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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, tapioca 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
Senior Menu: Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, chocolate cake, whole wheat bread.

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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Holiday open house

November 10-12

Thursday 9am-5pm

Friday 9am - 5pm

Saturday 10am-4pm

Discounts through
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Daily door prize
drawings

Wine Sampling each
day

Shop Local!



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Groton Robotics Competition

Excellence Award
6844B MCTEA//SC

Tournament Champions
7686B Harrisburg Schools
7686 Harrisburg Schools

Design Award
9050C GT Robotics

Judges Award
9050 GT Robotics

GT Robotics Roster

Geek Squad 9050 D

Dragr Monson

Isaac Smith

Andrew Marzahn

Jacob Lewandowski

G-Force 9050

Landon Marzahn

Hunter Monson

Anne Marie Smith

Tanner McGannon

G.A.T. Wrenches 9050 C

Noah Tullis

Thomas Cranford

Dan Feist

Tyler Iverson

Gear Heads 9050 B

Trey Wright

Nathan Fjelstad

Micah Poor

Gabby Kramer

Jackson Dinger

Galaxy 9050 E

Lee Williams

Travis Townsend

Alex Dutchuk

River Pardick

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Gear Heads of Nathan Fjelstad and Micah Poor.



Galaxy team of Travis Townsend, Alex Dutchuk and River Pardick

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

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G-Force team competing. Team members include Tanner McGannon, Hunter Monson and Landon Marzahn.



Trey Wright and Micah Poor competing.



G . A . T . Wrenches team of Tyler Iverson, Noah Tullis and Thomas Cranford.

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Geek Squad of Isaac Smith, Andrew Marzahn and Dragr Monson.



Galaxy team of River Pardick and Travis Townsend.



Geek Squad of Isaac, Andrew and Jacob Lewandowski.

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Gear Heads team. Micah Poor, Jackson Dinger and Nathan Fjelstad are working on their robot.



Geek Squad team preparing for the tournament. Front are Isaac Smith and Dragr Monson. In back are Landon Marzahn and Jacob Lewandowski. Way in back is Dragr Monson.

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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

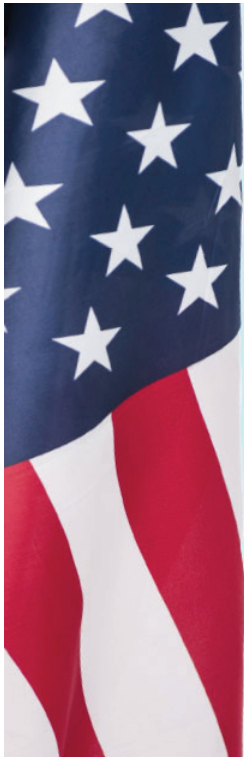
**DOOR
PRIZE!**

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.



Groton Prairie Mixed

Team Standings: Jackelopes 7, Shih Tzus 5, Chipmunks 5, Foxes 4, Cheetahs 2, Coyotes 1

Men's High Games: Brad Waage 277, 214, 212, Brad Larson 201, Steve Giedt 192, Doug Jorgensen 192

Women's High Games: Michelle Johnson 204, Sue Stanley 186, Darci Spaniaer 178

Men's High Series: Brad Waage 703, Roger Spanier 524, Ron Belden 515

Women's High Series: Michelle Johnson 500, Darci Spanier 473, Nicole Kassube 471

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Good Luck Groton Area Football!



Front Row: Madeline Schuelke, Hannah Lewandowski, Madison Sippel, Macy Knecht, Kellyn Fluke, Madilyn Wright, Jenifer Fjelstad, Ashley Flihs

Second Row: Emily Locke, Jamesen Stange, Thomas Cranford, Jonathan Doeden, Garrett Schroeder, Peyton Johnson, Austin Jones, Marshall Lane, Jackson Oliver, Brandon Keith, Heather Lone,

Third Row: Assistant Coach Seth Erickson, Head Coach Shaun Wanner, Darien Shabazz, Cole Johnson, McClain Lone, Nathan Fjelstad, Alex Kern, Joe Groeblichhoff, Nick Menzia, Shane Simon, Brandyn Anderson, Assistant Coach Scott Thorson, Assistant Coach Travis Kurth

Fourth Row: Trevon Tuggles, Doug Dobbins, Seric Shabazz, Wyatt Locke, Lucas Hinman, Luke Thorson, Bennett Shabazz, Patrick Gengerke, Korbin Blackmun, Trevor Pray and Grady O'Neill.

Missing- Houston Stone

(Photo Courtesy Ketterling Photography, modified to include missing players)

These sponsors wish the Tiger Football Team Good Luck at State and are a sponsor for a special section to appear in next week's Groton Independent.

Allied Climate Professionals - Kevin Nehls ~ Avera Clinic of Groton
Bahr Spray Foam & Construction ~ Blocker Construction ~ Cheri's on Main
Cutting Edge Lawn Care - Travis Kurth ~ First State Bank of Groton
Golden Living Center of Groton ~ Greg Johnson Construction of Bristol
Groton Chiropractic Clinic ~ Groton Dairy Queen ~ Groton Ford
Harry Implement of Ferney ~ Hefty Seed - Justin Hanson ~ James Valley Teleco
Johnson Agency ~ John Sieh Agency ~ Ken's Food Fair of Groton
Kristi Peterson Bookkeeping ~ KR Body Shop - Andover ~ Lori's Pharmacy
McKiver Collision ~ Milbrandt Enterprises ~ POET Biorefining
Professional Management Services ~ S & S Lumber & Hardware Hank
Sanford Health of Aberdeen ~ Schultz Construction LCC ~ Subway of Groton

Groton Area vs. Winner in 11B - Friday at 1 p.m.

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Today in Weather History

November 10, 1998: Heavy snow fell across most of central, north central, and northeast South Dakota from the early morning hours of the 9th into the late afternoon hours of the 10th. Heavy snow also fell across west central Minnesota from late in the evening on the 9th to late in the night of the 10th. Snowfall amounts ranged from 6 to 14 inches. Early in the storm, much of the precipitation fell as rain, freezing rain, and heavy wet snow. During the early morning hours of the 10th, northwest winds increased to 20 to 50 mph and gusted at times to 60 mph. These high winds brought widespread blizzard conditions into the late evening hours of the 10th. On both the 10th and 11th, most area schools were closed, along with many highways, including Highways 12 and 83. Interstates 29 and 90 were also closed due to slick roads and near-zero visibilities. Hundreds of vehicles were stranded in this storm, with many people needing rescue, and many motorists also slid off the roads. There were also numerous accidents, with a few resulting in injuries. Due to the ice buildup from the rain, freezing rain, and wet snow early in the storm, along with the strong winds, many tree limbs, some trees, and power lines and poles were brought down, which resulted in multiple power outages across the region. The area most affected by power outages was north of a line from Mobridge to Ipswich, along Highway 212, to the North Dakota border. Some 25 cities were affected by power outages. Hosmer was without power for over 40 hours. At South Shore, a family lost power for 120 hours. A lineman tried to get to the home twice, but could not because of the low visibility. A teenager was also lost overnight near South Shore while he was hunting with friends. He was found at 8 am the next morning. In Watertown, two people were injured in an accident. Several of the downed trees across parts of the area blocked traffic for a time. Numerous businesses were closed, and activities were canceled on the 9th and 10th. In Pierre, the strong winds ripped the canopy off the Amoco gas station. The blizzard brought the fifth lowest barometric pressure on record to Watertown. Some snowfall amounts from this horrible blizzard included; 15.4 inches near Bryant; 12.5 inches in Webster; 12.3 in Pierre; 10.8 in Sisseton; 10.5 inches near Summit; 10.0 inches in Pollock and near Onida; and 9.0 in Blunt and Conde.

1915 - An unusually late season tornado struck the central Kansas town of Great Bend killing eleven persons along its 35 mile track. The tornado destroyed 160 homes in Great Bend killing 11 persons and causing a million dollars damage. Hundreds of dead ducks dropped from the sky northeast of the track's end. (The Weather Channel)

1975: The SS Edmund Fitzgerald sinks 17 miles northwest of Whitefish Point, at the northeastern tip of Michigan's Upper Peninsula on Lake Superior. While the cause of the sinking is unknown, strong winds and high waves likely played a significant role. The crew of 29 members was lost from this event.








1987 - A cold front brought snow to the Appalachian Region and freezing temperatures to the central U.S. Up to nine inches of snow blanketed Garrett County of extreme western Maryland. Freezing temperatures were reported as far south as El Paso TX and San Angelo TX. Gale force winds lashed the Middle Atlantic Coast and the coast of southern New England. Thunderstorms brought fire quenching rains to Alabama, and produced large hail and damaging winds to eastern North Carolina. Ahead of the cold front, seven cities in Florida and Georgia reported record high temperatures for the date as readings warmed into the 80s. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Strong winds circulating around a deep low pressure system in southeastern Ontario buffeted the northeastern U.S., with the Lower Great Lakes Region hardest hit. Winds in western New York State gusted to 68 mph at Buffalo, to 69 mph at Niagra Falls, and to 78 mph at Brockport. Four persons were injured at Rome NY when a tree was blown onto their car. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2002: The second largest November tornado outbreak on record over the eastern United States occurred during the Veterans Day weekend of November 9-11, 2002. Seventy-six tornadoes were reported in seventeen states. Of the 76 tornadoes, almost one out of every six was a killer, resulting in 36 fatalities.

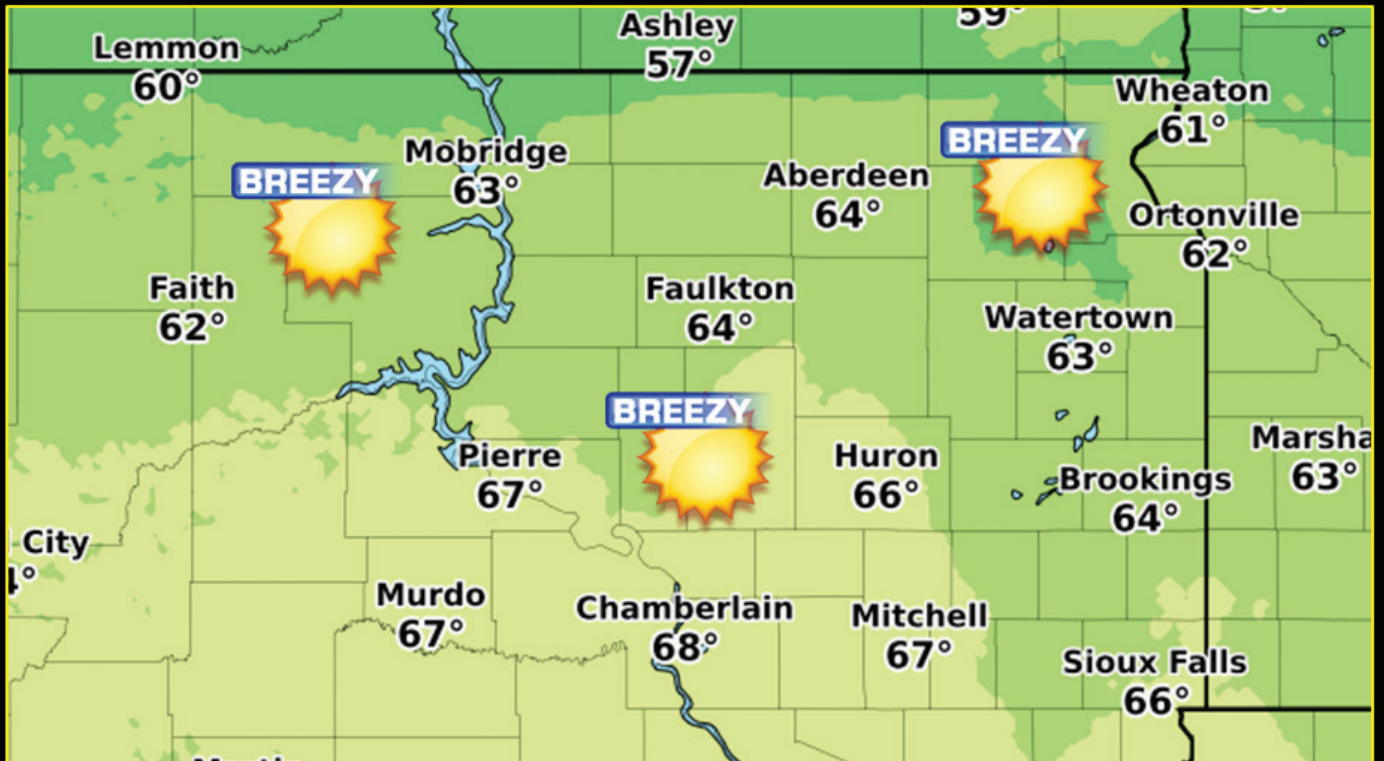
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Today	Tonight	Veterans Day	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
						
Sunny then Sunny and Breezy	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Clear	Sunny	Clear	Sunny
High: 63 °F	Low: 27 °F	High: 51 °F	Low: 29 °F	High: 60 °F	Low: 38 °F	High: 60 °F

Mild Temperatures Continue Today!

Although, Winds Will Be Breezy



 weather.gov/Aberdeen  National Weather Service Aberdeen  @NWSAberdeen | Updated: 11/10/2016 5:44 AM Central

Published on: 11/10/2016 at 5:47AM

Temperatures will continue to be mild today, but north to northwest winds will become breezy and gusty behind a passing cold front. Highs will rise into the 60s for most locations under sunny skies.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 64.6 F at 3:52 PM

Low Outside Temp: 32.7 F at 12:52 AM

High Gust: 20.0 Mph at 3:01 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 70° in 1912

Record Low: -7° in 1896

Average High: 43°F

Average Low: 22°F

Average Precip in Nov.: 0.29

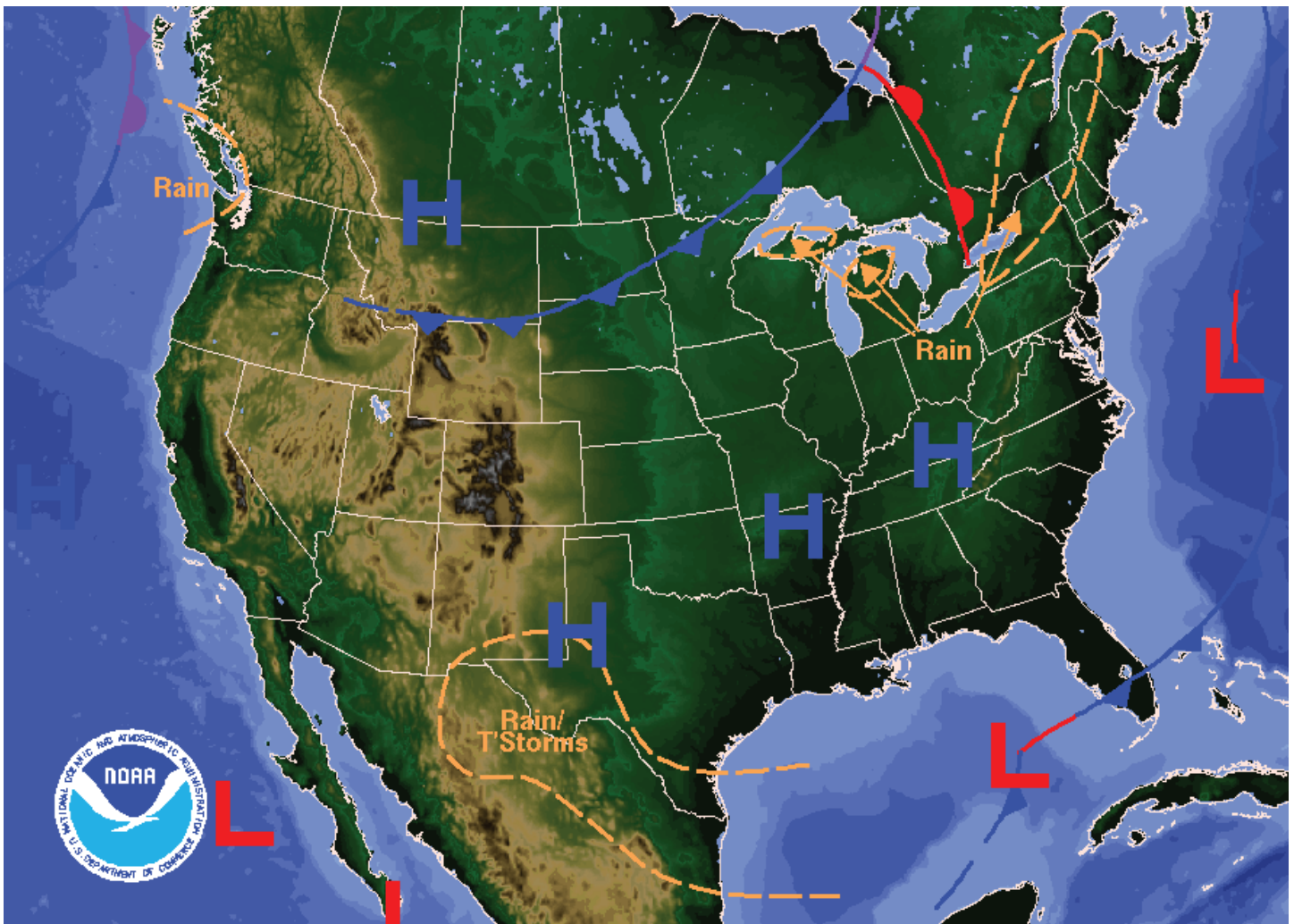
Precip to date in Nov.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 20.76

Precip Year to Date: 15.00

Sunset Tonight: 5:08 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:27 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Thu, Nov 10, 2016, issued 3:23 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Krekeler based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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MISTAKES ARE NOT FATAL

The new bank president decided that he would meet individually with each employee to introduce himself. He wanted them to know that he was very interested in their work and how important they were to the success of the bank.

