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Thurs., July 6, 2017

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Official Notices

Groton Area School Book Brown County Official Notices Book Groton City Official Notices Book Other Official Notices Book Claremont Town Official Notices Book Frederick Area School Book

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**



Thursday, July 6

Senior Menu: Baked chicken breast, mashed potatoes with gravy, baby carrots, lemon tart bar, whole wheat bread.

Jr. Legion: at Claremont, 6 p.m., DH

Softball: host Redfield, U8 at 5:30 p.m., U10 at 6:30 p.m., U12 at 7:30 p.m.

United Methodist: Prayer Group, 7 p.m.

Friday, July 7

Senior Menu: Lemon baked fish, rice pilaf, California blend veggies, peach crisp, whole wheat bread.

Legion: at Mellette, 6 p.m., DH

U12: host Claremont, DH, 6:30 p.m., Nelson Field U10 B/R: host Claremont, 5:30 p.m., Nelson Field, 1 game

U8Blue: host Claremont, 6:30 p.m., Falk Field, 1 game

T-Ball: Gold hosts Claremont, 5:30 p.m., Falk Field

Saturday, July 8

Jr. Legion: Tourney in Groton. (Redfield vs. Groton at 2 p.m., Milbank vs. Redfield at 4 p.m., Groton vs. Milbank at 6 p.m.)

U12: at Clark, 3 p.m., 1 game **U10 W/B:** at Clark, 2 p.m., 1 game



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Do not wait for EXTRAORDINARY circumstances to do good; try to use ORDINARY situations.

(Jean Paul Richter)

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They're Back! Bean Leaf Beetles & Bean Pod Mottle Virus

BROOKINGS, S.D. - Fields across South Dakota are dealing with pests this season, according to SDSU Extension staff.

"It doesn't seem to matter which way we turn or what crop we are scouting, pests are being observed," said Connie Strunk, SDSU Extension Plant Pathology Field Specialist.

Strunk noted that bean leaf beetles have been found in both soybean and alfalfa fields. She said that with the amount of bean leaf beetles being observed in fields, producers need to also watch for bean pod mottle virus development.

First identified in South Dakota in 1998, Strunk said bean pod mottle virus is considered an economically important soybean disease.

What does bean pod mottle virus look like?

"Bean pod mottle virus symptoms are commonly confused with herbicide injury and can resemble symptoms of other viruses," said Emmanuel Byamukama, Assistant Professor & SDSU Extension Plant Pathologist.

Symptoms associated with bean pod mottle virus include mild to severe chlorotic mottling or mosaic and rugosity (distortion or wrinkling) on foliage, stunting and delayed maturity (Figure 1).

"Symptom severity may lessen during hot weather or with maturity. However, the plant still remains infected with the virus," Byamukama said.

One effect of delayed maturity is the green stem disorder.

"This is where the stem remains green after the soybean pods have matured," Byamukama said.

Infection by bean pod mottle virus decreases pod formation and reduces seed size, weight and number. Seed coat mottling - the discoloration of the seed due to a black or brown pigmentation bleeding from the hilum - is another symptom caused by this virus.

Grain with discolored seeds may be docked at the time of sale. Bean pod mottle virus is also associated with increases in fungal seed infection by Phomopsis spp.

How is bean pod mottle virus spread?

Bean pod mottle virus is primarily vectored by the bean leaf beetle, explained Adam Varenhorst, Assistant Professor & SDSU Extension Field Crop Entomologist.

"When bean leaf beetles feed on bean pod mottle virus -infected soybean plants, they also ingest the virus and become a carrier," Varenhorst said.

He explained that the virus can be obtained with a single bite of an infected plant. "Virus transmission occurs rapidly with the next feeding," Varenhorst said. "As the beetle moves throughout the field, it spreads the virus to the healthy plants."

Not only is the beetle an efficient vector, but Varenhorst said it also feeds on the soybean foliage resulting in defoliation.

Later in the season the bean leaf beetles will feed not only on the leaves but also on the soybean pods and are capable of causing yield loss by clipping the pods from the plant prior to harvest.

Bean Leaf Beetle Identification

Adult bean leaf beetles are approximately ¹/₄-inch long and can vary greatly in color from white, yellow, brown, red and several other intermediate shades (Figure 2).

Adult beetles have a black triangle directly behind their thorax and varying numbers of black spots (can have 0, 2 or 4) on their backs.

"Bean leaf beetles can be difficult to scout for due to their defensive behavior of falling off of plants when disturbed," Varenhorst said.

If fields are exhibiting large amounts of defoliation Varenhorst said a sweep net can be used to determine if the culprit is bean leaf beetles.

Management

Bean leaf beetles can be managed through insecticide applications which will inhibit the spread of bean pod mottle virus.

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"Bean leaf beetles should be managed when scouted plants have approximately 30 percent defoliation," Strunk said.

Insecticide seed treatments are effective at managing the overwintering population of bean leaf beetles.

Transmission of bean pod mottle virus by the overwintering generation of bean leaf beetles causes severe yield loss.

There is no chemical control available for bean pod mottle virus infected plants found in the field. To date, no soybean cultivars have been found to be resistant to bean pod mottle virus.

SDSU Extension Beef Feedlot Management Associate Gives Advice on Making Use of "Ugly" Feeds

Column by Warren Rusche, SDSU Extension Beef Feedlot Management Associate

Summer marks the height of hay season. In an ideal world, every bale was harvested perfectly resulting in large quantities of bright green, high-quality hay. Designing cattle diets can be easy under those conditions.

Unfortunately, conditions are far from ideal in much of the Dakotas this year.

Hay will be short and producers will be forced to use some feedstuffs that may be unconventional or less than ideal.

So how do we make use of those feeds?

The good news is some quality issues can be fixed with proper supplementation.

Ruminants have the unique ability to make use of relatively poor-quality feeds, as long as we provide the right supplements for the rumen microbes.

When relying on supplements to provide nutrients forages lack, the key is knowing the kind and amount of supplementation your cattle require.

To illustrate the point, Table 1 shows the amount of feed required for drylotted 800 pound yearling heifers gaining 1.3 pounds using poor, average or high-quality grass hay, plus supplements.

Hay Quality

The expected performance and costs per day are relatively similar between the three kinds of hay. However, the supplements required to achieve those results are quite different.

