

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 1 of 37

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Dakota Outdoors Ad
- 1- Home Gym for sale
- 2- Thinking About Health Column
- 4- Connecting Agriculture Column
- 5- SD releases education plan
- 6- JVT Annual Meeting Ad
- 7- Today in Weather History
- 8- Today's Forecast
- 9- Yesterday's Weather
- 9- Today's Weather Info
- 9- National Weather Map
- 10- Daily Devotional
- 11- News from the Associated Press

## FOR SALE

**MARCY MWM900 Home Gym for sale. Asking \$100. Contact Brian at 397-7180.**

**Open:** Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

**The cardboard/paper**  
recycling trailer at the school is **Open**



**Dakota Outdoors**

**Erik Dean**

402 N Main St  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
605.229.0123

dakoutdoors@midconetwork.com

© 2017 Groton Daily Independent

## Thursday, June 1

**Senior Menu:** Ranch chicken breast, boiled potato, green beans, cake with strawberries, whole wheat bread.

**Emmanuel Lutheran:** Nigeria Circle, 2 p.m.

**James Valley Telco** annual meeting at Groton Area High School, 12:30 p.m.

**T-Ball:** Both practice at 6 p.m.

**Jr. Teener:** hosts Sisseton, 2 games, 6 p.m.

**United Methodist:** Prayer group, 7 p.m.; PPRC Mtg, Conde, 7:30 p.m.

## Friday, June 2

**Senior Menu:** Stir fry beef with rice, oriental blend vegetables, honey fruit salad, whole wheat bread.

**Legion:** at Milbank Tourney

**U12:** Groton scrimmage on Nelson Field, 6 p.m., 2 games

**U10:** hosts Britton for 1 game, 7:30 p.m., Falk Field.

**U8 Blue & Red:** hosts Britton for 2 games, 6 p.m., Falk Field

## Saturday, June 3

**Legion:** at Milbank Tourney

**U10:** at Aberdeen Tourney (vs. Jamestown Blue at 10:30 a.m. and Milbank at 2:30 p.m.)

**U12:** at Aberdeen Tourney (vs. Welke at 9:30 a.m. and Mobridge at 1:30 p.m.)

## Sunday, June 4

**St. John's Lutheran:** Worship with communion, 9 a.m.

**Emmanuel Lutheran:** Worship at 9 a.m.

**United Methodist Church:** Conde worship with communion, 9 a.m.; coffee fellowship time, 10 a.m., Groton worship with communion, 11 a.m.

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

**First Presbyterian:** Bible Study at 9 a.m., Worship at 10 a.m.

**Heaven Bound Ministries:** No Worship.

**Legion:** at Milbank Tourney

**Jr. Teener:** hosts Clark, 2 p.m., 2 games

**U10:** at Aberdeen Tourney (vs. Bismarck at 9:30 a.m.)

## THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

By Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health News Service

### Elderly May See Drastic Cuts in Medicaid, Medicare Services

Older Americans may be in for a rough ride if the changes Washington politicians are considering come to pass. Because good, explanatory journalism is in short supply and TV shouting matches don't tell you much, I decided to use this space to discuss some of the possible changes that could soon affect millions of people in their 60s and older.

First, let's consider Medicaid, the federal-state program that finances healthcare for the poor and long term care for the middle class. Virtually all the talk about cutting Medicaid by more than \$800 billion over the next 10 years has centered on the 11 million people who gained health coverage under the Medicaid provisions of the Affordable Care Act, also called Obamacare.

Most of those Americans will lose their health coverage if legislation the House passed in early May to replace Obamacare gets through the Senate. Equally affected will be seniors and their families who now count on Medicaid to fund long-term care.

Medicaid pays for about half of all nursing home stays, but it also pays for care elders receive in the community under special waiver programs. These might include home care, adult day care, and other services that help people stay in their homes.

I asked Medicaid experts what would happen if the funds families now depend on disappear. All said that if federal allocations to the states are capped or reduced in some other way, states would have less to give families needing long-term care assistance. More families will be on their own to pay for some or all of the care a loved one needs.

The U.S. has never had a policy to pay for such care, so Medicaid, by default, became the vehicle for funding. And as Judy Feder, a professor of public policy at Georgetown University, told me recently Medicaid dollars have never been sufficient to pay for the growing number of Americans needing long-term care. Proposed changes will only make things worse.

Stacy Sanders, federal policy director for the advocacy group the Medicare Rights Center, puts it this way: "Cuts of this magnitude will end Medicaid as we know it, putting older adults' access to home and community-based long-term care, nursing home services and other essential supports in jeopardy."

Also, people now receiving health coverage under the Affordable Care Act could find themselves paying much higher premiums if a bill to repeal and replace eventually passes. The House-passed bill changes the rules for insurance companies so that they can charge older people a lot more than younger ones in states that decide to opt out of certain Obamacare protections.

In a state that opts out, according to the Congressional Budget Office, a 64-year-old with an income of \$26,500 could pay as much as \$16,000 in annual premiums while a 21-year-old with the same income might pay only \$1,700. People would get tax subsidies depending on their age, but subsidies gradually phase out the higher the income, still leaving older people with a large premium. While this is only an illustration, it's fair to say they would take a pocketbook hit.

# Groton Daily Independent

**Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 3 of 37**

They'd be hit again if a state rejects Obamacare rules that require insurers to cover people with pre-existing conditions. If they no longer could buy coverage, they'd have to turn to state high-risk pools, an old-fashioned solution that didn't work well.

And then, what about Medicare? One of the biggest changes so far is the elimination of Medicare State Health Insurance Assistance Programs also known as SHIPs. Over 7 million people annually seek help from the SHIPs to understanding Medicare and choose Medigap policies and Medicare Advantage plans.

Because this program may disappear, if you think you'll need help with Medicare, I suggest you check in with your local program as soon as possible.

Other services seniors rely are also on the chopping block. The Trump administration's budget calls for cuts in rental and heating assistance. Rental assistance for low-income families would affect some 250,000 households that receive housing vouchers, and the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities estimates that about 60,000 of those households include seniors.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) may also disappear. About 40 percent of eligible households include at least one person aged 60 and older.

Cuts to the food stamp program; and the elimination of federal funds to states through what's called a block grant will also mean some meals on wheels programs will have a harder time serving seniors. Directors of meals programs told me waiting lists in some communities will be much longer.

At stake is what kind of life Americans want for their oldest citizens? Pamela Tainter-Causey, the communications director for the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, offered one answer: "We are saying that seniors are becoming the forgotten class."

Would seniors you know be affected by the changes being considered? Write to Trudy at [trudy.lieberman@gmail.com](mailto:trudy.lieberman@gmail.com).

## **Connecting Agriculture: Noxious Weeds, Obnoxious to Control** **By Mike Jaspers, South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture**

Anyone who has had a garden, a lawn or a corn field knows that weeds are a constant challenge. While nobody likes having to spend the time or money to control them, we all have to do our part.

A weed is simply a plant growing where it shouldn't. They're burdensome because they compete with other plants in a garden, lawn or field for water and nutrients. Some weeds are more than nuisance; they are harmful to the environment or animals. These weeds are designated as 'noxious' and state law requires that they be controlled. The South Dakota Department of Agriculture works with the State Weed and Pest Control Commission to do just that.

Noxious weeds have infested over three million acres in South Dakota and negatively affect agriculture, water quality, recreational opportunities and wildlife. The Weed and Pest Control Commission identifies weeds to be placed on the 'Noxious Weed List.' South Dakota currently has seven weeds listed: Canada thistle, leafy spurge, hoary cress, perennial sow thistle, purple loosestrife, saltcedar and Russian knapweed. The commission then works with county weed and pest offices to prevent and control noxious weeds across the state. There is also a 'locally noxious weed' designation that can be given if a weed is of particular concern in a specific area of the state. Should you come across any of these, let the department or your county weed office know.

More information on noxious weeds, including pictures of weeds on the 'Noxious Weed List,' can be found on the department's website: [sdda.sd.gov](http://sdda.sd.gov). As you're out in your garden, lawn or field this spring and summer, keep an eye out for noxious weeds. We all need to do our part to control them. So remember when you see someone spraying what look like pretty flowers in the ditch or a fenceline, they may actually be doing their part to control those obnoxious, noxious weeds.

## South Dakota releases education plan

PIERRE, S.D. – South Dakota today released its state plan for education required under the Every Student Succeeds Act. The release kicks off a 30-day comment period in which members of the public are invited to weigh in on the proposed plan.

Development of the plan follows a year of conversations with stakeholders across the state, including students, parents, teachers, school administrators, school board members, legislators, tribal representatives and representatives from higher education.

“South Dakota was in a solid position when ESSA passed,” said Secretary of Education Melody Schopp. “For nearly five years, we have been focused on preparing students to leave the K-12 system college, career and life ready. Passage of ESSA provided us the opportunity to assess our system and look for flexibilities within the new federal law that would support our state priorities for educating students.”

While the plan must address major federal requirements, it also affords states the opportunity to showcase its own state priorities. Under the proposal, South Dakota plans to pursue several innovative ideas for supporting student growth, which will be reflected in the way its school accountability system is structured. For example:

- At the high school level, South Dakota will expand its accountability indicator related to college and career readiness. This means schools would receive recognition for providing opportunities for students (e.g., dual credit courses, Advanced Placement courses and exams, and career and technical education courses), in addition to measuring performance on the ACT or Smarter Balanced test.
- South Dakota will look to emphasize the importance of a positive school climate by developing an accountability indicator around the idea of safe and healthy schools. This indicator would apply to elementary and middle schools.
- South Dakota will look to explore options for allowing schools to assess students not based on the strict structure of grade levels, but rather at their level of learning.
- South Dakota will pursue the use of pilot schools to immerse students in engaging academic and work-based experiences that are directly connected to a student’s end goals.

“We took our time in developing this plan – with the driving idea of doing what is right for South Dakota students,” Schopp said. “We look forward to receiving additional input on the proposal.”

Since passage of ESSA in December 2015, the department has engaged with more than 50 groups to discuss and gather feedback on ESSA-related education topics. These conversations, as well as the recommendations of four work groups, helped to form the basis of the proposed plan. Governor Dennis Daugaard will review and provide input into the plan as well, prior to its submission to the U.S. Department of Education in September.

To access the plan and to provide public comment, visit [doe.sd.gov](http://doe.sd.gov) and click on the “Every Student Succeeds Act” box.



## James Valley Telecommunications 61st Annual Meeting

**Thursday, June 1st @Groton HS Arena**

**11:30am - 12:30pm** Registration & Lunch

**12:30pm** Business Meeting

*JVT's office will be closed 11am - 2pm.*

Grand Prize \$500 Credit - must be present to win!

Free Membership Gift & Special Offers

Childcare Provided



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 7 of 37

## Today in Weather History

May 31, 1960: A late evening thunderstorm cut a path of destruction, principally from high winds from Beadle County, northeast to Roberts and Grant Counties. Twelve head of cattle electrocuted for a downed high tensions wire occurred at Wolsey. Winds with gusts of 65 to 75 mph were observed at Huron and Watertown. A grain elevator tipped over, and a windmill was destroyed near Willow Lake. A Steel corn crib was blown over at Hayti and damaged occurred to other farm buildings and implements.

1830: Shelbyville, Tennessee was turned into "a heap of ruins" as a tornado moved east through the center of the town. This tornado destroyed 15 homes and 38 businesses along with churches and other public buildings. Losses were estimated to be as high as \$100,000. A book was said to be carried seven miles away.

1889: The Johnstown, Pennsylvania disaster occurred, the worst flood tragedy in U.S. history. Heavy rains collapsed the South Fork Dam sending a thirty-foot wall of water rushing down the already flooded Conemaugh Valley. The wall of water, traveling as fast as twenty-two feet per second, swept away all structures, objects, and people. 2100 persons perished in the flood.

