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Tuesday, April 18

Senior Menu: Hot turkey combo, mashed potato and gravy, 7 layer salad, peaches.

School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Chicken strips, French fries, fruit, romaine salad.

Varsity track at Webster

7th/8th grade track at Ipswich, 3 p.m.

United Methodist: Bible Study at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, April 19

NSU Match Contest, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Senior Menu: Scalloped potato with ham, peas, sunset salad, cookie, whole wheat bread.

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

School Lunch: Tater tot hot dish, corn, fruit, carrots and dip.

Emmanuel Lutheran: League at 6:30 p.m., Confirmation at 7 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation at 3:45 p.m.

United Methodist: Wednesday Coffee at 9 a.m., Kid Zone at 3:30 p.m., Confirmation at 6 p.m.

Thursday, April 20

Senior Menu: Ranch chicken breast, boiled potato, baby carrots, cake with strawberries, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Egg Sausage biscuit, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Super nachos, fruit, broccoli and dip.



Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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Coke is it!

For the first time in many years, Coca-Cola products will be served at city events, including the ballpark and the pool. The city gave approval for the quote from Coca-Cola, even though it was slightly higher than Pepsi-Cola, local service was the main factor in the decision. Ray Brandlee, Groton, was on hand to answer questions about the Coca-Cola bid. No representative was present from Pepsi-Cola. It is a three-year contract.

The council took no action on Mayor Scott Hanlon's veto on cancelling the Safe Route to School project. If the city would have cancelled the project, it would have cost the city \$24,000 in engineering fees that would have to be paid to the state, plus the profit to Webster Scale that would have been lost. In Mayor Hanlon's Veto letter, he stated, "Cooperation with the state keeps good will between the units of government."

New playground equipment is on tap for the Groton baseball complex. The council accepted the quote from Cunningham Recreation of Ankeny, Iowa, for \$46,984.96. It is the same company that supplied the new playground equipment for the park. The equipment will be ordered and should arrive in 4-6 weeks.

The council accepted the only bid from Paul Jackson for the 2008 Police Tahoe that was declared as surplus. The bid was \$6,500. Jackson is from Wessington Springs, S.D.

The amendment to the summer salary ordinance was approved, raising the rates for the junior teen and junior legion coaches to \$1,750 for the season.

What happens when election workers work across from each other at an election? They compare notes. The school paid their election workers \$11 an hour while the city had approved only \$10 an hour. The council decided to pay its city election workers the same rate as the school at \$11 an hour.

The city will apply for a Hazard Mitigation Grant. The city could get up to \$60,000 to help put electrical power lines underground in six different areas around town. It is a 90:10 matching grant, due by October 13, granted February 1 and the city will have up to two years to complete the projects.

There are a number of stones at the Groton Cemetery that are in need of repair. Finance Officer Anita Lowary said that someone will be in Aberdeen in the near future to do some repairs and was wondering if the city council would want to have some work done in the Groton cemetery. The council directed Lowary to try and contact family members of stones that are in need of repair before any work gets done.

Spring cleanup is rapidly coming. The National Guard will be on hand on May 6th to finish clean up. The National Guard will bring in three trailers at the beginning of the city-wide cleanup, and then will bring in three more trailers and will load the rest on May 6th. City-wide cleanup is scheduled for April 29th through May 6th.

Sales Tax Revenue up near 61%

Sales tax collection for the city has gone up dramatically in the first quarter. Revenue for the first quarter this year is up \$70,626.51 compared to the first quarter last year. Sales tax collection this year was \$187,249.93.

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South Dakota Gas Prices Reach 2017 High

April 17, 2017 – South Dakota’s average pump price has risen four cents over the week and dropped one cent from yesterday after rising for much of April, according to GasPrices.AAA.com.

“Between the first of April and April 14, the state average price for a gallon of regular rose 9 cents, coming in at \$2.40 per gallon on April 14, the high for the year,” said Marilyn Buskohl, spokeswoman for AAA South Dakota. “We expect retail gas to trend upward as we approach the start of summer. How much they rise depends largely on market forces occurring on the other side of the globe.”

Current Price Averages per Gallon of Regular Gasoline

Sioux Falls – \$2.33, up eleven cents from one month ago ... up 27 cents since 4/17/16
Rapid City – \$2.44, up 12 cents from one month ago ... up 40 cents since 4/17/16
South Dakota – \$2.40, up six cents from one month ago ... up 30 cents since 4/17/16
U.S. – \$2.41, up 12 cents from one month ago ... up 30 cents since 4/17/16

Today’s national average price for a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline is at its highest price this year and has now increased for 20 consecutive days. Pump prices in 43 states and Washington D.C. have moved higher over the last week. This increase was most prevalent in the East Coast region where refiners wrapped up seasonal turnaround resulting in significant price increases last week.

Global Market Dynamics

Last week, crude oil futures held onto the week’s gains closing out above \$53 per barrel. Competitive prices were led by reports that OPEC and non-OPEC compliance is above 90 percent and the countries are considering extending production cuts beyond June, the original end date for the agreement reached last November. Participating OPEC countries plan to meet on May 25 to discuss how an extension of their agreement could further rebalance global oil supply and inventory levels.

Markets opened Monday morning with less confidence, countered somewhat by growing U.S. production. The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) reported a larger-than-expected decline in oil stockpiles last week showing growth in U.S. oil output. National crude oil output reached a one-year high of an estimated 9.1 million b/d in March this year. Last week’s Baker Hughes oil rig count report -- which showed the U.S. adding 11 rigs last week, bringing the total rig count to 683 -- is further evidence of increased U.S. production. Traders will continue to watch the impact that increased U.S. production has on OPEC’s efforts to rebalance the market. At the close of last week’s formal trading session on the NYMEX, WTI was up seven cents to settle at \$53.18 per barrel.

Quick Stats

· The nation’s top ten least expensive markets are: South Carolina (\$2.13), Mississippi (\$2.17), Oklahoma (\$2.18), Tennessee (\$2.18), Alabama (\$2.18), Arkansas (\$2.18), Missouri (\$2.19), Louisiana (\$2.21), Kansas (\$2.23) and Virginia (\$2.23).

· The nation’s top ten markets with the largest monthly increases include: Indiana (+18 cents), Texas (+18 cents), Michigan (+17 cents), Kentucky (+17 cents), Ohio (+16 cents), Illinois (+16 cents), Florida (+15 cents), Wisconsin (+15 cents), Colorado (+15 cents) and Delaware (+14 cents).

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Deep Thoughts

Notes from the underground by Communications Director Constance Walter

Monday, April 17, 2017

Tornado safety

On February 27, Massachusetts experienced a rare weather event when a tornado touched down. The EF-1 twister, which reached speeds of 110 mph, cut a 200-yard-wide, five miles long swath, passing right through Conway, a town of 2,000. Fortunately, no one was hurt.

Although extremely rare in Massachusetts, tornadoes are no strangers to South Dakota. To prepare South Dakotans for “tornado season,” the Office of Emergency Management designated April 24 through 28 as Severe Weather Preparedness Awareness Week. In conjunction with the statewide drill, Sanford Lab and the City of Lead will hold a drill April 26.

“This is an important event for Sanford Lab,” said Noel A. Schroeder, ESH director. “It allows us to refresh our severe weather training to better protect ourselves and visitors.”

The drill consists of a tornado watch and warning phase. In the warning phase, staff relocate to pre-determined safe areas around the SDSTA property.

The peak “tornado season” for the northern plains and upper Midwest is June or July. But, according to the National Weather Service, tornadoes can



VORTEX2 field command vehicle with tornado in sight. Wyoming, LaGrange. June 5, 2009. Photographer: Dr. Mike Coniglio, NOAA NSSL. Credit: VORTEX II

happen any time of year and strike at any time day or night.

“Having been born and raised in Iowa, I know first-hand the importance of being prepared for tornadoes,” Schroeder said. “I’ve been through eight touchdowns.”

The National Severe Storms Laboratory says the most destructive and deadly tornadoes occur from super cells, rotating thunderstorms with a well-defined radar circulation called a mesocyclone. These super cells can also produce damaging hail, severe non-tornadic winds, unusually frequent lightning and flash floods. But the truth is, no one truly understands how tornadoes form.

Burns makes top safety performance



Excessive water on any level at Sanford Lab is cause for concern. In February, Alvin Burns, infrastructure technician with the Yates Shaft, called for a shutdown of a dewatering pipe when he learned that water was building up in an area on the 4850 Level.

“His level head and critical thinking prevented further problems and damage,” said Jack Stratton, Yates Shaft foreman.

Burns also was recognized in March for his suggestion to add the name of the designated person on call and a phone number to the “crawl” on the digital signs throughout the property.

What you can do

Tornadoes are destructive and unpredictable, but there are some things you can do to keep yourself safe.

Listen to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio to stay informed

Know your community’s warning system. Communities have different ways of warning residents.

Pick a safe room in your home to gather during a tornado (basement, storm cellar or an interior room on the lowest floor with no windows).

Those living in mobile homes should go immediately to the nearest sturdy building—do not wait until you see a tornado.

Practice periodic tornado drills so that everyone knows what to do if a tornado is approaching.

When you know a severe storm is coming:

- Prepare for high winds by removing diseased and damaged limbs from trees.
- Move or secure lawn furniture, trash cans, hanging plants or anything else that can be picked up by the wind and become a projectile.

For more information about staying safe during a tornado, check the NOAA website.

Know your tornado terminology:

Watch: Normally issued for several hours, a “watch” indicates a need for planning, preparation, and an increased awareness of changing weather conditions and that current weather conditions support the potential formation of tornadoes.

Warning: A tornado has been spotted or indicated by radar and there is a serious threat to life and property to those in the path of the tornado. Take action immediately to find safe shelter.

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Today in Weather History

April 18, 1995: Eight inches to two feet of snow fell in central South Dakota in a two day period from the 17th to the 18th. Many businesses, schools, and roads closed on the 18th. Hundreds of power poles were downed due to the heavy snow and high winds in Faulk, Hughes, Sully, Hyde, Hand, Lyman, and Buffalo Counties leaving thousands of people without power. Some significant calf losses also occurred (around 10 to 20 percent in some areas), especially in Hand County. Snowfall amounts included 24.0 inches at Vivian, Ree Heights, and in the Murdo area; 23.0 inches at Kennebec, 18.0 inches at Highmore, 16.0 inches at Blunt, 15.0 inches at Miller and Faulkton, and 8.0 inches at Gettysburg.

1880 - More than two dozen tornadoes were reported from Kansas and Arkansas to Wisconsin and Michigan. More than 100 persons were killed, including 65 persons at Marshfield MO. (David Ludlum)

1906 - A severe earthquake shook San Francisco, and unusual easterly winds spread fires destroying the city. (David Ludlum)

1944 - California experienced its worst hailstorm of record. Damage mounted to two million dollars as two consecutive storms devastated the Sacramento Valley destroying the fruit crop. (The Weather Channel)

1957 - A dust devil near Dracut MA lifted a small child three feet into the air, and rolled two other children on the ground. Fortunately none of the three were hurt. The dust devil was accompanied by a loud whistling sound as it moved westward. (The Weather Channel)

1970 - Rapid City, SD, received a record 22 inches of snow in 24 hours. (17th-18th) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thirty-one cities in the central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including International Falls MN with a reading of 88 degrees, and Bismarck ND with a high of 92 degrees. A sharp cold front produced high winds in the western U.S. Winds in Utah gusted to 99 mph at the Park City Angle Station, and capsized a boat on Utah Lake drowning four persons. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)



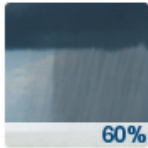




1988 - Afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced large hail and damaging winds in the southeastern U.S. A strong (F-2) tornado severely damaged seventeen mobile homes near Bainbridge GA injuring three persons. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced large hail and damaging winds in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. A thunderstorm in Pecos County of southwest Texas produced wind gusts to 90 mph at Imperial. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