Poor quality hay requires almost twice the dried distillers grains (DDGS) as average hay, while the higher protein hay achieved the same performance target with only a small quantity of corn grain.

Sampling & Testing

Relying on book values can be extremely risky, especially during challenging growing conditions.

Plants under drought stress mature more quickly than normal, resulting in more rapid declines in hay quality. The same scenario can play out when salvaging a small grain crop for forage.

As the plant begins to produce heads, the quality and feeding value of the feed decreases rapidly. The only way to know exactly what you have is to collect a representative sample and have it analyzed.

View Forage Hay Sampling Method at this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQT8w7bHfuA.

Problems That Limit (or Prevent) Feed Usefulness

Some issues simply can't be solved with a supplement.

Feeds can contain harmful compounds or other issues that either limit the amount that can be used or in extreme cases prevent the feed from being used at all.

Nitrate Concerns

Nitrate concerns immediately come to mind during drought.

Salvaged small grain crops harvested for hay are notorious for accumulating nitrates, but weeds such as kochia or pigweed can as well.

The usefulness of feeds containing nitrates depends upon the concentration of nitrates.

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The only way to know for certain is to have these feeds tested. Producers can find more in-depth information on making use of feeds that contain nitrates by reading Nitrate Poisoning of Livestock: Causes & Prevention which can be found at this link: https://igrow.org/up/resources/02-2041-2012.pdf.

Other Problems

Other problems arise from where the crop grew or how it was harvested.

Ditch hay can be a useful feedstuff, but can contain a great deal of foreign material. This could cause problems with hardware disease in cattle.

Prior pesticide applications can also limit the usefulness of a feed. Ash content is often overlooked. Researchers in North Dakota reported ash content in ditch hay samples as high as 37 percent. This represents an extreme case but illustrates that conditions along the road side can affect the usefulness of the feed.

The Bottom Line

Feed does not have to be perfect to be useful. The key to making smart feeding decisions is knowing what the imperfections are and adjusting accordingly.

To learn more, contact an SDSU Extension staff member. A complete list can be found at iGrow.org by clicking on the Field Staff Listing.

4-H Performing Arts Youth Preform Five Times During the 2017 South Dakota State Fair Sept. 2-4

BROOKINGS, S.D. - The South Dakota 4-H Performing Arts Troupe will perform The Amazing 4-H Race during the 2017 Dakota State Fair in Huron with five performances held Saturday, September 2, at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.; Sunday, September 3, at 3 and 6 p.m. and Monday (Labor Day), September 4, at 10 a.m.

The Troupe consists of 16 teens, ages 13 through 18, from eight South Dakota counties. The 2017 4-H Performing Arts Troupe members include:

Brown County - Matthew Sperry

Campbell County - Callie Mickelson

Clay County - Phillip Hauck; Tyler Hauck; Amanda Havermann; Katrina Heles

Deuel County - Ian Lundgren

Edmunds County - Benjamin Pond

McCook County - Olivia Fuller; Rafe Fuller; Maleah Gordon; Paige Peterson

McPherson County - Brandon Mueller; Zach Mueller; Jayna Sanborn

Spink County - Breanna Roth

"Now in its 34th year, this 4-H educational program provides youth an opportunity to learn new skills by participating in the 4-H Performing Arts Preparation Camp, set this year for June 11-17 at Northern State University in Aberdeen," said Amanda Stade, SDSU Extension State 4-H Events Management Coordinator.

This year's musical production is The Amazing 4-H Race. The troupe will perform a musical race adventure. Along the way the audience will enjoy such songs as "Our State Fair," "Material Girl," "Sugar Sugar," "Count on Me" and many more.

"Come join in the fun with a show for the entire family," Stade said.

Prior to the State Fair performances, the Troupe had two performances at the Northern State University's Krikac Auditorium held during their South Dakota 4-H Performing Arts Camp, held June 11 - 17 in Aberdeen.

"In addition to the public performances at the end of preparation camp, the youth are also reached out to senior members in the area by performing shows at different nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Aberdeen," Stade said.

More about S.D. 4-H Performing Arts Troupe

The South Dakota 4-H Performing Arts Troupe is a theater arts educational experience for youth interested in developing skills in drama, music, dance, and technical theater.

This distinctive program was started in 1984 by former SDSU Extension Youth Development/4-H Specialist, Carolyn Clague.

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"The program is unique in that it provides opportunities for youth and the arts to come together. The Troupe often involves youth who do not have the opportunity to experience the arts, except through the 4-H program, particularly youth from rural areas," Stade said.

The youth are directed by theater arts professionals and guided by parent volunteers. The Co Directors are Danica Mickelson of Aberdeen and Alyssa Serfling of Mellette with Danica as vocal director and Alyssa as choreography director.

More than 10 parent and alumni volunteers assist during preparation camp and the season with chaperoning, costuming, and overall production details.

4-H Performing Arts Volunteer committee members are Kathy Sperry, Bath; Cathy Mickelson, Herreid; Robyn Morgan, Mellette: Leah Fanning, Miller; and Pam Hanson, Vermillion.

More about 4-H

SDSU Extension's 4-H Youth Development Program is a partnership of federal (USDA), state (Land Grant University), and county resources through youth outreach activities of SDSU Extension. Youth learn and experience Leadership, Health and Wellness, Science and Ag-Vocacy through a network of professional staff and volunteers reaching more than 9,000 enrolled members with yearly programming efforts to an additional 35,000 youth participants.



The South Dakota 4-H Performing Arts Troupe will perform The Amazing 4-H Race during the 2017 Dakota State Fair in Huron with five performances held Saturday, September 2, at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.; Sunday, September 3, at 3 and 6 p.m. and Monday (Labor Day), September 4, at 10 a.m.

The Troupe consists of 16 teens, ages 13 through 18, from eight South Dakota counties. The 2017 4-H Performing Arts Troupe members pictured here include: Row 1: Callie Mickelson, Olivia Fuller

Row 2: Benjamin Pond, Brandon Mueller, Tyler Hauck Row 3: Jayna Sanborn, Amanda Havermann, Breanna Roth

Row 4: Zach Mueller, Rafe Fuller, Matthew Sperry, Phillip Hauck

Row 5: Ian Lundgren, Paige Peterson, Katrina Heles, Maleah Gordon

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JVT/NVC Purchase Northern Wireless

James Valley Telecommunications and Northern Valley Communications announced the purchase of Northern Wireless Communications. NVC is a subsidiary of JVT.