1941 - Thunderstorms deluged Burlington KS with 12.59 inches of rain to establish a 24 hour rainfall record for the state. (The Weather Channel)

1985 - Severe thunderstorms spawned forty-one tornadoes across the Lower Great Lakes Region and southeastern Ontario which killed 74 persons. (Storm Data)

1987 - Thunderstorms in New England produced wind gusts up to 90 mph at Worcester, MA, and Northboro, MA, and hail an inch and a half in diameter at Williston, VT. Unseasonably hot weather prevailed in the northeastern U.S. The afternoon high of 94 degrees at Portland, ME, was a record for the month of May. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Hot and humid weather prevailed in the eastern U.S. Thirteen cities reported record high temperatures for the date. Cape Hatteras, NC, reported their first ninety degree day in May in 115 years of records. "Dust buster" thunderstorms in northwest Texas drenched Amarillo with more than three inches of rain. (The National Weather Summary)








1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather and torrential rains in northern Indiana, northern Ohio and southern Lower Michigan. Saint John IND was drenched with four inches of rain in two hours, and Woodland MI was deluged with two inches in twenty minutes. Pittsburgh PA reported a record 6.55 inches of rain for the month of May, with measurable rain reported on twenty-five days during the month. (The National Weather Summary)

1990 - Afternoon and evening thunderstorms developing along a warm front produced severe weather from northwest Texas to southeastern Louisiana. The thunderstorms spawned sixteen tornadoes, including thirteen in northwest Texas. One tornado hit the town of Spearman, TX, causing more than a million dollars damage, and seven other tornadoes were reported within twenty-five miles of Spearman. Thunderstorms over northwest Texas also produced baseball size hail at Monahans, and wind gusts to 80 mph at Paducah. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2013: The 2nd of the top 10 weather events for 2013 was EL Reno, Oklahoma tornado of May 31, 2013. Part of the multiday storm outbreak caused \$2 billion in damage. The EF3 that traveled through the western suburbs of Oklahoma City was the largest tornado ever observed with a width of 2.6 miles. It took eight lives including four tornado chasers.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 8 of 37

Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
						
Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny then Slight Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 84 °F	Low: 61 °F	High: 92 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 85 °F	Low: 55 °F	High: 83 °F

## Warm-Up in Full Swing



**Saturday 80s**



**Friday low 90s**

late afternoon/evening showers and storms possible



**Today 80s**



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 6/1/2017 5:36 AM Central

Published on: 06/01/2017 at 5:37AM

Temperatures will rise into the 80s today, and only fall to around 60 degrees tonight. On Friday, ahead of a cold front in western South Dakota, temperatures will jump into the low 90s. Showers and thunderstorms should develop across the area late Friday afternoon into Friday evening. Dry weather will then return for Saturday.



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 9 of 37

## Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 77.3

Low Outside Temp: 37.1

High Gust: 14

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

Record High: 99° in 1933

Record Low: 24° in 1946

Average High: 73°F

Average Low: 50°F

Average Precip in June: .011

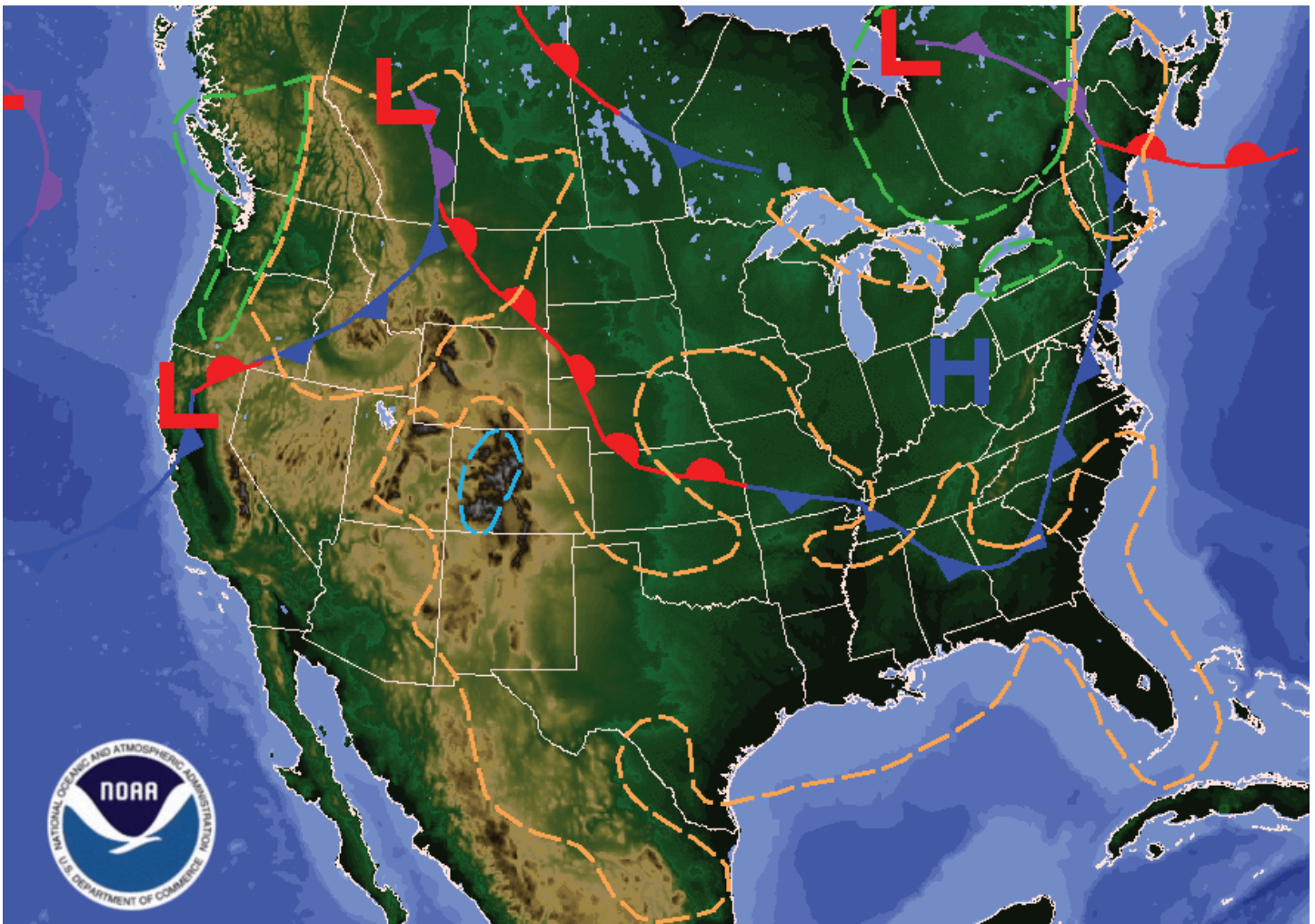
Precip to date in June: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 7.25

Precip Year to Date: 3.19

Sunset Tonight: 9:15 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:47 a.m.



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Jun 01, 2017, issued 4:20 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain

Rain and T'Storms

Rain and Snow

Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)

Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)

Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)

Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 10 of 37



## CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

Little Harry was saying his prayers before climbing into bed. In a very soft voice his mother said, "I can't hear you!"

"I wasn't talking to you, Mom," he responded. "I was talking to God. And I don't have to yell because He's closer to me than you are and I know He's listening!"

The Psalmist reminded us that "The Lord is near to all who call on Him, who call on Him in truth."

Here are three guidelines for our prayers:

Make them simple. Our prayers ought to be as natural as breathing. Think of praying as a conversation with God. When children call on their father for help, they don't use long, drawn out sentences with words that don't make any difference. They get right to the point.

Make them sincere. We must be genuine when we go to Him in prayer. Included in this part of our prayer life would be honesty and openness. God will not put up with trying to "hide the truth" when we call on Him for help. Trying to say "It's Your will, Lord," when we know it's "our" wants, won't work. Being open with God means that we must confess our sin and ask for Him to forgive and cleanse us when we pray.

Make them specific. If you order an item on-line, it has a number to go with it. When we order from a menu, we "specify" what we want. Jesus said, "If you ask for anything" - implying a specific, identifiable item or need - "I will do it or get it for you." Or, "Get to the point!"

God is close, compassionate, considerate and caring.

Prayer: Father, may we realize the power of prayer and the need to be simple, sincere and specific in our prayers. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 145:18 The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

## News from the Associated Press

### **Survey shows slight decline in Midwest economic conditions**

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Results from a monthly survey of business supply managers suggest a slight decline in the economic conditions for nine Midwest and Plains states.

The Mid-America Business Conditions Index report released Thursday says the overall regional economic index dropped to 55.5 in May from 61.4 in April.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss oversees the survey, and he says the index figures over the past six months point to healthy growth for regional manufacturing and nonmanufacturing through the third quarter of this year.

The survey results are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests growth in that factor. A score below that suggests decline.

The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

### **SD Lottery**

**By The Associated Press**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — These South Dakota lotteries were drawn Wednesday:

Dakota Cash

01-05-24-29-35

(one, five, twenty-four, twenty-nine, thirty-five)

Estimated jackpot: \$194,000

Hot Lotto

14-19-23-33-44, Hot Ball: 18

(fourteen, nineteen, twenty-three, thirty-three, forty-four; Hot Ball: eighteen)

Estimated jackpot: \$6.93 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$74 million

Powerball

04-33-39-46-60, Powerball: 6, Power Play: 3

(four, thirty-three, thirty-nine, forty-six, sixty; Powerball: six; Power Play: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$302 million

### **Senate Democratic leader Billie Sutton to run for governor**

**By JAMES NORD, Associated Press**

BURKE, S.D. (AP) — State Senate Democratic leader Billie Sutton said Wednesday that he is running for governor in 2018 to help working families and fight corruption in South Dakota.

The 33-year-old investment consultant and former rodeo rider faces a challenging race in South Dakota, where Republicans control every statewide office and have supermajorities in both legislative chambers. Announcing his bid to more than 100 supporters at his family's ranch near Burke, Sutton recounted his familiarity with difficult situations: He was paralyzed in a 2007 rodeo accident.

Sutton said he remembers the loss he felt after waking up in the hospital and learning he would never be able to participate in a rodeo again — and probably never walk either.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 12 of 37

"I was faced with a choice: Take the easy way and give up, or live by the values I was raised with. Do it the cowboy way: Never give up and never quit," Sutton said.

He said that South Dakota has significant strides to make on education and early childhood education, and he pledged to work to make sure that South Dakota residents have good paying jobs and a high quality of life.

If he becomes the first Democratic governor elected in South Dakota since 1974, Sutton said he could serve as a check on the Republican-controlled Legislature in Pierre.

Sutton said he would "change the culture of corruption" in government, referencing recent high-profile scandals that have resulted in deaths, including alleged theft and an attempted cover-up at a Platte-based educational cooperative and what authorities have called financial misconduct involving the EB-5 visa program.

"For too long the status quo has reigned in South Dakota and plagued our state Capitol," Sutton said. "I've seen it there firsthand. We've fallen behind, and we can't afford more of the same."

Sutton has served in the state Senate since 2011, representing District 21 in south-central South Dakota, but term limits prevent him from running again.

Democratic Party Chairwoman Ann Tornberg said in a statement that Sutton has been a champion for working families while Republicans in Pierre have shown no interest in helping them get ahead.

But Sutton downplayed party affiliation at the event, saying that he's a "South Dakotan first."

"I'm not worried about party labels, and so that's going to be our focus," he said. "When you're elected to a position like this, you represent everyone."

U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem and Attorney General Marty Jackley are Republicans competing for the governor's office in 2018. State GOP Chairman Dan Lederman said Sutton is a "hyper-partisan liberal Democrat" who doesn't want South Dakota residents to know his true views.

"Billie Sutton's positions on policy would be disastrous for South Dakota," Lederman said.

## Menno man sentenced to prison in multi-state fraud scheme

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man has been sentenced to four years in prison for taking thousands of dollars through fraudulent contracts.

The South Dakota Attorney General's Office says 50-year-old Stephan McCrae, of Menno, was sentenced to prison this week on a charge of grand theft by deception and ordered to pay more than \$10,000 in restitution.

Authorities say the charge stemmed from a multi-state scheme in which McCrae made fraudulent contracts with consumers and accepted down payments to build fences.

McCrae also been convicted in Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri.

## Dakota Access pipeline expected to begin shipping Thursday

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The developer of the Dakota Access oil pipeline, which is expected to begin shipping oil on Thursday, will face scrutiny later this summer on whether it violated North Dakota rules during construction.

The three-member North Dakota Public Service Commission is looking into whether Texas-based Energy Transfer Partners removed too many trees and shrubs along the pipeline route, and whether it improperly reported the discovery of Native American artifacts. No artifacts were disturbed.

ETP maintains it didn't intentionally do anything wrong in either case. If the commission ultimately decides differently, the company could be subject to tens of thousands of dollars in fines, though it could fight them in state court.

Regulators decided during a Wednesday meeting to hold hearings on back-to-back days in either July or August. A decision on fines would come sometime after that.

"I'm pretty eager to wrap this up," Commissioner Julie Fedorchak said.

The \$3.8 billion pipeline will move North Dakota oil through South Dakota and Iowa to a distribution point in Illinois.

The pipeline prompted hundreds and sometimes thousands of Native American and environmental activists to camp in North Dakota to protest, saying it would disturb sacred sites and could pollute water used by Native Americans. President Donald Trump's administration and the courts eventually allowed the pipeline to be completed.

The commission maintains the company diverted construction of the pipeline around artifacts last October without first running the plan by the commission, as required. The company did get clearance from the State Historic Preservation Office and maintains it acted in good faith.

