETS

AP finds that many girls with autism have social skills that can mask the condition and some girls do not show symptoms even when they have the same genetic mutations seen in boys.

5. VOTER ROLL PROBLEMS DO NOT EQUATE TO FRAUD

An AP Fact Check finds Trump's claims of flaws in voter data accurately reflect numbers contained in a four-year-old report, but do not equate to proof of widespread fraud or election rigging.

6. TRUMP BRAND LOSES LUSTER WITH AFFLUENT

After a tumultuous run up to the election, there's evidence that the billionaire businessman's brand is being tarnished.

7. DEADLY ACCIDENT AT AUSTRALIAN AMUSEMENT PARK

Two men and two women were killed while on a river rapids ride at Dreamworld, a popular theme park in Queensland state's Gold Coast, police say.

8. DANGEROUS AIR BAGS STILL NOT REPAIRED

Owners of more than 300,000 Hondas have yet to get their air bags fixed, despite warnings from the automaker and regulators.

9. WHAT OBAMA SAID ABOUT TRUMP'S TWEET

On "Jimmy Kimmel Live," the president countered the Republican's claim that he "will go down as perhaps the worst president in the history of the United States" by saying, "... at least I will go down as a president."

10. CLEVELAND WILL BE CENTER OF AMERICAN SPORTS UNIVERSE

As the Cavs receive championship rings and raise a banner to celebrate their NBA title, the Indians will host Game 1 of the World Series against the Cubs.

AP FACT CHECK: Voter roll problems do not equate to fraud

By CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Donald Trump has warned for weeks of a “rigged” election, telling his supporters to watch out for large-scale voter fraud — despite a lack of evidence that it exists. In the past few days, Trump has specifically raised concerns about people fraudulently voting using the names of dead people and cited research showing 1.8 million deceased people are still listed on state voter rolls.

Here’s a look at Trump’s latest claim and what the facts show:

TRUMP:

During a campaign rally Saturday in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Trump brought up his concerns about voter fraud, saying “the system is totally rigged and broken.”

He added: “According to Pew, there are 24 million voter registrations in the United States that are either invalid or significantly inaccurate, and when I say that, there are such inaccuracies it’s unbelievable. 1.8 million dead people are registered to vote. And some of them are voting. I wonder how that happens. 2.8 million people are registered in more than one state. These are numbers, folks, these are numbers.”

THE FACTS:

The Pew Center on the States issued a report in 2012 saying the nation’s voter registration system was “plagued with errors and inefficiencies that waste taxpayer dollars, undermine voter confidence, and fuel partisan disputes over the integrity of our elections.” The report urged states to expand online voter registration and other online tools to allow voters to update their information, saying paper-based systems presented several opportunities for errors.

Trump correctly cited Pew’s findings in that report, which found that approximately 24 million, or one of every eight, voter registrations were no longer valid or significantly inaccurate and that more than 1.8 million deceased individuals were listed as voters. He also was correct in noting that approximately 2.7 million people have registrations in more than one state.

However, a majority of states have taken action in recent years to address concerns raised in the Pew report. In addition, the Pew report does not say that any of the inaccuracies led to a system that is vulnerable to widespread voter fraud.

In an update posted last week on its website, the Pew Center said election officials have worked to upgrade their voter registration systems.

It noted that 40 states now provide or have passed legislation allowing for online voter registration and 20 states have signed up for the Electronic Registration Information Center. That system is administered by the states and alerts election officials to cases in which a voter’s information may be out of date.

The system has contacted more than 4.5 million people who had moved, but not updated their voter registration information, according to Pew.

Ohio is among the states that participate in the program. Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted, a Republican, has said voter fraud is rare and has pushed back against Trump’s claims the election could be compromised. An estimated 515,000 deceased voters have been removed from Ohio’s registration records since Husted took office in 2011.

There have been isolated cases in which ballots have been cast in the name of a deceased individual, including two instances in 2012 in Husted’s Ohio.

In one case, a 54-year-old nun pleaded guilty to a charge of illegal voting after acknowledging she filled out an absentee ballot on behalf of a fellow nun who had recently died. The other involved allegations that a 75-year-old man had cast an absentee ballot on behalf of his recently deceased wife.

“We’ve been working hard to keep Ohio’s voter rolls as up-to-date and accurate as possible so that only eligible voters are registered and casting ballots,” said Joshua Eck, Husted’s spokesman. “As Secretary Husted commonly says, voter fraud happens — it’s rare — and when we catch it, we hold people accountable.”

Experts say cases of voter fraud involving dead people are isolated. They also say it would be an inefficient way to rig a presidential election, given that the fraud would have to be conducted one voter at a time

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 19 of 51

and would be effective only in places where the race is close enough that the outcome could be swayed.

There are more than 9,000 election jurisdictions nationwide and hundreds of thousands of polling places.

"Although entertaining, every time there are claims of hordes of dead people voting, those claims are debunked upon closer scrutiny," said Wendy Weiser, head of the democracy program at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU's School of Law. "There has been no incident in recent memory in which people were able to impact an election by mobilizing fraudsters to impersonate dead people at the polls."

Weiser said a more pressing concern is that living people are sometimes mistakenly identified as dead and removed from a state's voter registration database, posing a challenge to them voting legally on Election Day.

Follow Christina Almeida Cassidy on Twitter at: http://twitter.com/AP_Christina .

Trump brand loses luster with affluent

By MAE ANDERSON and BERNARD CONDON, AP Business Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — Event planner Beth Bernstein decided she had had enough with Donald Trump after his 2005 hot-mic boasts about groping women came to light earlier this month. She removed photos of weddings she had thrown at a Trump hotel in Chicago from her website, wrote to hotel staff to remove her from the list of "preferred vendors" and posted a sort of call to arms on her blog.

"I simply cannot bring myself to walk in the door there any longer," wrote the owner of SQN Events.

Bernstein is not alone. Rates for rooms at Trump's new D.C. hotel are being slashed as travelers weigh their options, and smartphone data suggest fewer people are visiting his properties compared to rival venues nearby.

The Republican nominee for president is in danger of losing not just the election, but something dear to a man who claims the marketing value of his name alone is worth \$3 billion: the many customers, mostly wealthy, who have stayed at his hotels, played a round at his golf courses or held galas at his oceanside resorts.

Experts say the Trump brand is tarnished and at a tricky crossroads as his appeal shifts from the well-heeled, high-income people he has long courted to a more middle-class base, including the fervent fans he cultivated during the campaign.

There is speculation that he could start a Trump media network as a right-wing alternative to major news outlets, drawing money from advertisers to make up for any weakness in his empire elsewhere. But he may have to pivot fast.

"The current trajectory is very harmful to his businesses," said Scott Galloway, a marketing professor at New York University. "Right now his brands cater to the affluent, who are disproportionately turned off by his activities."

Ever confident, the business mogul has denied his campaign has dimmed the gilded allure of his five-lettered name and has said, if anything, it has burnished the brand and boosted his business. In a statement, Amanda Miller, vice president of marketing at the Trump Organization, said: "The Trump brand remains incredibly strong and we are seeing tremendous success across business units."

That's not clear, though, at Trump's new hotel in Washington, which Trump has declared the "best" in the city. It appears to have gotten off to a slow start.

A room at the Trump International Hotel with a king size bed and a city view could have been yours any night of the week starting Nov. 14 for about \$505 or \$555, according to a check of the hotel's website last week. By contrast, five major luxury competitors in the city generally charged more — sometimes hundreds of dollars more — or were sold out. For instance, the St. Regis only had rooms starting at \$975 on Monday and Tuesday. The Four Seasons in Georgetown had no rooms available at any price for those days, and the Jefferson Hotel for those two days plus Wednesday.

Rates at the Trump hotel have continued to sink, too: By the end of last week, the price of many Trump rooms had been cut by 10 percent or more.

The managing director of Trump's new hotel, which the candidate will formally open with a ribbon-cutting

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 20 of 51

on Wednesday, disputes that it is struggling.

"With 10 years of experience with Trump Hotels, I can easily say the opening of Trump International Hotel, Washington, D.C., has been the most successful in terms of opening bookings, interest from groups and large events," said Mickael Damelinourt in a statement. "The building itself is an American icon, and we've created a world-class hotel with the largest luxury ballroom in Washington, D.C."

Some customers are clearly turned off by Trump's derogatory remarks about women and immigrants, though, and the fallout is spreading beyond the hotels.

A woman angry about Trump's groping comments, and that his daughter still supports him, has created the hashtag "GrabYourWallet" on Twitter to boycott the Ivanka Trump Collection, which includes handbags, shoes, jewelry and clothes. On Monday alone it was viewed more than half a million times.

Some charities, including the Susan G. Komen Foundation are considering moving events from Trump's properties, including the Mar-A-Lago Club in Palm Beach, Florida. The U.S. Golf Association faces pressure from protests to move the 2017 U.S. Women's Open from a course owned by Trump, although no decisions have been made.

It's difficult to know how any future loss of hotel bookings and weddings, charity galas and tournaments could hurt Trump, because his businesses are privately held. But he is vulnerable because so much rides on his name. Unlike his golf courses, in which he has heavily invested, many Trump hotels and residential towers are owned by others who pay him to place his name over the entrance and for marketing and management services — and could possibly cut him out someday.

That's already being threatened at Trump Place in Manhattan. A petition to remove his name from the building, which he does not own, has gotten 328 names in a few days. One of the signers, Marjorie Jacobs, said the pressure has already led to new uniforms for doormen and other staff, ones that will no longer bear the Trump name.

"He's disgusting, and people are embarrassed to say where they live," she said.

Brand Keys, a research firm that polled 1,536 registered voters nationwide, said Trump's comments about groping women has sent the premium you can charge for something bearing the Trump name down sharply.

"How consumers feel about the brand and whether or not they're more or less likely to engage with it has been affected," said Robert Passikoff, president of Brand Keys. "People see a brand that had an image based on a glamorous lifestyle and a lot of money, and that is being reevaluated by people."

Foursquare, which tracks people's locations via their smartphones, said share of foot traffic at Trump branded businesses is down since Trump started his run in June 2015. Prior to Trump's presidential bid, foot traffic to his golf properties, hotels, resorts and other properties, both those owned by him and those just bearing his name, was steady year-over-year. According to its most recent data, share of foot traffic was down 19 percent in September, compared with 2014, before Trump announced his candidacy.

In a statement, Eric Danziger, CEO of Trump Hotels, a collection of more than dozen hotels, called the Foursquare data "manipulated" and "inconsequential," and said it does not "provide an accurate representation of our performance."

Not all the data point to a slowdown. After several big-name brands including NBC, Macy's and others severed ties in July 2015 following Trump's derogatory remarks about Mexican immigrants, but there has been no similar high-profile exodus since.

And the home listing site Streeteasy compared prices for Trump-branded condos in 16 buildings in Manhattan to similar ones nearby and has found no evidence the brand has been damaged. In fact, Trump condos sold for 5.6 percent more in August than they did a year earlier, versus a drop for rivals.

Still, there's evidence of a shift of Trump's demographic base, from the affluent to the more aspirational middle class.

Will Johnson, an analyst at research firm BAV Consulting, which monitors brand perception for 3,500 brands, said that the Trump brand was "collapsing" among people with a household income of over \$100,000 a year.

"He really has alienated the upper socioeconomic group and the data has consistently shown that he is

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 21 of 51

down on pretty much all the metrics we measure," Johnson said. "He's low on trust and high on arrogance."

On the other hand, his brand is resonating more among those who make less than \$100,000 a year. During the first nine months of the year, among that group, there was a 21 percent rise in people who think Donald Trump "cares about customers" and a 14 percent increase in those who think he is a "visionary," according to BAV.

Some say Trump could capitalize on that shift.

"In the short run, business gets damaged, but in the long run there's a lot of opportunity with less aspirational brands that target the middle- and lower-class," NYU's Galloway said. "I think the Trump brand effectively dies in a Manhattan, but it thrives in some of the lower income, very red regions."

One way to do that: start a conservative media network, as some analysts have floated.

"He could start the ultimate 'bro' news network that caters to his core constituency," Galloway said. "He could out-offend Fox."

One hurdle: He would have to get a major cable or satellite company to give him bandwidth, and there isn't much to go around. He could launch on a smaller scale on social media using Facebook or YouTube.

The biggest test of the brand, of course, will come Nov. 8. National polls show Hillary Clinton with a clear advantage over Trump, and possibly winning even traditional Republican states such as Arizona.

"I think at some point, probably after he loses the election, that we'll do a reevaluation of what the brand means and what the brand stands for," Brand Key's Passikoff said. "You can't continue the kind of activities and have these revelations without significantly affecting how the people see the brand. The man and the brand are inseparable."

AP Business Writer Scott Mayerowitz in New York contributed to this report.

Cleveland's Ontario Street center of sports world Tuesday

By TOM WITHERS, AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — Always up for a party, Cleveland's about to rock like never before.

For more than 50 years, fans agonized while waiting for one their three major professional teams to win a championship, a drought that defined the city and its people. All the parades, the trophy presentations, the visits to the White House happened for other teams, in other places.

Cleveland was always left out. Those days are done.

And on Tuesday night, Cleveland will be center stage for the sports universe with a celebration that once seemed inconceivable.

The spotlight has never been so warm or welcoming.

LeBron James and the Cavaliers got Cleveland's first championship since 1964 by beating Golden State with a historic comeback in the NBA Finals in June. The Cavs will receive their rings and raise a banner at Quicken Loans Arena before their season opener Tuesday night against the New York Knicks, and the emotional ceremony will be but a first act.

Thirty minutes later next door at Progressive Field, the Indians will host the Chicago Cubs in Game 1 of the World Series.

It's an almost unimaginable doubleheader on Ontario Street. Two Cleveland teams at the top of their games — a dream beyond dreams for fans.

