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DAIRY QUEEN HELP WANTED

Dairy Queen in Groton is now hiring. If you're looking for a fun job with part-time hours, flexible scheduling, please stop in for an application.

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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Saturday, April 1

Prom Grand March at 7 p.m. in GHS Gym (to be carried live on GDILIVE.COM)

Sunday, April 2

St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion at 9 a.m., Sunday School at 10 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship at 9 a.m., Sunday School at 10 a.m., 1st Communion Class at 11 a.m.

Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance: Easter Cantata at 7 p.m. with fellowship and lunch following the concert (will be carried live on GDILIVE.COM)

Catholic Parish: Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church at 9 a.m., then at St. Joseph in Turton at 11 a.m.

United Methodist Parish: Worship in Conde at 9 a.m., coffee fellowship time at 10 a.m. and worship in Groton at 11 a.m.

Heaven Bound Ministries in Pierpont: Worship at 10 a.m.

Monday, April 3

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study at 6:30 a.m.

Senior Menu: Tater tot hotdish, green beans, orange half, sugar cookie, whole wheat bread.

Tuesday, April 4

United Methodist: Bible Study at 10 a.m.

Track at Ipswich at 12:30 p.m.

Senior Menu: Baked pork chop, macaroni salad, squash, pineapple strawberry ambrosia, whole wheat bread.

Dakota Outdoors

Erik Dean

402 N Main St
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605.229.0123

dakoutdoors@midconetwork.com

The advertisement for Dakota Outdoors features a background image of various outdoor gear including a fishing rod, a fishing net, and a pair of shoes. The text provides contact information for Erik Dean, including the address, phone number, and email.

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GROTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

April 3, 2017 - 7pm
Groton Community Center

- 1) Minutes
- 2) Financial Report
- 3) Bills
- 4) Safe Route to School Sidewalk Project Objections- Trees To Be Taken
- 5) Department Reports- Herron, Lambertz
- 6) Hwy 37 Update
- 7) Heartland Annual Meeting – April 20 – Madison –Shawn & Anita
- 8) NW Energy – Sale of Switches in Substation
- 9) Electric Rate Discussion
- 10) Cleanup (Code Enforcement) Procedures
- 11) Playground Equipment
- 12) SDML District meeting report
- 13) Election reminder
- 14) Resignation
- 15) Exe Session – Legal or Personnel 1-25-2 (1) or (3)
- 16) 1st Reading Ordinance 711 – 2017 Summer Salary Ordinance Amendment



**Call or Text
Paul at
397-7460
or Tina at
397-7285
for
membership
Information**

GDI Living Fitness
25 Main St., Downtown Groton

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Time to do your homework before voting!

To: Groton Area School District Patrons

On April 11th we are faced with a very important vote for the benefit of our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. We are very fortunate to be a part of this "exemplary blue ribbon" district. Our school has turned out a long list of decorated graduates including a US Representative, very decorated military personnel, doctors, lawyers, collegiate professors and successful college coaches, amongst many others.

We, (the school board and administration) started our building improvement study in January of 2016. The reason behind the study was the needed infrastructure improvements at both attendance centers in our district. We wanted to be able to make educated decisions that were both fiscally responsible, and that would serve the needs of our school for years to come. We have looked at tons of information, and attended many meetings that included engineers, architects, staff members, along with public meetings. We have listened very closely to all the input that we have received, and are putting forth for you to approve what we feel is the best option for our middle school/high school building improvements. The concept we are presenting is a building that will be very functional, with lots of natural light, safe and secure for our students and staff, (both physical security and information security), along with preserving the history of the 1934 building that will be replaced. We believe the new building will create an environment that will aid our students in building on the outstanding education that they are currently receiving.

The reason that I am writing this letter to the editor, is not to directly ask for a yes vote on April 11th but to ask you, our voters, to make an educated vote when you go to the polls. There is currently a lot of misinformation floating around our communities in regards to the building improvements we have presented, which is often the case when information is passed along, not to mention a lot of opinions that are being shared that are not based on facts. In keeping with the spirit of a top notch school, I am asking you to do some homework between now and April 11th. Your assignment is to study the information available on the home page at www.grotonarea.com, ask questions, obtain the facts, both financial and in regards to the building concept we have presented. A couple of facts that I will give you to start your homework with are, as we all know, we are in a rising interest rate environment, and this project will never be any less costly to do than it is right now, and secondly, our tax impact for both the elementary and middle school/high school project is projected to be less than .95 cents per thousand dollars of taxable valuation, whereas a couple of school projects in our area that have been voter approved are carrying a tax impact of over \$2.30 and \$2.00 per thousand dollars of taxable value.

In closing, please read the information available on the school website or contact any of our administrators, Superintendent Joe Schwan, Principals Anna Schwan and Brett Schwan, Business Manager Mike Weber or any of the board members for any information you need to complete your homework! We would be more than happy to talk to you.

Thank you for your time, and please vote on April 11th.

Marty Weismantel

Groton Area School Board Member

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Today in Weather History

April 1, 1960: Heavy snow of 4 to 10 inches fell in the eastern half of South Dakota. Some highways were closed mainly due to the difficulty of plowing the heavy, wet snow. Power and phone failures of short duration were caused by the snowfall in the Aberdeen area, which received 7.5 inches, setting the record for April 1st. Snowfall with high water content aggravated floods that were currently in progress on the James, Vermillion and Big Sioux Rivers.

April 1, 2011: Snowmelt flooding in March continued across much of central and northeast South Dakota as the rest of the snowpack melted into early April. Many roads along with many acres of crop and pastureland remained flooded. Roads, culverts, and bridges were damaged across the region. Several roads were washed out with many closed. Many homes were threatened with some surrounded by water. Rising lake levels in northeast South Dakota also threatened and flooded many homes. Many people had to use four-wheelers to get to their homes. A Presidential Disaster was declared for all counties due to the flooding damage. The total damage estimates, including March, were from 4.5 to 5 million dollars for the area. The flooding diminished across much of the area into May. The snowmelt flooding damaged many roads and highways, including U.S. Highway 81, throughout Hamlin County. Many roads were closed throughout the county. In the late evening of April 13th on U.S Highway 81, a car with four people inside went through a flooded area at a high rate of speed and ended up in the flooded ditch. They all got out with no injuries. The snowmelt runoff caused Lake Kampeska to rise to nearly 44 inches overfull. The lake flooded several roads and also threatened many homes. Sandbagging was done to hold off the rising lake. Waves and ice chunks did eventually do some damage to homes. Also, many boat lifts were damaged. Mud Creek near Rauville also went slightly above the flood stage of 9 feet to 9.64 feet for a couple of days in early April.

1875: The London Times published the first daily newspaper weather map. The first American newspaper weather map would be issued on 5/12/1876 in the New York Herald. Weather maps would first appear on a regular basis beginning on 5/9/1879 in the New York Daily Graphic.








1960: The first weather satellite, TIROS 1 (Television and Infra-Red Observation Satellite) began sending pictures back to Earth. The TIROS series would have little benefit to operational weather forecasters because the image quality was low and inconsistent. The most critical understanding achieved from the new technology was the discovery of the high degree of organization of large-scale weather systems, a fact never apparent from ground and aircraft observations.

1973: A tornado touches down near Brentsville, Virginia, then traveled to Fairfax hitting Woodson High School. This F2 tornado injured 37 and caused \$14 million in damage.

1987: Forty-five cities across the southeastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. Lows of 37 degrees at Apalachicola, 34 degrees at Jacksonville Florida, 30 degrees at Macon Georgia, and 22 degrees at Knoxville Tennessee, were records for April.

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Today	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
						
Fog then Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Slight Chance Rain	Chance Rain	Slight Chance Rain	Mostly Cloudy then Slight Chance Rain
High: 64 °F	Low: 37 °F	High: 65 °F	Low: 41 °F	High: 57 °F	Low: 37 °F	High: 55 °F

MILD START TO APRIL



SATURDAY - SUNDAY
HIGHS IN THE 60S



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 4/1/2017 5:03 AM Central

Published on: 04/01/2017 at 5:10AM

April will begin mild across the area with highs today and Sunday in the 60s. Monday comes the return of cooler temperatures along with the chance for rain as upper level energy moves into the region. Highs on Monday will drop back into the 50s.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 60.3 F at 4:41 PM

