

# Groton Daily Independent

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## 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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## Tuesday, Nov. 8

Senior Menu: Tater tot hot dish, green beans, grape juice, sour cream apple pie square, whole wheat bread.  
School Breakfast: Mini pancakes, fruit, juice, milk.  
School Lunch: Chili, cornbread, carrots and dip, fruit.  
Debate at Watertown  
8 p.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council

## Wednesday, Nov. 9

School Breakfast: Cereal, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.  
School Lunch: Pepperoni pizza, green beans, romaine salad, fruit.  
Senior Menu: Roast pork, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, tomato spoon salad, carrot bar, whole wheat bread.  
FBLA Blood Drive at the GHS Gym  
3:45 p.m.: St. John's Lutheran Confirmation  
6:30 p.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran League  
7 p.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran confirmation

## Thursday, Nov. 10

School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk.  
School Lunch: Chicken nuggets, smiley potatoes, carrots and dip, Fruit, muffin.  
Senior Menu: Baked chicken breast, rice pilaf, cauliflower/pea salad, tapiocia pudding, whole wheat bread.  
7:45 am: Free Veteran's Breakfast  
10 a.m.: Veteran's Day Program in the Arena  
7 p.m.: Groton Area vs. West Central at Madison for the Sweet 16 Round

## Friday, Nov. 11

VETERAN'S DAY  
NO SCHOOL  
1 p.m.: Groton Area vs. Winner in Class 11B Final football game

## Midwest Masonry & Concrete Pumping

Greg Heilman, owner



405 E 1st Ave., Groton

Greg: 253/929-9137

Mike: 605/492-7041

midwestmasonry1@yahoo.com

# Holiday open house

November 10-12

Thursday 9am-5pm

Friday 9am - 5pm

Saturday 10am-4pm

Discounts through  
out the store

Daily door prize  
drawings

Wine Sampling each  
day

Shop Local!



101 N Main St, Groton SD  
605-397-8650

find us on facebook, instagram or at  
[www.oldebankfloralsd.com](http://www.oldebankfloralsd.com)

## DOLLAR GENERAL IS HIRING!

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

**New Store Opening in Groton, SD.**

**Need all Candidates to apply right away as the store will open in early December:**

**Store Manager**

**Assistant Store Manager**

**Lead Sales Associates**

**Sales Associates**

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

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

Again thank you for your interest in Dollar General.

*Dollar General Corporation is an equal opportunity employer*

**DOLLAR GENERAL®**

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

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## Electric wheeling fee to increase from \$3,000 to \$81,000

Groton City will be seeing not only a huge increase in wheeling fees, but an astronomical increase. Just two years ago, the city paid \$3,000 a year to Northwestern Energy. Thanks to the new Southwest Power Pool (SPP), that Heartland Consumers Power District (HCPD) belongs too, and that the city is a member of HCPD, the fee next year will increase to \$81,000 to SPP. In addition, even though the city has a sophisticated load management system, other communities do not have a full load management system. The end result is that Groton will be paying penalty fees when communities cannot project and control their loads.

The ending cash balance for the City of Groton was \$1,055,271.18 as of October 31, 2016. Councilman David McGannon made the motion to approve the financial report stating, "I'll move the accept the best report in three years."

A pole behind MJ's Sinclair was hit a couple of years ago, but is still in good shape; however, it is in a congested traffic area and a request was made to have the pole moved. The overline line going behind the First State Bank to S & S Lumber will be going underground in the next year and when that happens, the pole will be removed. The cost to put the line in underground is \$36,200.

A new police vehicle has finally been approved. The council gave the okay to order the new police vehicle and it will take up to three months before it can be part of the fleet. The cost of the new vehicle will be \$36,442. The city budgeted \$40,000.

The council made contingency transfers of \$36,000, still leaving about \$60,000 in contingency.

Councilman Burt Glover and Electric Superintendent Shawn Lambertz were authorized to attend the Heartland Winter Conference December 8 in Flandreau.

The city will be grappling with health insurance rates this year. If the city were to renew its current plan, the city would see an increase in rates of 29.27 percent.

## School Announcements

### Groton Area Tigers are Domebound!

11B State Championship Game

Friday, November 11, 2016

1:00 PM

Congratulations to the Groton Area Tigers on a fantastic football season. To allow students and their families to attend the game in Vermillion, there will be no school on Friday, November 11. OST will be closed.

Advanced reserved tickets are \$13 each and student general admission tickets are \$8 each. Remaining tickets can be purchased from the business office on Tuesday, November 8.

Welcome Home – Sunday, November 13 7:00 PM – GHS Arena

## Veterans Day – Celebrated Thursday, November 10

Free Veterans Breakfast from 7:45 – 8:30 AM at Groton Area Elementary on Thursday, November 10

Annual Veterans Day Program at 10:00 AM – Groton Area High School Arena

## Volleyball Sweet 16

Groton Area vs. West Central at Madison (7:00 PM) in Sweet 16 Volleyball for a chance to head to the state tournament.

## Activities association welcomes NCAA scheduling conflicts

By Dana Hess for South Dakota Newspaper Association

PIERRE- The South Dakota High School Activities Association Board of Directors doesn't ordinarily like it when outside forces mess with its tournament schedule. The board made an exception at the group's Nov. 2 meeting.

At the meeting the board learned that the Sioux Falls Sports Authority is putting in bids to host a variety of NCAA Division I events at the Denny Sanford Premier Center beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

If Sioux Falls wins the bids for the tournament games, SDHSAA Executive Director Wayne Carney told the board that the association wouldn't have any potential conflicts for events scheduled to take place at the Premier Center until the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years.

Carney said the sports authority would know by Jan. 17, 2017, if any of the bids had been accepted.

Board chairman Steve Morford of Spearfish noted that the activities association's site selection committee would have plenty of time to react.

"They're going to give years of notice," said board member Brian Maher of Sioux Falls who seemed ready to handle any scheduling problems. "It would sure be nice if we have to deal with that."

The next meeting of the site selection committee will be held on Dec. 14. They will be working on selecting tournament sites for the 2020-2021 school year.

## Activities board mulls student council convention funding challenges

By Dana Hess for South Dakota Newspaper Association

PIERRE - Making sure that the state's best student leaders have an affordable convention was a topic of discussion at the Nov. 2 meeting of the South Dakota High School Activities Association Board of Directors.

Assistant executive director Brooks Bowman explained that for the South Dakota Student Council Association to continue putting on a convention, it would have to significantly increase the fees it charges school districts and students.

Bowman said the student council organization has enough funding for this year's convention. Without a change in the fee structure, the group would see a \$22,000 deficit in the next school year.

The student council group is facing higher expenses for its convention, having outgrown its previous, lower priced venue in Pierre. Fees for facility rentals and meals are significantly higher in Sioux Falls and Rapid City, the only South Dakota cities with the facilities to handle the convention's 1,300 people.

SDHSAA Chairman Steve Morford of Spearfish suggested that the group seek sponsorships to help with convention costs.

Bowman presented the board with sample budgets that showed the student council group's fees would need to go from \$55 to \$90 for students and from \$100 to \$220 for school districts.

"I think we need to be careful about raising fees," said board member Sandy Klatt of Brandon Valley. Raising student fees from \$55 to \$90 "stinks," she said.

Board member Jason Uttermark of Aberdeen said student council members at Aberdeen Central hold fundraisers to pay their way. An increase in fees would mean that they would need to hold one more fundraiser, Uttermark said.

Board member Brian Maher of Sioux Falls questioned whether governance of the student council organization fits within the mission of the activities association.

"Let's figure out what we're spending our money on," Maher said. "I'd like to have a lot more information.

"SDHSAA Executive Director Wayne Carney said it's not uncommon for the activities association to sponsor events at which income does not offset expenses.

"If we take a little bit of a loss on it, we can handle that," Carney said, going on to note the value of the convention. "It's really a high energy event. Schools see the advantage of sending their kids."

Bowman said he would supply the board with more detailed information at its next meeting on Jan. 11, 2017.

## Finance committee formed for activities association

By Dana Hess for South Dakota Newspaper Association

PIERRE - The makeup of a new finance committee, designed to offer advice to the board of directors of the South Dakota High School Activities Association, was questioned by representatives of a superintendents' group.

At its Nov. 2 meeting, the board approved the members of the committee. Those members include three SDHSAA board members: Steve Morford of Spearfish, Jason Uttermark of Aberdeen and Sandy Klatt of Brandon Valley. Also on the committee are two superintendents: Jeff Danielsen of West Central and Mark Naugle of Custer; two athletic/activities directors; Sherrie Kafka of Gregory and Chuck Wilson of Todd County; one principal, Adam Shaw of Madison; and one business manager, Darla Mayer of Pierre.

Lynn Vlasman, Lyman School superintendent and president of the South Dakota School Superintendents Association, said his organization thought it would be best if the two athletic directors were replaced by members who had a better understanding of school finances.

A statement from the organization said, "SDSSA believes that athletic directors are generally not responsible for or engaged in discussions of district budgets and therefore their inclusion on the finance committee takes up spots that might be better filled with individuals that have a broader perspective on school finance."

Morford said the athletic directors should stay on the finance committee.

"They are a direct link to our students," said Morford, chairman of the SDHSAA.

West Central Superintendent Jeff Danielsen said the request was made because the committee could be top-heavy with athletic directors, depending on the backgrounds of the SDHSAA board members who serve on the committee.

In addition to athletic directors, the SDHSAA board is composed of superintendents, high school principals and school board members.

Of the current board members on the finance committee, Morford and Uttermark are principals and Klatt is a school board member.

The SDHSAA board took no action on the superintendents' request.

## 17 apply to be executive director of activities association

By Dana Hess for South Dakota Newspaper Association

PIERRE - The South Dakota High School Activities Association has received 17 applications for the position of executive director. Current executive director Wayne Carney is retiring.

According to board member Brian Maher of Sioux Falls, the would meet in executive session at its Nov. 2 meeting to vet the applications. Interviews would likely take place in January or March to coincide with SDHSAA board meetings.

To determine the characteristics and qualities of the next executive director, SDHSAA surveyed state groups representing school superintendents, athletic directors and high school principals.

At its meeting, the board heard from Lynn Vlasman, superintendent of the Lyman School and president of the South Dakota School Superintendents Association. He presented the SDHSAA board his organization's four recommendations for qualities needed in the next executive director:

★ Leadership and a broad sense of the importance of athletics and fine arts in the development of young people.

★ A commitment to expanded use of technology to enhance communication, transparency and accountability.

★ A broad sense of school finance and how mandated expenditures in one budget area can negatively impact financial priorities in other areas of a district budget.

★ The ability to follow through on initiatives that represent the will of the majority of the association's member districts even if they conflict with the director's personal vision.

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## Activities group considers conflict of interest policy

By Dana Hess for South Dakota Newspaper Association

PIERRE - At its Nov. 2 meeting, the board of directors of the South Dakota High School Activities Association passed the first reading of a policy dealing with board member conflicts of interest.

According to the policy, "A board member will not have any direct pecuniary interest in a contract which could be affected by a decision of the South Dakota High School Activities Association."

The policy explains a pecuniary interest as any private gain a board member may receive as the result of a SDHSAA decision. Conflicts of interest could include labor, services, materials, supplies or equipment.

If a conflict of interest is discovered, the conflict may be waived by a two-thirds vote of elected members of the board.

Board member Moe Ruesink of Sioux Valley questioned whether this policy would mean the need for board action when he officiates at state tournaments. Tournament officials are paid by the activities association.

Board chairman Steve Morford of Spearfish said that constituted a conflict of interest and two-thirds of the board would have to waive it in order for Ruesink to officiate.

The policy will have a second reading at the board's Jan. 11, 2017, meeting in Pierre.

**Lori's Pharmacy**  
**Holiday Open House**  
**November 10-11-12**  
**Goodies, door prizes**  
**and draw for your discount on gift items.**

## Groton Coffee Cup League

**Nov. 7 Team Standings:** James Valley 22 1/2, Jungle Lanes 15, Ten Pins 15, Kens 11 1/2.

**High Games:** Vicki Walter 178, Sandi Bistodeau 173, Penny Stolle 165.

**High Series:** Penny Stolle 468, Vickie Kramp 464, Joyce Walter 462.

## Conde National League

**Nov. 7 Team Standings:** Pirates 21, Braves 19, Cubs 18, Giants 18, Colts 18, Mets 14.

**Men's High Games:** Lance Frohling 214, 191; Butch Farmen 202; Larry Frohling 186.

**Men's High Series:** Lance Frohling 569, Butch Farmen 535, Larry Frohling 487.

**Women's High Games:** Joyce Walter 171, Michelle Johnson 169, Renee Hanlon 167.

**Women's High Series:** Renee Hanlon 467, Michelle Johnson 458, Joyce Walter 446, Mary Larson 446.

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## ★ **One Voice** ★ **for Free Enterprise, Gun Rights, and Life**

These candidates support protecting family values, the right to life,  
and earned the endorsement of the National Rifle Association



**Brock  
Greenfield**  
State Senate



**Burt  
TULSON**  
State House  
Thank You



**LANA  
GREENFIELD**  
DISTRICT 2  
FOR HOUSE

**You can early vote now at your county courthouse  
Election day is November 8th at your regular polling place**

### SAMPLE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

A November 8, 2016	B SOUTH DAKOTA
<p><b>For State Representative District 02</b> you may vote for up to <b>two</b> or leave it blank</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Lana Greenfield</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Burton "Burt" Tulson</p> <p><small>Paid for by Greenfield Campaign Committee and Tulson for House</small></p>	<p><b>Instructions to the Voter:</b> To vote for a person <b>FILL IN</b> the oval next to the name. To vote on a ballot question <b>FILL IN</b> the oval next to "yes" or "no". Use only a pencil or pen. If you make a mistake, give the ballot back and get a new one. <b>DO NOT</b> cast more votes than are allowed in each race.</p> <p><b>For State Senator District 02</b> you may vote for <b>one</b> or leave it blank</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Brock L. Greenfield</p>



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Groton Post No. 39 American Legion



## Annual



# Turkey Party

Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016

Starting at 6:30 p.m.

Groton Legion Post Home, 10 N. Main.

Turkey, Ham and Bacon  
to be given away

**FREE ADMISSION**

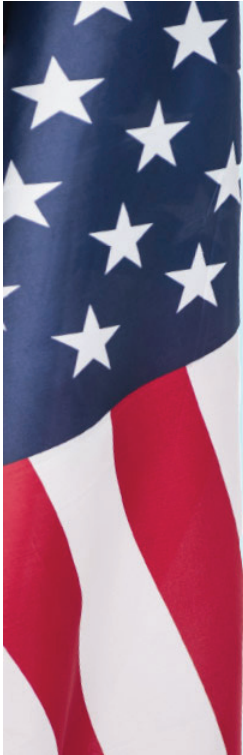
**DOOR  
PRIZE!**

Lunch served  
by Auxiliary



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***Veterans & Active  
Duty Military\****

Enjoy a **FREE**  
Medium **Blizzard**® Treat

on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11th  
at the **Groton Dairy Queen**

\* Active duty and retired members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Guard or Reserves. This is a local store marketing offer and is only available at participating locations. Must either be in uniform or show valid proof of service (military ID, veterans designation on driver's license or DD214 paperwork).

Limit one per customer, per visit. Not valid with other offers, promotions, or discounts. No cash value. Plus tax if applicable.