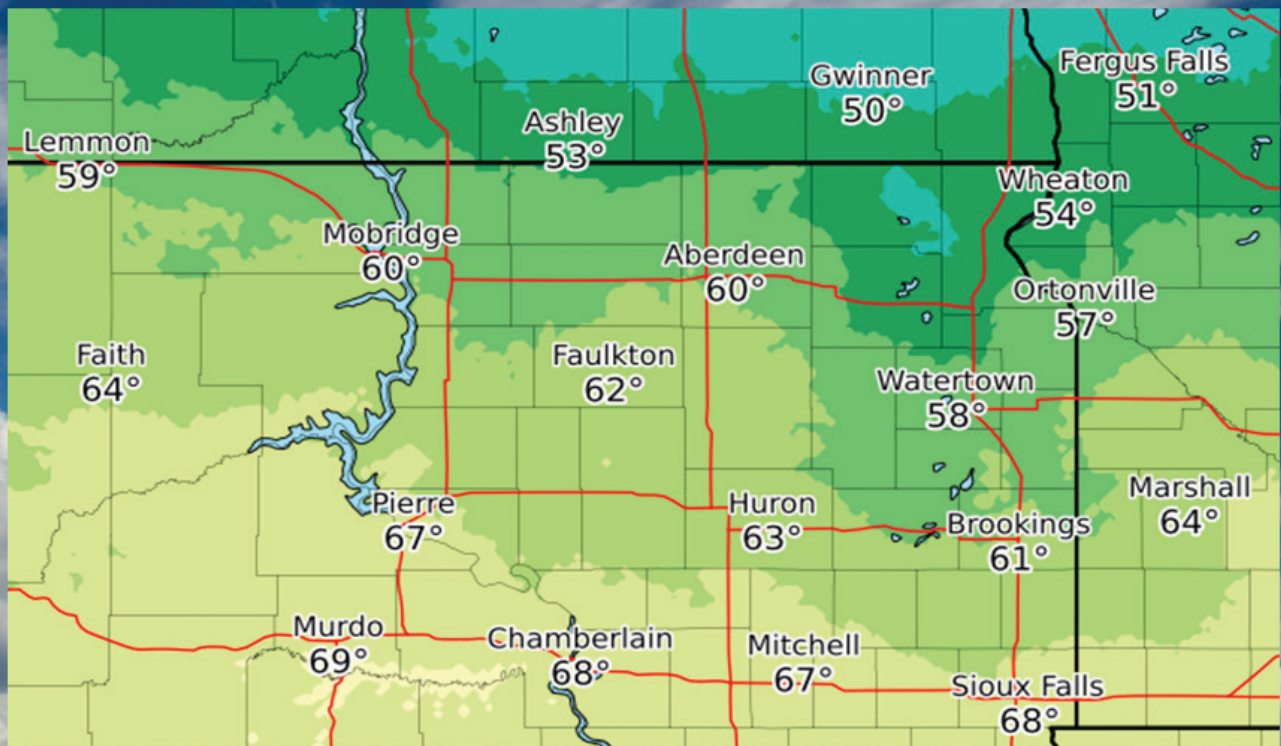
1990 - Heavy snow blanketed the west central valleys and southwest mountains of Colorado with up to 18 inches of snow. Nine cities from the Mid Mississippi Valley to the Middle Atlantic Coast Region reported record low temperatures for the date, including Fort Wayne IND with a reading of 23 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
						
30%		60%	50%			
Scattered Showers then Partly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Showers Likely	Chance Rain	Partly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny
High: 60 °F	Low: 39 °F	High: 51 °F	Low: 37 °F	High: 63 °F	Low: 37 °F	High: 62 °F

Clearing And Breezy Today Additional Rain Chances Wednesday



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 4/18/2017 5:24 AM Central

Published on: 04/18/2017 at 5:28AM

Most of the showers have passed out of the forecast area, with areas of clearing and a northwest breeze. Another storm system will move into the region tonight with more rain showers lingering into Wednesday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 57.7

Low Outside Temp: 27.3 F at 6:47 AM

High Gust: 30

Snow: Precip: 0.45

Today's Info

Record High: 89° in 1985

Record Low: 13° in 1953

Average High: 59°F

Average Low: 33°F

Average Precip in April.: 0.92

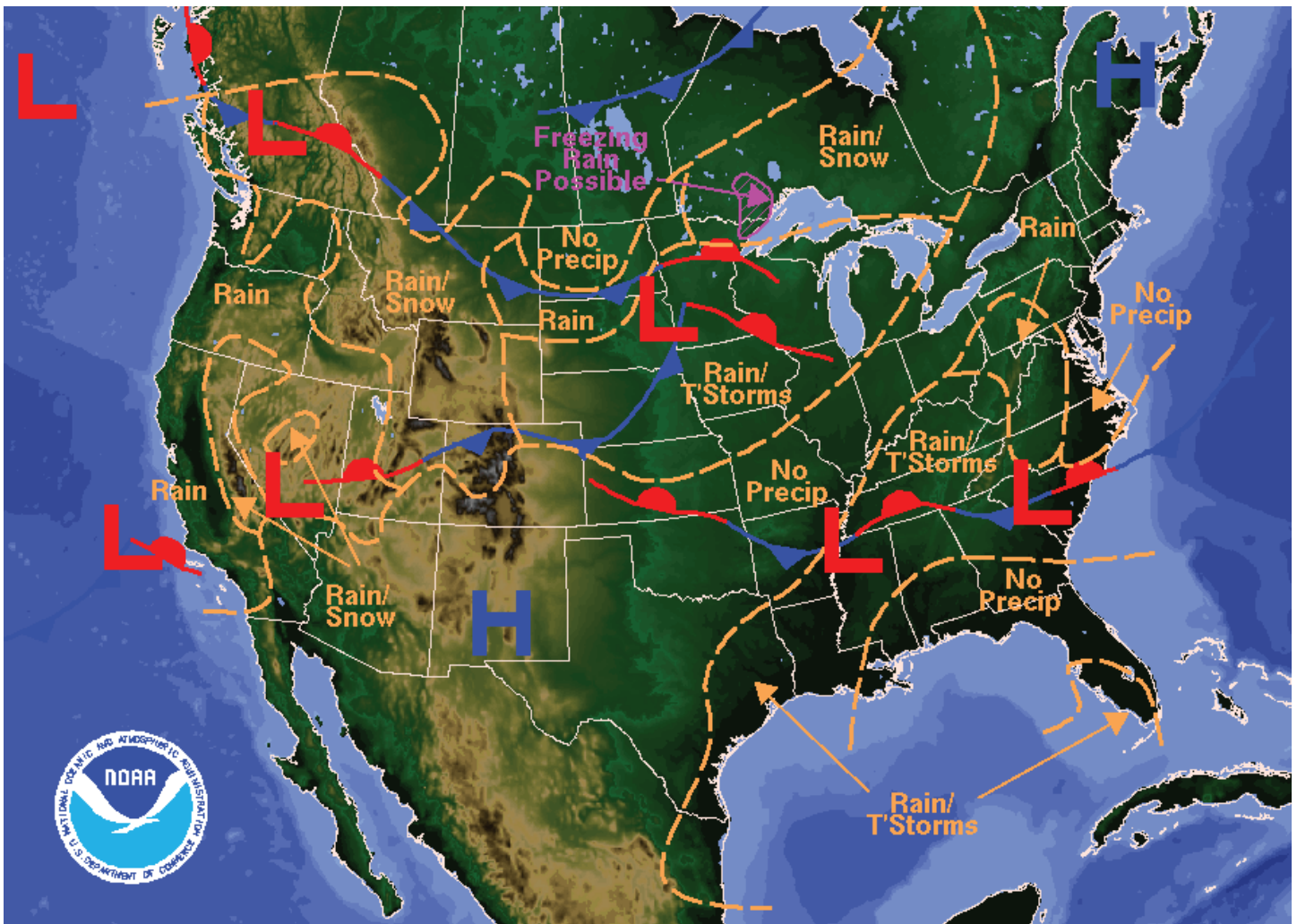
Precip to date in April.: 0.65

Average Precip to date: 3.10

Precip Year to Date: 1.24

Sunset Tonight: 8:24 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:40 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Tue, Apr 18, 2017, issued 4:32 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



ANYONE CAN BE A QUITTER

His lifelong ambition was to play professional football. Finally the day was scheduled for him to try out before the coaches of the San Diego Chargers. But on the day before the try out, Dale lost both of his legs and several fingers in an explosion.

Sixty long days after the explosion, he was discharged from the hospital. As he was wheeled from his room to a waiting car, he looked at the two "stubs" that were now his legs and his right hand that had only a thumb and little finger remaining.

He could have given up in disappointment, gone on welfare and received a lifelong disability. But he didn't.

He could have focused on everything he lost in the explosion and chosen to live a life of anger and hatred. But he didn't.

He could have become filled with resentment for those who made the team that year and were hailed as heroes. But he didn't.

Instead of giving up or becoming angry and hateful or filled with resentment, he challenged himself with the reality that "Anyone can become a quitter. But I'm going to become the greatest insurance salesman my company has ever seen!" And he did.

Paul said, "I can really know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised Him from the dead."

Fortunately, that same power is available today for Christians who choose to use that power to glorify Him.

Prayer: Help us, Heavenly Father, to accept the challenges You bring into our lives as opportunities to trust in Your power to accomplish great things for You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Philippians 3:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

News from the Associated Press

Planting of spring wheat, oats halfway done in South Dakota

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Spring planting has progressed in South Dakota over the past week, despite snow, sleet and freezing rain in some areas.

The weekly crop report from the federal Agriculture Department says planting of spring wheat and oats in the state is about halfway done. Barley seeding is nearly one-fifth complete.

Topsoil moisture supplies statewide are rated 84 percent adequate to surplus, and subsoil moisture is 80 percent in those categories.

South Dakota's winter wheat crop is rated 53 percent in good to excellent condition.

In the ranching community, calving is 65 percent done and lambing is 83 percent complete. Stock water supplies are 86 percent adequate to surplus.

Memorial service planned for WWII raid's 75th anniversary

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — The last of the 80 Doolittle Tokyo Raiders is expected to take part in public and private commemorations in Ohio of their air attack on Japan 75 years ago.

Around a dozen vintage B-25 bombers will fly over in formation at Tuesday afternoon's memorial service at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force near Dayton. Retired Lt. Col. Richard "Dick" Cole, 101, plans to be at the service and also to offer a private ceremonial toast to his late comrades.

Two B-1 bombers from the 34th and 37th bomb squadrons at Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, are to fly over at the service's end.

Book signings and movies about the daring raid credited with helping turn the tide of the war are among other activities Tuesday.

Lawmaker seeks study of polygamous sect's South Dakota site

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota lawmaker frustrated with what he views as inaction over a secretive polygamous sect's outpost in his district wants legislators to look into the compound, including why no South Dakota birth or death records have been filed from there over the last decade.

Rep. Tim Goodwin is proposing lawmakers find out more about the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints' compound in the western part of the state, including what its population is, whether it has a home schooling program, and whether polygamy or sex trafficking are taking place there. Lawmakers will decide Tuesday on issues to study ahead of the 2018 legislative session.

Issues in Goodwin's proposed study include births and deaths at the compound. South Dakota law requires births and deaths to be reported, but the Department of Health says no such records have been filed from the compound's address in the last 10 years.

"That is in my district. I've got to at least make an attempt to do something about it," said Goodwin, a new Republican lawmaker who lives near Hill City. "If we would just enforce those minor infractions, then you could probably find the major infractions."

One former resident can count two dozen births at the site, among them two of her own children. Sarah Allred, who called the compound home until about 2011, told The Associated Press that the sect didn't allow her to get the documents for daughters born in 2008 and 2010.

"To put it bluntly, I lived in fear every day that my children would be taken from me because all of my married life then they held my children over my head for me to obey the different things that I was supposed to do," said Allred, who is working to get South Dakota birth certificates for her 6- and 8-year-old daughters.

Other people said their children were born in Utah instead, Allred said. She was a member of the FLDS

until 2012.

The church opened its 140-acre compound near the town of Pringle more than a decade ago. Known to the faithful as "R23," the compound sits along a gravel road, secluded by tall pine trees, a privacy fence and a guard tower.

Allred said fewer than 50 people lived there most of the time and that she never saw more than 100 people there at a time. She said there was always work to be done: sewing, building houses, tending to children, milking cows and feeding chickens.

Questions over the compound's population were an issue during 2015 proceedings before South Dakota regulators. The Water Management Board eventually approved the group's application, which faced opposition from nearby landowners, even though the sect declined to provide many details about the number of people living there.

Custer County Sheriff Rick Wheeler supports a study, saying that it could help develop solutions to deal with the compound. He said it's difficult to work with people when they won't communicate at all.

"It's like going into somebody's property whether they're FLDS or John Doe: If there's a gate there and it says, 'No trespassing,' I can't go in there if they don't want me in there," he said.

Authorities have said the South Dakota congregation is led by Seth Jeffs, brother of imprisoned sect leader Warren Jeffs. Seth Jeffs didn't respond to emails from the AP requesting comment about the proposed study, and nobody answered at a telephone number listed in a state water document. Last year, he took a plea deal in a multimillion-dollar food-stamp fraud case. Warren Jeffs, considered by the group to be a prophet who speaks for God, is serving a life sentence for assaulting two of his child brides.

The FLDS, headquartered in a community along the Arizona-Utah border, is a radical offshoot of mainstream Mormonism whose members believe polygamy brings exaltation in heaven. Polygamy is a legacy of the early teachings of the mainstream Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, but the faith abandoned the practice in 1890 and prohibits it today.

South Dakota House Speaker Mark Mickelson is chairman of the Legislature's Executive Board, which will decide what issues lawmakers should study. Mickelson said the compound is a "great potential issue," but questioned what the Legislature's role should be.

"If he thinks we need some laws, beautiful," Mickelson said. "If he wants us to go investigate, I'm out."

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

Ex-South Dakota National Guard member settles work lawsuit

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A former member of the South Dakota Air National Guard is settling her lawsuit against a company she claimed broke the law when it fired her while she was on active duty attending training.

The settlement agreement announced Monday by the Justice Department calls for BioFusion Health Products Inc. to pay Amber Ishmael \$3,000 in back pay. But the Rapid City-based retailer of dietary supplements is not admitting wrongdoing as part of the settlement.

The Justice Department filed the lawsuit in September on Ishmael's behalf and said the company violated the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act when it fired Ishmael in February 2015.

But BioFusion said that Ishmael was fired for her poor performance.

Jerry Nachtigal, spokesman for 3 Missouri governors, dies

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — Jerry Nachtigal, a former journalist who became spokesman for three consecutive Missouri governors, has died.

The Miller Funeral Home said Nachtigal died of cancer Sunday in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He was 57.