Low Outside Temp: 32.5 F at 2:47 AM

High Gust: 17.0 Mph at 12:32 PM

Snow: Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 80° in 1928

Record Low: 0 in 1899

Average High: 49°F

Average Low: 26°F

Average Precip in April.: 00.04

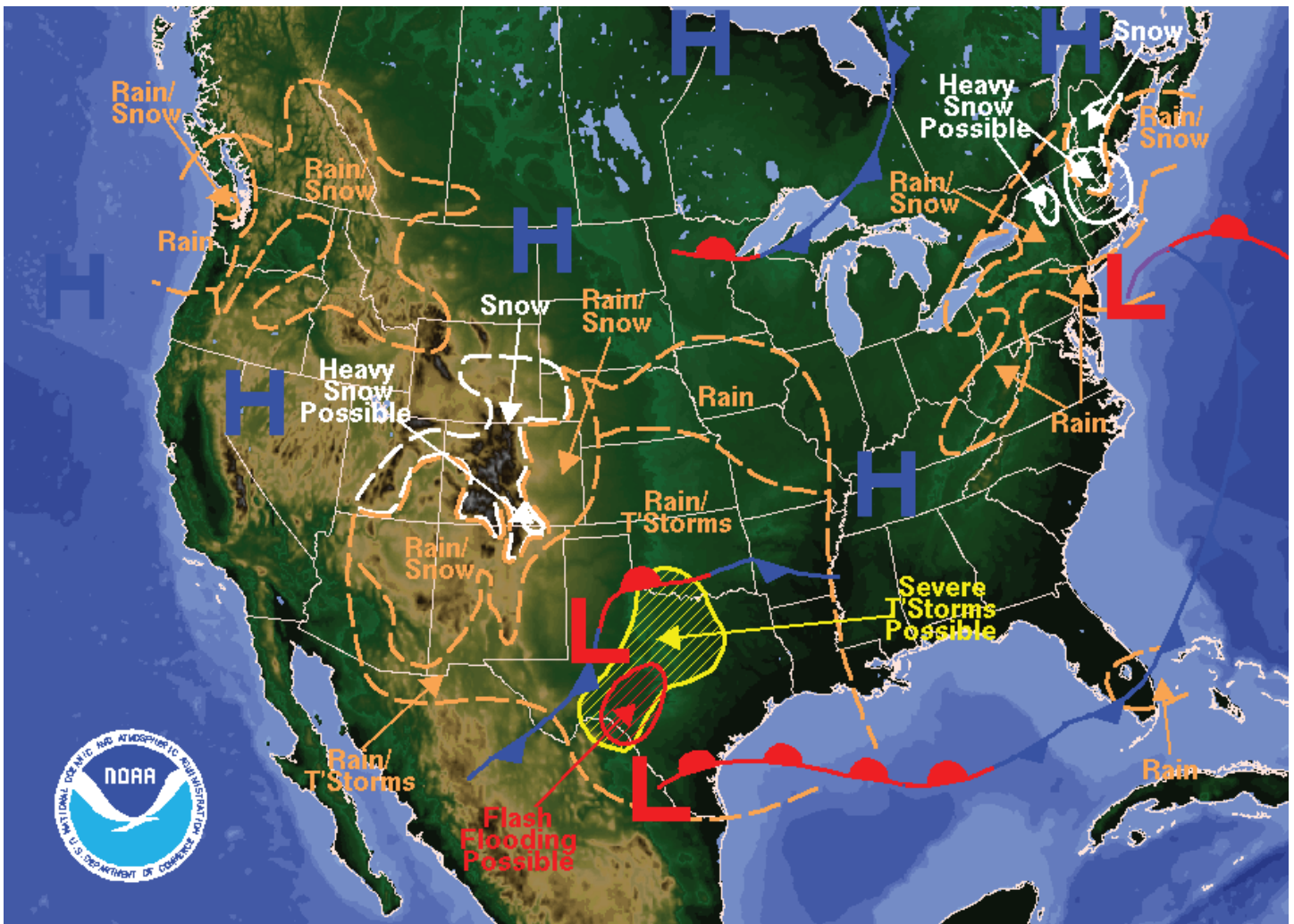
Precip to date in April.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 2.22

Precip Year to Date: 0.59

Sunset Tonight: 8:02 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:11 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, Apr 01, 2017, issued 4:53 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Santorelli based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



EXPECTATIONS

Not long ago a pastor came to visit me. At the beginning of our conversation he appeared to be excited about life and his ministry. But the longer we talked the more discouraged he became. Finally, in tears he said, "I don't know what to do. I work so hard, study for hours, visit my members and the visitors who come to our church, but nothing is happening. My work and life are not producing any visible results."

"Let me ask you a question," I said. "Do you expect to see results every time you preach or visit or pray?"

"No," came a solemn, quiet reply.

"That may be the problem," I said.

Jesus said, "For this reason I am telling you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe (trust and be confident) that it is granted to you and you will (get it)." When we pray believingly and live expectantly our work will reflect His results. We have His promise!

There is one condition, however, that we must be aware of: When we pray we must have faith in God not in ourselves or in the object of our prayer. If we focus on the object and it is not granted to us, we will be left empty handed and not able to see God at work in our lives. His answer may be different from our expectations.

When Jesus prayed He said, "It's all possible – but I want Your will." He had God's interests – not His – as the focus of His prayers and expectations. His will must always be first and foremost if we expect His blessings.

Prayer: Father, we know that no goal is too great or request too ridiculous if what we ask will honor You. May our motives be pure and our heart's desires, Yours. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture: Mark 11:24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

News from the Associated Press

92-year sentence affirmed in SD juvenile murder case

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Supreme Court has upheld a 92-year sentence against a man who was 14 when he was convicted of killing his stepfather, Attorney General Marty Jackley announced Friday.

A jury convicted Daniel Charles of first-degree murder in 2000 in the sniper killing of Duane Ingalls in 1999. The youth laid in wait behind his upstairs bedroom window. When Ingalls returned to the family's ranch house near Opal, Charles shot him in the head with a high-powered rifle.

Charles testified in his trial that Ingalls frequently mistreated him and struck him on the side of the head earlier on the day of the shooting. To ease his frustration, he said, he had often lined up the unsuspecting Ingalls in the cross hairs of a rifle scope. But he claimed he didn't know the gun was loaded that day. However, another youth testified that Charles later told him he had planned to kill Ingalls.

Charles was sentenced to mandatory life in prison with no possibility for parole. After the U.S. Supreme Court held in 2012 that mandatory life without parole for juveniles was unconstitutional, the trial judge cut Charles' sentence to 92 years. Charles appealed, saying it was still tantamount to life without parole.

The South Dakota Supreme Court said the judge properly applied the law handed down in the U.S. Supreme Court ruling when he imposed the 92-year sentence.

The justices noted that Charles will be eligible for parole when he turns 60. They also cited the trial court's finding that Charles "still presents a condition of moral atrophy" and that Charles "continues to manipulate," "explodes in anger if his buttons are pushed," and has "only recently stopped lying."

Otter appeals dismissal of Idaho sage grouse lawsuit

By KEITH RIDLER, Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter has appealed the dismissal of his sage grouse lawsuit, saying the state was not speculating about the damage that implementing the current federal sage grouse plans will have on private and public lands.

Otter filed the notice with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

"We are optimistic that on appeal the court will uphold Idaho sovereignty as well as the state's good faith effort to effectively manage wildlife within our borders," Otter said in a statement Friday to The Associated Press.

Sage grouse are ground-dwelling, chicken-sized birds found in 11 Western states, where as few as 200,000 remain, down from a peak population of about 16 million. The males are known for their strutting courtship ritual on breeding grounds called leks, and they produce a bubble-type sound from a pair of inflated air sacks on their necks.

The legal action by Otter was among a number of lawsuits filed in September 2015 after federal officials opted not to list sage grouse under the Endangered Species Act but announced federal land-use restrictions.

Environmental groups later filed lawsuits contending the restrictions designed to protect sage grouse habitat didn't go far enough.

U.S. District Court Judge Emmet G. Sullivan dismissed Otter's lawsuit in January. Sullivan didn't rule on the merits of the claims, but he said Otter lacked standing because the state didn't prove it had been injured.

"We believe this appeal will show that Idaho was not 'merely speculating' about the damage that implementing the current federal sage grouse plans will have," Otter said. "Judge Sullivan's decision failed to take into account the fact that Idaho was supposed to be a full partner in developing a collaborative effort."

Otter has long complained that Idaho worked with federal agencies to come up with a sage grouse plan only to have Idaho's input ignored.

His lawsuit lists as defendants the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Interior Department's U.S. Bureau

of Land Management, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Agriculture Department's U.S. Forest Service.

The U.S. Department of Justice is representing the federal defendants. Its Office of Public Affairs declined to comment Friday.

The Wilderness Society has intervened on the side of the federal government.

"We will continue to defend this vital framework that is working to keep the sagebrush ecosystem functioning for the people and species who depend on it," said Nada Culver, the group's senior attorney, in an emailed statement.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will review the bird's listing status within five years.

The Idaho attorney general's office isn't handling the lawsuit. It's being handled instead by Thomas Perry, an attorney representing the governor. As the chief executive, Otter has the authority to hire outside counsel.

Perry didn't return a call seeking comment.

Farmers to plant record low wheat acres, most soybeans ever

By DAVID PITT, Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — The amber waves of grain are about to turn into bean pods as farmers report they'll plant millions of acres in soybeans instead of wheat this year as a global glut of the grain has made it unprofitable to grow.

In its annual prospective plantings report released Friday, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said wheat acres will be the lowest on record this year at 46.1 million acres and soybean planting will be at a record high of 89.5 million acres.

The United States has more than 1 billion bushels of surplus wheat in storage and the oversupply has driven wheat farmers in several states including Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio and South Dakota to shift previously planted wheat acres to soybeans.

"The big trend there is that wheat is grown in just about every continent around the world except Antarctica so those acres elsewhere have increased dramatically. The U.S. has lost production to the rest of the world," said Todd Hultman, a grain market analyst for DTN, an Omaha, Nebraska-based agriculture market data provider.

He said wheat overproduction caused prices to collapse and made production unprofitable. Good growing weather for wheat worldwide for four consecutive years has been a contributing factor, he said.

Corn has experienced a similar trend leading farmers to cut corn acres 4 percent from last year to 90 million, the USDA report said.

If this year's planting weather favors soybeans and more acres are shifted out of corn, this could be the first year since 1983 that farmers planted more acres in soybeans than corn.

Soybeans have produced large harvests too, but it is a hot commodity around the world with demand highest in China where soybean meal feeds pigs, cows and fish in a culture increasingly seeking to eat more meat. The record global demand has maintained more favorable prices for soybeans making them more profitable to grow than corn or wheat, said Chad Hart, an agricultural economist at Iowa State University.

It all shouldn't change much at the grocery store except that plentiful grain and soybean supplies lead to low livestock feed prices which help keep the cost of producing beef lower.

Friday's report is based on a survey of farmers and is the first indication for the year of planting intentions.

Rapid City to make Head Start site for Native American kids

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Rapid City nonprofit will receive a \$1 million grant toward the construction of a facility that will house a program that helps Native American children with school readiness.

Rural America Initiatives announced the grant Thursday from the John T. Vucurevich Foundation, the Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/2nkPV0t>) reported.

"We could not realize this vision without their support, and we are deeply thankful," nonprofit Executive Director Bruce Long Fox said.

The grant brings the group closer to the nearly \$7 million it needs for the project.

Currently, the nonprofit's Head Start and Early Head Start programs are housed in older modular structures spread among several South Dakota locations. The new facility will consolidate the programs into one location, along with its administrative offices currently downtown.