After introducing himself to all of the employees, he asked one of them to come to his office. After she sat down, he asked, "How long have you been working here?"

Proudly she responded, "Forty years. And in all that time I've only made one little mistake."

"That's fine," he grumbled. "But in the future, be more careful."

We all make mistakes. And there are at least three things we can do about them:

We can promise never to make another one. That, however, is impractical since we know that promise would be impossible to keep.

We can give up and never try to do anything else again as long as we live. And we know that's impractical because life goes on.

Or we can learn from our mistakes and profit from them as though they were our teachers. When things do not work out as intended, we can go to God in prayer and ask for His wisdom which is available upon request.

Prayer: Lord, Your Word assures us that "if we need wisdom and want to know what to do" all we need to do is ask. May we learn to seek Your counsel and insight. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: James 1:5-9 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you...

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

We now accept

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

for out patient therapy.

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

News from the Associated Press

A group in South Dakota helps disabled veterans get active

By Nick Lowrey, Pierre Capital Journal

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — It was the first of two hunts planned for members of post 8 this year. This time around, Sons of the American Legion Squadron Commander Tony Rae said, the goal was to get some of the guys who can't move around as well as they did, to get some shots at roosters. There was no shortage of birds.

The first walk through an old, overgrown hog pasture yielded 10 or 15 roosters though only about four were killed. Most of the Post 8 guys were posted up as blockers and were taking long shots at birds with their afterburners on.

Rae organized the hunt as part of his job with the Sons of the American Legion. He just signed on and restarted the organization in Pierre and there are about 30 members now, though he said they're looking to grow, the Pierre Capital Journal (<http://bit.ly/2eKbpCC>) reported.

One of the things the Sons of the American Legion does is plan events like Nov. 5's pheasant hunt, Rae said.

"We do this for the guys who wouldn't go hunting on their own," Rae said. "It's our return for their sacrifice."

One of those guys, Tom Murphy who in his younger years was a Navy Corpsman attached to the U.S. Marines, said getting back out in the field was priceless.

"The fact that someone would do this for vets, I wouldn't call it the chance of a lifetime but it's close," Murphy said.

He also thanked the Weischedel family who not only allowed the Legion hunters to use their land but guided them to the best places and walked the birds up too.

"The Weischedels were very gracious to let us come hunt," Murphy said.

Murphy and his compatriots found out firsthand just how tough pheasants can be. Several birds took one or two shots and kept right on flying. There were plenty of roosters to shoot at though and by the end of the day 17 had fallen to the Post 8 shotgunners.

"There's always been a lot of birds," said Kim Weischedel.

His family bought the property back in the 1970s and there were a lot of pheasants back then too. Generally, only friends and family hunt the land. Weischedel said he doesn't do anything special for the birds but the cover on his land seems to shelter lots of them.

"I'm not sure how we keep them."

Weischedel's son-in-law Jared McPherson acted as the head guide for the hunt.

Information from: Pierre Capital Journal, <http://www.capjournal.com>

Burgum won't speculate on what to do about pipeline protest

By DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — The governor-elect of North Dakota remained tight-lipped Wednesday about any ideas he may have for dealing with the Dakota Access oil pipeline protest.

Republican Doug Burgum said in his first news conference after his record-setting victory that he doesn't want to second-guess current Gov. Jack Dalrymple's handling of the months-long dispute over construction of the four-state, \$3.8 billion pipeline near the Standing Rock Indian Reservation. Burgum said Dalrymple is facing decisions that "are maybe as important as any."

"It wouldn't be fruitful for me to speculate on what decision to make on Dec. 16 because we could have a completely different situation on our hands," Burgum said.

The Fargo businessman and philanthropist also said he would not "make a political statement" on whether

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the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should grant an easement that would allow Texas-based Energy Transfer Partners to finish the pipeline in North Dakota. The federal agency's decision has been put on hold while the corps reviews the way it permits infrastructure projects.

"Meeting the criteria for the easements should be a black and white decision," Burgum said.

Burgum's running mate, Brent Sanford, began the news conference by pointing out that Burgum received more votes than any other governor in North Dakota — nearly 338,000. His big victory over Democrat Marvin Nelson and Libertarian Marty Riske was not surprising after he defeated Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem in the primary.

Burgum, 60, said he planned to honor his pledge to give back his governor's salary, but current rules may force him to take the money, donate it and pay the taxes.

"I mean, that will just be more crazy bureaucracy, but we'll figure out a way to get it done," he said.

Burgum announced that his one-time Great Plains Software and Microsoft Corp. cohort, Jodi Uecker, would lead his transition team. Burgum wouldn't speculate on how many current cabinet members would be offered jobs, but said Uecker would be meeting with all agency heads.

Uecker encouraged interested public workers to apply at www.joindougburgum.com.

"As we look at the transition, it's a tight time frame," Uecker said. "What we really want to do in the time frame is build a high-performing team."

More discoveries of 1883 US-minted coin found in Deadwood

By Tom Griffith, Rapid City Journal

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — In what is being described as a "Eureka!" moment, numismatists examining a treasure trove of coins unearthed during four years of archaeological digs in this Black Hills community have discovered what may be one of the most unusual coins on earth.

Dubbed the "Racketeer Nickel," the 1883 U.S.-minted coin was uncovered July 31, 2001, during one of four archaeological digs in Deadwood's famed Chinatown district, the Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/2f2h08b>) reported.

Found 59 centimeters below the surface of the soil in an area known as Trench 2, the coin's location was recorded into a geographical information system for future reference. It was then transported to the South Dakota Archaeological Research Center in Rapid City with 226 other coins found in the digs for cataloging and assessment.

In 2009, the coin joined a quarter-million other historical artifacts in a new archaeological lab and storage facility housed in the bowels of Deadwood City Hall, where it sat for seven years until California coin experts Kevin and Margie Akin re-discovered it late last month and realized what they had.

In 1883, the U.S. Mint issued a new 5-cent nickel (though it was not yet consistently called a nickel, as the 3-cent nickel coin was still occasionally used). At the time, it was an innovation in that for the first time, a non-precious metal coin carried a Liberty-head design, Kevin Akin told the Journal.

"This design was similar to that on gold coins of the time," he explained. "So when the early 1883 V nickels came out with no 'cents' inscription below the Roman numeral 'V' for 5, it was new to everyone, and grifters immediately began gold-plating them to pass as \$5 gold coins."

U.S. Treasury officials denied there was a problem. But a local newspaper story at the time told a different tale.

"The new nickel five-cent piece is the subject of much discussion in the treasury department," the Feb. 22, 1883, Black Hills Daily Times reported. "Treasurer Gilfillan carries one in his vest pocket. One of these coins is plated with gold, and its resemblance on one side to a five-dollar gold piece is quite striking. The broad 'V' on the opposite side is unlike the device on any other coin, and of course should be an effectual barrier to its fraudulent use."

The same newspaper article stated that Mint Director Horatio Burchard, "ridicules the idea of any successful counterfeit of gold being made from the new nickel. He said that a proposition to suspend coinage of the new piece has not been made, and so far as he knows none is contemplated."

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Three months later, the Daily Times reported that well-heeled merchants and miners of Deadwood had found a new use for the Racketeer Nickel.

"A number of the toney young men about town are wearing cuff buttons made of the new nickels," the newspaper reported. "They are highly plated with gold, and to the uninitiated look for all the world like genuine five-dollar gold pieces."

Last year, the city of Deadwood and its Historic Preservation Commission hired the Akins, authors of the recently published 300-page field guide, "Numismatic Archaeology of North America," to examine 202 Asian coins unearthed during the Chinatown Digs.

Using photographs of the coins supplied by the city, their task was to identify each with the intention of tracing the origins of the coins and tokens discovered in the Wild West town in an effort to shed light on the former gold camp's frontier days. While visiting Deadwood in late September, historic preservation officials asked them to examine 16 of the Asian coins that could not be identified through the photos.

"It's a common joke among archaeologists that the best thing you find, the most important discoveries, are made in the last hour of the last day," Margie Akin said recently from California. "I've seen many cases where that has been true."

Their efforts with the Asian coins complete, the Akins asked City Archivist Mike Runge what else he'd like examined, and he presented them with a small collection of U.S. coins uncovered during the archaeological digs.

"When we found it, I held it up and said, 'Margie, look at this. A Racketeer Nickel, oh my God!'" Kevin recalled. "It was a bit of a Eureka moment."

In researching the Racketeer Nickel, Kevin Akin said he had found more than 1,000 of them on sale on eBay as well as a number of well-worn stories tied to their use by scam artists on unsuspecting, easily deceived individuals.

The most interesting vignette involved a deaf-mute named Josh Tatum who noticed the nickel was the same size and had a similar look to \$5 gold pieces, Akin noted. So Tatum began plating them in gold and passing them off on small purchases. After he was arrested, his attorney argued in court that Tatum could not have asked for change because he could not speak and thus, no crime had been committed. The court agreed and released the young man.

The problem with that tall tale, and the vast majority of the hundreds of purported Racketeer Nickels available for purchase online, is that they are all unproved, according to Akin.

"It's pretty easy to plate a nickel," he said. "It makes such a great story, but they're fakes. None of them has the provenance of this particular coin, the Deadwood Racketeer Nickel."

Other examples of such tall tales abound in the world of coin collecting.

"It's sort of like the brothel tokens that people sell online that they say are from the Wild West, but most were made in the 1960s," Margie Akin added. "They still make a good story. And that's what people really want; the magic of an article that came out of the ground. They're a connection to the past."

Worried that the Deadwood discovery would set off a flood of metal detector-wielding fortune seekers, the Akins stressed the monetary value of the Racketeer Nickel is negligible. But its historical significance, they said, cannot be understated.

"Actually, the current market value of the nickel is less than 10 cents because of its abysmal condition," Kevin Akin said. "But for archaeologists, the value is another matter. As far as we know, this is the first discovered in the excavation of a 19th century site. We don't know of any that has been archaeologically discovered."

He said the coin's scholarly value rests in the stories it conveys about how it was used and where it came to rest.

"But even an archaeologist wouldn't pay a dime for it. Scholarly value and market value are entirely different concepts," Kevin Akin said.

For Runge, the man charged with overseeing Deadwood's massive municipal collections of archival and archaeological materials, discovery of the Racketeer Nickel is another in a series of great finds that make reporting to work each day a joy rather than a job.

"This community's collection constitutes every facet of the human experience in the late 19th and early 20th centuries as related to frontier life in Deadwood, South Dakota," he said. "The discovery of the coin is wonderful."

Runge said there is much more to learn.

"The discovery is wonderful. But what is important about this is we have professionals in numismatic archaeology who are using this collection to help us understand our past," he said. "This assemblage the city owns is in its infancy in terms of research. There will be discoveries in the future that will rival or exceed what has been discovered."

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

Lead-Deadwood High School students creates shelters for cats

By Jaci Conrad Pearson, Black Hills Pioneer

LEAD, S.D. (AP) — They are bi-level, crafted of cedar, and in addition to providing shelter for cats, also serve as a dry, safe place for their food and water.

Just in time for winter, they are the latest bunch of cat condos, hand crafted by 21 members of the Lead-Deadwood High School geometry in construction class, built to last and fit for even the most finicky feline tastes in retreat options, the Black Hills Pioneer (<http://bit.ly/2eSPEy1>) reported.

"We're so thankful the high school will build them," said Twin City Animal Shelter (TCAS) volunteer Teah Pray.

"I think it's a great partnership," said Industrial Arts instructor Jim Studioso. "It's great that kids can do something to help the local community. This project gave them a chance to get acclimated to the tools and get broken in before we actually start building our main project, the cabin."

The materials were purchased by TCAS and, thankful for the community show of support in the students, Pray said there is easily \$60 in building materials per house, not including the cost of labor, which is provided free of charge by the students.

She added that the students' efforts help further the shelter's efforts to keep pets with their families.

"People come and get the houses for their cats that live outdoors and may not have protection," Pray said. "Mainly, people who own their cat and want a little spot outside where they can be protected and can stay warm and dry. We distribute a lot of them, especially if someone adopts an outdoor cat that needs to have protection if there is no barn or garage at the residence."

What kind of feedback does she receive from pet owners who take the houses?

"People say their cats use them," Pray said. "They're user-friendly for their cats. Cats do need a spot to go in and sleep and have protection from the weather. This is one more service we provide along with community food. We also have a dozen igloo houses the lab recently donated that are available. We provide blankets for pets, beds and, of course, the spay/neuter program. By a shelter providing all of those things, helps keeps pets in peoples' homes. If people can't provide for them, they don't feel worthy and want to turn the animals in. We have a lot of supplies to help keep pets in their homes. We're all about keeping pets with people."

TCAS does accept donations to help defray the cost of building materials.

"That helps keep the program going," Pray said.

Information from: Black Hills Pioneer, <http://www.bhpioneer.com>

Medical executive helps make hunting available to all

By Jodi Schwan, Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Dr. Tad Jacobs starts and ends most work days with a 50-mile drive between his home outside Flandreau and Sioux Falls, where he's chief medical officer for Avera Medical Group.

The days go too quickly for Jacobs this time of year, though.

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"We've always enjoyed hunting and it's been kind of a family thing," he said.

His 240-acre property outside Flandreau supports his lifelong hobby and has become Sioux River Wildlife — a hunting operation with a mission to make the sport available to all.

Raised on an Ohio acreage with a father who loved to hunt and fish, "it was really an easy decision when we decided to move to South Dakota, because of the opportunities for hunting and fishing and wildlife," Jacobs said.

The Big Sioux River winds through his land, "so it's hilly country and very scenic up there," he said.

Jacobs had a family practice in Flandreau for 28 years before coming to Sioux Falls in a leadership role at Avera. The time with patients introduced him to "folks who had disabilities that maybe prevented them from being able to enjoy hunting," he said.

It made him think about how he could provide the chance on his land.

So in 2006, Jacobs held his first Freedom Hunt. He put the word out through the Disabled American Veterans, asked for volunteers, and "it was humbling and amazing the number who came to help."

Using lifts to place the wheelchairs in the back of pickup trucks, some volunteers rode with the hunters and others walk the fields without guns so they could take some shots.

"It was so successful we said we'll just keep doing this," Jacobs said. "Year after year and every year there seemed to be more interest."

He founded the nonprofit South Dakota Freedom Hunts to support the endeavor in 2009 and agreed a few years ago to start hosting a similar hunt for people in wheelchairs in conjunction with the South Dakota chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, the Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2fwOIGf>) reported.

Gene Murphy, manager of the Sioux Falls DAV, has hunted on Jacobs' land several times.