"There won't be any place better in the sports world than Cleveland, and a lot of people in Cleveland have been waiting a long time to hear those words," said Indians second baseman Jason Kipnis. "It will be the No. 1 place to be in sports. What a special day."

Even fans without tickets for either event are expected to flood downtown because of a concert across from the Q by rapper Wiz Khalifa.

Plus, there will be dessert. Blue Bunny Ice Cream delivered after James said last week that the night could be made better by ice cream trucks in the streets — a sweet treat on a sweet night.

Croton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 22 of 51

For so long, championships remained just out of reach as the Cavs, Indians and Browns took turns breaking Cleveland's heart in the postseason.

But with their unexpected comeback to unseat the champion Warriors, the Cavs put Cleveland on top — and the city is enjoying the view.

Nearly one million people showed up for the Cavs' parade, pouring off the sidewalks on to the streets to show their affection for James and his teammates, who will always have the distinction of being drought busters. But the Cavs' victory did more, releasing a sense of civic pride that was on display while Cleveland hosted the Republic National Convention and right through the summer as the Indians began their run toward an AL pennant.

The potential conflict between the ceremony and Game 1 of the Series first appeared in August when Major League Baseball released its postseason schedule. Back then, the possibility was met with the usual skepticism from locals, who muttered it was only a matter of time before the Indians buckled. Well, not only did they not collapse, they ran away with the AL Central and have gone 7-1 in the postseason.

Now, it feels like the celebration was meant to be.

Until last week, there was a conundrum for Cleveland fans torn over being able to enjoy both events because they were starting simultaneously. But the NBA pushed the Cavs' ceremony up 30 minutes, allowing fans extra time to recover from one big moment and get ready for the next.

For many Clevelanders, that will require putting away their tissues before grabbing their Indians rally towel.

The images of the Cavs closing out Game 7 remain vivid to Cavs coach Tyronn Lue, who broke down in the mayhem after the horn sounded at Oracle Arena. Four months later, he's still touched by the video highlights of Kyrie Irving's 3-pointer, James' chase-down block on Andre Iguodala and Kevin Love pestering Warriors star Stephen Curry into a miss.

"I'm probably going to cry again," Lue said. "Every time I see, even during preseason, every time I see those last plays, guys celebrating and crying, it just sends chills through my body. I'm pretty sure that on opening night it's going to be even more than that. It's going to be an emotional night, I know that and I'm going to enjoy it also. It's going to be one of those nights. It's a great night. Who wouldn't want to be in that position as an NBA player or NBA coach?"

"It's going to be a great night for us."

And for all of Cleveland.

Obama reads mean tweets as part of Jimmy Kimmel show

LOS ANGELES (AP) — President Barack Obama entertained Jimmy Kimmel's audience with some of the mean tweets sent his way, beginning with one sent by Donald Trump in August when he said "President Obama will go down as perhaps the worst president in the history of the United States."

Obama's reply: "Really? Well, @realDonaldTrump, at least I will go down as a president."

The president appeared on ABC's "Jimmy Kimmel Live" during the middle of his three-day visit to Nevada and California, where he is campaigning and raising money for presidential nominee Hillary Clinton and other Democratic candidates. The segment contained a mix of humor and serious talk about the current election.

Kimmel routinely has celebrities read some of the mean tweets sent their way. Another person asked: "Barack Obama, bro do you even lift?"

"Well, I lifted the ban on Cuban cigars. That's worth something," Obama replied.

Obama, a big sports fan, was asked if he was happy that the Chicago Cubs were going to the World Series. Obama appeared to have some trouble getting "yes" out.

"To see just how happy everybody was, I actually felt pretty good. I am rooting for hometown team even though it is not my team."

Comedian Bill Murray is a big Cubs fan, and Obama told of his recent visit to the White House. He said they had a putting contest in the Oval Office and Murray won \$5 from him.

"He won repeatedly," Obama said. "The glass was rigged."

Despite the high pressures of the presidency, Obama admitted it's rare for aides to wake him up in the middle of the night. The most serious problems are usually anticipated. He used the question to take another dig at Trump, saying "What I don't do at 3 a.m., I don't tweet about people who insulted me."

Kimmel then asked Obama if he ever laughed during the debates when watching the GOP nominee. "Most of the time," Obama said.

Kimmel also asked why people don't trust Clinton. Obama chalked it up to being in the trenches for 30 years. He said when people are in the public eye that long, people try to find weak spots and "a whole narrative begins to build." He described Clinton's brand of politics as "pragmatic."

Kimmel said he knew Obama had to leave, but he asked if the first lady could stay for another four years. Obama said his wife was never wild about politics. "All the women in my life are looking forward to being able to lead a more normal life."

How autism in girls may help reveal the disorder's secrets

By LINDSEY TANNER, AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Think autism and an image of an awkward boy typically emerges, but the way autism strikes girls — or doesn't — may help reveal some of the developmental disorder's frustrating secrets.

Autism is at least four times more common in boys, but scientists taking a closer look are finding some gender-based surprises: Many girls with autism have social skills that can mask the condition. And some girls do not show symptoms of autism even when they have the same genetic mutations seen in boys with the condition.

"Autism may not be the same thing in boys and girls," said Kevin Pelphrey, an autism researcher at George Washington University.

The causes of autism aren't known. Genetic mutations are thought to play a role, and outside factors including older parents and premature birth also have been implicated. But the gender effect is now a hot topic in autism research and one that could lead to new ways of diagnosing and treating a condition that affects at least 1 in 68 U.S. children.

WHAT SCIENCE SHOWS

Brain imaging suggests there may be an additional explanation for why many girls with autism have more subtle symptoms than boys, Pelphrey said. Even in girls who clearly have autism, he said, brain regions involved in social behavior that are normally affected are less severely impaired.

Also, recent studies on autism-linked genes have found that girls can have the same kinds of genetic mutations seen in boys with autism, but not show symptoms. They "even need to have twice as many mutations on average to actually manifest with autism," said Joseph Buxbaum, director of an autism center at Mount Sinai medical school in New York.

He is among researchers trying to identify a "protective factor" that may explain how some girls at genetic risk remain unaffected — perhaps a protein or other biological marker that could be turned into a drug or other therapy to treat or even prevent autism.

That possibility is likely a long way off, but Pelphrey said this line of research has prompted excitement among autism scientists.

AUTISM SISTERS PROJECT

Buxbaum is involved in the Autism Sisters Project, which is seeking to enroll hundreds of families with autistic sons but unaffected daughters. The project began last year with the goal of building a big database that scientists can use to look for genetic clues and protective factors. Girls and their families visit the New York lab to give saliva samples for DNA analysis and efforts are underway to expand DNA collection to other sites.

Evee Bak, 15, hopes her samples will eventually benefit her older brother Tommy. The suburban Philadelphia siblings are just a year apart. They play in a garage band— Evee on drums, Tommy on guitar and vocals. He's a masterful musician, but has trouble reading social cues and doing things that come easy to other teens, like shopping alone or using public transportation.

Her focus is "taking care of Tommy and making sure he's happy and healthy," Evee said.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 24 of 51

Tommy was diagnosed at age 3, after he stopped using words he'd learned months earlier and showed unusual behavior including repetitively lining up toys instead of playing with them.

"He's a wonderful person and I don't think that we'd ever want to change him," said his mother, Erin Lopes. But they'd welcome anything that could help him function as independently as possible "because I think that's what he really wants, is to be independent."

MAKING A DIAGNOSIS

Autism is diagnosed by observing behavior, there's no blood test for it. Some experts say gender-based differences highlight a need to develop different ways to evaluate boys and girls.

Autism screening, recommended for kids starting at 18 months, uses tools based on research in autistic boys, said Rachel Loftin, clinical director of an autism center at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

One widely used screening questionnaire for parents includes questions like "Does your child play make-believe, make eye contact, seek praise, show interest in other children?" Girls with autism, especially mild cases, often don't show obvious problems in those categories — they're more likely than affected boys to play pretend with toys rather than lining them up by size or shape. Loftin said they're also more likely to show concern for another person's feelings.

Government data show that all forms of autism, mild to severe, are more common in boys and that the average age at diagnosis is 4 years in boys and girls. But Loftin said anecdotal evidence suggests a two-year lag time in diagnosis for girls, especially those with mild cases. And she suspects many cases are missed or misdiagnosed. That means a delay in early intensive behavior therapy that is the main treatment for autism.

Some girls manage to camouflage symptoms until pressures to fit in at school become overwhelming, delaying diagnosis until around age 8 or 9, said Alycia Halladay, chief science officer at the Autism Science Foundation, a nonprofit educational and research-funding group which is paying for the Sisters Project.

The prominent autism advocate, professor and author Temple Grandin wasn't fully verbal until age 4. "It was obvious something was drastically wrong with me," Grandin said. But she said she learned to adapt, in part because with "1950's parenting" she was faced with intense encouragement to develop social skills and other talents.

PARENTS' CONCERNS

Allison Klein worried about her daughter, Jillian, for three years before the little girl was finally diagnosed with mild autism. Jillian couldn't tolerate loud noises, she grew withdrawn around her preschool classmates and she lagged behind academically. She was labeled anxious, not autistic.

"She didn't meet the stereotypical behaviors of no eye contact, no communication, hand flapping," Klein said. Teachers and doctors suggested she was just shy and would grow out of it.

A few months ago, just before Jillian turned 6, Loftin confirmed Klein's concerns.

Even Pelphrey, the autism researcher, had a similar experience. His daughter, Frances, was diagnosed almost four years after her behavior raised concerns. She didn't walk or talk until she was almost 3 years old. She tried to be "cuddly" and interact with others, but sometimes she did so awkwardly.

"Nobody really wanted to make the call," Pelphrey said. "Had she been a boy, there would have been much more pressure to look into it."

Online:

CDC & Autism: <http://tinyurl.com/zarznp2>

Follow AP Medical Writer Lindsey Tanner at <http://www.twitter.com/LindseyTanner> . Her work can be found at <http://bigstory.ap.org/content/lindsey-tanner>

Researchers link virus to Alaska birds with deformed beaks

By DAN JOLING, Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Biologist Colleen Handel saw her first black-capped chickadee with the heartrending disorder in 1998.

The tiny birds showed up at birdfeeders in Alaska's largest city with freakishly long beaks. Some beaks looked like sprung scissors, unable to come together at the tips. Others curved up or down like crossed sickles.

Handel, a U.S. Geological Survey bird specialist, was sure the cause of avian keratin disorder would be found quickly: contaminated birdseed, a poison targeting spruce bark beetles, maybe some sort of bacterium or fungus.

Years went by. She found herself losing sleep over a mysterious ailment afflicting 6.5 percent of south-central Alaska's black-capped chickadees and 17 percent of the area's northwestern crows, more than 10 times what is normally expected in a wild bird population. Distorted beaks were spotted in lesser numbers of jays, woodpeckers and nuthatches — 24 species in all.

Eighteen years later, after many possible causes were ruled out, Handel and other scientists from California and Alaska who tested beaks of affected birds found a previously unknown virus in every one.

"It's the strongest lead that we've got so far," Handel said.

Bird beaks have inner layers of bone covered by an outer layer of keratin, the same stuff as fingernails. The disorder affects the outer layer, stimulating the keratin to grow twice as fast as normal.

Chickadees look fragile but are one of the few birds to stay through cold Alaska winters. In the dead of winter, the small songbirds can lose 10 percent of their body weight overnight and must eat constantly during short daylight hours. Extended beaks get in the way.

"They can't eat enough during the daylight hours to survive overnight, because they're metabolizing the fat they put on during the day," Handel said. "The other thing is that the poor little guys can't preen their feathers very well. You can imagine trying to comb your hair with a pair of 3-foot-long chopsticks."

They end up with dirty, matted plumage and feathers that no longer provide insulation. "They've lost their little down coats for winter," Handel said. Some don't survive.

Over nearly two decades, researchers pursued multiple paths of research. Last year, Handel and fellow USGS researcher Caroline Van Hemert published a study showing an environmental contaminant, organochloride compounds, were found in affected birds. But the amount was small and there was no obvious source, such as the selenium from agricultural drainage that caused beak deformities in California or PCB and other contaminants that affected birds in Great Lakes states in the 1970s.

The mysterious condition appeared only in birds 6 months or older, so it did not seem to be a birth defect. It affected chickadees, which live in the forest, and northwestern crows, which live in intertidal zones. But both birds are social, so it was conceivable they could transmit disease among their species.

The potential breakthrough came when researchers at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco offered to apply advanced DNA and RNA sequence technology to bird beak samples.

Early in 2012, disease ecologist Maxine Zylberberg had an "aha!" moment. She found the birds had RNA of a virus in the same family that causes the common cold and polio in humans and foot-and-mouth disease in cattle.

The previously unknown virus was in every sample of deformed chickadee beaks and in two samples of chickadees that did not have distorted beaks.

"After that it was a lot of validation, going through and testing more individuals and seeing, 'Is this true?'" Zylberberg said.

Researchers are careful to say the virus — named Poecivirus after the black-capped chickadee genus — has not yet been nailed down as the cause of distorted beaks.

"It could be that birds who have this disease are more susceptible to this common virus," said Zylberberg, now at the University of California, San Francisco and lead author of the study published July 26 in *mBio*, a journal of the American Society for Microbiology.

To validate their findings, scientists will grow the live virus in laboratory conditions. They also will work to determine whether the virus is in other bird species and how it is being transmitted.

In Britain, significant numbers of blue tits, a close relative of black-capped chickadees, have been observed with beak deformities. In all, 36 species with deformed beaks have been documented there.

"Now, with this genetic test, we have a way to see, 'Do those birds have the same virus or not?'" Handel said.

Authorities find no sign of braking by bus driver in crash

By ELLIOT SPAGAT and JULIE WATSON, Associated Press

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP) — Ana Car didn't remember the sudden impact, only that she woke up among dead and injured passengers in a dark bus filled with screams of terror and agony.