Head Start is a federally funded program promoting school readiness for children ages birth to 5 from low-income families. Rural America Initiatives' programs are exclusively for Native American children. The group also has a role-modeling program for the students incorporated into Rapid City elementary, middle and high schools.

"What we try to do is have children imagine the future they want and give them the tools and a set of goals to get there," Rural America official Deborah Gangloff said.

Gangloff said the group hopes to begin construction later this year, however she was unable to speak about the identified new facility site because it has not yet been formally acquired.

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

Matt Michels decides against bid for governor in 2018

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Lt. Gov. Matt Michels says that he's not going to run for governor in 2018.

The Republican said in a Friday memo that a campaign would impair his ability to effectively and comprehensively perform his current duties.

He has been lieutenant governor since 2011 and also serves as president of the South Dakota Senate.

Michels says that he's humbled by the overwhelming encouragement he's been given to run to succeed Gov. Dennis Daugaard, who can't run again in 2018 because of term limits.

Michels says that he will focus on serving the best he can during his remaining time and let others campaign.

Attorney General Marty Jackley and U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem are both planning 2018 bids for governor, setting up what's likely to be an intense primary campaign.

Judge rejects motion to throw out Indian hospital lawsuit

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A judge has ruled that the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in South Dakota can move forward on its lawsuit accusing the Indian Health Service of failing to provide adequate medical care to tribal members.

The suit was filed last year after the IHS shut down the emergency room at the Rosebud Hospital, following an investigation by federal inspectors who found serious failures they said were putting patients' lives at risk. The ER has since reopened.

U.S. District Judge Roberto Lange in a ruling posted Friday rejected the government's motion to dismiss the case. He cited the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie that shows the government promised to provide a physician for the tribe.

The tribe's attorney, Timothy Purdon, says his clients believe that IHS "violated its trust responsibility" to tribal members.

Dakota Access attorneys fighting tribes' religion argument

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Attorneys for the developer of the Dakota Access pipeline are fighting an attempt by Sioux tribes to argue that oil under their water source potentially interferes with their religion, even as the company steadily fills the line with oil.

The Standing Rock and Cheyenne River Sioux tribes sued last summer on other grounds, including that the pipeline threatened cultural sites and water supply, which they get from Lake Oahe, a reservoir on the Missouri River in North Dakota. Energy Transfer Partners this week asked a federal judge to reject an attempt by the tribes to amend their lawsuit in part to include the religion argument.

The tribes first raised the religion argument in early February, after the Trump administration cleared the way for final pipeline construction under the lake. They maintain that the pipeline threatens water they consider sacred.

ETP argued then that the argument came too late in the legal process, and U.S. District Judge James Boasberg, the Washington, D.C., judge overseeing the case, refused to allow the religion argument as a basis for stopping construction of the pipeline.

The tribes have appealed his decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, which also recently refused to grant an emergency order stopping oil from flowing through the pipeline.

The company also filed documents objecting to a request by 13 members of the Standing Rock, Cheyenne River and Oglala Sioux tribes to join the lawsuit as individual plaintiffs. Members of the group, which includes Ladonna Brave Bull Allard, one of the main organizers of opposition to the pipeline, argue in part that they might be better suited to make the religion argument because they are personally affected.

ETP attorneys said there's no evidence the individual tribal members would be "substantially burdened" by the pipeline, and that intervention by the group would further delay a lawsuit "that is finally approaching conclusion."

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

Authorities ID Westport teen killed in Brown County crash

FREDERICK, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified a Westport teenager who was killed in a two-vehicle crash in rural Brown County.

The Highway Patrol says a sport utility vehicle driven by a 16-year-old boy collided with a semitrailer at the intersection of state Highway 10 and a county road south of Frederick Tuesday evening.

Seventeen-year-old SUV passenger Alexander Bowman died at the scene. The SUV driver suffered what authorities said were serious but not life-threatening injuries. The semi driver wasn't hurt.

AP-NORC Poll: Majority of Americans favor Russia probe

By **JONATHAN LEMIRE and EMILY SWANSON, Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — A slim majority of Americans favor an independent investigation into the Trump campaign's ties with the Russian government, according to a new poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research that showed public views about the controversy driving congressional investigations are sharply divided along party lines.

Amid questions swirling in Washington that have forced the resignation of one top Trump official and the scrutiny of several others, most Americans say they're at least somewhat concerned about the possibility that the Republican businessman's campaign had inappropriate contacts with the Russian government, but less than half say they're very concerned.

More than three-quarters of Democrats favor an independent investigation into Trump's Russian ties while only one-quarter of Republicans do. Overall, 52 percent of Americans favor such a probe, while 23

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percent are opposed. Another 22 percent say they neither favor nor oppose an investigation. Asked if they favor an independent investigation into the issue of Moscow's meddling in the 2016 campaign, Americans broke along similar margins.

"Russia has always been an enemy of the United States and of democracy across the world. Our politicians have no business making secret deals with them. That's not the America I know," said John Dodd, 68, who runs a bowling alley in Big Spring, Texas. "Every day, I turn on the news and it feels like there's more to it. For our country's sake, I hope it leads to nowhere. But I am afraid it does."

Questions about possible ties between Trump's associates and Russian officials have dogged the White House.

Since July, the FBI has been conducting a counterintelligence investigation into Russia's interference in the election and possible coordination with Trump associates. House and Senate intelligence committees, led by Republican lawmakers, are also investigating. Some Democratic leaders have called for an independent investigation, saying the congressional probes, particularly the House investigation, has been tainted by political interference from the White House.

Several Trump associates have been caught up in the controversy. Trump's first national security adviser, Michael Flynn, was forced to resign after he misled the vice president about conversations with a Russian ambassador. Attorney General Jeff Sessions has recused himself from the Justice Department investigation after he did not disclose a meeting with the same ambassador. White House senior adviser Jared Kushner has volunteered to be questioned by congressional investigators. Former campaign manager Paul Manafort's connections to Russia are part of the congressional probes.

The president has steadfastly denied any inappropriate links to Russia.

According to the poll, 44 percent of Americans say they're very or extremely concerned that Trump or others involved in his campaign had inappropriate contacts with the Russian government. Another 18 percent say they're somewhat concerned, and 36 percent say they're not very concerned or not concerned at all.

"The election was tampered with — the Russians stole it for Trump," said Lamar Walker, 47, a Democrat from LaGrange, Georgia. "This man now has the nuclear war codes. But all he cares about is the wall, the Mexicans and going golfing. He said he was going to make America great again. I have not seen one thing he has actually made greater."

But Republicans have a sharply different view.

"They are just kicking up dust. It's obstruction. It's just another way to try to block this president," said Edward Vazquez, a 46-year-old Republican who works as an engineer in Odessa, Texas.

Intelligence officials have determined that Russia worked to influence the campaign by hacking the Democratic National Committee and Democratic officials. The information was shared with online leakers. Officials believe that aim was to boost the Trump campaign.

Trump has said he accepts this determination, although he has been broadly dismissing of the congressional investigations and the steady stream of reporting on new developments. Trump lashed out in early March accusing former President Barack Obama of wiretapping the phone at Trump Tower. He asked House and Senate intelligence committees to investigate. Republican and Democratic lawmakers, as well as FBI Director James Comey, have said they've seen no evidence to support the claim.

On the whole, Americans are far less likely to see a need for an investigation into Trump's wiretapping accusations — 35 percent in favor to 38 percent opposed. But that again was starkly divided along party lines. Nearly half of Republicans but less than a third of Democrats or independents, favor an investigation.

A majority of Democrats think that Republicans in Congress haven't been critical enough of Trump, while the majority of Republicans think that Democrats have made too much about Trump's alleged ties to Russia, according to the poll.

Among Republicans, an overwhelming 76 percent feel that the media has been too critical of Trump. Democrats are split — 45 percent think the media has been mostly fair, while another 38 percent think the media has not been critical enough.

"We're incredibly partisan. We can't even sit down and talk to the other side anymore," said Ron Larson, a 64-year-old Republican who works as an accountant in Albert Lea, Minnesota. Larson said he didn't have

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strong feelings one way or the other about the need for a special investigator into the Russia links, he was just disheartened to see an young presidency paralyzed by party loyalty.

"This is why we can't get anything done," he said. "All Washington does is fight."

The AP-NORC poll of 1,110 adults was conducted March 23-27 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4.0 percentage points.

Interviews were conducted online and using landlines and cellphones.

Online:

AP-NORC: <http://www.apnorc.org/>

AP Polling Editor Emily Swanson reported from Washington.

On Twitter follow Lemire at: <http://twitter.com/JonLemire> and Swanson at: http://twitter.com/El_Swan

Venezuela high court reverses move to strip congress' power

By HANNAH DREIER and FABIOLA SANCHEZ, Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's president and Supreme Court backed down Saturday from a surprise move to strip congress of its legislative powers that had sparked widespread charges that the South American country was no longer a democracy.

President Nicolas Maduro asked the Supreme Court in a late-night speech to review a ruling nullifying the lawmaking body after that decision set off a storm of criticism from the opposition and foreign governments. The court on Saturday released new rulings that apparently reinstated congress' authority.

It was a rare instance of the embattled socialist president backing away from a move to increase his power. Opposition leaders dismissed the backtracking as too little too late and called on Venezuelans to take to the street Saturday morning against what they called an attempted coup. They said the clarification issued by the judges only proved yet again that Maduro controls the courts and there is no longer a real separation of powers in Venezuela.

"The dire situation we're living through in Venezuela remains the same. There is nothing to "clarify" when it comes to respecting the Constitution," said moderate leader and former presidential candidate Henrique Capriles.

At the same time, administration critics celebrated the reversal as proof that cracks are beginning to show in Maduro's control of the country, with his approval ratings dipping below 20 percent amid a worsening economic and humanitarian crisis.

Maduro made the announcement after an emergency Friday night meeting of the National Security Council that was boycotted by congress leaders. He said the council was supporting a review by the court "with the goal of maintaining institutional stability."