"They do just an outstanding job," he said. "I think this year we shot . something like 94 or 96 birds, so you had plenty of opportunity to shoot."

About 30 wheelchair-bound hunters typically experience the hunt each season.

"They think it's really special he allows this and gives the disabled veterans that opportunity," said Murphy, who suffered a spinal cord injury from gunshot wounds in Vietnam and now uses a wheelchair.

"A lot of them don't have that opportunity, because they have to know a farmer or somebody that will take you. And all of a sudden they're setting it up and you're on the back of a trailer or pickup. Even myself, having the camaraderie and getting out there to hunt — even if you don't shoot anything you're still having a good time."

The experience is a humbling one, Jacobs said.

"We're blessed to be able to make that happen," he said. "These folks are friends. We know them by name and we love having them come out here."

The mission of South Dakota Freedom Hunts also includes young hunters. Working with the South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks department, Jacobs invites kids who have completed a hunting safety course to have their first in-field experience on his land.

They come with a parent or other adult and go on a hunt with safety instructors.

"And we stress the importance of what they've learned in the classroom and really take the time to show them the wonderful things out there," Jacobs said. "It's not just about shooting. It's the amazing things you see hunting. The prairie grasses, the tress, the signs of animals around and the trails."

Wildlife conservation officer Chad Williams works with Jacobs on the hunts and offers the opportunity to kids who take safety courses with him.

"It helps create the interest in kids who haven't hunted before, to give them that first experience and make it a good experience," Williams said. "Some of them shoot their first bird ever and that's the most rewarding — to get kids interested in hunting in a controlled environment."

The kids end the day "all smiling," he added. "I give Tad credit for doing this. A lot of people don't take the time to share what they have with others, and he definitely does that. I just can't speak highly enough of what he does for the youth and disabled groups. I don't have words for it. He does a great job."

GOP congressman says Trump could help pipeline completion

By BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The North Dakota congressman who helped write Donald Trump's pro-oil energy plan said Wednesday that Trump's presidency might aid completion of the \$3.8 billion Dakota Access pipeline, should the dispute over the project linger.

Meanwhile, Standing Rock Sioux Chairman Dave Archambault is calling on President Barack Obama to stop the project before he leaves office in two months. Obama had raised the prospect of rerouting the pipeline to alleviate the tribe's concerns last week, and said his administration is monitoring the situation but will "let it play out for several more weeks."

The 1,200-mile, \$3.8 billion pipeline being built by Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners is to carry oil from North Dakota through South Dakota and Iowa to a shipping point at Patoka, Illinois — a route that skirts the tribe's reservation. The Standing Rock Sioux fear the pipeline will harm drinking water and cultural sites and is trying to stop the project through a lawsuit and with protests that have been ongoing in southern North Dakota for months, resulting in more than 400 arrests.

Archambault issued a statement Wednesday, saying "halting the Dakota Access pipeline presents a unique opportunity for President Obama to set a lasting and true legacy and respect the sovereignty and treaty rights of Standing Rock and tribal nations across America."

Republican U.S. Rep. Kevin Cramer, whom Trump has leaned on for energy policy advice, said it's not feasible to reroute a pipeline that the company says is nearly complete.

The only holdup, according to ETP, is a section under Lake Oahe in North Dakota, near the protest site. That's where the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is reviewing its permitting for the crossing in the wake of tribal concerns.

The corps has given no timetable for a decision, and officials did not respond to numerous telephone and email requests for comment. But in a statement on Election Day, ETP said crews are preparing to tunnel under Lake Oahe.

"Dakota Access expects that its mobilization of equipment will be completed over the next two weeks and that it will commence drilling activities upon completion of mobilization," the statement said, adding that the company is confident the matter of corps permission will be resolved "in a time frame that will not result in any significant delay."

Cramer said he expects the matter to be resolved before Trump enters the White House in January, but that if it isn't, "Donald Trump has been very clear he wants to rebuild the infrastructure of this country."

"He's been very clear he wants to replace foreign energy with domestic energy," Cramer said. "He's been very clear he wants to celebrate the shale oil revolution, not quash it."

During an oil conference in Bismarck in May, Trump unveiled an "America first" energy plan that includes reducing and eliminating "all barriers to responsible energy production."

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

GOP hold on South Dakota deepens with election sweep

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Republicans collected decisive victories in every statewide race and padded their legislative supermajorities in Pierre, further setting back Democrats in deep red South Dakota during a strong GOP showing nationally on Tuesday.

Voters defeated more than half of the initiatives on the ballot, but sided with groups seeking to cap payday loans, bolster the rights of crime victims and publicly fund political candidates.

Here's a look at who won, who lost and what it means:

WINNER: PUBLICLY FUNDED CANDIDATES

Supporters of a ballot measure billed as an anti-corruption package won what is likely the most sweep-

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ing change to South Dakota law approved by voters. It will allow voters to tap a state fund to send two \$50 credits to participating political hopefuls, meaning there's a new pot of money available to candidates that didn't exist before.

Supporters say the plan is meant to give power to regular people so they can run for public office and win. The initiative also will tighten campaign finance and lobbying laws and create an ethics commission.

Backers heralded the ballot measure's victory as a win for all South Dakotans since they contend it will start to put the people back in control of government.

WINNER: BILLIONAIRE, VICTIMS' RIGHTS SUPPORTERS

California businessman Henry Nicholas put \$2 million into passing a victims' rights measure and walked away with a win. The measure places rights in the state constitution for victims including privacy, protection from harassment or abuse, and timely notice of trial, sentencing and post-judgment proceedings.

The law is named after California college student Marsalee "Marsy" Nicholas, who was stalked and killed in 1983 by an ex-boyfriend. Her brother, Henry Nicholas, is bankrolling an effort to expand it into more states.

WINNER: GOP

The biggest wins of election night go to the state GOP. The victories of Sen. John Thune, Rep. Kristi Noem and Public Utilities Commissioner Chris Nelson maintain Republican control of every statewide office in South Dakota. Plus, Republicans bolstered their supermajorities in the state Legislature, though a couple recounts are possible.

LOSER: DUMPED DEMOCRATS

Republican gains mean it's the pits for Democrats. Their statewide candidates lost by margins ranging from roughly 28 percentage points in the House race to over 50 percentage points in the Public Utilities Commission contest. Democratic state Senate candidates lost every race in which they faced a candidate, though one is in recount territory.

Faces of the party were also dealt embarrassing blows. Party Chairwoman Ann Tornberg lost a bid for state House, while liberal blogger Cory Heidelberger's Senate run tanked.

LOSER: PAYDAY LENDERS, ROD AYCOX

Say goodbye to short-term loans in South Dakota thanks to a measure voters approved to limit interest rates charged by businesses such as payday, auto title and installment lenders to 36 percent annually. At least, that's how a recent rate cap played out in Montana, which short-term lenders abandoned within several years of its approval.

South Dakota voters simultaneously rejected a measure funded by a Georgia-based lender that would have amended the state constitution to let lenders charge any interest rate that a borrower agreed to in writing. Since voters avoided that pitfall and came out in support of the rate cap, Wednesday morning was likely rough for Select Management Resources CEO Rod Aycox, whose Georgia-based car title lending company pumped nearly \$3.2 million into the races and came out with nothing to show for it.

LOSERS: BIG POLITICAL CHANGE, UNIONS

Two proposals that would have reshaped South Dakota politics failed. One rejected measure would have dropped party labels from ballots, while the other would have taken control of legislative redistricting from lawmakers and given it to an independent commission.

Labor also got a setback because voters dismissed an initiative that would have let unions charge fees to non-members, something opponents said was designed to get around the state's right-to-work law.

"Seventy years of union bashing is tough to overcome in one election cycle," said supporter Jason George, special projects director at the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49, which was the main backer of the measure. "It was a tough night."

Burger King locations to be sold in South Dakota, Minnesota
SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The family of a man who opened Sioux Falls' first Burger King more than 40 years ago is selling that restaurant and 25 others in South Dakota and Minnesota.

Tom Walsh Sr. and his family are expected to sell the 26 restaurants next week to Chicago-based Cave Enterprises, the Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2eLwCMu>) reported. Sioux Falls is home to 11 of the restaurants.

Walsh said he told managers the news Monday, calling it "the hardest business thing I've ever done." He said the timing and buyer felt right.

"Their culture, values, priorities, were the best and most in line with what our values and culture was," he said.

The Dakota King businesses employ about 1,200 people. Dakota King president Tom Walsh Jr. said the existing team will stay in place.

"We've had four record years in row and we've been franchisee of the year for operators of 20 stores or more for four years in a row," Walsh Sr. said.

Cave Enterprises plans to continue the Dakota King charitable programs, including one that helps financially support employees during emergencies.

At one time, Walsh's Dakota King organization operated 60 restaurants from Wisconsin to Nebraska. In 2015, he sold his five Burger King locations in North Dakota. Earlier this year, he sold five locations in Duluth, Minnesota, to Cave Enterprises.

Walsh opened the city's first Burger King in 1975.

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

Bemidji State football coach fired; group to file grievance

Eds: APNewsNow. New to some points.

Longtime Bemidji State football coach Jeff Tesch has been fired. Tesch had been on paid administrative leave since August after allegedly uttering a racial slur during a preseason practice. He was fired Monday. The Bemidji State University Faculty Association says it plans to file a grievance over Tesch's firing.

BEMIDJI, Minn. (AP) — Longtime Bemidji State football coach Jeff Tesch has been fired.

Tesch had been on paid administrative leave since August after allegedly uttering a racial slur during a preseason practice. The Minneapolis Star Tribune reports (<http://strib.mn/2eLu3tZ>) he was fired Monday.

Tesch released a statement through the union representing him, thanking his players and assistants and the community for its support during his two decades as head coach.

The Bemidji State University Faculty Association says it plans to file a grievance over Tesch's firing.

Tesch compiled a 126-91 record during his 20-year tenure and was named the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference's coach of the year in 2006. Defensive coordinator Brent Bolte took over head coaching duties this season. The team is 7-3.

Information from: Star Tribune, <http://www.startribune.com>

Nearly 70 percent of South Dakota voters cast ballots

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Nearly 70 percent of registered voters in South Dakota cast ballots in this election.

South Dakota Secretary of State Shantel Krebs says 378,995 residents voted. That's over 10,000 more than in the 2012 general election, though the turnout percentage was slightly lower than four years ago.

Krebs says the state saw a record for registered voters with more than 544,000. Voters also set a record for absentee ballots cast with more than 108,000. The state's previous all-time high for absentee ballots was 2008, when over 100,000 people voted early.

South Dakota voters rejected most of the 10 measures on the ballot Tuesday, but they came out in

favor of publicly funding political candidates and capping short-term loan interest rates. They also backed President-elect Donald Trump.

Harvest of late-season crops in South Dakota winding down

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The harvest of late-season crops in South Dakota is winding down.

The Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that 81 percent of the corn harvest is complete, 89 percent of the sunflower harvest is done and the sorghum harvest is all but wrapped up at 95 percent. Ninety-three percent of the state's winter wheat crop has emerged.

The report says ranchers have been moving cattle onto corn stalks in some areas, and fall tillage and fertilizer applications are ongoing.

Pasture and range conditions in South Dakota are rated 35 percent good to excellent. Stock water supplies are 70 percent adequate to surplus.

'Not my president:' Trump denounced in protests across US

By **ANDREW DALTON, Associated Press**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A day after Donald Trump's election to the presidency, campaign divisions appeared to widen as many thousands of demonstrators — some with signs with messages declaring "NOT MY PRESIDENT" — flooded streets across the country to protest his surprise triumph.

From New England to heartland cities like Kansas City and along the West Coast, demonstrators bore flags and effigies of the president-elect, disrupting traffic and declaring that they refused to accept Trump's victory.

Flames lit up the night sky in California cities Wednesday as thousands of protesters burned a giant papier-mache Trump head in Los Angeles and started fires in Oakland intersections.

Los Angeles demonstrators also beat a Trump piñata and sprayed the Los Angeles Times building and news vans with anti-Trump profanity. One protester outside LA City Hall read a sign that simply said "this is very bad."

Late in the evening several hundred people blocked one of the city's busiest freeways, U.S. 101 between downtown and Hollywood.

City News Service reported that 13 people were arrested as officers in full riot gear walked the protesters off the freeway.

By 1:30 a.m., the freeway was clear of demonstrators but lanes remained closed for cleanup.

In Oakland, several thousand people gathered in Frank Ogawa Plaza, police said, clogging intersections and freeway on-ramps.

In Chicago, where thousands had recently poured into the streets to celebrate the Chicago Cubs' first World Series victory in over a century, several thousand people marched through the Loop. They gathered outside Trump Tower, chanting "Not my president!"

Chicago resident Michael Burke said he believes the president-elect will "divide the country and stir up hatred." He added there was a constitutional duty not to accept that outcome.

Police said that an estimated 1,800 to 2,000 people participated in the Chicago protests. Police reported five arrests, including two for obstructing traffic, but said there were no major incidents.

A similar protest in Manhattan drew about 1,000 people. Outside Trump Tower on Fifth Avenue in midtown, police installed barricades to keep the demonstrators at bay.

Hundreds of protesters gathered near Philadelphia's City Hall despite chilly, wet weather. Participants — who included both supporters of Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton and independent Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who lost to Clinton in the primary — expressed anger at both Republicans and Democrats over the election's outcome.

In Boston, thousands of anti-Trump protesters streamed through downtown, chanting "Trump's a racist" and carrying signs that said "Impeach Trump" and "Abolish Electoral College." Clinton appears to be on

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pace to win the popular vote, despite losing the electoral count that decides the presidential race.

The protesters gathered on Boston Common before marching toward the Massachusetts Statehouse, with beefed-up security including extra police officers.

Hundreds also gathered in Providence, Rhode Island, and Portland, Maine.

A protest that began at the Minnesota State Capitol Tuesday night with about 100 people swelled at it moved into downtown St. Paul, the Minneapolis Star Tribune reported. Protesters blocked downtown streets and traveled west on University Avenue where they shouted expletives about Trump in English and Spanish.

There were other Midwest protest marches in Omaha, Nebraska, and Kansas City, Missouri.

Marchers protesting Trump's election chanted and carried signs in front of the Trump International Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Media outlets broadcast video Wednesday night showing a peaceful crowd in front of the new downtown hotel. Many chanted "No racist USA, no Trump, no KKK."

Another group stood outside the White House. They held candles, listened to speeches and sang songs.

Dallas activists gathered by the dozens outside the city's sports arena, the American Airlines Center.

In Oregon, dozens of people blocked traffic in downtown Portland, burned American flags and forced a delay for trains on two light-rail lines.

Hundreds massed in downtown Seattle streets.

Many held anti-Trump and Black Lives Matter signs and chanted slogans, including "Misogyny has to go," and "The people united, will never be defeated."

Five people were shot and injured in an area near the protest, but police said the shootings and the demonstration were unrelated.

Back in New York, several groups of protesters caused massive gridlock as police mobilized to contain them under a light rain.

They held signs that read "Trump Makes America Hate" and chanted "hey, hey, ho, ho Donald Trump has got to go." and "Impeach Trump."

Associated Press writers Robert Jablon in Los Angeles, Olga Rodriguez in Oakland, California, Lisa Baumann in Seattle, Steven Dubois in Portland, Oregon

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

1. OBAMA EXTENDING OLIVE BRANCH TO TRUMP

The president is set to welcome his successor — a man he blasted as unfit to serve as commander in chief — to the White House. Trump had led the toxic birther charge that challenged the legitimacy of Obama's presidency.

2. AP ANALYSIS: A REVERSAL OF FORTUNE FOR OBAMA

He warned that Trump was dangerous, a nuclear hair-trigger, who was proud to get away with sexual assault — and now it falls to Obama to reassure America that it can survive four years of Trump.

3. DIVISIONS RAW OVER PRESIDENTIAL RACE

Protesters flood the streets in American cities — with a rallying cry of "Not my president" — to condemn Trump's election in demonstrations that police say were mostly peaceful.

4. ONCE TARGET OF TRUMP RHETORIC, ASIA LOOKS AHEAD

There's no firm consensus among politicians and analysts across the Far East what kind of role the Trump administration will actually play in the region.