"We have more than 60 years of experience in the communications industry and are excited to welcome the Northern Wireless customers to our Internet family," said JVT/NVC CEO James Groft. "Internet service for Northern Wireless customers will continue uninterrupted as we make this exciting transition, and speeds will be increased where possible."

Northern Wireless customers will see their next bill come from either JVT or NVC this month depending on the service address.

JVT/NVC also provides cellular, cable TV and home phone service to Brown county and parts of Day and Spink counties.

About James Valley

James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company was incorporated Sept. 8, 1951 to serve the telephone needs of the people of rural Brown County. The Cooperative has since expanded its services to include broadband internet, cable TV, and cell phone and now serves members in Brown, Day, Spink, Marshall and Clark counties.

GDI News/Clean/Fit Downtown Groton

NEWS PAPER

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Today in Weather History

July 6, 1963: A farmer was fatally injured near Waubay, in Day County, when the barn was destroyed while he was inside. Winds of 110 mph were recorded at FAA in Watertown before the roof and wind instruments were blown away.

July 6, 1982: A severe thunderstorm produced a series of five microbursts over Sioux Falls. The microbursts caused extensive damage. Winds were estimated to have reached 125 mph, and the Airport recorded a peak gust of 82 mph. Damage, which was heaviest in the south central and northeast sections of the city, included thousands of trees uprooted or damaged. Several semi-trailers were blown over, critically injuring one man and slightly injuring two others. Several other minor injuries occurred mainly from flying glass. Five cars were rolled over by the high winds, and several others damaged flying debris. Damage at the airport included a portion of a hangar roof blown off and three light aircraft flipped over.

July 6, 1994: Widespread rainfall of over 6 inches fell in Dewey, Potter, and Faulk Counties, causing damage to roads and flooded basements and fields. A teenage girl escaped injury when her car was washed away by the waters of a swollen creek about 5 miles east of Gettysburg. Some total storm amounts include; 6.80 inches in Orient; 6.70 at Faulkton; 5.80 in Milbank; 5.48 in Big Stone City; 5.02 in Ipswich; 4.50 in Gettysburg; 4.17 in Webster; 4.12 near Onaka; 4.02 in Leola; and 3.97 in Britton.

1893: A violent tornado killed 71 persons on its forty-mile track across northwestern Iowa. Forty-nine persons were killed around Pomeroy, where eighty percent of the buildings were destroyed, with most leveled to the ground. Click HERE for more information.

1928: A seven-inch hailstone weighing 1.5 pounds fell in Potter Nebraska. With a circumference of 17 inches, this appeared to be the largest hailstone in the world at that time. Click HERE for more information from the Monthly Weather Review.

1985 - Lightning struck a large transformer in Salt Lake County sending a 200 foot fireball into the air and blacking out almost the entire state for up to five hours. (The Weather Channel)

1986: Thunderstorms during the mid-morning hours, and again during the evening, produced major flash flooding at Leavenworth, Kansas. The official rainfall total was 10.37 inches, but unofficial totals exceeded twelve inches. At nearby Kansas City, the rainfall total of 5.08 inches was a daily record for July.

1987 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather in twenty-one states east of the Rockies, with severe weather reported in Kentucky and Indiana for the second day in a row. A thunderstorm produced more than five inches of rain in one hour near Reynolds, IL. Rochester, NY, was soaked with 3.25 inches, a record 24 hour total for the month of July. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thirty-six cities in the north central and northeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Afternoon highs of 98 degrees at International Falls, MN, and 101 degrees at Flint, MI, equalled all-time records. Highs of 96 degrees at Muskegon, MI, and 97 degrees at Buffalo, NY, were records for July. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Unseasonably hot weather prevailed in the southwestern U.S. Ten cities reported record high temperatures for the date, including Las Vegas, NV, with a reading of 115 degrees. Hanksville, UT, reached 112 degrees, Bullhead City, AZ, hit 120 degrees, and Death Valley, CA, soared to 126 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)





Hot temperatures will continue today, although a less humid air mass will be moving into the region. Combined with breezy northerly winds, fire danger will be a concern.

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Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 100.7 F at 5:41 PM

High Outside Temp: 100.7 F at 5:41 P Heat Index: 110 at 4:40 PM Low Outside Temp: 68.3 F at 6:27 AM High Gust: 20.0 Mph at 7:15 PM Precip: 0.17

Today's Info Record High: 115° in 1936

Record High: 115° in 1936 Record Low: 42° in 1942 Average High: 83°F Average Low: 58°F Average Precip in July: 0.64 Precip to date in July: 0.17 Average Precip to date: 11.48 Precip Year to Date: 5.94 Sunset Tonight: 9:24 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:53 a.m.



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CHOICES AND CONSEQUENCES

Failure is never a welcome guest. Nor does one choose failure to be an associate or companion. Yet it is something that often invades our lives even though it is unwanted. Yet, from it we can learn some of life's most valuable lessons.

In Psalm 21 David begins with shouts of praise: "How the king rejoices in Your strength, O Lord...how he shouts with joy because You gave him victory...how You gave him a crown...how You preserved his life." Here we find David rejoicing and praising his Lord for the gracious gifts that He gave him. He praised God for granting him the desires of his heart and giving him victory over his enemies.

But notice carefully: he realized that the source of his strength, the joy of his victories, his golden crown and the preservation of his life all came from his Lord. He recognized God as his source of strength, survival and success. And in doing so, he gave thanks!

David learned from his mistakes. And wisely, when he came humbly from his victories, he knew who to thank: His victories came from the Lord and he acknowledged it.

God often allows us to experience the agony of defeat and the sorrow of disappointment to learn that we must rely on Him for everything, every day. In this Psalm David reminds us that his strength, joy, victory, rewards and protection all come from God. He learned from experience to trust God. What a great lesson for us.

Prayer: Help us, Lord, to realize that we can only expect victory if we look to You for our needs. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 21:1 The king rejoices in your strength, LORD. How great is his joy in the victories you give!