"April is starting on a good step. Constitutional victory!" Maduro with a grin, flanked by a dozen officials.

The three-hour meeting capped an extraordinary day in which Venezuela's chief prosecutor and long-time loyalist of the socialist government broke with the Maduro administration and denounced the court ruling. Luisa Ortega Diaz said it was her "unavoidable historical duty" as the nation's top judicial authority to decry what she called a "rupture" of the constitutional order.

Small protests popped up all around the capital beginning at dawn Saturday. Troops from the National Guard fired buckshot and swung batons at students protesting in front of the Supreme Court, and several journalists had their cameras seized.

As some analysts began to predict the beginning of the end of 18 years of socialist rule in Venezuela, Maduro invited congress president Julio Borges to speak with him about the situation. But Borges has

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refused, breaking a years-long streak in which the opposition ramps up pressure on the administration only to help diffuse it at the last minute by coming to the bargaining table, usually fruitlessly.

"In Venezuela the only dialogue possible is the vote," Borges said Friday night.

Maduro, dressed in black and waving a small blue book containing the Venezuelan constitution, likened the international condemnation of the week's Supreme Court decision to a "political lynching."

The Supreme Court ruled late Wednesday that until lawmakers abided by previous rulings that nullified all legislation passed by congress, the high court could assume the constitutionally assigned powers of the National Assembly, which has been controlled by the opposition since it won a landslide victory in elections in late 2015.

The ruling had brought down two days of condemnation by governments across Latin America, and also the United States and the United Nations. Colombia, Chile and Peru withdrew their ambassadors over the ruling.

The South American trade bloc Mercosur, which suspended Venezuela in December, called an emergency meeting for Saturday in Argentina. And the Organization of American States announced that it would hold an emergency meeting at its Washington headquarters Monday to discuss what Secretary General Luis Almagro called a "self-inflicted coup."

Maduro was conspicuously silent during much of the two days of turmoil. He concluded his remarks Saturday morning with a call for more dialogue.

"I'm ready with whoever is willing," he said.

Hannah Dreier is on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/hannahdreier> . Her work can be found at <https://www.ap.org/explore/venezuela-undone> .

Clashes, fire at Paraguay congress after re-election vote

ASUNCION, Paraguay (AP) — Violent clashes erupted between police and protesters outside Paraguay's congress after senators approved a constitutional amendment to allow a president to run for a second term. Some protesters broke through police lines and entered the first floor, setting fire to papers and furniture.

Police late Friday used water cannon and fired rubber bullets to drive demonstrators away from the building while firefighters extinguished blazes inside.

The protests broke out after a majority of Paraguayan senators approved the amendment, a move called illegal by opposition members and opposed by the Senate president himself.

The measure was backed by 25 of the country's 45 senators. The yes votes came from members of the governing Colorado Party and from several opposition groups.

Opponents of the move included Senate President Roberto Acevedo of the opposition Authentic Radical Liberal Party. He argued the process used to bring the amendment to a vote violated Senate rules and he filed an appeal to the Supreme Court seeking to have the vote overturned.

The proposal would allow current President Horacio Cartes and Paraguay's previous presidents to run for the top job again in the 2018 election. Presidents are now limited to a single 5-year term.

After approval in the Senate, the proposal went to the Chamber of Deputies, where 44 of the 80 members belong to the Colorado Party. Approval there would require the scheduling of a national referendum on the amendment.

Trump advisers richer than previous White House officials

By JULIE BYKOWICZ and STEPHEN BRAUN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's son-in-law and daughter are holding onto scores of real estate investments — part of a portfolio of at least \$240 million in assets — while they serve in White House jobs, according to new financial disclosures.

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The revelations about Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump were part of a massive White House release of financial disclosure forms Friday night for dozens of its top administration officials.

Kushner, Trump's senior adviser, resigned from some 260 entities and sold off 58 businesses or investments that lawyers identified as posing potential conflicts of interest, the documents show.

But lawyers for Kushner and in the Office of the White House Counsel, in consultation with the Office of Government Ethics, determined that his real estate assets, many of them in New York City, are unlikely to pose the kinds of conflicts that would trigger a need to divest.

"The remaining conflicts, from a practical perspective, are pretty narrow and very manageable," said Jamie Gorelick, an attorney who has been working on the ethics agreements for Kushner and Ivanka Trump.

Kushner began selling off the most problematic parts of his portfolio shortly after Trump won the election, and some of those business deals predate what is required to be captured in the financial disclosure forms. For example, Kushner sold his stake in a Manhattan skyscraper to a trust his mother oversees. Jared Kushner, Ivanka Trump and their three minor children have no financial interest in that trust, his lawyer said. The Kushner Companies, now run by Jared Kushner's relatives, are seeking investment partners for a massive redevelopment of the building.

Top officials in the Trump White House tend to be far wealthier — and therefore more entangled in businesses that could conflict with their government duties — than people in previous administrations.

Trump's chief strategist, Steve Bannon, disclosed assets between \$13 million and \$56 million, including his influential political consultancy, Bannon Strategic Advisors Inc., worth as much as \$25 million. Bannon also disclosed that he earned slightly less than \$200,000 last year as executive director of Breitbart News Network LLC, before he resigned to join Trump's campaign last August.

The documents show he was vice president of the data firm Cambridge Analytica for more than two years, before resigning in August 2016 to help run Trump's campaign. Cambridge was the main data provider for Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, who waged a bitter battle with Trump for the Republican nomination. Bannon's consulting firm pulled in more than \$125,000 from Cambridge last year. He has between a \$1 million and \$5 million stake in Cambridge, but the disclosure said he has an "agreement in principle" to sell his investment.

White House chief of staff Reince Priebus received more than \$500,000 in salary and bonuses from the Republican National Committee, which he led through the long and divisive presidential primary. He also earned at least \$750,000 from equity buyout and partner-distribution income from the law firm Michael Best & Friedrich.

One of the wealthiest members of the Trump administration — aside from the billionaire business owner president himself — is Gary Cohn, who left a top position at Goldman Sachs to become Trump's chief economic adviser.

His financial disclosure shows he received at least \$40 million in income from Goldman Sachs-related dividends, interest, salary and bonuses, about half of which was in some form of stock compensation.

Cohn also reported more than \$1 million in income from the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China; the White House has said he is in the process of divesting from that bank, as well as his Goldman holdings.

White House press secretary Sean Spicer described the business people who have joined the administration as "very blessed and very successful," and said the disclosure forms will show that they have set aside "a lot" to go into public service.

The financial disclosures — required by law to be made public — give a snapshot of the employees' finances as they entered the White House. What's not being provided: the Office of Government Ethics agreements with those employees on what they must do to avoid potential conflicts of interest.

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Kushner, for example, received certificates of divestiture for his financial interests in several assets, including several funds tied to Thrive Capital, his brother Joshua Kushner's investment firm.

He and Ivanka Trump built up companies the documents show are worth at least \$50 million each and

have stepped away from their businesses while in government service. Like the president himself, however, they retain a financial interest in many of them. Ivanka Trump agreed this week to become a federal employee and will file her own financial disclosure at a later date.

Jared Kushner's disclosure shows he took on tens of millions of dollars of bank debt in 2015 and 2016, including liabilities with several international banks whose interests could come before the Trump administration.

Kushner has as much as \$25 million in liabilities to Deutsche Bank, a prime lender to Kushner family real estate ventures as well as a major creditor for Trump Organization-branded real estate projects. Kushner and his father, Charles, also have liabilities worth much as \$5 million to the U.S. unit of Israel Discount Bank. The Kushner Companies have separately acknowledged "long-standing" dealings with two other Israeli banks.

Financial information for members of Trump's Cabinet who needed Senate confirmation has, in most cases, been available for weeks through the Office of Government Ethics.

The president must also file periodic financial disclosures, but he is not required to make another disclosure until next year.

Associated Press writers Chad Day, Jack Gillum and Josh Boak contributed to this report.

Witness account highlights dangers of texting while driving

By JUAN A. LOZANO, Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — A witness says the driver of a pickup truck that collided with a church minibus in rural Texas, killing 13 people, acknowledged he had been texting while driving — highlighting the dangers of sending messages on smartphones while behind the wheel.

Texas Department of Public Safety Sgt. Conrad Hein wouldn't comment Friday on whether texting might have played a role in the Wednesday collision on a two-lane road about 75 miles west (120 km) of San Antonio, near the town of Concan. But officials have said the truck driver appeared to have crossed the center line.

Jennifer Morrison, the investigator in charge of the team from the National Transportation Safety Board, would only say that distracted driving will be among the issues investigated.

The witness, Jody Kuchler, a 55-year-old self-employed welder, told The Associated Press he and his girlfriend were driving back to their home in the nearby town of Leakey when he came across a truck that was driving erratically across the road.

"He kept going off the road and into oncoming traffic and he just kept doing that," said Kuchler, who first shared the account of what happened with the San Antonio Express-News.

Kuchler, who followed the truck for at least 15 minutes, said he called the sheriff's offices for both Uvalde and Real counties and told them "they needed to get him off the road before he hit somebody."

Kuchler said he witnessed the crash and afterward, he checked on both the bus and the truck and was able to speak with the driver of the truck, who the Department of Public Safety has identified as 20-year-old Jack Dillon Young, of Leakey.

"He said, 'I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I was texting.' I said, 'Son, do you know what you just did?' He said, 'I'm sorry. I'm sorry,'" Kuchler recalled.

Texas is unusual in that it has no statewide ban on texting while driving. Dozens of cities across the state prohibit the practice, but local ordinances may not have applied in the rural area where Wednesday's crash occurred. Laws in 46 other states ban sending or reading email, using apps or engaging in other use of the internet while driving.

The Republican-controlled Texas Legislature approved a statewide ban in 2011 but it was vetoed by then-Gov. Rick Perry, who characterized such prohibitions as government micromanagement and said educating drivers was the key to deterrence. A similar proposal passed the Texas House a few weeks ago

but has yet to make it to a Senate floor vote.