5. RISK, REWARD OF TRUMP'S ECONOMIC PLANS

Slashing taxes and lifting regulations are among measures that would turbocharge the economy, the president-elect says. Yet economists warn that his plans could spike the national debt or even cause a recession.

6. WHAT PUTIN COULD USE FROM TRUMP

High on the Russian leader's wish list is for the U.S. to drop the sanctions it imposed for Moscow's annexation of Crimea and its involvement in the continuing war in eastern Ukraine.

7. CONCERN GROWS FOR NEWBORNS IN HAITI

Across the Caribbean nation's hurricane-battered southwest, nearly 14,000 women are due to give birth in the coming weeks amid widespread shortages of meat, clean water and housing.

8. WHERE BARRIER TO SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IS POISED TO FALL

Taiwan is on the cusp of becoming the first Asian country to legalize gay marriage. Polls show marriage equality has broad public support.

9. SOMETHING FOR COOKS TO BE THANKFUL FOR

A meal-prep company backed by Martha Stewart says it can help simplify preparing your Thanksgiving feast — shipping you recipes and the ingredients you need.

10. BRAD PITT CLEARED IN ABUSE INVESTIGATION

A probe into whether the actor was abusive toward his son on a private flight in September has been closed with no finding of wrongdoing.

Iraq troops pause in advance on Mosul to drive out IS

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA, Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraqi troops consolidated gains in their advance on the northern city of Mosul on Thursday, regrouping as they clear neighborhoods and houses once occupied by the Islamic State group.

In Mosul proper, where troops have a foothold in a sliver of territory in the city's east, the special forces control the Zahra neighborhood, once named after former dictator Saddam Hussein, military officials said.

They have taken at least half of the Aden neighborhood and clashes were still ongoing there, while the regular army's ninth division is stationed in east Mosul's Intisar neighborhood, they added, speaking on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to brief reporters.

Col. John Dorrian, a spokesman for the U.S.-led forces operating the key air campaign against IS, said that advancing troops and aircraft have destroyed some 70 tunnels the jihadis had been using to launch surprise attacks from inside densely populated areas.

"They've set up elaborate defenses, and we have to assume they'll do anything among the civilian population because they don't care about anyone," he said, noting that airstrikes had hit hundreds of IS positions in the three-week old Mosul campaign.

Iraqi troops are converging from several fronts on Mosul, the country's second largest city and the last major IS holdout in Iraq. Kurdish peshmerga forces are holding a line outside the city in the north, while Iraqi army and militarized police units approach from the south and government-sanctioned Shiite militias are guarding the western approaches.

The offensive has slowed in recent days as the special forces, the troops who have advanced the farthest, push into more densely populated areas of the city's east, where they cannot rely as much on airstrikes and shelling because of the risk posed to civilians who have been told to stay in their homes.

Brig. Firas Bashar, spokesman for Nineveh operations command, says troops south of Mosul have been stopped at the town of Hamam al-Alil while other forces push forward on the city.

To the northeast, about 13 kilometers (8 miles) from the city, peshmerga continued to take territory in the town of Bashiqa, believed to be largely deserted except for dozens of IS fighters. They have had the town surrounded for weeks, and have assaulted it with mortar and artillery fire.

At an area church in territory freshly freed from the militants' grip, priests rang bells for the first time in two years as the peshmerga worked to secure the town.

"We are so happy at the liberation," said priest Elkhoury Alfaran Elkhoury at the Mart Shoomy Church in Bahzani, a village near Bashiqa.

"They want to give a message to the world, and that message is damage, their message is destruction, their message is death," he said, highlighting damage to the church made by the jihadis while they occupied the area.

In New York, the U.N. said the progress meant that the days were numbered for the self-styled caliphate declared by IS from Mosul in 2014.

"This liberation operation marks the beginning of the end of the so-called 'Da'esh caliphate' in Iraq," the U.N. envoy for the country told the Security Council on Wednesday, using the group's Arabic acronym.

Jan Kubis said that the U.N.'s humanitarian agencies were preparing to shelter even more of the tens of thousands of displaced people as winter approaches. He also warned that reconciliation and restoration of confidence in the government was necessary if the victories against IS are to be lasting.

Associated Press writers Brian Rohan in Baghdad and Susannah George in Qayara, Iraq contributed to this report.

Shares stage swift rebound as markets shake off Trump fears

By **KELVIN CHAN, AP Business Writer**

HONG KONG (AP) — World stock markets extended their swift and surprising global rebound Thursday after being hammered by Donald Trump's unexpected U.S. election victory.

After getting over their initial shock, investors were betting that a Trump presidency would not be as bad as they had first feared. Investors chose to focus on his campaign promises aimed at boosting U.S. economic growth through higher infrastructure spending and cutting red tape, rather than uncertainties such as what he might do with trade agreements.

European shares opened strongly, with France's CAC 40 jumping 1.2 percent to 4,596.34 and Germany's DAX leaping 1.2 percent to 10,776.93. Britain's FTSE 100 climbed 1.2 percent to 6,995.72.

U.S. shares were poised to open higher. Dow futures added 0.9 percent to 18,699.00 and broader S&P 500 futures advanced 0.8 percent to 2,178.50.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index rocketed 6.7 percent to close at 17,344.42 after sliding more than 5 percent the day before.

The dollar also recovered in currency trading. It was at 105.74 yen after dropping to near 101 yen the day before.

Trump pledged in his speech Wednesday to unify a deeply divided nation, helping to calm panicked financial markets. Investors had worried because his campaign promises carried few policy details, making him an unknown quantity compared with his rival, Hillary Clinton, seen as a safe choice.

"People realized that it is not the end of the world. Trump, being a businessman, will actually promote pro-business legislation, like cutting taxes and also spending heavily on infrastructure," which could help growth in the U.S., the world's biggest economy, said Francis Lun, chief executive of Geo Securities.

However, he added that investors will be watching with a skeptical eye to see what policies Trump will actually implement.

"You can say whatever you want before you're president but after you become president, the choices are much, much tougher. It's not that easy," he said.

Some industries got a bump from investors' hopes that Trump's plans for infrastructure spending, tax cuts and lighter regulation will benefit the U.S. economy, the world's biggest.

Takeuchi Manufacturing, which sells excavators, loaders and other heavy equipment to the U.S., soared 17.5 percent in Tokyo on hopes for higher construction spending.

South Korean drugmakers got a boost on the expectation that Trump and Republican-controlled Congress are less likely to crack down on rising drug prices. Hanmi Pharmaceutical rose 12 percent while Hanall Biopharma jumped 21 percent in Seoul.

In other Asian trading, South Korea's Kospi advanced 2.3 percent to 2,002.60 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 1.9 percent to 22,839.11. The Shanghai Composite index in mainland China rose 1.4 percent to 3,171.28 and Australia's S&P/ASX 200 surged 3.3 percent to 5,328.80. India's Sensex climbed 1.6 percent to 27,690.21.

Benchmarks in Taiwan, Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand also advanced.

The Mexican peso recouped some losses after plunging against the dollar Wednesday on fears Trump might cancel favorable trade deals with Mexico. The dollar weakened 0.3 percent to 19.79 Mexican pesos, which was still near its lowest level in decades. The euro edged up to \$1.0945 from \$1.0930.

Oil prices stabilized. Benchmark U.S. crude futures added 21 cents to \$45.48 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 29 cents to close at \$45.27 a barrel Wednesday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gained 38 cents to \$46.74 a barrel in London.

Trump's election boosts Kremlin hopes for better relations

By JIM HEINTZ and MATTHEW LEE, Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — In careful phrasing befitting the spy he once was, Vladimir Putin has made it clear he expects a great deal from President-elect Donald Trump. And, the billionaire businessman may expect a transactional relationship with Putin.

Although the Kremlin clearly detested Hillary Clinton, Putin's public statements on Trump's victory steered clear of gloating. Other Russians were less fastidious, suggesting that Putin in private could be delighted — and perhaps harboring unreasonable expectations.

Trump's rise to the White House puts two men into seats of global power who are paradoxically both remarkably similar and wildly different.

Trump's praise of the Russian president as a strong leader, his suggestion that the US could abandon its NATO commitments and his vehement complaints about allegedly biased news media all appear to parallel Putin's view of the world.

Trump has repeatedly called for better relations with Russia, frequently musing about a rosy world in which Russia and the U.S. get along. On Wednesday, Putin did the same, hoping that the "degraded" relations between the two powers would improve once Trump takes over. Putin noted, however, that the tension "is not our fault."

The U.S. government believes Putin might have interfered in the election that resulted in Trump's victory. The intelligence community has concluded that Russia was responsible for hacking into the emails of the Democratic National Committee and Clinton campaign chairman John Podesta and gave them to WikiLeaks, which released them. Some embarrassed and damaged the Clinton campaign.

Russia, it appears, wants Trump to play the overture, and only then decide whether to applaud.

Trump made no specific mention of Russia in his first post-election comments but made clear that he wants good relations with all nations.

"We will get along with all other nations willing to get along with us," Trump said. "I want to tell the world community that while we will always put America's interests first, we will deal fairly with everyone, with everyone — all people and all other nations. We will seek common ground, not hostility; partnership, not conflict."

Putin would be most pleased if the U.S. dropped the sanctions imposed for Russia's annexation of Crimea and its involvement in the continuing war in eastern Ukraine. That could appeal to Trump's sense that he is the master of the deal.

"I believe that Trump is a practical man; he will lift sanctions on Russia that are harmful to U.S. business," Putin aide Sergei Glazyev told the state news agency ITAR Tass.

The U.S. sanctions have been a strong factor in Russia's economic decline over the past two years, along with a plunge in prices for oil, its major export.

"I don't see the U.S. dropping sanctions ahead of the Europeans ... and Europe doesn't seem to be in any mood to drop sanctions any time soon," Chris Weafer, an analyst at the Moscow-based Macro-Advisory, argued in a written commentary. He noted that U.S. presidents, even with a cooperative Congress, have less capacity than the Russian president to unilaterally impose measures.

The outgoing Obama administration signaled on Wednesday that it was not considering any change in sanctions policy to Russia.

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Even if there is no short-term tactical gain for Russia, Trump's election appears to be a clear symbolic victory for the Kremlin in its resistance to pressure to establish Western-style democracy. Putin openly blamed Clinton as fomenting massive protests in Russia in 2011-2012 and Russian authorities generally bristled at the Democratic Party's emphasis on human rights and media freedom.

Dmitri Trenin, director of the Carnegie Moscow Center, agreed that Trump's pragmatism is more to Putin's taste.

"Trump's approach has a better chance of succeeding, and certainly an approach that is overly loaded with morals and values does not get you anywhere with the Kremlin," Trenin told The Associated Press.

Lee reported from Washington. James Ellingworth and Kate de Pury in Moscow contributed to this report.

Transition: Obama, Trump to meet at White House

By JULIE PACE, AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is set to welcome his successor, Donald Trump, to the White House, extending an olive branch to a man he has blasted as unfit to serve as commander in chief and who led the charge to challenge the legitimacy of his own presidency.

The Oval Office meeting scheduled Thursday symbolically begins the transition of power from Obama, a Democrat who ushered in a sweeping health care law and brokered a landmark nuclear accord with Iran, and Trump, a Republican who has vowed to wipe those measures away. Trump takes office on Jan. 20.

First lady Michelle Obama also planned to meet privately in the White House residence with Trump's wife, Melania Trump.

Republicans were emboldened by Trump's stunning victory over Hillary Clinton, giving the GOP control of the White House and both chambers of Congress.

"He just earned a mandate," House Speaker Paul Ryan declared.

In an emotional concession speech, Clinton said her crushing loss was "painful and it will be for a long time" and acknowledged that the nation was "more divided than we thought."

Still, Clinton was gracious in defeat, declaring: "Donald Trump is going to be our president. We owe him an open mind and the chance to lead."

Trump was uncharacteristically quiet in the aftermath of his triumph and made no public appearances Wednesday. He huddled with jubilant, sleep-deprived advisers at his eponymous skyscraper in Manhattan, beginning the daunting task of setting up an administration that will take power in just over two months. He also met with Vice President-elect Mike Pence and took calls from supporters, family and friends, according to spokeswoman Hope Hicks.

In Washington, Trump's scant transition team sprang into action, culling through personnel lists for top jobs and working through handover plans for government agencies. A person familiar with the transition operations said the personnel process was still in its early stages, but Trump's team was putting a premium on quickly filling key national security posts. The person was not authorized to discuss details by name and spoke on condition of anonymity.

According to an organizational chart for the transition obtained by The Associated Press, Trump was relying on experienced hands to help form his administration. National security planning was being led by former Michigan Rep. Mike Rogers, who previously worked for the FBI. Domestic issues were being handled by Ken Blackwell, a former Cincinnati mayor and Ohio secretary of state.

Trump was expected to consider several loyal supporters for top jobs, including former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani for attorney general or national security adviser and campaign finance chairman Steve Mnuchin for Treasury secretary. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Tennessee Sen. Bob Corker were also expected to be under consideration for foreign policy posts.

As president-elect, Trump is entitled to get the same daily intelligence briefing as Obama — one that includes information on U.S. covert operations, information gleaned about world leaders and other data gathered by America's 17 intelligence agencies.

If Trump makes good on his campaign promises, the nation stands on the brink of sweeping change in

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domestic and foreign policy. He's pledged to repeal Obama's signature health care law and pull out of the landmark nuclear accord with Iran. He's vowed to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border and temporarily ban immigration from nations with terror ties.

It's unclear whether Trump, a highly unusual candidate, will embrace many of the traditions of the presidency. He'll enter the White House owning his own private jet as well as a hotel just blocks away on Pennsylvania Avenue. He never allowed journalists to fly on his plane during the campaign, as is customary for White House nominees.

Issues of transparency bubbled up right from the start. On Wednesday evening, Trump aides said they would not bring the press corps to Washington with the president-elect for his meeting with Obama, breaking long-standing protocol.

With several million votes still to be counted, Clinton held a narrow lead in the nationwide popular vote. Most of the outstanding votes appeared to be in Democratic-leaning states, with the biggest chunk in California, a state Clinton overwhelmingly won. With almost 125 million votes counted, The Associated Press tally had Clinton with 47.7 percent and Trump with 47.5 percent.

Trump's sweep of the battleground states that decided the election was commanding. He carried Florida, Ohio and North Carolina, three of the election's biggest prizes, and snatched reliably Democratic Pennsylvania and Wisconsin away from Clinton.

Trump's support skewed older, male and overwhelmingly white. His supporters said they were deeply dissatisfied with the federal government and eager for change, according to exit polls conducted by Edison Research for The Associated Press and television networks.

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

Asian shares join Wall Street rally as Trump fears ease

By **KELVIN CHAN, AP Business Writer**

HONG KONG (AP) — Asian shares rallied Thursday, extending a surprising global recovery as Donald Trump's conciliatory acceptance speech comments helped soothe world financial markets spooked by his unexpected U.S. election victory.

The rebound in Asia took its lead from Wall Street, where stocks initially wavered before advancing the rest of the day. Major U.S. benchmarks all finished more than 1 percent higher, with the Dow Jones industrial average near a record high close.

Japan's share benchmark, the Nikkei 225 index, which was among the biggest losers on Wednesday, jumped 6 percent at the open. By midday it was up 5.7 percent at 17,178.87.

The dollar also recovered in currency trading. It was at 105.33 yen after dropping to near 101 yen the day before.

In other Asian trading, South Korea's Kospi advanced 1.9 percent to 1,996.31 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 2 percent to 22,865.45. The Shanghai Composite index in mainland China rose 1 percent to 3,158.34 and Australia's S&P/ASX 200 surged 2.7 percent to 5,297.10.

Benchmarks in Taiwan, Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand also advanced.

Trump pledged in his speech Wednesday to unify a deeply divided nation, helping to calm jitters in global financial markets. Investors had worried because his campaign promises carried few policy details, making him an unknown quantity compared with his rival, Hillary Clinton, seen as a safe choice.

"The stunning turn in sentiment suggests there is now a consensus building that much of the policy announced during the campaign was a sales pitch rather than a commitment to act," said Michael McCarthy, chief strategist at CMC Markets.

"Investors ignored the potential for damage to international trade and growth prospects and focused on Republican control of both houses of Congress as well as the White House. This offers the prospect of reform that could stimulate the U.S. economy," he added.