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## Today in Weather History

November 8, 1985: Heavy snow fell over much of southern South Dakota beginning on the morning of the 8th and continued off and on through the evening of the 10th. Snowfall generally ranged from 5-10 inches over the area, with amounts up to a foot or more in the Black Hills. The greatest amount was 18 inches in the higher elevations of the Black Hills. Strong winds gusting to near 40 mph at times, combined with the snowfall, produced near blizzard conditions during the afternoon of the 9th through the early morning hours on the 10th, in the southwest. Highway 79 from Maverick Junction to Rapid City was closed for thirteen hours during that time. Many accidents were reported over the entire southern portion of the state. Some storm total snowfall amounts include; 16.0 inches near Presho; 11.5 inches in Kennebec; 9.0 inches in Murdo; and 4.0 inches in Timber Lake and near Onida.

1870: The first storm warning was issued by the U.S. Signal Corps Weather Service. Professor Increase A. Lapham believed that warnings of deadly storms on the Great Lakes could be derived from telegraphed weather observations. A bill was introduced and signed into law to establish a national telegraphic weather service. The Signal Corps began taking observations of November 1, 1870. On this date, Lapham would issue the first storm warning, a cautionary forecast for the Great Lakes.

1943 - An early season snowstorm raged across eastern South Dakota and Minnesota into northern Wisconsin. The storm produced 22 inches of snow at Fairbault and Marshall MN, 20 inches at Redwood Falls MN, and 10.1 inches at Minneapolis. Drifts fifteen feet high were reported in Cottonwood County MN. The storm produced up to two feet of snow in South Dakota smothering a million Thanksgiving day turkeys. (6th-8th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1953 - Residents of New York City suffered through ten days of smog resulting in 200 deaths. (The Weather Channel)

1966 - The temperature in downtown San Francisco reached a November record of 86 degrees. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms over Texas produced locally heavy rains in the Hill Country, with 3.50 inches reported at Lakeway, and 3.72 inches reported at Anderson Mill. Thunderstorms over Louisiana produced hail an inch in diameter at Clay and at Provencal. Blustery northwest winds, ushering cold air into western Kansas and into northwest Texas, gusted to 46 mph at Hill City KS. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Fair weather prevailed across much of the nation for Election Day. Midland TX equalled their record for November with an afternoon high of 89 degrees, and the record high of 87 degrees at Roswell NM was their fifth in eight days. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Afternoon and evening thunderstorms developing along and ahead of a cold front produced severe weather from northern Louisiana into central Georgia. Thunderstorms spawned three tornadoes, and there were sixty-four reports of large hail or damaging winds. A late afternoon thunderstorm in central Georgia spawned a tornado which killed one person and injured eight others at Pineview. Late afternoon thunderstorms in central Mississippi produced baseball size hail around Jackson, and wind gusts to 70 mph Walnut Grove. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1994: The twelfth and final tropical cyclone of the Atlantic hurricane season formed on this day in the southwestern Caribbean. While Hurricane Gordon was only a Category 1, it still killed 1,149 individuals, including 1,122 in Haiti.

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Today



Sunny

High: 58 °F

Tonight



Mostly Clear

Low: 32 °F

Wednesday



Sunny

High: 67 °F

Wednesday  
Night



Clear

Low: 36 °F

Thursday



Sunny

High: 63 °F

Thursday  
Night



Mostly Clear

Low: 33 °F

Veterans  
Day



Sunny

High: 53 °F



## Much Above Normal Temps Moving Back In! Wednesday's Forecast Highs



Location	Forecast High Temps	Wednesday Record High Temps
Aberdeen	67°	70° in 1903
Watertown	63°	71° in 1930
Pierre	72°	72° in 1967
Mobridge	72°	69° in 1930
Sisseton	66°	71° in 1937
Kennebec	73°	73° in 1949
Timber Lake	73°	69° in 1937
Wheaton	65°	74° in 2006

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



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



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 11/8/2016 5:49 AM Central

Published on: 11/08/2016 at 5:51AM

After pleasant temperatures in the 50s and 60s today, very mild air will be moving back into the region for Wednesday. High temperatures will soar to well above normal values, with some locations flirting with or exceeding record values!

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 62.1 F at 2:17 PM**

**Low Outside Temp: 36.3 F at 11:35 PM**

**High Gust: 26.0 Mph at 12:09 AM**

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

**Record High: 77° in 1999**

**Record Low: -3° in 1936**

**Average High: 44°F**

**Average Low: 23°F**

**Average Precip in Nov.: 0.24**

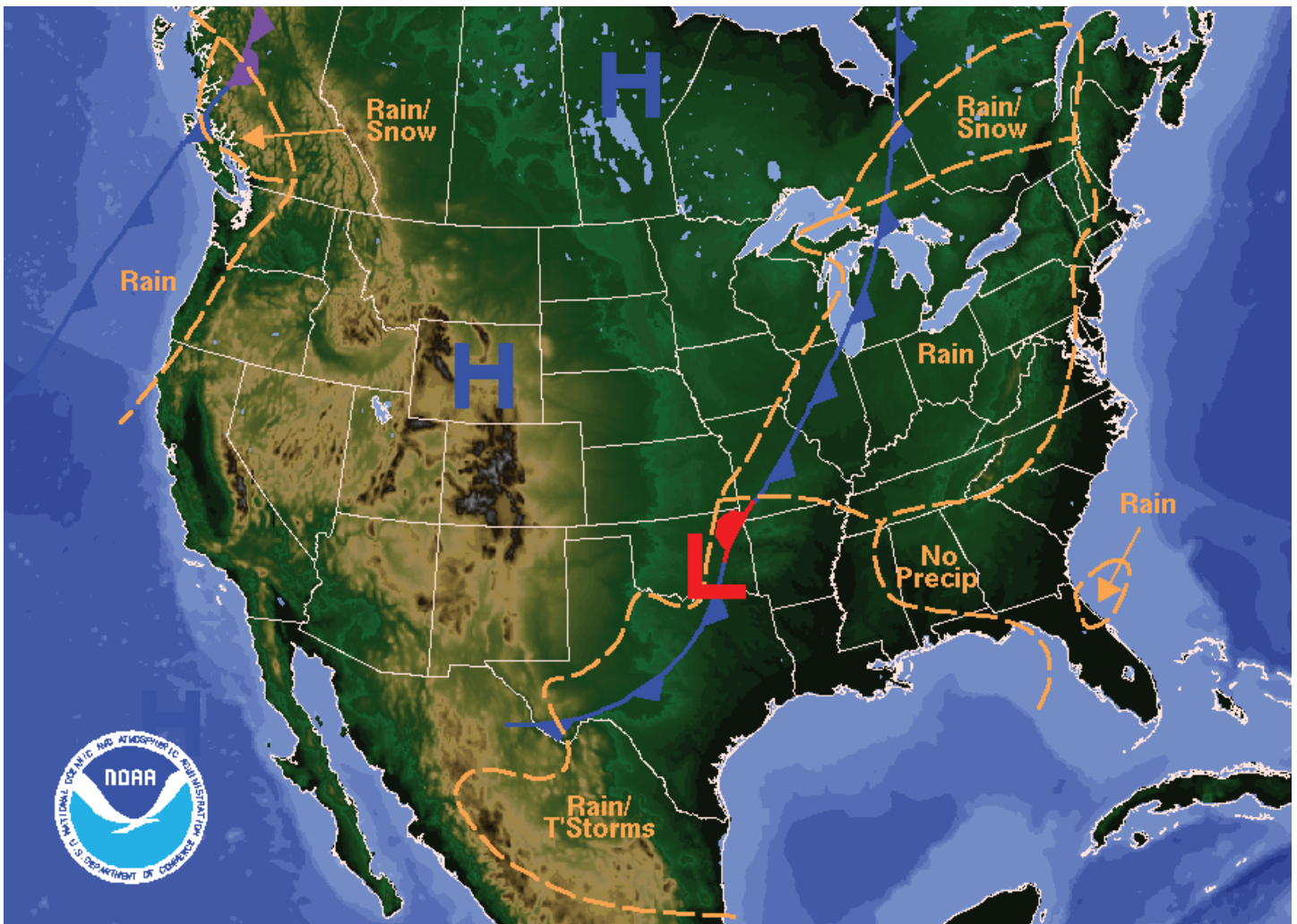
**Precip to date in Nov.: 0.00**

**Average Precip to date: 20.71**

**Precip Year to Date: 15.00**

**Sunset Tonight: 5:10 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:24 a.m.**



Weather Forecast for Tue, Nov 08, 2016, issued 3:46 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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## I MUST KNOW THEM!

Years ago there was a king who would leave his palace and walk through the streets of his city dressed as one of his subjects. His guards feared for his life and often would try to stop him. Said one, "You must not do it for security's sake!"

"But," he replied, "I can't rule my people unless I know them and how they live."

What a comfort to know that our God knows us and understands us from having lived a human life in and through His Son. Whatever we face He has faced and whatever path we travel He has traveled. Jesus learned life's secrets in life's school of experience and can now bring us His encouragement, strength, insight and guidance.

We often forget that Jesus gained His knowledge of life's ways because He was here among "us." And now He is with His Father and remembers what it is like to be lonely and rejected, abandoned and fearful, alone and afraid, weary and worn out. He understands what it means to be tempted and tried, embarrassed and rejected and even forsaken by His very own brothers.

And it is because He passed through all of these experiences that now, in Heaven, He can be touched with our infirmities, and give us His sympathy, help, hope and understanding. Remember, He has endured and survived whatever His Father brings into our lives.

Prayer: We are grateful, Father, that You know us, understand us and now intercede for us. This gives us confidence to hold on tightly and never give up. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Hebrews 4:14-16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.



**We now accept**



**for out patient therapy.**

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

## News from the Associated Press

### South Dakotans to decide wide-ranging ballot questions

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota voters are expected to give the state's three electoral votes to GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump and re-elect U.S. Sen. John Thune and Rep. Kristi Noem.

The main suspense of election day on Tuesday is likely to be the fate of no fewer than 10 ballot questions on topics ranging from public funding for campaigns to payday loan interest rates.

The last time a Democratic presidential candidate carried South Dakota was Lyndon Johnson in 1964, which doesn't bode well for Hillary Clinton.

At the state level, Republican lawmakers can be confident they'll head to Pierre next year still firmly in control of the state House and Senate.

### Daugaard votes for measure to cap payday loan interest rates

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Republican Gov. Dennis Daugaard has voted for a ballot measure that would limit the interest rates that short-term lenders can charge in South Dakota.

The governor said Monday that he thinks the state has a role to play in protecting consumers. But Daugaard says he doesn't have strong feelings about the measure.

The initiative would cap interest rates charged by businesses such as payday, auto title and installment lenders licensed in South Dakota to 36 percent annually.

Lenders argue that the cap would destroy the industry. Opponent advertising has attacked the proposal as a liberal-backed assault on freedom.

Daugaard voted against a competing measure funded by a Georgia-based title lender that would amend the state constitution to let lenders charge any interest rate that a borrower agrees to in writing.

### South Dakota campaigns make final push before Election Day

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota political campaigns are using the little remaining time before Election Day to reach a few more voters and make sure supporters get to the polls Tuesday. The crowded ballot includes 10 ballot measures, plus races for offices from Legislature to president.

Here's a look at some of the most active campaigns in the dwindling hours of the 2016 race:

#### MARSY'S LAW

On top of a deluge of advertising, supporters of a measure that would incorporate crime victims' rights into the South Dakota constitution are going door-to-door, buoyed by good campaign weather. As of Sunday, supporters had visited more than 20,000 doors to speak with residents or leave literature behind.

The campaign plans to finish with telephone calls on Election Day.

#### NONPARTISAN ELECTIONS

The well-funded campaign for a constitutional amendment that would strip party labels from the ballot has teams out in Rapid City and Sioux Falls and plans to make phone calls all day Tuesday.

The amendment also would establish a nonpartisan primary that would send the top vote-getters to the general election, but it wouldn't apply to presidential races.

The opposition campaign can't afford an intricate get-out-the-vote effort, said Will Mortenson, chairman of a group working against the measure. Instead, he's largely relying on coalition members — including high-profile Republicans — to remind people in their circles to vote it down.

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE OVERHAUL

Supporters of a measure that would create an ethics commission, tighten campaign finance laws and

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set up a system to publicly fund campaigns had about 30 volunteers working the phones and out in the field Monday.

To date, the campaign has made over 240,000 voter-contact attempts through direct mail and phone banks. Backers of the measure are actively campaigning on four university campuses, too.

The opposition campaign is focusing on phone banking that will continue into Tuesday.

## GOVERNOR'S EFFORTS

Though not highly visible on the campaign trail, GOP Gov. Dennis Daugaard has supported a constitutional amendment that would make it clear that South Dakota's four technical institutes are independent from the Board of Regents.

He voted against a trio of ballot measures that could radically reshape South Dakota politics. Daugaard has spoken against the nonpartisan elections amendment at political events and donated \$55,000 from his campaign fund to the opposition campaign.

Daugaard said in a statement that the measures, which also include the campaign finance proposal and an independent redistricting plan, are solutions to problems that don't exist.

The groups running each ballot measure campaign say they're needed government reforms with bipartisan supporters.

## Ethanol plant near Mitchell to celebrate decade of operation

LOOMIS, S.D. (AP) — In the past 10 years, an ethanol plant in the Mitchell area has produced 650 million gallons of ethanol and 1.8 million tons of animal feed.

The Poet ethanol plant plans to celebrate its first decade in operation on Wednesday, The Daily Republic (<http://bit.ly/2fTs3BP>) reported.

In 2012, the company started extracting corn oil from its feed, producing more than 45,000 tons of high-protein feed rather than high-fat. Becky Pitz, the plant's general manager, said the plant has purchased 200 million bushels of corn and paid more than \$1 billion to 1,640 farmers and 65 elevators. The company employs 45 people in Mitchell and 10 of those employees have been with the company since it opened.

"It's pretty awesome we've been here for 10 years and made such a big impact on the local economy," said Pitz.

Pitz said the demand for wet animal feed is higher in Mitchell than any other Poet location.

"When economic times are good, you want to produce as much as you can," Pitz said. "We're in probably the top tier of the plants (by production)."

The facility just north of Loomis is the second westernmost plant in Poet's 27-plant network.

While the plant made some changes in 2006 by expanding its rail line and adding equipment storage, Pitz doesn't anticipate any more changes happening any time soon.

"On my radar right now, no, there isn't," she said. "But ask me in six months, there could be."

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

## 10 ballot measures serve as main feature in state's election

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

STIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Voters on Tuesday are expected to give South Dakota's three electoral votes to GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump, re-elect U.S. Sen. John Thune and Rep. Kristi Noem and send Republicans back to the state Legislature with strong majorities.

The main suspense of Election Day is likely to be the fate of 10 ballot questions on topics ranging from public funding for campaigns to payday loan interest rates. Here's a look at the election:

## BALLOT QUESTIONS APLENTY

Voters have a chance to radically reshape South Dakota politics with three of the ballot questions.



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One would create an ethics commission, tighten campaign finance laws and set up a system to publicly fund campaigns. A second would drop party labels from ballots, setting up nonpartisan primaries that send the top vote-getters to the general election (it wouldn't apply to presidential races). And the third would switch control of the legislative redistricting process from legislators to an independent commission.

Several other questions loom large.