Nachtigal was Gov. Mel Carnahan's spokesman in October 2000 when it fell to him to confirm that Carnahan; the governor's son, Roger; and aide Chris Sifford had died in a plane crash.

Nachtigal also was spokesman for Gov. Roger Wilson, who took office upon Carnahan's death, and with

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Wilson's successor, Gov. Bob Holden.

Before becoming spokesman, Nachtigal spent 18 years with The Associated Press in Kansas City and Springfield, Missouri, and Phoenix. At the time of his death, he was a senior vice president for Citibank in Sioux Falls.

Survivors include his wife, Ann, and three children.

This story has been corrected to reflect that the name of Jerry Nachtigal's wife is spelled Ann, not Anne.

South Dakota churches come together to fight poverty

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Churches in South Dakota's largest city are working together to address the city's rising poverty rate in an effort to help children and families.

The Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2p9IJcy>) reported that Sioux Falls' poverty rate jumped to 14 percent last year.

Empower Sioux Falls hosts forums every six to eight weeks where church leaders from all denominations can share ideas about how to help the community and coordinate outreach efforts.

"A lot of churches, we were doing similar things," said Zach Bauer, pastor at Red Door Church. "The goal was, how could we come together and collaborate and communicate better."

Empower formed last fall. Empower co-founder Rich Merkouris was serving on a school board and wanted to do something to help unite the city's faith community.

"It was the vastness of the need," he said that motivated him to reach out beyond his own church congregation.

Empower hopes to encourage people to become mentors for kids through groups such as Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and Lutheran Social Services.

Lutheran Social Services member Doug Morrison said the organization has had a shortage of volunteer mentors.

"You got to educate everyone that there's a need out there," he said.

Young children are the most affected by the increasing poverty. Almost half of Sioux Falls kids qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. Some elementary schools in the Sioux Falls School District give free meals to all students due to the high number of qualifying children.

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

WWII vintage planes highlight Tokyo raid's 75th anniversary

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — World War II era bomber planes have rumbled over Ohio to begin events marking the 75th anniversary of an attack on Japan known as the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders' attack.

The B-25 bombers that flew in Monday are on display at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force near Dayton. The museum says 11 landed Monday and will take part in a flyover at Tuesday's memorial service.

Retired Lt. Col. Richard "Dick" Cole is the last alive of the original 80 Raiders. The 101-year-old Dayton area native plans to take part in the anniversary events, returning to Ohio from his Comfort, Texas, home.

Two B-1 bombers from the 34th and 37th bomb squadrons at Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, are to fly over at the end.

Rapid City woman settles racial discrimination lawsuit

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Rapid City woman who filed a racial discrimination lawsuit against her former employer has reached a settlement.

Alicia Cline filed the federal lawsuit against a private jail services provider last year, claiming she was the target of discrimination because she isn't Native American. Cline worked at Community Alternatives of the Black Hills in Rapid City. It's a halfway house for federal and state inmates transitioning from incarceration.

The Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/2omQmYg>) reports Cline alleged in the lawsuit that her supervisor became more critical and confrontational after learning she wasn't Native American and expressed a desire to hire only Native Americans.

A recent legal motion disclosed the settlement, but terms were not disclosed.

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

Videos show desperation of suspect in Facebook video killing

By MARK GILLISPIE, Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — The suspect in the random killing of a retiree posted on Facebook made his living mentoring teens in Cleveland, but his life appeared to be unraveling under the weight of gambling debts and trouble with his girlfriend.

Rambling videos he shared showed his despair, saying he was out of options and wanted to kill as many innocent people as he could.

While authorities have not found any evidence that he killed anyone else, the manhunt for Steve Stephens stretched into a third day on Tuesday and far beyond the neighborhood where police said he shot a 74-year-old man who was picking up aluminum cans on Sunday after spending Easter with some of his children.

Stephens, 37, could be anywhere, authorities said, calling it a nationwide search. A \$50,000 reward is being offered for information leading to his capture and prosecution.

Stephens posted a video of himself killing Robert Godwin Sr., a former foundry worker who had 10 children, police said. In it, he said, "I snapped, I just snapped." But police would not speculate on what was behind it.

"Only Steve knows that," Williams said.

In the video, Stephens told Godwin a woman's name and said, "She's the reason that this is about to happen to you." Godwin did not seem to recognize the name.

The woman Stephens spoke of, Joy Lane, said in a text message to CBS that "we had been in a relationship for several years. I am sorry that all of this has happened."

She also said Stephens was "a nice guy" who was good to her and her children.

Police say Stephens had a permit to carry a concealed weapon.

WEWS-TV reports that a video Stephens posted to Facebook last year showed him firing rapidly at targets at the Sherwin Shooting Sports range, in violation of its safety rules, and being warned to stop by an employee.

The owner of the Willoughby gun range, Blake Frederick, told Cleveland.com that he recalls Stephens as nice and jovial and doesn't remember anything negative about him.

Stephens filed for bankruptcy two years ago despite holding down a job as a counselor helping young people develop job skills and find employment. The behavioral health agency where he worked said an extensive background check before he was hired turned up nothing worrisome.

In one video posted on Facebook, Stephens said that he gambled away everything and that he and his girlfriend had planned to marry but did not, without saying why. He blamed her for what was about to happen.

Some friends said they knew about his gambling. But the videos showed a man they did not recognize.

Alexis Lee, who saw Stephens last week, said his childhood friend always seemed respectful and got along with everybody.

"He never ever told me he had problems or issues. It was always good things," Lee said. "He was always just so happy and cool, calm, collected, like, that's why it's so shocking."

Other neighbors said he was quiet as a kid and intelligent, recalling how he went to college and got a master's degree.

"He was just a no problem person at all, compared to a lot of people," said Cynthia Coley, a former neighbor.

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In one video in which he blamed his girlfriend, Stephens said he woke up last week and "couldn't take it anymore."

Investigators said that Godwin was the only victim so far linked to Stephens, despite his claim on Facebook that he killed over a dozen people.

On Monday evening, Facebook announced that it was launching a review for reporting harmful content following the killing. The company said that Stephens posted a video of himself announcing his intent to commit murder, then two minutes later posted another video of himself shooting and killing Godwin. A few minutes after that, he went live and confessed.

The company said it disabled Stephen's account within 23 minutes of receiving the first report about the video of the fatal shooting and two hours after receiving any report.

"In this case we did not receive a report about the first video, and we only received a report about the second video — containing the shooting — more than an hour and 45 minutes after it was posted," said Justin Osofsky, Facebook's vice president of global operations. "We received reports about the third video, containing the man's live confession, only after it had ended."

Officers searched dozens of places around Cleveland without finding Stephens or any other victims before expanding the manhunt. Detectives spoke with the suspect on Sunday by cellphone and tried to persuade him to surrender, police said.

Law enforcement officials said his cellphone was last tracked Sunday afternoon in Erie, Pennsylvania, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) east of Cleveland. Police in Philadelphia said eight elementary schools and a high school were locked down Monday while they investigated reported sightings but found nothing.

Associated Press reporters Dake Kang and Delano Massey in Cleveland and John Seewer in Toledo contributed to this report.

Ivanka's biz prospers as politics mixes with business

By ERIKA KINETZ and ANNE D'INNOCENZIO, Associated Press

SHANGHAI (AP) — On April 6, Ivanka Trump's company won provisional approval from the Chinese government for three new trademarks, giving it monopoly rights to sell Ivanka brand jewelry, bags and spa services in the world's second-largest economy. That night, the first daughter and her husband, Jared Kushner, sat next to the president of China and his wife for a steak and Dover sole dinner at Mar-a-Lago.

The scenario underscores how difficult it is for Trump, who has tried to distance herself from the brand that bears her name, to separate business from politics in her new position at the White House.

As the first daughter crafts a political career from her West Wing office, her brand is flourishing, despite boycotts and several stores limiting her merchandise. U.S. imports, almost all of them from China, shot up an estimated 166 percent last year, while sales hit record levels in 2017. The brand, which Trump still owns, says distribution is growing. It has launched new activewear and affordable jewelry lines and is working to expand its global intellectual property footprint. In addition to winning the approvals from China, Ivanka Trump Marks LLC applied for at least nine new trademarks in the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Canada and the U.S. after the election.

The commercial currents of the Trump White House are unprecedented in modern American politics, ethics lawyers say. They have created an unfamiliar landscape riven with ethical pitfalls, and forced consumers and retailers to wrestle with the unlikely passions now inspired by Ivanka Trump's mid-market collection of ruffled blouses, shifts and wedges.

Using the prestige of government service to build a brand is not illegal. But criminal conflict of interest law prohibits federal officials, like Trump and her husband, from participating in government matters that could impact their own financial interest or that of their spouse. Some argue that the more her business broadens its scope, the more it threatens to encroach on the ability of two trusted advisers to deliver credible counsel to the president on core issues like trade, intellectual property, and the value of the Chinese currency.

"Put the business on hold and stop trying to get trademarks while you're in government," advised Richard

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Painter, who served as chief White House ethics lawyer under George W. Bush.

To address ethical concerns, Trump has shifted the brand's assets to a family-run trust valued at more than \$50 million and pledged to recuse herself from issues that present conflicts.

"Ivanka will not weigh in on business strategy, marketing issues, or the commercial terms of agreements," her attorney, Jamie Gorelick, said in a statement. "She has retained authority to direct the trustees to terminate agreements that she determines create a conflict of interest or the appearance of one."

In a recent interview with CBS News, Trump argued that her business would be doing even better if she hadn't moved to Washington and placed restrictions on her team to ensure that "any growth is done with extreme caution."

China, however, remains a nagging concern. "Ivanka has so many China ties and conflicts, yet she and Jared appear deeply involved in China contacts and policy. I would never have allowed it," said Norman Eisen, who served as chief White House ethics lawyer under Barack Obama. "For their own sake, and the country's, Ivanka and Jared should consider stepping away from China matters."

Instead, the first daughter and her husband have emerged as prominent interlocutors with China, where they have both had significant business ties. Last year, Kushner pursued hundreds of millions of dollars in real estate investments from Anbang Insurance Group, a financial conglomerate with close ties to the Chinese state. After media reports about the deal, talks were called off.

Publicly, Ivanka has taken a gracious, charming approach toward Beijing. During the Mar-a-Lago meetings, her daughter, 5-year-old Arabella stood in a gilded room and sang a traditional Chinese song, in Mandarin, for China's president, Xi Jinping. The video, which was lavishly praised by Chinese state media, played over 2.2 million times on China's popular news portal qq.com.

The week of the summit, 3.4 tons of Ivanka Trump handbags, wallets and blouses arrived in the U.S. from Hong Kong and Shanghai. U.S. imports of her merchandise grew an estimated 40 percent in the first quarter of this year, according to Panjiva Inc., which maintains and analyzes global shipping records.

Painter, the former Bush administration lawyer, recommended full recusal from issues related to trade with China. That is likely to be difficult because trade is so deeply embedded in the US-China relationship and has been linked with other matters, like North Korea.

"The danger is that with any discussion with the Chinese, one party or the other may try to bring up trade," he said. "That's a slippery slope that may require her or Jared to step out of the room."

Gorelick, Ivanka Trump's attorney, said that Ivanka and her husband would steer clear of specific areas that could impact her business, or be seen as conflicts of interest, but are under no legal obligation to step back from huge swaths of policy, like trade with China.

Under the rules, Trump would recuse herself from conversations about duties on clothing imported from China, Gorelick said, but not broad foreign policy.

"In between, you have to assess it case-by-case," she said.

Trademarks can be signs of corporate ambition, though many countries — such as China, where trademark squatting is rampant — also allow for defensive filings to prevent copycats from using a brand.

Trademarks pose ethical, and possibly legal, implications for government employees because they are granted by foreign states and confer the monopoly right to sell branded product in a particular country — an entitlement that can be enormously valuable. Intellectual property lawyers say trademarks are also a crucial prerequisite for cutting licensing deals, which form the basis of both Ivanka and Donald Trump's global business strategy.

Today, Ivanka Trump Marks LLC has 16 registered trademarks in China and 32 pending applications, along with a total of four marks granted preliminary approval since the inauguration, according to China's Trademark Office. Altogether, they cover a wide range of goods and services, including cosmetics, jewelry, leather handbags, luggage, clothes, shoes, retail, spa and beauty services. There is no sign the recent approvals were particularly swift. China's Trademark Office did not respond to a request for comment.

Globally, the company has more than 180 pending and registered trademarks in countries including Canada, India, Japan, Israel, Mexico, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, as well as the U.S. and Europe, public records show. In December, the company applied for five trademarks, covering handbags and wallets in Puerto

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Rico, and lingerie and other clothes in the U.S. After the inauguration, the company filed four more applications, for branded clothing and shoes in the Philippines, and perfume and other items in Canada.

Trump did not sign off on the new trademark applications, her brand said in a statement, adding that they are "not necessarily an indication that the brand is planning to launch a category or a store in a specific territory."

Whatever the future plans, right now sales are growing — helped, some argue, by the glow of Ivanka Trump's political rise.

The G-III Apparel Group Ltd., which makes Ivanka Trump clothes, said net sales for the collection increased by \$17.9 million during the year that ended Jan. 31.