Investors hope Trump plans for infrastructure spending, tax cuts and lighter regulation will benefit the

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U.S. economy, the world's biggest.

On Wall Street, Dow climbed 1.4 percent to close at 18,589.69. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 1.1 percent to 2,163.26. The Nasdaq composite index 1.1 percent, to 5,251.07.

In other currencies, the Mexican peso was steady after declining 8 percent versus the dollar on fears Trump would cancel favorable trade deals with Mexico. The dollar weakened 0.4 percent to 19.78 Mexican pesos. The euro edged up to \$1.0945 from \$1.0930.

Oil prices stabilized. Benchmark U.S. crude futures slipped 15 cents to \$45.12 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 29 cents to close at \$45.27 a barrel Wednesday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, edged up 1 cent to \$46.37 a barrel in London.

Trump begins to play catch up on transition to White House

By STEVE PEOPLES and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The true test now begins for Donald Trump.

The Republican president-elect paid little attention to transition planning leading up to his stunning victory. With 72 days before he takes control of the executive branch, Trump and his senior team on Wednesday immediately began the herculean task of picking a Cabinet and tapping hundreds of appointees to senior roles in key departments — State, Defense, Homeland Security, Commerce and Treasury among them — many requiring multiple security reviews or Senate confirmation.

"They have a long way to go," said Max Stier, president and CEO of the Partnership for Public Service, an outside group that was working with both campaigns on transition planning since the summer. "It's imperative to have the right people brought in fast and they're prepared."

Stier described the transition as "a point of maximum vulnerability" for the nation.

As president-elect, Trump is entitled to get the same daily intelligence briefing as President Barack Obama — one that includes information on U.S. covert operations, information gleaned about world leaders and other data gathered by America's 17 intelligence agencies.

Trump's senior team huddled privately to being a more focused period of transition planning. The group included the transition chairman, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus, Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions, Vice President-elect Mike Pence and daughter Ivanka Trump's husband, Jared Kushner, among others.

The team is putting a premium on quickly filling key national security posts, according to people familiar with the conversations but not authorized to discuss them publicly.

"We had a great meeting and I thought it was valuable. And lots of work has been done," said Sessions, a top Trump adviser. "So it's the beginning, really a solid beginning. First phase of the beginning."

Bill Hagerty, Trump's director of presidential appointments, declined to detail a timeline for Trump's first personnel moves. A chief of staff is traditionally appointed in the initial weeks after an election.

"It's something that's got to be pretty close held until the president-elect is ready to begin to announce appointments," he said.

A small transition team has been meeting since early August to discuss legislative priorities and plans for taking over agencies. While Christie provided Trump with weekly updates, until now, the campaign and transition operations functioned as relatively distinct entities and in different cities — Trump's campaign in New York and the transition team in Washington.

An organizational chart for the transition team obtained by The Associated Press confirms that some familiar names are playing senior roles shaping a Trump administration.

National security planning was being led by former Michigan Rep. Mike Rogers, who previously worked for the FBI. Joseph "Keith" Kellogg, a retired Army lieutenant general, was heading defense planning. For domestic issues, the Trump transition team was relying on the leadership of Ken Blackwell, a former Cincinnati mayor and Ohio secretary of state.

A Trump spokesman did not respond to questions about the team, but key allies rejected the notion he was behind where he should be in transition planning.

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"Donald Trump is taking this very seriously," Priebus said, suggesting that Trump's deal-making skills would enable him to quickly "make things happen for the American people."

"He will get things done," Priebus declared.

It's far from clear who would occupy Trump's Cabinet and senior staff. His inner circle is famously small, defined by loyalty to the president-elect and largely devoid of establishment leaders.

Trump offered a roadmap for prospective administration figures while on stage during his victory speech early Wednesday.

The president-elect praised Christie, who joined Trump on stage as he declared victory, despite Christie's abysmal poll numbers at home and continued scrutiny for the so-called Bridgewater scandal.

Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani emerged as one of Trump's closest advisers and regular traveling partners in the campaign's final stretch. The former federal prosecutor is a possible fit for a post like attorney general or national security adviser.

Sessions was the first major Capitol Hill lawmaker to back Trump. His hard-line immigration views became a centerpiece of the insurgent campaign. Sessions' chief of staff, Rick Dearborn, has also emerged as a key figure in transition planning.

While many Republican national security leaders shunned Trump, retired Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn was the Republican nominee's most experienced national security voice. Flynn accompanied Trump when he received his first classified intelligence briefing.

Steven Mnuchin, a Goldman Sachs veteran and CEO of a private investment firm, served as Trump's finance chairman and instantly becomes a contender for Treasury secretary. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich could emerge as a possible secretary of state. Tennessee Sen. Bob Corker, who was considered for Trump's running mate and chairs the Foreign Relations Committee, may also be in line for a job.

Associated Press writers Jill Colvin in New York and Eric Schelzig in Nashville, Tennessee, contributed to this report.

Trump claims mandate; Clinton says give him 'chance to lead'

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

WASHINGTON (AP) — Emboldened Republicans claimed a mandate Wednesday for President-elect Donald Trump after his astonishing election triumph, and an emotional Hillary Clinton told crestfallen supporters the GOP victor deserved a "chance to lead." President Barack Obama pledged a smooth transition of power.

"We are now all rooting for his success in uniting and leading the country," the president said of the president-elect, the man who spent years questioning Obama's birthplace and challenging the legitimacy of his presidency. Obama, who had declared Trump unfit for the presidency, invited him to the White House Thursday.

Trump was uncharacteristically quiet in the aftermath of his triumph and made no public appearances Wednesday. He huddled with jubilant, sleep-deprived advisers at his eponymous skyscraper in Manhattan, beginning the daunting task of setting up an administration that will take power in just over two months. He also met with Vice President-elect Mike Pence and took calls from supporters, family and friends, according to spokeswoman Hope Hicks.

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Trump was expected to consider several loyal supporters for top jobs, including former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani for attorney general or national security adviser and campaign finance chairman Steve Mnuchin

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for Treasury secretary. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Tennessee Sen. Bob Corker were also expected to be under consideration for foreign policy posts.

After struggling for months with Trump's takeover of their party, Republican leaders embraced the businessman in victory. House Speaker Paul Ryan, who was lukewarm in his support throughout the campaign, praised him for pulling off "the most incredible political feat I have seen in my lifetime."

"He just earned a mandate," Ryan declared.

Indeed, Trump will take office in January with Congress fully in his party's control, giving him strength to try to pass his agenda and turn the Supreme Court in a conservative direction. Even Republicans were stunned by the scope of their electoral success, including many who had been privately predicting Trump's defeat.

Clinton's emotions were raw as she addressed a crowd of supporters, eyes wet with tears, who gathered in a New York ballroom. She said the crushing loss was "painful and it will be for a long time" and acknowledged that the nation was "more divided than we thought."

Still, Clinton was gracious in defeat, declaring that "Donald Trump is going to be our president. We owe him an open mind and the chance to lead."

With several million votes still to be counted, Clinton held a narrow lead in the nationwide popular vote. Most of the outstanding votes appeared to be in Democratic-leaning states, with the biggest chunk in California, a state Clinton overwhelmingly won. With almost 125 million votes counted, The Associated Press tally had Clinton with 47.7 percent and Trump with 47.5 percent.

Trump's sweep of the battleground states that decided the election was commanding. He carried Florida, Ohio and North Carolina, three of the election's biggest prizes, and snatched reliably Democratic Pennsylvania and Wisconsin away from Clinton.

Trump's support skewed older, male and overwhelmingly white. His supporters said they were deeply dissatisfied with the federal government and eager for change, according to exit polls conducted by Edison Research for The Associated Press and television networks.

If Trump makes good on his campaign promises, the nation stands on the brink of sweeping change in domestic and foreign policy. He's pledged to repeal Obama's signature health care law and pull out of the landmark nuclear accord with Iran. He's vowed to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border and temporarily ban immigration from nations with terror ties.

It's unclear whether Trump, a highly unusual candidate, will embrace many of the traditions of the presidency. He'll enter the White House owning his own private jet as well as a hotel just blocks away on Pennsylvania Avenue. He never allowed journalists to fly on his plane during the campaign, as is customary for White House nominees.

Issues of transparency bubbled up right from the start. On Wednesday evening, Trump aides said they would not bring the press corps to Washington with the president-elect for his meeting with Obama, breaking long-standing protocol.

Global stock markets and U.S. stock futures plunged early Wednesday on word of Trump's election, but later recovered. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 1.4 percent for the day in trading in New York.

World leaders congratulated Trump on his victory. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who had a contentious relationship with Obama, called the Republican a "true friend of Israel." British Prime Minister Theresa May said the U.S. and United Kingdom would remain "strong and close partners on trade, security and defense."

Russian President Vladimir Putin was among the first to reach out to the incoming American leader. Trump praised Putin throughout the campaign and advocated a closer relationship with Russia, despite Moscow's provocations in Ukraine and elsewhere.

U.S. intelligence agencies have accused Russia of hacking Democratic organizations during the campaign, actions Clinton's team saw as an indication that Putin was trying to meddle in the election. Trump notably did not accept the conclusions of intelligence officials.

Associated Press writers Bradley Klapper, Catherine Lucey, Jonathan Lemire, Lisa Lerer and Jill Colvin

contributed to this report.

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

Vitamin D deficiency is widely overestimated, doctors warn

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE, AP Chief Medical Writer

Doctors are warning about vitamin D again, and it's not the "we need more" news you might expect. Instead, they say there's too much needless testing and too many people taking too many pills for a problem that few people truly have.

The nutrient is crucial for strong bones and may play a role in other health conditions, though that is far less certain. Misunderstandings about the recommended amount of vitamin D have led to misinterpretation of blood tests and many people thinking they need more than they really do, some experts who helped set the levels write in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine .

Correctly interpreted, less than 6 percent of Americans ages 1 to 70 are deficient and only 13 percent are in danger of not getting enough.

That's concerning, "but these levels of deficiency do not constitute a pandemic," the authors write.

Yet people may think there is one.

Blood tests for vitamin D levels — not advised unless a problem like bone loss is suspected — are soaring. Under Medicare, there was an 83-fold increase from 2000 to 2010, to 8.7 million tests last year, at \$40 apiece. It's Medicare's fifth most common test, just after cholesterol levels and ahead of blood sugar, urinary tract infections and prostate cancer screening.

"I'm not sure when it got popular to check everybody for vitamin D deficiency," but patients often ask for it, especially baby boomers, said Dr. Kenny Lin, a Georgetown University family physician and preventive medicine expert.

Vitamin D pill use also grew, from 5 percent of Americans in 1999 to 19 percent in 2012.

That may be due to many reports suggesting harm from too little of "the sunshine vitamin," called that because our skin makes vitamin D from sun exposure. It's tough to get enough in winter or from dietary sources like milk and oily fish, though many foods and drinks are fortified with vitamin D and labels soon will have to carry that information.

Too much vitamin D can lead to high levels of calcium in the blood, which can cause nausea, constipation, kidney stones, an abnormal heart rhythm and other problems.

"We're not saying that moderate-dose supplements are risky, but more is not necessarily better," said Dr. JoAnn Manson of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. She and several other advisers to the Institute of Medicine, which set the RDA, or recommended dietary allowance, wrote the journal article.

People vary, biologically, in how much of any vitamin they need. The institute estimated this by comparing various intake and blood levels with measures of bone health. They estimated that, on average, people need about 400 international units of vitamin D per day, and 600 for people over 70.

To be safe and ensure that everyone gets enough, they set the RDA at the high end of the spectrum of the population's needs — 600 to 800 units, depending on age. So by definition, nearly everyone's true requirement is below that.

Many people and their doctors regard the RDA and its corresponding blood levels as a threshold that everyone needs to be above, the authors write. As a result, people often are told they are inadequate or deficient in D when, in fact, they're not.

"If you're chasing a lab number, that will lead to many people getting higher amounts of vitamin D than they need," and labs vary a lot in the quality of testing, Manson said.

The bottom line: Get 600 to 800 units a day from food or supplements and skip the blood test unless you have special risk factors, Manson said.

A big study she is helping lead is testing whether higher levels lower the risk of cancer, heart disease,

stroke, memory loss, depression, diabetes, bone loss or other problems. Nearly 26,000 people have been taking 2,000 units of D-3 (the most active form of vitamin D, also known as cholecalciferol) or dummy pills every day for five years. Results are expected in early 2018.

Marilynn Marchione can be followed at <http://twitter.com/MMarchioneAP>

Congressional GOP pledges swift action on Trump's agenda

By ERICA WERNER, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Elated congressional Republicans pledged swift action Wednesday on President-elect Donald Trump's agenda as they heralded an extraordinary new era of unified GOP control in Washington.

"He just earned a mandate," House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin declared of Trump. "We are going to hit the ground running."

Said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky: "We would like to see the country go in a different direction and intend to work with him to change the course for America."

Republicans saw their majorities in the House and Senate reduced, but not by much, as Democrats' hopes of retaking Senate control vanished. And though Ryan and McConnell both had well-publicized reservations about Trump, both were quick to declare that the newly elected president deserved the credit.

"Donald Trump pulled off an amazing political feat. He deserves tremendous credit for that," said Ryan, who initially refused to endorse Trump and only last month declared he'd no longer defend him. "It helped us keep our majorities, but it also showed the country that people don't like the direction we were going."

First up would be repealing President Barack Obama's health care law, something Republicans have already shown they can get through Congress with just a narrow Senate majority. What they haven't done is unite around a plan for ensuring that the 20 million who achieved health care coverage under the landmark law don't lose it.

Republicans also celebrated the opportunity to fill the existing Supreme Court vacancy, and potentially more to come, with "constitutional conservatives." McConnell was being widely praised for his strategy, once seen as risky, of refusing to act on Obama's nominee to replace Justice Antonin Scalia, who died last February.

And Republicans pledged to try to unwind any number of executive moves by Obama, including tougher clean air rules on power plants, looser restrictions on travel to Cuba, and tougher rules on sleep for long-haul truckers, among others — "Every single one that's sucking the very life out of our economy," GOP Sen. David Perdue of Georgia said in an interview.

That threatened to wipe away key areas of progress highlighted by Democrats under the Obama administration.

Some of Trump's goals could be harder to achieve. A wall on the southern border is estimated to cost \$10 billion to \$20 billion, money that Congress may be unlikely to provide given that cooperation from Democrats would be necessary.

Indeed the Senate Democratic minority stood as the only legislative barrier to Trump's goals, since 60 votes are required for most consequential moves in the Senate.

Republicans were poised to end up with 52 Senate seats after Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., conceded to Democratic Gov. Maggie Hassan in their close race. That assumes the GOP wins a December runoff in Louisiana, as expected. Democrats managed to pick up only one other GOP-held Senate seat, in Illinois, a devastating outcome for a party that went into Election Day with high hopes of holding the White House and winning back Senate control.

In the House, Republicans were on track to lose a maximum of nine seats, an unexpectedly modest reduction to a wide GOP majority that now stands at 247-188, including three vacant seats.

"We kicked their tails last night," said GOP Rep. Greg Walden of Oregon, head of the Republicans' House

campaign committee.

Trump's extraordinary win appeared to be going far to heal divisions within the GOP, as even Republicans who'd long harbored doubts about him offered warm pledges of support.

Here and there, notes of caution were sounded, as a few Republicans made clear that Congress would be asserting its constitutional prerogatives as a check and balance on the executive, following what Republicans viewed as overly expansive use of executive power by Obama.

"It's just our constitutional duty to keep the executive branch in check," GOP Rep. Todd Young, the newly elected Republican senator in Indiana, told reporters in Indianapolis.

Yet McConnell appeared to invite executive action by Trump, suggesting he should be exploring what kinds of "unilateral action" he could take — to undo unilateral actions by Obama.

Associated Press writers Brian Slodysko in Indianapolis and Matthew Daly and Andrew Taylor in Washington contributed to this report.

Obama, Trump and the 'zigzag' nation

By CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — One country, two tribes, the United States elected in turn Barack Obama, then a president as opposite to him as can be.

Voters chose a 48-year-old, urbane, liberal black man, then a 70-year-old, unrepentantly coarse white man who is conservative, or something.

Ain't that America?