One ballot measure backed by labor would let unions charge fees of non-members, something opponents say is designed to get around the state's right-to-work law.

Payday loans are on the ballot in the form of two different questions. One would cap interest rates charged by businesses such as payday, auto title and installment lenders licensed in South Dakota to 36 percent annually. Another measure — funded by a Georgia-based auto title lender — would amend the constitution to cap rates at 18 percent annually but allow higher rates if the borrower agrees in writing.

And a proposed constitutional amendment would establish constitutional rights for crime victims including privacy, protection from harassment or abuse, and timely notice of trial, sentencing and post-judgment proceedings.

## OTHER RACES

The challengers to Sen. John Thune and Rep. Kristi Noem haven't caught fire this cycle, and the two Republican incumbents have maintained significant financial advantages in their races against Senate candidate Jay Williams and House hopeful Paula Hawks, both Democrats.

The last time a Democratic presidential candidate carried South Dakota was Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964, and Donald Trump is favored to continue that GOP domination at the presidential level. And in the Legislature, Republican lawmakers can be confident they'll head to Pierre in control of the state House and Senate.

Oglala Sioux green energy entrepreneur Henry Red Cloud isn't expected to unseat Republican Chris Nelson from the Public Utilities Commission.

## VOTERS BY THE NUMBERS

The GOP's strength in South Dakota can be seen in voter registration numbers: 252,000 Republicans, 171,000 Democrats, some 119,000 independents.

State election officials expect absentee voting this year to surpass the 2012 presidential election. Voters had requested more than 103,000 absentee ballots as of early Monday. About 91,000 voters cast absentee ballots four years ago.

## STATE VOTER APP

Voters can use the Secretary of State's Vote605 app to view a sample ballot and find their polling location from their phones. The app also gives people the ability to figure out where they are registered to vote. Polls are open Tuesday from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Online: <https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/voting/VOTE605.aspx>

Follow James Nord on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/Jvnord>

## Longtime South Dakota Highway Patrol trooper charged

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Platte man is accused of stealing seized property while employed as an officer with the South Dakota Highway Patrol.

Attorney General Marty Jackley and Brule County State's Attorney David Natvig announced Monday that 47-year-old Brian Biehl has been arrested and charged with felony grand theft for allegedly taking money while working for the patrol.

Biehl faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$20,000 fine if convicted. He did not immediately return a telephone call seeking comment.

Biehl was a trooper for about 15 years, working in the Chamberlain area. The agency said he's no longer employed but wouldn't say if he quit or was fired.

Patrol Superintendent Col. Craig Price issued a statement saying the agency is reviewing its policies and procedures due to the arrest.

## Grass fire shuts down South Dakota highway for 5 hours

RELIANCE, S.D. (AP) — A weekend grass fire in Lyman County shut down a South Dakota highway for five hours.

Authorities believe a spark from a car fire caused the Saturday afternoon blaze near Reliance. It burned an estimated 784 acres, or a little more than a square mile.

County Sheriff and Emergency Manager Steve Manger tells The Daily Republic (<http://bit.ly/2fuOsVf>) that no one was hurt, and fire crews with the help of area farmers were able to contain the blaze before it reached any buildings. However, a 3-mile stretch of South Dakota Highway 47 was shut down for five hours after the fire jumped the roadway.

More than 50 firefighters from seven fire departments responded.

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

## South Dakota pheasant producers preserve pheasant population

By Jake Shama, The Daily Republic

STICKNEY, S.D. (AP) — Row by row, Randall Kuyper drove past thousands of birds waiting for their meal, stopping every few yards to fill a bin with feed.

With his dog, Toby, by his side, Kuyper cares for his poultry like any other farmer, but his birds have one extra step before they end up on someone's plate.

Kuyper was feeding nearly 20,000 pheasants soon to be released into the wild, which he sees as crucial to maintain South Dakota's place as the pheasant capital of the nation.

"South Dakota wouldn't have very good hunting if it wasn't for that," said Randall Kuyper, owner of Kuyper Pheasant Hatchery southwest of Stickney. "There's just too much hunter pressure for the birds than the wild can produce."

Kuyper Pheasant Hatchery has approximately 14,000 roosters and 4,000 hens, and Kuyper said he is among the five largest pheasant producers in the state. He sells roosters for \$16 and hens for \$12, and while he has sold quite a few birds already this fall, he expects sales to pick up quickly after season opener.

Statewide pheasant season opens at noon Saturday, but private shooting preserves, which purchase many captive game birds, may host hunts from Sept. 1 to March 31. For the 2015-16 pheasant season, 432,304 birds were released on 200 private shooting preserves, according to South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks (GF&P), but there was no record of how many were roosters or hens, The Daily Republic (<http://bit.ly/2fjqAjG>) reported.

For the same season, 276,383 birds were harvested, 243,000 — 88 percent — of which were formerly captive, usually identifiable by a hole through both nostrils where a blinder was attached to avoid pecking in captivity.

In 2015, hunters harvested 1.26 million birds, meaning pheasants released on shooting preserves accounted for more than 19 percent of the total pheasant harvest. GF&P has approved 203 shooting preserves for the 2016-17 season, making up 193,463 acres.

But while GF&P keeps detailed records about birds released and harvested on shooting preserves, purchases and hunting on other lands are harder to track, meaning the percentage of the harvest made up by released birds is likely higher.

According to Janelle Blaha, GF&P private shooting preserve and permits coordinator, 623,026 captive pheasants, including hens, were sold last year by 95 commercial game breeders in South Dakota and 15 from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas and North Dakota, but that doesn't mean they were all released.

"Not all of these birds are released into the wild. Some are breeding stock, some are butchered and

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sold, some are used for display mounts," Blaha said. "However, I would guess that a majority of them are released into the wild."

But because the department doesn't track captive birds released on non-preserve lands, a landowner could supplement his own pheasant population, and GF&P has no way to track the number.

"I am sure that there are more birds released by individuals or by unpermitted captive game breeders, but we do not have a way to track them at this time," Blaha said.

Kuyper believes the number may be much higher than GF&P estimates. He believes as many as 1.2 million birds are sold in South Dakota each year, based on estimates of approximately 10 other pheasant farms in South Dakota and major exporters from other states.

According to Todd Tedrow, with the South Dakota Animal Industry Board, 390,166 pheasants and pheasant-hatching eggs were imported into South Dakota from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016.

Add that total to the GF&P count, and more than one million game birds were sold in South Dakota. But Tedrow expects some or all of those birds have already been counted in the 623,000 birds sold by licensed breeders.

In addition, a bird may have been purchased from a breeder and then sold multiple times to other breeders or landowners, adding to GF&P's total each time, but GF&P Law Enforcement Administrator Andy Alban believes the number is an accurate count of the number of birds sold.

There are also some breeders who raise pheasants with a non-commercial license, meaning they are not sold to others, and anyone holding a captive game bird for just a few days does not need a license, Alban said, making some activities difficult to track and keeping the department from knowing exactly how many farm-raised pheasants are released or harvested each year.

Plus, Alban said, the department has investigated instances of people selling game birds illegally, so there may be more birds released than recorded as sold.

"I can't say that number is, with a great deal of confidence, that it's accurate just because of all the nuances that come into that," Alban said. "Certainly, the actual number would be higher than that."

Still, GF&P Upland Game Biologist Travis Runia said the state was committed to improving habitat and production of wild pheasants, and he believes those make up a much greater percentage than farm-raised ones.

"I am confident our pheasant harvest estimate is dominated by wild birds, but I cannot estimate the exact breakdown," Runia said.

Runia said GF&P develops both grasslands and taller habitats, like food plots or cattails, to protect pheasants at different times of year, and the department allows cows to graze on the lands every five to seven years to disturb the grass and promote the growth of other plants, making the land more productive.

GF&P makes habitat improvements using money from license sales. In 2015, GF&P sold 93,240 resident small-game and combination small-game/fishing licenses for \$3.9 million and 89,576 non-resident small-game licenses for \$10.6 million. There were more than 65,000 licensed resident pheasant hunters that year and almost 85,000 nonresidents, bringing in a total of \$14.5 million.

According to Habitat Program Administrator Paul Coughlin, GF&P spends about \$3.5 million per year on habitat improvements on public lands, but 75 percent of that money is provided by the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, which collects an excise tax from arms and ammunition. That means \$850,000 of the \$14.5 million license money is spent on improving public habitat.

The department also works with private landowners on habitat improvements through the Wildlife Partners Program and walk-in areas, Coughlin said, spending \$625,000. Again, the programs are supplemented by Pittman-Robertson funds, bringing the total to about 2.5 million.

Runia said the department will continue to use funds to improve habitat, but he said there are no plans to buy captive birds to release in public hunting areas. Runia said he sees people harvesting pheasants on public lands well into the season, and while it may not be a shooting-preserve experience, he said there are enough public land opportunities to continually find success.

"If hunters want to have that experience of shooting tame birds, they can do that on preserves or buy those birds on their own. Right now, our priority is definitely to try to manage for the wild birds and that

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wild-bird hunting experience," Runia said.

He also cited studies claiming released birds produced three broods from every 100 hens, compared to 30 broods from 100 wild hens, meaning releasing birds is not an effective way to increase population.

Kuyper believes the birds can adapt to the wild more successfully within a day or two. He said it's not unusual to see an escaped bird with a blinder survive year-round and reproduce.

And to ensure his pheasants act like wild birds, Kuyper said he waits until birds are 18 weeks old before selling them. Although the industry standard is to wait 15 weeks, Kuyper said many sell them younger, when they cannot fly as well.

Wayne Haines, a farmer and hunter from White Lake, doesn't believe there are enough pheasants on public lands throughout the season. He said a large portion of pheasants harvested in South Dakota were originally pen-raised.

"The fact that the state provides the birds is more of a hoax than it is a reality. Public shooting areas don't have any birds. It's that simple," Haines said.

Haines didn't complain about the cost of licenses because hunters that travel to South Dakota "can afford it or else most of them wouldn't do it." Instead, he is concerned that private landowners are providing more birds than the state.

"After the first two or three trips through that (public) property, the birds are either gone or dead, and the state still says, 'Hey, we got plenty of places for you to hunt,'" he said. "The only places where the birds are left is the private property that makes sure they provide for the hunters that come to their farm year after year."

Haines operated a shooting preserve 20 years ago and planted 40,000 trees on his 3,000-acre property. He decided to leave the program, but he still buys 1,000 pheasants every year to supplement his population.

Wild birds usually provide strong hunting during opening weekend, but with roughly 200 guests stopping by throughout the season, the natural population cannot stand up to the pressure.

"We have four sons, and when they come back and bring friends, we have to make sure they have something to shoot," Haines said. "You won't find it on state and federal grasslands."

But what upsets Haines most is road hunting. South Dakotans who own land next to a highway pay taxes on land up to the center of the road, but they are not allowed to plant crops or make improvements on either side of the asphalt.

Landowners are allowed to cut the grass in the ditch for agricultural benefit, but Haines thinks he should have the exclusive right to hunt the pheasants there as well.

"They're not shooting the state's bird. They're shooting the farmer's bird. The bird grew up on the farmer's land and we farmed for them," Haines said.

Runia disagreed, and praised landowners who provide habitat. But, Runia said, as soon as a bird is released, it changes from poultry to a wild animal and is regulated by the state.

"We obviously have a lot of landowners doing a lot of great things for wildlife as far as providing habitat and doing things to manage those birds, but pheasants are a public trust resource, and they are not owned by any individual. Those birds are on public property, and they are certainly available for harvest by anybody," Runia said.

Runia said hunting quality may be better on private lands with good habitat that are hunted less frequently than state lands, but according to a 2012 public opinion survey, 55 percent of hunters said public lands were important, very important or critical to their ability to hunt pheasants.

Additionally, 58 percent of hunters utilized public land during the season and 64 percent hunted road right-of-ways. Private shooting preserves had the lowest percentage with 13.

The survey did not ask hunters to rate the quality of public hunting lands, but Runia said that could be a question for hunters in the future.

Equally frustrating for Haines is the method some use to road hunt. He's seen several people drive up the road, quickly pull over, hop out of the vehicle and shoot a pheasant before quickly driving off.

The vehicle is supposed to be parked and hunters are required to stay 660 feet away from livestock, churches or occupied dwellings, which Haines called an "unenforceable rule." Prosecuting such cases is

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difficult because if a law enforcement officer doesn't see it occur, there's typically no way to prove it.

"It's not road hunting. It's drive-by shooting," Haines said.

Alban expressed frustration with "run-and-gun" shooting as well, but said 50 citations were issued for the offense last year. Including the offense of shooting from a vehicle, he said close to 100 citations were issued, and those numbers do not include anyone who was simply given a warning.

But if anyone sees a hunter breaking any game law, Alban urged them to call the Turn in Poachers hotline.

While farm-raised pheasants may play a large role in South Dakota's most well-known pastime, Runia said population indexes show wild pheasants are still more abundant than in all other areas in the nation and populations have responded positively to conservation programs. So, Runia said, GF&P will continue to seek new opportunities to provide public hunting access and produce a sustainable population of wild birds.

"There is a lot of research that shows we can successfully manage wild pheasants through habitat management," Runia said. "Just like the hunters, we certainly like to see more public hunting opportunities, both the habitat and that access, and we're constantly exploring opportunities to add more."

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

## **WATCHING TUESDAY: America does the wave, east coast to west**

**By NANCY BENAC, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Grab some snacks, the TV remote, your calculator and a schedule of poll closings. You might also want to caffeinate because it could be a late night.

The tumult and tedium of Campaign 2016 finally culminates Tuesday as the nation chooses among Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump and a variety of third-party types.

The action will roll from east coast to west, from pre-dawn voting in New Hampshire to late-night poll closes in Alaska.

Some things to watch for as the autumn of our campaign discontent hurtles to a close (all times are EST):

### **THE TIMELINE**

Look for the first burst of results when polls close at 7 p.m. in Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, South Carolina, Vermont and Virginia. Look for bigger blasts of numbers just after 8 p.m. and 9 p.m., when polls close in a combined 30 states and the District of Columbia. The 11 p.m. batch of states includes big kahuna California, with 55 electoral votes. Alaska, where polls close at 1 a.m. on Wednesday, brings up the rear.

### **MOM WAS RIGHT**

Math really does matter. Election Day is all about which candidate can win enough states to get to 270 electoral votes. News organizations will keep a running tally. But you can go full nerd and play around with a Road to 270 calculator to get your favored candidate to the magic number. Beware: It can take a while for the picture on election night to clarify, simply because of how the vote rolls in across the country. In 2012, Republican Mitt Romney was still ahead in the electoral and popular vote at 10:30 p.m.; an hour later, President Barack Obama was on the brink of re-election.

### **NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

Thanks to early voting, more than 50 million people may have voted before Election Day. Not Clinton or Trump. Both are expected to make a show of trekking to their local polling places on Tuesday, Clinton in Chappaqua, New York, and Trump in New York City. Their running mates — Democrat Tim Kaine of Virginia and Republican Mike Pence of Indiana — will vote where they live, and later team up with their principals in New York.

### **EARLY TEA LEAVES**

For an early read on how things are going, keep an eye on Virginia in the presidential contest. If Clinton doesn't get a winner's call there by 9 p.m. or 10 p.m., it could be a positive sign for Trump. Watch Indiana

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for an early indicator in the tug-of-war for control of the Senate; if Evan Bayh can manage a comeback, that'll be a good sign for Democrats hoping to retake the Senate.