The brand itself claims revenues rose 21 percent last year, with early February seeing some of the "best performance ever," according to a statement by Abigail Klem, president of the Ivanka Trump brand. Because it is privately held, the brand does not have to declare its earnings or where revenues come from. The actual corporate structure of Trump's retail business remains opaque. Kushner's financial disclosure form lists two dozen corporate entities that appear directly related to his wife's brand. Trump herself has yet to file a disclosure.

Data from Lyst, a massive fashion e-commerce platform, indicates some of this growth coincided with specific political events.

The number of Ivanka Trump items sold through Lyst was 46 percent higher the month her father was elected president than in November 2015. Sales spiked 771 percent in February over the same month last year, after White House counselor Kellyanne Conway exhorted Fox viewers to "Go buy Ivanka's stuff." Conway was later reprimanded. The bounce appears somewhat sustained. March sales on Lyst were up 262 percent over the same period last year.

"You can't separate Ivanka from her role in life and from her business," said Allen Adamson, founder of BrandSimpleConsulting. "Her celebrity status is now not only being fueled by her wealth and her family connection, but by her huge role in the White House. All that buzz is hardwired to her products." That, he added, is a competitive advantage other brands just can't match — though it does come with risk.

Things could easily cut the other way for the first daughter. Ashley King, 28 of Calabasas, California, bought Ivanka Trump black flats and a cardigan several years ago. But King, who voted for Hillary Clinton, said she believes Trump's role in the White House represents a conflict of interest.

"This is bothering me more and more," she said. As for the Ivanka Trump items in her closet, she said, "I will be donating them."

Online:

Daily change in Ivanka Trump's orders on Lyst - <https://w.graphiq.com/w/4VDhSHfGfQh>

Monthly change in Ivanka Trump's orders on Lyst - <https://w.graphiq.com/w/in9MnNw1FAN>

The Ivanka Trump Collection Quarterly US Imports - <https://w.graphiq.com/w/fCOZGxSvnTL>

AP reporter Catherine Lucey in Washington, researcher Fu Ting in Shanghai, and reporters Danica Coto in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Teresa Cerojano in Manila and Elaine Kurtenbach in Tokyo contributed to this report. Follow Kinetz on Twitter at twitter.com/ekinetz

Pence: US won't rest until N. Korea gives up nuclear weapons

By KEN THOMAS, ELAINE KURTENBACH and MARI YAMAGUCHI, Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — The U.S. will not relent until it achieves its objective of ensuring the Korean Peninsula is free of nuclear weapons, Vice President Mike Pence said Tuesday while visiting Japan.

After meetings with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and other leaders, Pence told reporters that President Donald Trump was confident that economic and diplomatic pressure has a chance of compelling North Korea to cooperate.

"It is our belief by bringing together the family of nations with diplomatic and economic pressure we

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have a chance of achieving a freeze on the Korean Peninsula," Pence said.

"We will not rest and will not relent until we obtain the objective of a denuclearized Korean Peninsula," he said.

The Trump administration has signaled a more forceful U.S. stance toward North Korea's recent missile tests and threats, including a warning from Trump that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has "gotta behave."

So Pence struck a stern tone after arriving at a U.S. naval base from South Korea.

"We appreciate the challenging times in which the people of Japan live with increasing provocations from across the Sea of Japan," he said. "We are with you 100 percent."

On Monday, Pence traveled to the tense Demilitarized Zone dividing North and South Korea, where he warned North Korea's leaders that after years of testing the U.S. and South Korea with its nuclear ambitions, "the era of strategic patience is over."

A senior North Korean official then accused the United States of bringing the countries to the brink of thermonuclear war.

Pence, on a 10-day Asia trip that will also take him to Indonesia and Australia, said Trump hopes China will use its leverage to get its longtime ally North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons program and ballistic missiles.

In Beijing, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi made a fresh appeal for calm.

Wang told reporters that although U.S. officials have made clear that a military strike remains a possibility, he believes that Washington would still prefer to de-escalate tensions through multi-sided talks.

Abe said Japan likewise hopes for peaceful dialogue with Pyongyang, "but at the same time, dialogue for the sake of dialogue is valueless." Pressure on North Korea is crucial, the prime minister said.

After meeting with Abe, Pence held talks with Japanese Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso on a new U.S.-Japan "economic dialogue" to be led by the two.

The new forum for trade talks was launched by Trump and Abe during the Japanese leader's visit to the U.S. in February. In part, it is meant to take the place of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the regional trade pact that Trump withdrew from shortly after taking office.

Pence and Aso said they believed the dialogue could yield opportunities to create new jobs on both sides and to fortify the economic aspects of the alliance.

"We would like to seek the best shape and forum for our bilateral relationship," Pence said. "The TPP is a thing of the past for the United States of America."

He said Trump is certain that negotiating trade deals with individual countries was the best way to ensure they yield "win-win" situations for both sides.

The talks Tuesday did not delve into sector-by-sector issues such as auto exports. With no U.S. trade representative yet in office and other key positions still unfilled, such nitty-gritty discussions will have to come later.

The loss of U.S. participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership was a blow to Japan following strenuous negotiations, especially over opening its long-protected farm sector to more imports, especially of dairy and meat products.

For now, both sides seem eager to downplay potential for conflict, with Aso repeatedly saying that trade friction has been vanquished in a "new era of cooperation."

As Indiana governor, Pence saw firsthand the impact of Japanese automakers Toyota, Honda and Subaru, whose factories employ thousands of people in his home state.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, who met with Japan's trade minister, Hiroshige Seko, earlier Tuesday, said he hopes to soon begin talks on a free trade agreement with Japan.

Arkansas vows to keep pushing for executions despite setback

By ANDREW DeMILLO and SEAN MURPHY, Associated Press

VARNER, Ark. (AP) — Arkansas officials vowed to carry out a double execution later this week after the U.S. Supreme Court delivered a setback to the state's plan to resume capital punishment for the first time

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in nearly 12 years with a ruling sparing an inmate just minutes before his death warrant was set to expire.

The court's decision was the second time Don Davis has been granted a reprieve shortly before execution — he came within hours of death in 2010. It capped a chaotic day of legal wrangling in state and federal courts Monday as Arkansas tried to clear obstacles to carrying out its first executions since 2005.

Gov. Asa Hutchinson had set an aggressive schedule of eight executions by the end of April, when the state's supply of midazolam, a key lethal injection drug, expires. If the state had been able to move ahead with its 11-day execution plan, it would have been the most inmates put to death by any state in such a short period since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976.

The executions of Davis and Bruce Ward were supposed to be the first two of those executions Monday, but Ward received a stay and the state did not appeal the decision. The state did challenge a stay granted to Davis, but the last-minute U.S. Supreme Court ruling ensured that he would not enter the death chamber Monday.

Davis had already been served a last meal of fried chicken, rolls, beans, mashed potatoes and strawberry cake, and witnesses were being moved toward the execution chamber when the Supreme Court ruled just minutes before his death warrant expired at midnight.

Davis was sentenced to death for the 1990 death of Jane Daniel in Rogers, Arkansas. The woman was killed in her home after Davis broke in and shot her with a .44-caliber revolver he found there.

Despite the setbacks, Attorney General Leslie Rutledge said Arkansas would press ahead with other planned executions, including two set for Thursday — Ledell Lee and Stacey Johnson.

"There are five scheduled executions remaining with nothing preventing them from occurring, but I will continue to respond to any and all legal challenges brought by the prisoners," Rutledge said.

Lawyers for the inmates were not immediately available after the U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

Earlier in the day, the state had cleared two of the main obstacles to resuming executions. The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a federal judge's ruling blocking the executions over the use of midazolam, a sedative used in flawed executions in other states. The state Supreme Court also lifted a lower court ruling preventing the state from using another lethal injection drug that a supplier said was sold to be used for medical purposes, not executions.

The high court's order sparing Davis offered no explanation, but none of the justices voted in favor of lifting the stay. Monday marked the first day that the U.S. Supreme Court was in session with new Justice Neil Gorsuch on the bench.

Arkansas enacted a law two years ago keeping secret the source of its lethal injection drugs, a move officials said was necessary to find new supplies. Despite the secrecy measure, prison officials have said it will be very difficult to find a supplier willing to sell Arkansas midazolam after its current stock expires.

DeMillo reported from Little Rock. Associated Press writers Jill Bleed in Little Rock and Kelly P. Kissel in Varner contributed to this report.

Follow Sean Murphy on Twitter at www.twitter.com/apseanmurphy and Andrew DeMillo at www.twitter.com/ademillo.

Britain's prime minister to seek early election on June 8

By JILL LAWLESS, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — In a shock announcement, Prime Minister Theresa May on Tuesday called for an early general election to be held June 8 to seek a strong mandate as she negotiates Britain's exit from the European Union.

Standing outside 10 Downing Street, May said she would ask the House of Commons on Wednesday to back her call for an election, just two years after the last vote and three years before the next scheduled date in May 2020.

She said that since Britons voted to leave the EU in June, the country had come together, but politicians

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had not. She said the political divisions "risk our ability to make a success of Brexit."

At present, May's governing Conservatives have a small majority, with 330 seats in the 650-seat House of Commons. May said that "our opponents believe that because the government's majority is so small, our resolve will weaken and that they can force us to change course" on leaving the EU.

"They are wrong," she said. "They underestimate our determination to get the job done and I am not prepared to let them endanger the security of millions of working people across the country."

May triggered a two-year countdown to Britain's exit from the EU last month, and negotiations to settle divorce terms and agree on a new relationship are expected to start within weeks.

May said that if there is not an election soon, "the negotiations with the European Union will reach their most difficult stage in the run-up to the next scheduled election."

"Division in Westminster will risk our ability to make a success of Brexit and it will cause damaging uncertainty and instability to the country," she said.

Under Britain's Fixed-Term Parliaments Act, elections are held every five years, but the prime minister can call a snap election if two-thirds of lawmakers vote for it.

The leader of the main opposition Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn, said he welcomed May's decision "to give the British people the chance to vote for a government that will put the interests of the majority first."

"We look forward to showing how Labour will stand up for the people of Britain," he said.

May took office in July after predecessor David Cameron stepped down following his failed attempt to get voters to back remaining in the EU. Since then she has repeatedly ruled out calling an early election to get her own mandate. But she said Tuesday she had "reluctantly" changed her mind.

Polls give May's Conservatives a double-digit lead on Labour, which is divided under left-wing leader Corbyn.

The pound surged 0.7 percent against the dollar to \$1.2658, recovering from a 0.4 percent drop an hour earlier as rumors swirled about the surprise statement.

Danica Kirka contributed to this story.

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

1. WHAT PENCE'S MEETINGS WILL FOCUS ON

The U.S. vice president assures Japan's prime minister "we are with you 100 percent" during a visit amid escalating tensions over North Korea as the crisis overshadows talks on economic issues.

2. US SUPREME COURT HALTS ARKANSAS EXECUTION

The ruling scuttles efforts to resume the death penalty after nearly 12 years in a state rushing to carry out executions before its supply of a lethal injection drug expires.

3. NATIONWIDE HUNT ON FOR FACEBOOK SHOOTER

Videos of Cleveland shooting suspect Steve Stephens show him talking about his despair over gambling debts and trouble with his girlfriend along with how he wanted to kill innocent people.

4. WHERE TRUMP IS HEADING

The U.S. president travels to Wisconsin, where he plans to sign an executive order seeking to make changes to a visa program that brings in high-skilled workers.

5. IVANKA INC. THRIVING

Since her father was elected president, sales of Ivanka Trump merchandise have surged and her company has applied for at least nine new trademarks, AP finds.

6. WHO HAS CALLED A SNAP ELECTION

Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May says she is planning to call a general election for June 8, seeking to strengthen her mandate in European Union talks over Brexit.

7. VOTERS HEAD TO POLLS IN GEORGIA

The race to fill Tom Price's former congressional seat is considered an early barometer of Trump's popu-

larity in the suburban Atlanta district.

8. IT'S TAX TIME, AND NEWS ISN'T ALL BAD

Tax season generates about \$300 billion in refunds, a significant boost to the U.S. economy.

9. AMID BOMBS, BOOKS

Ali al-Moussawi hopes his mobile bookstore revives a love for words in Baghdad, which was once the literary capital of the Muslim world but is now better known for bombs than poems.

10. UPON FURTHER REVIEW ...

Nothing is set yet, but AP learns that Major League Baseball and umpires are expected to discuss an NFL-style plan for crew chiefs to wear microphones and explain the calls.

5 things to know about Tax Day: refunds are up, audits down

By **STEPHEN OHLEMACHER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tuesday is Tax Day, that dreaded day when millions of procrastinators rush to fulfill their civic duty by filing state and federal tax returns.

But for most, it's not that bad. Sure, the forms are complicated and yes, there is math. But tax season also generates about \$300 billion in refunds, a significant boost to the U.S. economy.

Five things to know about Tax Day:

MOST GET REFUNDS

The IRS so far has processed 101 million tax returns from individuals and about 80 percent have qualified for refunds. The average refund is \$2,851, an increase of \$53 over last year.

By the end of filing season, the IRS expects to process 150 million returns. That's after millions file for automatic six-month extensions.

CHANCES OF GETTING AUDITED ARE SLIM

The number of people audited by the IRS in 2016 dropped for the sixth straight year, to just over 1 million. That's less than 1 percent of filers.

The last time so few people were audited was 2004. Since then, the U.S. has added about 30 million people.

The IRS blames budget cuts as money for the agency shrank from \$12.2 billion in 2010 to \$11.2 billion last year.