Change comes in all forms and with wrenching lurches in a nation founded by bloody revolt and enervated through the generations by political and cultural revolution, sometimes to the edge of bloodshed or over.

There's no getting a grip on this country. The U.S. serves up in-your-face cowboy culture, in-your-face counterculture, aggressively faith-based political movements, electric Bernie Sanders socialism and lots more chances to smoke pot legally, as well as workaday lives and pinstriped suits.

Americans vote for shake-up artists, not every time but enough times to set the country apart from democracies where the ship of state turns more slowly and majestically.

"The path that this country has taken has never been a straight line," Obama said Wednesday. "We zig and we zag."

Obama, the zig, was a guy so cool in the eyes of much of the world that he got a Nobel Peace Prize before he'd had a chance to do much. (At the time, in his first year, the U.S. was fighting two wars.)

Trump, the zag, is a hurler of insults, a raw orator you can't turn away from if you can bring yourself to tune in, a boor with women, a peddler of falsehoods that made millions of eyes roll but spoke to a larger truth in the eyes of supporters.

Foreigners shake their heads at a country that over the years defines cool, then represents what crazy looks like.

Trump won with the backing of a long-prized, but declining, segment of white voters, especially men, especially less educated ones. They were on top of the political world for ages, part of Richard Nixon's Silent Majority, Reagan's haul of blue-collar Democrats and Bill Clinton's bubbas. Now they fade in an increasingly diverse country.

But Tuesday, everything old was new again and they said: Yes, we still can.

Obama came to national attention with a speech of poetry and power that dreamed of red states and blue states joined spiritually as united states. It took the breath away of some Republicans as well as many Democrats. It was a pipe dream, he admitted years later. Divisions of red and blue, white and black, young and old, coastal and heartland, are epic now — tribal.

Though polar opposites in character, politics and experience, Obama and Trump have some commonality.

They both seized on dissatisfaction and rode the revolutionary impulse to success. Though not a neophyte like Trump, Obama had to claw against the establishment — personified in 2008 by primary rival

Hillary Clinton — and benefited from that underdog posture.

This time Democrats served up the establishment, in Clinton, the candidate who told snickering donors about the “irredeemable” “deplorables” backing Trump, and woke up Wednesday to devastation, if they ever slept.

Obama and Trump tapped their different political tribes on the way to the White House, but with some overlap.

In Ohio’s Belmont County, which Obama won in 2008, Trump swept almost 70 percent of the votes. In nearby Mahoning County, which Obama won by 28 points in 2012, Clinton edged Trump by only three points. In other words, some people in working-class America who voted for Obama before turned to Trump this time.

So, now, a nation that is pretty upbeat about the job the cool black president is doing hands the reins to a man who spun conspiracy theories about Obama’s country of birth.

They will be together on Inauguration Day, Jan. 20, peacefully handing over power. It is usually a moment of grace and probably, somehow, will be that once more.

Then it’s on with the zigzag, a time to be certain of nothing except that revolution, from some quarter at some point, will come again.

Obama, urging unity, says he’s rooting for Trump’s success

By JOSH LEDERMAN and KATHLEEN HENNESSEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an awkward political ritual, President Barack Obama urged the nation Wednesday to join him in rooting for President-elect Donald Trump’s success, even as he and his shell-shocked aides prepared to watch a successor undo much of their work.

Conceding Hillary Clinton’s staggering loss, Obama vowed to do all he could to facilitate a smooth transition and to ensure Trump would be well-positioned to run the country when he takes office Jan. 20. In a brief conversation, he’d congratulated Trump by phone and invited him to sit down together Thursday at the White House.

“We all want what’s best for this country,” Obama said.

Obama delivered his sunny call for unity while standing in the Rose Garden, much as his predecessor President George W. Bush did after Obama’s victory in 2008. It was a symbolic moment meant to signal the calm transfer of power from one president to the next.

But it was also a bit of counseling for devastated Democrats. Obama spoke to more than a hundred of his White House staffers, who stood silently, dazed, some crying, before breaking out into a prolonged round of applause that continued long after Obama returned to the Oval Office.

Obama made no direct reference to Trump’s vows to erase much of what Obama has accomplished. He downplayed the notion that Trump’s presidency would mean an about-face for the nation. He said the U.S. has a tendency to “zig and zag” rather than move in a straight line, and he added, “That’s OK.”

Obama remarks were striking after a campaign in which the Democrats declared Trump was unfit to serve and Obama told voters that “the fate of the republic” rested on defeating Trump.

The brief call between Obama and Trump in the wee hours of Wednesday, after Trump claimed victory, was a “warm conversation” and a “gracious exchange,” Trump’s campaign manager said.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said Republicans would first target the heart of Obama’s legacy, the health care law they have tried and failed to repeal since it was passed in 2010. With control of both chambers of Congress and the White House, they’ll soon be in position to virtually gut it.

It’s not clear exactly how Trump and GOP allies would go about it. But Republicans last year passed legislation that eliminated Obama’s Medicaid expansion, government subsidies for insurance bought on marketplaces and some new taxes used to cover costs. The replacement would have increased the number of uninsured by about 22 million, according to nonpartisan analysts. Obama vetoed it.

White House officials said they could continue to make the case against repeal as they walked out the door. But they were largely left hoping that Republicans wouldn’t follow through on their repeal pledge,

once put in the uncomfortable position of taking away people's health insurance.

Other parts of Obama's legacy even more vulnerable, largely because he's relied on executive actions. A hefty list of Obama's initiatives rest on regulation, executive orders or unenforceable international agreements the next president is under little obligation to follow.

Trump has supported reinstating waterboarding and other extreme forms of torture that Obama banned. He's also vowed to tear up Obama's immigration actions and discard the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal Obama painstakingly negotiated.

The Republican has pledged to "cancel" U.S. participation in the international Paris climate change deal. Withdrawing would take four years under the terms of the agreement, but Trump could also decide to simply ignore its U.S. commitments to reduce carbon emission.

Trump has also criticized Obama's nuclear agreement with Iran. But he's suggested he wants to renegotiate it, rather than scrap it. It's unclear, though, how he might persuade Iran to accept less favorable terms.

But White House spokesman Josh Earnest tried to be optimistic, arguing it wasn't a given that Trump would follow through on vows to roll back Obama's key accomplishments.

"I think it is too early to tell what decisions Trump will make and what impact they will have in the priorities that President Obama has so proudly achieved," Earnest said.

Reach Josh Lederman on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/joshledermanAP> and Kathleen Hennessey at <http://twitter.com/khennessy>

Democrats lick their wounds, Republicans see work to be done

By VIVIAN SALAMA, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Cheers and tears. Market whiplash. A glass ceiling not quite shattered. Calls to "lick our wounds."

Donald Trump's first day as president-elect was marked with conciliatory remarks from Democrats who joined him in a call for national unity and urged America's vindicated and despondent voters alike to ensure a peaceful and successful transition.

Meanwhile, Republicans maintained their grip on both the Senate and House, but acknowledged there is much work to be done.

A look at some of the moving parts the day after Election Day.

AND NOW, THE HARD PART

Trump is set to become America's 45th president. And now, the hard part.

The celebrity businessman and political novice, who capitalized on voters' economic anxieties, took advantage of racial tensions and overcame a string of sexual assault allegations on his way to the White House, claimed victory early Wednesday. He urged Americans to "come together as one united people."

As of midday Wednesday, the president-elect was nowhere to be seen and the typically buzzing lobby of Trump's residence and campaign headquarters was closed to the general public (although a clothed impersonator of the famous "Naked Cowboy" was at one point seen strolling through).

Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton, meanwhile, lamented that the nation proved to be "more divided than we thought" but told supporters, "We owe him an open mind and a chance to lead."

Standing before a crowd of crestfallen campaign aides and backers, Clinton said, "This is painful and it will be for a long time."

She acknowledged that America has not "shattered that highest and hardest glass ceiling" with her failed bid, but she assured that "someday, somebody will."

'LICK OUR WOUNDS'

President Barack Obama hailed Trump's call for unity and said, "we are now all rooting for his success." Obama spoke to reporters in the Rose Garden of the White House in a post-election ritual meant to signal

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the peaceful transition of power from one president to the next. He vowed to do all he could to ensure a smooth transition and tried to buck up Democrats still reeling with disappointment and shock.

"Everybody is sad when their side loses an election, but the day after, we have to remember we are actually all on one team," Obama said.

"And then if we lose, we learn from our mistakes, we do some reflection, we lick our wounds, we brush ourselves off, we get back in the arena," he added. "But the point, though, is that we all go forward with the presumption of good faith in our fellow citizens."

TRUMP'S AMERICA

Trump's victory was concocted in the alchemy of a muscular performance by working-class whites so potent that it overwhelmed the national trend toward a more diverse population that traditionally favors Democrats.

That dynamic was amplified by the peculiar mathematics of the Electoral College, which gave an outsized voice to less educated voters in the Midwest.

MAKING THE SUPREME COURT ODD AGAIN

Trump will enter the Oval Office with the ability to re-establish the Supreme Court's conservative tilt and the chance to cement it for the long term.

Trump is expected to act quickly to fill one court vacancy and could choose the successor for up to three justices who will be in their 80s by the time his term ends.

The court has been short-handed since conservative Justice Antonin Scalia died in February, and Trump has said he would seek someone in Scalia's mold from a list of 21 people, mainly conservative state and federal judges in their 50s.

Trump's victory was a vindication for Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's strategy of refusing all year even to consider Obama's nomination of Judge Merrick Garland and end the potential for an even split in the court.

RED HILL

Republicans held onto their slim Senate majority, a stinging blow to Democrats in a night full of them. Democrats had been nearly certain of retaking control but saw their hopes fizzle as endangered GOP incumbents won in Missouri, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and even Democrat-friendly Wisconsin.

Republicans will also command the House for two more years as Trump's astounding White House triumph helped them keep their record-sized majority nearly intact.

"He just earned a mandate," House Speaker Paul Ryan said Wednesday. He will now have to work with a president with whom he had a turbulent relationship during the campaign.

GLASS CEILING INTACT

For many of Clinton's diehard female supporters, the loss was twofold. Some were disappointed that Clinton fell short of becoming the first female president. Others expressed revulsion that the president-elect is someone who has denigrated women, mocked a beauty pageant contestant for her weight, spoken about grabbing women by the genitals, and been accused of multiple instances of sexual assault.

But in the end, it wasn't the blowout some had predicted, with Trump earning about 42 percent of the votes cast by women — the overwhelming majority of them white.

GLOBAL MARKETS: THEY LOVE HIM, THEY LOVE HIM NOT

Trump's promise to put America first helped propel him to the U.S. presidency, but it also unleashed uncertainty on the global economy — skewering major trading partners and offering few specifics that might calm allies, businesses and investors.

Financial markets reacted quickly and negatively to the unknowns of a Trump stewardship of the world's largest economy. Stocks stabilized Wednesday morning, while U.S. Treasury notes lost value, pushing up

interest rates.

GO TO POT?

The marijuana legalization movement scored its biggest victory yet Tuesday as voters in California, Massachusetts and Nevada approved recreational pot, making the drug fully legal in the nation's most populous state and giving it a foothold in the densely populated Northeast.

Voters in Florida, North Dakota and Arkansas approved medical marijuana measures.

Angst over the economy helps Trump flip Great Lakes states

By **BILL BARROW**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A fractured, discontented electorate handed Donald Trump the presidency, allowing him to breach a region that Democrat Hillary Clinton was banking on in her bid for the presidency.

Key battleground states Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin had voted for the Democratic candidate in every presidential election for a generation. Ohio, Minnesota and Iowa have been part of winning Democratic maps, as well.

Trump outperformed expectations in all of them, moving most into the Republican column after President Barack Obama twice swept the region.

Exit polls and unofficial returns reflected deep racial, gender, economic and cultural divides nationally and across the Midwest and Great Lakes region, helping drive Trump's success. His soaring popularity among white voters without a college degree was essential to his capturing the Rust Belt and holding off Clinton in battlegrounds elsewhere, with voters describing themselves as "fed up" and ready for a different, even if unpredictable, direction.

"The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer," Trump said in his acceptance speech, alluding to his economic populist message that helped him shift much of the old industrial territory.

Trump's support Tuesday skewed older, more male and overwhelmingly white. His supporters said they were deeply dissatisfied with the federal government and eager for change, according to the exit polls conducted by Edison Research for national media outlets.

Nationally, he won almost 7 out of 10 whites without college degrees.

"It's just shocking that it took a billionaire to connect with the working-class folks that controlled this election," said Byron Dopkins, a 59-year-old accountant and Trump voter in River Falls, Wisconsin. "It wasn't the elite, it wasn't the white collar ... it was the working-class people."

Trump's surge in working-class regions was evident in places such as Mahoning County, Ohio. Obama won Mahoning, where organized labor still acts as a political force, by a 28-point margin in 2012. On Tuesday, Clinton won it by just 3 percentage points and fell short of Obama's vote total by more than 20,000.

Obama won nearby Belmont County, in the coal country along the Ohio River, in his first election. It shifted to Romney in 2012, and on Tuesday Trump won almost 70 percent of the vote.

Across Ohio, nearly half of all voters said international trade hurts the country's jobs situation, and two-thirds of them backed Trump. Two-thirds of the state's voters said the job situation in Ohio had deteriorated or remained static over the past four years, and three-quarters of them voted for Trump.

John Osborn is a lifelong Democrat who owns a barber shop in Waverly, Ohio. He voted for Barack Obama twice, but the 44-year-old disabled veteran said people in surrounding Pike County have suffered too much.

"We are hurting with industry, we're hurting with jobs and morale is low. So for me, I had to take the chance" and vote for Trump, he said. "I'm a Trump supporter. I'm not racist. I'm not uneducated. I'm not deplorable. But I'm fed up."

It was a pattern that repeated across the region.

Clinton did refashion an alliance similar to Obama's — women, young voters and nonwhites — but it wasn't large enough.

In Michigan, she lost Flor Penner, a 60-year-old massage therapist who voted for Trump after having twice voted for Obama. Penner lives in the Detroit suburbs of Macomb County, which twice sided with

Obama only to see Trump win by almost 12 points.

Penner said Trump will bring needed change to Washington, compared to "something wrong and corrupt" about Clinton. A Filipino immigrant-turned-American citizen, Penner dismissed Trump's harsh rhetoric on immigration as "just campaigning."

Clinton's support was concentrated in large cities, the Northeast and along the West Coast. But even in some key urban areas, Clinton fell short of Obama's benchmark.

The president won 420,000 votes in Cleveland and surrounding Cuyahoga County in 2012; Clinton won just 383,000.

The urban drop-off was a critical blow to Clinton, as Trump ran up resounding margins in small towns and rural areas, while adding victories in many suburbs.

While Trump clearly struck a chord among white voters, it's less clear what the electorate that chose him actually wants out of government.

The same group of voters gave Obama a 53 percent approval rating and returned Republican majorities to Congress, where GOP leaders already have clashed with Trump on personality and policy.

Senior fellow at The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research Marjorie Connelly in Washington and Associated Press writers Amy Forliti in River Falls, Wisconsin, Mike Householder in Waverly, Ohio, and Jeff Karoub in St. Clair Shores, Michigan, contributed to this report.

Follow Barrow on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/BillBarrowAP>

Celebrities express dismay, hope at Donald Trump's victory

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Donald Trump's election stunned many, including celebrities who overwhelmingly supported Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. Here's how some of them reacted to his victory:

- "Canada has just started building a wall." — Comedian Ricky Gervais.
- "Great faith in God works. Mr @realDonaldTrump I'm proud to call you President of the United States of America. And First Lady @melaniatrump." — Actor Scott Baio.
- "Never before have so many Americans been asked to accept a President who specifically targeted them with hate and suspicion" — Singer-songwriter John Legend.
- "Just was watching the news... maybe they'll ask me to sing 'You Can't Always Get What You Want' at the inauguration, ha!" — Mick Jagger.
- "I will never give up on this. I will spend my life fighting for girls to be seen, heard, & valued. Beware a redhead #nastywomenkeepfighting" — Actress Jessica Chastain.
- "We are staring into the face of our darkest self America. Why does it have to have a dyed com-
bover??" — Actress Connie Britton.
- "Anyone else wanna puke?" — Actress Kristen Bell.
- "I need to wake up early and buy tons of stock in a wall building company! And logs! And metal! And levelers!" — Writer-director Judd Apatow.
- "Our President-elect gave a gracious acceptance speech this AM, making clear what a great leader he will be. It is morning in America again!" — Actor James Woods.
- "I can't stop thinking about the millions of Mexicans that live and work in the US and are awaking today in a country where Trump is president" — Actor-director Diego Luna.
- "I am scared. I will fight. Trump will not crush my spirit. Hope fuels the fire in my belly to seek the change I want to see in this country." — Actress Gabrielle Union.
- "Happy hippies, we adjust, and we accept everyone for who they are. So, Donald Trump, I accept you. And this hurts to say, but I even accept you as a President of the United States. And that's fine. That's fine, because now I want to be a hopeful hippie." — Singer Miley Cyrus in a tearful two-minute video.
- "This new president has a lot of work ahead of himself to heal the divide, I wish him well. For the sake of our beautiful country. Not the blue states. Not the red states, but for THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA." — Actress-producer Eva Longoria.