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News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery By The Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) _ These South Dakota lotteries were drawn Wednesday:
Dakota Cash: 05-11-31-32-34
(five, eleven, thirty-one, thirty-two, thirty-four)
Estimated jackpot: \$302,000
Hot Lotto: 01-11-14-15-46, Hot Ball: 3
(one, eleven, fourteen, fifteen, forty-six; Hot Ball: three)
Estimated jackpot: \$7.99 million
Mega Millions: Estimated jackpot: \$186 million
Powerball: 04-09-16-54-68, Powerball: 21, Power Play: 2
(four, nine, sixteen, fifty-four, sixty-eight; Powerball: twenty-one; Power Play: two)
Estimated jackpot: \$121 million

`Lion Lady' brings awareness of animals to South Dakota By TANYA MANUS, Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Lying in bed in a grass hut, listening to the roar of white lions 100 feet away, might seem terrifying. For Tracy Barrett, it was confirmation that she'd found her destiny.

Barrett, the Black Hills' "Lion Lady," fulfilled a dream earlier this year when she visited the Global White Lion Protection Trust in South Africa. The trust, which estimates that there are less than 300 white lions in the world advocates for and protects the animals, the Rapid City Journal (http://bit.ly/2sqE2JE) reported.

Barrett's passion is to bring awareness of the lions' plight to the Black Hills. A native of Lead who now lives in Rapid City, Barnett has had a love for lions since her mother took her to see "Born Free" when she was 5.

"When Elsa the lion died, I sobbed for two days, and my mother said she'd never take me to another movie again," Barrett said. "I felt an instant, intense compassion for the lion. . I knew somehow the lions were going to be part of my life."

Supporting the work of Global White Lion Protection Trust is something Barrett said she was destined for. The path that led her there began with a spiritual quest and years of training under spiritual teachers including Andrew Harvey. Through Harvey, Barrett learned of the Global White Lion Protection Trust and its founder, Linda Tucker.

The trust raises awareness internationally about lions' benefits to the environment, their value in the culture of many indigenous people, and the threats lions face, especially from international trophy hunters. The trust maintains 4,400 acres of gated, guarded land in the Timbavati region of South Africa, where three separate prides of white lions are protected.

In March, Barrett was part of a small, carefully selected group of visitors who spent two weeks at the trust's Camp Unicorn.

The journey took Barrett 9,500 miles from Rapid City. "I traveled on 10 planes altogether. I arrived in Houdspirt, South Africa, at a very small airport smaller than the one in Pierre. I landed in a field and walked about 200 yards to a shack. That was the experience of a lifetime," Barrett said, laughing.

Camp Unicorn was about 30 minutes beyond the airport. Her stay was a far cry from the modern life she left behind. "We were in the desert in the bush. . My first shower was with a (large) tarantula. I had several geckos and frogs swimming with me," Barrett said, laughing.

Every day, local tribal women sang and danced around a huge fire as they prepared meals for Barrett and the other camp visitors, in spite of 100-plus degree heat. The African people's kindness and joy im-

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pressed Barrett. Just days into her stay, she became seriously ill with heat stroke.

"When I got sick, the African women would come and bless over my body. They said God was blessing me at that time," Barrett said. "That will never leave me — their singing and dancing. It's very humbling."

Throughout their stay, Barrett and other visitors were immersed in education about white lions and the Global White Lion Protection Trust's work.

Tucker taught visitors about the lions' mythology and their cultural significance extending back to the Egyptian Sphinx. "Tribal people believe white lions are here to center and balance us and to (help us) reconnect with nature, instead of taking from it and abusing it," Barrett said.

The Shangaan tribal people, who live near the trust, revere the white lions and believe they came from the stars, Barrett said.

Tucker's partner, lion ecologist Jason Turner, taught visitors about lion behavior. Turner handles much of the care of lions at the trust.

"The ecosystem of the planet is in dire need. . Lions are the tipping point. If they are removed, nature as we know it will be dismantled," Barrett said. "Denying the balance of nature will be to our demise."

Every day, Barrett and the other visitors went on guided scouting expeditions to observe and learn. "At 5:30 every morning, we went out in open Jeeps and within five minutes, the lions would come. They came every day. They're very aware of when they have an audience," Barrett said.

"They face the sun every evening when it goes down," she said. "At 2 a.m., they would begin roaring after their hunt every night. That was like a manifestation of a dream."

White lions radiate a presence Barrett likens to divinity. "The whiteness of their mane actually glows with the sun. . You have a psychological, emotional and physical reaction to the lions. The only thing I can compare it to is when you have your first child."

Barrett also visited the nearby White Lion Trust Orphanage and School, which is run by the trust in one of the most poverty-stricken areas of South Africa. The facility cares for and educates more than 200 orphans and local children.

Her trip to Africa was "a heart-awakening experience," Barrett said. Her goal now is to be a conservationist who educates people and encourages them to be proactive about protecting lions.

"Fifty percent of the trophy hunting that takes place in Africa is by Americans, and that was disturbing to me," Barrett said. "If you're traveling, inquire if the airline flies carcasses back to your state. Many airlines are denying that."

Barrett also cautioned that many animals used for entertainment at circuses, traveling zoos and fairground exhibits are doomed. "Those cubs are destined to live a horrific life. Their only destiny is 'canned hunting.' They're raised in small cages and ultimately medicated so people can go in with high-powered rifles and shoot them," she said.

Barrett hopes to host events in the Black Hills about the Global White Lion Protection Trust. She encourages anyone interested in animal activism and conservation to contact her or the Global White Lion Protection Trust on Facebook, or visit the trust's website, whitelions.org.

Traveling to Africa to learn about lions was a dream 50 years in the making, Barrett said. She'll return to Africa in November to take classes about becoming a "lion-hearted leader" and teaching others about lion conservation.

"I knew my life was not going to be ordinary. . I had to find my own courage to follow through with my dreams," Barrett said. "Life is a great adventure or nothing at all."

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

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Rapid City jail captain retires after 27 years By TIFFANY TAN, Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Ever since she was a girl, Peggy Severson wanted to become a law enforcement officer. She idolized her grandfather, Gus Neubauer, former police chief of an East River town, whom she saw as a community protector.

There was just one thing standing between her and her ambition, she did not like guns.

"I was scared to death of guns," Severson, 54, told the Rapid City Journal (http://bit.ly/2sNzqwu). "I didn't really think I would ever be able to pursue anything in law enforcement."

But in early 1990, while she was working as an office clerk at Ellsworth Air Force Base, the solution appeared. A female colleague told Severson she was resigning to become a correctional officer at the Pennington County Jail.

After asking the woman about the little-known job, Severson remembers thinking: "Oh, my gosh . I need to apply for that."