In addition, a third-party inspector identified 83 sites along the 380-mile (610-kilometer) pipeline corridor in North Dakota where trees or shrubs might have been cleared in violation of the commission's orders. ETP says it did nothing wrong, and the company has a plan to plant two trees for every one removed — a total of about 94,000 trees.

"The reason we have regulations regarding trees and shrubs in North Dakota is that they're hard to grow, especially in western North Dakota," Fedorchak said.

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

## Native American holy man honored with hike in South Dakota

BLACK ELK PEAK, S.D. (AP) — The bond between a famous writer and a Native American holy man has been celebrated with a commemorative hike.

The Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/2raOeaK>) reported that a group of people with the John G. Neihardt State Historic Society in Bancroft, Nebraska, hiked Tuesday on Black Elk Peak with Myron Pourier, a descendant of holy man Black Elk.

Neihardt's book "Black Elk Speaks" recounts Black Elk's childhood story in which he had a vision of being transported to the top of the mountain. The book has sold hundreds of thousands of copies and serves as a window into Lakota Sioux history and spirituality.

"This is all about one race — the human race under one flowering tree," Pourier said.

Amy Kucera, executive director of the Neihardt society, said she's done the hike multiple times.

"There's a unity and a holiness to all of life that was expressed by Black Elk and Neihardt," Kucera said, "And I feel that when I'm here."

The hike also commemorated a federal naming board's decision last year to rename the peak from Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak.

Pourier said he hopes to raise money and get approval to place a statue of Black Elk and a plaque listing details of his life at the beginning of the most popular trail to the peak.

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

## 4-year-old boy dies in skid loader accident

VIBORG, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a 4-year-old child has died in an accident with a skid loader in Turner County.

Sheriff Byron Nogelmeier says Marcus Bauer was run over by the skid loader at a residence in Viborg Monday afternoon. The sheriff says the person operating the skid loader was a relative.

The case is being treated as an accidental death and no charges are expected.

## **Woman sentenced for negligently smothering infant son in bed**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Fort Thompson woman who authorities say negligently smothered her infant son has been sentenced to a year and two months in prison.

Authorities say Bonita Keeble fell asleep in the same bed as her 24-day-old son while drunk and smothered him in July 2015.

The Daily Republic reports (<http://bit.ly/2rU2fe5>) that Keeble was recently sentenced on a federal charge of child abuse. She'll be on probation for two years following her prison term.

Keeble also goes by the name Bonita Hare.

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

## **Authorities probe fatal shooting on Pine Ridge Reservation**

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) — Local and federal authorities are investigating a deadly shooting that occurred on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation over Memorial Day weekend.

Oglala Sioux police and the FBI confirm that the incident happened Saturday afternoon near Kyle. No other information has been released.

## **Woman killed while walking along South Dakota interstate**

NORTH SIOUX CITY, S.D. (AP) — There's more information about the body of a woman found along the interstate near North Sioux City.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says the woman was walking along Interstate 29 in the dark when she was struck by a semi. Her body was found early Sunday. She has not been identified.

Authorities have talked to the semi driver, but no charges are pending.

## **Putin: Russian state has never been involved in hacking**

**By IAN PHILLIPS and VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV**

ST.PETERSBURG, Russia (AP) — President Vladimir Putin insisted Thursday that the Russian state has never engaged in hacking and scoffed at allegations that hackers could influence the outcome of elections in the United States or Europe.

But the Russian leader admitted the possibility that some individual "patriotic" hackers could have mounted some attacks amid the current cold spell in Russia's relations with the West.

Speaking at a meeting with senior editors of leading international news agencies, Putin also alleged that some evidence pointing at Russian hackers' participation in attacks — he didn't specify which — could have been rigged in an attempt to smear Russia.

"I can imagine that some do it deliberately, staging a chain of attacks in such a way as to cast Russia as the origin of such an attack," Putin said. "Modern technologies allow that to be done quite easily."

U.S. intelligence agencies have accused Russia of hacking into Democratic Party emails, helping President Donald Trump's election victory, and the Congressional and FBI investigations into the Trump campaign's ties with Russia have shattered Moscow's hopes for a detente with Washington.

Asked if Russian hackers could try to shape the outcome of German parliamentary elections later this year, Putin said: "We never engaged in that on a state level, and have no intention of doing so."

He noted that Russia can work constructively with any German leader, adding that he had good ties with German Chancellor Angela Merkel despite some differences.

Russian meddling was also a concern in France, with Putin publicly expressing his sympathy for President Emmanuel Macron's rivals in the campaign. Macron's aides claimed in February that Russian groups were interfering with his campaign, and a document leak hit Macron's campaign in the final hours of the French race. Moscow has strongly denied all allegations of election meddling.

Putin argued that hackers, wherever they come from, can't sway election outcomes because the public

mood cannot be manipulated that easily.

"I'm deeply convinced that no hackers can radically influence another country's election campaign," he said. "No hackers can influence election campaigns in any country of Europe, Asia or America."

Putin added that while the Russian state has never been involved in hacking, Russia-West tensions could have prompted some individuals to launch cyberattacks.

"If they have patriotic leanings, they may try to add their contribution to the fight against those who speak badly about Russia," he said. "Theoretically it's possible."

Russia's relations with the West have been at post-Cold War lows over the Ukrainian crisis. The U.S. and the EU have slapped Moscow with sanctions over its annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula and support for pro-Russian insurgency in eastern Ukraine.

Putin said Thursday that economic restrictions against Russia have had "zero effect."

He predicted that the current strain in relations will ease, because "it's counterproductive and harmful."

Touching on tensions in the Pacific, Putin said that Russia's military deployments on a group of Pacific islands also claimed by Japan have been caused by concerns about the U.S. military buildup in the region.

The four islands, called the Northern Territories in Japan and the southern Kurils in Russia, were seized by the former Soviet Union at the end of the World War II, preventing the two countries from signing a peace treaty.

Putin said the U.S. will likely continue to build up its missile shield in the region even if North Korea agrees to curb its nuclear and missile programs, in the same way it has continued to develop missile defenses in Europe despite a deal with Iran that curbed its nuclear program in exchange for lifting international sanctions.

Isachenkov reported from Moscow.

## **Afghans mourn a day after massive truck bombing kills 90**

**By RAHIM FAIEZ and AMIR SHAH, Associated Press**

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghans mourned the loss of family members, friends and colleagues on Thursday, a day after a massive truck bomb exploded in the capital leaving at least 90 people dead and more than 450 others wounded in one of the worst extremist attacks since the drawdown of foreign forces from Afghanistan in 2014.

The city's acting mayor said the explosion damaged property as far as 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) away from the blast site and scores of people waited in hospitals to learn the status of family and friends wounded in Wednesday's attack.

The bomber drove into Kabul's heavily guarded diplomatic quarter during the morning rush, leaving behind chaos and destruction. Most of the casualties were civilians, including women and children, but the dead also included Afghan security guards.

There was no claim of responsibility.

The explosives were hidden in a tanker truck used to clean out septic systems, according to Najib Danish, deputy spokesman for the interior minister. The trucks are common in Kabul, a city of nearly four million people with no sewage system that mostly depends on septic tanks, and where open sewers are common.

The blast gouged a crater about 5 meters (15 feet) deep near Zanbaq Square in the Wazir Akbar Khan district, where foreign embassies are protected by their own security personnel as well as Afghan police and National Security Forces. The nearby German Embassy was heavily damaged.

Also in the area is Afghanistan's Foreign Ministry, the Presidential Palace and its intelligence and security headquarters, guarded by soldiers trained by the U.S. and its coalition partners.

The city's acting mayor said Thursday at a news conference that the bombing caused property damage as far as 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) away from the blast site. Abdullah Habibzai said the an initial estimate put the total damage from the bombing at 1 billion Afghanis (\$1.5 million), but said that number could rise.

He said city workers had removed around 200 large trucks of garbage and debris by Thursday morning.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 16 of 37

"We have transported a large number or a large amount of broken glass and windows," he said.

Meanwhile, some people were still missing and families were searching for news about loved ones in local hospitals.

Mohammad Sarwar stood crying behind the gate of an emergency hospital, looking for his nephew, Habibullah, who was missing.

"This is the second day that we are searching for my nephew Habibiullah and have been to all Kabul hospitals, still couldn't find him," he said.

Afghanistan's war, the longest ever involving U.S. troops, has shown no sign of letting up and the introduction into the battle of an Islamic State group affiliate has made the country only more volatile.

Although they are small in number, militants from the Islamic State in Khorasan — an ancient name for parts of Afghanistan, Iran and Central Asia — have taken credit for several brazen assaults on the capital.

## 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. WORLD AWAITS TRUMP DECISION ON PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT

Around the world, coal-fired power plants are being shuttered as governments and private companies invest billions in wind turbines and solar farms — the adoption of cleaner forms of energy seems likely to progress whatever the U.S. president decides.

### 2. PUTIN: RUSSIAN STATE HAS NEVER BEEN INVOLVED IN HACKING

The Russian president, while conceding that some individual "patriotic" hackers could mount some attacks on the West, says "no hackers can influence election campaigns in any country of Europe, Asia or America."

### 3. KABUL REELING AFTER MASSIVE TRUCK BOMBING

Afghans mourn the loss of family members, friends and colleagues a day after a suicide bombing in the capital left at least 90 people dead.

### 4. SHORT OF ALLIES, SYRIA'S REBELS DOWN BUT NOT OUT

Veteran rebels tell AP that, battered by defeats and feeling abandoned by the U.S., they are faced with the choice of turning to Turkey or to al-Qaida for support.

### 5. COMEY OK'D TO TESTIFY, ASSOCIATE SAYS

The special counsel overseeing the government's investigation into possible Trump campaign ties to Russia approves the former FBI director's testimony before the Senate intelligence committee.

### 6. INVESTORS PICK TESLA'S PROMISE OVER GM'S STEADY PROFITS

As far as auto industry visionaries, Wall Street is favoring Tesla, the upstart led by flamboyant Elon Musk, over the established icon headed by the more restrained Mary Barra.

### 7. HOW POLICE ARE PROTECTING DRUG-SNIFFING DOGS

Officers are using Naloxone, a drug that has already been used for years to reverse overdoses in humans, to protect their four-legged partners on the narcotics beat.

### 8. DUTERTE ASSAILS CHELSEA CLINTON

The Philippine president denounces the former first daughter in an expletive-laden speech after she criticized a comment he made about rapes committed by soldiers.

### 9. WHERE PROCEEDS ARE GOING FOR GRATEFUL DEAD GUITAR SALE

Jerry Garcia's "Wolf" six-string fetches \$1.9 million at a New York auction and the money earmarked for the sale will benefit the Southern Poverty Law Center.

### 10. HISTORY: WARRIORS MEET CAVS FOR 3RD STRAIGHT TIME IN NBA FINALS

Some predictions see the championship round ending quickly and all seem to agree on Golden State beating Cleveland.



## Philippine airstrike kills 11 soldiers in besieged city

By JIM GOMEZ, Associated Press

MARAWI, Philippines (AP) — A Philippine bomber plane accidentally killed 11 soldiers and injured seven others, security officials said Thursday, as troops struggled to end a bloody siege by 500 Islamic State group-aligned extremists in a southern city, one of the boldest militant attacks in Southeast Asia in years.

The plane was making a bombing run over militant positions in Marawi city on Wednesday when one bomb accidentally hit army troops locked in close battle with extremists who had taken cover in buildings and houses, military spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said. The plane had made three successful bombing runs before making the error, he said.

"It's painful, it's very sad to be hitting our own troops," Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana told a news conference in Manila. "Sometimes, in the fog of war, a lot of things could happen."

Precision-guided bombs were used earlier in airstrikes in Marawi's urban areas, but the military ran out of the high-tech munitions and used conventional ones in Wednesday's bombing run, he said.

Military chief of staff Gen. Eduardo Ano ordered an investigation.

Lorenzana said about 500 militants, including foreign fighters, joined the siege of Marawi, a mosque-studded city that is the heartland of the Islamic faith in the southern Philippines, and that 50 to 100 militants now remain in a few Marawi areas. Eight foreign fighters have been slain in the intense street combat, including a Chechen, a Yemeni and several Malaysians and Indonesians, Lorenzana said.

A total of 120 militants have been killed in the fighting since May 23, when a failed government raid to capture one of Asia's most-wanted militants, Isnilon Hapilon, triggered the siege of the city by the rebels. Twenty-five of the dead militants have been identified as Filipinos, according to military officials.

At least 25 soldiers, five policemen and more than 24 civilians have been killed in the clashes, Lorenzana said.

President Rodrigo Duterte declared martial law in the Mindanao region, the southern third of the Philippines, to crush the insurrection, and poured in troops backed by airstrikes, artillery fire and armored vehicles. More than 3,000 soldiers, marines and air force personnel are involved in the fighting, backed by more than 30 assault aircraft, military officials said.