## EXIT POLL EXPLANATIONS

Data collected from polling-place interviews with voters will offer a wealth of information to help explain why people voted the way they did. Among the questions to be answered by the exit polls:

- Do voters cast ballots for their candidates enthusiastically or holding their noses?
- Do blacks give strong backing to Clinton after recent worries about their turnout in early voting?
- Who wins college-educated whites, who typically skew Republican but are being courted by Clinton?
- In a race so often roiled by Trump's comments about women, what does the gender gap look like?
- Did people care about Clinton's problems with her private email setup?
- Were they worried about Trump's temperament?

## UTAH. REALLY.

The reddest of the red states actually offers some drama this year. Keep an eye on the Utah vote for independent Evan McMullin, who's been giving Trump heartburn in a state that should be a lock for him. (Polls close at 10 p.m. EST)

## MAKING HISTORY

If Clinton emerges the victor, it will be a historic moment for women as she shatters that "highest, hardest glass ceiling."

## THE BIG QUESTION

The question has been dangling out there: Will Trump accept the results of the presidential election if he loses? "I'll keep you in suspense," he said at the last debate. The world is waiting for his answer.

## A TIME TO HEAL

Election night speeches have "tremendous power to heal," says public speaking coach Ruth Sherman. Will the candidates rise to the moment? After such a long, ugly campaign, both winner and loser will have a responsibility to help to bring the country together.

## WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

The presidential race has sucked up most of the oxygen over the past year, but there will be lots more to take in on election night, with control of the Senate and House at stake, 12 states electing governors, and assorted ballot proposals around the country.

In the House: Republicans hold a 247-188 majority, including three vacancies. Democrats could pick up 10 or more seats, perhaps even more than 20, but don't expect to take control.

In the Senate: Republicans are furiously working to protect their 54-46 majority, with a half-dozen races seen as toss-ups.

A dozen governor's offices also are up for grabs, at least seven appearing competitive. Among issues on ballot proposals: the death penalty, gun control and marijuana legalization.

Follow Nancy Benac on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/>

## AP News Guide: The US turns a corner in Tuesday's election

By CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans are choosing a new president Tuesday, but not just that. They are making history, reshaping Congress, saying good riddance to a campaign of numbing negativity and setting the political calculus of a nation that won't be healed any time soon.

Whether the glass ceiling shatters or not, precedent will.

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Never before has the country had a woman as president, not to mention the spouse of an ex-president. Never before has the country had a president like, well, Donald Trump, unique in lacking the public-service background that everyone in our lifetimes and deeper into the past brought to the office (both his weakness and his strength). Whether the 45th president is Hillary Clinton or the billionaire outsider, the U.S. is turning a corner.

## CLINTON vs. TRUMP

The two New Yorkers pounded each other relentlessly, each preaching that the other is wholly unqualified, as the race tightened in the final days after a persistent if elastic lead for Clinton, the Democrat, in preference polling. Those who dreamed of Bernie Sanders for the Democratic ticket or anyone but Trump for Republicans face their time of reckoning. Will they come home to their party, or just stay home?

Clinton, inheritor of Barack Obama's vaunted campaign apparatus and a skillful (and well-financed) organizer in her own right, fielded an impressive professional and volunteer operation. She had big names on the stage, loads of people tracking down supporters and getting them to early-voting places, committed and well-heeled interest groups behind her and lots of money for sustained advertising.

Trump's effort paled in comparison, seeming as unpolished and improvised as the candidate himself. What he had, that she didn't, were the pulse and the passion of huge crowds. Election Day should settle the question of which counted for more.

To those in Trump country, no boastful, stomach-turning video about women, no "lock-her-up" insult from the stage, no toxic tweet in the wee hours, could peel them away from the man whose crudities only made him more authentic in their eyes. To many of the Republicans who didn't come to the rallies — and to some of the lawmakers who faced the prospect of working with him in Washington — he was a disaster, a Republican Titanic sailing alongside Clinton's Democratic Lusitania. To the country at large, and much of the world, he polarized, repelled, entertained, shocked and fascinated.

Did that make Clinton less of a divisive figure?

Not to the Republicans who are already itching to impeach her if she wins.

## WHAT TO WATCH

Virginia could be a harbinger for the night. An early win for Clinton in that state bodes well for her; a contest that drags on until 9 p.m. or 10 p.m. EST could mean a good night for Trump. Results begin to come out when polls close at 7 p.m. in Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, South Carolina, Vermont and Virginia. More waves come just after 8 p.m. and 9 p.m., when polls will have closed in 30 states and the District of Columbia.

Trump and Clinton fought fiercely over Florida, a big prize. Trump also made an audacious play for Minnesota and scared Clinton in Michigan, which drew both the Democratic nominee and President Barack Obama on the campaign's final day.

Republicans fretted about Utah, normally as GOP-friendly as can be. The state was courted by an independent who tapped anti-Trump sentiment among the state's many Mormons.

## FIZZLING OCTOBER SURPRISE

FBI Director James Comey's disclosure that the agency discovered more emails potentially connected to its investigation of Clinton's email practices roiled the race. That shadow lifted when Comey said Sunday that the review had found nothing to change the FBI's recommendation in July that she not face charges. Between his two announcements, though, nearly 24 million ballots were cast in early voting.

## SENATE SUSPENSE

The night's second big mystery is which party will control the Senate, now Republican dominated. Democrats need to gain five seats to take an outright majority. If they gain only four — and if Clinton is elected — her vice president will be able to break 50-50 Senate ties.

Indiana could give an early hint of where the night is going. Nevada, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania,

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Missouri and North Carolina could tip either way. Republican incumbents were in particular danger in Illinois and probably Wisconsin.

The math made it tough for the GOP: Republicans had to defend 24 seats compared with only 10 for the Democrats. Some were between a rock and a hard place — risking rejection from anti-Trump Republican voters if they were too close to him and rejection from his core supporters if they pushed him away. Squirmy rhetoric ensued.

## HOUSE HUNTING

Barring a shocker, Republicans will keep control of the House. They populate that chamber in numbers not seen since the 1930s.

The breakdown is 247-188 for the GOP, with three vacancies. GOP losses of 10-15 seats have been predicted by people in both parties.

Notable names: Republican Liz Cheney is expected to win the Wyoming seat once held by her father, Dick Cheney. GOP Rep. Darrell Issa of California, investigator of the Benghazi, Libya, episode and other Obama administration actions, could be upended.

## RESUME REVIEW

Rare is the U.S. president who has come to office without having held any previous public office.

To be sure, some were branded resume lightweights in their campaigns: ex-governors George W. Bush of Texas, Bill Clinton of Arkansas and Ronald Reagan of California, among them. But they came from the tradition of having served somewhere — whether in Congress, states or in a high post in an administration. Dwight D. Eisenhower had no political experience but plenty of leadership cred — as well as war hero status — as allied commander in Europe in World War II.

Trump comes purely from the business and reality-TV worlds, making him distinctly a political outsider even if he's firmly part of the elite. No one questions Clinton's breadth of experience, as secretary of state, a New York senator and, uniquely, as a policy-driven first lady during her husband's two terms. The question is what voters make of her experience and his lack of it.

## SHE-NANIGANS/HE-NANIGANS?

Trump pronounced in advance that the election is rigged, in what sounded like a hedge should he lose. He warned without evidence that Clinton partisans would commit fraud and prodded his supporters to watch for misdeeds at polling stations. The prospect of vigilante election monitoring and the anger seething behind that impulse raised concerns about confrontations Tuesday, especially if the result is close.

## BALLOT BONANZA

Voters in Arizona, California, Maine, Massachusetts and Nevada are deciding whether to legalize recreational marijuana use; Arkansas, Florida, Montana and North Dakota are weighing whether to do so for medical marijuana. Arizona, Colorado and Maine are deciding whether to raise the minimum wage to \$12 by 2020; Washington state is considering \$13.50. The federal minimum is \$7.25. Voters in several states may tighten controls on guns and ammunition.

## SOME POLITICS IS LOCAL

Of a dozen races for governor, at least seven appear competitive and most of those have Democrats on the hook. Republicans went into the campaign with 31 governorships, just one short of their historic high. And Republicans control more than two-thirds of statehouse chambers.

## Making a choice: Voters talk of decision and of tensions

By ADAM GELLER, AP National Writer

Election Day has arrived at last, and Americans are heading to the polls to have their say in the choice of the next president. Some paused to talk about their decisions and the tensions of the moment.



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Thomas Tillotson and Russ Van Deursen differed when they voted for president early Tuesday in Dixville Notch, New Hampshire, one of the first polling sites to open in the nation. But they were in solid agreement on one thing.

"It's very exciting to be the first in the nation," said Van Deursen. "Your vote is right out there in the small little hamlet that we have of seven or eight voters and it feels like you're a real part of democracy." He voted for Democrat Hillary Clinton because "our country needs to move forward and I didn't believe that a presidency with (Republican) Donald Trump would move forward in a positive way."

Polls in the town opened just after midnight closed as soon as everyone had voted.

"It's an honor and privilege to be first and this is my 11th time doing it and it never gets boring," said Tillotson, a 71-year-old business consultant who voted for Libertarian Gary Johnson. He said both major parties have "gone in directions that really don't fit who I am and what I believe."

When Art Meadowcroft exited city hall in Plymouth, Minnesota, Monday after casting an early ballot, he reached into his pocket for a camouflage cap bearing Donald Trump's slogan, "Make America Great Again," and placed it on his head.

"It was a tough decision because he certainly had his very rough sides," Meadowcroft, 62, said of Trump, his choice for president. "But I don't think there is a question mark when it comes down to what is in his heart and what he wants for the country."

Meadowcroft, a former college administrator, coach and real estate agent who is now retired, came to vote with his sister, bringing sandwiches to pass the time in a long line. A self-described independent, he said he'd voted in the past for Democrats, including once for Bill Clinton. But he voted for Trump because it is time to get back to the "true values" of the country.

Meadowcroft said he believes firmly in immigration. But he wants better vetting to ensure "the right people are coming in, people that want to grasp our values... I think we've opened the doors too much, and made ourselves vulnerable."

This election marks the first time that sisters Yadira and Catherine Jimenez have voted. They cast early ballots in West Jordan, Utah, and had no hesitation about their choice. Both voted for Hillary Clinton.

For Yadira, whose husband has lived in the U.S. since he was a toddler but is not a citizen, the vote was partly a reaction to Donald Trump's hard line on immigration.

But the sisters, both young mothers and pregnant, said they also wanted to signal their approval of a woman as the country's leader.

"I thought it would be nice to be alive to see the first lady president," said Yadira Jimenez, 24, who works the front desk at a pediatrician's office and is expecting her first daughter. "It shows you can achieve anything in life and that not just men are capable of becoming president. I want to show my children that anybody can do anything as long as they work hard."

She and her sister said it was important that the winning candidate be someone who cares about people like them. But Trump is definitely not that person, they said. "He's racist not only to Latinos, but to pretty much every race," said Catherine Jimenez, who is 20 and studying to be a medical assistant.

Hallie Luckianow says she considered voting for either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump. With a father who works in an oil industry hit by sagging prices, she was drawn to Trump's America-first policy on energy. As a lesbian, she says she likes Clinton's vocal support for gay rights.

But Luckianow, taking a lunch break Monday in a Birmingham, Alabama park, said in the end she cast her vote for what she sees as a centrist choice.

"I'm kind of pulled in both directions and that's why I'm going to Gary Johnson. Because this entire election has been crazy," said Luckianow, 27, a speech therapist.

Luckianow said she liked the notion of electing the nation's first female president. But she figures that

time will come soon enough, even if Clinton loses.

"I think it would be really empowering for women and empowering for little girls to see that someone other than a white male or a black male could be president," Luckianow said.

Associated Press writers Amy Forliti in Plymouth, Minnesota, Brady McCombs in West Jordan, Utah and Jay Reeves in Birmingham, Alabama contributed to this story.

## Competing claims of voter fraud, intimidation raise tensions

By CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The usual tension of a presidential election has a twist this year — questions about the integrity of the election itself.

Adding anxiety and uncertainty in the weeks before Election Day were Republican candidate Donald Trump's unsupported warnings of a rigged election, fears of voter intimidation at the polls and concerns about election systems being hacked. New voter regulations in more than a dozen states also held the potential to sow confusion at polling places.

In the last week alone, Democrats went to court in seven states seeking to halt what they claim were efforts by Republicans and the Trump campaign to deploy a network of poll watchers hunting for voter fraud. Republicans have disputed claims they are planning to intimidate voters, and judges in a handful of the cases have found no evidence the two camps are coordinating.

"Hopefully it's relatively calm. Hopefully it doesn't blow up. But this hasn't been a regular election year," said Wendy Weiser, head of the democracy program at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU's Law School.

One positive sign: Relative quiet during the early voting period.

Early voting through mail-in ballots or in-person voting was expected to account for as much as 40 percent of all ballots cast nationwide. Despite hours-long waits at some polling places, the process has been largely devoid of major problems, adding a measure of reassurance.

Presidential elections usually include sporadic voting problems, including machines not working properly, long lines and issues with ballots or voter rolls. The question this year is whether problems will be widespread and indicate a pattern of fraud or voter intimidation.

One possibility is confusion over voter ID laws passed in more than a dozen states. Legal challenges to some of those have led to a multitude of court rulings in recent months that blocked or struck down some provisions while upholding or reinstating others. That triggered concerns of misinformation among voters, election officials and poll workers.

An example was early voting in Texas, where there were reports in at least seven counties of outdated voter-guide posters and poll workers incorrectly saying that photo IDs were required to cast a ballot. An earlier federal appeals court ruling had determined the state's new ID law was discriminatory against minorities and the poor and ordered the state to soften its rules.

This is the first presidential election in which a key enforcement provision of the Voting Rights Act was not in place. A 2013 U.S. Supreme Court decision struck down a portion of the law that had required certain states and jurisdictions with a history of discrimination to receive pre-approval from the U.S. Department of Justice for any election law change. This allowed a number of states, most led by Republican legislatures and governors, to enact strict voter ID laws and reduce early voting.

The Supreme Court ruling also prompted the Justice Department to send fewer trained election observers to polling places around the country than in previous years, with the reduction likely to diminish the department's ability to detect voter intimidation and other potential problems.

Meanwhile, state election officials were guarding against any attempt to breach their systems. Previously, some 33 states accepted an offer from the federal government to check their voter databases and reporting systems for vulnerabilities after hackers attempted to access systems in two states over the summer.

The heads of the National Governors Association, Democratic Gov. Terry McAuliffe of Virginia and Re-

publican Gov. Brian Sandoval of Nevada, issued a joint statement saying state and local election officials have worked for years to strengthen the security of their systems. They said the nation's governors have coordinated with election officials and cybersecurity experts to ensure the integrity of the process.

"Those partnerships and our close study of any potential problems have reinforced our certainty that this election will fully and accurately reflect the choices voters make," they said.

Follow Christina Almeida Cassidy at [http://twitter.com/AP\\_Christina](http://twitter.com/AP_Christina).

## Election Day: Americans choose between Clinton and Trump

By **JULIE PACE, AP White House Correspondent**

WASHINGTON (AP) — After nearly two years of bitterness and rancor, America will elect its 45th president Tuesday, making Hillary Clinton the nation's first female commander in chief or choosing billionaire businessman Donald Trump, whose volatile campaign has upended U.S. politics.