She could become a law enforcement officer who didn't have to carry a gun.

Twenty-seven years later, Severson retired as a captain, the second highest rank at the Pennington County Jail.

Her goal from the outset — when she started out in April 1990 as a jail-booking technician and controlroom operator — was to become a supervisor.

To prove herself as a correctional officer, the following year she asked to be assigned to Cell Block 9. Housing 48 state inmates who were known to control the cell block, it was then considered the toughest and most dangerous assignment.

"No one liked working there," Severson said.

One of her first directives was to shake down the cell block. The search, she said, yielded three big laundry carts filled with contraband, such as makeshift weapons.

Anonymous notes threatening her with murder and rape followed. Severson said she didn't dwell on any feelings of fear.

"I've never felt to a point that I was scared to come to my job," she said two days before her retirement. In her almost three decades with the jail, she got assaulted by an inmate only once. One day, while she was booking an inmate, Severson said a female inmate yanked her hair back. It took about four officers to extricate the inmate from Severson, who said she had sparse spots on her head for days.

And the only time an inmate ever challenged her was when a man refused to return to his cell. She threatened to use her pepper spray if he did not follow, and the inmate backed down.

Severson said she introduced the carrying of pepper sprays among the jail's correctional officers in the early 1990s to reduce the incidents of assault on officers.

Severson, who is married to an Air Force veteran, said her husband always supported her radical career choice. The couple's two daughters were around 5 and 9 years old when she became a correctional of-ficer, and the 24/7 job meant having to work holidays and miss family affairs.

She believes being a woman in her line of work has distinct advantages despite the ever-present risk of being assaulted by inmates.

"Females are less likely to be confrontational and are better with words. We naturally show more empathy, and in certain situations are frequently more successful at calming down situations," Severson said. Some colleagues have nicknamed her "mother."

The Pennington County Jail has 22 female correctional officers, a quarter of the total number. The county sheriff's office is encouraging women to join the law enforcement agency, said spokeswoman Helene Duhamel.

Severson, who began training new recruits within three months of becoming a correctional officer, believes the key to being successful at the job is to treat people the way you want to be treated.

A correctional officer, she said, should never allow his or her ego to take over.

She considers her most rewarding accomplishments helping mentally ill inmates recover enough to work

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and contribute to the community, as well as stopping several inmates from committing suicide. As Severson cleared her office desk last week, among the items she packed to bring home was a plastic envelope. It contained old photos with co-workers, newspaper clippings about the jail and poems given to her by inmates.

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

Authorities seize 76 animals from Ashton farm, charge owner

ASHTON, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have seized 75 cows and a horse from a farm near Ashton in northeastern South Dakota.

The Spink County Sheriff's Office said Wednesday that the owner of the animals, 63-year-old Rex Spear, has been charged with felony animal abuse and misdemeanor animal neglect.

Spear is due in court Monday. He does not have a listed phone number.

The animals are being cared for in nearby Brown County.

Initiative aims to force disclosure of advocacy group donors By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A proposed ballot measure that would force nonprofit advocacy organizations to reveal top donors if the groups make significant contributions to ballot question campaigns would help inform voters about who is behind initiative messaging, the South Dakota House speaker said Wednesday.

The initiative comes after an election cycle dominated by ballot measure spending from "faceless" groups outside of South Dakota, Republican state Rep. Mark Mickelson said. His proposal mirrors legislation that failed this year under intense lobbying from interest groups, potentially shifting the conflict over the plan from the state Capitol to the 2018 political campaign.

"The special interests were successful in killing these ideas in a Senate committee, and I expect that they would have the same amount of success again," Mickelson said, adding that he thinks the measure can be "marketed in a way where voters are going to support it."

The plan would require the disclosure of the 50 largest contributors to nonprofit advocacy groups — including labor organizations, business leagues and social welfare organizations — that give \$25,000 or more in a year to a South Dakota ballot measure committee.

Current state law requires that ballot question committees publicly release the names of their donors. But, nonprofit advocacy groups that contribute to those committees are able to shield their contributors under South Dakota's campaign finance regulations.

The 2016 election season featured 10 ballot questions that attracted millions of dollars from out-of-state groups, including dark money organizations, pouring into South Dakota initiative campaigns. The precursor bill passed through the state House, but a Senate committee killed it.

The plan also aims to impose the disclosure requirement on groups that spend \$25,000 or more on independent expenditures within a year. Under the proposal, if a top-50 contributor is an advocacy group, that organization would have to share its 50 largest donors.

Under the measure, groups would face fines if they didn't comply, and they could be barred from contributing to ballot question campaigns or making independent expenditures for five years. The bill's disclosure provisions wouldn't apply to 501(c)(3) charities, for-profit businesses and contributors who give less than \$5,000. The measure's specific language could be changed on its path toward the ballot.

Critics have argued that South Dakota residents have the right to support causes they believe in without fear of harassment. The state's chapter of Americans for Prosperity, the conservative advocacy group backed by billionaire brothers David and Charles Koch, helped defeat the bill during the 2017 legislative session. State Director Ben Lee said the group would likely oppose the proposed initiative.

"I absolutely think this would stifle free speech in South Dakota," Lee said. "This was an idea that the Legislature rejected this last session, and we hope that the folks of South Dakota would reject it as well

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if it finds its way to the ballot."

Supporters would have to submit nearly 14,000 valid signatures to the secretary of state by November 2017 to put it before voters in 2018. Mickelson has also proposed measures that would ban out-of-state contributions to initiative groups and raise tobacco taxes to make state technical institutes more affordable on top of the donor disclosure plan.

"It's going to be third in my list of priorities on ballot measures, but I think we're going to get all three of them through," Mickelson said.

Alcohol, marijuana, may be factors in Deadwood fatal crash

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say alcohol and marijuana may have contributed to a two-vehicle crash in Deadwood that killed a 27-year-old man from Lead.

Deadwood Police Chief Kelly Fuller says a car driven by Shane Robert Cass crossed the center line on U.S. Highway 14A around 8:45 p.m. Monday and collided head-on with a pickup truck. Cass, who was not wearing a seat belt, died at Lead-Deadwood Regional Hospital.

Fuller tells the Rapid City Journal (http://bit.ly/2tRYpnn) there's a "strong possibility" based on evidence found at the scene that alcohol and marijuana were factors, but investigators are waiting for toxicology test results to come back.