The wreck on Wednesday occurred along a curve in the road where the speed limit is 65 mph, according to Department of Public Safety officials. The bus occupants — members of First Baptist Church of New Braunfels in Texas — were returning from a three-day retreat in Leakey, about 9 miles (15 kilometers) from where the crash happened.

Twelve people on the bus died at the scene, authorities said. Another died at a hospital. One bus passenger remains hospitalized in serious but stable condition, according to the church.

Young, the driver of the pickup, also remains hospitalized.

The number of motor vehicle deaths in the U.S. last year topped 40,000 for the first time since 2007, according to the National Safety Council. The number of vehicle crash deaths in Texas rose 7 percent last year to 3,464, slightly higher than the national rise. One-in-10 driving fatalities in 2015 were caused by some kind of distraction, the U.S. Department of Transportation said.

Morrison said most, if not all, of the bus occupants in the Texas crash — who ranged in age from 61 to 87 — were wearing seat belts. The driver and front-passenger seats had three-point lap-and-shoulder belts while the rest of the seats behind had lap belts only, she said.

Three-point seat belts are always preferable to lap belts because they hold the upper torso in place and help prevent head injuries, said automotive safety advocate Joan Claybrook. One of the problems with lap belts only is that in a frontal impact crash, people will remain in their seats but their upper bodies will go forward and their heads can strike the back of the seat in front, she said.

If the passengers wearing lap-only belts are seated along the sides of the buses, instead of facing forward, they will often hit their heads on the sides of the vehicle or the windows, said Henry Jasny, senior vice president of Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety. A frontal crash of this type would be like "hitting a brick wall," he said.

The NTSB identified the church vehicle as a 2004 Ford E-350 series van that had been converted to a minibus. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the only safety issues identified with that vehicle model from that particular year was a fuse problem reported in 2007 in vehicles that had been retrofitted to become ambulances.

Associated Press writers Joan Lowy in Washington, D.C., Will Weissert in Austin and David Warren in Dallas contributed to this report.

Follow Juan A. Lozano on Twitter at www.twitter.com/juanlozano70

SKorean supporters of arrested ex-president protest in Seoul

By KIM TONG-HYUNG, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Waving the national flag, the U.S. stars and stripes and shouting military-style slogans, tens of thousands of supporters of arrested former South Korean President Park Geun-hye rallied Saturday for her to be released from detention on corruption allegations.

Park was jailed Friday over allegations that she colluded with a confidante to extort money from businesses, take bribes and allow the friend to unlawfully interfere with state affairs. The Constitutional Court ruled March 10 to remove her from office after she was impeached in December.

Reflecting a nation deeply split over its future, Park's opponents held their own protests in nearby streets, celebrating her arrest and calling for her conservative policies to be erased. Seoul police used thousands of police officers and hundreds of buses to separate the two crowds, whose rallies have divided the city's streets in recent months.

Park's arrest marked a stunning fall for South Korea's first female president, who convincingly defeated her liberal opponent in 2012 thanks to overwhelming support from conservative older voters, who remembered her dictator father as a hero who rebuilt a nation devastated by a 1950-53 war with North Korea.

Gathering in streets near Seoul City Hall, Park's supporters, many of them in their 60s or older, chanted

"Release President Park Geun-hye" and "Disband the National Assembly" and roared in approval as organizers accused Park's political rivals as "leftist North Korea sympathizers" and "turncoats."

"She could have avoided this all if she wanted to, but Park chose the road of a martyr," Jung Mi-hong, one of the organizers, bellowed from the stage. "She has offered to sacrifice herself to protect the constitutionalism of the Republic of Korea and a free democracy," Jung said, referring to South Korea's formal name.

Chung Kwang-taek, a protester, said that Park's opponents "ruthlessly attacked a lonely woman who dedicated herself to the country" and that she would overcome her troubles to "live forever as a historical figure."

Prosecutors can detain Park for up to 20 days, during which they are expected to formally charge her. The most damning accusation alleges that Park took tens of millions of dollars in bribes from technology giant Samsung in exchange for business favors, which would be punishable by a prison term longer than 10 years and even a life sentence if she is convicted.

Park has apologized for putting trust in her jailed friend, Choi Soon-sil, but has denied breaking laws.

UConn's 111-game winning streak ends, Miss St wins at buzzer

By DOUG FEINBERG, AP Basketball Writer

DALLAS (AP) — When the final shot beat the buzzer and UConn's record streak was over, Geno Auriemma had to smile.

After all the winning, the Huskies coach could appreciate a thrilling victory — even from the other side.

UConn's 111-game run came to a stunning end when Mississippi State pulled off perhaps the biggest upset in women's basketball history, winning 66-64 on Morgan William's overtime jumper in the national semifinals Friday night.

"You know what? When stuff like this happens, it kind of makes me shake my head and go, 'You know how many times this could have happened and it didn't happen?'" Auriemma said. "The fact that it never happened, that doesn't mean I went home thinking it's never going to happen. I knew this was coming at some point."

"I'm just shocked that it took this long to get here," he said.

The Huskies hadn't lost in 865 days, with that defeat coming to Stanford in overtime on Nov. 17, 2014. Winning had become routine, often by routs. But in an instant, their drive toward a fifth consecutive national championship had been blocked.

When William's jumper dropped, Auriemma broke into that wry smile. He turned to his bench, then went to congratulate the Bulldogs.

"I just kind of shook my head. This kid's had an incredible run," Auriemma said. "When it went in, it was almost like, of course. Of course, it's going to go in."

"Look, nobody's won more than we've won," he said. "I understand losing, believe it or not. We haven't lost in a while, but I understand it. I know how to appreciate when other people win."

It took an incredible shot by Mississippi State's diminutive point guard to end the historic streak.

William hit a 15-footer to cap it, moments after a replay review awarded UConn two free throws for a flagrant 1 foul call that tied the game with 26.6 seconds left.

"I live for moments like this," William said. "UConn, they're an incredible team. For me to make that shot against them, it's unbelievable. I'm still in shock right now. I wanted to take the shot. I wanted to take the shot and I made it."

William's shot came one game after she scored a career-high 41 points to help Mississippi State beat Baylor and advance to its first Final Four.

The Bulldogs (34-4) will play South Carolina for the national championship Sunday night in a matchup of two SEC teams.

Mississippi State and UConn met in the Sweet 16 last season and the Huskies won by 60 points — the most-lopsided win in regional semifinals history. All season long the Bulldogs had that humiliating loss on

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their minds.

Now they've erased that defeat, beating UConn (36-1) on the grandest stage in one of the sport's greatest games.

"I don't have to play them 100 times. Only have to beat them once," Mississippi State coach Vic Schaefer said. "That is one heck of a basketball team, the greatest of all-time. But how proud am I of my kids?"

Mississippi State led 64-62 before a replay review gave Katie Lou Samuelson the two free throws that tied the game. After a UConn turnover, William held the ball at the top of the key before dribbling to her right and pulling up for the shot, with the ball in the air when the buzzer sounded.

The Bulldogs ran onto the court, piling up at center court while UConn players stood stone-faced. Schaefer grabbed William in a bear hug, with former Mississippi State star Dak Prescott — the Dallas Cowboys quarterback — helping lead the cheers in a sellout crowd.

Prescott said he'd try to come back Sunday for the title game.

UConn rallied from a 16-point deficit, its biggest during its NCAA record streak, to take a 59-56 lead in the fourth quarter. The teams were tied at 60 when the Bulldogs had a chance to win it in regulation, but William's shot was blocked by Gabby Williams, sending the game into overtime.

"Maybe we're just not ready for this. Maybe we were ready for everything else, but maybe we're just not mature enough for this," Auriemma said. "Maybe all our young kids needed to experience this so that we can come back and really be ready for this."

Neither team scored much in OT with Teaira McCowan's layup with 1:12 left in the extra session breaking a 62-62 tie. It was the lone basket for Mississippi State in OT until William's game-winner.

During their last two decades of dominance where they've won 11 national championships, the Huskies rarely found themselves trailing — let alone by double-digits. This was the first time this season that UConn was losing in the fourth quarter.

The Bulldogs got off to a great start, taking it right at the Huskies like not many teams had done during the streak. The Bulldogs led 15-13 before scoring 14 straight points to go up 29-13. It was the biggest deficit UConn had faced during its historic streak and one of the largest during the last 22 years, which the Huskies have dominated with 11 national championships.

The Huskies rallied to within 29-25 as senior Saniya Chong scored seven points during a 12-0 run. Mississippi State answered and was up 36-28 at the half.

UConn came back in the third quarter behind its trio of All-Americans with Williams, Napheesa Collier and Samuelson keying a 12-3 run to start the second half. That run brought Huskies alums Sue Bird, Breanna Stewart and Maya Moore, who were sitting 20 rows behind the UConn bench, to their feet.

"We had an incredible run, but we came up against a much better team tonight," Auriemma said.

STREAK BUSTER: The loss ended a 28-game NCAA Tournament winning streak for UConn. The last loss came to Notre Dame in 2012 in the Final Four. That was the last OT game in the national semifinals.

QUARTERBACK CONNECTION: Prescott wasn't the only QB in attendance on Friday night. Donovan McNabb was also in Dallas, cheering on niece Kia Nurse, who stars for Connecticut. Seattle Seahawks QB Russell Wilson was supporting his sister Anna, who is a freshman at Stanford in the first game.

GOOD MORNING MISSISSIPPI: Good Morning America co-host Robin Roberts was sitting at center court. She was cheering on the Bulldogs, who hail from her home state. Roberts brought out a Bulldogs jersey on her morning show.

Follow Doug on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/dougfeinberg>

Witness: Driver in crash admitted texting before collision

By JUAN A. LOZANO, Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — The driver of a pickup truck that collided with a church minibus in rural Texas, killing 13 people, apologized after the crash and acknowledged he had been texting while driving, a witness said Friday.