The winner will inherit an anxious nation, angry and distrustful of leaders in Washington. They'll preside over an economy that is improving but still leaving many behind, and a military less extended abroad than eight years ago, but grappling with new terror threats.

Clinton enters Election Day with multiple paths to victory, while Trump must win most of the roughly dozen battleground states up in order to clinch 270 Electoral College votes. Control of the Senate is also at stake, with Democrats needing to net four seats if Clinton wins the White House.

Like millions of Americans, Clinton and Trump planned to cast their votes Tuesday morning. The Democrat was heading to a polling place near her home in Chappaqua, New York, while the Republican was voting in Manhattan.

The candidates blitzed through the battleground states on Monday, accompanied by their families, political allies and celebrities. Clinton was expected to greet one more crowd in the early hours of Tuesday morning when her campaign plane lands in suburban New York.

In the campaign's final hours, the Democrat was buoyed by FBI Director James Comey's weekend announcement that he would not recommend criminal charges against her following a new email review. The inquiry had sapped surging Clinton momentum at a crucial moment in the race and risked damaging Democrats running in down-ballot races.

Clinton never mentioned the FBI review Monday and appeared to already have an eye on the challenges waiting after election. She bemoaned the caustic election season that sparked so much division, saying she'd come to "regret deeply how angry the tone of the campaign became."

The centerpiece of Clinton's final campaign swing was a massive rally on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, where she was joined by her husband, former President Bill Clinton, as well as President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama.

"We know enough about my opponent, we know who he is," Clinton said as she addressed the 33,000-person crowd, her largest of the campaign. "The real question for us is what kind of country we want to be."

Clinton left for her home in Chappaqua, New York, after greeting supporters upon landing at Westchester airport at approximately 3:30 a.m. EST.

Trump closed his improbable presidential bid in trademark style: flying across the country in his now-familiar private jet and headlining packed rallies filled with enthusiastic supporters. As he surveyed the crowd in Scranton, Pennsylvania, he declared: "It's been a long journey."

Trump ended his marathon final day of campaigning with a final rally in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he implored his supporters to get out and vote.

"If we don't win, this will be the single greatest waste of time, energy and money in my life," he told them. "We have to win."

Trump's final event at a local convention center was surprisingly staid, with none of the theatrics of an earlier rally in a packed arena in New Hampshire that featured laser lights and smoke machines.

The businessman was aggressive to the end, slamming Clinton as the "face of failure." Having made

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the new FBI review a centerpiece of his closing case to voters, he argued that the Democrat was being protected by a "totally rigged system."

"You have one magnificent chance to beat the corrupt system and deliver justice," Trump implored his supporters. "Do not let this opportunity slip away."

Heading into Election Day, nearly 45 million people had already cast ballots in advance voting. About half of those votes were cast under the shadow of Comey's initial announcement of a new email review.

Clinton is banking in part on high turnout — particularly among Obama's young, diverse coalition of voters — to carry her over the finish line Tuesday. Roughly half the states with advance voting have reported record turnout, including Florida and Nevada, which have booming Hispanic populations, a possible good sign for Clinton.

In Florida alone, Hispanic participation is up by more than 453,000 votes, nearly doubling the 2012 level. Black turnout is up compared to 2012, but that share of the total vote is lower due to bigger jumps among Latinos and whites, according to University of Florida professor Daniel Smith

In Nevada, where more than three-fourths of expected ballots have been cast, Democrats also lead, 42 percent to 36 percent.

Trump deputy campaign manager David Bossie downplayed the impact of increased Hispanic participation, telling reporters on a conference call, "We feel that we're going to get a good share of those votes." However, he sidestepped questions about the level of Hispanic vote Trump needs to win the presidency.

Trump has eschewed the kind of investments in voter data and ground operations that propelled Obama to the White House and have been emulated by Clinton. His campaign was instead banking on the enthusiasm of his supporters to motivate them to show up to vote.

The Republican touted the "movement" he's created, but also warned it would all slip away with a loss Tuesday.

"Today is our Independence Day," Trump said in Grand Rapids. "Today the American working class is going to strike back."

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Associated Press writers Kathleen Hennessey, Hope Yen, Jonathan Lemire, Steve Peoples, Josh Lederman, Jill Colvin and Lisa Lerer contributed to this report.

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Follow Julie Pace at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC>

## Monday madness ends in Seattle's 31-25 win over Buffalo

By **TIM BOOTH, AP Sports Writer**

SEATTLE (AP) — Another Monday night of controversy and madness involving the Seattle Seahawks.

For the third time in the past five seasons, a Monday night game in Seattle finished with most of the attention on the mistakes of officials, this time after the Seahawks beat the Buffalo Bills 31-25.

For how good Jimmy Graham, Russell Wilson and Tyrod Taylor were in putting on an entertaining primetime performance, their efforts became overshadowed by officiating mistakes at the end of the first half that eventually played a role in the final outcome.

"I'm not really sure what happened. I will say the refs were horrible at managing it," said Taylor, who had one of the best performances of his career throwing for 289 yards and running for another 43 yards, and giving Buffalo a chance in the closing moments. "They made some horrible calls throughout the game, too. It's not a thing where we're blaming the refs. I just think they need to be held accountable for that and at least give some explanation."

Taylor's final pass of the night on fourth-down in the closing moments fell incomplete in the end zone and handed the Bills their third straight defeat. Taylor had to throw in that situation because of what happened at the end of the first half that cost Buffalo a shot at a reasonable field goal attempt and eventually forced the Bills to try for a touchdown in the final seconds.

The chaotic final moments of the second quarter started calmly with Dan Carpenter lining up for a 53-yard field goal with 3 seconds left and ended several minutes later with anger. Richard Sherman was

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called for offside and not unnecessary roughness after he crashed into Carpenter attempting to block the kick — an incorrect decision according to NFL head of officiating Dean Blandino. Buffalo was assessed an injury timeout after trainers ran on the field believing Carpenter was injured and forcing the Bills to spike the ball with 1 second left as Carpenter had to leave the field. That was followed by officials not resetting the play clock and Buffalo being assessed a delay of game and the half finally ending with Carpenter missing a 54-yard attempt.

The chaos seemed a footnote at the time with Seattle leading 28-17 at the half, and became a focal point when Buffalo rallied in the second half, but needed a touchdown at the end.

"Player safety was not in their mind. He was offside and dove at our kickers' leg while he was in motion. That's a dirty play," Buffalo linebacker Jerry Hughes said.

Seattle's been the center of crazy Monday night moments in the past. In 2012, the infamous "Fail Mary" game ended when Golden Tate caught a disputed touchdown on the final play to give Seattle a win over Green Bay, a decision that was made by replacement officials. Last year, K.J. Wright should have been called for illegal batting for knocking a fumble out of the end zone for a Seattle touchback in the final moments of a win over Detroit. The penalty would have given possession back to Detroit but no flag was thrown.

Here's what else to know from Seattle's 11th straight Monday night win:

**TERRIFIC TYROD:** Taylor may have upstaged Wilson on a night both quarterbacks shined. Taylor was able to use his mobility to frustrate Seattle's defense. He kept plays alive. He made smart throws. His only mistake — an interception by Sherman in the end zone — appeared to be a miscommunication with the wide receiver. Taylor completed 27 of 38 passes and was the reason Buffalo had a chance to win at the end.

**HERE'S JIMMY:** Graham's first one-handed touchdown catch was good. The second was spectacular. And neither catch included Graham hurdling a defensive back in the open field like he did.

If there was any lingering question about the health of Graham's knee, that should be gone after catching eight passes for 103 yards and two touchdowns. Graham's first TD — a 17-yarder from Wilson — came with his left hand getting held. The second TD — from 18 yards — was with Nickell Robey-Coleman draped on him in coverage.

And if that wasn't enough, Graham hurdled Stephon Gilmore in the open field.

**ABANDON HOPE:** Seattle gave up on the run game against Buffalo. The Seahawks ran the ball just 12 times for 33 yards, although that included 3-yard TD runs by Wilson and Christine Michael.

**HARVIN RETURNS:** Percy Harvin played a week after coming out of retirement. Harvin was in for a small handful of play but was not targeted and was not used on special teams.

He did have a special role as one of Buffalo's pregame captains against his former team.

"It was just like I expected," Harvin said. "I wanted to keep my emotions in check. That was one of my big things."

For more NFL coverage: <http://www.pro32.ap.org> and [http://www.twitter.com/AP\\_NFL](http://www.twitter.com/AP_NFL)

## For pro athletes, voting can require extra effort

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI, AP Sports Writer

Toronto Raptors coach Dwane Casey grew up in Kentucky in the 1960s, a child during the civil rights movement who witnessed the efforts of those in power to disenfranchise people of color and slow their push for equality.

So every two years, when election time arrives in the United States, Casey drives home to his players the importance of participating in the voting process.

"I tell my players 'Get your absentee ballots and vote,'" Casey said. "I remember my grandparents talking about when African-Americans couldn't vote. Or they tried to make it hard for them to vote.

"So that is a privilege a lot of people fought for, you went to jail for. Everyone should vote."

Casey has been particularly insistent since he started coaching the NBA's only Canadian team. The Raptors employ a bunch of American players far removed from their local polling place, and Casey encourages

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them to think ahead so the grind of the NBA season doesn't cost them their say in the election.

"That's your way of showing power as an individual," Casey said. "We can protest, but the only way you fight stuff like that is through voting. Using your right to vote."

Many athletes have to rely on absentee ballots, either because they reside permanently in a different state than their team or because they are on the road during Election Day.

Several teams have taken steps to help. The NFL's Minnesota Vikings roll out a voter-education program every two years to ensure players, coaches and staff members understand voting practices in Minnesota.

"It's a right and everybody needs to exercise their rights," said Lester Bagley, Vikings executive vice president of legal affairs and stadium development. "Make it as easy as possible, answer the questions, get them the resources, connect them. It's every two years and it's a direct message to all staff, all players to participate and here's how to do it."

The Vikings also joined with the Minnesota Secretary of State's office in a public service announcement to encourage fans to vote Tuesday, a local campaign similar to the national one put on by the NBA Players' Association featuring superstars LeBron James, Carmelo Anthony and Chris Paul.

James has endorsed Hillary Clinton and appeared at a rally for her this week. But the PSA featuring James only encouraged people to exercise their right to vote and didn't advocate for a particular candidate.

That's the same approach the Vikings take. Executive Director of Player Development Les Pico began the voter education program when he arrived with the franchise in 2005. This year, the team emailed players three times to encourage them to register, placed forms in their lockers reminding them to get an absentee ballot and offered help in assisting them to register in their home states.

Retired NBA star Baron Davis wrote a piece for The Players' Tribune reminding athletes to vote. He said it can be easy for athletes to skip the practice, believing their votes will not influence the outcome of an election enough to take time away from their hectic schedules.

"At this time in our country, it's easy to feel like things haven't been working for us," Davis wrote. "But the solution is not to just say, I won't do anything about it. The solution is to take what we know about improving — whether it be in sports, or in your life — and apply it to our problems."

## Killings spark reckoning over status of Arab women in Israel

By ARON HELLER and AREEJ HAZBOUN, Associated Press

LOD, Israel (AP) — After years of abuse and death threats, Duaa Abu-Sharkh had finally divorced her husband, agreeing even to give up custody of her four young children and family property to escape his violent grip. Then, one night in late September, as the 32-year-old mother was dropping off her kids after a rare visit, a masked gunman dragged her from her car and shot her in the head before their eyes.

Her killing is the latest in a string of murders of Israeli-Arab women believed to have been carried out by relatives. But after years of silence, the recent outburst has sparked soul searching in the community and unprecedented demonstrations against its mistreatment of women.

The killings have some similarities to the so-called "honor killings" elsewhere in the Muslim world, where women can be murdered by relatives for tarnishing the family name through perceived sexual indiscretions. But activists in Israel reject such comparisons, saying the vast majority of the killings are the result of rampant spousal abuse that has been ignored by police in a landscape rife with drugs, crime and poverty.

Traumatized by the recent death of Abu-Sharkh and other women in their communities, Arab citizens, who have long been suspicious of Israeli authorities, are now calling for more police and social services in their long-neglected neighborhoods.

Though just a fifth of the population, Arabs represent half of the women killed in Israel each year.

And half of those women are killed in Arab neighborhoods of Ramle and Lod, cities just outside of Tel Aviv where several large clans involved in organized crime have made weapons easily accessible and allowed violence, particularly toward women, to go unchecked for years.

"Women in Arab society have a lower status. So, when there is violence, who pays the price? Women," said Samah Salaime, a social worker who founded the Arab Women in the Center organization to aid vic-

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tims in the Lod area. She said Israeli authorities treat the oppression of women as a value in Arab society. "They deal with us as if the blood of the Arab woman is cheaper," she said.

But things are starting to change.

Abu-Sharkh's killing, and that of another divorced mother of four in Jaffa a month later, spurred a series of street protests that drew hundreds of women and men, both Arabs and Jews. A parliamentary committee heard testimony from Arab women and the national police chief said the level of violence was "unacceptable," and vowed to battle it.

Arabs hold full citizenship rights in Israel, but are generally poorer and less educated than Jews and suffer from discrimination and substandard public services. Some Israelis, including top politicians, have questioned their loyalty to the state, contributing to their sense of being treated as second-class citizens. Arabs often accuse the police of being indifferent to Arab crime, so long as Jews are not harmed.

Earlier this year, after a deadly shooting in downtown Tel Aviv and a subsequent weeklong manhunt for the Arab shooter, Israel launched a campaign to collect illegal arms in Arab towns. Later, it promoted an Arab police officer to deputy commissioner, making him the highest-ranking Muslim ever to serve in the force, and putting him in charge of the new law and order drive in Arab communities.

Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said families used to tamper with crime scenes and make it difficult for police to collect evidence and testimony in Arab areas. But he said attitudes have changed in recent years and cooperation is much better. The police force is currently recruiting an additional 1,500 Arab officers and holding outreach programs to strengthen its ties to the community, he said.

"The days of the instant anti-police, anti-government and anti-establishment sentiment are over," he said. "The main emphasis now is to be there and to connect with the Arab community."

Arab lawmaker Aida Touma-Sliman, who heads the parliamentary committee on the status of women and gender equality, said that wasn't enough. She noted that 15 women have been killed in the Ramle-Lod area in the past year, but only three men have been charged.

"What kind of message is given to the population and what kind of message is given to the perpetrators?" she asked. "You can kill and you will still go on free. And for the women it is a clear message from the police that nobody can protect you."

Touma-Sliman said police have been persuaded to stop automatically referring to the deaths of Arab women as "honor killings," saying it was an offensive term "developed by the patriarchal society in order to legitimize the murder itself."

In Abu-Sharkh's case, the writing was on the wall. Her ex-husband, who had links to local criminal gangs, would beat her regularly, once breaking her arm and nose, and strangle her until she turned blue, said her mother, Majeda Abu-Sharkh. When they complained to police, the ex-husband threatened to kill Abu-Sharkh and gunmen opened fire at her family's home.

Police briefly detained him after her killing but released him for lack of evidence.

"If it was a Jewish woman, the police would have found her killer in two hours," Majeda said, clutching pictures of her dead daughter. "Thank God, it is all over with now. She has gone to God and it is better for her there. She is resting."

Salaima, the social worker, said such tragedies would hopefully diminish as taboos are broken and the status of women slowly improves.