The retired factory worker had spent an evening gambling at a desert casino and was sound asleep when the bus heading to Los Angeles smashed into the rear of a slow-moving tractor-trailer. The crash killed the bus driver and 12 passengers and injured 31 other people.

"I can't believe how many died," she said, sobbing Monday as she recovered from bumps, bruises and a sore back. "It was so horrible. These images are going to stay in my head for life."

The National Transportation Safety Board was investigating the collision, which is one of the deadliest wrecks in California history.

The truck was creeping along at 5 mph because of utility work that had gone on throughout the night along Interstate 10 near Palm Springs. That's when the bus, moving as fast as 65 mph, slammed into it, authorities said.

"There's no indication whatsoever that the driver applied the brakes," said California Highway Patrol Border Division Chief Jim Abele, citing the power of the impact and the fact that no skid marks were found.

Initial reports said four people were dead, but many bodies were later found in the front portion of the bus that ended up inside the trailer.

"They just kept pulling bodies stuck in between the seats," he said. "It's just due to this bus going so fast into the back of the truck. Why he did that, that's what we're trying to find out."

Car, 61, was sitting toward the back of the bus when it rammed the truck around 5:15 a.m. Sunday. She awoke to find herself standing amid bodies flung everywhere. Those who could move were pushing and shoving in the pre-dawn darkness to climb out from under each other.

She clambered to a broken window to yell for help, panicked she would be trapped if the bus caught fire. Motorists who stopped to help pulled her out the broken window.

"I couldn't stand when they got me out," Car said. "I sat on the side of the road, watching them pull so many people out. I saw so much blood and two dead bodies. I was so scared."

The NTSB planned to look into the history of the bus, its owner-driver, Teodulo Elias Vides, and other circumstances, such as what he was doing during the four to five hours the bus was at the Red Earth Casino in the desert town of Thermal before making the 135-mile trip back to LA.

Vides, 59, owned USA Holiday and was listed as the only driver, according to federal and state records. He had a valid commercial license and a clean record in recent years. And the bus had passed annual inspections.

USA Holiday was licensed to travel between states, which subjected Vides to federal limits on driver work hours. Under the scenario officials described — leaving Los Angeles at 8 p.m. and returning less than 12 hours later — Vides would have been within those limits, which cap driving time to 10 hours within a 15-hour span and do not prescribe specific rest requirements.

A call to the company was not returned.

Vides was named in lawsuits stemming from three freeway collisions, though he was not the driver in any of the cases, according to court records.

In 2007, a USA Holiday bus collided with a Honda Civic in Riverside, killing the car's driver and two passengers. Family members filed a personal injury and negligence lawsuit against the driver of the bus and

Vides, whose attorneys argued that the Honda driver lost control. That case was dismissed.

The 1996 bus did not have seat belts and was old enough that it probably did not have a data recorder that would reveal how fast it was traveling and whether the driver braked before impact.

At the street corner where the bus was supposed to arrive, candles and flowers surrounded a tree.

"It's painful," said Cartier Houpe, who occasionally rides the bus to the casinos but skipped the latest trip. "I'm still trying to find out the names of people. Once we find out, it'll be more painful."

The Riverside County sheriff-coroner's office identified 12 of the 13 people killed. The dead included 10 women between 52 and 72, plus the driver and a 62-year-old man. One man remained unidentified. Most were from Los Angeles.

Four passengers remained hospitalized in critical condition, officials said.

One of the fatalities was Zoila Aguilera, 72, a retired cook who liked to head out every other weekend to play the slots for fun, said her grandson, Bryan Ramirez.

Ramirez said he was having breakfast and watching a soccer game Sunday morning when his family heard the news of the crash. He said he immediately started calling his grandmother's phone, hoping she would pick up.

Aguilera insisted on sitting near the front of the bus, rebuffing her son, Ramirez's father, who tried to get her to sit toward the rear.

"She loved to sit in the front. There was no changing her mind," Ramirez said. "She just felt safer there."

Car said she ended up toward the back of the bus because she bought a \$20 last-minute ticket after running into her friend, Rosa Ruiz, who persuaded her to take the journey to a different casino that night.

They knew each other from previous gambling jaunts, and she enjoyed Ruiz's sense of humor.

When she got back on the bus after playing quarter slots, she chatted briefly with Ruiz and then sank into her seat and quickly fell asleep. She was devastated to learn Ruiz, 53, was killed.

"She was such a happy person," Car said. "I feel so bad."

Watson contributed from San Diego. Associated Press writers Justin Pritchard, Brian Melley, Alicia Chang and John Antczak in Los Angeles, Amy Taxin in Tustin and Courtney Bonnell in Phoenix contributed to this story.

Maduro meets pope as Vatican steps into Venezuela crisis

By JOSHUA GOODMAN, Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro met Monday with Pope Francis as the Vatican took a more active role trying to defuse a tense political standoff in the South American nation.

Maduro spoke with the Pope in a private meeting on his way back to Venezuela following a tour of oil-producing nations of the Middle East.

As news of the surprise papal meeting surfaced, back in Venezuela Monsignor Emil Paul Tscherrig, who Francis dispatched in a bid to jumpstart dialogue between the government and the opposition, announced that representatives of the two sides would meet Oct. 30 on the Venezuelan island of Margarita under the auspices of the Vatican and the Union of South American Nations.

"It's important to have light, a lamp to guide us through this tunnel of a fight that we've entered," opposition alliance chief Jesus Torrealba said prior to his meeting with the Tscherrig, the Vatican's representative to Francis' native Argentina. "We're embarking on a process of struggle that will be complex and difficult."

When Maduro arrives back to Venezuela in the coming hours he'll be stepping into a political crisis months in the making that hadn't yet erupted when he went abroad. Shortly after he left Thursday for Azerbaijan, electoral authorities suspended a recall referendum seeking his removal, prompting the opposition-controlled congress to call for demonstrations and declare that the government had carried out a coup.

The Vatican said the pope urged Maduro to courageously take the path of "sincere and constructive dialogue" to alleviate the suffering of the Venezuelan people, especially the poor. He called on Maduro to promote a climate of renewed social cohesion that would allow everyone to look to the future with hope,

the Vatican said in a statement.

It's not clear how much influence the Vatican will have in bringing the two sides together in a country that for almost two decades has been bitterly divided.

As soon as the meeting was announced some of Maduro's most-prominent critics expressed dismay that hours after declaring itself in open rebellion and calling for a mass protest Wednesday the opposition alliance was now engaging with the government.

Meanwhile, socialist strongman Diosdado Cabello was already accusing his opponents of using the dialogue as a smoke screen to hide its intent to violently force Maduro from power.

Maduro, speaking from Rome, thanked the pope for helping bring about dialogue "between the distinct factions of the opposition and the legitimate and Bolivarian government I preside over."

Tscherrig said the talks scheduled for next week are aimed at building confidence and a mechanism for peacefully resolving disputes. As such, he said the two sides had agreed to work together so that demonstrations in the coming days are safe and peaceful.

"Today the national dialogue has begun," Tscherrig said.

The decision to halt the referendum process scuttles the opposition's best chance of peacefully removing Maduro from office before his term ends in 2019. Polls show three out of four Venezuelans want Maduro to leave office this year, blaming him for a collapse in living standards caused by triple-digit inflation and widespread food shortages.

Many of Venezuela's neighbors are also expressing concern. On Friday, 12 nations, including the U.S. and even leftist-run governments like Uruguay and Chile, issued a statement saying the referendum's suspension and travel restrictions on the opposition leadership hurt the prospect for dialogue and finding a peaceful solution to the crisis.

On Monday, the presidents of Argentina and Uruguay said they would meet with the other two members of the Mercosur trade bloc — Brazil and Paraguay — to decide whether Venezuela should be expelled for breaking the group's "democratic clause." Venezuela joined Mercosur in 2012, fulfilling a long-held dream of Maduro's mentor, the late Hugo Chavez, of uniting the region's most-powerful agricultural and energy markets.

"If you read the declaration by (the Venezuelan) congress, it's more than clear that all the reasons are there to carry out the democratic clause," Argentine President Mauricio Macri told a news conference with Uruguayan President Tabare Vazquez.

AP Writers Nicole Winfield in Rome and Luis Henao in Buenos Aires contributed to this report

Poll: Young voters now coming through for Hillary Clinton

By LAURIE KELLMAN and EMILY SWANSON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Liane Golightly has finally decided who she'll vote for on Election Day. Hillary Clinton is not a choice the 30-year-old Republican would have predicted, nor one that excites her. But the former supporter of Ohio Gov. John Kasich says it's the only choice she can make.

"I kind of wish it were somebody else, somebody that I could really get behind 100 percent," said Golightly, an educator from Monroe, Michigan. She's voting for Clinton, she said, only because she can't stomach "childish" Donald Trump.

Like Golightly, many young voters are coming over to Clinton in the closing stretch of the 2016 campaign, according to a new GenForward poll of Americans 18 to 30.

Driving the shift are white voters, who were divided between the two candidates just a month ago and were more likely to support GOP nominee Mitt Romney than President Barack Obama in 2012.

In the new GenForward survey, Clinton leads among all young whites 35 percent to 22 percent, and by a 2-to-1 margin among those who are likely to vote. Clinton held a consistent advantage among young African-Americans, Asian-Americans and Hispanics in earlier GenForward polls, as she does in the new survey.

The new poll also suggests enthusiasm for voting has recently increased among young African-Americans,

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 29 of 51

49 percent of whom say they will definitely vote in November after only 39 percent said so in September. Just over half of young whites, and about 4 in 10 Hispanics and Asian-Americans, say they will definitely vote.

GenForward is a survey of adults age 18 to 30 by the Black Youth Project at the University of Chicago with the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. The first-of-its-kind poll pays special attention to the voices of young adults of color, highlighting how race and ethnicity shape the opinions of a new generation.

Overall, Clinton leads Trump among young likely voters 60 percent to 19 percent, with 12 percent supporting Libertarian nominee Gary Johnson and 6 percent behind the Green Party's Jill Stein. If Clinton and Trump receive that level of support on Election Day, Clinton would match Obama's level of 2012 while Trump would fall short of Romney's.

It's not necessarily because they like Clinton, but is nevertheless a late sign of strength among a voting bloc that the former secretary of state has struggled to win over.

"There's a gray area with her, where maybe she hasn't broken any laws, but she's always skirting the edge, it seems," said Galen Mosher, 30, a lighting technician from Sandy, Oregon, who voted for Clinton's primary rival, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Mosher, who is white, said he got behind Clinton once she won the Democratic nomination, because "at least she's a step" toward the free college tuition and higher taxes for wealthy people that Sanders had proposed.

The poll also provides evidence that Trump's behavior toward women has hurt him among young voters, while Clinton's characterization of a large portion of the New York billionaire's supporters as "deplorable" did not damage her candidacy.

The GenForward survey included interviews both before and after the release of a 2005 recording on which Trump brags about sexually assaulting women. But support for Trump didn't shift among young voters overall or among young whites after the tape was released, suggesting the shift in young whites to Clinton came first.

All of the poll interviews, however, were conducted after the first presidential debate, when Clinton told the story of former Miss Universe Alicia Machado and Trump's assessment of her as a "Miss Piggy" after she gained weight. Most young people across racial and ethnic lines say that Clinton's accusations in that debate about Trump's behavior made them less likely to support the GOP nominee.

Most young people weren't turned off by Clinton calling some Trump supporters "deplorable" in September. Sixty-two percent of young adults, including 82 percent of African-Americans, three-quarters of Latinos and Asian-Americans and 51 percent of whites said they agree with her assessment.

The poll also found that 45 percent of young adults have a favorable view of Clinton, while just 17 percent say the same of Trump. Conversely, half have an unfavorable view of Clinton and 77 percent have that view of Trump.

Young whites say they have a more favorable view of Clinton now than going into the fall. Among that group, three-quarters have an unfavorable view of Trump now, up from 67 percent in September.

The survey also showed young whites are slightly less likely to see Trump as qualified to be president, down from 30 percent in September to 24 percent.

Follow Laurie Kellman and Emily Swanson on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/APLaurieKellman> and http://twitter.com/@EL_Swan

The poll of 1,832 adults age 18-30 was conducted Oct. 1-14 using a sample drawn from the probability-based GenForward panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. young adult population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 3.8 percentage points.

The survey was paid for by the Black Youth Project at the University of Chicago, using grants from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Ford Foundation.

Respondents were first selected randomly using address-based sampling methods, and later interviewed online or by phone.

Online:

GenForward polls: —<http://www.genforwardsurvey.com/>

Black Youth Project: —<http://blackyouthproject.com/>

AP-NORC: —<http://www.apnorc.org/>

Trump rejects 'phony' polls, insists 'we are winning'

By **STEVE PEOPLES** and **JONATHAN LEMIRE**, Associated Press

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. (AP) — A defiant Donald Trump blamed his campaign struggles on “phony polls” from the “disgusting” media on Monday, fighting to energize his most loyal supporters as his path to the presidency shrinks.

With just 14 days until the election, the Republican nominee campaigned in battleground Florida as his team conceded publicly as well as privately that crucial Pennsylvania may be slipping away to Democrat Hillary Clinton. That would leave him only a razor-thin pathway to the 270 electoral votes needed to win the White House on Nov. 8.

Despite continued difficulties with women and minorities, Trump refuses to soften his message in the campaign's final days to broaden his coalition. Yet he offered an optimistic front in the midst of a three-day tour through Florida as thousands began voting there in person.

“I believe we're actually winning,” Trump declared during a round table discussion with farmers gathered next to a local pumpkin patch.

A day after suggesting the First Amendment to the Constitution may give journalists too much freedom, he insisted that the media are promoting biased polls to discourage his supporters from voting.