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— “It’s a tough time. It’s a real sobering moment, I think, for the country. It was really disheartening to see, all of a sudden, the pride that people have for this country just sort of dwindle down to a deep, deep sadness. But there’s still so much to be done. There’s so much pain and things that need to be fixed.” — Singer and stage actress Deborah Cox, in an interview.

— “Dear God Please let Ruth Bader Ginsburg live to be 120.” — Actor-comedian Albert Brooks.

— “Bullying can’t be allowed. Sexism can’t be allowed. Racism can’t be allowed. Homophobia can’t be tolerated. Become activists. Prepare for the next cycle. If senators and congressmen stay the obstructionist they’ve become VOTE THEM OUT. This is our country.” — Actress Octavia Spencer.

— “Has SNL just thrown all their money at Alec Baldwin yet? This is gonna be a long 4 years.” — Model Chrissy Teigen.

— “We survived 8 years of Bush. We can survive 2 1/2 years of Trump. Laugh at the darkness and go easy on yourselves, okay?” — Comedian Patton Oswalt.

— “At least pot’s legal.” — Actor-producer Seth MacFarlane, reacting to voters legalizing recreational marijuana use in California, Massachusetts and Nevada.

Clinton on pace to win popular vote, despite losing election

By **STEPHEN OHLEMACHER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite losing Tuesday’s presidential election, Hillary Clinton appears to be on pace to win the popular vote, an ironic twist in an election in which her opponent repeatedly said the system was rigged against him.

Just two days before Election Day, Republican businessman Donald Trump tweeted: “The Electoral College is a disaster for a democracy.”

As it turns out, without the Electoral College, Trump probably wouldn’t be the president-elect.

A day after Election Day, Clinton held a narrow lead in the popular vote, according to unofficial results tallied by The Associated Press. With nearly 125 million votes counted, Clinton had 47.7 percent of the vote and Trump had 47.5 percent.

That’s a lead of about 236,000 votes.

Many states count votes after Election Day, so Clinton isn’t guaranteed to keep her lead. However, most of the outstanding votes appear to be in Democratic-leaning states, making it very likely she will become the second Democratic candidate for president this century to win the popular vote but lose the presidency.

The biggest chunk of uncounted votes is in California. Washington State, New York, Oregon and Maryland also have large numbers of uncounted votes. Clinton won all those states, and if the trends continue, she will pad her lead by more than 1 million votes.

There are also votes to be counted in Arizona and Alaska, two Republican-leaning states. But they are far outnumbered by uncounted votes in Democratic states.

Under the Electoral College system, each state gets one vote for each member of Congress representing the state. California has the most, with 55. Seven states have only three. The District of Columbia has three, even though the nation’s capital has no vote in Congress.

It takes 270 Electoral College votes to win the presidency. Trump’s total stands at 279, with races in Michigan, New Hampshire and Arizona too close to call.

There have been occasional calls to scrap the Electoral College, with no success. The latest push came after the 2000 presidential election, in which Democrat Al Gore lost to Republican George W. Bush, despite winning the popular vote.

Any calls to scrap the Electoral College aren’t likely to go anywhere this time, either, with Republicans controlling both the House and Senate.

Sen. Tim Kaine, the Democratic candidate for vice president, praised Clinton on Wednesday for winning the popular vote.

But when Clinton made her concession speech, she didn’t mention it.

—

Follow Stephen Ohlemacher on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/stephenatap>

Marijuana, gun control, minimum wage hikes win at the polls

By DAVID CRARY, AP National Writer

Filling a void created by congressional inaction, voters in a scattering of states tightened gun control laws and approved increases in the minimum wage. The campaign to legalize marijuana achieved a major breakthrough, with victories in at least six states.

In all, more than 150 measures appeared on statewide ballots in Tuesday's election.

California, Nevada and Massachusetts approved measures legalizing the recreational use of marijuana, while Florida, Arkansas and North Dakota voted to allow pot for medical purposes. A recreational pot proposal lost in Arizona. The outcome of another in Maine was too close to call.

Gun control was on the ballot in four states, including California, which already has some of the nation's toughest gun-related laws. Voters there approved a measure that will outlaw possession of large-capacity ammunition magazines, require permits to buy ammunition and extend California's unique program that allows authorities to seize firearms from owners who bought guns legally but are no longer allowed to own them.

Washington state approved a ballot measure that will allow judges to issue orders temporarily seizing guns from individuals who are deemed a threat.

In Maine and Nevada, a group founded by former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg spent millions promoting ballot measures that would require background checks on nearly all gun sales and transfers. The measure was approved in Nevada but was rejected in Maine.

With Congress unable to agree on an increase in the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour, numerous states and cities have taken action on their own. In this election, Arizona, Colorado and Maine voters approved measures phasing in a \$12 minimum hourly wages by 2020. In Washington state, where the minimum wage is \$9.47 an hour, voters approved a measure raising that to \$13.50 an hour by 2020.

In Nebraska, voters reinstated the death penalty, reversing the Legislature's decision last year to repeal capital punishment. Nebraska has not executed an inmate since 1997. Ten men currently sit on death row.

Overall, the results of the marijuana referendums were hailed as historic by legalization activists, given that California is the most populous state. Massachusetts became the first state east of the Rockies to join the movement.

Florida, where the medical pot measure was backed by 71 percent of the voters, and Arkansas became the first states in the South with full-scale medical marijuana programs, which exist in 25 other states.

Collectively, it was the closest the U.S. has ever come to a national referendum on marijuana, which remains prohibited under federal law.

"These votes send a clear message to federal officials that it's time to stop arresting and incarcerating marijuana users," said Rob Kampia, executive director of the pro-legalization Marijuana Policy Project.

The outcome will more than triple the number of Americans living in states where recreational pot is legal. The jurisdictions where that's already the case — Alaska, Colorado, Oregon, Washington state and the District of Columbia — have less than 6 percent of the population.

Nebraska was one of three states voting on capital punishment. California had two competing measures on its ballot, one to repeal its rarely used death penalty and the other to speed up appeals so convicted murderers are actually executed. The repeal measure was rejected; the reform measure received about 51 percent of the votes counted by Wednesday morning.

Oklahoma residents approved a measure to make it harder to abolish capital punishment. It seeks to ensure the state has a way to execute prisoners even if a given method is blocked.

Colorado voters approved a measure that will allow physicians to assist a terminally ill person in dying. That's already a practice in five other states. Coloradans defeated a proposal that would have set up the nation's first universal health care system.

Among the other topics addressed by ballot measures:

— BILINGUAL EDUCATION: California voters repealed a nearly two-decade-old law that limited bilingual

education in public schools.

— TAX HIKES: Oregon voters defeated a measure that would have imposed a 2.5 percent tax on corporate sales that exceed \$25 million. Washington voters rejected a plan to promote cleaner energy by imposing a tax of \$25 per metric ton on carbon emissions from fossil fuels such as gasoline, coal and natural gas.

— TOBACCO TAXES: Voters in Colorado, Missouri and North Dakota rejected proposals to raise taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products. Californians approved a measure that raises cigarette prices by \$2 a pack and places new taxes on electronic cigarettes.

— CONDOMS IN PORN: California voters rejected a measure that would have required actors to use condoms in all porn movies made in the state.

GOP keeps Senate control as Democrats fall short

By ERICA WERNER, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans held onto their slim Senate majority, a stinging blow to Democrats in a night full of them. Democrats had been nearly certain of retaking control but saw their hopes fizzle as endangered GOP incumbents won in Missouri, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and even Democrat-friendly Wisconsin.

Republicans also held onto a GOP seat in Indiana. GOP-held New Hampshire remained too close to call on Wednesday morning, but even if Democrats eked out a win there it would not make a difference.

New Hampshire Democratic Gov. Maggie Hassan declared victory in the Senate race Wednesday morning, but incumbent GOP Sen. Kelly Ayotte refused to concede defeat. Hassan was fewer than 700 votes ahead in unofficial results.

Republicans started the night with a 54-46 majority in the Senate and were on track to end up with at least 52 seats, presuming they win a December runoff in Louisiana, as expected.

The outcome added to a debacle of a night for Democrats, who lost the presidency and faced being consigned to minority status on Capitol Hill for years to come.

Republicans celebrated their wins, already looking ahead to midterms in 2018 when Democrats could see their numbers reduced even further with a group of red-state Senate Democrats on the ballot.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky issued a statement congratulating the president-elect.

"After eight years of the Obama administration, the American people have chosen a new direction for our nation. President-elect Trump has a significant opportunity to bring our nation together," McConnell said. "It is my hope and intent that we succeed in the years ahead by working together with our colleagues across the aisle to strengthen our national and economic security."

Democratic operatives struggled to explain why their optimistic assessments of retaking Senate control were so mistaken. Some blamed unexpected turnout by certain segments of white voters, or FBI Director James Comey's bombshell announcement that he was reviewing a new batch of emails connected with Democrat Hillary Clinton.

In Pennsylvania, GOP Sen. Pat Toomey won a narrow victory for his second term over Democratic challenger Katie McGinty. It was a race Democrats expected to win going into the night — and one that many Republicans felt nearly as sure they'd lose.

The story was the same in Wisconsin, where GOP Sen. Ron Johnson, written off for months by his own party, won re-election against former Democratic Sen. Russ Feingold in a rematch.

In Missouri and North Carolina, where entrenched GOP incumbents Roy Blunt and Richard Burr faced unexpectedly strong challenges from Democrats, both prevailed in the end.

Democrats did grab a Republican-held seat in Illinois, where GOP Sen. Mark Kirk lost to Democratic Rep. Tammy Duckworth, a double-amputee Iraq war vet. That stood as the one Democratic pickup.

The other bright spot for Democrats was in Nevada, where Minority Leader Harry Reid's retirement after five terms created a vacancy and the one Democratic-held seat that was closely contested. Reid maneuvered to fill it with Catherine Cortez Masto, Nevada's former attorney general, who spoke of her family's immigrant roots in a state with heavy Latino turnout.

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Cortez Masto will become the first Latina U.S. senator. She beat Republican Rep. Joe Heck, who struggled with sharing the ticket with Donald Trump, first endorsing and then un-endorsing Trump to the disgust of some GOP voters.

Indeed the Senate races were shadowed every step of the way by the polarizing presidential race between Clinton and Trump. Yet in the end, Trump was not the drag on GOP candidates widely anticipated. Republicans like Johnson who endorsed him and stuck with him won re-election, as did others like Pennsylvania's Toomey who never backed Trump until the very end. And so did a few like GOP Sen. John McCain of Arizona who un-endorsed Trump after audio emerged of him boasting of groping women.

McCain, at age 80, won his sixth term in quite possibly his final campaign. The 2008 GOP presidential nominee was re-elected without much difficulty despite early predictions of a competitive race, and struck a reflective note ahead of the outcome.

"While as Yogi Berra said, 'I hate to make predictions, especially about the future,' I'm not sure how many more I have in me," McCain said.

In Indiana, GOP Rep. Todd Young beat former Democratic senator and governor Evan Bayh, who mounted a much-ballyhooed comeback bid, but wilted under scrutiny. And in Florida, GOP Sen. Marco Rubio beat Democratic Rep. Patrick Murphy, giving Rubio a platform from which he could mount another bid for president in 2020.

In New York, Sen. Chuck Schumer, the Democrats' leader-in-waiting for a new Congress, easily won re-election. But the results elsewhere meant he would be leading a Senate minority.

Even though the GOP's renewed control of the Senate will be narrow, the advantages of being in the majority are significant. The controlling party sets the legislative agenda and runs investigations. First up is likely to be a nominee to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court.

Associated Press writer Mary Clare Jalonick contributed to this report.

Pakistan deports National Geographic's iconic 'Afghan Girl'

By LYNNE O'DONNELL and RIAZ KHAN, Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghanistan's president on Wednesday welcomed home Sharbat Gulla, National Geographic's famed green-eyed "Afghan Girl," just hours after she was deported from Pakistan, the latest in the odyssey of the globally recognized refugee.

Gulla's deportation came after a regional court in the Pakistani city of Peshawar convicted her on charges of carrying a forged Pakistani ID card and staying in the country illegally.

The case has drawn international attention and criticism of Pakistani authorities over their perceived harsh treatment of Gulla — and other Afghans who Islamabad says will be expelled as illegal immigrants.

Gulla gained international fame as an Afghan refugee girl in 1984, when war photographer Steve McCurry's photograph of her, with piercing green eyes, was published on National Geographic's cover. McCurry found her again in 2002.

In 2014, she went into hiding after authorities accused her of buying fake Pakistani documents. She was arrested in late October and the Peshawar court earlier this month ordered her deported.

Earlier Wednesday, Gulla and her four children were handed over to Afghan authorities at the Torkham border crossing, about 60 kilometers (37 miles) northwest Peshawar.

From there she was flown to Kabul where President Ashraf Ghani and his wife Rula hosted a reception for Gulla at the presidential palace. Ghani also handed her keys to a fully-furnished apartment.

"As a child, she captured the hearts of millions because she was the symbol of displacement," Ghani said of Gulla. "The enormous beauty, the enormous energy that she projected from her face captured hearts and became one of the most famous photographs of the 1980s and up until the 1990s."

"It is a privilege for me to welcome her. We are proud to see that she lives with dignity and with security in her homeland," Ghani said.

Peshawar official Fayaz Khan said Gulla, a widow, and her children were taken by convoy to the border

with Afghanistan before dawn Wednesday.

She looked visibly unhappy and before crossing, turned once to look back at Pakistan, her home of many years, and murmured good wishes for the Pakistani people, according to two customs officials at the scene. The officials spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

After the Peshawar court sentenced Gulla to 15 days in jail and a fine of \$1,000, she fell ill and was admitted to the city's Lady Reading hospital.

The hospital staff gave Gulla a bouquet of red roses as she was taken away Wednesday, said Dr Mukhtiar Zaman, who described her as still being weak from her illness.

Around 3 million Afghans live in Pakistan, most of them as refugees who fled over the almost 40 years of continuous conflict. Pakistan recently stepped up their expulsions, forcing tens of thousands across the border into Afghanistan, where many find themselves rootless after so many years of exile.

Khan reported from Peshawar, Pakistan. Associated Press Writers Asif Shahzad in Islamabad and Rahim Faiez in Kabul, Afghanistan, contributed to this report.

Trump's conciliatory speech helps soothe market concerns

By PAN PYLAS and KELVIN CHAN, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Conciliatory comments from U.S. President-elect Donald Trump in the aftermath of his stunning victory over Hillary Clinton helped global stock markets recover a large chunk of their earlier losses Wednesday.

Though uncertainty remains over Trump's trade, immigration and geopolitical policies and what his victory means for the future of globalization, investors appeared somewhat calmed by his victory speech, in which he praised Clinton and urged Americans to "come together as one united people" after a divisive campaign.

"While Trump slightly soothed some concerns in his victory speech, uncertainty remains over what kind of a U.S. he plans to lead," said Craig Erlam, senior market analyst at OANDA.

In Europe, Germany's DAX was down 0.9 percent at 10,384 while the FTSE 100 index of leading British shares was 0.4 percent lower at 6,818. U.S. stocks are expected to open lower, too, though by far less than earlier predicted. Dow futures are 1.6 percent lower at 17,991 while the broader S&P 500 futures were down 1.7 percent at 2,100.