Jody Kuchler told The Associated Press he was driving behind the truck and had seen it moving erratically prior to the Wednesday collision on a two-lane road about 75 miles west (120 km) of San Antonio, near the town of Concan. Kuchler said the truck had crossed the center line several times while he followed it.

Kuchler, 55, a self-employed welder, said he and his girlfriend were driving back to their home in the nearby town of Leakey when he came across a truck that was driving erratically across the road.

"He kept going off the road and into oncoming traffic and he just kept doing that," said Kuchler, who followed the truck for at least 15 minutes.

Kuchler said he called the sheriff's offices for both Uvalde and Real counties and told them "they needed to get him off the road before he hit somebody."

Kuchler said he witnessed the crash and afterward, he checked on both the bus and the truck and was able to speak with the driver of the truck, who has been identified by the Texas Department of Public Safety as 20-year-old Jack Dillon Young, of Leakey.

"He said, 'I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I was texting.' I said, 'Son, do you know what you just did?' He said, 'I'm sorry. I'm sorry,'" Kuchler recalled.

Kuchler first shared the account of what happened with the San Antonio Express-News.

The wreck occurred along a curve in the road where the speed limit is 65 mph, according to Department of Public Safety officials.

Department of Public Safety Sgt. Conrad Hein declined to comment on Friday on the cause of the crash or if texting might have played a role. But officials have said the truck driver appeared to have crossed the center line.

Federal investigators would not comment on the report Friday. However, Jennifer Morrison, the investigator in charge of the team from the National Transportation Safety Board, said Friday that distracted driving will be among the issues investigated.

The First Baptist Church of New Braunfels, Texas, said its members were on the bus returning from a three-day retreat at the Alto Frio Baptist Encampment in Leakey, about 9 miles (15 kilometers) from the crash site.

Young remains hospitalized following the crash. Twelve people on the bus died at the scene, authorities said. Another died at a San Antonio hospital. One bus passenger remains hospitalized in serious but stable condition, according to the church.

The bus occupants ranged in age from 61 to 87.

Texas is unusual in that it has no statewide ban on texting while driving. Dozens of cities across the state prohibit the practice, but local ordinances may not have applied in the rural area where Wednesday's crash occurred. Laws in 46 other states ban sending or reading email, using apps or engaging in other use of the internet while driving.

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Follow Juan A. Lozano on Twitter at www.twitter.com/juanlozano70

Trump's son-in-law retains scores of real estate holdings

By **JULIE BYKOWICZ** and **STEPHEN BRAUN**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's son-in-law and daughter are holding onto scores of real estate investments — part of a portfolio of at least \$240 million in assets — while they serve in White House jobs, according to new financial disclosures.

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Associated Press writers Chad Day, Jack Gillum and Josh Boak contributed to this report.

3 arrested in fire that collapsed Atlanta highway overpass

By KATE BRUMBACK and BILL BARROW, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Three people were arrested Friday in connection with a raging fire that collapsed an elevated portion of Interstate 85 in Atlanta and shut down the heavily traveled route through the heart

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of the city.

Deputy Insurance Commissioner Jay Florence said Basil Eleby faces a charge of criminal damage to property, and Sophia Bruner and Barry Thomas each were charged with criminal trespass.

"We believe they were together when the fire was set and Eleby is the one who set the fire," Florence told The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Florence would not discuss how the fire was started or why, saying those details would be released as the investigation progresses.

Traffic was bumper to bumper on streets near the shut-down portion of the interstate as drivers were forced to take a detour the day after the blaze.

The collapse took place a few miles north of downtown, and the effects could fall most heavily on commuters from Atlanta's densely populated northern suburbs. They will have to find other routes to work or ride mass transit.

Connie Bailey-Blake, of Dacula, 37 miles northeast of Atlanta, waited for a MARTA commuter train to reach her job downtown. She typically drives, often by way of the interstate.

"I'm supposed to be at work at 9 a.m. and it's 9:15 a.m.," Bailey-Blake said. "The first few days are going to be difficult. This will be my new life."

Amelia Ford picked a new route to work by car and said it took her 45 minutes to travel 3 miles from her Atlanta home to the nearest open on-ramp to the interstate.

Georgia Transportation Commissioner Russell McMurphy said 350 feet of highway will need to be replaced in both directions on I-85, which carries about 400,000 cars a day through the city and is one of the South's most important north-south routes.

He said repairs will take months but declined to be more specific.

The collapse effectively "puts a cork in the bottle," Georgia State Patrol Commissioner Mark McDonough said.

The fire broke out Thursday afternoon in an area used to store state-owned construction materials and equipment, sending flames and smoke high into the air. Fire authorities said they had not determined how the blaze started.

McMurphy said his department stored coils of plastic conduit used in fiber optic networks beneath the span but insisted they were noncombustible.

No injuries were reported from the fire and collapse. Firefighters shut down the section of highway before it gave way, and made it to safety themselves after hearing the road cracking and seeing concrete go flying, authorities said.

In the meantime, MARTA increased rail service and said additional staff would be on hand to help passengers figure out how to get where they're going.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao promptly released \$10 million for the initial repair work, and the Federal Highway Administration promised more in emergency repair funds. Officials gave no estimate of how much the job would cost.

Built in 1953 and renovated in 1985, the span scored high in its most recent inspection, receiving a rating of 94.6 out of 100 in 2015, said Natalie Dale, a spokeswoman for the Georgia Transportation Department.

Lauren Stewart, director of the Structural Engineering and Materials Laboratory at Georgia Tech in Atlanta, said intense heat can compromise even steel-reinforced concrete.

"With fires, especially fires that burn for long periods and with high heat, you can see structures, anything from buildings to bridges, can have their material properties degrade," Stewart said.

It's happened before. In 1996, a fire in a big pile of tires beneath I-95 in Philadelphia left a span too weak to handle cars, forcing authorities to shut down 4 miles of the busy East Coast route for repairs.

Andy Herrmann, a retired partner with the New York-based engineering firm Hardesty & Hanover, said there have also been a few instances of gasoline trucks crashing and causing intense heat that damaged overpasses.

In one example, a tanker carrying 8,600 gallons (32,550 liters) of gasoline ignited after crashing into a guardrail on an interchange connecting Interstate 80 to Interstate 880 in Oakland, California. Heat from

the flames exceeded 2,750 degrees and caused the steel beams holding up the overpass to buckle and bolts holding the structure together to melt, officials said at the time.

Herrmann said concrete will undergo severe cracking at about 1,500 degrees Fahrenheit and start disintegrating at higher temperatures. Building roads to withstand such heat would be prohibitively expensive, he said.

"We have limited dollars for maintaining our bridges," Herrmann said. "This is such a rare thing to occur."

AP writers Alex Sanz in Atlanta; Russ Bynum in Savannah, Georgia; and Kevin McGill and Rebecca Santana in New Orleans contributed to this report.

Trump's approach to intel agencies shows anxiety, distrust

By **JULIE PACE, EILEEN SULLIVAN and VIVIAN SALAMA, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House's handling of intelligence reports on the Russia investigation has been labeled unorthodox and, to the Democrats, suspicious. But when it comes to Donald Trump's relationship with his spy agencies, that's par for the course.

Since taking office, Trump has challenged the integrity of intelligence officials, moved to exert more control over U.S. spying agencies and accused his predecessor of using government spycraft to monitor his presidential campaign.

This week, Trump's White House is facing allegations that it funneled secret intelligence reports to a top Republican investigating his campaign's possible ties to Russian officials as well as Moscow's interference in the 2016 election.

The approach appears to be based, at least in part, on the White House's anxiety over the Russia investigations, which threaten to seriously weaken his presidency. It also reflects a deep distrust of the intelligence community among his political advisers, including government newcomers who have never dealt with classified information or covert programs.

"It reveals a chasm of ignorance about how stuff is done," said Michael Hayden, the former head of the CIA and National Security Agency.

Trump, with the backing of political advisers Steve Bannon and Jared Kushner, initially sought to put Wall Street billionaire Stephen Feinberg in charge of a review of the intelligence agencies. An early iteration of the review explored eliminating the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the umbrella agency created after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks to streamline and coordinate intelligence.

Officials say they viewed the agency as an unnecessary and bloated bureaucracy that can manipulate or distort information.

But the review was recalibrated after Dan Coats — who was confirmed earlier this month as Trump's intelligence director — vigorously complained about being undermined in the midst of his confirmation hearings, according to U.S. officials. Coats is now leading the review, though it does not include potentially scrapping the office he now runs, according to the officials.

"This is going to be more on the 'trim and optimize' as opposed to 'dismantle,'" said L. Roger Mason Jr., an executive with the nonprofit Noblis and a member of the Trump transition team that focused on the national intelligence directorate.

Trump's White House has looked for other ways seize the reins.

Officials have expressed an interest in having more raw intelligence sent to the president for his daily briefings instead of an analysis of information compiled by the agencies, according to current and former U.S. officials. The change would have given his White House advisers more control about the assessments given to him and sidelined some of the conclusions made by intelligence professionals.

One official said the focus on accessing more raw intelligence appeared to be more of a priority under the short tenure of Michael Flynn, who was ousted as national security adviser after less than one month on the job. He was replaced by H.R. McMaster, an Army lieutenant general who was expected to exert more control over the NSC but has found himself struggling to overcome skepticism among Flynn holdovers

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who have the ear of Bannon.

Earlier this month, CIA leaders raised concerns with McMaster about an intelligence director on his staff. McMaster moved to replace him, but the staffer, Ezra Cohen-Watnick, appealed to Bannon and Kushner, who got Trump to intervene to save his job.

Cohen-Watnick was a protege of Flynn, having worked for him at the Pentagon's intelligence shop. Now the NSC's senior director for intelligence programs, Cohen-Watnick is one of about a dozen people in the White House with access to a full range of classified information, including details of U.S. covert programs. His position also gives him the ability to request intelligence products from agencies.