But rich people beware. The higher your income, the more likely you are to be audited. Agents audited 5.8 percent of returns that reported more than \$1 million in income.

RETURNS DOWN, REFUNDS DELAYED

Tax season got off to a slow start because the IRS delayed refunds for more than 40 million low-income families as part of the agency's efforts to fight identity theft.

The delays affected families claiming the earned income tax credit and the additional child tax credit. The tax breaks are geared to benefit the working poor, and many families claim both.

The tax filing season started Jan. 23. But a new law required the IRS to delay tax refunds for people claiming these credits until Feb. 15.

The delay was designed to give the agency more time to screen the returns for fraud. Throughout the tax filing season, the number of tax returns processed by the IRS has been lower than last year.

As of April 7, the IRS had received 104 million tax returns and processed 101 million. Both numbers are down about 3.5 percent from last year.

PEOPLE ILLEGALLY IN US PAY TAXES

There is a common myth that people in the U.S. illegally don't pay taxes. But data from both the IRS and the Social Security Administration says otherwise.

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Yes, some work in the underground economy. But in 2015, the Social Security Administration estimated that immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally paid \$100 billion in Social Security payroll taxes over the previous decade. They paid the taxes even though few will ever be able to collect benefits.

How does Social Security know when it receives taxes from immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally? One way is by tracking reported wages in which the Social Security number does not match the name the agency has on file.

Some of these are clerical errors or unreported name changes. But the agency estimates that a majority of the wages come from immigrants who have made-up Social Security numbers or used someone else's.

Also, the IRS has issued more than 20 million Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs) to foreigners.

The ITINs are supposed to be used by foreigners who have some form of U.S. income, and therefore owe U.S. taxes. However, the tax agency believes that many of them are used by people who are working in the U.S. illegally.

TAX DAY ISN'T MUCH OF A DEADLINE IF YOU'RE DUE A REFUND

The IRS doesn't like to talk about it, but penalties for filing late federal tax returns apply only to people who owe money. The penalty is a percentage of what you owe. If you owe nothing, there is no penalty.

But it doesn't make much sense to file late if you are owed a refund. And beware — if you have unpaid taxes, the late fees add up quickly.

The failure-to-file penalty is generally 5 percent of your unpaid tax bill for every month, or part of a month, you are late. It kicks in on April 19. In general, the maximum penalty is 25 percent of your original tax bill.

There also is a penalty for failing to pay your tax bill, separate from the penalty for failing to file at all, but it's much smaller. That's because the IRS wants you to file a return even if you don't have enough money to pay your bill.

The failure-to-pay penalty is 0.5 percent of your unpaid taxes for every month, or part of a month, you don't pay.

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

Trump order would target high skilled worker visa program

By CATHERINE LUCEY and SCOTT BAUER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is planning to sign an executive order that seeks to make changes to a visa program that brings in high-skilled workers.

Trump is heading Tuesday to Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he plans to sign an order dubbed "Buy American, Hire American," said administration officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity despite the president's frequent criticism of the use of anonymous sources.

The officials said the order, which Trump will sign at the headquarters of tool manufacturer Snap-on Inc., would direct the departments of Homeland Security, Justice, Labor and State to propose new rules to prevent immigration fraud and abuse. Those departments would also be asked to offer changes so that H-1B visas are awarded to the "most-skilled or highest-paid applicants."

The White House said the program is currently undercutting American workers by bringing in cheaper labor and said some tech companies are using it to hire large numbers of workers and drive down wages.

Administration officials said the order also seeks to strengthen requirements that American-made products be used in certain federal construction projects, as well as in various federal transportation grant-funded projects. The officials said the commerce secretary will review how to close loopholes in enforcing the existing rules and provide recommendations to the president.

The order specifically asks the secretary to review waivers of these rules that exist in free-trade agreements. The administration said that if the waivers are not benefiting the United States they will be "re-

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negotiated or revoked.”

During his campaign, Trump said at some point that he supported high-skilled visas, then came out against them. At one debate, he called for fully ending the program, saying: “It’s very bad for our workers and it’s unfair for our workers. And we should end it.”

The officials said the changes could be administrative or legislative and could include higher fees for the visas, changing the wage scale for the program or other initiatives.

About 85,000 H-1B visas are distributed annually by lottery. Many go to technology companies, which argue that the United States has a shortage of skilled technology workers.

But critics say the program has been hijacked by staffing companies that use the visas to import foreigners — often from India — who will work for less than Americans. The staffing companies then sell their services to corporate clients who use them to outsource tech work.

Employers from Walt Disney World to the University of California in San Francisco have laid off their tech employees and replaced them with H-1B visa holders. Adding to the indignity: The U.S. workers are sometimes asked to train their replacements to qualify for severance packages.

On the planned order by Trump, Ronil Hira, a professor in public policy at Howard University and a critic of the H-1B program, said, “It’s better than nothing.” But he added, “It’s not as aggressive as it needs to be.”

The tech industry has argued that the H-1B program is needed because it encourages students to stay in the U.S. after getting degrees in high-tech specialties — and they can’t always find enough American workers with the skills they need.

Congress is considering several bills to overhaul the visa program. One, introduced by Illinois Democratic Sen. Dick Durbin and Iowa Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley, would require companies seeking H-1B visas to first make a good-faith effort to hire Americans, a requirement many companies can dodge under the current system; give the Labor Department more power to investigate and sanction H-1B abuses; and give “the best and brightest” foreign students studying in the U.S. priority in getting H-1B visas.

Trump’s stop at the world headquarters of Snap-on Inc. would come as the president faces an approval rating of just 41 percent in Wisconsin, a state he barely won in November. The visit also would take him to the congressional district of House Speaker Paul Ryan, who won’t be joining the president because he’s on a bipartisan congressional trip visiting NATO countries.

Trump has traveled to promote his agenda less than his recent predecessors. White House spokesman Sean Spicer said Trump wanted to visit “a company that builds American-made tools with American workers.”

Trump carried Wisconsin in November by nearly 23,000 votes — less than 1 percentage point — making him the first Republican to win the state since 1984. He campaigned on the promise of returning manufacturing jobs that have been lost in Upper Midwest states.

Founded in Wisconsin in 1920, Snap-on makes hand and power tools, diagnostics software, information and management systems, and shop equipment for use in a variety of industries, including agriculture, the military and aviation. Its headquarters are in Kenosha and it has eight manufacturing sites in North America, including one in Milwaukee. The company employs about 11,000 people worldwide.

Associated Press writer Paul Wiseman contributed to this report.

Trump, GOP face referendum in Georgia; Dems aim for upset

By KATHLEEN FOODY and BILL BARROW, Associated Press

ALPHARETTA, Ga. (AP) — Republicans are bidding to prevent a major upset in a conservative Georgia congressional district where Democrats stoked by opposition to President Donald Trump have rallied behind a candidate who has raised a shocking amount of money for a special election.

Tuesday’s jungle-style primary lumps all 18 candidates on one ballot and is expected to be more competitive than Republicans’ single-digit victory in Kansas last week that also tested both parties’ strategies for the 2018 midterm elections with Trump in the White House.

Trump underperformed other Republicans in the suburban Atlanta district, an affluent, well-educated

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swath filled with the kind of voters Democrats need if they hope to reclaim a House majority next year. Republicans essentially concede that Democrat Jon Ossoff, a former congressional staffer, will lead Tuesday's voting. That leaves 11 Republican candidates hoping the 30-year-old investigative filmmaker fails to reach a majority. If he doesn't, Ossoff and the top GOP vote-getter would meet in a June 20 runoff.

Five Democrats will appear on the ballot, but Ossoff is the GOP's greatest threat. He raised more than \$8.3 million, most of it from outside the district. Two independent candidates also are running. The winner will succeed Tom Price, who resigned to become Trump's health secretary.

Ossoff has enough momentum to draw attention from Trump himself. The president took to Twitter on Monday to blast the "super liberal" Democrat in the contest without naming names. He said the "super liberal" Democrat "wants to protect criminals, allow illegal immigration and raise taxes!" Trump, Ossoff answered in a statement, is "misinformed."

Both major parties have dispatched paid field staffers. Republican groups are running a blitz of ads trying to tie Ossoff to House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi; a political action committee backed by House Speaker Ryan has spent more than \$2 million.

Karen Handel, Georgia's former secretary of state, has led the Republican field. Technology executive Bob Gray; and two former state senators, Dan Moody and Judson Hill — are polling closest to Handel in a fight for the No. 2 spot.

The GOP scramble has been intense, with GOP rivals accusing Handel of being a political opportunist and the conservative Club for Growth spending six figures on ads to defeat her.

National Republicans say any of the four competitive GOP candidates could defeat Ossoff in a second round of voting. GOP voters, they predict, would be energized in a Republican vs. Democrat scenario, making it harder for Ossoff to run above the fray as he has leading up to the primary.

Ossoff has tried to walk a line between liberals looking for a chance to oppose Trump and Republicans who couldn't support him in November. Ossoff pledges to fight Trump when he "embarrasses" the country. But he tells voters in one ad, "I'll work with anybody in Washington who respects your tax dollars."

Handel is among the Republican candidates trying to maintain some distance from Trump, rarely discussing him unless asked. Gray has instead tried to portray himself as a "willing partner" for the president. Other Republican candidates, though, have questioned whether Gray always backed Trump or is simply strategizing a path to a runoff election.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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

Four Loco: NHL plays 4 OT playoff games in crazy night

By JAKE SEINER, AP Sports Writer

In Toronto, Tyler Bozak's tip-in put a charge into the Air Canada Centre. Ditto with Nashville when the Predators scored in OT for another win over Chicago.

They had some extra fun in Boston and Calgary, too, before Ottawa and Anaheim finally broke through.

There are few thrills quite like overtime playoff hockey, and the NHL hasn't had a night with this sort of excitement in more than 30 years. All four postseason games Monday went to OT for the first time since April 10, 1985, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. The only other time it happened before that was April 11, 1980.

"Those are the most fun games to play, definitely" Bozak said.

There's been fun to go around in these playoffs.

Eleven of 24 postseason games have gone to overtime in the first round, including all three games between Toronto and Washington and two between Ottawa and Boston. All eight first-round series have included at least one OT finish. The record for an entire postseason is 17 overtime games in 2013.

And with underdogs like Nashville, Toronto and St. Louis threatening early upsets, these playoffs are getting an extra boost.

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"It was a 10," Predators coach Peter Laviolette said of the atmosphere Monday. "I'm not sure there's another place like it."

Nashville got its win behind a backhand goal from 20-year-old Kevin Fiala 16:44 into OT, the longest game of the night. Fiala and teammates Mike Fisher and James Neal jumped together into the end boards to celebrate a 3-0 series lead over the top-seeded Blackhawks.

The quickest end came in Calgary, where Anaheim stunned the Flames. Perry scored 90 seconds into extra time, helping the Ducks rally from three-goals down to win — a first in the team's postseason history. Around the Saddledome, fans in red sweaters threw up their arms in frustration before quietly making their way to the exits.

Boston's TD Garden crowd didn't disperse so easily. Bobby Ryan's winner came on the power play following a disputed roughing call against the Bruins' Riley Nash, and fans rained boos on the officials and threw items onto the ice in protest.

And then there's the party in Toronto, which hadn't hosted a playoff game since 2013. Bozak's goal 1:37 into overtime, putting the Leafs ahead of Washington 2-1 in their first-round series. Bozak celebrated by jumping on Nazem Kadri, who passed the puck to set up the winner, and then the pair was mobbed by the rest of the squad.

"It's a lot of emotion," Bozak said. "You just want to be with your teammates and celebrate."

More AP hockey: <https://apnews.com/NHLhockey>

When fans see red, MLB men in blue may soon explain replays

By **BEN WALKER, AP Baseball Writer**

Adrian Gonzalez dives headfirst into home, seems to beat the tag by Cubs catcher Willson Contreras, but is called out. Safe, shout fans at Dodger Stadium who see replays on the board.

Umpires go to their headsets for a video review, and nearly three minutes later, the signal comes: Out!

Want to hear exactly how disputed calls get decided, like that one in last year's NL Championship Series?

Soon, we might.

While nothing is set, Major League Baseball and umps are expected to discuss a plan — most prominently used in the NFL — for crew chiefs to wear a microphone and explain replay rulings.

Under one possible scenario, they would start at the All-Star Game on July 11 in Miami, tweak the process over the season's second half and then go forward with the experiment in the playoffs.

People familiar with the talks spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because an agreement has not yet been reached.

Last year, MLB asked for the plate ump to wear a mic at the All-Star Game, but there wasn't enough time to do it.

The umpires are in the middle of their five-year labor deal and any change would involve negotiations, plus a comfort level on both sides that the system would be efficient, accurate and easy.

So no way to say for sure if fans at Camden Yards, Coors Field and ballparks across the majors will become familiar with the voices of veteran crew chiefs — be it country singer Joe West, ordained minister Ted Barrett or Dale Scott, once a Top 40 AM radio disc jockey.

"It probably would be nice to get a little more explanation," Marlins reliever Brad Ziegler said. "They're supposed to say the call stands or the call's confirmed. 'The call stands' means you can't tell. A lot of times we don't get that ... they just signal out or safe. That's all we get on the field.

"They may announce it on the PA, but it doesn't seem like that is consistent in all parks. And the acoustics in the stadium here — we have a hard time hearing what's on the PA in the bullpen," he said.