"Men know that the Arab woman is now studying more, has more freedom and we have left a lot of men behind who still think that an Arab woman is worthless, that her body is a property that you can harm without being held accountable," she said. "The path is very long. It is a very painful journey."

Follow Aron Heller on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/aronhellerap](http://www.twitter.com/aronhellerap)

## Members of group honoring FBI boss have longtime Trump ties

By JAKE PEARSON and JEFF HORWITZ, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — FBI Director James Comey was honored Monday night by a group whose board includes several people with longtime ties to Donald Trump, including the CEO of the National Enquirer and a convicted felon who goes by the nickname “Joey No Socks.”

Comey, already criticized over his handling of Hillary Clinton’s email investigation in the final days of the presidential campaign, accepted the lifetime achievement award from the nonprofit Federal Drug Agents Foundation. The group lists more than three dozen board directors on its website; another was the developer of a troubled Trump-branded tower in Toronto.

An FBI spokesman said the foundation provides disability, bereavement and personal crisis support to federal agents and educational and charitable grants. Foundation representatives did not immediately respond to phone and email messages from The Associated Press.

The foundation regularly hosts dinners and events honoring law enforcement officials. Past recipients of the lifetime achievement award include Attorney General Loretta Lynch, U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara, former NYPD Commissioner Bill Bratton and U.S. District Judge Richard Sullivan.

It was not clear whether Comey — a former U.S. attorney in Manhattan — was aware of the board members’ ties to Trump, or whether he decided those connections were not consequential given the group’s stature with New York law enforcement. But the award and ceremony came as the FBI has been accused by partisans on both the left and right of injecting itself unnecessarily into the presidential race through Comey’s statements and updates about the FBI’s now-concluded review of Hillary Clinton’s email practices.

Among the Trump-connected board members is David Pecker, a friend of Trump’s and the chief executive of American Media Inc., publisher of The National Enquirer.

During the course of the presidential primary campaign, the Enquirer was a regular source of attacks on Trump political rivals, including Jeb Bush, Ben Carson and Ted Cruz. The Wall Street Journal reported last week the magazine paid \$150,000 to a former Playboy playmate for her story about having an affair with Trump shortly after he married his third wife, Melania Trump, but never ran it.

“As a founding member of the FDAF I have been a proud and loyal supporter for several years and am honored to be at tonight’s event,” wrote Pecker, a former president of the group, in an email to the AP.

Another board member listed for the group is Alex Schnaider, a billionaire Ukrainian-born commodities trader who built a Trump-branded hotel and condo tower in Toronto which is now in receivership.

“This is one of countless charities that he supports,” said David Zucker, a lawyer in Toronto who represents Schnaider. “He doesn’t actively participate, and he had no idea there was any dinner tonight.”

A third board member is Joseph Cinque, also known as “Joey No Socks,” a convicted felon whose American Academy of Hospitality Sciences has awarded more than a dozen Trump businesses with shiny plaques called “Star Diamond” awards. Cinque didn’t immediately return a request for comment, but a secretary at his business said he was planning on attending the Monday evening ceremony.

Trump told the AP in May he didn’t know Cinque well and was unaware of his criminal history. Court records show Cinque pleaded guilty in 1989 to possession of stolen property. According to a 1995 New York Magazine profile he pleaded guilty to a felony after police discovered stolen art in his apartment.

The FBI director announced Sunday he would not recommend charging Clinton criminally after reviewing emails discovered on the computer of former congressman Anthony Weiner, the estranged husband of top Clinton aide Huma Abedin.

But Comey’s Oct. 28 decision to advise Congress of the newly discovered emails in the first place, before their contents had been reviewed by agents, elicited criticism by former law enforcement officials and others who questioned his judgment to make public details of an ongoing probe in the midst of a presidential election.

The foundation, headquartered on Long Island, funds scholarships and grants to the families of federal agents who have been killed or injured in the line of duty and took in about \$122,000 in revenue according to a 2014 tax filing.



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A Trump campaign spokesman declined comment.

Horwitz reported from Washington.

## Clinton, Trump sprint to finish in final campaign appeals

By JULIE PACE, LISA LERER and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Closing out a wildly unpredictable White House race, Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump blitzed through battleground states Monday in a final bid to energize supporters. Clinton, backed by an emotional appeal from Barack Obama, urged voters to embrace a “hopeful, inclusive, bighearted America,” while Trump vowed to “beat the corrupt system.”

The candidates rallied voters late into the night, a frenzied end to a bitter election year that has laid bare the nation’s deep economic and cultural divides. Clinton and Trump were both nostalgic at times, looking back fondly at a campaign that has put each on the brink of the presidency.

Clinton campaigned with confidence, buoyed by FBI Director James Comey’s announcement Sunday that he would not recommend criminal charges against her following a new email review. The FBI inquiry had sapped a surging Clinton momentum at a crucial moment in the race, though she still heads into Election Day with multiple paths to the 270 Electoral College votes needed to become the nation’s first female president.

Clinton closed her campaign alongside the last two Democrats to occupy the Oval Office, Obama and her husband, former President Bill Clinton, as well as first lady Michelle Obama. In a nod to the deep divisions that await the next president, Clinton said she’d come to “regret deeply how angry the tone of the campaign became.” She cast the choice facing voters Tuesday as a “test of our time.”

“We know enough about my opponent, we know who he is,” Clinton said, addressing tens of thousands of people sprawled across Philadelphia’s Independence Mall. “The real question for us is what kind of country we want to be.”

Obama’s address amounted to a valedictory for a president whose popularity has grown in his final year in office.

“America, I’m betting on you one more time,” Obama said. “I am betting that tomorrow you will reject fear and choose hope.”

Trump, who sped through five rallies Monday, recalled the rivals he’d vanquished and how far he’s come since launching his improbable candidacy. As he surveyed the crowd in Scranton, Pennsylvania, he declared, “It’s been a long journey.”

Still, Trump was aggressive to the end, slamming Clinton as the “face of failure.” Having made the new FBI review a centerpiece of his closing case to voters, he argued that the Democrat was being protected by a “totally rigged system.”

“You have one magnificent chance to beat the corrupt system and deliver justice,” Trump said. “Do not let this opportunity slip away.”

The comments were a reminder that Comey’s news, delivered in a letter to lawmakers on Sunday, was a doubled-edged sword for Clinton. While it vindicated her claims that the emails would not yield new evidence, it ensured that a controversy that has dogged her campaign from the start would follow her through Election Day.

Across the country, nearly 24 million early ballots were cast under the shadow of Comey’s initial announcement of a new email review. That number represents about half of the nearly 45 million people who had cast votes by Monday, according to Associated Press data.

The inquiry involved material found on a computer belonging to Anthony Weiner, the disgraced former congressman and estranged husband of Huma Abedin, a longtime Clinton aide. Comey said Sunday the FBI reviewed communications “to or from Hillary Clinton while she was secretary of state.”

Clinton tried to fly above the controversy Monday, making no mention of the FBI during her rallies. She

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was closing out her campaigning with a midnight rally in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Clinton is banking in part on high turnout — particularly among Obama's young, diverse coalition of voters — to carry her over the finish line Tuesday. Roughly half the states with advance voting have reported record turnout, including Florida and Nevada, which have booming Hispanic populations, a possible good sign for Clinton.

In Florida alone, Hispanic participation is up by more than 453,000 votes, nearly doubling the 2012 level. Black turnout is up compared to 2012, but that share of the total vote is lower due to bigger jumps among Latinos and whites, according to University of Florida professor Daniel Smith

In Nevada, where more than three-fourths of expected ballots have been cast, Democrats also lead, 42 percent to 36 percent.

Trump deputy campaign manager David Bossie downplayed the impact of increased Hispanic participation, telling reporters on a conference call, "We feel that we're going to get a good share of those votes." However, he sidestepped two questions about the level of Hispanic vote Trump needs to win the presidency.

Without victories in Florida and Nevada, Trump's path to 270 electoral votes would be exceedingly narrow. He already must win nearly all of the roughly dozen battleground states.

Trump had planned to keep up his breakneck travel schedule deep into Election Day, but aides revised plans, keeping the businessman in New York.

Midway through his final day of travel Monday, Trump praised his supporters for having created a "movement." But he warned it would all slip away if he loses Tuesday.

"Go vote," he urged. "Or honestly, we've all wasted our time."

Associated Press writers Kathleen Hennessey, Hope Yen, Jonathan Lemire and Steve Peoples in Washington and Josh Lederman in Ann Arbor, Michigan, contributed to this report.

Follow Julie Pace at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC>, Lisa Lerer at <http://twitter.com/llderer> and Jill Colvin at <http://twitter.com/colvinj>

## 10 Things to Know for Tuesday

By The Associated Press

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

### 1. CLINTON, TRUMP DASH TO FINISH LINE

The candidates blitz through battleground states in a final bid to energize supporters, a frenzied end to a bitter election year.

### 2. WHAT COULD BE GOOD NEWS FOR DEMOCRATS

A record number of Americans have voted ahead of Election Day — driven by soaring turnout from Latinos, who often lean Democratic.

### 3. GRUESOME DISCOVERY NEAR MOSUL

Iraqi troops advancing on the city held by the Islamic State group find a mass grave containing some 100 decapitated bodies.

### 4. ANOTHER CORPSE FOUND IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Investigators discover a third body on the property of the owner of a real estate firm who has been linked to seven deaths.

### 5. HOW DANIEL ORTEGA IS CEMENTING FAMILY CONTROL OF NICARAGUA

The president's overwhelming re-election to a third consecutive term also officially places his wife as vice president.

### 6. STOCKS HALT NINE-DAY LOSING STREAK

After a period of sluggishness, the U.S. stock market posts its biggest gain in eight months, with the Dow up more than 370 points.

## 7. STUDY OFFERS REASSURING EVIDENCE ON ANESTHESIA

Anesthesia during early childhood surgery poses little risk for intelligence and academics later on, the largest study of its kind suggests.

## 8. TV ANCHORS GOING HEAD-TO-HEAD AS ELECTION NEARS

ABC's David Muir and NBC's Lester Holt are in the midst of a spirited competition for first place in the evening news ratings.

## 9. 'ICE BUCKET CHALLENGE' ECLIPSED

The latest viral phenomenon? It's people standing still as part of the "mannequin challenge."

## 10. WHICH NFL TEAM IS IN UNFAMILIAR SPOT

After knocking off Super Bowl champion Denver in an AFC West showdown, the Oakland Raiders head into their bye week in an unusual place: first place.

## Authorities: 3rd body found on South Carolina man's property

By SEANNA ADCOX and MEG KINNARD, Associated Press

WOODRUFF, S.C. (AP) — Investigators discovered a third body on the property of a South Carolina man who is now linked to seven deaths and the kidnapping of a woman who was found chained inside a storage container, authorities said Monday.

Todd Kohlhepp, 45, became a suspect after the woman was found Thursday chained by her neck and ankle in a metal storage container on his 95-acre property near rural Woodruff.

The body of her boyfriend was found a day later. The couple had been missing for about two months.

The other remains were found near one another Sunday and Monday, and authorities are not sure who they are. Investigators were expected back at the property on Tuesday, but Spartanburg County Coroner Rusty Clevenger said he didn't think there were any more bodies.

"As the coroner, that's all I have been advised of. That was the total number of bodies I was told was on the property. If I am told there are more, I will be back," he said.

Following Kohlhepp's arrest, he confessed to a 2003 quadruple slaying at a motorcycle shop in the small town of Chesnee, said Spartanburg County Sheriff Chuck Wright. He was denied bond Sunday on four murder charges for gunning down the motorcycle shop's owner, service manager, mechanic and bookkeeper.

Wright has said Kohlhepp gave details only the killer would know. His confession came a day before the 13th anniversary of the crime, which many feared would never be solved.

Before his confession, authorities granted him three requests, WSPA-TV reported (<http://bit.ly/2fwxkwb>). One was to transfer money to a girl Kohlhepp says he's helping raise, to help pay for college. The second was to give his mother a photograph, and the third was to let him talk to his mother.

Kohlhepp is charged with kidnapping the woman, and more criminal counts are expected. He has chosen to represent himself and not hire an attorney, Wright told the Spartanburg Herald-Journal (<http://bit.ly/2fyeVOe>).

Wright, who was first elected about a year after the Superbike Motorsports killings, is now investigating what appears to be a crime spree stretching over more than a decade.

As a teen, Kohlhepp was sentenced to 14 years in prison in Arizona for binding and raping a 14-year-old neighbor at gunpoint. Released in 2001, he managed to obtain a real estate license in South Carolina in 2006. The search for human remains has now expanded to other properties he owns or used to own, including places outside of South Carolina, Wright said Sunday. He declined to elaborate.

Kohlhepp showed investigators Saturday where he says he buried two other victims on the property he bought two years ago.

"We're not even close" to identifying the remains or cause of death, Wright said. "We can't tell anything."

Kohlhepp did not tell investigators who was buried there. Removing the remains to "preserve every bit of evidence" is a meticulous, time-consuming process, the coroner said.

The gravesites Kohlhepp pointed to are in addition to the body found Friday in a shallow grave at the site. Authorities identified that victim as the boyfriend of the woman found Thursday. Clevenger said he

died of multiple gunshot wounds.

The Associated Press is not naming the woman because the suspect is a sex offender, though authorities have not said whether she was sexually assaulted.

Kinnard reported from Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Associated Press writers Jonathan Drew in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Jeffrey Collins in Columbia, South Carolina, contributed to this report.

## Janet Reno, former US attorney general, dies at age 78

By CURT ANDERSON, Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Janet Reno, who was the first woman to serve as U.S. attorney general but also became the epicenter of multiple political storms during the Clinton administration, died early Monday. She was 78.

Reno died from complications of Parkinson's disease, her goddaughter Gabrielle D'Alemberte said, adding that Reno spent her final days at home in Miami surrounded by family and friends.

A former Miami prosecutor who famously told reporters "I don't do spin," Reno served nearly eight years as attorney general under President Bill Clinton, the longest stint in a century.

Her sister, Maggy Reno Hurchalla, told The Associated Press that Clinton called over the weekend said to "tell Janet I love her" and that many others from her career visited or called, including former Florida governor and Sen. Bob Graham. Bill and Hillary Clinton issued a statement praising Reno's tenure and President Barack Obama called her "an American original" in his own statement.

"When Janet Reno arrived in Washington in 1993, the city had never seen anyone like her before — and hasn't since," Obama said. "Her legacy lives on in a generation of lawyers she inspired, the ordinary lives she touched, and a nation that is more just."

One of the administration's most recognizable and polarizing figures, Reno faced criticism early on for the deadly raid on the Branch Davidian compound at Waco, Texas, where sect leader David Koresh and some 80 followers perished.

She was known for deliberating slowly, publicly and in a blunt manner. Reno frequently said "the buck stops with me," borrowing the mantra from President Harry S. Truman.

After Waco, Reno figured into some of the Clinton administration's controversies and scandals, including Whitewater, Filegate, bungling at the FBI laboratory, Monica Lewinsky, alleged Chinese nuclear spying and questionable campaign financing in the 1996 Clinton-Gore re-election.

In the spring of 2000, Reno enraged her hometown's Cuban-American community when she authorized the armed seizure of 5-year-old Elian Gonzalez. He was taken from the Little Havana home of his Miami relatives so he could be returned to his father in Cuba.