The unrest has boosted fears that the Islamic State group's violent ideology is gaining a foothold in the country's restive southern islands, where Muslim separatist rebellions have raged for nearly half a century.

"This thing that we see today is the first time that any terror organization in Southeast Asia has taken the bold step to actually overtake an entire territory," said Jasminder Singh, a senior terrorism analyst with the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore.

He said the siege "will actually become more of a template and motivation for other terrorist organizations who believe they can actually take on government forces."

Officials said troops have cleared about 90 percent of Marawi, a scenic lakeshore city with a population of more than 200,000, many of whom have fled to crowded evacuation camps in outlying towns. About 2,000 people are believed to still be trapped in houses near the fighting, while about 1,000 others have been rescued by police and soldiers from villages that have been cleared of armed extremists, the officials said.

The squalor in the shelters, lack of privacy and shock of the violence moved some displaced residents to tears.

Okie Rasul, a fruit vendor and mother of eight, blamed the militants for the uncertainties her family now faces. They fled their home last week amid the horrifying staccato of gunfire and explosions, leaving behind 10,000 pesos (\$200) worth of fruit for their business that she bought with a loan.

"We lost everything, our home and my business," Rasul told the AP as she waited to receive a pack of food and water in an overcrowded emergency shelter in Balo-i town near Marawi. "The only things we saved are the clothes we're wearing, but at least we're all alive."

Associated Press journalists Teresa Cerojano in Manila and Kiko Rosario in Singapore contributed to this report.

## Trump to announce decision on climate change Thursday

By JILL COLVIN and JULIE PACE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump will announce his decision on whether to pull the United States out of the Paris climate accord during a Rose Garden event Thursday afternoon.

Trump promoted his announcement Wednesday night on Twitter, after a day in which U.S. allies around the world sounded alarms about the likely consequences of a U.S. withdrawal. Trump himself kept everyone in suspense, saying he was still listening to “a lot of people both ways.”

The White House signaled that Trump was likely to decide on exiting the global pact — fulfilling one of his principal campaign pledges — though top aides were divided. And the final decision may not be entirely clear-cut: Aides were still deliberating on “caveats in the language,” one official said.

Everyone cautioned that no decision was final until Trump announced it. The president has been known to change his thinking on major decisions and tends to seek counsel from both inside and outside advisers, many with differing agendas, until the last minute.

Abandoning the pact would isolate the U.S. from a raft of international allies who spent years negotiating the 2015 agreement to fight global warming and pollution by reducing carbon emissions in nearly 200 nations. While traveling abroad last week, Trump was repeatedly pressed to stay in the deal by European leaders and the Vatican. Withdrawing would leave the United States aligned only with Russia among the world’s industrialized economies.

American corporate leaders have also appealed to the businessman-turned-president to stay. They include Apple, Google and Walmart. Even fossil fuel companies such as Exxon Mobil, BP and Shell say the United States should abide by the deal.

In a Berlin speech, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said that fighting climate change is a “global consensus” and an “international responsibility.”

“China in recent years has stayed true to its commitment,” said Li, speaking in Berlin Wednesday.

Trump’s predecessor, President Barack Obama, enacted the deal without U.S. Senate ratification. A formal withdrawal would take years, experts say, a situation that led the president of the European Commission to speak dismissively of Trump on Wednesday.

Trump doesn’t “comprehensively understand” the terms of the accord, though European leaders tried to explain the process for withdrawing to him “in clear, simple sentences” during summit meetings last week, Jean-Claude Juncker said in Berlin. “It looks like that attempt failed,” Juncker said. “This notion, ‘I am Trump, I am American, America first and I am getting out,’ that is not going to happen.”

Some of Trump’s aides have been searching for a middle ground — perhaps by renegotiating the terms of the agreement — in an effort to thread the needle between his base of supporters who oppose the deal and those warning that a U.S. exit would deal a blow to the fight against global warming as well as to worldwide U.S. leadership.

That fight has played out within Trump’s administration.

Trump met Wednesday with Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, who has favored remaining in the agreement. Chief strategist Steve Bannon supports an exit, as does Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt.

Trump’s chief economic adviser, Gary Cohn, has discussed the possibility of changing the U.S. carbon reduction targets instead of pulling out of the deal completely. Senior adviser Jared Kushner generally thinks the deal is bad but still would like to see if emissions targets can be changed.

Trump’s influential daughter Ivanka Trump’s preference is to stay, but she has made it a priority to establish a review process so her father would hear from all sides, said a senior administration official. Like the other officials, that person was not authorized to describe the private discussions by name and spoke only on condition of anonymity.

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke said Wednesday in Alaska that he had “yet to read what the actual Paris Agreement is,” and would have to read it before weighing in.

Scientists say Earth is likely to reach more dangerous levels of warming sooner if the U.S. retreats from

its pledge because America contributes so much to rising temperatures. Calculations suggest withdrawal could result in emissions of up to 3 billion tons of additional carbon dioxide in the air a year — enough to melt ice sheets faster, raise seas higher and trigger more extreme weather.

Associated Press writers Catherine Lucy, Michael Biesecker and Seth Borenstein in Washington and Lorne Cook in Brussels contributed to this report.

## States, cities pledge action on climate even without Trump

By JOHN FLESHER, AP Environmental Writer

If President Donald Trump withdraws support for the Paris climate change accord, will efforts in the U.S. to fight global warming dry up?

Hardly. Dozens of states and many cities have policies intended to reduce emissions of greenhouses gases and deal with the effects of rising temperatures. And plans for more are in the works. In left-leaning locales, it's good politics. Even in red states where resistance is strong to the idea that humans are causing the planet to heat up, flood prevention and renewable energy are considered smart business.

Yet much remains uncertain about how a dramatic shift in federal policy would affect state and local initiatives — particularly if Congress slashes funding for them, as Trump wants.

A look at what states and cities are doing about climate change and their potential to fill in if the Trump administration drops out:

### STATES STEP UP

Even as more than two dozen states filed lawsuits that hamstrung the Obama administration's Clean Power Plan, which sought to limit carbon dioxide emissions from power plants, many states have made considerable progress toward hitting its targets. Forty states are on track to meet their 2030 goals under the plan, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Thirty-five already comply with interim requirements for 2022, in part because utilities decided to close coal-fired plants and switch to natural gas.

Twenty-nine states and Washington, D.C., require electric utilities to produce specified amounts of electricity from renewable or alternative sources such as wind, solar and geothermal power, according to the nonprofit Center for Climate and Energy Solutions. California and New York have ordered their utilities to deliver half their electricity from renewables by 2030.

Maryland's Legislature in February overrode the governor's veto and boosted its standard to 25 percent by 2020. Michigan, which supported Trump in the November election and has a Republican governor and legislative majority, last month boosted its standard from 10 percent to 15 percent by 2021.

Most states also have "climate action plans" packed with ideas on topics as diverse as land use, transportation and land management. California is encouraging ownership of electric cars with tax breaks and access to high-speed lanes.

Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker awarded more than \$1.8 million in grants to 19 communities for climate-related projects. But such expenditures fall well short of the billions that the federal government has provided.

### CITIES FOCUS ON ADAPTING

Many cities are big enough to make a difference with emissions limits. Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced in April that all of Chicago's public buildings would be powered entirely with renewable energy by 2025. Others are stepping up use of public transit.

Other cities acknowledge the climate is already warming and are preparing to deal with the effects, particularly flooding and powerful storms. In conservative areas where climate change is a toxic subject, officials often describe their efforts with terms such as "resilience" and "adaptation." They are constructing break waters, improving sewage treatment systems to avoid overflows and encouraging use of rain gardens and other "green infrastructure."

Charleston, South Carolina, is recommending that all planned construction assume a sea level rise of 1.5 to 2.5 feet over the next 50 years.

Florida is especially vulnerable to sea level rise, yet the state has taken little action. Cities have tried to fill the void. Under a regional compact, Miami and surrounding areas have worked to gird homes, roads and infrastructure against flooding.

Even Tulsa, Oklahoma, home of Sen. James Inhofe, who calls global warming a hoax, has moved over 12,000 homes and businesses from a floodplain.

## IS IT ENOUGH?

States and cities whose leaders favor strong action on climate change say they'll defy Trump and push forward. California, which has 39 million residents and one of the world's largest economies, has shown an ability to influence environmental policy elsewhere, as with its tough auto tailpipe emission standards.

Gov. Jerry Brown told The Associated Press his state would continue reducing its pollution that warms the planet while using its alliances with China, Mexico and other countries to encourage international action.

"Mr. Trump is not only up against California, he's up against the rest of the world, not to mention science itself," Brown said. "And it's very obvious who's going to win."

Yet others say despite their good intentions, states and cities are no match for natural forces such as rising sea levels and damage to fish populations from warming oceans.

And with the federal administration not only rejecting the global accord but openly skeptical of the need for action at home, some worry that state and local officials may lose heart.

"This moment is a test of whether the states will remain engaged when there's no federal pressure or international agreement to move them," said Barry Rabe, professor of public policy at the University of Michigan.

Contributing to this story were AP reporters Jason Dearen in Gainesville, Florida; Ellen Knickmeyer in San Francisco; Jonathan J. Cooper in Sacramento, California; Tammy Webber in Chicago; and Patrick Whittle in Portland, Maine.

## Chinese maker of Ivanka Trump shoes denies labor violations

By ERIKA KINETZ, Associated Press

SHANGHAI (AP) — A Chinese company that makes shoes for Ivanka Trump and other brands denied allegations Thursday of excessive overtime and low wages made by three activists who have been arrested or disappeared.

The Associated Press reported Tuesday that Hua Haifeng, an investigator for China Labor Watch, a New York-based nonprofit, had been arrested on a charge of illegal surveillance while his two colleagues — Li Zhao and Su Heng — are missing and rights groups fear they have been detained. They were investigating Huajian Group factories in the southern Chinese cities of Ganzhou and Dongguan.

"We are shocked," Long Shan, a spokeswoman for the Huajian Group, said in an email to The Associated Press. "As a renowned global media outlet, you have put out many untrue reports not based on facts and without our consent."

China Labor Watch executive director Li Qiang said Thursday he still had not been able to confirm the status of the two men. Huajian was contacted before AP's initial reports were published but issued no statement until Thursday.

Long said the company had stopped producing Ivanka Trump shoes months ago. She said that Hua Haifeng joined the group's factory in Dongguan on May 20, but left after less than a week, and Su Heng began working at their Ganzhou factory on April 28, but also left after a short time. She said she did not know their current whereabouts.

"By coming to Huajian to work, they are Huajian employees. Huajian staff must comply with China's laws and regulations and Huajian's rules," she said, adding that at least one of the men "used methods like taking photographs and video to obtain the company's trade secrets, which is not in line with the company's

regulations. Our company has the right to hold him accountable.”

She said reports of managers verbally abusing workers, including insults and a crude reference in Chinese to female genitalia, were based on misunderstanding. “It is the local dialect being used as management language,” she said.

She said Huajian was looking into allegations of improper use of student interns.

Ivanka Trump’s brand declined to comment on the allegations or the arrest and disappearances. Marc Fisher, which produces shoes for Ivanka Trump and other brands, said it was looking into the allegations.

China Labor Watch has been exposing poor working conditions at suppliers to some of the world’s best-known companies for nearly two decades, but Li said his work has never before attracted this level of scrutiny from China’s state security apparatus.

The arrest and disappearances come amid a crackdown on perceived threats to the stability of China’s ruling Communist Party, particularly from sources with foreign ties such as China Labor Watch. Faced with rising labor unrest and a slowing economy, Beijing has taken a stern approach to activism in southern China’s manufacturing belt and to human rights advocates generally, sparking a wave of critical reports about disappearances, public confessions, forced repatriation and torture in custody.

---

Associated Press researcher Fu Ting in Shanghai and Yu Bing in Beijing contributed to this report.

---

Follow Kinetz on Twitter at [twitter.com/ekinetz](https://twitter.com/ekinetz)

## Trump’s cellphone use worries security experts

By **DEB RIECHMANN, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump, who blasted Hillary Clinton for using a personal email server, might be a walking magnet for eavesdropping and malware if he is using an unsecured cellphone to chat with foreign leaders.

Trump has been handing out his cellphone number to counterparts around the world, urging them to call him directly to avoid the red tape of diplomatic communications. The practice has raised concern about the security and secrecy of the U.S. commander-in-chief’s communications.

In today’s world of cyber espionage, cellphone security experts say such a policy is not only unorthodox, but dangerous. Voice calls can be intercepted. A cellphone’s signals to nearby phone towers can give up its precise location. Even cellular networks are vulnerable. And knowing someone’s number makes it easier to infect a phone with malware.