“The media isn't just against me. They're against all of you,” Trump told cheering supporters later in St. Augustine. “They're against what we represent.”

In more bad news for Trump, a new poll shows young voters turning to Clinton now that the race has settled down to two main candidates. Clinton now leads among likely voters 18 to 30 years in age by 60 percent to 19 percent, according to a new GenForward survey.

Young black voters already were solidly in her corner, and now young whites are moving her way, according to the survey by the Black Youth Project at the University of Chicago with the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

With Trump on the defensive, Democrat Clinton worked to slam the door on his candidacy in swing state New Hampshire while eyeing a possible Democratic majority in the Senate.

The former secretary of state campaigned alongside New Hampshire Gov. Maggie Hassan, who is running for the Senate, and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, who was merciless as she seized on recent revelations of Trump's predatory sexual language and several allegations of sexual assault.

“He thinks that because he has a mouth full of Tic Tacs, he can force himself on any woman within groping distance,” Warren charged. “I've got news for you Donald: Women have had it with guys like you.”

Trump has denied all the recent allegations, and he addressed a new one Monday in an interview with WGIR radio in New Hampshire.

He called the accusations “total fiction” and lashed out at former adult film performer Jessica Drake, who said Saturday that he had grabbed and kissed her without permission and offered her money to visit his hotel room a decade ago.

“One said, ‘He grabbed me on the arm.’ And she's a porn star,” Trump said. He added, “Oh, I'm sure she's never been grabbed before.”

With Election Day two weeks away, Trump's electoral map looks bleak.

The Republican National Committee ignored him altogether in mailers to New Hampshire voters set to be distributed later this week, according to material obtained by The Associated Press. The mail focuses

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 31 of 51

instead on Clinton's credibility, featuring a picture of her and former President Bill Clinton and the words, "No More of The Lying Clintons."

Trump's campaign manager Kellyanne Conway outlined a path to 270 electoral votes on Sunday that banks on victories in Florida, Ohio, Iowa and North Carolina along with New Hampshire and Maine's 2nd Congressional District. Assuming Trump wins all of those — and he currently trails in some — he would earn the exact number of electoral votes needed to win the presidency and no more.

Noticeably absent from the list was Pennsylvania, a state that a top adviser privately conceded was slipping away despite Trump's aggressive courtship of the state's white working-class voters. The adviser spoke on the condition of anonymity to share internal discussions.

And though the map looks tricky and the race is in its penultimate week, Trump is taking a break from the campaign to attend the official grand opening of his new Washington hotel on Wednesday.

Florida was largely the focus Monday as in-person early voting began across 50 counties, including the state's largest. Early voting by mail has been underway for weeks. Nearly 1.2 million voters in Florida have already mailed in ballots.

Clinton plans to visit Tuesday and Wednesday, while her running mate, Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine, made two Florida appearances Monday. He took a shot at Florida Republican Sen. Marco Rubio in the first, a reminder that Clinton's team is fighting to retake a Senate majority. Kaine noted that Rubio previously called Trump a dangerous "con artist," though the senator currently supports him.

Democrats would take the Senate majority if they pick up four seats and Clinton wins the White House.

Trump's difficulties are evident in this week's travel plans, which include a possible stop in Arizona. A Democratic presidential candidate hasn't won there in 20 years, yet polls show Trump in a close race.

Republicans look worse in New Hampshire, a state Trump must win in the scenario his campaign manager outlined.

"Women voters can sway elections here," said Republican strategist Ryan Williams. "And he's doing nothing to reach out to them."

In Nevada, GOP strategist Robert Uithoven said early voting numbers are a worrisome sign for Trump's campaign, which has already been lagging in polls in the Silver State. In the first two days of early voting, nearly twice as many Democrats as Republicans cast ballots.

"He's already found himself in a really deep hole," Uithoven said of Trump.

Peoples reported from Washington. AP writers Ken Thomas in Manchester, New Hampshire, Kathleen Ronayne in Miami, Tom Beaumont in Des Moines, Iowa, Nicholas Riccardi in Denver and Laurie Kellman and Emily Swanson in Washington contributed.

Reach Peoples on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@sppeoples> and Lemire at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire>

This story corrects the title of Tim Kaine. He is a Virginia senator, not its governor.

Next year here: Lovable losers Cubs, Indians meet in Series

By RONALD BLUM, AP Baseball Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — The last time the Cleveland Indians won the World Series, Dewey led Truman in the polls. The Chicago Cubs' last title was 13 days after the first Ford Model T car was completed.

Lovable losers known for decades of defeat meet in this year's championship, a combined 174 seasons of futility facing off starting Tuesday night at Progressive Field.

Cleveland's last title was in 1948, when 16 teams from the East Coast to St. Louis competed in a just-integrated sport. The Cubs are trying to win for the first time since 1908, a dead ball-era matchup at a time home runs were rarities along with telephones.

No player is alive from the last championship Cubs or even the last to make a Series appearance — Tuesday marks the 25,948th day since the Cubs' Game 7 loss to Detroit in 1945. One player remains from

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 32 of 51

the 1948 Indians, 95-year-old Eddie Robinson.

"It seems like it's just forever," Robinson said Monday from his home in Fort Worth, Texas. "When we got home from Boston, there was a monumental parade. It just looked like everybody in Cleveland came out on Euclid Avenue."

One team's fans will let loose with the celebration of a lifetime. But while history weighs on the supporters, Cubs manager Joe Maddon focuses his players with a now-centered battle cry of "Win the Inning!"

"Air conditioning is popular right now. So is color TV," he said. "You've just got to change with the times."

Both teams worked out under cloudy skies as the new 59-by-221-foot scoreboard behind the left-field seats — the largest in the major leagues — trumpeted the Sisyphean matchup. While the Cubs play in Wrigley Field, the 102-year-old brick-and-ivy jewel on Chicago's North Side, the Indians are in a 22-year-old throwback-style ballpark originally called Jacobs Field.

Led by Kris Bryant and Anthony Rizzo, the Cubs led the major leagues with 103 wins during the regular season, then beat San Francisco and Los Angeles in the playoffs. But since the playoffs expanded in 1995, only four teams with the best regular-season record won the title: the 1998 and 2009 New York Yankees, and the 2007 and 2013 Boston Red Sox.

"I promise you, our guys are going to be in the present tense," Maddon said. "I think we all have a tremendous amount of respect for history and what's happened before us or not happened before us. But, you know, you go in that room right now, they're very young. Really not impacted by a lot of the lore."

Jon Lester, 7-1 in his career against Cleveland, starts for the Cubs and Corey Kluber opens for the Indians. Lester is 2-0 with a 0.86 ERA in three postseason starts this year and 3-0 with a 0.43 ERA in a trio of Series outings. He learned to prepare from watching Curt Schilling and Josh Beckett in Boston.

"They prepared the same way for this start as they would for a regular start during the season," he said.

Kluber pitched shutout ball twice in the playoffs before allowing two runs in five innings in Game 4 at Toronto. His father, Jim, was born in Cleveland and rooted for the Indians growing up in suburban Highland Heights.

"I think every parent is excited if their kid has a chance to play in the World Series," said the 30-year-old right-hander, who could win his second AL Cy Young Award in three years.

Both teams were dealing with injuries that caused changes in planning. Indians manager Terry Francona, juggling all year because of health mishaps, said right-hander Danny Salazar will be on the World Series roster, which must be submitted Tuesday morning. Salazar has not pitched since Sept. 9 because of forearm tightness but threw a simulated game Sunday.

"Nothing's official, so if we have another drone incident or anything with model airplanes or anything, we reserve the right" to change, he said, a reference to the injury that limited pitcher Trevor Bauer to two-thirds of an inning in the AL Championship Series.

Chicago appeared likely to include outfielder Kyle Schwarber, out since tearing knee ligaments on April 8. A person with direct knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press on Monday that Schwarber was traveling to Cleveland, but the person did not know yet if the slugger would be on the roster.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the roster won't be announced until Tuesday. Schwarber returned to action last weekend in the Arizona Fall League.

"Reports are good," Maddon said. "He's swinging the bat well. He's running really well."

Indians second baseman Jason Kipnis was dealing with a sprained left ankle, hurt when he jumped and shortstop Francisco Lindor accidentally stepped on his foot while celebrating the last out of the ALCS.

"He might not be 100 percent, but I don't think it's going to get in the way," Francona said.

Cleveland fell three outs short of the 1997 title when Jose Mesa blew a one-run lead in the ninth inning of Game 7 at Florida and an error by second baseman Tony Fernandez led to the Marlins' winning run in the 11th.

The Series starts just after a ceremony across the street when LeBron James and the Cavaliers receive championship rings before their opener celebrating this year's NBA title, the first for Cleveland's big league teams since the NFL's Browns in 1964.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 33 of 51

"It's a pretty neat set of circumstances," said Indians reliever Andrew Miller, the ALCS MVP. "Obviously the fans wish they had won quite a bit previously, but I think the Cubs are even going to overshadow us in that history."

While Chicago has many famous fans, among them actor Bill Murray and Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, Cleveland is rooted on by Tom Hanks and Drew Carey. And the Indians' losing history received nationwide attention in the 1989 film "Major League," featuring Charlie Sheen as Ricky "Wild Thing" Vaughn.

Maddon prepared for the Series while watching some baseball movies, "42" — "we had to beat the Dodgers before I could watch it" — and "Field of Dreams."

"I'm that guy," he said. "I cry easily, so the connection to the past is very important, very important."

AP Sports Writer Jay Cohen in Chicago contributed to this report.

Tom Hayden, '60s activist and liberal statesman, dead at 76

By JOHN ROGERS and LINDA DEUTSCH, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In one of the most dramatic personal transformations in American political history, Tom Hayden went from being a famed 1960s and 1970s student radical to a mainstream elected official and elder statesman of the country's left. He died Sunday at age 76 following a lengthy illness.

Hayden will be forever linked to riots at the 1968 Democratic National Convention, Vietnam War protests of the 1970s and his onetime marriage to actress Jane Fonda.

Those events, however, ultimately represented just a small slice of a life dedicated to, as he put it, trying to change the world.

Elected to the California Assembly in 1982, Hayden served 10 years, followed by eight more in the state Senate.

During that time he put his name on some 100 pieces of legislation — including laws aimed at holding down college tuition costs, preventing discrimination in hiring and modest safety controls on guns.

Former President Bill Clinton praised Hayden, saying "his eventful life in pursuit of peace and justice ran the gamut from protesting to legislating, with lots of writing and teaching along the way."

Clinton added: "Attacked first by the right as a dangerous radical, then by the left for his willingness to compromise, Tom always marched to the beat of his own drummer, doing what he thought at any given time would advance his lifelong goals."

California Gov. Jerry Brown said Hayden "took up causes that others avoided. He had a real sense of the underdog and was willing to do battle no matter what the odds."

It was a battle that began at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in the early 1960s where Hayden, then barely out of his teens, co-founded the Students For a Democratic Society and wrote its "manifesto," the often-quoted Port Huron Statement.

"We are people of this generation, bred in at least modest comfort, housed now in universities, looking uncomfortably to the world we inherit," the lengthy screed railing against racial discrimination, war and wage disparity proclaimed in its introduction.

While critics of the time dismissed it as nonsense and Hayden's group as a band of rag-tag malcontents threatening the American way of life with their left-wing ideas, its author would be invited to colleges for decades to come to lecture about its significance.

Youth International Party co-founder Paul Krassner, who also participated in the Chicago demonstration, told The Associated Press on Monday that the manifesto was a cornerstones of the 1960s radical movement because it spelled out precisely what protesters hoped to accomplish.

"People were always saying, 'Oh, what do they really stand for?' And this laid it out," Krassner said.

Born in Royal Oak, Michigan, on Dec. 11, 1939 to middle-class parents, Thomas Emmet Hayden once considered a career in journalism and would eventually publish 20 books on a myriad of subjects.

But after graduation he turned down a newspaper job. He said in his memoir: "I didn't want to report on the world; I wanted to change the world."

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 34 of 51

He took part in Civil Rights Freedom Rides through the South and was beaten and arrested in Georgia and Mississippi. In 1964, he worked as a community organizer in Newark, New Jersey, pushing for more jobs and empowerment for the poor.

An early opponent of the Vietnam War, he made his first visit to North Vietnam in 1965 in unauthorized trip that enraged a segment of the American public at the time. He returned in 1967 and was asked by North Vietnamese leaders to bring three prisoners of war back to the United States.

In 1968, he helped organize anti-war demonstrations outside the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, where Vice President Hubert Humphrey was being nominated for president.

After the demonstrations turned violent, he and six others were put on trial as the infamous Chicago 7.

After a circus-like proceeding, with the defendants openly mocking the judge, Hayden and three others were convicted of crossing state lines to incite riot. The convictions were eventually overturned, and an official report on the violence concluded it was the result of "a police riot."

Still an anti-war activist, Hayden met Fonda in 1971 and they eventually married, following a "first date" in which he presented her a slide-show of an anti-war teach-in he was conducting. Fonda had a daughter, Vanessa Vadim, by her marriage to film director Roger Vadim, and she and Hayden would have a son, Troy Garity.

Backed by heavy financial support from Fonda, Hayden plunged into California politics in the late 1970s. With the disdain he'd attracted during his anti-war years fading, he was elected to the Assembly as a representative of the liberal city of Santa Monica and its surrounding area.

During his years in office he and Fonda split up and he later married actress Barbara Williams. The couple had a son, Liam.

Before launching his successful Assembly bid, Hayden had made an unsuccessful run for U.S. Senate. He later made unsuccessful bids to become governor of California, mayor of Los Angeles and Los Angeles city councilman.

A lifetime baseball fan who boasted he once won a Los Angeles Dodgers fantasy camp batting title, Hayden sometimes jokingly defined his political career in baseball terms, saying he ran 11 political campaigns and compiled a 7-4 won-loss record.