While those retreats are sizeable, they pale in comparison with the losses registered earlier, particularly in U.S. markets.

As Trump gained the lead in the electoral vote count, share prices tumbled in Asia, which were open during the election results. Dow futures plunged 4 percent at one point.

By the time Trump was confirmed the winner and made his speech, financial markets had steadied. The dollar also recouped some ground, while assets that many investors search out at times of uncertainty, such as gold and the Swiss franc, came off earlier highs. An ounce of gold was up 2.4 percent at \$1,305 while the dollar reversed earlier losses to trade 0.1 percent higher at 0.9783 Swiss franc.

One currency that remains heavily sold is the Mexican peso. It was down 8.5 percent as the prospect of a wall along the United States' southern border — a key campaigning point for Trump — has come one step closer to reality. Trump has insisted that Mexico will pay for the wall. Also potentially impacting the peso is Trump's threat to rip up trade deals like the North American Free Trade Agreement, a key plank in Mexico's economic strategy and growth.

"If Trump is able to follow through with these suggestions, Mexican activity will suffer greatly," said Jane Foley, senior foreign exchange strategist at Rabobank International.

Trump doesn't formally take the reins of power until January but he will begin the transition to his presidency almost immediately. In the coming weeks, investors will be looking to see if he further tempers some of the rhetoric that polarized American opinion and often spooked investors in financial markets.

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One immediate impact of his victory could see the U.S. Federal Reserve opting against an interest rate hike at its next meeting in mid-December — especially if financial markets endure a period of pressure.

“Less chance of a Fed rate hike also helps keep investors smiling at the prospect of cheap money and accommodative global monetary policy stance for a while longer,” said Mike van Dulken, an analyst at Accendo Markets.

Another point of interest will center on the U.S.’s trade relations with China and its impact across Asia. Trump’s victory has raised concerns that the U.S. and China might embark on a trade war of sorts and that protectionism around the world will grow.

Those concerns weighed heavily on Asian stocks. Japan’s Nikkei 225 index, for example, closed 5.4 percent lower, recouping some losses, at 16,251.54. Hong Kong’s Hang Seng closed 2.2 percent lower to 22,415.19 while the main index in Shanghai fell 0.6 percent to 3,128.77.

“Investors will right now be in the process of attempting to differentiate between Trump’s actual policy positions and some of the more outlandish statements made on the campaign trail,” said Michael Levy, an emerging markets investment director at Barings.

South Korea’s trade ministry has already held an emergency meeting to review prospects of U.S. trade policies after the presidential elections, while top officials from Japan’s central bank and finance ministry met to discuss how to cope with the gyrations in financial markets.

For financial markets as a whole, Trump’s victory is the latest manifestation of a backlash against globalization.

Christopher Mahon, Director of Asset Allocation Research at Barings, says Trump’s victory is an example of people believing that inequalities in society are a result of globalization. That belief, he says, was behind the unrest in Greece during that country’s debt crisis over the past few years as well as Britain’s vote in June to leave the European Union.

Mahon says “globalization and the liberal economic consensus is in full retreat” if Trump doesn’t temper his views.

“It is clear that this next president will have a profound effect on global markets,” he said

Chan contributed from Hong Kong.

Millions scramble after India scraps its largest banknotes

By MUNEEZA NAQVI, Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — Indians awakened to confusion Wednesday as banks and ATMs remained closed after the government withdrew the highest-denomination currency notes overnight to halt money laundering in a country where many in the poor and middle-class still rely mainly on cash.

Roadside vegetable sellers, kiosks selling biscuits and tea, small mom-and-pop stores selling groceries, all saw a sharp drop in customers on Wednesday, the day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s surprise televised announcement.

As of midnight Tuesday, all 500- and 1,000-rupee notes had no cash value. People holding the discontinued notes can deposit them in banks and post office savings accounts before the end of the year. But anyone making large bank deposits might invite the unwelcome attention of Indian tax authorities.

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley told state-run news channel Doordarshan that if the money deposited in banks was illegal then the depositors would find themselves in “trouble.”

Banks and ATMs were likely to stay closed Thursday, too, to help prepare for the swarms of people who will rush to deposit their 500- and 1000-rupee bills and withdraw money to spend once they reopen.

When ATMs open Nov. 11 there will be an initial cap of 2,000 rupees (\$30) on withdrawal per card, which will gradually be increased to 4,000 (\$60) rupees within a week.

The government will issue new banknotes of 500 and 2,000 rupee denominations soon, Jaitley said, adding that the new currency should be available in banks within three or four weeks.

For a few days, the old bills can be used at hospitals, gas stations, crematoria and for other businesses and services deemed essential.

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But many, like student Ankit Saini, woke up Wednesday morning with money in their wallet. Just in the wrong denomination.

"I have three 500-rupee notes and only about 40 rupees (about 60 cents) in small change. I can either buy lunch or a bus ticket home," he said as he chose food over transport at a roadside food stall in central Delhi. "But what will I do tomorrow?"

"Maybe what Modi has done is good for the country in the long run, but what about ordinary people like us today?" asked Om Prakash Singh, an office manager. "I have 200 rupees to get through the next two days and even after that who knows how long the lines at the bank will be."

The move is expected to bring billions of dollars into an economy and tax base long hobbled by corruption and money laundering.

Businesses routinely use cash to avoid paying taxes. Raids on corrupt politicians and businesses regularly uncover millions of dollars' worth of rupees in dozens of boxes of cash.

Modi said authorities have discovered 1.25 trillion rupees, or about \$18.8 billion, in illegal cash over the last two and a half years. Counterfeiting was also a major concern, he said, and, in an indirect reference to rival Pakistan, accused a neighboring country of circulating fake Indian currency to damage the Indian economy.

"We as a nation remain a cash-based economy, hence the circulation of fake rupees continues to be a menace," India's central bank said in a statement late Tuesday night.

In the past, other governments such as Myanmar have taken notes out of circulation to undermine challenges to their power and regain stronger control over the economy.

Much of India's illicit money stores are believed to be used for land purchases, or secreted away in overseas accounts. The scrapping of bank notes could send real estate prices crashing, an expectation reflected in slumping stock prices of major real estate companies on the Bombay Stock Exchange by early afternoon.

Shares of real estate giants DLF Ltd, Housing Development & Infrastructure Ltd. and India Bulls Real Estate Ltd. had all dropped more than 20 percent from their closing Tuesday.

But the move will also hurt the poor, many of whom do not have bank accounts and keep their savings in cash.

"We are not the ones with the black money and if we don't earn for two days we don't eat," said Bachchu Lal, as he stood next to his hand pushed wooden cart. He had only one customer in the first few hours of Wednesday morning, usually a busy time.

Trump movement aids his vindication, White House win

By JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump awakened a movement of angry working-class voters fed up with political insiders and desperate for change. On Tuesday, that movement propelled him to the White House.

Trump's stunning, come-from-behind victory over Hillary Clinton — a far more organized and experienced rival — served as a raised middle finger to the political establishment from his fervent backers.

"I have been so ready for this," said Oklahoma resident Holly Berry, who flew all the way from Tahlequah to celebrate at Trump's victory party in Manhattan.

Berry, who works in sales, said that she can no longer afford her health insurance, which has spiked 86 percent.

"People are sick and tired," she said. "This country's fed up with everything. We're ready for a change. We're ready for lower taxes, ready for our economy to grow, we're ready for jobs."

But to millions of others, the billionaire businessman's elevation to the presidency is a shocking and terrifying reality that will take time to comprehend. Many see the president-elect as a bigot and a misogynist unfit for the office.

"He scares the daylights out of me," said Wendy Bennett, a Democrat and government worker from Reno, Nevada, who cast her ballot for Clinton. "I think his personality is going to start World War III. He reminds me of Hitler."

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Lisa Moore, a registered Republican from Glen Rock, New Jersey, crossed party lines to vote for Clinton, who would have been the nation's first female president.

"As a woman, in good conscience, and as the mother of a daughter, I can't vote for somebody who's so morally reprehensible," said Moore, an exercise instructor.

The 2016 election was vindication for Trump, a former reality TV star who was underestimated from the start.

While pundits assumed his poll numbers would sink as soon as voters started taking the race seriously, Trump was drawing thousands each night to rallies packed with angry, largely white supporters who felt ignored and lied to by Washington.

While statistics showed the U.S. economy improving overall, it didn't feel that way in places like upstate New York, Pennsylvania's coal country and former manufacturing towns across the Midwest devastated by outsourcing and globalization. Chaos abroad only added to the feeling that the country was sliding backward.

Together, those factors drove a yearning to return to a simpler time when America was the world's undisputed superpower and middle-class wages were on the rise.

"We have our fingers in too many baskets," said Joe Hudson, 49, an engineer and registered Republican from Virginia Beach, Virginia, who said he would be voting for Trump because "we're not taking care of our own people."

"We're trying to be too involved in world politics. And our country is imploding from within," he said. "We need a new direction, a new attitude, and people to stop arguing and letting the media affect how we feel."

Trump's vow was simple: He'd "Make America Great Again." His outsider status, coupled with his personal business success, lent credibility to a populist message that emphasized recapturing manufacturing jobs, restoring American strength abroad and curtailing legal and illegal immigration.

Trump promised to immediately create new jobs, end conflicts abroad and — in Trump's words, "win again"

Trump, early on, painted his supporters as a "movement" larger than himself.

"This isn't about me; it's about all of you and our magnificent movement to make America great again all over this country. And they're talking about it all over the world," he said at a rally in Miami last week during the race's furious final stretch.

"There has never been a movement like this in the history of our country — it's never happened. Even the pundits, even the ones that truly dislike Donald Trump, have said it's the single greatest phenomena they have ever seen."

But as he worked his base into a frenzy and locked down one primary win after the next, Trump was also repelling large swaths of the populace — including women, college-educated whites and minorities — with his deeply divisive rhetoric.

Trump launched his campaign with a speech that accused Mexico of sending rapists and other criminals across the border. He later questioned 2008 Republican nominee and former POW John McCain's status as a war hero, saying he preferred people who hadn't been captured. He mocked a disabled reporter. And he called for a "total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on" — a blanket religion test denounced by many as un-American.

After securing his party's nomination, Trump questioned a federal judge's ability to treat him fairly because of the judge's Hispanic origin, repeatedly insulted a Muslim-American family whose son had been killed in Iraq, and got into an extended spat with a former beauty queen, at one point instructing his millions of Twitter followers to "check out" her non-existent sex tape.

Again and again, Trump appeared poised to close the gap with Clinton, only to go off on a tangent that would send his poll numbers tumbling.

Then came the release of shocking old video footage from an "Access Hollywood" bus in which Trump bragged about being able to grope women because he was famous. The video's release was followed by a string of allegations from women who said Trump sexually harassed or assaulted them.

Trump denied the accusations, at one point threatening to sue the women.

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But one October surprise was overshadowed by another. Trump's numbers had already been rising with news of health care premium increases when the FBI director informed Congress that the bureau had found a new trove of emails potentially relevant to its investigation into Clinton's use of a private email server a secretary of state.

While the FBI eventually announced that there was nothing in the emails to merit criminal prosecution, the damage appeared to have been done.

On Tuesday, Trump won a commanding victory, buoyed by a new Trump coalition.

"It's time to get together," he said.

Follow Colvin on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/colvinj>.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Nov. 10, the 315th day of 2016. There are 51 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 10, 1766, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, had its beginnings as William Franklin, the Royal Governor of New Jersey, signed a charter establishing Queen's College in New Brunswick.

On this date:

In 1775, the U.S. Marines were organized under authority of the Continental Congress.

In 1871, journalist-explorer Henry M. Stanley found Scottish missionary David Livingstone, who had not been heard from for years, near Lake Tanganyika in central Africa.

In 1919, the American Legion opened its first national convention in Minneapolis.

In 1938, Kate Smith first sang Irving Berlin's "God Bless America" on her CBS radio program. Turkish statesman Mustafa Kemal Ataturk died in Istanbul at age 57.

In 1942, Winston Churchill delivered a speech in London in which he said, "I have not become the King's First Minister to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire."

In 1951, customer-dialed long-distance telephone service began as Mayor M. Leslie Denning of Englewood, New Jersey, called Alameda, California, Mayor Frank Osborne without operator assistance.

In 1954, the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial, depicting the raising of the American flag on Iwo Jima in 1945, was dedicated by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in Arlington, Virginia.

In 1969, the children's educational program "Sesame Street" made its debut on National Educational Television (later PBS).

In 1975, the U.N. General Assembly approved a resolution equating Zionism with racism (the world body repealed the resolution in Dec. 1991). The ore-hauling ship SS Edmund Fitzgerald mysteriously sank during a storm in Lake Superior with the loss of all 29 crew members.

In 1982, the newly finished Vietnam Veterans Memorial was opened to its first visitors in Washington, D.C., three days before its dedication. Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev died at age 75.

In 1995, defying international appeals for clemency, Nigeria's military rulers hanged playwright Ken Saro-Wiwa along with eight other anti-government activists.

In 2004, word reached the United States of the death of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat at age 75 (because of the time difference, it was the early hours of Nov. 11 in Paris, where Arafat died).

Ten years ago: A new recording attributed to the leader of al-Qaida in Iraq (Abu Hamza al-Muhajir) mocked President George W. Bush as a coward whose conduct of the war had been rejected in U.S. midterm elections, and challenged him to keep U.S. troops in Iraq to face more bloodshed. President Bush dedicated the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Virginia. Actor Jack Palance died in Montecito, California, at age 87.

Five years ago: The National Archives released a transcript of former President Richard Nixon's June 1975 grand jury testimony after a judge ordered the government to do so; in it, a feisty and cagey Nixon

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defended his legacy and Watergate-era actions. Calle 13, the Puerto Rican hip-hop duo, swept the Latin Grammy Awards in Las Vegas.

One year ago: Jeb Bush and Ben Carson sought to steady their presidential campaigns during a GOP debate held in Milwaukee, with Bush taking advantage of a policy-focused contest to detail positions on the economy and immigration while Carson swatted away mounting questions about the veracity of his celebrated biography. Nine people were killed when a small jet crashed into an apartment house in Akron, Ohio; seven of the dead worked for a Florida real estate development company. Former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, 96, died in Hamburg. Legendary New Orleans musician and composer Allen Toussaint, 77, died in Madrid.

Today's Birthdays: Film composer Ennio Morricone (EHN'-yoh mohr-ee-KOHN'-eh) is 88. Blues singer Bobby Rush is 82. Actor Albert Hall is 79. Country singer Donna Fargo is 75. Former Sen. Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga., is 73. Lyricist Tim Rice is 72. Rock singer-musician Greg Lake (Emerson, Lake and Palmer) is 69. Actress-dancer Ann Reinking is 67. Actor Jack Scalia is 66. Movie director Roland Emmerich is 61. Actor Matt Craven is 60. Actor-comedian Sinbad is 60. Actress Mackenzie Phillips is 57. Author Neil Gaiman (GAY'-mihn) is 56. Actress Vanessa Angel is 53. Actor Hugh Bonneville is 53. Actor-comedian Tommy Davidson is 53. Actor Michael Jai (jy) White is 52. Country singer Chris Cagle is 48. Actor-comedian Tracy Morgan is 48. Actress Ellen Pompeo (pahm-PAY'-oh) is 47. Actor-comedian Orny Adams is 46. Rapper-producer Warren G is 46. Actor Walton Goggins is 45. Comedian-actor Chris Lilley is 42. Contemporary Christian singer Matt Maher is 42. Rock singer-musician Jim Adkins (Jimmy Eat World) is 41. Rapper Eve is 38. Rock musician Chris Joannou (joh-AN'-yoo)(Silverchair) is 37. Actor Bryan Neal is 36. Actress Heather Matarazzo is 34. Country singer Miranda Lambert is 33. Actor Josh Peck is 30. Pop singer Vinz Dery (Nico & Vinz) is 26. Actress Zoey Deutch (DOYCH) is 22. Actress Kiernan Shipka is 17. Actress Mackenzie Foy is 16.

Thought for Today: "Arrivée de toujours, qui t'en iras partout." (Arriving from always, you will go everywhere.) — Arthur Rimbaud (RAM'-boh), French poet (born 1854, died this date in 1891).