During her tenure, the Justice Department prosecuted the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing case, captured the "Unabomber" Theodore Kaczynski that same year and investigated the 1993 terrorist attack on New York's World Trade Center. The department also filed a major antitrust lawsuit against Microsoft Corp. and Reno was a strong advocate for protecting abortion clinics from violence.

Attorney General Loretta Lynch praised Reno's integrity, and called her a trailblazer and "one of the most effective, decisive and well-respected leaders" in Justice Department history.

Lynch said Reno applied one test: "to do what the law and the facts required. She accepted the results of that test regardless of which way the political winds were blowing."

Miami U.S. Attorney Wifredo Ferrer, who worked for Reno in Washington from 1995-2000, said, "Even if you agreed or disagreed with her, you knew she was coming from a place of integrity." He added, "Through her work, through her decisions, she exhibited a lot of strength and a lot of courage."

After leaving Washington, Reno returned to Florida and ran unsuccessfully for Florida governor in 2002 but lost in a Democratic primary marred by voting problems.

Born July 21, 1938, Janet Wood Reno was the daughter of two newspaper reporters and the eldest of

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four siblings. She grew up on the edge of the Everglades in a cypress and brick homestead built by her mother and returned there after leaving Washington. Her late brother Robert Reno was a longtime columnist for Newsday on Long Island.

After graduating from Cornell University with a degree in chemistry, Reno became one of 16 women in Harvard Law School's Class of 1963. Reno, who stood over 6 feet tall, later said she wanted to become a lawyer "because I didn't want people to tell me what to do."

In 1993, Clinton tapped her as the first woman to lead the Justice Department after his first two choices — also women — were withdrawn because both had hired illegal immigrants as nannies. Reno was 54.

"It's an extraordinary experience, and I hope I do the women of America proud," Reno said after she won confirmation.

A little more than a month of taking office, however, Reno became embroiled in controversy with the raid on the Branch Davidian compound near Waco.

On Feb. 28, 1993, before Reno was confirmed as attorney general, U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents executing a search warrant made a surprise raid on the compound. Gunfire erupted, killing four agents and six members of the religious sect.

That led to a 51-day standoff, ending April 19, 1993, when the complex caught fire and burned to the ground. The government claimed the Davidians committed suicide. Survivors said the blaze was started by tear gas rounds fired into the compound by government tanks, and that agents shot at some who tried to flee. Reno had authorized the use of the tear gas to end the standoff and later called the day the worst of her life.

"It was a dangerous situation," Reno said during a 2005 lecture at Duke University. "The tragedy is that we will never know what was the right thing to do."

In 1995 Reno was diagnosed with Parkinson's after noticing a trembling in her left hand. She said from the beginning that the diagnosis wouldn't impair her job performance. And critics — both Republicans and Democrats — didn't give her a pass because of it.

Republicans argued she should have sought appointment of an independent counsel to investigate allegations of Clinton-Gore fundraising violations. Democrats grumbled that she failed to act as a team player.

In early 2000, Reno tried to negotiate the return to Cuba of 5-year-old Elian, who had been rescued after his mother and others drowned trying to boat from Cuba to Florida. He had been placed in the care of a Miami uncle, but his father, who lived in Cuba, wanted him returned to the island.

When Reno decided talks had broken down that April, she ordered an early morning raid by federal agents who seized the boy, enraging Miami's Cuban-American community.

Reno later said federal officials tried until the last minute to negotiate a voluntary handover and avoid the raid — where Elian was found hiding in a closet and confronted by an agent with a gun.

"We have been to great lengths to resolve this case in the least disruptive manner possible," she said at a news conference following the raid.

As attorney general, Reno often was teased by late night talk show hosts for her unassuming appearance and no-nonsense attitude. Comedian Will Ferrell memorialized her in a recurring "Saturday Night Live" skit called "Janet Reno's Dance Party" and Reno visited the skit the night she left the Justice Department in January 2001.

Reno began her career in Miami in the mid-1960s and had her first encounter with the "glass ceiling," getting passed over for a job at a law firm because she was a woman. She later made partner. In 1972, she lost a race for a Miami-area legislative seat but learned the importance of sticking to her principles from mentor John Orr, a former state lawmaker.

"Don't equivocate, don't pussyfoot, don't talk out of both sides of your mouth and you'll wake up the next morning feeling good about yourself," he told Reno. It became one of her favorite sayings.

After losing that election, Reno was hired by the Dade State Attorney's office. In 1978, when State Attorney Richard Gerstein decided to step down, Reno became his successor.

As prosecutor, Reno built programs to help reform drug dealers and combat domestic violence. Another

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program strong-armed deadbeat dads into paying child support, inspiring a rap song named after her. It included the line: "All the money you get, all the checks you make; Janet Reno will make sure and take." She also weathered a 1980 riot after an all-white jury acquitted five police officers for the beating death of a black insurance salesman. Eighteen people were killed in the rioting and crowds chanted Reno's name, accusing her of being a racist and demanding her resignation. Reno refused.

"To resign was to give into anarchy," she said.

Reno eventually won support in the city's black community, attending countless community meetings, church services and parades.

Her last foray into politics was the race for Florida governor. Reno lost the primary to Tampa lawyer Bill McBride despite her name recognition. Republican Gov. Jeb Bush defeated McBride to win a second term.

Former Attorney General Eric Holder, who also worked for Reno at Justice in the 1990s, marveled at the twists and turns in her journey.

"Hers was a great and uniquely American life and was well lived," Holder said in a statement. "All who truly knew Janet loved her and all in this nation were made better by her service and by her sacrifice. I will miss her."

After retiring from politics, Reno served on the boards or as an adviser to several organizations. In 2004 she joined the board of the New York-based Innocence Project, which works to free prisoners who can be proven innocent through DNA testing.

She also spent more time with her family. Shy and admittedly awkward, Reno never married but remained extremely close to her tight-knit family.

Asked to describe her legacy after ending her gubernatorial campaign, Reno quoted George Washington: "If I were to write all that down I might be reduced to tears. I would prefer to drift on down the stream of life and let history make the judgment."

Associated Press writers Ken Thomas and Jessica Gresko contributed to this report.

## Official: 40 to 50 buildings damaged in Oklahoma earthquake

By JUSTIN JUOZAPAVICIUS, Associated Press

CUSHING, Okla. (AP) — Dozens of buildings sustained "substantial damage" after a 5.0 magnitude earthquake struck an Oklahoma town that's home to one of the world's key oil hubs, but officials said Monday that no damage has been reported at the oil terminal.

Cushing City Manager Steve Spears said 40 to 50 buildings were damaged in Sunday's earthquake, which was the third in Oklahoma this year with a magnitude of 5.0 or greater. No major injuries have been reported, and Spears said the damage included cracks to buildings and fallen bricks and facades.

Oklahoma has had thousands of earthquakes in recent years, with nearly all traced to the underground injection of wastewater left over from oil and gas production. Sunday's quake was centered 1 mile west of Cushing and about 25 miles south of where a magnitude 4.3 quake forced a shutdown of several wells last week. Some longtime Cushing residents said Monday they've become accustomed to the unsettled ground beneath their feet. Others shrugged it off as a cost of doing business living next to an oil hub.

Fearing aftershocks, police cordoned off older parts of the city about 50 miles northeast of Oklahoma City to keep gawkers away late Sunday, and geologists confirmed that several small quakes have rumbled the area. Spears said an assisted living community had been evacuated after damage was reported. The Cushing Public School District canceled Monday classes.

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation reported Sunday night that no highway or bridge damage was found within a 15-mile radius of the earthquake's epicenter.

The quake struck at 7:44 p.m. Sunday and was felt as far away as Iowa, Illinois and Texas. The U.S. Geological Survey initially said Sunday's quake was of magnitude 5.3 but later lowered the reading to 5.0.

"I thought my whole trailer was going to tip over, it was shaking it so bad," said Cushing resident Cindy Roe, 50. "It was loud and all the lights went out and you could hear things falling on the ground.

"It was awful and I don't want to have another one."

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In recent years, Oklahoma regulators have asked oil and gas producers to either close wastewater injection wells or cut back on the volume of fluids injected. The reductions have generally led to a drop-off in quakes and their severity, though not always.

Regulators said Monday they would shut down some disposal wells near Cushing and restrict the volume that can be used in others, but said details would be released Tuesday.

Oklahoma's strongest quake on record, a magnitude 5.8 temblor on Sept. 3, occurred in Pawnee, on the fringe of an area that had already restricted wastewater disposal. Shortly afterward, geologists speculated on whether the temblor occurred on a previously unknown fault.

Oklahoma Geological Survey geophysicist Jefferson Chang said Sunday's quake and several aftershocks have been occurring on a fault line located about 2 miles west of Cushing.

"The activity has been going on for the past year and a half or so," Chang said. "This is just a spike in the activity."

Cushing's oil storage terminal is one of the world's largest. As of Oct. 28, tank farms in the countryside around Cushing held 58.5 million barrels of crude oil, according to data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. The community bills itself as the "Pipeline Crossroads of the World."

Cushing Assistant City Manager Jeremy Frazier said two pipeline companies had reported no trouble as of late Sunday but that the community hadn't heard from all companies. Gov. Mary Fallin tweeted that no damage was reported at the storage tanks at Cushing's oil storage terminal.

Some residents tried to resume normal lives Monday, treating the earthquake as more nuisance than calamity, even though the temblor could be a predictor of more to come.

"We live in Cushing," said resident Susie Wooten, who was taking pictures of the cracked bricks outside her dry cleaning business. "You can't blame the oilfields; we're on a major fault line."

For truck driver James Mutters, having oil tank farms so close to where he lives is a fact of life.

"If you live here, obviously you know about the oilfields," he said. "I drive a truck, so I need to have gas. You can run all the stuff you want from the sun, but most of the stuff has to be run off something."

According to USGS data, there have been about two dozen earthquakes in Oklahoma in the past week. When particularly strong quakes hit, the Oklahoma Corporation Commission directs well operators to cease wastewater injections or reduce volume.

"I was at home doing some work in my office and, basically, you could feel the whole house sway some," Spears, the Cushing city manager, said Sunday night. "It's beginning to become normal."

Sean Murphy in Oklahoma City and Jill Bleed in Little Rock, Ark., contributed to this report.

## FBI's big test: Clinton email probe raises political doubts

By ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI's handling of its Hillary Clinton email probe has undercut the bureau's carefully crafted image as unquestionably outside the political fray.

The yearlong investigation thrust the FBI into the thick of an already fractious presidential race, entangled in a way that strained its vaunted independence and cracked its prized reputation for silence about its work. Even after Tuesday's election, FBI Director James Comey is sure to face second-guessing over his public statements that opened the curtain on normally secret investigative details.

"This has been a very difficult election process. Unfortunately, the FBI has been drawn into it," said Leo Taddeo, a retired FBI supervisor.

Although Comey signaled a conclusion to the Clinton email matter with a letter to Congress on Sunday, the discussion continues. Lawmakers demand answers to questions left unresolved by two vague and ambiguous Comey letters. Clinton and her aides feel wronged by the disclosure of "new" emails less than two weeks before Election Day. And ex-prosecutors of both parties are concerned the bureau's actions strayed from its mandate to steer clear of politics.

If Clinton should win on Tuesday, could the investigation follow her into the White House? Comey said

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Sunday that agents had finished reviewing all newly found emails to and from her while she was secretary of state and had found nothing to change his conclusion from July — no charges. A senior law enforcement official said the letter meant an end to the email review, rather than a simple status update. There was no suggestion any of Clinton's aides were being scrutinized, indicating the investigation was again closed.

The speed with which agents reviewed the trove of emails — found on a laptop belonging to Anthony Weiner, the estranged husband of Huma Abedin, a close Clinton aide — suggested investigators encountered many duplicates of messages they had already seen.

It's hard to gauge the political impact of Comey's recent announcements. In the nine days between Comey's initial statement that he was looking at more emails and his all-clear announcement on Sunday, nearly 24 million people cast early ballots — about 18 percent of the expected total votes for president.

The controversy, coupled with leaks that laid bare internal squabbling, suggests a tough road ahead for FBI leaders regardless of who wins Tuesday.

After a referral from the intelligence community inspector general, the FBI began investigating Clinton for the potential mishandling of classified information as secretary of state. Comey has said the investigation was done without regard to politics, but he also never lost sight of political sensitivities, receiving regular briefings but refusing to comment in public.

When the FBI decided in July it wouldn't recommend charges, he broke from protocol and delivered an unusual public statement chastising Clinton and her aides as "extremely careless."

There was plenty of Republican pushback to that announcement, but it was nothing compared to what Comey has faced — from officials on both sides of the political divide — the past two weeks. That started with his Oct. 28 notification to Congress that the FBI would review newly discovered emails potentially connected to the email investigation.

The statement provoked outrage from Clinton and other Democrats who said it needlessly placed her under suspicion when the FBI didn't even know if the emails were relevant.

Then came Sunday's statement, in which Comey effectively cleared the Democratic presidential nominee by saying the new review had done nothing to change the FBI's July recommendation that she not face charges. Though a relief to Democrats and Clinton, the news also raised skepticism among Republicans and questions among others why the issue had been raised again in the first place.

Comey has said he felt obligated to alert Congress after having previously testified that the investigation had been closed. Supporters say had he kept silent until after the election, he would have faced partisan allegations of stifling a bombshell announcement and perhaps given fuel to allegations of a "rigged" election. He also would have risked the chance of the news leaking out.

"Do I sit quietly and do nothing for 10 days and let the election quietly go by, pregnant with the knowledge that we have thousands of new emails?" said Ron Hosko, a retired FBI assistant director. "Or do I tell the same Congress that I've been committed to being transparent with?"

The bureau has been further roiled by leaks that hint at discord over the handling of a separate inquiry involving the Clinton Foundation and agents from the New York field office, the FBI's largest. The Associated Press and other news organizations have reported that FBI agents seeking an investigation met this year with public corruption prosecutors to present allegations they wanted to pursue, but that the lawyers did not see a basis for moving forward.

Thomas O'Connor, president of the FBI Agents Association, said in a statement that FBI agents conduct investigations with "integrity and professionalism" and that it was wrong to imply that they don't respect the confidential nature of their work.

The latest turmoil poses a unique challenge for a venerable law enforcement organization and for a director who talks often about his desire to be accountable to the American people and transparent.

Depending on who wins Tuesday, Comey will have to co-exist with either a Republican president who has challenged his organization's integrity or a Democrat whose email practices were the subject of a criminal investigation. He'll also probably have to explain his decision-making to Congress.

"Rest assured, Jim Comey's not afraid of creating controversy," Taddeo said. "He is determined to do the right thing."



Follow Eric Tucker on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/etuckerAP>

## Philadelphia transit strike ends, avoiding election impact

By MEGAN TRIMBLE, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The city's crippling weeklong transit strike ended early Monday, ensuring that all buses, trolleys and subways will be up and running by Election Day.

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority and the union representing about 4,700 transit workers announced a tentative agreement before daybreak. By afternoon, limited service was restored on bus and trolley routes, and operating subway trains were making all stops.

SEPTA said it usually takes 24 hours to have all buses, trolleys and subway trains running after a shut-down but it was on track to be in full service by Tuesday morning.

Democratic city leaders had feared the strike could weaken turnout at the polls on Tuesday and hurt Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, who needs a big haul of votes in the city if she is to win the battleground state instead of Republican Donald Trump. The big concern was people were spending so much time getting to and from work that some wouldn't have time to go to the polls.