After leaving public office, he wrote and traveled extensively — lecturing, teaching and speaking out against the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He was also an advocate for animals, and in 2012 he lobbied Brown to preserve a piece of legislation known as Hayden's Law, which he had authored to protect shelter animals from premature euthanasia.

Until his health failed in recent months he remained politically active, supporting Hillary Clinton for president and railing against Donald Trump. He said Clinton had a broader coalition and better chance of winning than leftist favorite Bernie Sanders.

"I've fretted all year about the ominous threat of domestic fascism in our country revealed in the rhetoric and extremism of Donald Trump and his hard-core followers," he wrote in an op-ed piece in April.

Hayden had a stroke last year but continued to make public appearances until last summer.

He is survived by his wife, sons and stepdaughter Vanessa Vadim.

Deutsch is a retired AP special correspondent who contributed to this report. Associated Press writer Tarek Hamada contributed from Phoenix.

1960s pop singer Bobby Vee has died at age 73

By JEFF BAENEN, Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Pop idol Bobby Vee, the boyish, grinning 1960s singer whose career was born when he took a Midwestern stage as a teenager to fill in after the 1959 plane crash that killed rock 'n' roll stars Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson, has died. He was 73.

Vee, whose hits included the chart-topping "Take Good Care of My Baby" and who helped a young Bob Dylan get his start, died Monday of advanced Alzheimer's disease, said his son, Jeff Velline. Vee was di-

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 35 of 51

agnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2011, and performed his last show that year.

Vee had been in memory care at The Wellstead of Rogers & Diamondcrest in Rogers, about 25 miles northwest of Minneapolis, for the past 13 months and in hospice care in recent weeks, his son said.

Vee died peacefully surrounded by family, Velline said, calling it "the end of a long hard road."

He said his father was "a person who brought joy all over the world. That was his job."

Born Robert Velline in Fargo, North Dakota, Vee was only 15 when he took the stage in Moorhead, Minnesota, after the Feb. 3, 1959, plane crash in Iowa that killed Holly, Valens and Richardson on their way to the concert. That dark day in rock history was commemorated by singer-songwriter Don McLean in his 1972 pop song "American Pie" as "The Day The Music Died."

The call went out for local acts to replace Holly at his scheduled show at the Moorhead National Guard Armory. Vee and his 2-week-old band volunteered, along with three or four other bands. The show's emcee, Charlie Boone, then a disc jockey at KFGO Radio, turned to Vee and asked him the name of his band. Vee looked at the shadows of his bandmates on the floor and answered: The Shadows.

"I didn't have any fear right then," Vee recalled in a 1999 interview with The Associated Press. "The fear didn't hit me until the spotlight came on, and then I was just shattered by it. I didn't think that I'd be able to sing. If I opened my mouth, I wasn't sure anything would come out."

Vee called his debut a milestone in his life, and "the start of a wonderful career."

Within months the young singer and The Shadows, which included his older brother Bill on lead guitar, recorded Vee's "Suzie Baby" for Soma Records in Minneapolis. It was a regional hit, and Vee soon signed with Liberty Records.

He went on to record 38 Top 100 hits from 1959 to 1970, hitting the top of the charts in 1961 with the Carole King-Gerry Goffin song "Take Good Care of My Baby," and reaching No. 2 with the follow-up, "Run to Him." Other Vee hits include "Rubber Ball," "The Night Has A Thousand Eyes," "Devil or Angel," "Come Back When You Grow Up," "Please Don't Ask About Barbara" and "Punish Her."

Besides his clear, ringing voice, Vee also was a skilled rhythm guitarist and occasional songwriter. He racked up six gold singles, but saw his hits diminish with the British Invasion of The Beatles and other English groups in the mid-1960s.

Vee kept recording into the 2000s, and maintained a steady touring schedule. But he began having trouble remembering lyrics during performances, and he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2011. He performed his last show that year, billed only as his retirement, during an annual community fundraiser that his family holds near their home in St. Joseph, Minnesota, about 65 miles northwest of Minneapolis. But he didn't announce his diagnosis until a year later on his website.

In a 2013 interview with The Associated Press, Vee said he knew his abilities were diminishing and he didn't want to put his family through a public decline.

"It's not getting any better, I can tell you that," Vee said. "But I'm doing the best I can."

Vee still released a new album, "The Adobe Sessions," a loose jam session recorded with family members in Vee's adobe garage north of Tucson, Arizona. The 2014 album featured some of Vee's favorite songs from Townes Van Zandt, Gordon Lightfoot and Ricky Nelson. It was released on the 55th anniversary of the Holly plane crash.

The album also included Vee's cover of Bob Dylan's "The Man in Me," a nod to the folk-rock legend who got his start in Vee's band in Fargo.

Dylan grew up in Hibbing, a town on northern Minnesota's Iron Range, and briefly played with Vee's band. Although their time playing together was short, Dylan had a lasting effect on Vee's career: It was Dylan, himself going by the name Elston Gunn when he hammered on the piano at a couple of The Shadows' gigs, who suggested Vee change his last name from Velline to Vee.

In his "Chronicles: Volume One" memoir, Dylan recalled that Vee "had a metallic, edgy tone to his voice and it was as musical as a silver bell." When Dylan performed in St. Paul in 2013, he saluted Vee in the audience and performed "Suzie Baby."

Vee and his wife, Karen, were married for more than 50 years. She died of kidney failure in 2015 at age

71. The couple had four children, including sons who performed with Vee.

Family members said Vee's memory wasn't affected so much by Alzheimer's as his speech. During the AP interview in 2013, he answered questions but would become tongue-tied searching for the right word. Vee tried unconventional methods to alleviate his Alzheimer's symptoms, from chiropractor visits to acupuncture, and also renewed his passion for painting.

And while he sometimes wished he could do the things that once came easily, Vee said he was "not going to cry about it."

"God brought me home," he said. "And that's the deal."

Online:

<http://www.bobbyvee.com>

This story has been corrected to show it was Bob Dylan, not Vee, who used the stage name Elston Gunn.

Obama administration confirms double-digit premium hikes

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Premiums will go up sharply next year under President Barack Obama's health care law, and many consumers will be down to just one insurer, the administration confirmed Monday. That's sure to stoke another "Obamacare" controversy days before a presidential election.

Before taxpayer-provided subsidies, premiums for a midlevel benchmark plan will increase an average of 25 percent across the 39 states served by the federally run online market, according to a report from the Department of Health and Human Services. Some states will see much bigger jumps, others less.

Moreover, about 1 in 5 consumers will only have plans from a single insurer to pick from, after major national carriers such as UnitedHealth Group, Humana and Aetna scaled back their roles.

"Consumers will be faced this year with not only big premium increases but also with a declining number of insurers participating, and that will lead to a tumultuous open enrollment period," said Larry Levitt, who tracks the health care law for the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation.

Republicans pounced on the numbers as a warning that insurance markets created by the 2010 health overhaul are teetering toward a "death spiral." Sign-up season starts Nov. 1, about a week before national elections in which the GOP remains committed to a full repeal.

"It's over for Obamacare," Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said at a campaign rally Monday evening in Tampa, Florida.

Trump said his Democratic rival, Hillary Clinton, "wants to double down and make it more expensive and it's not gonna work. ... Our country can't afford it, you can't afford it." He promised his own plan would deliver "great health care at a fraction of the cost."

The new numbers aren't too surprising, said Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, who chairs a committee that oversees the law. It "does little to dispel the notion we are seeing the law implode at the expense of middle-class families."

HHS essentially confirmed state-by-state reports that have been coming in for months. Window shopping for plans and premiums is already available through HealthCare.gov.

Administration officials are stressing that subsidies provided under the law, which are designed to rise alongside premiums, will insulate most customers from sticker shock. They add that consumers who are willing to switch to cheaper plans will still be able to find bargains.

"Headline rates are generally rising faster than in previous years," acknowledged HHS spokesman Kevin Griffis. But he added that for most consumers, "headline rates are not what they pay."

The vast majority of the more than 10 million customers who purchase through HealthCare.gov and its state-run counterparts do receive generous financial assistance. "Enrollment is concentrated among very low-income individuals who receive significant government subsidies to reduce premiums and cost-sharing," said Caroline Pearson of the consulting firm Avalere Health

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 37 of 51

But an estimated 5 million to 7 million people are either not eligible for the income-based assistance, or they buy individual policies outside of the health law's markets, where the subsidies are not available. The administration is urging the latter group to check out HealthCare.gov. The spike in premiums generally does not affect the employer-provided plans that cover most workers and their families.

In some states, the premium increases are striking. In Arizona, unsubsidized premiums for a hypothetical 27-year-old buying a benchmark "second-lowest cost silver plan" will jump by 116 percent, from \$196 to \$422, according to the administration report.

But HHS said if that hypothetical consumer has a fairly modest income, making \$25,000 a year, the subsidies would cover \$280 of the new premium, and the consumer would pay \$142. Caveat: if the consumer is making \$30,000 or \$40,000 his or her subsidy would be significantly lower.

Dwindling choice is another issue.

The total number of HealthCare.gov insurers will drop from 232 this year to 167 in 2017, a loss of 28 percent. (Insurers are counted multiple times if they offer coverage in more than one state. So Aetna, for example, would count once in each state that it participated in.)

Switching insurers may not be simple for patients with chronic conditions.

While many carriers are offering a choice of plan designs, most use a single prescription formulary and physician network across all their products, explained Pearson. "So, enrollees may need to change doctors or drugs when they switch insurers," she said.

Overall, it's shaping up to be the most difficult sign-up season since HealthCare.gov launched in 2013 and the computer system froze up.

Enrollment has been lower than initially projected, and insurers say patients turned out to be sicker than expected. Moreover, a complex internal system to help stabilize premiums has not worked as hoped for.

Nonetheless, Obama says the underlying structure of the law is sound, and current problems are only "growing pains." The president has called for a government-sponsored "public option" insurance plan to compete with private companies.

Republicans, including Trump, are united in calling for complete repeal, but they have not spelled out how they would address the problems of the uninsured.

Clinton has proposed an array of fixes, including sweetening the law's subsidies and allowing more people to qualify for financial assistance.

The law makes carrying health insurance a legal obligation for most people, and prohibits insurers for turning away the sick. It offers subsidized private plans to people who don't have coverage through their jobs, along with a state option to expand Medicaid for low-income people.

Largely as a result, the nation's uninsured rate has dropped below 9 percent, a historically low level. More than 21 million people have gained coverage since the Affordable Care Act passed in 2010.

Online:

www.healthcare.gov

<https://aspe.hhs.gov/pdf-report/health-plan-choice-and-premiums-2017-health-insurance-marketplace>

In emails, Clinton campaign measures diversity among staff

By MARY CLARE JALONICK, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senior staff members on Hillary Clinton's nascent campaign were conscious about diversity in the top ranks two months before the Democratic presidential candidate formally announced her bid, according to hacked emails from the personal account of a top campaign official.

In February 2015, Clinton lawyer and chief of staff Cheryl Mills sent a list of potential hires to campaign chairman John Podesta. Among the suggestions was "Political Director-Hispanic Woman." They eventually hired Amanda Renteria, who is Latina.

Mills sends "Robby's List of the top 10 or so positions," referring to Clinton campaign manager Robby Mook.

The email breaks it down: "four 'POC,' or people of color, four women 'assuming COO is a white woman'

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 38 of 51

and six white men." So, the email says, that is "33% diverse, 33% women, 50% white men."

The email was among more than 3,000 released by the anti-secrecy group WikiLeaks on Monday and is just one of the tens of thousands posted over the last two weeks. The notes were stolen from the email account of Podesta as part of a series of high-profile computer hacks of Democratic targets that U.S. intelligence officials say were orchestrated by Russia, with the intent to influence the Nov. 8 election. Russia has denied the allegations.

The campaign officials' focus on diversity came in the same month that Clinton's advisers circulated data collected from her family's foundation that found only three of the foundation's 11 highest paid employees were women — and a Democratic consultant expressed concern about the political fallout from the gender discrepancy.

Emails released last week about the Clinton Foundation highlighted a large disparity in the median salaries of the top-paid men and woman working for the organization.

According to the emails, the median salary of the highest paid men at the foundation was \$346,106, while the median salary of the highest paid women was \$185,386 — roughly a \$160,000 difference. The numbers came from the foundation's 990 tax forms for 2013, according to the emails.

"There are huge discrepancies, and it wouldn't surprise me if they (the media) went here next," Ian Mandel, a Democratic consultant, wrote.

At the time of the email exchange on salaries, the foundation was already under fire by Republicans for accepting large donations from foreign governments, including while Clinton was secretary of State. Republicans said the foreign donations created an unacceptable conflict of interest if Clinton were elected president.

Clinton has called for legislation that would force businesses to disclose gender pay data to the government. Republicans have blocked the legislation because they say it would expose businesses to lawsuits.

Clinton also has said half of her presidential Cabinet will be women if she wins.

Podesta and other Clinton backers warn the emails may have been altered by the hackers, but they haven't pointed to any such cases.

In a statement Monday, the Clinton campaign blamed her opponent, Republican Donald Trump, for not condemning the hack and declining to blame it on Russia.

"It is bizarre and disqualifying that he continues to cheer on this attack on our democracy," said campaign spokesman Glen Caplin.

Other topics covered in Monday's batch of emails:

—THE "TRICKY" RELATIONSHIP WITH VICE PRESIDENT

In a September 1, 2008, memo Podesta wrote to President-elect Barack Obama while heading Obama's transition team. The memo was included as an attachment to a later email to Obama staffers.

In the memo, Podesta gives advice on choosing a White House chief of staff — a job that would eventually go to Rahm Emanuel — and how that person would need to work with the vice president, which Podesta called "an incredibly tricky aspect of the job."