The pickup driver, who was wearing a seat belt, was treated for minor injuries and released. Fuller says no charges are pending against him.

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

Oil pipeline developer ends private security in North Dakota By JAMES MacPHERSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The developer of the disputed Dakota Access oil pipeline said Wednesday that it no longer has private security personnel in North Dakota, including a firm that state regulators say operated illegally without a license.

"We continue to have security measures in place in North Dakota, just no longer need boots on the ground," Energy Transfer Partners spokeswoman Vicki Granado said in an email to The Associated Press. North Dakota's Private Investigative and Security Board last week asked a state judge to block North Carolina-based TigerSwan's armed workers from continuing to monitor the pipeline system. The board said TigerSwan had no license during the height of the protests and continued operating after being denied one.

Granado said in her email that TigerSwan stopped providing security services in the "last couple of weeks." TigerSwan said it ended work with Dallas-based ETP near the end of June.

TigerSwan was founded by retired military special forces members. The regulatory board alleges in court documents that TigerSwan employees with semi-automatic rifles and handguns protected workers and equipment at construction sites, conducted intelligence on protesters including placing or trying to place undercover agents within the protest groups, and even monitored traffic on a state highway. The board also said TigerSwan continued to provide round-the-clock security along the pipeline in the state.

The board has requested administrative fines be levied against the company and its president, James Reese, for operating without a license, a misdemeanor carrying a potential sentence of 30 days in jail and a \$1,500 fine.

According to the board, it notified TigerSwan in September that the company wasn't properly licensed, and the company denied conducting private security in the state but at the same time applied for a license. The board denied the request in December, citing in court documents Reese's alleged criminal history without specifying the offenses. The board said Reese told the group he had never been convicted of a crime. A month later, the board rejected the application again, saying it was incomplete.

Monte Rogneby, an attorney for the board, said a court hearing has yet to be scheduled in state district court in Bismarck.

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"Right now, it's very much in the preliminary stages," he said. "We're still sorting out the facts." North Dakota's governor, its military leader, and law enforcement said they didn't know TigerSwan been operating in the state without a license. Officials said the board did not have an obligation under state law to inform anyone about the issue.

The Morton County sheriff's department, which led the law enforcement response to the protests, was left out of the loop, spokeswoman Maxine Herr said.

"We did our job," Herr said. "It would have been nice to know if they weren't supposed to be there."

Sioux Falls Irish gift shop celebrates 20 years By JEREMY J. FUGLEBERG, Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — There wasn't much to Mrs. Murphy's Irish Gifts the day before it opened in downtown Sioux Falls on that summer day.

Dick Murphy had painted its walls and added trim to the back of the store to give it a cozy cottage appearance. There wasn't much stuff for sale, but it was time.

Twenty years ago, Dick and his wife Sandy opened the doors.

"I think we made \$300 that first day, and we were thrilled," Sandy Murphy said.

"We set that as our benchmark," Dick Murphy said. "If we could sell \$300 a day, that meant we could consider ourselves a successful business."

From those humble beginnings, the Murphy's have shepherded the Irish gift store into a downtown mainstay, the Argus Leader (http://argusne.ws/2tNjkHb) reported. They've had a front-row seat as active participants in the revival of downtown Sioux Falls as it has flourished into a shopping and entertainment hub for the city.

Today's downtown was still a gleam in the eyes of business owners and visionaries when the Murphy's moved from a temporary Empire Mall kiosk to their downtown location. But there was a latent strength, the Murphy's recalled from behind their store counter.

"It was a strong neighborhood of businesses," Dick Murphy said. "They were not just hobby businesses. These were people who had a vision for what downtown was going to be."

The Murphy's found a home in the Carpenter Building, then under renovation by owners David and Carol Dyke. The building was built as a hotel in 1912 but needed some work.

"It was an old building that had great guts to it but needed some loving attention," Dick Murphy said.

There were still obstacles in the way of a changing downtown. Business owners banded together, fighting back against a downtown turned evening drag strip — the infamous Loop, centered on 10th and 11th streets. Loiterers hung out in parking lots and storefronts, driving away visitors and presenting an inhospitable front door for Sioux Falls.

"Right from the start we were concerned we wouldn't get there if we didn't take care of some things," Dick Murphy said.

But with strong downtown leadership and political leadership who bought into the vision for downtown Sioux Falls, a shifting mosaic of development started coming together.

"Everybody was very supportive," Sandy Murphy said.

The Murphy's highlighted the work of Mayors Gary Hanson and Dave Munson, city planner Steve Metli and particularly the tireless efforts of Carol Pagones, leader of Main Street Sioux Falls and then Downtown Sioux Falls Inc.

"She had a strong connection to the visionaries," Dick Murphy said.

The Murphy's have seen neighbors move down the street or away and new people move in, driven by visionaries of all types eager to see downtown Sioux Falls come into its own. The newcomers who have come into the mix are looking to the Carpenter Building as a good model, as illustrated by the underconstruction Washington Square nearby.

"We were the businesses on the ground floor, other types of businesses living above that," Dick Murphy said. "You're seeing that as a popular model, used as an example going on in this city and others, to cre-

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ate a place for just that."

The vision for downtown is never complete, though. Dick Murphy said he worries about maintaining a downtown balance of entertainment options and small shops like Mrs. Murphy's.

"That's the biggest concern I have now," he said. "You want to keep this balance of shops, and people living downtown and businesses of a larger scale such as our banking industry and those types of businesses that have created a nice balance.

"You need a little bit of everything to make it work for people who are part of our community. I feel strongly about that. You don't want to lose that balance."

But as Mrs. Murphy's moves into its third decade, the Murphy's say they're proud of their place in a downtown renaissance that is moving into adulthood.

Dick Murphy said the couple was walking downtown with some friends and noticed people walking the streets and enjoying themselves. He's heard people say there's vibrancy to downtown, and he was seeing it in real time.

"I felt that. I really sensed what they were talking about, as something that has finally taken hold," he said. "There's a vibrancy about the downtown that exists. And we're still part of that. We're so glad to be able to share in the way people think of our town."

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

South Dakota woman uses business to make social impact By VICTORIA LUSK, Aberdeen American News

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — In September 2015, the limp body of Syrian refugee Alan Kurdi, 3, washed up on a Turkish beach off the Mediterranean Sea.