“Hillary Clinton’s email server was like Fort Knox compared to Trump just carrying around a regular cellphone,” said Andrew McLaughlin, former deputy chief technology officer for the Obama administration. “That’s how bad the vulnerabilities are.”

Running against Clinton for the presidency, Trump repeatedly criticized his rival for using a non-government email account while she was secretary of state. Trump argued that Clinton should not be given access to classified information because she would leave it vulnerable to foreign foes.

But Trump may be running into problems of his own.

He has urged the leaders of Canada and Mexico to call him on his cellphone, according to former and current U.S. officials with direct knowledge of the practice. Trump, who disdains working through official channels, also exchanged numbers with French President Emmanuel Macron when the two spoke after France’s election earlier this month, according to a French official, who would not comment on whether Macron intended to use the line.

All the officials demanded anonymity because they were not authorized to reveal the conversations. Neither the White House nor Trudeau’s office responded to requests for comment.

Trump administration officials also wouldn’t say what type of cellphone the U.S. president was using or describe any security upgrades it might include.

“I think it’s a really bad idea,” said Matthew Green, who teaches at the Johns Hopkins Information Se-

curity Institute and previously served as senior technical staff member at AT&T Laboratories.

Green said cellular phones are not terribly secure and the communications traverse a cellular network with well-known vulnerabilities. He was referring to the Signaling System 7, which links mobile phone networks. If a phone has been hacked, a person can listen and monitor the device even if the president is using an encrypted phone.

Rep. Ted Lieu, a California Democrat with a degree in computer science, sent a tweet to the president Wednesday: "Please do not use your cellphone for sensitive calls. SS7 flaw in networks allows foreign intel to monitor conversations."

When former President Barack Obama wanted to continue using his Blackberry, U.S. security officials gave him a modified one that allowed him limited use with enhanced security. The White House said at the time that Obama was permitted to keep his Blackberry through a compromise that allowed him to stay in touch with senior White House staffers and a small group of personal friends.

"What we ended up with was a military-grade, encrypted phone that had the microphone ripped out," said McLaughlin, who thinks the White House communications office has prevailed upon Trump to use some kind of phone with enhanced security.

He suggested one with strong encryption, disabled location services and one that talks with a military network instead of commercial cell services.

McLaughlin also said it's possible that the number that Trump is giving to world leaders rings to someone else's phone, who then transfers the call to the president, a system that could protect Trump from anyone trying to monitor his communications.

## **Comey OK'd to testify; House committee issues subpoenas**

**By DEB RIECHMANN and JAKE PEARSON, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House intelligence committee says it is issuing subpoenas for Michael Flynn and Michael Cohen — President Donald Trump's former national security adviser and his personal lawyer — as well as their businesses as part of its investigation into Russian activities during last year's election.

In addition to those four subpoenas, the committee issued three others — to the National Security Agency, the FBI and the CIA — for information about requests that government officials made to unmask the identities of U.S. individuals named in classified intelligence reports.

The subpoenas were announced Wednesday as the special counsel overseeing the government's investigation into possible Trump campaign ties to Russia has approved former FBI Director James Comey testifying before the Senate intelligence committee, according to a Comey associate.

At a Wednesday briefing, White House press secretary Sean Spicer said inquiries about the Russia investigation must be directed to Trump's longtime personal attorney, Marc Kasowitz. It marked the first time the White House had officially acknowledged that outside counsel had been retained. Calls and emails to Kasowitz's New York firm were not returned Wednesday.

The Comey associate, who wasn't authorized to discuss details of the testimony and spoke on condition of anonymity, declined to discuss the content of Comey's planned testimony. The associate did say that Robert Mueller, appointed by the Justice Department earlier this month to lead the government's inquiry, is allowing Comey to make certain statements.

Lawmakers are likely to ask Comey about his interactions with Trump as the bureau pursued its investigation into his campaign's contacts.

Associates have said Comey wrote memos describing certain interactions with Trump that gave him pause in the months after the election, including details of a dinner in which he claimed the president asked him to pledge his loyalty, and a request to shut down the investigation of Flynn.

A spokesman for Mueller, a former FBI director, declined to comment. Mueller's separate probe could conceivably look at the circumstances surrounding Comey's firing.

Congress is currently out of session. It resumes next Tuesday. No date for Comey's testimony has been

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 23 of 37

set.

The Associated Press reported earlier this month that Comey planned to testify before the Senate committee after Memorial Day, but the approval from Mueller to do so could indicate that date is fast approaching.

A spokeswoman for the committee's chairman, Sen. Richard Burr, R-N.C., said the committee welcomes Comey's testimony, but declined to comment further.

The House panel pursuing its own investigation of the Trump campaign and possible Russia ties has also sought information from Comey, asking the FBI to turn over documents related to his interactions with both the White House and the Justice Department.

Subpoenas were approved Wednesday for Flynn and his company, Flynn Intel Group, and Cohen and his firm, Michael D. Cohen & Associates.

Cohen, who'd earlier refused a request for information saying it was "not capable of being answered," told The Associated Press on Tuesday that he would comply with subpoenas, should they be issued. He said he has "nothing to hide."

Trump has repeatedly dismissed allegations that his campaign collaborated with Russia ahead of the presidential election. Early Wednesday morning, the president tweeted "Witch Hunt!" in reference to testimony by Comey and former CIA director John Brennan before Congress on the topic.

Also Wednesday, a Justice Department official confirmed that Mueller had named a top Justice Department official to his team. Andrew Weissmann had been head of the criminal division's fraud section since 2015. The longtime Justice official previously served as FBI general counsel under Mueller. He began his career with Justice in 1991 at the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of New York. He later joined and ran the Enron Task Force.

Pearson reported from New York. Associated Press writers Sadie Gurman and Julie Bykowicz in Washington contributed to this report.

## Cavs the champs but Warriors the favorites in the NBA Finals

By BRIAN MAHONEY, AP Basketball Writer

Some predictions see the NBA Finals ending quickly. A video game simulation has them going the distance. All seem to agree on the Golden State Warriors winning.

Beaten last year by Cleveland's historic comeback, the Warriors will try to avenge that defeat and get back on top when they face the Cavaliers again, the first time two teams have met three straight times in the NBA Finals.

Game 1 is Thursday at Oracle Arena, where the Cavaliers won their first championship last year by becoming the first team to rally from a 3-1 deficit in the finals. The Warriors are back with a more formidable team after adding Kevin Durant, a healthier one after Stephen Curry was banged up last postseason, and not even LeBron James and the Cavs are given much chance of stopping them.

"I think they're the prohibitive favorite," ABC analyst Jeff Van Gundy said. "I think when you're the prohibitive favorite against LeBron James, Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love, that means you're a heck of a team, and they sure are."

The Warriors are 12-0 in the playoffs and have won 27 of their last 28 overall. Cleveland will have to slow down a team that has been clobbering teams by 16.3 points per game in the postseason.

A lackluster postseason could be salvaged by a close, compelling series, which was the result of an NBA 2K17 simulation that ended with Durant leading the Warriors to a Game 7 rout.

The Warriors are a powerhouse, but the Cavs are 12-1 in the playoffs and give themselves a shot no matter who else does.

"Since I've been in this league, it's hard to get to the playoffs, let alone march all the way to the finals," guard Iman Shumpert said. "But I think we got a great group of guys, headlined by one of the best guys to ever do it. That gives us a chance in any game."

Some things to watch in the series:

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 24 of 37

A LOT OF LOVE? Cleveland almost certainly needs the Kevin Love of the last round to have a chance at the upset. He averaged a quiet 13.8 points in the first two rounds, then busted out for 22.6 points and 12.4 rebounds per game against Boston in the Eastern Conference finals. Golden State will try to keep him in check with Draymond Green, one of the league's best and most versatile defenders.

"When he's going, he makes their team a lot better," Green said, "so it is my job to try to take him out of the game."

WHAT HOME-COURT ADVANTAGE? The Cavaliers' nine-game postseason road winning streak, three shy of the 2001-02 Lakers' league record, started with victories last year in Games 5 and 7 in Oakland. The Warriors won at least once in Cleveland in each of the last two NBA Finals, part of their franchise-record streak of 14 straight series with a road victory.

STRAIGHT SHOOTERS? All-Star Klay Thompson is shooting 38 percent from the field in the postseason and 2015 NBA Finals MVP Andre Iguodala is just 3 for 27 from 3-point range. The Warriors' best lineup against the Cavaliers probably has both players on the floor at the same time, with Iguodala on James and Thompson defending Irving, so Thompson said he doesn't get caught up in whether his shot is falling.

"What happened in the past in my mind doesn't really count now unless we go out and finish the deal," he said. "So as long as I perform at this stage now and play my hardest, that's all I can ask for. It's been working up to this point, so I can't change what I'm doing."

NO WORRY FROM CURRY: After a knee injury in the playoffs and a quick turnaround following the conference finals, Curry wasn't in top shape last June. He's in better health now, even while wearing a sleeve over his elbow to protect some swelling.

"Obviously not really dealing with any bumps or bruises really besides this elbow that's not really a factor," Curry said. "So other than that, feeling fresh."

More AP NBA: [apnews.com/tag/NBAbasketball](http://apnews.com/tag/NBAbasketball)

## Jerry Garcia's guitar fetches \$1.9M at New York auction

NEW YORK (AP) — A guitar that Jerry Garcia played everywhere from San Francisco's Winterland Ballroom to Egypt's Great Pyramids fetched over \$1.9 million at an auction Wednesday night.

The Grateful Dead frontman's guitar — named Wolf — was sold at the Brooklyn Bowl, a bowling alley, restaurant and music venue. The sale price includes the buyer's premium. The proceeds are earmarked for the Montgomery, Alabama-based Southern Poverty Law Center.

The guitar was owned by devoted Deadhead Daniel Pritzker, a philanthropist, musician and film director who bought the instrument in 2002 for \$790,000.

"I've been a fan of The Dead since I was a kid, and playing this iconic guitar over the past 15 years has been a privilege," said Pritzker. "But the time is right for Wolf to do some good."

SPLC President Richard Cohen said the organization is grateful Pritzker "is willing to part with this piece of music history to support the SPLC's mission fighting hate and bigotry."

The auctioneer says Wolf first appeared in a 1973 New York performance the Grateful Dead gave for the Hells Angels.

The instrument bears a devilish looking, cartoon-like image of a wolf's face — eyes menacingly narrowed, ears pricked up, red tongue hanging out, fangs at the ready.

The 1977 film "The Grateful Dead Movie" was directed by Garcia and features extensive footage of the instrument.

Garcia died in 1995.



## Analysts: Leaving climate deal likely wouldn't add US jobs

By PAUL WISEMAN, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has declared that abandoning the Paris climate agreement would be a victory for the American economy.

Many economists have big doubts.

They say the agreement would likely help create about as many jobs in renewable energy as it might cost in polluting industries. Should the United States pull out of the pact and seek to protect old-school jobs in coal and oil, it would risk losing the chance to lead the world in developing environmentally friendly technology — and generate the jobs that come with it. What's more, over the haul, climate change itself threatens to impose huge costs on the economy.

"Withdrawing from the Paris agreement is hardly going to create jobs in the U.S.," says Cary Coglianese, professor at the University of Pennsylvania and editor of the book "Does Regulation Kill Jobs?" "While specific environmental regulations can sometimes lead to job losses, they also can and do lead to job gains — with the result being roughly a wash."

The Paris agreement has drawn surprising support from major companies, from oil giants like Exxon Mobil and Royal Dutch Shell to other corporate giants like Walmart and Apple.

"We need a framework like that to address the challenge of climate change, the risk of climate change," Darren Woods, CEO of Exxon Mobil, said Wednesday.

Likewise, Shell CEO Ben van Beurden told NPR earlier this month that talk of leaving the Paris accord risked creating the "unpredictability" that makes business decisions harder.

Elon Musk, CEO of electric carmaker Tesla and aerospace company SpaceX, tweeted that he would leave two White House advisory councils if Trump went ahead with this threat to leave the Paris accord.

Under the Paris accord, nearly 200 nations agreed in 2015 to voluntarily cut greenhouse gas emissions in a landmark agreement to fight climate change. The pact became one of President Barack Obama's signature achievements. But Trump campaigned on a promise to nix the deal, saying it would mean stricter environmental policies that would hobble the economy and cost jobs.

A White House official said Wednesday that Trump was planning to pull out of the Paris deal, although a final decision had not been made. And Trump has reversed himself before on major policy pledges, including on whether to abandon the North American Free Trade Agreement, a step the president no longer favors.

Economists say that leaving the Paris deal and easing efforts to control emissions would hardly deliver a big payoff in jobs. A 2001 study by Eli Berman and Linda Bui, both then at Boston University, found "no evidence that local air quality regulation substantially reduced employment" when Los Angeles imposed stricter environmental restrictions.