"While I know Senator (Joe) Biden well, and he is no Dick Cheney, he is still opinionated and there is still plenty of room for conflict between keeping him in the loop and not letting him put his elbow on the scale," Podesta wrote.

EMAIL FALLOUT

On March 3, 2015, as news was first breaking that Clinton maintained a personal email account as secretary of state, Podesta emailed Mook.

"Did you have any idea of the depth of this story?" Podesta asked.

Six months later, after the Obama administration said it had discovered a chain of emails that Clinton failed to turn over when she provided her work-related correspondence as secretary of state, Podesta appeared worried about Clinton.

"How bad is her head?" Podesta wrote communications director Jennifer Palmieri on September 26, 2015.

"Don't know," Palmieri replied, noting she had tried to get in touch with Clinton but hadn't heard back.

Associated Press writers Anne Flaherty in Washington, Russ Bynum in Savannah, Ga. And Michael Rubinkam in northeastern Pennsylvania contributed to this report.

For some low-income workers, retirement is only a dream

By MARIA INES ZAMUDIO, For The Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — It was a striking image. A photo of an 89-year-old man hunched over, struggling to push his cart with frozen treats. Fidencio Sanchez works long hours every day selling the treats because he couldn't afford to retire. The photo and his story went viral and thousands of people donated more than \$384,000 for his retirement.

His story is a window into a dark reality: Many low-wage workers say they can't afford to retire.

With no money saved for retirement, home care worker Gwen Strowbridge, 71, of Deerfield, Florida, plans to stay on the job until she can't physically work anymore.

"I can't see it in the future. I'll stop working if my health won't allow me to keep working," said Strowbridge. Now 71, she works six days per week caring for a 100-year-old woman in Florida.

Studies have found that about one-third of low wage workers like Strowbridge say they'll never be able to afford retirement. The problem is particularly acute among minority women.

A 2016 study by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that one-quarter of workers 50 and older say they won't retire. Among low wage workers, earning less than \$50,000 a year, it was 33 percent.

Strowbridge's first job, in the 1960s, paid 98 cents an hour, setting her out on a path of low-wage jobs that stretched across five decades. She raised three sons with her husband, Roy, a dock attendant who unloaded cargo from boats. The couple was forced to use the little money they had saved for retirement on family medical issues.

Strowbridge stopped working briefly after she turned 63 to care for her husband, who had quadruple bypass heart surgery. Their Social Security benefits weren't enough to cover medical expenses, rent, utilities and food. When he died, she went back to work.

Jacquelyn B. James, co-director of Boston College's Center on Aging and Work, said it is common for low-wage workers to stay on the job, with no plans for retirement.

"It is really easy for them to say 'I'm going to work forever' but things happen," said James. Among those things: health issues.

A 2016 report by the nonpartisan research nonprofit National Institute on Retirement Security shows that many black, Latina and Asian women have to work past retirement age to be able to afford basic expenses. Women were 80 percent more likely than men to be impoverished.

The research showed that for men between 70 and 74, about 19 percent of their income comes from wages. For women, it's about 15 percent.

"You couldn't put nothing in the bank because I was always underpaid," Strowbridge said. "I just didn't make enough to save."

Januario Salgado's financial situation mirrors Strowbridge's. He never saved for retirement. He is 64 years old and doesn't plan to retire. He works 10 hours, six days per week in a grocery store in a suburb outside Chicago.

"I couldn't save," Salgado said in Spanish. "I worked a lot to help my family. I used to send money to my parents in Mexico."

While caring for elderly parents is a norm in Mexican culture, many of the children don't think it's their responsibility, said Salgado, who came to the United States 40 years ago. His sons are among them.

Salgado plans to start collecting Social Security benefits when he turns 65 but he will continue to work as long as he is physically able. He doesn't want to become a burden to his children.

For Esther Bolanos, 64, the situation is even more difficult. A domestic worker, she has been able to save some money for retirement but said it is not enough. She won't be able to receive Social Security

benefits because she doesn't have legal status.

"It's sad to think about my situation. I was forced to close my business and leave the economic stability I had in my country to come here," Bolanos said in Spanish. "I left everything behind because of the violence."

Bolanos owned a successful cheese factory in Mexico City, but success made her a target, she said. Her husband was killed and she was robbed at gun-point twice. After the last robbery, she decided to migrate north.

"I told my daughter, I'm going to take you to a safe place" even if I have to work cleaning houses, she said. If Bolanos had stayed in Mexico City, she would be retired. But now that she's in the U.S., she doesn't think she ever will.

"I don't think about retirement," she said. "I think about what would happen to me if I get sick."

EDITOR'S NOTE - Maria Ines Zamudio is studying aging and workforce issues as part of a 10-month fellowship at The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, which joins NORC's independent research and AP journalism. The fellowship is funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

Clinton, Warren: Campaign partners eyeing complicated future

By JULIE PACE and KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — Joining forces in the presidential campaign's final stretch, Hillary Clinton and Sen. Elizabeth Warren pounded Donald Trump on Monday for disrespecting women and denigrating U.S. troops assisting Iraqis in their push to retake the city of Mosul.

"He's basically declaring defeat before the battle has even started," Clinton said, referring to Trump's tweet on Sunday calling the new fight against the Islamic State group "a total disaster." Clinton said her Republican rival is "proving to the world what it means to have an unqualified commander in chief."

Warren, riffing off Trump's insult to Clinton in the final debate, warned the businessman that "nasty women are tough, nasty women are smart and nasty women vote."

The back-to-back assault on Trump underscored what has drawn Clinton to Warren, with whom she has little previous relationship. The Massachusetts senator has needled Trump with gusto throughout the campaign, often provoking a prickly response from the Republican. She's also become a fierce defender of Clinton, validating the former secretary of state's progressive credentials with those skeptical of Clinton's long ties to Wall Street.

But if Clinton wins, Warren is expected to turn from cheerleader into watchdog — a towering presence in the Senate trying to hold Clinton to campaign promises on issues like student debt and Wall Street reform, while also guarding against nominees with deep ties to the financial industry.

Perhaps seeking to reassure Warren that she'll hold her ground in office, Clinton praised the Massachusetts senator's work on curbing Wall Street excess and said she looked forward to "working with her to rewrite the rules of our economy."

Warren laid down her own marker, making sure to brand Clinton's policy blueprint as a "progressive agenda."

Clinton and Warren made their joint appearance on a sun-splashed fall day in New Hampshire, a battleground state with one of the most competitive Senate races in the country. Underscoring Democrats' increasing confidence in the presidential race just over two weeks from Election Day, both women devoted significant portions of their remarks to bolstering the party's down-ballot candidates.

If Clinton wins the election and Democrats also carry the Senate, she would have more leeway in getting through nominees for top jobs. Liberals with ties to Warren and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders — who challenged Clinton for the Democratic nomination — have already started outlining specific people they're hoping end up in senior posts at the White House and agencies.

That includes Labor Secretary Tom Perez, a top liberal pick to run the Justice Department, where he previously oversaw the civil rights division; Gary Gensler, the Clinton campaign's chief financial officer who

won praise as a tough regulator at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; former senators Byron Dorgan and Ted Kaufman; and economists Joseph Stiglitz, Christina Romer and Heather Boushey.

Speaking in Washington last month, Warren signaled her opposition to nominees from the financial industry who “pay lip service” to Clinton’s agenda while waiting “until it’s time for the next swing through the revolving door, serving government then going back to the very same industries they regulate.”

While Warren waited until after the Democratic primary was over to endorse Clinton, she has been pushing the former New York senator on personnel appointments for nearly two years. Months before Clinton formally announced her candidacy, the senator made sure she had a list of people she would support for top administration jobs.

In a January 2015 email, Clinton speechwriter Dan Schwerin wrote to other aides that Warren’s team was “wary” and convinced that people with Wall Street connections had the “inside track” with the campaign, which was still forming at the time. Schwerin’s comments were made public as part of the hacking of top Clinton aide John Podesta’s emails. The Clinton campaign has blamed Russia for the hacking, accusing Moscow of trying to sway the election for Trump.

Warren has shown a willingness to challenge appointments from her own party’s president. She successfully fought to block President Barack Obama’s nomination of investment banker Antonio Weiss to be Treasury’s undersecretary of domestic finance, the department’s third-ranking post.

Under sustained pressure from Warren, Weiss withdrew from consideration in 2015. But he joined the agency anyway, as a counselor to Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew, a position that did not require Senate confirmation.

Follow Julie Pace at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC> and Ken Thomas at <http://twitter.com/kthomasDC>

France moving more than 6,000 migrants from makeshift camp

By **ELAINE GANLEY, Associated Press**

CALAIS, France (AP) — France began the mass evacuation Monday of the makeshift migrant camp known as “the jungle,” a mammoth project to erase the humanitarian blight on its northern border, where thousands fleeing war or poverty have lived in squalor, most hoping to sneak into Britain.

Before dawn broke, long lines of migrants waited in chilly temperatures to board buses in the port city of Calais, carrying meager belongings and timid hope that they were headed to a brighter future, despite giving up their dreams of life across the English Channel in Britain.

Closely watched by more than 1,200 police, the first of dozens of buses began transferring them to reception centers around France where they can apply for asylum. More police patrolled inside the camp, among them officers from the London police force.

Authorities were expected to begin tearing down thousands of muddy tents and fragile shelters on Tuesday as the migrants vacated them.

Migrants have flocked to the Calais region for nearly two decades, living in mini-jungles. But the sprawling camp in the sand dunes of northern France became emblematic of Europe’s migrant crisis, expanding as migrant numbers grew and quickly evolving into Europe’s largest slum, supported by aid groups, and a black eye on France’s image.

“It’s not good, the jungle,” said 31-year-old Mahmoud Abdrahman of Sudan. “Eating not good. Water not good, shelter not good, no good toilets.” He said he would leave Tuesday when lines were shorter, gesturing to a black knapsack that was all packed to go as proof he was ready.

Ultimately, Abdrahman said, he wanted one thing more than anything else.

“I need peace,” he said. “Anywhere.”

Home to migrants from Afghanistan, Sudan, Eritrea, Syria and elsewhere, the closing of the camp fell like a stone on many as the reality of the evacuation sunk in and plans had to be made. Uncertainty and a lack of precise information left many fearful.

“What should I do?” asked a 14-year-old newly arrived Afghan.

“It is really hard because we have found some good friends over here,” said Tariq Shinwari, a 26-year-

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 42 of 51

old Afghan.

The camp shutdown left some, like Imran Khan, an Afghan who was fingerprinted in another country before coming to France, with a tough choice — get on a bus and risk expulsion or go on the run as winter approaches. Under European rules, asylum seekers must be returned to the country where they were fingerprinted on arrival.

“I will decide tomorrow what to do,” the 35-year-old said.

By nightfall on Monday, French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said 1,918 people had been processed and sent to 80 centers around France. Another 400 unaccompanied minors were being housed in heated shelters at the camp.

The numbers were lower than the 3,000 expected to be evacuated Monday. The operation, expected to last a week, would continue as long as necessary, Cazeneuve said. “This is an operation we want to be peaceful and under control. So far it is,” he said.

Authorities say the camp holds nearly 6,500 migrants, while aid groups put the number at more than 8,300, with more than 1,200 unaccompanied minors among them.

Unaccompanied minors, many with family members in Britain, were to be housed on-site in containers set up earlier this year as their files are studied in London to see if they qualify for a transfer across the English Channel. The humanitarian organization France Terre d’Asile says 1,291 unaccompanied minors live in the camp.

In a breakthrough, Cazeneuve announced late Monday that Britain had agreed to take in unaccompanied minors with family ties in Britain, an important step after months of prodding by France.

Officials have said that there will be a solution for each migrant, though expulsion may be among them for those who don’t qualify for asylum. Meanwhile, France will spend 25 euros a day on each migrant in the reception centers, according to officials.

As the day dragged on, a group of Sudanese got tired of waiting and returned to their shelter in the camp, bags slung over their shoulders and laughing. They said they’d try again on Tuesday.

The camp, which sprang up 18 months ago, was previously tolerated but given almost no state help. Aid groups, and hundreds of British volunteers, have provided basic necessities. It devolved into a slum where tensions bubbled, friendships formed and smugglers thrived.

The forced departure of thousands is an enormous task, planned for months, but authorities have had practice. They dismantled the southern half of the camp in March, a chaotic, often brutal, bulldozing operation that drew complaints from human rights groups.

This time, France hopes to restore some pride by closing the camp that has been seen as a national disgrace in a peaceful, humane operation.

Some doubt the camp’s dismantling will end the migrant influx into northern France which predates the slum. A 2003 French-British accord effectively put the British border in Calais, stopping migrants there and putting the onus on France to deal with their plight.

While a sense of camaraderie grew inside the camp, so did tensions. Two of the largest communities, Afghans and Sudanese, have clashed in the past and whole sectors of shelters burned down.

Life at night is the toughest. In the dark, migrants invade the roadway, throwing tree branches and other objects into the path of oncoming trucks heading to port ferries to slow traffic enough to hop on the back.

Fourteen migrants have died this year in the Calais area, mostly in hit-and-run accidents.

“I’m three months in the jungle. I feel like I’ve stayed three years,” said Amin, a 32-year-old Sudanese with perfect English — and a brother in Britain.

Amin, who asked not to be further identified because of concerns for his future, lost his best friend in a hit-and-run accident this summer, a man he shared the treacherous journey with to Calais.

“Nobody looked after this case. He’s a murderer,” Amin said of the driver who struck his friend. “There was no mention in the newspaper that he died.”

Amin said he will take a bus tomorrow and seek asylum in France.

“We have tried but we’re fed up. France is good,” he said.

Associated Press writers Thomas Adamson and Sylvie Corbet in Paris and Jeffrey Schaeffer in Calais contributed to this report.

US: Philippines' Duterte sparking distress around the world

By JIM GOMEZ, Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A top American diplomat for Asia said Monday that Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's controversial remarks and a "real climate of uncertainty" about his government's intentions have sparked distress in the U.S. and other countries.