The image captured by photographers and shared by several media outlets shocked people around the world.

And it had a lasting effect on one Aberdeen resident who is now using her business — Kozy Kittos — to make a social impact.

Amber "Kitto" Beckham enlisted in the Air Force six months before graduating from Central High School in 2005. While stationed in Turkey, she saw people fleeing Lebanon.

"At that point in time . I didn't understand what was happening. I was so fresh into the military, and I guess the world," she said.

Years later, the image of Alan hit home. Beckham's air force base in Turkey was where she met her husband, Tim. The shore on which Alan was found shared the sea in which they swam.

Then, earlier this year, dozens of people were killed and hundreds were injured when warplanes with sarin attacked a residential area in Syria, which shares a border with Turkey.

It was then that Beckham, through tears, started reflecting on her own experience in the military and finally came to understand what she had witnessed.

"To hear the stories of these children and these stories of being bombed . how is this even possible in this day and age? And why is this happening?" she said.

Beckham was raised with a do-what-you-can, serve-when-you-can mentality, she told the Aberdeen American News (http://bit.ly/2uKOqN7).

She had been out of the military since 2009. Even so, she knew there was a way to help. And that was to stop doing business as usual and instead work to make a difference in the lives of refugees.

Beckham started Kozy Kittos — which is named after her maiden name — in 2014. Since, she's sold her blankets in local stores and at events such as Arts in Park, as well as through an Etsy store.

This year, however, there was no booth in the park and the Etsy store went dark.

But the sewing machine is still threaded, and sewing blankets is still Beckham's respite.

Since May, she has made at least 30 blankets that she plans on shipping to refugees through the organization Carry the Future. The blankets — made for what Beckham now refers to as Operation Kozy

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Kittos — will be packaged in a box with other necessities. For some on the receiving end, the box will serve as a baby's crib, she said.

Carry the Future was started by one woman who saw mothers fleeing war-torn countries struggling to carry their children.

Beckham attributes much of her success to her mother-in-law who died from cancer in March. Not only did she teach Beckham how to sew, but she also bought Beckham her first sewing machine.

She also watched a few online videos and remembered a lesson or two from her 10th-grade sewing class with Natalie Geffre.

Her own parents were influential too. They made a point to give back when possible, she said, ultimately instilling and a desire for helping others.

She's hoping receiving a blanket will spark sunshine to otherwise dim conditions of refugees.

"The world is a hard place. They see that (blanket) and they have someone across the world in South Dakota that cares about their child. I think that speaks volumes," she said.

Kids remember their blankets, she said.

Beckham's blanket traveled with her all around the world, through deployments, and has since been made into two quilts for her daughters, Emmy, 3, and Kloey, 15 months.

"You want that sense of home and a small blanket can make a big impact," she said.

Beckham hopes to have 100 blankets shipped by the end of the summer. She plans to ship the first batch this week.

She started her business to make a profit but decided making a difference is more important.

Information from: Aberdeen American News, http://www.aberdeennews.com

Tribes oppose removal of grizzly from protected status

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Tribal leaders from the Great Plains and across Canada have come together in opposition to removal of the Yellowstone Grizzly Bear from the Endangered Species Act protection.

The animal was removed from protected status last month, the Rapid City Journal (http://bit.ly/2sLLzBV) reported. U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke said the population has rebounded from as few as nearly 140 bears in 1975 to an estimated 700 today.

"This achievement stands as one of America's great conservation successes, the culmination of decades of hard work and dedication on the part of the state, tribal, federal and private partners," Zinke said in a statement. "As a Montanan, I'm proud of what we achieved together."

More than 128 tribal nations have signed a "Reclamation of Independence" treaty of cooperation in the wake of the removal. Top tribal officials gathered in a daylong meeting in Rapid City on Tuesday to find common ground on the issue.

Tribal leaders say they fear removing the grizzly not only will lead to trophy hunting of an animal they consider sacred, but also comes as President Donald Trump has proposed the opening of more tribal lands for oil exploration and mining.

"This is truly a struggle for the very soul of the Earth, of all we have ever been, or will ever become, to stand united against the axis of evil," Piikani Nation Chief Stan Grier said.

Grier initiated the unity document, which started as an accord between the Great Sioux Nation and the Blackfoot Confederacy, in May. It also opposes extraction of tar sands for oil production as well as the completion and use of the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines.

Oglala Sioux Tribal President Troy Scott Weston said the gathering of tribal representatives in Rapid City was "powerful."

"As long as we stand the way we are today, we will survive," Weston said.

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

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Former Rapid City alderwoman to lead homeless project

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A former Rapid City alderwoman has been hired to help create a wide-ranging services center for local people facing homelessness, substance abuse or mental health problems.

The Rapid City Journal reports (http://bit.ly/2sqaWtE) that Charity Doyle left the council on Monday after a 6-year stint. She will lead the project proposed by the Rapid City Collective Impact group to build a campus where people in crisis can get help.

The Haven for Hope concept is based on successful efforts undertaken in San Antonio, Texas, and features a campus-like setting where people can find a number of forms of assistance.

Doyle has an engineering degree and has worked in marketing and as the director of the Black Hills Soccer Foundation.

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

Sioux Falls funeral home files trademark infringement suit

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls-based funeral home has filed a federal trademark infringement lawsuit against another business.

The Argus Leader reports (http://argusne.ws/2tRcS2G) that the suit by Heritage Home for Funerals alleges that Heritage Cremation Providers, which provides similar services, has been improperly using the name "Heritage" in its advertising and marketing.

The lawsuit alleges that Heritage Cremation Providers is not licensed by the South Dakota Board of Funeral Services to perform cremation or related services in South Dakota. The complaint also says Heritage Cremation Providers, which is based in Colorado, is not registered to transact business in South Dakota by the secretary of state's office.

The suit seeks unspecified damages.

Court documents do not list an attorney for Heritage Cremation Providers.

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

Physicists find new particle with a double dose of charm

BY SETH BORENSTEIN, AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scientists have found an extra charming new subatomic particle that they hope will help further explain a key force that binds matter together.

Physicists at the Large Hadron Collider in Europe announced Thursday the fleeting discovery of a long theorized but never-before-seen type of baryon.

Baryons are subatomic particles made up of quarks. Protons and neutrons are the most common baryons. Quarks are even smaller particles that come in six types, two common types that are light and four heavier types.