The city and the state intervened on Sunday in an effort to bring the walkout to an end. The city sought an injunction that would have forced SEPTA workers to at least provide service on Election Day. The state announced it would join SEPTA in court to permanently end the strike, citing its impact on the elderly, the disabled, students and the economy.

But a deal reached overnight made a continued court fight unnecessary.

SEPTA Chairman Pasquale Deon said the agreement provides wage increases and pension improvements and maintains health care coverage levels while addressing rising costs. The five-year deal is still subject to union ratification.

The strike resulted in traffic gridlock around the city at morning and evening rush hours, crowded and delayed regional train service and higher absenteeism at the city's high schools. More than 50,000 students use SEPTA to get to school.

Annette Brady, 46, usually commutes from her northeast Philadelphia home by train but drove into the city on Monday because of the continuing delays in that service. The strike's end will mean a later wakeup time and less hassle for her.

"I'm definitely happy they came to agreement but a little angry it happened in the first place, of course," Brady said. "Driving in is a nightmare."

The SEPTA chairman thanked riders for their patience.

"We sincerely regret this disruption to transportation throughout the City of Philadelphia and the region," Deon said.

Transport Workers Union local president Willie Brown said the approaching election "really wasn't a factor with me."

"We were trying to get a contract, and that's what we did," he said.

It was the transit union's ninth strike since 1975.

## Pope taps new cardinal for Newark as he remakes US church

By NICOLE WINFIELD and RACHEL ZOLL, Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pressing his campaign to remake the U.S. Catholic church, Pope Francis on Monday tapped one of his new cardinals, Joseph Tobin, to replace the Newark, New Jersey, archbishop who has been criticized for allegedly mishandling sex-abuse cases and spending lavishly on his retirement home.

The Vatican announced that Tobin would succeed Archbishop John Myers, who reached the mandatory retirement age of 75 in July. Tobin, currently the archbishop of Indianapolis, is one of three American prelates whom Francis will formally elevate as cardinals on Nov. 19 at the Vatican.

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Tobin's new assignment marks a transition in Newark away from an archbishop who was focused on drawing hard lines about Catholic orthodoxy and provides a fresh start for an archdiocese battered by controversies over Myers' leadership.

Tobin had made a name for himself in the Vatican as the former No. 2 at the Holy See's office for religious orders, where he worked to heal relationships with U.S. nuns amid an uproar over two Vatican investigations into their adherence to doctrine. The inquiries began under Pope Benedict XVI and ended under Francis, who praised the sisters for their work with the poor and disenfranchised.

Tobin more recently opposed the position of Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, now the Republican vice presidential candidate, who wanted to prevent Syrian refugees from settling in the state.

At a news conference Monday at the Newark cathedral, Tobin pledged to bring transparency to the archdiocese and communicate directly with clergy and parishioners. He noted Francis' oft-repeated plea that the church act as a "field hospital." Tobin said his aim will be to "heal wounded hearts, to open doors, to free people, to say that God is good."

"I hope to be able to reach out to people who have been hurt because I think that's part of my mission," Tobin said.

Speaking the day before the election, Tobin said Catholics, when voting, should examine whether candidates are "calling us together or are they separating us?"

He lamented political polarization in the U.S. and warned that those divisions can inadvertently permeate the church. "We don't want to hear each other's ideas," Tobin said.

The Newark archdiocese serves about 1.7 million Catholics of diverse backgrounds. About 20 percent are Latino and nearly as many are black. Tobin said he looked forward to leading an archdiocese where Mass is celebrated each Sunday in 20 languages. The cardinal-elect, a 64-year-old Detroit native, has traveled the world as head of his religious order, the Redemptorists, speaks Spanish, Italian, Portuguese and French.

He will be installed as head of the archdiocese on Jan. 6.

Myers has served in the post for 15 years. Three years ago, he faced allegations that he failed to stop an abusive priest from attending youth retreats, despite the priest's agreement with prosecutors that he would stay away from children. The priest was later defrocked. Myers' spokesman has defended the archbishop's record on child protection, saying he had removed more than a dozen abusive clergy from the ministry.

Myers also came under fire when The Star-Ledger newspaper reported the archdiocese was spending about \$500,000 to build a more than 3,000-square-foot (280-square-meter) addition to his New Jersey retirement home. The extension included a fifth bedroom, three fireplaces and an indoor exercise pool. Myers defended the costs by saying he needed an office and wanted more privacy for visiting bishops.

Last year, Myers fired a gay priest as chaplain at Seton Hall University because the priest expressed support on social media for an anti-bullying campaign that aimed to protect gays and lesbians. In August, Myers barred the priest completely from public ministry over his support for both LGBT rights groups and a female Catholic high school counselor fired for marrying a woman.

Francis has reached out to gay Catholics and has refrained from emphasizing culture war issues as his predecessors did, part of his focus on showing a more merciful, welcoming side of the Catholic Church. Known for his own simple lifestyle, Francis has also made the plight of refugees a hallmark.

Massimo Faggioli, professor of theology at Villanova University, said Tobin's nomination confirms a pattern Francis has set by moving bishops he knows well into important posts in the U.S. church.

Geographically, Tobin will be moving "right in the middle of two very important bishops who do not always see eye to eye with Pope Francis" — the conservatives Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York City and Archbishop Charles Chaput of Philadelphia.

Tobin said he met Francis at a Vatican synod, or bishops' meeting in 2005, when the pope was still archbishop of Buenos Aires. Tobin said he told the then-Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio that Tobin's mother had hoped the Argentine would be elected pope because "you pick up after yourself, you cook your food, you drive a modest car." Tobin said the pope years later wrote him a note recalling that conversation fondly.

## **Iraqi Kurdish forces advance as mass grave found near Mosul**

**By BALINT SZLANKO and QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA, Associated Press**

NEAR BASHIQA, Iraq (AP) — Iraqi Kurdish fighters exchanged heavy fire with militants on Monday as they entered a town held by the Islamic State group east of Mosul, while troops advancing south of the city discovered a mass grave containing some 100 decapitated bodies.

The offensive to reclaim the town of Bashiqa is part of the broader push to drive IS out of Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city, relieving those living under its occupation from the type of brutality, such as mass killings, that the group has committed.

IS militants have carried out a series of massacres since seizing large swaths of southern and central Iraq in the summer of 2014, often documenting them with photos and videos circulated online. On Monday, Iraqi soldiers advancing into the town of Hamam al-Alil, south of Mosul, discovered a pit containing dozens of decapitated skeletal remains, the military's Joint Military Command said.

The offensive to retake Bashiqa began at dawn with a Kurdish barrage of heavy artillery, Katyusha rockets and mortar rounds slamming into IS positions, providing cover for the advance of armored columns.

Smoke rose from the town throughout the day, with large explosions sending dark clouds into the sky.

"We have the coordinates of their bases and tunnels, and we are targeting them from here in order to weaken them so that our forces can reach their targets more easily," said Iraqi Kurdish commander Brig. Gen. Iskander Khalil Gardi.

Bashiqa, which is believed to be largely deserted except for dozens of IS fighters, is located about 13 kilometers (eight miles) northeast of Mosul's outskirts and about 20 kilometers (13 miles) from the city center. Iraqi government and Kurdish forces, backed by a U.S.-led coalition and joined by government-sanctioned militias, are fighting to drive IS out of those surrounding areas and open additional fronts to attack Mosul itself.

Bashiqa has been surrounded by Kurdish forces, known as peshmerga, for weeks but Monday's push appeared to be the most serious yet to drive IS from the town.

Kurdish forces launched mortar rounds and fired heavy artillery into the town Sunday in advance of the offensive. More artillery and air strikes hit the town early Monday as the Kurdish forces' advance got underway.

On Mosul's southern front, meanwhile, Iraqi soldiers advancing into Hamam al-Alil, some 12 miles (20 kilometers) from the city center, discovered a mass grave late Monday containing some 100 decapitated bodies near the town's agricultural college. Most were reduced to skeletons, said Brig. Gen. Yahya Rasool, the spokesman for the Joint Military Command.

He said a forensics team from Baghdad would investigate the site on Tuesday.

Earlier Monday, army spokesman Brig. Firas Bashar said Iraqi forces had retaken the town and images broadcast by the Lebanon-based Al-Mayadeen network showed soldiers hoisting the Iraqi flag on a rooftop in the town. Other reports, however, said fighting still continued and that IS fighters remained in several areas.

Iraqi special forces entered Mosul last week and have made some progress in gaining a foothold on the city's eastern edges. But progress inside the city has been slowed as troops push into more densely populated areas.

The troops are suffering casualties as the militants target them with suicide car bombs and booby traps in close-quarters fighting along the city's narrow streets. IS still holds territory to the north, south and west of Mosul, its last major urban stronghold in Iraq.

In neighboring Syria, meanwhile, Kurdish-led Syrian fighters pushed ahead Monday with an offensive aimed at isolating and encircling the Islamic State group's de facto capital of Raqqa, making small advances in villages to the north of the city. U.S.-led coalition warplanes provided air cover for the long-awaited campaign to liberate the city, which began Sunday.

Both battles are likely to be long and costly as the extremists are expected to fight until the end to try

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to hold onto their biggest urban strongholds in both countries.

Civilians were fleeing Mosul in growing numbers as Iraqi forces struggle to solidify gains in neighborhoods in the eastern part of the city, said special forces Lt. Col. Hussein Aziz.

"Daesh is trying to draw a line," Aziz said of the heavy fighting in Mosul's easternmost neighborhoods, referring to the militant group by its Arabic acronym. "They have a lot of fighters there and they forced families to stay."

Aziz was manning a checkpoint on the edge of Gogjali, Mosul's easternmost neighborhood, where civilians fleeing Mosul are screened to catch any IS fighters who may be hiding among them. Since Iraqi forces first pushed into the eastern edge of the city last Tuesday, Aziz's team has arrested dozens of people.

At the checkpoint, men were waiting for their names to be screened by a pair of informants from the area and multiple Iraqi government databases. Women and children waited further back in the shade of an abandoned building.

Gayda, a 42-year-old Mosul resident, said she fled the Samah neighborhood in the city's east just hours earlier, after a car bomb exploded next to her home. She gave only her first name, fearing for her safety and that of family members still under IS rule in other parts of Mosul.

When they reached the checkpoint, the woman's husband and son were separated from her and her daughter, and held for questioning a few yards (meters) away.

"How can he be from Daesh, he's so young," she said of her 18-year-old son. "We are good people, we don't have any enemies."

Meanwhile, the World Health Organization said it has set up 82 "rapid response teams" to manage risks of epidemics, chemical exposure and other health worries among people fleeing Mosul.

The U.N. agency said water and sanitation in camps for the displaced could face disruptions as the number of people fleeing the city grows, raising the risk of food- and water-borne diseases such as cholera. It also said that additional concerns include children who reportedly haven't been immunized since the radical Islamic State group seized control of Mosul in June 2014.

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Associated Press writers Susannah George in Bazwaya, Iraq, Adam Schreck in Irbil, Iraq, and Karin Laub in Amman, Jordan, contributed to this report.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 8, the 313th day of 2016. There are 53 days left in the year. This is Election Day.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Nov. 8, 1966, Edward W. Brooke, R-Mass., became the first black candidate to be elected to the U.S. Senate by popular vote. Republican Ronald Reagan was elected governor of California, defeating Democratic incumbent Pat Brown. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a measure allowing the merger of the American Football League and the National Football League.

On this date:

In 1793, the Louvre began admitting the public, even though the French museum had been officially open since August.

In 1864, President Abraham Lincoln won re-election as he defeated Democratic challenger George B. McClellan.

In 1889, Montana became the 41st state.

In 1923, Adolf Hitler launched his first attempt at seizing power in Germany with a failed coup in Munich that came to be known as the "Beer-Hall Putsch."

In 1932, New York Democratic Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt defeated incumbent Republican Herbert Hoover for the presidency.

In 1942, Operation Torch, resulting in an Allied victory, began during World War II as U.S. and British

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forces landed in French North Africa.

In 1950, during the Korean War, the first jet-plane battle took place as U.S. Air Force Lt. Russell J. Brown shot down a North Korean MiG-15.

In 1960, Massachusetts Sen. John F. Kennedy defeated Vice President Richard M. Nixon for the presidency.

In 1974, a federal judge in Cleveland dismissed charges against eight Ohio National Guardsmen accused of violating the civil rights of students who were killed or wounded in the 1970 Kent State shootings.

In 1986, former Soviet official Vyacheslav M. Molotov, whose name became attached to the incendiary bottle bomb known as a "Molotov cocktail," died at age 96.

In 1988, Vice President George H.W. Bush won the presidential election, defeating the Democratic nominee, Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis.

In 1994, midterm elections resulted in Republicans winning a majority in the Senate while at the same time gaining control of the House for the first time in 40 years.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush announced Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's resignation; Bush chose former CIA Director Robert Gates to succeed him. Israeli shells killed 18 Palestinian civilians in the northern Gaza town of Beit Hanoun (bayt ha-NOON') during an attack targeting militants.

Five years ago: An asteroid as big as an aircraft carrier zipped by Earth in the closest encounter by such a massive space rock in more than three decades. Voters re-elected Kentucky's Democratic governor, Steve Beshear, and picked a new governor in Mississippi, Republican Lt. Gov. Phil Bryant. Bil Keane, 89, creator of the comic strip "Family Circus," died in Paradise Valley, Arizona. Rapper Heavy D, 44, died in Los Angeles.

One year ago: Myanmar's ruling Union Solidarity and Development Party lost by a landslide in a general election to the National League for Democracy of Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi (ahng sahn soo chee). In his first public comments on the latest scandal rocking the Vatican, Pope Francis told followers in St. Peter's Square the theft of documents describing financial malfeasance inside the Holy See was a "crime" but pledged to continue reforms of its administration. An acoustic guitar that John Lennon used to record and write "Love Me Do," "I Want to Hold Your Hand" and other hit songs sold for \$2.4 million at auction in Beverly Hills, California.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Norman Lloyd is 102. Actress Stephane Audran is 84. Actor Alain Delon is 81. Singer-actress Bonnie Bramlett is 72. Singer Bonnie Raitt is 67. TV personality Mary Hart is 66. Former Playboy Enterprises chairman and chief executive Christie Hefner is 64. Actress Alfre Woodard is 64. Singer-songwriter Rickie Lee Jones is 62. Author Kazuo Ishiguro is 62. Rock musician Porl Thompson (The Cure) is 59. Singer-actor Leif Garrett is 55. Chef and TV personality Gordon Ramsay is 50. Actress Courtney Thorne-Smith is 49. Actress Parker Posey is 48. Rock musician Jimmy Chaney is 47. Actress Roxana Zal is 47. Singer Diana King is 46. Actor Gonzalo Menendez is 45. Rock musician Scott Devendorf (The National) is 44. Actress Gretchen Mol is 43. ABC News anchor David Muir is 43. Actor Matthew Rhys is 42. Actress Tara Reid is 41. Country singer Bucky Covington is 39. Actress Dania Ramirez is 37. Actress Azura Skye is 35. Actor Chris Rankin is 33. TV personality Jack Osbourne is 31. Actress Jessica Lowndes is 28. Singer-actor Riker Lynch is 25. Country singer Lauren Alaina is 22.

Thought for Today: "Remember one thing about democracy. We can have anything we want and at the same time, we always end up with exactly what we deserve." — Edward Albee, American playwright (1928-2016).