Daniel Russel, the assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, said he also relayed to Philippine Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay Jr. international concern over continuing killings under Duterte's crackdown against illegal drugs. In addition, Secretary of State John Kerry spoke by phone Sunday with Yasay about "recent challenges" in bilateral relations, the State Department said.

Russel's visit to the Philippines, part of a three-nation trip to Southeast Asia, comes amid increasing uncertainty about Washington's treaty alliance with Manila. The brash Duterte, who took office on June 30, has displayed antagonism toward America, declaring his desire to scale back military engagements with the U.S. and telling President Barack Obama to "go to hell."

Duterte's administration, however, has not formalized his public declarations to remove U.S. counterterrorism forces from the volatile southern Philippines and stop large-scale joint exercises involving American forces, creating confusion among even his Cabinet officials.

Duterte sparked diplomatic alarm when he announced during a state visit to Beijing last week his "separation" with the United States. Upon returning home the next day, Duterte said he did not mean he was severing diplomatic ties with Washington but only wanted to end a foreign policy that's overly oriented toward the U.S.

"I've pointed out to Secretary Yasay that the succession of controversial statements, comments and a real climate of uncertainty about the Philippines' intentions has created consternation in a number of countries, not only in mine," Russel told reporters in Manila after an extended meeting with Yasay.

The unease, Russel said, was also palpable "not only among governments, but also ... in other communities, in the expat Filipino community, in corporation boardrooms as well."

"This is not a positive trend," he said, adding that the U.S. remains committed to continuing a solid alliance with and providing assistance to the Philippines, including in fighting drug crime.

State Department spokesman John Kirby, however, said both Kerry and Russel came away from their discussions "feeling that we are going to be able to work through this period." Kirby said the U.S. remains committed to its mutual defense treaty with the Philippines.

Coinciding with Russel's visit, the U.S. military turned over a refurbished C-130T cargo plane as part of Washington's effort to help modernize the underfunded Philippine military, which has struggled to deal with Muslim and communist insurgencies and natural disasters.

Outgoing U.S. Ambassador Philip Goldberg said at the turnover ceremony that the U.S. was trying to clarify Duterte's remarks in relation to existing policies, including their impact on planned joint military exercises. Despite the concerns, Goldberg said the U.S. rebalance to Asia would proceed.

"It's a historical relationship, it has its ups and downs," Goldberg told reporters. While he remains optimistic, Goldberg said "some of the language we've heard is inconsistent with that friendship."

Asked if joint combat exercises with the Americans would continue despite Duterte's declared opposition to them, Yasay could not give a categorical answer.

Duterte wanted the joint combat drills to enable the Philippines "to be self-reliant in our defensive requirements," Yasay said. "If this will not be achieved, (Duterte) said then, there's no purpose of proceeding with these."

Patrolling the China-held Scarborough Shoal with the U.S. Navy, for example, can send a signal that it's a deterrent against bad Chinese intentions. "It has precisely resulted in both parties digging in and made

a peaceful resolution of the disputes even farthest from achieving," Yasay said.

Russel said that while Washington welcomes the relaxation of tensions between Manila and Beijing under Duterte, the rapprochement should not come at the expense of the U.S. or other nations.

"It's a mistake to think that improved relations between Manila and Beijing somehow come at the expense of the United States," he said. "This should be addition and not subtraction."

Duterte said Sunday that Filipino fishermen "may" be able to return to Scarborough in a few days after he discussed the territorial rift with Chinese leaders in Beijing last week, but he did not say whether China imposed conditions. China also committed to provide up to \$16 million in financial assistance primarily for agriculture, aside from business deals with Philippine companies, he said, praising China's kindness.

Asked whether China would allow Philippine fishermen access to Scarborough, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang made no commitments on Monday.

"So I can assure you that, with sufficient political will on both sides, all issues between China and the Philippines can be resolved appropriately," Lu said.

Associated Press writers Christopher Bodeen in Beijing and Matthew Pennington in Washington contributed to this report.

One-fourth of US cancer deaths linked with 1 thing: smoking

By LINDSEY TANNER, AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Cigarettes contribute to more than 1 in 4 cancer deaths in the U.S. The rate is highest among men in Southern states where smoking is more common and the rules against it are not as strict.

The American Cancer Society study found the highest rate among men in Arkansas, where 40 percent of cancer deaths were linked to cigarette smoking. Kentucky had the highest rate among women — 29 percent.

The lowest rates were in Utah, where 22 percent of cancer deaths in men and 11 percent in women were linked with smoking.

"The human costs of cigarette smoking are high in all states, regardless of ranking," the authors said.

They analyzed 2014 health surveys and government data on smoking rates and deaths from about a dozen smoking-linked cancers. Lung, throat, stomach, liver, colon, pancreas and kidney cancers were among those included, along with leukemia. The researchers estimated how many cancer deaths were likely attributable to smoking, and compared that with deaths from all cancers.

Results were published Monday in JAMA Internal Medicine

While U.S. smoking rates have been falling, 40 million U.S. adults are cigarette smokers and smoking is the top cause of preventable deaths, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

NUMBERS

The study found that at least 167,000 cancer deaths in 2014 — about 29 percent of all U.S. cancer deaths — were attributable to smoking. A government estimate based on different methods says 1 in 3 U.S. cancer deaths are linked with smoking, and the study authors acknowledge they may have underestimated the true burden posed by cigarettes.

Most of the 10 states with the highest rates of smoking-attributable cancer deaths were in the South, while most of the 10 states with the lowest rates were in the North or West.

Among men, where smoking is generally more common, the cigarette-linked cancer death rate was highest in blacks at 35 percent, compared with 30 percent for whites and 27 percent for Hispanics. Among women, whites had the highest cigarette-linked cancer death rate — 21 percent, compared 19 percent for blacks and 12 percent for Hispanics.

EXPLANATIONS

The researchers say nine of 14 states with the least comprehensive smoke-free indoor air policies are in the South. The average cigarette excise tax in major tobacco states, mostly in the South, is 49 cents, compared with \$1.80 elsewhere. The tobacco industry heavily influences these policies and most of the

U.S. tobacco crop is grown in the South, the researchers said. The region also has relatively high levels of poverty, which is also linked with smoking.

REACTION

Dr. Hilary Tindle of Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, said the results reflect what she sees as a tobacco researcher and internal medicine specialist in the South. She was not involved in the study.

Smoking is more of a social norm there, and while her medical center has an indoor smoking ban, she said it's not unusual to walk through cloud of cigarette smoke outside the entrance.

Tindle said the study results highlight the need for stronger tobacco control measures and show why doctors should discuss smoking at every patient visit, encourage smokers to quit and inform them about effective ways to do so.

Online:

American Cancer Society: <http://www.cancer.org>

CDC: <http://tinyurl.com/jtgv8pb>

Follow AP Medical Writer Lindsey Tanner at <http://www.twitter.com/LindseyTanner> . Her work can be found at <http://bigstory.ap.org/content/lindsey-tanner>

Iraqis press toward Mosul, face questions about airstrike

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA and JOSEPH KRAUSS, Associated Press

BARTELLA, Iraq (AP) — U.S.-backed Iraqi forces fought their way inside two villages Monday as they crept closer to Mosul a week into an offensive to retake the Islamic State-held city, but they also faced questions over a suspected airstrike on a mosque that killed 13 people.

Iraqi special forces shelled militant positions before dawn near Bartella, a historically Christian town east of Mosul that they had retaken last week. With patriotic music blaring from loudspeakers on their Humvees, they then pushed into the village of Tob Zawa, about 9 kilometers (5½ miles) from Mosul, amid heavy clashes.

Until now, most of the fighting has been in largely uninhabited towns and villages, but the special forces found more than 70 civilians sheltering in Tob Zawa. They will encounter many more civilians as they get closer to Mosul, still home to more than 1 million people.

Abdeljabar Antar, who had remained in Tob Zawa with his wife and four children, said the IS militants had included foreign fighters "who spoke languages I don't know — Russians, Pakistanis." They had forced children to go to religious school and military training, and everyone had to attend prayers five times a day, he added.

In the days before the offensive, Antar said the village ran low on food and supplies, and that residents had to get permission from IS to leave.

"I hope life will return to the way it was before 2014," he said, referring to the summer when IS militants swept across northern and central Iraq, capturing Mosul and surrounding towns.

The Iraqi Federal Police, a military-style force, pushed into a second village in the Shura district south of Mosul, where they fired a large anti-aircraft gun and rocket-propelled grenades. They later appeared to have secured the village, a cluster of squat homes on a desert plain, and handed out water and other aid to civilians.

The U.S.-led coalition said it had carried out six airstrikes Sunday near Mosul, destroying 19 fighting positions and 17 vehicles, as well as rocket and mortar launchers, artillery and tunnels.

Human Rights Watch called for an investigation into last week's purported airstrike in northern Iraq that hit the women's section of a Shiite mosque in the town of Daquq.

The strike happened amid a large Islamic State assault on nearby Kirkuk that appeared aimed at diverting attention from the fight for Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city.

The IS attack on Kirkuk, 170 kilometers (100 miles) southeast of Mosul, lasted for two days and killed

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 46 of 51

at least 80 people, mainly members of the Kurdish security forces that took control of the city in 2014 as Iraqi forces crumbled amid an IS advance.

Human Rights Watch said Daquq's residents believe Friday's attack was an airstrike because of the extent of the destruction and because planes could be heard overhead. The New York-based group said at least 13 people were reported killed.

The coalition and the Iraqi military, which are waging the offensive, are the only parties known to be flying military aircraft over Iraq.

Col. John Dorrian, a U.S. military spokesman, said the coalition had "definitively determined" it did not conduct the airstrike that killed civilians in Daquq and had shared its findings with the Iraqi government, which is doing its own investigation.

"The Coalition uses precision munitions and an exhaustive process to reduce the possibility of civilian casualties and collateral damage because the preservation of civilian life is (of) paramount importance to us," Dorrian said.

Iraqi Brig. Gen. Yahya Rasool, spokesman for the Joint Military Command, confirmed the Iraqi government was investigating the attack. He declined to say whether Iraqi or coalition planes were in the area at the time.

Elsewhere in the country, Iraqi forces battled IS militants for a second day in the far western town of Rutba, hundreds of kilometers (miles) south of Mosul, after what appeared to be another Kirkuk-style assault.

Rasool said the situation in Rutba "is completely under control," and the militants have no presence in the town.

But Dorrian, the coalition spokesman, said "Iraqi forces continue to attack the enemy with coalition air support" in Rutba and that "operations are ongoing."

He said coalition airstrikes have destroyed five Islamic State vehicles and killed a "significant" number of militants in the town, located in sprawling Anbar province.

The IS-run Amaq news agency posted video that it said showed fighters attacking a military position north of Rutba on Sunday. It said several groups of fighters had infiltrated the town, setting off two car bombs, while other militants attacked the perimeter. The claims could not be independently confirmed.

In Baghdad, meanwhile, a series of small bombings killed 11 people and wounded another 35, according to police and hospital officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release the information.

The campaign to retake Mosul comes after months of planning and involves more than 25,000 Iraqi troops, Kurdish forces, Sunni tribal fighters and state-sanctioned Shiite militias. It is expected to take weeks, if not months.

IS has suffered a series of setbacks in the past year, and Mosul is its last major urban bastion in Iraq.

Krauss reported from Baghdad. Associated Press writers Sinan Salaheddin in Baghdad, Maamoun Youssef in Cairo and Bassem Mroue in Beirut contributed.

Follow Joseph Krauss on Twitter at www.twitter.com/josephkrauss . His work can be found at www.bigstory.ap.org/journalist/joseph-krauss

Trump took \$17 million in insurance for damage few remember

By JEFF HORWITZ and TERRY SPENCER, Associated Press

PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Donald Trump said he received a \$17 million insurance payment in 2005 for hurricane damage to Mar-a-Lago, his private club in Palm Beach, but The Associated Press found little evidence of such large-scale damage.

Two years after a series of storms, the real estate tycoon said he didn't know how much had been spent on repairs but acknowledged he pocketed some of the money. Trump transferred funds into his personal accounts, saying that under the terms of his policy, "you didn't have to reinvest it."

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 47 of 51

In a deposition in an unrelated civil lawsuit, Trump said he got the cash from a "very good insurance policy" and cited ongoing work to the historic home.

"Landscaping, roofing, walls, painting, leaks, artwork in the — you know, the great tapestries, tiles, Spanish tiles, the beach, the erosion," he said of the storm damage. "It's still not what it was."

Trump's description of extensive damage does not match those of Mar-a-Lago members and even Trump loyalists. In an interview about the estate's history, Trump's longtime former butler, Anthony Senecal, recalled no catastrophic damage. He said Hurricane Wilma, the last of a string of storms that barreled through in 2004 and 2005, flattened trees behind Mar-a-Lago, but the house itself only lost some roof tiles.

"That house has never been seriously damaged," said Senecal, discussing Mar-a-Lago's luck with hurricanes. "I was there for all of them."

Just over two weeks after Wilma, Trump hosted 370 guests at Mar-a-Lago for the wedding of his son Donald Jr.

While part of that celebration did have to be moved away from the front lawn due to hurricane damage, wedding photographs by Getty Images showed the house, pools, cabanas and landscaping in good repair.

Valuations for Mar-a-Lago are subjective, but Forbes estimated the 110,000-square-foot property's value at \$150 million in its most recent appraisal of Trump's net worth. The estate's historic nature would add to any repair costs, but Tim Frank, Palm Beach's planning administrator at the time of the hurricanes, said \$17 million in work would have required "dozens, maybe scores of workers." In 2004, Trump built a 20,000-square-foot ballroom from scratch for less than \$6 million, according to building permits.