In the NFL, hearing refs announce "upon further review" has long been part of the lexicon. The lore includes what Ben Dreith said in a 1986 game, when Jets lineman Marty Lyons tangled with Buffalo quarterback Jim Kelly and was penalized for "giving him the business down there."

The NHL for some time has mic'ed up officials to explain coach's challenges, based on what the central

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replay booth tells them.

NBA crew chiefs put on headsets to watch reviews and talk with the replay center. Decisions are explained to the official scorer's table and the benches, and the public address announcers inform the crowd.

MLB has tried to speed up reviews this year, aiming for the umpires in the New York replay booth to relay the final calls to the field in under 2 minutes.

"It'll take more time," Boston pitcher David Price said. "It's not going to make them any shorter."

As for making the replay system more informative and entertaining, "Yeah, until they have a problem with the umpire's mic," he said.

Marlins star Christian Yelich said a switch wouldn't affect him.

"The call's the call," he said. "Just because they tell you what they decided isn't going to change it."

AP Sports Writer Steven Wine and AP freelance writer Ken Powtak contributed to this report.

Ivanka Inc. goes to Washington: A timeline

By ERIKA KINETZ, Associated Press

SHANGHAI (AP) — As Ivanka Trump builds a new political career as an adviser to her father, the commercial engine of her lifestyle brand is going strong. Sales, by some measures, have reached record highs this year.

Trump founded the brand in 2007 and still owns it, but stepped back from management and put its assets in a family-run trust before taking on an official role at the White House. Despite efforts to distance herself from her business to address ethical concerns, Trump remains, for many, the living embodiment of the brand that bears her name.

July 20, 2016: Ivanka Trump forms four new companies in Delaware to handle licensing contracts for baby products and costume jewelry.

July 21, 2016: Donald Trump accepts Republican nomination for president.

July 22, 2016: "Shop Ivanka's look from her #RNC speech," @IvankaTrump tweets, along with a link to her collection's \$138 blush sheath dress at Macy's online.

Sept. 29, 2016: Her company announces two new licensing agreements, for affordable fashion jewelry and baby accessories.

Nov. 8, 2016: Donald Trump wins the election. Sales of Ivanka merchandise on Lyst.com, a large e-commerce platform, bump 46 percent higher for the month.

Nov. 13, 2016: Ivanka Trump appears on "60 Minutes" to discuss her father's electoral win. Her jewelry company emails a "style alert" to reporters noting that she wore one of her "favorite" bangles, a \$10,800 bracelet from her own collection, on the show. Ensuing criticism prompts the brand to apologize.

Dec. 4, 2016: The New York Times reports that Ivanka Trump sat in on a meeting with her father and the prime minister of Japan, as her company negotiated a licensing deal with a firm the Japanese government owned a large stake in. The deal was put on hold, according to Abigail Klem, who now runs Ivanka Trump's brand.

Dec. 27, 2016: Ivanka Trump Marks LLC applies for five new trademarks covering purses, wallets and other leather goods in Puerto Rico, and clothing, including swimsuits and lingerie in the U.S., public records show.

Jan. 11, 2017: Ivanka Trump announces she will take a "formal leave of absence" from executive positions at the Trump Organization and her lifestyle brand.

Jan. 20, 2017: Donald Trump becomes the 45th president of the United States.

Feb. 8, 2017: Ivanka's company applies for two more clothing trademarks in the Philippines, where it already holds three marks, according to the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines.

Feb. 9, 2017: Speaking on the morning show "Fox and Friends," White House counselor Kellyanne Conway encourages viewers to, "go buy Ivanka's stuff," boasting about giving the brand "a free commercial." It apparently worked, sparking a 771 percent surge in the brand's sales that month on Lyst.com over Feb. 2016. The White House later "counseled" Conway for inappropriately promoting the brand.

Feb. 13, 2017: Trump meets with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at the White House.

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Feb. 20, 2017: Ivanka Trump Marks LLC wins preliminary approval for a trademark covering branded leather handbags in China, where the company has 52 pending or registered trademarks listed in the government trademark database.

Feb. 22, 2017: Ivanka Trump Marks LLC applies for another trademark, covering perfume, among other things, in Canada, where it holds 22 pending or registered marks, according to the Canadian Intellectual Property Office.

March 1, 2017: Ivanka Trump Marks LLC applies for another new trademark in the Philippines, covering clothes and shoes.

March 3, 2017: Ivanka Trump is photographed disembarking from Air Force One in a stripe asymmetrical skirt from her own collection, available on Lyst.com for \$45.

March 29, 2017: Ivanka Trump joins her father's administration as an unpaid employee.

April 6, 2017: Ivanka Trump and her husband, Jared Kushner, sit next to Chinese President Xi Jinping and his wife, Peng Liyuan, at a state dinner at Mar-a-Lago. That same day, China grants her company preliminary approval for three trademarks that confer monopoly rights to sell Ivanka brand jewelry, bags and spa services in the world's second-largest economy.

Associated Press researcher Fu Ting in Shanghai and reporters Anne D'Innocenzio in New York, Teresa Cerojano in Manila and Danica Coto in San Juan, Puerto Rico, contributed to this report.

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Retailers try to grapple with polarizing Ivanka Trump brand

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO, AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Retailers are finding themselves walking a fine line when dealing with the politically charged Ivanka Trump brand, which is stamped on everything from pants to shoes to handbags.

Carry the items and get grief from shoppers opposed to President Donald Trump and his daughter's role in the White House.

Pull the brand because it's not selling, and risk facing the ire of Trump supporters and becoming a Twitter target.

Many retailers are opting for a Switzerland strategy: avoid taking sides while trying to do what's best for business.

"No choice is a good choice because they are going to upset lots of shoppers no matter which way they go," said Allen Adamson, founder of the firm BrandSimpleConsulting. "That's why they're a deer in headlights. In this retailing environment, no one wants to give shoppers another reason not to come to the store."

The latest example of how fraught the situation is? After Ivanka Trump's branded diaper bags and other baby products disappeared from Bed Bath & Beyond's Buy Buy Baby's website late March, a customer representative inaccurately told a shopper the chain was no longer carrying the items. That led to backlash on social media.

In response, Bed, Bath & Beyond clarified on its Facebook page that it will carry Ivanka Trump products in some Buy Buy Baby stores and stock them "where consumer demand and business performance justifies it."

"We are not making our merchandising decisions based on anyone's political beliefs," the company posted. But when the retailer revealed it was still carrying the brand, some Trump opponents took to social media to complain.

Similar scenarios have been playing out as retailers try to navigate the political minefield of Ivanka Trump merchandise. Customers are increasingly voting with their wallet, getting behind the #GrabYourWallet boycott or counter-boycotts like #BuyIvanka.

Nordstrom was the first major retailer to be in the political spotlight, saying in February that it would stop selling Ivanka Trump clothing and accessories based on steadily declining sales over the past year,

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particularly in the last half of 2016.

That caused highly publicized shopper boycotts. The upscale department store chain was left tweeting back to enraged customers, saying it was merely a business decision. Then President Trump took it to another level, complaining on Twitter that Nordstrom treated his daughter "so unfairly." And one of his top advisers, Kellyanne Conway, urged shoppers to "go buy Ivanka's stuff," an incident that sparked bipartisan condemnation and calls for ethics investigations.

Other companies have adopted a more stealth-like approach, in the hopes of avoiding the backlash: When scaling back or dropping the first daughter's merchandise, they have issued carefully crafted and brief statements, if they address the matter at all.

Belk Inc. had said in February it would no longer carry Ivanka Trump items on its website but will offer them in the stores. Now, it's scaled back its official statement, only saying it continues to carry the merchandise. TJX Cos. said in February it was pulling back on promoting the brand at its T.J. Maxx and Marshalls stores, mixing it up with other labels on the racks. And QVC has said it no longer carries the products. Sears and its lower-priced sister Kmart said in February it scaled back on the number of items in its stores but emphasized that hundreds of items are available through their third-party online marketplaces.

Saks Off Fifth, Saks Fifth Avenue's outlet chain owned by Hudson's Bay Co., and Burlington Coat Factory quietly removed the Ivanka Trump items from their online sites in February.

A spokesperson for the Ivanka Trump brand said it doesn't have control over how its products are merchandised and noted the rotation of products offered online and at the stores is a traditional course of business.

But the Ivanka Trump brand, which was launched in 2007 with high-end jewelry and then eventually expanded to mid-market clothes and other accessories, insists that overall distribution is growing. The collection is expected to be stocked by over 1,000 stores in the U.S. alone this year, up from around 800 last year, according to the brand. Macy's, Lord & Taylor, and Dillard's all carry her merchandise, which is available online. So does Amazon.com and online shoe company Zappos.com. Perfumania.com carries her fragrances.

As a private company, it doesn't release sales figures, but the brand says sales rose 21 percent last year compared to the prior year. And there are signs from various measures that sales growth has been strong so far this year.

Trump still owns her brand but has stepped back from day-to-day management. She has shifted its assets to a trust valued at over \$50 million and overseen by brother-in-law and sister-in-law. Abigail Klem, who has been with the brand since 2013, is president.

Adamson says that the Ivanka Trump brand has a competitive advantage, but one that comes with its own perils.

"She has clearly strengthened the brand, and added the dimension of having a powerful political stage on which to make her story more interesting," Adamson says.

But he added, "The risk is she has less control of her image than before because ... she is not in control of how events unfold."

Follow Anne D'Innocenzio: <http://twitter.com/ADInnocenzio>

US VP Pence assures Japan America is with ally '100 percent'

By KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — In a trip dominated by concerns about North Korea's nuclear intentions, Vice President Mike Pence assured Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe Tuesday that the United States is ready to work closely with its Asian allies in the region to achieve "a peaceable resolution and the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula."

"We appreciate the challenging times in which the people of Japan live with increasing provocations from across the Sea of Japan," Pence said after arriving from Seoul for talks with Abe. "We are with you

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100 percent," the visiting vice president said. President Donald Trump earlier warned that North Korean President Jong Un has "gotta behave."

At the outset of their meeting, Pence reiterated to Abe his statement in South Korea that the United States has run out of patience with Pyongyang's moves.

"While all options are on the table," Pence said, "President Trump is determined to work closely with Japan, with South Korea, with all our allies in the region, and with China" to resolve the problem.

"We seek peace always as a country, as does Japan, but as you know and the United States knows, peace comes through strength and we will stand strongly with Japan and strongly with our allies for a peace and security in this region," Pence added.

Said Abe: "It goes without saying that it is a matter of paramount importance for us to seek diplomatic efforts as well peaceable settlements of the issue."

"But at the same time," the prime minister said, "dialogue for the sake of dialogue is valueless and it is necessary for us to exercise pressure North Korea so that it comes forward and engages in this serious dialogue."

Trump, in Washington, and Pence at the tense Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea earlier, have signaled a forceful U.S. stance on North Korea's recent actions and threats. But no one was predicting what might come next.

Behind the heated rhetoric, in fact, Trump's strategy in the region looks somewhat similar to predecessor Barack Obama's — albeit with the added unpredictability of a new president who has shown he's willing to use force.

Pence on Monday had traveled to the tense zone dividing North and South Korea, where he warned North Korea's leaders that after years of testing the U.S. and South Korea with its nuclear ambitions, "the era of strategic patience is over."

The unannounced visit at the start of his 10-day trip to Asia was a U.S. show of force that allowed the vice president to gaze at North Korean soldiers from afar and stare directly across a border marked by razor wire. As the brown bomber jacket-clad vice president was briefed near the military demarcation line, two North Korean soldiers watched from a short distance away, one taking multiple photographs of the American visitor.

Pence told reporters near the Demilitarized Zone on Monday that Trump was hopeful China would use its "extraordinary levers" to pressure the North to abandon its weapons program, a day after the North's failed missile test launch. But Pence expressed impatience with the unwillingness of the regime to move toward ridding itself of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles.

In Moscow, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told reporters he hopes "there will be no unilateral actions like those we saw recently in Syria and that the U.S. will follow the line that President Trump repeatedly voiced during the election campaign."

For its part, China made a plea for a return to negotiations. Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said tensions need to be eased on the Korean Peninsula to bring the escalating dispute there to a peaceful resolution. Lu said Beijing wants to resume the multi-party negotiations that ended in stalemate in 2009 and suggested that U.S. plans to deploy a missile defense system in South Korea were damaging its relations with China.

Pence's Asia tour came amid increasing tensions and heated rhetoric on the Korean Peninsula. While the North did not conduct a nuclear test, the specter of a potential test and an escalated U.S. response has trailed Pence as he undertakes his Asian tour.

Follow Ken Thomas on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/KThomasDC>

US Supreme Court spares Arkansas inmate from execution

By **ANDREW DeMILLO** and **SEAN MURPHY**, Associated Press

VARNER, Ark. (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court spared the life of an Arkansas inmate minutes before his death warrant was set to expire Monday, scuttling efforts to resume capital punishment after nearly 12 years in a state with an aggressive plan to carry out four double executions before its supply of a lethal injection drug expires.

The court's decision was the second time Don Davis had been granted a reprieve shortly before execution — he was within hours of death in 2010. It capped a chaotic day of legal wrangling in state and federal courts to clear the primary obstacles Arkansas faced to carrying out its first executions since 2005.