"There's no doubt that regulations have costs, but they are not the primary driver of employment," says Michael Greenstone, an economist at the University of Chicago.

Polluting industries such as oil and coal are highly automated and are unlikely to embark on a major hiring spree even if the United States dropped out of the Paris agreement, experts say.

"The potential number of jobs you can create in fossil fuels is limited, while the potential number of jobs in green technologies — in principle the sky is the limit," says Bart van Ark, chief economist at the Conference Board, a business research group.

Already, the United States employs more people in solar energy (nearly 374,000) than in coal (a little over 160,000), according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

"The perception that we have to decide between creating jobs or tackling climate change is a false choice," said Dean Garfield, president of the tech trade group ITI. "Our clean energy industry is growing and employing millions of Americans in good-paying jobs in both red and blue states as it powers more of our businesses and communities. It is not too late to for the president to stay the course and work with the tech industry to ensure that more clean energy jobs continue to go to Americans and that U.S. leadership in innovation is second to none."

Many big companies say they must make long-term investment decisions based on the assumption that

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 26 of 37

most countries will stiffen environmental standards. Accordingly, they are increasingly investing more in green technology.

"The business sector is moving ahead anyway," van Ark says. "Businesses that are into this are into it for the long haul. Not just for four years, the term of a president."

General Electric, for instance, plans to invest \$25 billion in clean technology research and development by 2020.

"We believe climate change is real and the science is well accepted," GE's chief executive, Jeffrey Immelt, wrote to employees in a blog post in March. "Our customers, partners and countries are demanding technology that generates power while reducing emissions, improving energy efficiency and reducing cost."

Economists also warn that climate change could inflict a devastating impact on the global economy. Drought and water shortages could sap growth. Rising sea levels could swamp low-lying cities and farmland. A 2015 report by Stanford University's Marshall Burke and the University of California, Berkeley's Sol Hsiang and Ted Miguel found the climate change could slash 20 percent from global economic output by 2100 — more than five times previous estimates.

"Global climate change is a threat to the economy," says Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics. "Anything that we do that works to curtail global warming is an economic plus." Anything that delays the fight against climate change is "an economic negative."

AP Business Writer David Koenig in Dallas contributed to this story.

## Train stabbing survivor: Portland has 'white savior complex'

By GILLIAN FLACCUS, Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A man who was stabbed in the neck while trying to stop a man from shouting anti-Muslim insults at two young women on a Portland, Oregon, light-rail train said Wednesday that the city should focus on the girls, not him.

An emotional Micah Fletcher said in a six-minute video on his Facebook page that Portland has a "white savior complex" and residents are heaping praise on him, but the real victims are the women. He says they must be traumatized from being targets of hate and from the deaths of two other men who also tried to intervene Friday.

"These people need to be reminded that this is about them, that they are the real victims here," he said.

Jeremy Joseph Christian is accused of stabbing to death Ricky Best, 53, and Taliesin Namkai-Meche, 23. Prosecutors say he attacked them after they confronted him for harassing two young black women, one of whom wore a Muslim head covering.

Fletcher, a 21-year-old student at Portland State University and a poet, also stood up to Christian. His wound was within millimeters of being fatal, court documents say. He has been released from the hospital and attended Christian's first court hearing, where a scar on his neck was visible.

Christian, 35, did not enter a plea Tuesday. His court-appointed attorney, Gregory Scholls, has not returned a call.

Fletcher's post included a link to a fundraising page for the girls.

"Suffice it to say, that I think it's immensely, immensely and morally wrong how much money we have gotten as opposed to the money, love, kindness that has been given to that little girl," he said, speaking of the money raised for him and the slain victims' families.

Court documents describe a chaotic scene on the train from the moment Christian boarded.

He was drinking sangria from a large, bladder-style bag and began shouting anti-Muslim slurs once he spotted the two young women, according to a probable cause affidavit signed by Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Ryan Lufkin.

One passenger tried to intervene and was not hurt. The women moved away from Christian.

Surveillance video then shows Christian turn his attention to Namkai-Meche, who was seated. It wasn't clear if he said something to draw Christian's attention, but he stood up as Christian began shouting at him.

Fletcher then stood up and pushed Christian hard enough to make him stumble, the affidavit said.

Christian pulled a folded knife from his pocket and concealed it in his hand, prosecutors say. As a shoving match ensued, Christian first stabbed Fletcher, then Namkai-Meche, the documents say. Best then tried to come to their aid and was stabbed.

Also Wednesday, an organizer canceled an anti-Shariah law rally that had been planned for June 10 in downtown Portland. In a Facebook post, Scott Ryan Presler blamed "inflammatory comments" by Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler that he said put participants at risk of violence. He said they will march in Seattle instead.

Wheeler had called on the U.S. government to revoke a permit for an event Sunday billed as a pro-President Donald Trump free-speech rally and not to issue a permit for the rally against Islamic law. Both were planned on federal property.

The government said Wednesday that it would not revoke this weekend's permit.

Associated Press Writer Steven Dubois contributed to this report.

Follow Gillian Flaccus on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/gflaccus> .

## Truck bomb kills 90, wounds hundreds in Afghan capital

By RAHIM FAIEZ and KATHY GANNON, Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A suicide attacker struck the fortified heart of the Afghan capital with a massive truck bomb Wednesday, killing 90 people, wounding 400 and raising new fears about the government's ability to protect its citizens nearly 16 years into a war with insurgents.

The bomber drove into Kabul's heavily guarded diplomatic quarter during the morning rush hour, leaving behind a bloody scene of chaos and destruction in one of the worst attacks since the drawdown of foreign forces from Afghanistan in 2014.

Most of the casualties were civilians, including women and children, said Ismail Kawasi, spokesman of the public health ministry. But the dead also included Afghan security guards at the facilities, including the U.S. Embassy, while 11 American contractors were wounded — none with life-threatening injuries, a U.S. State Department official said.

"I have been to many attacks, taken wounded people out of many blast sites, but I can say I have ever seen such a horrible attack as I saw this morning," ambulance driver Alef Ahmadzai told The Associated Press. "Everywhere was on fire and so many people were in critical condition."

There was no claim of responsibility for the attack, which came in the first week of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. The Taliban flatly denied any involvement in an email to news outlets and condemned all attacks against civilians.

The explosives were hidden in a tanker truck used to clean out septic systems, said Najib Danish, deputy spokesman for the interior minister. The number of dead and wounded was provided by the Afghan government's media center, citing a statement from the Afghan Ulema Council, the country's top religious body that includes Muslim clerics, scholars and men of authority in religion and law.

The blast gouged a crater about 5 meters (15 feet) deep near Zanzaq Square in the Wazir Akbar Khan district, where foreign embassies are protected by a battery of their own security personnel as well as Afghan police and National Security Forces. The nearby German Embassy was heavily damaged.

Also in the area is Afghanistan's Foreign Ministry, the Presidential Palace and its intelligence and security headquarters, guarded by soldiers trained by the U.S. and its coalition partners.

"The terrorists, even in the holy month of Ramadan, the month of goodness, blessing and prayer, are not stopping the killing of our innocent people," said President Ashraf Ghani.

President Donald Trump spoke with Ghani after the attack, and Secretary of State Rex Tillerson condemned it as a "senseless and cowardly act."

"The United States stands with the government and the people of Afghanistan and will continue to support their efforts to achieve peace, security, and prosperity for their country," Tillerson said in a statement.

Afghanistan's war, the longest ever involving U.S. troops, has shown no sign of letting up, and the introduction into the battle of an Islamic State affiliate has made the country only more volatile.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 28 of 37

Although they are small in number, militants from the Islamic State in Khorasan — an ancient name for parts of Afghanistan, Iran and Central Asia — have taken credit for several brazen assaults on the capital.

“Let’s be clear: This is an intelligence failure, as has been the case with so many other attacks in Kabul and beyond. There was a clear failure to anticipate a major security threat in a highly secured area,” said Michael Kugelman of the U.S.-based Wilson Center.

“The fact that these intelligence failures keep happening suggest that something isn’t working at the top, and major and urgent changes are needed in security policy,” he said by email.

Still, there are questions about whether a U.S. pledge to send more troops to Afghanistan will curb the violence.

“The sad reality is that more foreign troops would not necessarily ensure these attacks happen less,” Kugelman said. “But they could help by supplementing training programs meant to enhance Afghan intel collection capacities, which have long been a deficiency in Afghanistan.”

There are currently 8,500 U.S. troops in Afghanistan with a U.S. promise of more to come.

Afghan lawmaker and analyst Nasrullah Sadeqizada bemoaned the abysmal security, saying “the situation is deteriorating day by day.”

In an interview, Sadeqizada criticized U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan, saying they have done little to improve protection in the country.

“If the situation continues to deteriorate, Afghans will lose all trust in the foreigners who are in Afghanistan as friends,” he warned.

Gen. Mirza Mohammad Yarmand, former deputy interior minister, said more troops won’t help, although he urged the global community to stay committed to Afghanistan.

“I don’t think that more U.S. or NATO soldiers can solve the security problems in Afghanistan,” he said.

“When we had more than 100,000 foreign soldiers, they were not even able to secure Helmand province” in southern Afghanistan, where the Taliban controls roughly 80 percent of the area, he said.

In the past year, U.S. troops have largely focused on thwarting a surge in Taliban attacks.

The stricken neighborhood was considered Kabul’s safest, with the embassies protected by dozens of 10-foot-high blast walls and government offices guarded by security forces. More than 50 cars were either destroyed or damaged.

“I’ve never seen such a powerful explosion in my life,” said Mohammad Haroon, who owns a nearby sporting goods store. All the windows in his shop and others around him were shattered, he added.

Shocked residents soaked in blood stumbled in the streets before being taken to hospitals. Passers-by helped them into private cars, while others went to the nearby Italian-run Emergency Hospital.

Besides the German Embassy, damage was reported at the embassies of China, Turkey, France, India and Japan, according to officials from those countries. Other nearby embassies include those of the U.S., Britain, Pakistan and Iran, as well as the NATO mission.

Nine Afghan guards at the U.S. Embassy were killed and 11 American contractors were wounded, with one Afghan guard missing, according to a U.S. State Department official, who was not authorized to talk publicly on the matter and spoke on condition of anonymity. None of the wounded Americans appeared to have life-threatening injuries, the official said.

The BBC said one of its drivers was killed and four of its journalists were wounded. Afghanistan’s private TOLO Television also reported a staffer killed; Germany said an Afghan security guard outside its embassy was among the dead.

German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel said that along with an Afghan guard who was killed, a German diplomat was slightly wounded and an Afghan staffer had severe injuries.

Chancellor Angela Merkel condemned the attack, saying that “terrorism has no borders.”

It “targets all of us — whether in Manchester or Berlin, Paris, Istanbul, St. Petersburg or today in Kabul,” she said in the southern German city of Nuremberg.

“Today we’re united in shock and sadness across all borders,” she added.

She vowed: “We will lead the fight against terrorism, and we will win it.”

Germany has had troops in Afghanistan for 15 years, primarily in the north in and around Mazar-e-Sharif.

It is one of the biggest contributors to the NATO-led Resolute Support mission, with about 980 soldiers supporting and training Afghan forces.

Neighboring Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the bomb damaged residences of some of its diplomats and staff and caused some minor injuries.

Associated Press writer Rahim Faiez reported this story in Kabul and AP writer Kathy Gannon reported from Islamabad. AP writers Amir Shah in Kabul, Matthew Lee in Washington and David Rising in Berlin contributed to this report.

## **Bounty hunters and fugitive shoot each other dead in Texas**

**By DAVID WARREN, Associated Press**

DALLAS (AP) — Authorities said Wednesday two bounty hunters and the fugitive from Minnesota they were tracking shot each other dead in a hail of bullets that sent customers and employees fleeing for cover at a Texas car dealership.

The two men had pursued Ramon Michael Hutchinson, 49, to a Nissan dealership in Greenville, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) northeast of Dallas Tuesday. Stew Peters, a bail investigator with the private Minnesota-based company U.S. Fugitive Recovery and Extradition, said Hutchinson had been sought since March when he failed to appear for a court hearing in Hennepin County, which includes Minneapolis.

Hutchinson, listed in court records as a resident of St. Paul, Minnesota, was facing several charges that included assaulting a law enforcement officer.

It's not clear what brought Hutchinson to Texas but Peters said he received a phone call Tuesday from Fidel Garcia Jr., a private investigator based in Corpus Christi, Texas, to say Garcia and colleague Gabriel Bernal had tracked Hutchinson to the dealership. A woman associated with Hutchinson had her car there.