Palm Beach building department records show no permits for construction on that scale after the storms. Permits reflected smaller projects, including installation of new grease traps in the kitchen and tree trimming along the road. The only permits that appeared hurricane-related were for \$3,000 in repairs to storm-damaged outdoor lighting and the vacuuming of sand from the property's beachfront pool. Likewise, records of the city's Landmarks and Preservation Commission reflected no repair work conducted following the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons.

The \$17 million Mar-a-Lago insurance payment surfaced during a 2007 deposition in Trump's unsuccessful libel lawsuit against journalist Tim O'Brien, whom Trump accused of underestimating his wealth. As part of the case, O'Brien's attorneys were permitted to review Trump's financial records, including some from the Mar-a-Lago Club. They asked Trump to quantify the damage and explain why he had pocketed money instead of spending it on repairs.

Trump said repairs were ongoing, but acknowledged he could not remember which hurricane had damaged Mar-a-Lago or when it hit.

"We continue to spend the money because we continue to suffer the ravages of that hurricane," Trump said. "We're continuously spending money. It really beat up Mar-a-Lago very badly."

The insurance adjustor who assessed the insurance claim, Hank Stein of VeriClaim Inc., said there had been damage to Trump's golf course in West Palm Beach and damage to Mar-a-Lago's roof and landscaping, but he could not remember details. Trump declined to provide the AP with records about the insurance claim or answer specific questions about damage at Mar-a-Lago.

Stein, who has since left VeriClaim for another firm, said he remembered water damage from rain after windows to an observation deck atop the mansion blew open. "I wish I could give you some more information on the breakdown," he said.

Under local rules, major repairs would have required Trump to request a permit and pay permit fees. If such work were performed without permits, that could have avoided as much as \$450,000 in fees but would have likely been illegal.

The city's former planning administrator said getting away with such extensive, unpermitted work would have been unlikely. Frank cited both his own agency's vigilance and wealthy Palm Beach residents' habit of calling out each other's code violations. Once, Trump's neighbors hired lawyers to report suspicions that he improperly let guests sleep in poolside cabanas during a wedding.

"If there were \$17 million dollars of damage, we sure as hell would have known about that," said Frank.

"I would have known if there was anything in the magnitude of \$100,000."

The Republican mayor of Palm Beach at the time — and Mar-a-Lago member — Jack McDonald, agreed: "I am unable to comprehend \$17 million in reimbursable damage."

Jane Day, the city's former historical preservation consultant, who helped oversee Mar-a-Lago's conversion to a private club and who has visited in the years since as a guest, also was mystified. "This is the first I'm hearing of it."

Frank said the commission would have granted immediate approval to simple repairs, but Trump or his contractors would still have needed to file for permits.

"If they changed the door knobs I was supposed to review it," Frank said.

Much of Trump's property insurance business has long been handled by Pamela Newman, a leading insurance broker for Aon Risk Services Inc. Neither Newman nor AON would discuss the case with AP.

Two former Aon employees familiar with the company's work for Trump said Trump's company was routinely late on insurance premium payments and regularly threatened to take its business elsewhere. They spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss confidential business matters and because they feared retribution since they continue to work in the insurance industry. Representing Trump allowed Newman to bring up her work on behalf of Trump in sales pitches to wealthy clients, sometimes offering him as a reference, the employees said.

Newman's ties to Trump have endured. He and she both sit on the board of New York's Police Athletic League. She has attended galas at Mar-a-Lago and donated the legal maximum of \$2,700 to his presidential exploratory committee before he announced his run. She followed up last July with \$25,000 in donations to the Make America Great Again PAC, according to Federal Election Commission records.

According to the Trump deposition, Newman led the effort to obtain a payout on the Mar-a-Lago insurance policy. Trump did not identify which insurer actually footed the bill and the AP was unable to identify who paid the claim.

Documenting an insurance claim as large as the one that Trump made on Mar-a-Lago typically involves extensive verification of the damage. Stein said the process went smoothly and that he worked closely with both Newman and a senior Trump executive, Matt Calamari.

"It would have been myself along with an adjustment team," he said. "It was a thorough investigation."

In the depositions, Trump said he knew little about that process that produced his \$17 million payday, but praised the policy and said Newman took care of it.

"We had a very good insurance policy, actually," he said.

Associated Press reporters Jake Pearson in New York and Kelli Kennedy in Miami contributed to this reporting.

Iraqis on edge of Mosul face a deadly dilemma: Stay or flee

By SUSANNAH GEORGE and BALINT SZLANKO, Associated Press

QAYARA, Iraq (AP) — Bayda Muhammad Khalaf followed the government's advice to stay in her home with her husband and seven children as Iraqi troops advanced near their remote village outside militant-held Mosul. But after the Islamic State fighters fled and Iraqi troops didn't appear, their tiny supply of food quickly ran out, and the family had to flee to search for territory firmly under government control.

When the Mosul offensive began a week ago, departing IS fighters warned villagers to stay off the roads and surrounding fields, which the militants had mined. So Khalaf waited until she saw a passing shepherd, and then she and her family made the eight-hour walk out of no man's land behind a herd of sheep.

"We were starving," she said. They had watched the start of the offensive on TV and thought Iraqi forces were on the way, but the troops' progress has been slow, and Mosul's southern approach is littered with dozens of villages, some with no more than 20 homes.

Eventually, Khalaf couldn't produce enough breast milk for her infant daughter. "I started giving her goat's milk, but then the goat died," she said.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 49 of 51

Mosul, the largest city controlled by the Islamic State group, is still home to more than 1 million civilians. The government and international aid groups fear that a sudden mass exodus will overwhelm the few camps set up on its outskirts.

The massive offensive is expected to take weeks, if not months, and with supply routes cut off by the fighting, many civilians may not be able to stay in place for long. Driven by fear or hunger, many are already putting themselves in grave danger and are complicating the campaign to expel the militants from the city, which fell to IS in 2014.

More than 5,600 people have already fled areas near Mosul, according to the International Organization for Migration, with most heading through IS-run territory toward the Syrian border, rather than in the direction of the advancing troops, who are converging from the north, east and south.

Camps have been set up to accommodate 60,000 people, but about 200,000 are expected to be displaced in the first weeks of the offensive, according to the Norwegian Refugee Council.

Both the Iraqi government and Kurdish authorities are mired in an economic crisis brought on by low oil prices and say they do not have the resources to care for such a large number of displaced people. So they have urged everyone to stay put.

"We have a comprehensive plan for the evacuation of the civilians," said Maj. Gen. Qassim al-Maliki, the head of the Iraqi army's 9th Division. "The plan is to keep them in their houses until it becomes safer."

That means huddling indoors, often with no electricity or running water, as explosions and gunfire echo outside. Those living near the front lines are often out of reach of aid groups.

Those who somehow manage to cross the battle lines, like Khalaf's family, face other challenges.

The Kurds have taken in hundreds of thousands of people, but Sunni Arabs, who make up most of Mosul's population, are viewed with suspicion. When IS militants attacked the Kurdish-controlled city of Kirkuk last week, a senior Kurdish commander immediately speculated the attackers had infiltrated the city disguised as fleeing civilians.

"Many of (the displaced civilians), I'm sure they are working with ISIS," said Kemal Kerkuki, a commander with the Kurdish forces, known as peshmerga. He said his forces arrested one recently who confessed to being part of a sleeper cell.

"I have told the authorities many times to open a big camp and put all of (the people fleeing IS) there so we can control them," he said.

In past operations against IS, Iraqi security forces have been accused of abuses of civilians fleeing militant-held territory. Iraqi armed groups "have committed serious human rights violations, including war crimes, by torturing, arbitrarily detaining, forcibly disappearing and extrajudicially executing thousands of civilians," the human rights group Amnesty International reported this month.

Fatima Abdullah, whose husband was detained for security screening at the Dibaga Camp this month after they fled their village near Mosul, said she understands the need for a vetting process. "I don't blame them, it's their right," she said.

She said she's able to visit her husband daily, but they are only able to see each other and speak through a chain-link fence.

"They are treating us well here," Abdullah said as some of her older children lined up to receive a hot evening meal in the school yard where they have been staying. "But we're also scared. We don't know what our destiny is."

When Khalaf and her family arrived in Qayara after following the sheep out of their village, she was exhausted and her children were hungry. Two of her young daughters ate handfuls of stale rice from a pile of food that had been discarded on the side of the road. Another child started to scream and cry, begging to return home.

"I just keep telling them all day, 'Don't worry. We're almost there,'" she said.

Associated Press writer Fay Abdulgasim in Dibaga Camp, Iraq, contributed.

Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 50 of 51

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 25, the 299th day of 2016. There are 67 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 25, 1962, during a meeting of the U.N. Security Council, U.S. Ambassador Adlai E. Stevenson II demanded that Soviet Ambassador Valerian Zorin confirm or deny the existence of Soviet-built missile bases in Cuba, saying he was prepared to wait "until hell freezes over" for an answer; Stevenson then presented photographic evidence of the bases to the Council.

On this date:

In 1415, during the Hundred Years' War, outnumbered English soldiers led by Henry V defeated French troops in the Battle of Agincourt in northern France.

In 1760, Britain's King George III succeeded his late grandfather, George II.

In 1854, the "Charge of the Light Brigade" took place during the Crimean War as an English brigade of more than 600 men charged the Russian army, suffering heavy losses.

In 1929, former Interior Secretary Albert B. Fall was convicted in Washington, D.C. of accepting a \$100,000 bribe from oil tycoon Edward L. Doheny. (Fall was sentenced to a year in prison and fined \$100,000; he ended up serving nine months.)

In 1939, the play "The Time of Your Life," by William Saroyan, opened in New York.

In 1944, New York socialite and amateur soprano Florence Foster Jenkins, 76, performed a recital to a capacity crowd at Carnegie Hall. (The next day, a scathing review by Earl Wilson in the New York Post remarked, "She can sing anything but notes.")

In 1945, Taiwan became independent of Japanese colonial rule.

In 1954, a meeting of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's Cabinet was carried live on radio and television; to date, it's the only presidential Cabinet meeting to be broadcast.

In 1971, the U.N. General Assembly voted to admit mainland China and expel Taiwan.

In 1983, a U.S.-led force invaded Grenada at the order of President Ronald Reagan, who said the action was needed to protect U.S. citizens there.

In 1986, in Game 6 of the World Series, the New York Mets rallied for three runs with two outs in the 10th inning, defeating the Boston Red Sox 6-5 and forcing a seventh game; the tie-breaking run scored on Boston first baseman Bill Buckner's error on Mookie Wilson's slow grounder. (The Mets went on to win the Series.)

In 1994, Susan Smith of Union, South Carolina, claimed that a black carjacker had driven off with her two young sons (Smith later confessed to drowning the children in John D. Long Lake, and was convicted of murder). Three defendants were convicted in South Africa of murdering American exchange student Amy Biehl.

Ten years ago: Acknowledging painful losses in Iraq, President George W. Bush told a news conference he was not satisfied with the progress of the long and unpopular war, but insisted the United States was winning and should not think about withdrawing. Serial killer Danny Harold Rolling was executed by injection for butchering five University of Florida students in Gainesville in 1990.

Five years ago: Deposed Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, his son Muatassim and former Defense Minister Abu Bakr Yunis were buried at dawn in a secret location, five days after Gadhafi was killed when revolutionary fighters overwhelmed his hometown of Sirte.

One year ago: Declaring that "today is a time of mercy," Pope Francis closed a historic meeting of bishops that approved an important new direction in welcoming divorced and civilly remarried Catholics into the church. Six people were killed when a Canadian whale-watching boat capsized off Vancouver Island. Flip Saunders, 60, who rose from the backwaters of basketball's minor leagues to become one of the most powerful men in the NBA as coach, team president and part owner of the Minnesota Timberwolves, died in Minneapolis.

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Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 ~ Vol. 23 - No. 115 ~ 51 of 51

Today's Birthdays: Former American League president Dr. Bobby Brown is 92. Singer-actress Barbara Cook is 89. Actress Marion Ross is 88. Basketball Hall of Famer Bob Knight is 76. Pop singer Helen Reddy is 75. Author Anne Tyler is 75. Rock singer Jon Anderson (Yes) is 72. Political strategist James Carville is 72. Singer Taffy Danoff (Starland Vocal Band) is 72. Rock musician Glenn Tipton (Judas Priest) is 69. Actor Brian Kerwin is 67. Actor Mark L. Taylor is 66. Movie director Julian Schnabel is 65. Rock musician Matthias Jabs is 60. Actress Nancy Cartwright (TV: "The Simpsons") is 59. Country singer Mark Miller (Sawyer Brown) is 58. Rock musician Chad Smith (Red Hot Chili Peppers; Chickenfoot) is 55. Actress Tracy Nelson is 53. Actor Michael Boatman is 52. Actor Kevin Michael Richardson is 52. Actor Mathieu Amalric is 51. Singer Speech is 48. Actress-comedian-TV host Samantha Bee (TV: "Full Frontal With Samantha Bee") is 47. Actor Adam Goldberg is 46. Actor-singer Adam Pascal is 46. Rock musician Ed Robertson (Barenaked Ladies) is 46. Actress Persia White is 46. Country singer Chely (SHEL'-ee) Wright is 46. Violinist Midori is 45. Actor Craig Robinson is 45. Actor Michael Weston is 43. Actor Zachary Knighton is 38. Actress Mariana Klaveno is 37. Actor Mehcad (muh-KAD') Brooks is 36. Actor Ben Gould is 36. Actor Josh Henderson is 35. Rhythm-and-blues singer Young Rome is 35. Pop singer Katy Perry is 32. Rock singer Austin Winkler is 32. Singer Ciara is 31. Actress Conchita Campbell is 21.

Thought for Today: "You can tell the size of a man by the size of the thing that makes him mad." — Adlai E. Stevenson II, American statesman (1900-1965).