Davis had been served a last meal of fried chicken, rolls, beans, mashed potatoes and strawberry cake hours earlier, and witnesses were being moved toward the execution chamber when the Supreme Court ruled. The state was rushing to win approval to execute Davis before his death warrant expired at midnight.

Gov. Asa Hutchinson, who had set the schedule of multiple executions, said the state would continue to push for the other lethal injections to be carried out. Two inmates are set to be put to death on Thursday.

"While this has been an exhausting day for all involved, tomorrow we will continue to fight back on last minute appeals and efforts to block justice for the victims' families," Hutchinson said in a statement.

Davis was sentenced to death for the 1990 death of Jane Daniel in Rogers, Arkansas. The woman was killed in her home after Davis broke in and shot her with a .44-caliber revolver he found there.

"It is heartbreaking that the family of Jane Daniel has once again seen justice delayed," Attorney General Leslie Rutledge said in a statement. "Davis was convicted of his crimes in 1992."

The high court's order offered no explanation, but none of the justices voted in favor of lifting the stay. Monday marked the first day that the U.S. Supreme Court was in session with new Justice Neil Gorsuch on the bench.

The legal fighting had centered on a series of planned lethal injections that, if carried out, would mark the most inmates put to death by a state in such a short period since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976. The state scheduled the executions to take place before its supply of midazolam, a lethal injection drug, expires at the end of April. State and federal court rulings have stayed executions for two other inmates, and the state has yet to appeal those decisions.

Davis and Bruce Ward were originally set to be executed Monday night and had been granted stays by the state Supreme Court earlier that day. The state appealed the stay for Davis but decided not to challenge the stay for Ward. Attorneys had asked for the stay while the U.S. Supreme Court takes up a separate case concerning inmates' access to independent mental health experts.

"The Arkansas Supreme Court recognized that executing either man, before the Court answers this question...would be profoundly arbitrary and unjust," Scott Braden, an assistant federal public defender for the inmates, said earlier Monday.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling came hours after the state had cleared two of the main obstacles to resuming executions. The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a federal judge's ruling blocking the executions over the use of midazolam, a sedative used in flawed executions in other states. The state Supreme Court also lifted a lower court ruling preventing the state from using another lethal injection drug that a supplier said was sold to be used for medical purposes, not executions.

Davis' execution would have come two years after Arkansas enacted a measure making secret the source of its lethal injection drugs, a move officials said was necessary to find new supplies. Despite the secrecy measure, prison officials have said it will be very difficult to find a supplier willing to sell Arkansas midazolam after its current stock expires.

DeMillo reported from Little Rock. Associated Press writers Jill Bleed in Little Rock and Kelly P. Kissel in Varner contributed to this report.

Follow Sean Murphy on Twitter at www.twitter.com/apseanmurphy and Andrew DeMillo at www.twitter.com.

com/ademillo .

Documents highlight Prince's struggle with opioid addiction

By CARLA K. JOHNSON, AP Medical Writer

Before his death, Prince abused opioid pain pills, suffered withdrawal symptoms and received at least one opioid prescription under his bodyguard's name, according to search warrants and affidavits unsealed Monday.

Prince was 57 when he was found alone and unresponsive in an elevator at Paisley Park on April 21. Nearly a year after his accidental overdose death at his suburban Minneapolis studio and estate, investigators still don't know how he got the fentanyl that killed him. The newly unsealed documents give the clearest picture yet of Prince's struggle with opioid painkillers.

WHAT DO AUTHORITIES SAY HAPPENED?

Investigators heard plenty from the people at Paisley Park when Prince's body was discovered. They told investigators that Prince was recently "going through withdrawals, which are believed to be the result of the abuse of prescription medication."

When authorities later checked a database set up to monitor who's getting prescriptions for controlled substances, they found nothing for Prince. But there was a prescription for the opioid painkiller oxycodone written for Kirk Johnson, Prince's bodyguard.

The prescription was dated April 14, 2016, the same day Prince was revived with an anti-overdose drug after falling ill on a plane. Dr. Michael Schulenberg, who wrote the prescription, told authorities he put the prescription in Johnson's name to protect Prince's privacy, according to a detective's affidavit. Schulenberg's attorney, Amy Conners, said in a statement that Schulenberg never prescribed opioids to Prince directly nor to another person with the intent of giving them to the singer.

Johnson's attorney, Clayton Tyler, said Johnson "did not secure nor supply the drugs which caused Prince's death." An autopsy showed Prince died of an overdose of fentanyl, another drug in the opioid family.

WHAT ARE POTENTIAL CHARGES?

Writing a prescription under another person's name violates state and federal law, said Ruth Martinez, executive director of the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice.

Martinez said she could not comment on whether the board is investigating Schulenberg's treatment of Prince. The agency's website on Monday listed no disciplinary or corrective actions taken against the doctor.

The board doesn't launch investigations unless someone makes a complaint. Complaints typically take 90 to 120 days to resolve, she said.

A person convicted under the law could be stripped of the ability to prescribe controlled substances by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and face other discipline from the state medical board.

WHY NO CHARGES YET?

A year might seem like a long time without charges, but criminal justice experts say the fact that no one's been charged doesn't mean no one ever will. They say it's a complex thing to track illegally obtained pills, and investigators and prosecutors want to build strong cases before interviewing witnesses who might provide useful information.

Although they can resort to subpoenas, the targets can exercise their right against self-incrimination — and the only way to get them to talk after that is by offering immunity. And, experts say, prosecutors and investigators don't want to lose a high-profile case such as Prince's — likely increasing their caution.

HOW OFTEN DO PRESCRIBERS USE FALSE NAMES?

Martinez of the Minnesota medical board said it's "quite infrequent" for a doctor to write out a prescription for someone in another person's name.

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Two Los Angeles attorneys say it happens all the time in Hollywood. Celebrities frequently use aliases in hospitals and doctor's offices.

Laws against prescribing with a false name are not usually enforced when a doctor intends to protect a celebrity's privacy, said Los Angeles attorney Ellyn Garofalo.

She represented a doctor who was acquitted of all charges, including false name allegations, in the death of Anna Nicole Smith, the Playboy model and reality TV star who died of an accidental overdose in 2007.

"They would be indicting every pharmacist in Beverly Hills if this were strictly enforced," Garofalo said Monday.

Los Angeles criminal defense attorney Harland Braun said there are good reasons for doctors to want to protect privacy with the insatiable appetite for celebrity gossip.

"Say you have a major male actor who has a prescription for Viagra, do you want that out on TMZ?" Braun said.

Amy Forliti and Doug Glass contributed from Minneapolis.

Founding generation, not just fathers, focus of new museum

By ERRIN HAINES WHACK, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Alongside a display of the Declaration of Independence at the Museum of the American Revolution, a separate tableau tells the story of Mumbet, an enslaved black woman in Massachusetts who, upon hearing the document read aloud, announced that its proclamation that "all men are created equal" should also include her.

In response, her master hit her with a frying pan. Mumbet sued him, won her freedom in court, changed her name to Elizabeth Freeman and became a nurse. Her case set a precedent prohibiting slavery in the state.

The story is a reminder that during the struggle for our nation's liberty, the 400,000 African Americans who lived in slavery in 1776 also longed to be free.

Such stories are found throughout the museum, which opens Wednesday in Philadelphia — coinciding with the 242nd anniversary of the battle at Lexington and Concord, the "shot heard 'round the world" that began the Revolutionary War in 1775. The more inclusive, clear-eyed view of the country's turning points is an intentional departure from the whitewashed story America has often told itself and the world.

Instead, the museum seeks to show visitors that the Revolution was a set of aspirational ideas founded on equality, individual rights and freedom that remain relevant today, said president Michael Quinn.

"These ideas rallied people from all walks of life, and they took those ideas to heart," Quinn said "What unifies us as a people is our shared, common commitment to these ideas."

At several points throughout the museum, visitors are forced to confront the contradictions of the high-minded ideals of the framers of the Constitution and the realities of their time, including slavery and the second-class status of women. Slavery, for example, would expand for nearly another century after the Revolutionary War ended, and despite arguing for their liberty at the start of America, women in the United States would fight for suffrage into the early 20th century.

The message: The ideals of the American Revolution belong not only to the founding fathers long revered by our country, but also to the founding generation of Americans who first heard them, and the generations that have come since.

"For over two centuries, if you said the words 'founders of this country,' the image that would pop to most people's minds would be a white man," said Scott Stephenson, vice president of collections, exhibitions and programming. "Increasingly, we at museums have realized we have got to tell a broader story."

One exhibit features the story of the Oneida Indians, one of the first allies to support the nascent America, who fought and died alongside the colonist soldiers. Also on display is the active role of African-Americans, enslaved and free, in the war, fighting with both the Continental and British armies, showed that blacks were patriots also fighting for their own freedom.

Historical interpretations conjured from diaries and letters of the lives of five men and women who took various routes to freedom during the war are presented in an interactive digital installation. In paintings, dioramas and exhibits, the stories of figures including poet Phillis Wheatley and William Lee, valet to Gen. George Washington, challenge the idea of who could claim the title of "revolutionary."

Visitors are asked to consider the question, "Freedom for whom?" said Adrienne Whaley, the museum's manager for school programs.

"The struggle to become free predates the Revolution, and it continues after the war is over," she said. "The promise of America is defined by the ways in which we treat these people."

Errin Haines Whack covers urban affairs for The Associated Press. Follow her work on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/emarvelous>.

Online:

Museum of the American Revolution: <http://www.amrevmuseum.org>

Turkey's president Erdogan fulfills ambition, but at a cost

By ELENA BECATOROS, Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has finally fulfilled his long-held ambition to expand his powers after Sunday's referendum handed him the reins of his country's governance. But success did not come without a cost.

His victory leaves the nation deeply divided and facing increasing tension with former allies abroad, while international monitors and opposition parties have reported numerous voting irregularities.

An unofficial tally carried by the country's state-run news agency gave Erdogan's "yes" vote a narrow win, with 51.4 percent approving a series of constitutional changes converting Turkey's political system from a parliamentary to a presidential one. Critics argue the reforms will hand extensive power to a man with an increasingly autocratic bent, leaving few checks and balances in place.

Opposition parties called for the vote to be annulled because of a series of irregularities, particularly an electoral board decision to accept ballots that did not bear official stamps, as required by Turkish law. Monitors from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, who also listed numerous irregularities, said the move undermined safeguards against fraud.

The referendum campaign was heavily weighted in favor of the "yes" campaign, with Erdogan drawing on the full powers of the state and government to dominate the airwaves and billboards. The "no" campaign complained of intimidation, detentions and beatings.

In Istanbul, hundreds of "no" supporters demonstrated in the streets on Monday, chanting "thief, murderer, Erdogan" and banging pots and pans.

"We are protesting today because the results announced by the government are not the real ones. Because actually the 'no' we voted won. But the government is announcing it as 'yes' has won," Damla Atalay, a 35-year-old lawyer, said of the voting irregularities.

Erdogan was unfazed by the criticism as he spoke to flag-waving supporters in the Turkish capital, Ankara.

"We have put up a fight against the powerful nations of the world," he said as he arrived at the airport from Istanbul. "The crusader mentality attacked us abroad. ... We did not succumb. As a nation, we stood strong."

In a speech before a massive crowd at his sprawling presidential palace complex, Erdogan insisted Turkey's referendum was "the most democratic election ... ever seen in any Western country" and admonished the OSCE monitors to "know your place."

The increasing polarization of Turkish society has long worried observers, who note the dangers of deepening societal divisions in a country with a history of political instability.

The referendum was held with a state of emergency still in place, imposed after an attempted coup in July. About 100,000 people have been fired from their jobs in the crackdown that followed on support-

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ers of a U.S.-based Islamic cleric and former Erdogan ally whom the president blamed for the attempted putsch. Tens of thousands have been arrested or imprisoned, including lawmakers, judges, journalists and businessmen.

The Council of Ministers decided Monday to extend the state of emergency, which grants greater powers of detention and arrest to security forces, for a further three months. It had been due to expire April 19. The decision was to be sent to parliament for approval.

"The way (Erdogan) has closed the door on the opposition, there is likely to be increased political unrest," said Howard Eissenstat, associate professor of Middle East history at St. Lawrence University in upstate New York. "Forty-eight percent of the population is being told that their voices don't matter."

There is also the risk of increased international isolation, with Erdogan appealing to patriotic sentiments by casting himself as a champion of a proud Turkish nation that will not be dictated to by foreign powers in general, and the European Union in particular.

Turkey has been an EU candidate for decades, but its accession efforts have been all but moribund for several years.

"They have made us wait at the gates of the European Union for 54 years," Erdogan told his supporters at the presidential palace. "We can conduct a vote of confidence on this as well. Would we? What did England do — they did Brexit, right?"

"Either they will hold their promises to Turkey or they'll have to bear the consequences," he added.

Erdogan has also vowed to consider reinstating the death penalty — a move that would all but end prospects of EU membership. But, he insisted, other nations' opinions on the issue are irrelevant to him.

"Our concern is not what George or Hans or Helga says. Our concern is what Hatice, Ayse, Fatma, Ahmet, Mehmet, Hasan, Hüseyin says," he thundered as the crowd of supporters chanted for the return of capital punishment. "What Allah says. That's why our parliament will make this decision."

Both Germany and France expressed concern about possible election irregularities and called on Erdogan to engage in dialogue with the opposition.