After an hours-long wait for Hutchinson to appear, the two bounty hunters approached Tuesday evening. Garcia and Bernal drew their weapons and Hutchinson responded by drawing his own pistol, which he dropped, according to a statement from Kathy Lucas, spokeswoman for the city of Greenville. The men fought as Hutchinson retrieved his weapon and began firing. The other two fired as well and Lucas said about 20 shots were fired in the span of six seconds. Customers and employees fled for cover.

"Mr. Garcia felt the defendant would ultimately appear at that dealership," Peters said. "Unfortunately Mr. Hutchinson was more prepared for a gunfight."

Hutchinson and the two investigators died at the scene. No one else was struck by the gunfire.

The owner of the dealership, Rick Ford, told The Associated Press by email Wednesday that the two men called the dealership earlier and identified themselves as federal agents. They later presented themselves to a receptionist and the general manager in the same way, Ford said.

Peters said he didn't know Bernal, 33, but had been friends with Garcia for a decade and said he would not misrepresent himself.

"He always performed his investigations with the utmost integrity," Peters said, adding that Garcia commonly wore both audio and visual recording devices while working. It's not known if he was wearing the devices Tuesday.

Garcia, 54, sat on the board of the Texas Association of Licensed Investigators and another board member, Bradley Smith, described him as a "gentle giant."

"He was a big man and he had a big heart to go with it," Smith said.

He said private investigators registered in Texas are licensed through the state Department of Public Safety, and added that bail-bond companies seeking fugitives in Texas are required to use registered investigators.

Tuesday's shooting was the second time in about a month in the U.S. when violence erupted as private groups were attempting to apprehend fugitives.

Authorities in Tennessee say seven people they described as bounty hunters shot at four people in a

car April 23 in Clarksville, killing one man and injuring another. It appears the larger group targeted the wrong vehicle and all seven have been indicted on first-degree murder charges. Not one of the men in the car was wanted on outstanding charges.

## **Painful words: How a 1980 letter fueled the opioid epidemic**

**By MARILYNN MARCHIONE, AP Chief Medical Writer**

Nearly 40 years ago, a respected doctor wrote a letter to the New England Journal of Medicine with some very good news: Out of nearly 40,000 patients given powerful pain drugs in a Boston hospital, only four addictions were documented.

Doctors had been wary of opioids, fearing patients would get hooked. Reassured by the letter, which called this "rare" in those with no history of addiction, they pulled out their prescription pads and spread the good news in their own published reports.

And that is how a one-paragraph letter with no supporting information helped seed a nationwide epidemic of misuse of drugs like Vicodin and OxyContin by convincing doctors that opioids were safer than we now know them to be.

On Wednesday, the journal published an editor's note about the 1980 letter and an analysis from Canadian researchers of how often it has been cited — more than 600 times, often inaccurately. Most used it as evidence that addiction was rare, and most did not say it only concerned hospitalized patients, not outpatient or chronic pain situations such as bad backs and severe arthritis that opioids came to be used for.

"This pain population with no abuse history is literally at no risk for addiction," one citation said. "There have been studies suggesting that addiction rarely evolves in the setting of painful conditions," said another.

"It's difficult to overstate the role of this letter," said Dr. David Juurlink of the University of Toronto, who led the analysis. "It was the key bit of literature that helped the opiate manufacturers convince front-line doctors that addiction is not a concern."

Hospital databases were so limited in 1980 that we can't be confident there weren't more problems, or cases discovered after patients were discharged, Juurlink said.

The letter was written by Dr. Hershel Jick, a drug specialist at Boston University Medical Center, and a graduate student.

"I'm essentially mortified that that letter to the editor was used as an excuse to do what these drug companies did," Jick told The Associated Press in an interview on Wednesday. "They used this letter to spread the word that these drugs were not very addictive."

Jick said his letter only referred to people getting opioids in the hospital for a short period of time and has no bearing on long-term outpatient use. He also said he testified as a government witness in a lawsuit years ago over the marketing of pain drugs.

Use grew in the 1990s when drugs like OxyContin came on the market, and more people using opioids for chronic pain developed dependence .

The new editor's note in the journal says: "For reasons of public health, readers should be aware that this letter has been 'heavily and uncritically cited' as evidence that addiction is rare with opioid therapy."

The journal's top editor, Dr. Jeffrey Drazen, said, "People have used the letter to suggest that you're not going to get addicted to opioids if you get them in a hospital setting. We know that not to be true."

The journal also published a report from Dr. Francis Collins, director of the National Institutes of Health, and Dr. Nora Volkow, head of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, pledging to work with industry to develop new ways to reverse and prevent overdoses, to treat addiction, and to find novel, non-addictive drugs for chronic pain.

In the next six weeks, NIH will hold three workshops with drug company leaders to identify next steps, Collins said. The goal is to cut in half the usual amount of time to develop new treatments — a target borrowed from the Cancer Moonshot project launched by former Vice President Joe Biden to make a decade's worth of progress toward cures in half that time.

Details have not been worked out, but it could resemble similar partnerships on Alzheimer's, diabetes and some other diseases where scientists from government and industry determine pressing needs, develop a work plan and split the cost, Collins said.

"Industry's interest in this has been muted until recently," Collins said. Now, "they feel the responsibility and the opportunity to take part in this and they're not going to stand back and watch."

With the Food and Drug Administration wanting to speed work on new pain drugs, "the stars are aligning," Collins said. "I think we can make real progress now."

Marilynn Marchione can be followed on Twitter: @MMarchioneAP

## **GOP health plan could be costly for those with coverage gaps**

**By SHEILA BURKE and DAVID EGGERT, Associated Press**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — As a thyroid cancer survivor battling nerve damage and other complications, Lisa Dammert was in such dire financial straits in 2014 that she and her husband did the unthinkable: They let their health insurance lapse for a while.

If the Dammerts and some of the millions of other Americans like them do that under the Republican health care plan now making its way through Congress, they could end up paying a heavy price.

Under the bill, people who go without insurance for even just a couple of months — whether because of a job loss, a divorce, a serious illness that leaves them unable to work, or some other reason — could face sharply higher premiums if they try to sign up again for coverage, especially if they have a pre-existing condition. Some might find themselves priced out of the market.

Dammert, who lives in the Nashville suburb of Franklin, said her husband has since gotten a job that provides health insurance for the family, but she knows hard times could come again. She is watching the fate of the Republican bill.

"It scares me to death," she said.

The bill, which passed the House but is certain to be amended in the Senate, represents the GOP's effort to deliver on its promise to repeal and replace President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act, a law critics say has driven up insurance costs and is unsustainable.

The bill requires insurers to raise premiums 30 percent for anyone seeking to buy a policy on the individual market who had a lapse in coverage of 63 days or more in the previous year.

The legislation also enables states to obtain a waiver that would allow insurers to charge higher premiums to people with pre-existing conditions if they had a gap in coverage. Under the current law, the sick and the healthy must be charged the same.

Because of those gap-in-coverage rules, some people might be unable to find affordable insurance, according to an analysis by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

The higher premiums would start in 2019, giving people enough time to get insured and avoid the penalties.

The budget office estimates that states that are home to one-sixth of the U.S. population, or more than 50 million people, would ask for the waiver.

States that opt for a waiver would have to find a way to try to keep premiums affordable, such as creating high-risk pools for people with serious medical problems. In the past, many state-run high-risk pools offered policies that some consumers still found too costly.

"That high-risk pool has to exist, but it does not have to offer affordable coverage," said Cynthia Cox, associate director of health reform and private insurance at the Kaiser Family Foundation. Insurance companies, she said, could use high premiums to avoid taking on sick people.

Republicans say the gap-in-coverage surcharges will help stabilize premiums for everyone by getting people to carry insurance at all times instead of waiting until they get sick. Michigan Rep. Fred Upton, a Republican, said such provisions are "a simple but important reform that will encourage patients to enroll in coverage and stay enrolled."

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 32 of 37

Yet maintaining health insurance might not be possible all the time, said Albert Noll, a speech pathologist in Austin, Texas.

Before Obama's health care law took effect, Noll and his wife went 15 years with prolonged periods in which they had no insurance. Often, it was just too expensive — as much as \$1,250 a month when he worked at a long-term care facility.

"Life happens, and sometimes you are forced into situations, as we have been throughout our lives together, where you (realize), 'I can't do this,'" he said. "For whatever reason, it happens to people."

One three-month gap came after he finished a master's degree but had to wait for new coverage to kick in. That left them uninsured for part of the time Patricia Noll was pregnant with the couple's second daughter. She recalls thinking, "Please, God, do not let anything happen."

Roughly 27 million people had a gap in their health coverage of several months or more in 2015, a recent Kaiser report found. An estimated 6.3 million of those had pre-existing conditions.

Heidi Varner, of Midland Township, Michigan, said her first break in coverage came after a divorce. She worked part-time jobs while raising three daughters but could not afford her own insurance.

She went without coverage for a decade despite having been treated for cervical cancer while on her husband's plan. She skipped mammograms and other screenings.

The 61-year-old had insurance for roughly eight years while working for the American Cancer Society but was laid off in September. She acquired insurance two months later through Michigan's expansion of Medicaid, which was made possible by the Affordable Care Act.

Varner said a law that penalizes people for coverage gaps would be out of step with the times.

"In this day and age, there are companies that are downsizing all the time," she said. "It's very feasible for most people to have at least a two-month gap in insurance. It's not like when my dad worked for Dow forever and had a pension and you knew you had a job for your whole life."

Eggert reported from Lansing, Michigan.

## A guide to global warming, Paris pact and the US role

By **SETH BORENSTEIN, AP Science Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — If President Donald Trump pulls the United States out of the international agreement to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, what could that mean for the rapidly heating Earth?

Here's a guide to what's in the Paris agreement, what's going on with global warming, and what might happen if the rest of the world keeps fighting man-made climate change and the U.S. stays partially or completely on the sidelines.

**WHAT IS THE PARIS AGREEMENT TRYING TO DO?**

The 2015 agreement aims to prevent the Earth from heating up by 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) since the start of the industrial age.

But the world has already warmed about 1.1 degrees Celsius (2 degrees Fahrenheit) since the Industrial Revolution, so this is more about preventing an additional 1.6 degrees Fahrenheit of warming.

**HOW?**

Each nation submitted its own goals for curbing heat-trapping emissions. Those pledges added up to preventing 117 billion tons of carbon dioxide from being put into the air by 2030, analysts calculate.

The U.S. set a target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2025 at 26 to 28 percent below 2005 levels — or about 1.6 billion tons of annual emissions. A study last year in the journal *Nature Climate Change* said America will probably only reach four-fifths of that goal.

For China, the No. 1 polluter, having overtaken the United States, the goal was for emissions to peak by 2030 and then start dropping, reducing the amount of carbon pollution per person to about 60 percent of 2005 levels. Some recent signs show that Chinese carbon emissions may have already flattened out, a decade earlier than expected. China accounts for nearly one-third of the pledged reductions.

The Paris accord was agreed upon by 197 countries and so far has been ratified by 147 parties, which



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 33 of 37

includes the European Union. That put the deal in effect.

The goals are voluntary. There is no climate court. All that's required is a plan and reporting on progress toward the plan.

## WHAT ARE THE U.S. OPTIONS?

The U.S. could stay in the agreement and work toward fulfilling its pledges. It could stay in the accord and not hit its goals. It could stay in the pact and change its target, probably by lowering it. Or it could pull out of the agreement altogether.

It takes at least a year and possibly up to 3½ years for a nation to withdraw from the pact.

No matter what the U.S. does, the Paris agreement remains in effect.

## THE SCIENCE

The world is warming, with the last three years the hottest on record. This year is on track to be the second-warmest, behind 2016.

Sea levels are rising. Sea ice in the Arctic is at record low levels. Glaciers worldwide are melting, as are parts of Antarctica. Plants and animals are changing in their growing and migration habits because of shorter and milder winters. Extreme weather in many places has increased.

All but a very few scientists say the overwhelming majority of warming is man-made, as do dozens of scientific academies and professional societies. Scientists have known since the 19th century that burning coal, oil and gas spews carbon dioxide into the air, which then acts like a blanket to trap heat on Earth.

Carbon dioxide stays in the air for 100 years, and about one-fifth of what has accumulated in the atmosphere came from the U.S., more than any other country.

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN WITHOUT U.S. COOPERATION?

The Associated Press interviewed dozens of scientists and consulted computer simulations, and they say without the U.S. pledges, the dangerous 2-degree rise is nearly inescapable.

But they also say that even with the U.S. doing its share, preventing that warming is going to be unlikely and will require even more cuts than contained in the Paris agreement.

University of Oklahoma meteorology professor Jason Furtado said blowing past the 2-degree mark would be a potential "tipping point" that would lead to "a new and irreversible state in the climate system."

One computer simulation — one that many other scientists say is too much of a worst-case scenario — calculates that if the U.S. increases carbon dioxide emissions and the rest of the world hits its targets, America's added carbon pollution will be responsible for about half a degree of warming (0.3 degrees Celsius).