On Thursday, The New York Times identified Cohen-Watnick as one of two White House staffers who helped House intelligence chairman Devin Nunes view secret reports.

A U.S. official confirmed Cohen-Watnick had access to the kind of intelligence materials, but maintained he did not play a role in helping the congressman access the documents. The official pointed instead to the other official named in the New York Times report, Michael Ellis, a White House lawyer who previously worked for Nunes on the House committee.

Cohen-Watnick has privately expressed suspicion to colleagues over whether Ellis could have been responsible for some of the leaks that had been troubling the new administration in its first few weeks in office, according to an administration official.

The current and former officials insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the sensitive matters.

Nunes said the materials he saw showed the "troubling" extent to which information about Trump and his associates' communications was spread around the government in the waning days of the Obama administration. His public declarations came days after Trump officials privately suggested to reporters that they focus on that same topic, a signal that the California congressman and the White House may have been working in tandem.

The White House also said the information validated Trump's remarkable and unproven claim that President Barack Obama wiretapped his New York skyscraper, though Nunes disputed that conclusion.

Stephen Slick, who served in the CIA and NSC for three decades, said intelligence agencies go to "extraordinary lengths" to safeguard the privacy of Americans. He said officials "have no incentive to see intelligence reports they gather and distribute for national security purposes become fodder in domestic political disputes."

At least some of what Nunes viewed at the White House is believed to be communications between foreign governments discussing the incoming administration, which could have been picked up through routine monitoring of diplomats and other foreign officials living in the U.S.

Hayden said that Trump and his advisers appear to be missing the fact that such information is collected to give the U.S. government insight into the thinking of foreign powers that can be used to Washington's advantage. And as president-elect, Hayden said, Trump would have had access to much of this information.

"These people wrote this not for the Obama administration but for the American government, with full knowledge that whatever they were writing would be accessible by the president-elect or the president," Hayden said.

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Questions, answers about the legal immunity process

By ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A lawyer for former national security adviser Michael Flynn says he's in talks with congressional committees to testify before them in exchange for immunity from prosecution. Those committees are investigating Russian influence in the 2016 presidential election and potential ties between

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Russia and associates of President Donald Trump.

Trump's attorney, Robert Kelner, said Thursday night that "no reasonable person" would agree to be questioned "in such a highly politicized, witch hunt environment without assurances against unfair prosecution." Trump echoed that sentiment Friday on Twitter, encouraging Flynn to seek immunity from a "witch hunt."

Some questions and answers about the process:

Q: What does it mean to receive immunity, and who can give it?

A: An immunity grant generally shields a witness from prosecution for statements he or she makes to the government.

Congress is empowered to give immunity to witnesses who might otherwise be inclined to avoid a committee hearing, protecting them from having their statements later used against them in a criminal prosecution.

The Justice Department, too, can offer different forms of immunity. One type, for instance, protects a witness from prosecution for any offense related to the testimony, while another, more narrow form simply bars the government from using someone's testimony against them.

The process of seeking immunity generally involves a person describing to the government what information he or she would be able to provide, a conversation known as a proffer. Investigators may decide immunity is worth it if it's the only way to secure a witness's testimony against a higher-value target, or if the testimony is seen as indispensable in resolving unanswered questions.

Plenty of high-profile witnesses have requested immunity for congressional testimony, from high-ranking federal government officials to professional baseball stars, though not everyone has received it.

Q: If a witness seeks immunity, doesn't that mean he or she is probably guilty of a crime?

A: Not at all.

Since witnesses are under no obligation to speak with the FBI, it's fairly standard for them — through their lawyers — to demand immunity as an unwavering condition for any kind of conversation they agree to have.

Seasoned lawyers often see no benefit to cooperating with the government without such an agreement, especially since it's impossible to predict with certainty how the interview will go, what sort of statements or activities investigators will home in on, or whether any vaguely worded questions will trip up their client or prompt an unexpected answer or one unfavorable to their own interests.

"The easiest way to not incriminate yourself is to keep your mouth shut," said Washington lawyer Stephen Ryan, a congressional investigations expert.

Sometimes immunity will be granted if investigators believe a deal is the only, or at least the fastest, way to get the information they need. It can be especially palatable to the Justice Department if the person seeking immunity was never really at risk of prosecution in the first place, or if it represents the best chance to secure the cooperation of an otherwise wary witness whose insight is seen as critical.

The IT expert who set up Hillary Clinton's email server received limited immunity from the Justice Department. Her chief of staff also received a limited form of immunity because FBI agents wanted to inspect her computer.

Still, in a nation's capital consumed by optics, there's no doubt that an immunity request can make someone appear like he or she has something to hide.

Flynn himself allowed as much last year about the immunity deals in the Clinton email investigation, saying in a television interview, "When you are given immunity, that means that you have probably committed a crime."

That wasn't necessarily true then, and it's not any more true now that Flynn himself is seeking congressional immunity.

Q: Why might Flynn in particular seek immunity?

A: It's already known that he's attracted the attention of law enforcement authorities.

Flynn was interviewed by the FBI in the early days of the Trump administration about communications he had during the transition period with the Russian ambassador.

He and his firm also recently registered with the Justice Department as foreign agents for lobbying work conducted on behalf of a company owned by a Turkish businessman. That businessman, Ekim Alptekin, has told The Associated Press that the registration was made under pressure from the Justice Department.

The Foreign Agents Registration Act requires people acting as agents for a foreign principal to publicly disclose that relationship.

Q: If Congress chooses to grant immunity, what impact might that have on any criminal investigation?

A: It's not clear, though there are long-established restrictions on the Justice Department's ability to use any statements given to Congress under immunity in any future criminal prosecution.

Rep. Adam Schiff, the top Democrat on the House intelligence Committee, said Friday his panel was "deeply mindful of the interests of the Department of Justice in the matter."

Though it's not an impossible burden to meet, Justice Department prosecutors would inevitably have to prove that any case they bring did not rely on statements made to Congress.

Ryan said there's no doubt that a grant of congressional immunity can negatively affect a simultaneous criminal investigation.

A congressional committee, he added, has to balance the need to not interfere with a criminal investigation with its own interest in getting information out to the American public.

That was a stumbling block in the 1980s-era prosecutions of Iran-Contra affair figures Oliver North and John Poindexter, whose convictions were set aside following concerns from judges that witnesses in their criminal cases had been unduly affected by their congressional testimony.

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

Trump urges former adviser Flynn to cut immunity deal

By CHAD DAY, EILEEN SULLIVAN and JULIE PACE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump urged his former national security adviser to strike an immunity deal Friday, even as congressional investigators rebuffed Michael Flynn's offer of cooperation in exchange for protection from prosecution.

Trump tweeted that Flynn, the adviser he fired in February, should ask for immunity because he's facing "a witch hunt."

The White House also tried to quell a firestorm over its role in helping a top Republican lawmaker see secret intelligence reports. Rep. Adam Schiff went to the White House to view materials that he said were "precisely the same" as what House intelligence committee chairman Devin Nunes viewed there last week.

"The White House has yet to explain why senior White House staff apparently shared these materials with but one member," said Schiff, who met with Trump for about 10 minutes while he was at the White House.

The congressional investigations into Russian election interference and the Trump campaign's possible Russian ties have become a near-daily distraction for a new administration struggling to find its footing. Trump has vigorously denied that his campaign coordinated with Russia during the election.

The president weighed in on Flynn the day after the ousted national security adviser's attorney confirmed the immunity discussions with intelligence committees in both the Senate and House that are investigating Russia's meddling in the 2016 presidential election.

A congressional aide confirmed that preliminary discussions with the Senate intelligence committee involved immunity but that it was too early in the investigation to set terms. The aide was not authorized to discuss private conversations and spoke on condition of anonymity. The Justice Department did not

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immediately respond to a request for comment.

It was unclear from Trump's tweet whether he was advising the Justice Department or the congressional panels to give his former adviser immunity. The president is not supposed to direct ongoing investigations.

White House spokesman Sean Spicer said Trump just wants Flynn to testify, and there are no concerns that Flynn could implicate the president in any wrongdoing.

Schiff said committee leaders would be discussing the issue with their Senate counterparts and the Justice Department.

"We should first acknowledge what a grave and momentous step it is for a former national security adviser to the president of the United States to ask for immunity from prosecution," Schiff said in a statement.

Flynn's attorney, Robert Kelner, said no "reasonable person" who has a lawyer would answer questions without assurances that he would not be prosecuted, given calls from some members of Congress that the retired lieutenant general should face criminal charges.

Flynn seemed to have a different view last September when he weighed in on the implications of immunity on NBC's "Meet the Press," criticizing Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and her associates in the FBI's investigation into her use of a private email server.

"When you are given immunity, that means that you have probably committed a crime," Flynn said during the interview.

His own lawyer, Kelner, said Thursday, "General Flynn certainly has a story to tell, and he very much wants to tell it, should the circumstances permit."

Trump spokesman Spicer said the president "thinks he should go out and tell his story."

Flynn's ties to Russia have been scrutinized by the FBI and are under investigation by the congressional committees. Both panels are looking into Russia's meddling in the election and any ties between Trump associates and the Kremlin.

Since July, the FBI has been conducting a counterintelligence investigation into Russia's interference in the election and possible coordination with Trump associates.

In September, Flynn weighed in on the implications of immunity on NBC's "Meet the Press," criticizing Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and her associates in the FBI's investigation into her use of a private email server.

"When you are given immunity, that means that you have probably committed a crime," Flynn said during the interview.

A spokesman for Nunes, the Republican chairman of the House intelligence committee, said the panel has not offered an immunity deal to Flynn.

The committee "had a preliminary conversation with Michael Flynn's lawyer about arranging for Flynn to speak to the committee," spokesman Jack Langer said. "The discussions did not include immunity or other possible conditions for his appearance."

Schiff, who has called for Nunes' recusal from the investigation because of his close ties to the White House, said the committee is interested in Flynn's testimony but is also "mindful" of the Justice Department's interests.