"The narrow result of the vote shows how deeply split the Turkish society is," German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel said in a joint statement. "This implies a big responsibility for the Turkish government and President Erdogan personally."

President Donald Trump, meanwhile, ignored the concerns about voting irregularities and congratulated Erdogan on his referendum victory. The two leaders also discussed Turkey's support of the U.S. response to a Syrian chemical weapons attack and efforts to counter the Islamic State group, according to the White House statement on their phone call Monday.

The White House previously sidestepped questions about how the referendum was conducted, but the U.S. State Department had echoed the concerns raised by the OSCE, with spokesman Mark Toner pointing to "observed irregularities" on voting day and "an uneven playing field" during the campaign.

Such concerns are unlikely to move Erdogan.

The referendum approves 18 constitutional amendments to replace Turkey's parliamentary system with a presidential one.

The president will be able to appoint ministers, senior government officials and to hold sway over who sits in Turkey's highest judicial body, as well as to issue decrees and declare states of emergency. They set a limit of two five-year terms for presidents.

The new system takes effect at the next election, currently slated for 2019. Other changes are to be implemented sooner, including scrapping a requirement that the president not be a member of any political party. This would allow Erdogan to rejoin the governing AK Party he co-founded, or to lead it.

"Erdogan dominated the national media. He imposed a very restrictive environment for the 'no' camp," said Fadi Hakura, a Turkey specialist at the London-based Chatham House think tank. "He secured a thin majority of 1 percent. This suggests that Erdogan will become more robust and more challenging to deal with."

Associated Press writers Suzan Fraser in Ankara and Zeynep Bilginsoy and Bram Janssen in Istanbul contributed to this report.

Trump order would target high-skilled worker visa program

By CATHERINE LUCEY and SCOTT BAUER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is planning to sign an executive order that seeks to make changes to a visa program that brings in high-skilled workers.

Trump is heading Tuesday to Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he plans to sign an order dubbed “Buy American, Hire American,” said administration officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity despite the president’s frequent criticism of the use of anonymous sources.

The officials said the order, which Trump will sign at the headquarters of tool manufacturer Snap-on Inc., would direct the departments of Homeland Security, Justice, Labor and State to propose new rules to prevent immigration fraud and abuse. Those departments would also be asked to offer changes so that H-1B visas are awarded to the “most-skilled or highest-paid applicants.”

The White House said the program is currently undercutting American workers by bringing in cheaper labor and said some tech companies are using it to hire large numbers of workers and drive down wages.

Administration officials said the order also seeks to strengthen requirements that American-made products be used in certain federal construction projects, as well as in various federal transportation grant-funded projects. The officials said the commerce secretary will review how to close loopholes in enforcing the existing rules and provide recommendations to the president.

The order specifically asks the secretary to review waivers of these rules that exist in free-trade agreements. The administration said that if the waivers are not benefiting the United States they will be “renegotiated or revoked.”

During his campaign, Trump said at some points he supported high-skilled visas, then came out against them. At one debate, he called for fully ending the program, saying: “It’s very bad for our workers and it’s unfair for our workers. And we should end it.”

The officials said the changes could be administrative or legislative and could include higher fees for the visas, changing the wage scale for the program or other initiatives.

About 85,000 H-1B visas are distributed annually by lottery. Many go to technology companies, which argue that the United States has a shortage of skilled technology workers.

But critics say the program has been hijacked by staffing companies that use the visas to import foreigners — often from India — who will work for less than Americans. The staffing companies then sell their services to corporate clients who use them to outsource tech work.

Employers from Walt Disney World to the University of California in San Francisco have laid off their tech employees and replaced them with H-1B visa holders. Adding to the indignity: The U.S. workers are sometimes asked to train their replacements to qualify for severance packages.

On the planned order by Trump, Ronil Hira, a professor in public policy at Howard University and a critic of the H-1B program, said, “It’s better than nothing.” But he added, “It’s not as aggressive as it needs to be.”

The tech industry has argued that the H-1B program is needed because it encourages students to stay in the U.S. after getting degrees in high-tech specialties — and they can’t always find enough American workers with the skills they need.

Congress is considering several bills to overhaul the visa program. One, introduced by Illinois Democratic Sen. Dick Durbin and Iowa Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley, would require companies seeking H-1B visas to first make a good-faith effort to hire Americans, a requirement many companies can dodge under the current system; give the Labor Department more power to investigate and sanction H-1B abuses; and give “the best and brightest” foreign students studying in the U.S. priority in getting H-1B visas.

Trump’s stop at the world headquarters of Snap-on Inc. would come as the president faces an approval rating of just 41 percent in Wisconsin, a state he barely won in November. The visit also would take him to the congressional district of House Speaker Paul Ryan, who won’t be joining the president because he’s on a bipartisan congressional trip visiting NATO countries.

Trump has traveled to promote his agenda less than his recent predecessors. White House spokesman

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Sean Spicer said Trump wanted to visit "a company that builds American-made tools with American workers."

Trump carried Wisconsin in November by nearly 23,000 votes — less than 1 percentage point — making him the first Republican to win the state since 1984. He campaigned on the promise of returning manufacturing jobs that have been lost in Upper Midwest states.

Founded in Wisconsin in 1920, Snap-on makes hand and power tools, diagnostics software, information and management systems, and shop equipment for use in a variety of industries, including agriculture, the military and aviation. Its headquarters are in Kenosha and it has eight manufacturing sites in North America, including one in Milwaukee. The company employs about 11,000 people worldwide.

Bauer reported from Madison, Wisconsin. Associated Press writer Paul Wiseman contributed to this report.

Asian stock markets mixed as North Korea tensions lessen

By KELVIN CHAN, AP Business Writer

HONG KONG (AP) — Asian stocks were mixed Tuesday as tensions over the situation on the Korean Peninsula softened somewhat following U.S. Vice President Mike Pence's departure from South Korea for Japan. A strong post-Easter finish on Wall Street provided upward momentum.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index added 0.2 percent to 18,398.24 while South Korea's Kospi slipped 0.2 percent to 2,140.80. Hong Kong's Hang Seng shed 1 percent to 24,016.88 and the Shanghai Composite Index edged less than 0.1 percent higher to 3,223.61. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 fell 1.1 percent to 5,824.10. Shares in Taiwan and Southeast Asia were higher.

NORTH KOREA: Pyongyang's moves to accelerate its nuclear weapons development, including its latest failed missile launch, remain on investors' minds though concerns are starting to ease. North Korea's deputy U.N. ambassador, Kim In Ryong, accused the U.S. of creating "a dangerous situation" for a nuclear war and said that the North is ready to react if the U.S. "dares opt for a military action." The comments followed Pence's warning that U.S. "strategic patience" is over. But Pence left Seoul for Tokyo on Tuesday, shifting his focus to economic issues and taking the spotlight off geopolitics.

MARKET INSIGHT: "It seems the focus is now firmly on future missile tests from North Korea and whether any future tests will actually be successful," said Chris Weston, chief market strategist at IG in Melbourne. "From here, it would all be down to Mr. Trump and his allies and what their reaction would be, but we can believe that markets will not take kindly to this," Weston said, adding that the best hope now is for negotiations that could potentially include China.

DELAYED REACTION: Hong Kong and Australian markets had a delayed reaction to China's latest economic growth data released on Monday, when they were closed for the Easter holiday. The latest figures showed an uptick in growth for the world's No. 2 economy, paradoxically displeasing investors who predict it means less chance of financial stimulus.

WALL STREET: Major U.S. benchmarks ended higher. The Standard & Poor's 500 index climbed 0.9 percent to close at 2,349.01. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 0.9 percent to 20,636.92. The Nasdaq composite jumped 0.9 percent to 5,856.79.

ENERGY: Oil prices slipped. Benchmark U.S. crude futures lost 12 cents to \$52.53 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract lost 53 cents, or 1 percent, to settle at \$52.65 a barrel on Monday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, crept 2 cents lower to \$55.34 per barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar strengthened to 109.03 yen from 108.90 yen in late trading Monday. The euro rose to \$1.0652 from \$1.0643.

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Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, April 18, the 108th day of 2017. There are 257 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On April 18, 1942, during World War II, an air squadron from the USS Hornet led by Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle raided Tokyo and other Japanese cities. The first World War II edition of The Stars and Stripes was published as a weekly newspaper.

On this date:

In 1775, Paul Revere began his famous ride from Charlestown to Lexington, Massachusetts, warning colonists that British Regular troops were approaching.

In 1865, Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston surrendered to Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman near Durham Station in North Carolina.

In 1906, a devastating earthquake struck San Francisco, followed by raging fires; estimates of the final death toll range between 3,000 and 6,000.

In 1925, the first Woman's World's Fair, an eight-day event, opened in Chicago.

In 1934, the first laundromat was opened by John F. Cantrell in Fort Worth, Texas; the "Washateria," as it was called, rented four electric washing machines to the public on an hourly basis.

In 1945, during World War II, famed American war correspondent Ernie Pyle, 44, was killed by Japanese gunfire on the Pacific island of Ie Shima (ee-eh shee-mah), off Okinawa.

In 1946, the League of Nations met for the last time. The International Court of Justice, the judicial arm of the United Nations, held its first sitting in The Hague, Netherlands.

In 1956, American actress Grace Kelly married Prince Rainier (ray-NEER') of Monaco in a civil ceremony. (A church wedding took place the next day.)

In 1966, "The Sound of Music" won the Oscar for best picture of 1965 at the 38th Academy Awards. The first Major League baseball game played on AstroTurf took place at the Houston Astrodome as the Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the Astros 6-3. Bill Russell was named player-coach of the Boston Celtics, becoming the NBA's first black coach.

In 1978, the Senate approved the Panama Canal Treaty, providing for the complete turnover of control of the waterway to Panama on the last day of 1999.

In 1983, 63 people, including 17 Americans, were killed at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, by a suicide bomber.

In 1996, Israeli shells killed 107 Lebanese refugees in a United Nations camp; Israel called the attack an "unfortunate mistake." Gunmen opened fire at a hotel in Egypt, killing 18 Greek tourists they'd mistaken for Israelis.

Ten years ago: The Supreme Court, in a 5-4 ruling, upheld the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act, saying it did not violate a woman's constitutional right to an abortion. Four large bombs exploded in mainly Shiite locations of Baghdad, killing at least 183 people. Mark Buehrle (BUR'-lee) of the Chicago White Sox faced the minimum 27 batters in a 6-0 no-hit victory over the Texas Rangers. Curtis Strange and Hubert Green were elected to the World Golf Hall of Fame.

Five years ago: Defense Secretary Leon Panetta apologized for gruesome photographs published in the Los Angeles Times that purported to show U.S. soldiers posing with the bloodied remains of dead insurgents in Afghanistan two years earlier. Dick Clark, the ever-youthful television host and producer who helped bring rock 'n' roll into the mainstream on "American Bandstand" and rang in the New Year for the masses at Times Square, died in Santa Monica, California, at age 82.

One year ago: The U.S. agreed to deploy more than 200 additional troops to Iraq and to send eight Apache helicopters for the first time into the fight against the Islamic State group in Iraq, the first major increase in U.S. forces in nearly a year. The Associated Press won the Pulitzer Prize for public service for documenting the use of slave labor in Southeast Asia to supply seafood to American tables. "Hamilton,"

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Lin-Manuel Miranda's hip-hop stage biography of America's first treasury secretary, won the Pulitzer for drama. At the Boston Marathon, Ethiopians won both the men's and women's races for the first time in history; Lemi Berhanu Hayle won the men's race in 2:12:45 and Atsede Baysa won the women's race in 2:29:19.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Clive Revill is 87. Actor James Drury is 83. Actor Robert Hooks is 80. Actress Hayley Mills is 71. Actor James Woods is 70. Actress-director Dorothy Lyman is 70. Actress Cindy Pickett is 70. Country musician Walt Richmond (The Tractors) is 70. Country musician Jim Scholten (Sawyer Brown) is 65. Actor Rick Moranis is 64. Actress Melody Thomas Scott is 61. Actor Eric Roberts is 61. Actor John James is 61. Rock musician Les Pattinson (Echo and the Bunnymen) is 59. Author-journalist Susan Faludi is 58. Actress Jane Leeves is 56. Ventriloquist/comedian Jeff Dunham is 55. Talk show host Conan O'Brien is 54. Bluegrass singer-musician Terry Eldredge is 54. Actor Eric McCormack is 54. Actress Maria Bello is 50. Actress Mary Birdsong is 49. Actor David Hewlett is 49. Rock musician Greg Eklund (The Oolahs) is 47. Actress Lisa Locicero is 47. TV chef Ludovic Lefebvre is 46. Actor David Tennant is 46. Country musician Marvin Evatt (EH'-veht) is 43. Rock musician Mark Tremonti is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Trina (Trina and Tamara) is 43. Actress Melissa Joan Hart is 41. Actor Sean Maguire is 41. Actor Kevin Rankin is 41. Actor Bryce Johnson is 40. Reality TV star Kourtney Kardashian (kar-DASH'-ee-uhn) is 38. Actress America Ferrera is 33. Actress Vanessa Kirby (TV: "The Crown") is 29. Actress Alia Shawkat is 28. Actress Britt Robertson is 27. Actress Chloe Bennet is 25. Rock singer Nathan Sykes (The Wanted) is 24. Actor Moises Arias is 23.

Thought for Today: "Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere." — Albert Einstein, German-American physicist (born 1879, died this date in 1955).