Other scientists look at market forces and see the United States still cutting emissions because the nation is already shifting toward cleaner fuels such as cheaper natural gas, solar and wind. Solar power employs more people in the U.S. than coal.

"The U.S. pulling out of Paris will not stop the fight against global warming, since almost all other countries are committed to it," said German climate scientist Stefan Rahmstorf. "But it could delay it and any delay could be detrimental, as stopping global warming before critical tipping points are crossed is a race against the clock."

## **CNN sacks Kathy Griffin over Trump video as backlash builds**

**By FRAZIER MOORE, AP Television Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — Kathy Griffin has lost a decade-long gig ringing in the new year for CNN as a backlash builds over her video displaying a likeness of President Donald Trump's severed head.

CNN, which had called the images "disgusting and offensive" after Griffin posted the video on Tuesday, announced Wednesday it would not invite her back this year for the Times Square live New Year's Eve special she had co-hosted annually since 2007 with CNN's Anderson Cooper.

A New Mexico casino has also canceled a performance by Griffin, who was scheduled to perform at Route 66 Casino, operated by Laguna Pueblo, on July 22.

And a commercial endorsement deal was canceled just weeks after she landed it. Squatty Potty, a

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 34 of 37

Utah-based company whose products include toilet stools and other bathroom accessories, said it was suspending an ad campaign that featured Griffin.

"We were shocked and disappointed" by the video, said Bobby Edwards, the company's CEO. "It was deeply inappropriate and runs contrary to the core values our company stands for."

"I am a true supporter of free speech, but feel Kathy crossed the line," Edwards added. "I regret having to make these decisions, but have no choice."

Griffin's video made Trump seethe. Tweeting Wednesday morning, he said Griffin "should be ashamed of herself" for creating the video. "My children, especially my 11-year-old son, Barron, are having a hard time with this. Sick!"

First lady Melania Trump issued a statement of her own: "As a mother, a wife, and a human being, that photo is very disturbing. When you consider some of the atrocities happening in the world today, a photo opportunity like this is simply wrong and makes you wonder about the mental health of the person who did it."

Griffin, a comic known for her abrasive style of humor, had apologized on Tuesday, conceding that the brief video, which she originally described as an "artsy-fartsy statement" mocking the commander in chief, was "too disturbing" and wasn't funny.

"I went too far," she says in her contrite follow-up video. "I sincerely apologize."

But it was too late.

Griffin's comedy approach trades on a self-deprecating streak (she brands herself as mired on the "D List" of show biz) while she targets celebs who are higher up the food chain. And while she may never have riled a celeb of the magnitude of President Trump, the 56-year-old comic has gotten into trouble with her wisecracks.

In 2005 she was fired from her job as an E! network red-carpet commentator after joking at the Golden Globe Awards that child actress Dakota Fanning had checked into rehab.

Two years later, while accepting an Emmy for her Bravo reality series, "Kathy Griffin: My Life on the D List," she declared that "a lot of people come up here and thank Jesus for this award. I want you to know that no one had less to do with this award than Jesus."

Then she held up her trophy and said, "Suck it, Jesus. THIS is my God now!"

Her appearance was during the Creative Arts Emmys ceremony, which wasn't aired live but instead was taped for later broadcast by E! Her remarks were therefore edited. But reports of what she said drew fire from many, including Catholic League President Bill Donohue, who called it a "vulgar, in-your-face brand of hate speech."

Griffin remained unrepentant.

"I have a no-apology policy," she told CBS News in 2012. "No apologies for jokes. I apologize in my real life all the time. I say ridiculous things, I make mistakes constantly. But when I'm onstage, I'm at a microphone ... it's a joke!"

She said the fallout from her Emmy stunt was "heaven" for her: "I mean, it was comedy gold."

EDITOR'S NOTE — Frazier Moore is a national television columnist for The Associated Press. He can be reached at [fmoore@ap.org](mailto:fmoore@ap.org).

## Social media rushes to define Trump's 'covfefe' tweet

WASHINGTON (AP) — A midnight tweet from President Donald Trump has social media trying to find a meaning in the mysterious term "covfefe."

Trump tweeted just after midnight on Wednesday: "Despite the constant negative press covfefe."

The tweet immediately went viral and became one of the president's more popular posts before it was taken down after nearly six hours online. Trump poked fun at the typo, tweeting around 6 a.m., "Who can figure out the true meaning of 'covfefe' ??? Enjoy!"

The term became a top trending item on Twitter, with many users supplying tongue-in-cheek meanings.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 35 of 37

One user joked that "covfefe" is already a popular name for babies in states that voted for Trump. Silicon Valley executive Andrew Crow went as far to change his last name on Twitter to "Covfefe." Jimmy Kimmel lamented that he'll never write anything funnier than the term.

Dictionary publisher Merriam-Webster checked in with an eye-rolling tweet about people looking up "covfefe" on its website. Dozens of definitions have been submitted the Urban Dictionary website, which crowdsources meanings for slang terms.

The president returned to his normal Twitter routine later in the morning by slamming Democrats over the probe into Russia's meddling in the 2016 election.

## Most Asian stock markets rise after Wall Street loss

By **JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer**

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese stocks declined Thursday after a survey showed manufacturing weakening while other Asian markets gained after Wall Street fell for a second day.

KEEPING SCORE: The Shanghai Composite Index lost 0.5 percent to 3,102.21 while Tokyo's Nikkei 225 gained 1 percent to 19,854.27. Hong Kong's Hang Seng advanced 0.4 percent to 25,752.44 and Seoul's Kospi shed 0.1 percent to 2,344.29. Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 gained 0.2 percent to 5,733.90 and benchmarks in New Zealand, Taiwan and Southeast Asia also advanced.

WALL STREET: U.S. stocks fell on a sharp drop for banks and a rare loss for tech companies. That offset gains for drug makers and consumer-focused companies. Banks fell after executives from JPMorgan Chase and Bank of America said their trading businesses are having a rough second quarter. Energy companies fell with oil prices. Investors picked consumer-focused companies, drug makers and high-dividend utilities and household goods companies. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost less than 0.1 percent to 2,411.80. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 0.1 percent to 21,008.65.

CHINESE MANUFACTURING: The Chinese business magazine Caixin said its purchasing managers' index declined for a third month, falling to 49.6 from April's 50.3 on a 100-point scale on which numbers below 50 show activity contracting. That came after a separate PMI on Wednesday by the National Bureau of Statistics and an industry group, the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing, improved to 54.5 from 54. "Yesterday's official PMI reading had hinted at growth having remained broadly stable last month," said Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics in a report. "But today's downbeat unofficial PMI suggests conditions may not have held up as well as previously thought."

TRUMP AND CLIMATE: President Donald Trump was preparing to announce a decision on whether to pull the United States out of the Paris climate accord. Trump promoted his announcement Wednesday night on Twitter, after a day in which U.S. allies around the world sounded alarms about the likely consequences of a U.S. withdrawal. Trump himself kept everyone in suspense, saying he was still listening to "a lot of people both ways." Abandoning the pact would isolate the U.S. from allies who spent years negotiating the 2015 agreement to fight global warming by reducing carbon emissions. Withdrawing would leave the United States aligned only with Russia among the world's industrialized economies.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. oil gained 38 cents to \$48.70 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract plunged \$1.34 on Wednesday to close at \$48.32. Brent crude, used to price international oils, advanced 40 cents to \$51.16 in London. It dropped \$1.48 the previous session.

CURRENCY: The dollar gained to 110.92 yen from Wednesday's 110.76. The euro edged down to \$1.1244 from \$1.1247.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 36 of 37

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, June 1, the 152nd day of 2017. There are 213 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

It was 50 years ago today — June 1, 1967 — that the Beatles album "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" was released, as was David Bowie's debut album, eponymously titled "David Bowie."

On this date:

In 1792, Kentucky became the 15th state.

In 1796, Tennessee became the 16th state.

In 1813, the mortally wounded commander of the USS Chesapeake, Capt. James Lawrence, gave the order, "Don't give up the ship" during a losing battle with the British frigate HMS Shannon in the War of 1812.

In 1868, James Buchanan, the 15th president of the United States, died near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, at age 77.

In 1917, the song "Over There" by George M. Cohan was published by William Jerome Publishing Corp. of New York.

In 1927, Lizzie Borden, accused but acquitted of the 1892 ax murders of her father, Andrew, and her stepmother, Abby, died in Fall River, Massachusetts, at age 66.

In 1943, a civilian flight from Portugal to England was shot down by Germany during World War II, killing all 17 people aboard, including actor Leslie Howard.

In 1957, Don Bowden, a student at the University of California at Berkeley, became the first American to break the four-minute mile during a meet in Stockton, California, in a time of 3:58.7.

In 1977, the Soviet Union formally charged Jewish human rights activist Anatoly Shcharansky with treason. (Shcharansky was imprisoned, then released in 1986; he's now known by the name Natan Sharansky.)

In 1980, Cable News Network made its debut.

In 1997, Betty Shabazz, the widow of Malcolm X, was severely burned in a fire set by her 12-year-old grandson in her Yonkers, New York, apartment (she died three weeks later). The Chicago Tribune published a make-believe commencement speech by columnist Mary Schmich (shmeech) which urged graduates to, among other things, "wear sunscreen" (the essay ended up being wrongly attributed online to author Kurt Vonnegut).

In 2009, Air France Flight 447, an Airbus A330 carrying 228 people from Rio de Janeiro to Paris, crashed into the Atlantic Ocean with the loss of everyone on board.

Ten years ago: The FDA warned consumers to avoid using toothpaste made in China because it might contain a poisonous chemical used in antifreeze. Kidnapped British journalist Alan Johnston appeared in a videotape posted on an Islamic website, the first time he was seen since being abducted nearly three months earlier in Gaza. (Johnston was freed July 4, 2007.) Assisted suicide advocate Jack Kevorkian walked out of a Michigan prison, where he'd spent eight years for ending the life of a man suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease.

Five years ago: A judge in Sanford, Florida, revoked the bond of the neighborhood watch volunteer charged with murdering Trayvon Martin and ordered him returned to jail within 48 hours, saying George Zimmerman and his wife had misled the court about how much money they had available when his bond was set at \$150,000. (George Zimmerman was ultimately acquitted of the murder charge; Shellie Zimmerman pleaded guilty to perjury and was sentenced to a year's probation and community service.) The U.N.'s top human rights body voted overwhelmingly to condemn Syria over the slaughter of more than 100 civilians; Syria's most important ally and protector, Russia, voted against the measure by the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva. Johan Santana pitched the first no-hitter in New York Mets history in an 8-0 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals.

One year ago: After killing his estranged wife in a Minneapolis suburb, a former UCLA student drove

# Groton Daily Independent

**Thursday, June 01, 2017 ~ Vol. 24 - No. 322 ~ 37 of 37**

from Minnesota to Los Angeles, where he shot and killed his former professor before taking his own life. Ken Starr resigned as Baylor University's chancellor, a week after the former prosecutor who'd led the investigation of the Bill Clinton-Monica Lewinsky scandal was removed as the school's president over its handling of sexual assault complaints against football players.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Richard Erdman is 92. Singer Pat Boone is 83. Actor-writer-director Peter Master-son is 83. Actor Morgan Freeman is 80. Actor Rene Auberjonois (oh-behr-juh-NWAH') is 77. Opera singer Frederica von Stade is 72. Actor Brian Cox is 71. Rock musician Ronnie Wood is 70. Actor Jonathan Pryce is 70. Actress Gemma Craven is 67. Blues-rock musician Tom Principato is 65. Country singer Ronnie Dunn is 64. Actress Lisa Hartman Black is 61. Actor Tom Irwin is 61. Singer-musician Alan Wilder is 58. Rock musi-cian Simon Gallup (The Cure) is 57. Country musician Richard Comeaux (River Road) is 56. Actor-comedian Mark Curry is 56. Actor-singer Jason Donovan is 49. Actress Teri Polo is 48. Basketball player-turned-coach Tony Bennett is 48. Actor Rick Gomez is 45. Model-actress Heidi Klum is 44. Singer Alanis Morissette is 43. Actress Sarah Wayne Callies is 40. TV personality Damien Fahey is 37. Pop singer-songwriter Brandi Carlile is 36. Actor Johnny Pemberton is 36. Actress-writer Amy Schumer (TV: "Inside Amy Schumer") is 36. Tennis player Justine Henin is 35. Actor Taylor Handley is 33. Actress Willow Shields is 17.

Thought for Today: "The past is our only real possession in life. It is the one piece of property of which time cannot deprive us; it is our own in a way that nothing else in life is. In a word, we are our past; we do not cling to it, it clings to us." — Grace King, American author (1852-1932).