Congress has the authority to grant someone immunity, but doing so could jeopardize federal prosecutors' ability to use that person's testimony as the basis for any criminal case.

"When the time comes to consider requests for immunity from any witness, we will of course require a detailed proffer of any intended testimony," Schiff said.

Kelner released a statement late Thursday after The Wall Street Journal first reported that Flynn's negotiations with Congress included discussions of immunity.

Four other Trump associates have come forward in recent weeks, saying they would talk to the committees. As of Wednesday, the Senate panel had asked to interview 20 people.

Flynn was fired from his job as Trump's first national security adviser after it was disclosed that he misled Vice President Mike Pence about a conversation he had with the Russian ambassador to the U.S. during the transition.

In the weeks after he resigned, Flynn and his business registered with the Justice Department as foreign

agents for \$530,000 worth of lobbying work that could have benefited the Turkish government. The lobbying occurred while Flynn was a top Trump campaign adviser.

Follow Chad Day on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ChadSDay>

Israel says will try to curb growth of settlements footprint

By IAN DEITCH

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel will limit new settlement construction in the West Bank “when possible” to within areas already developed or at least to contiguous areas, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s government announced as a gesture to President Donald Trump as it approved the first new settlement in the territory in two decades.

With the new policy, the government said it would attempt to exercise some restraint in expanding the physical footprint of settlements, though it did not specify any slowdown in construction. Israeli media on Friday reported Netanyahu announced the guidelines at a meeting the night before where his cabinet also approved the new settlement.

Netanyahu had promised to build the new settlement to replace Amona, a settlement outpost built on private Palestinian land that was dismantled in February following an Israeli Supreme Court ruling. Pro-settler hard-liners who dominate his coalition and oppose Palestinian statehood on security or religious grounds had pressed him to keep that promise.

But Netanyahu also faces pressure from Trump to rein in settlement construction to help revive the stalled peace process with the Palestinians.

Netanyahu told ministers to take Trump’s position “into consideration,” calling for restraint to be shown “to allow progress in the peace process.”

Under the guidelines, new construction would be built “within existing developed areas, when possible.” If that is not possible then it would be allowed adjacent to already built-up areas. If that also is not possible “because of legal, security or topological constraints,” building would be permitted as close as possible to existing construction.

White House envoy Jason Greenblatt has already made two visits to the region, meeting with Israelis and Palestinians and attending an Arab summit in Jordan this week. Greenblatt has been working with the Israelis on a series of understandings over settlement construction in hopes of restarting peace talks that collapsed over two years ago — in part over the thorny issue of settlements.

A White House official sought to play down the announcement Thursday of the new settlement, saying Netanyahu made his promise to the Amona settlers before Trump laid out his vision. But the official, who agreed to discuss the matter on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly about it, signaled that the White House would take a tougher line down the road.

Thursday’s announcement said the new settlement would be built near the settlement of Shilo, close to the former site of Amona. It also said the government had approved tenders to build 2,000 new apartments from previously approved settlement projects.

The Palestinians claim the West Bank and east Jerusalem, areas captured by Israel in 1967, as parts of a future state. In December, weeks before Trump was inaugurated, President Barack Obama allowed the U.N. Security Council to pass a resolution that declared settlements in both areas illegal and an obstacle to reaching a two state solution to the conflict. Trump condemned the decision at the time.

Israel says settlements along with other core issues like security should be resolved in peace talks.

The new settlement approval was sharply criticized by Palestinians. Yusuf Mahmoud, spokesman for the Palestinian government in the West Bank, said “This is a new escalating Israeli step and it shows that the Israeli government is persistent on hindering any efforts to restore the peace process.”

Another senior Palestinian official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he is not allowed to brief media on the issue, said Palestinian policy now is to maintain relations and avoid confrontation over the

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issue with the Trump administration ahead of a visit to the White House by President Mahmoud Abbas in April.

Israel's anti-settlement watchdog group Peace Now also condemned the decision to replace Amona. "The government announced that they will establish a new settlement for the first time deep in the West Bank in an area that is isolated and that could never be part of the state of Israel under the two state solution," Lior Amihai, of Peace Now said. "The government is doing so in order to appease a radical minority of settlers who want to continue the occupation over the Palestinians and to prevent a possibility of peace and settlement in the region. This is unfortunate that the government is binding to the settlers will," he said.

Over 420,000 Israelis now live in the West Bank, settlers say. But Israel has not built a full-fledged new settlement since the 1990s. Instead, construction during that period has expanded existing settlements or taken place in unauthorized outposts like Amona. The territory has deep religious significance for many devout Jews, who see it as their biblical heartland and heritage.

Oded Revivi, chief foreign envoy of the Yesha Council, an umbrella group representing Israel's more than 120 West Bank settlements, welcomed the new settlement. "The true test will be the implementation of these plans and their manifestation as actual bricks and mortar on the ground. We will be monitoring the government very closely to see that these plans come to fruition, enabling a new era of building throughout our ancestral homeland," he said. The group did not address the new limitations on construction.

The United Nations issued a statement saying Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed "disappointment and alarm" over the new settlement, stressing that "there is no Plan B for Israelis and Palestinians to live together in peace and security," and condemning "all unilateral actions that, like the present one, threaten peace and undermine the two-state solution."

Writing in Haaretz, commentator Barak Ravid pointed out that "at the end of the security cabinet meeting Thursday night, it turned out that all the celebrations, hopes and expectations of the right that Trump would be the Messiah heralding the vision of the 'Greater Land of Israel' had shattered against reality." He said "it turns out that the actions of Trump's administration on the Israeli-Palestinian issue, and especially on the matter of construction in the settlements, were a real strategic surprise for the right."

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, April 1, the 91st day of 2017. There are 274 days left in the year. This is April Fool's Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 1, 1917, Scott Joplin, "The King of Ragtime Writers," died at a New York City hospital. Joplin, the composer of "Maple Leaf Rag," "The Entertainer," "The Easy Winners," "Heliotrope Bouquet" and "Solace," among other ragtime pieces, was believed to have been 49 years old at the time of his death.

On this date:

In 1789, the U.S. House of Representatives held its first full meeting in New York; Frederick Muhlenberg of Pennsylvania was elected the first House speaker.

In 1924, Adolf Hitler was sentenced to five years in prison for his role in the Beer Hall Putsch in Munich. (Hitler was released in Dec. 1924; during his time behind bars, he wrote his autobiographical screed, "Mein Kampf.")

In 1933, Nazi Germany staged a daylong national boycott of Jewish-owned businesses.

In 1945, American forces launched the amphibious invasion of Okinawa during World War II. (U.S. forces succeeded in capturing the Japanese island on June 22.)

In 1947, Greece's King George II died.

In 1954, the United States Air Force Academy was established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

In 1962, the Katherine Anne Porter novel "Ship of Fools," an allegory about the rise of Nazism in Germany, was published by Little, Brown & Co.

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In 1972, the first Major League Baseball players' strike began; it lasted 12 days.

In 1977, the U.S. Senate followed the example of the House of Representatives by adopting, 86-9, a stringent code of ethics requiring full financial disclosure and limits on outside income.

In 1984, recording star Marvin Gaye was shot to death by his father, Marvin Gay (cq), Sr. in Los Angeles, the day before his 45th birthday. (The elder Gay pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter, and received probation.)

In 1987, in his first speech on the AIDS epidemic, President Ronald Reagan told the Philadelphia College of Physicians, "We've declared AIDS public health enemy no. 1."

In 1992, the National Hockey League Players' Association went on its first-ever strike, which lasted 10 days.

Ten years ago: Iran's state television aired new video showing two of the 15 captured British sailors and marines pointing to a spot on a map of the Persian Gulf where they were seized and saying it was in Iranian territorial waters; Britain's Foreign Office immediately denounced the video. At age 18 years and 10 months, Morgan Pressel became the youngest major champion in LPGA Tour history, closing with a 3-under 69 at the Kraft Nabisco Championship. (Pressel's age record has since been broken by Lydia Ko.)

Five years ago: A coalition of more than 70 partners, including the United States, pledged to send millions of dollars and communications equipment to Syria's opposition groups. Myanmar's democracy icon, Aung San Suu Kyi (ahng sahn soo chee), was elected to her country's parliament. Former Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid died at age 77. Taylor Swift was named entertainer of the year for the second year in a row at the Academy of Country Music Awards.

One year ago: World leaders ended a nuclear security summit in Washington by declaring progress in safeguarding nuclear materials sought by terrorists and wayward nations, even as President Barack Obama acknowledged the task was far from finished. Chicago teachers staged a one-day strike in the nation's third-largest district. Spain's Javier Fernandez defended his figure skating world title at the championship in Boston; Yuzuru Hanyu of Japan placed second while Jin Boyang of China came in third.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Jane Powell is 88. Actor Don Hastings is 83. Baseball Hall of Famer Phil Niekro is 78. Actress Ali MacGraw is 78. Rhythm-and-blues singer Rudolph Isley is 78. Baseball All-Star Rusty Staub is 73. Reggae singer Jimmy Cliff is 69. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito is 67. Rock musician Billy Currie (Ultravox) is 67. Actress Annette O'Toole is 65. Movie director Barry Sonnenfeld is 64. Singer Susan Boyle is 56. Actor Jose Zuniga is 55. Country singer Woody Lee is 49. Actress Jessica Collins is 46. Rapper-actor Method Man is 46. Movie directors Albert and Allen Hughes are 45. Political commentator Rachel Maddow is 44. Tennis player Magdalena Maleeva is 42. Actor David Oyelowo (oh-YEHLOH'-oh) is 41. Actor JJ Field is 39. Singer Bijou Phillips is 37. Actor Sam Huntington is 35. Comedian-actor Taran Killam is 35. Actor Matt Lanter is 34. Actor Josh Zuckerman is 32. Country singer Hillary Scott (Lady Antebellum) is 31. Actor Asa Butterfield is 20.

Thought for Today: "Ninety-eight percent of all statistics are made up." — Author unknown.

(Above Advance for Use Saturday, April 1)

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