The high-speed collisions at the world's biggest atom smasher created for a fraction of a second a baryon particle called Xi cc, said Oxford physicist Guy Wilkinson, who is part of the experiment.

The particle has two heavy quarks — both of a type that are called "charm"— and a light one. In the natural world, baryons have at most one heavy quark.

It may have been brief, but in particle physics it lived for "an appreciably long time," he said.

The two heavy quarks are in a dance that's just like the interaction of a star system with two suns and the third lighter quark circles the dancing pair, Wilkinson said.

"People have looked for it for a long time," Wilkinson said. He said this opens up a whole new "family" of baryons for physicists to find and study.

"It gives us a very unique and interesting laboratory to give us an interesting new angle on the behavior of the strong interaction (between particles), which is one of the key forces in nature," Wilkinson said.

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Chris Quigg, a theoretical physicist at the Fermilab near Chicago, who wasn't part of the discovery team, praised the discovery and said "it gives us a lot to think about."

The team has submitted a paper to the journal Physical Review Letters.

The Large Hadron Collider, located in a 27-kilometer (16.8-mile) tunnel beneath the Swiss-French border, was instrumental in the discovery of the Higgs boson. It was built by the European Organization for Nuclear Research, known by its French acronym CERN.

Follow Seth Borenstein on Twitter at @borenbears. His work can be found here.



In this image provided by CERN, shows a artists conception of a new subatomic particle. Scientists at the Large Hadron Collider in Europe have discovered a new subatomic particle. It's a long theorized but never-before-seen type of baryon. Baryons are subatomic particles made up of quarks. This particle is the first of its kind two have two heavy quarks, both a type called "charm." (CERN via AP)

Trump says Russia likely hacked but nobody `knows for sure' By KEN THOMAS and DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — On the eve of his first meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, President Donald Trump questioned the veracity of American intelligence about foreign meddling in the U.S. election, arguing Thursday that Russia wasn't the only country that may have interfered.

"Nobody really knows for sure," Trump said.

Opening his second overseas trip as president, Trump also warned North Korea that he's considering "some pretty severe things" in response to the isolated nation's unprecedented launch of a missile capable of reaching the U.S. Though he declined to offer specifics on the U.S. response, Trump called on all nations to confront the North's "very, very bad behavior."

As U.S. investigations into Russia's meddling forge ahead, Trump is under intense scrutiny for how he handles his first face-to-face session with Putin. U.S. intelligence officials say the unpredictable Russia leader ordered interference into the 2016 election that brought Trump to the White House.

Trump and Putin plan to sit down on Friday in Hamburg, Germany, on the sidelines of an international summit.

Loathe to cast a shadow on his election victory, Trump has avoided firmly blaming Moscow for campaign hacking in the past, and on Thursday, he was similarly elusive. He argued variably that it could have been Russia, probably was Russia and indeed was Russia, while insisting it could have been other countries, too, and adding: "I won't be specific."

"A lot of people interfere. It's been happening for a long time," Trump said in Poland. Asked specifically whether he planned to discuss the issue with Putin, Trump demurred.

The president sought to redirect scrutiny toward his predecessor, Barack Obama, accusing him of allowing Moscow to meddle on his watch. Though the Obama administration warned Russia publicly and privately before Election Day to stop interfering, questions have since been raised about whether he acted aggressively enough to stop the threat.

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"They say he choked. Well, I don't think he choked," Trump said. "I think he thought Hillary Clinton was going to win the election, and he said, 'Let's not do anything about it."

Using information collected by the FBI, CIA and National Security Agency, the U.S. national intelligence director last year concluded that Moscow was behind the hack of Democratic Party email systems and attempted to influence the 2016 election to benefit Trump. The Obama administration said the effort was directed from the "highest levels" of Russia's government — a reference to Putin.

Trump said the CIA had informed Obama about the hacking months before the election but added that "mistakes have been made." Though Trump has made similar statements expression of doubt about U.S. intelligence capabilities by a president while conference. (AP Photo/Czarek Sokolowski) standing on foreign soil.



U.S. President Donald Trump gestures while answering a question during a joint press conference with Poland's before, it was an extraordinary public President Andrzej Duda, in Warsaw, Poland, Thursday, July 6, 2017. The media event is Trump's first overseas news

In his first public comments since North Korea tested an intercontinental ballistic missile this week, Trump declined to offer specifics about what a U.S. response might entail, though he called it a "threat" and said the U.S. would "confront it very strongly." Trump said it wasn't certain he'd follow through on the severe steps he was weighing, adding that he does "not draw red lines."

"It's a shame that they're behaving this way," Trump said of North Korea's leaders. "But they are behaving in a very, very dangerous manner, and something will have to be done about it."

The U.S. has been considering a range of possible sanctions, economic measures and other steps to confront Pyongyang. The test of an ICBM marked a major technological advancement for North Korea that U.S. officials have described as intensifying the threat against the U.S. by bringing the North closer to being able to mount a nuclear warhead atop a missile that could hit American soil.

Trump's comments came as he opened his second visit to Europe, a trip that will also take him to Germany for the Group of 20 economic summit, where he'll meet with Putin. In Warsaw, Trump used part of a joint news conference with Polish President Andrzej Duda to attack several U.S. news organizations for their coverage of his presidency, eliciting sympathy from Duda, who suggested that he, too, was covered unfairly.

"We don't want fake news," Trump said.

Standing alongside the visiting American, Duda said he hoped Poland would soon sign a long-term contract for U.S. liquefied gas deliveries that will help it cut dependence on Russian oil and gas, which Moscow has previously used as a tool to exert political pressure. Poland received its first U.S. delivery last month, a one-time deal that it hopes to make permanent.

Drawing an implicit contrast with Russia, Trump pledged that the U.S. would never use energy to coerce eastern and central European nations. He vowed that it wouldn't allow other nations to coerce them, either.

Later on Thursday, Trump planned to deliver a speech from Krasinski Square, the site of a monument commemorating the 1944 Warsaw Uprising against Nazi occupation. Crowds waving U.S. and Polish flags

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gathered ahead of his speech in and around the square, where TV screens were erected to allow more people to see Trump.

Yet the visit drew some criticism from Poland's Jewish community, which said it regretted Trump was skipping the traditional presidential visit to a memorial honoring those who fought and died in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprisina.

In his speech, Trump planned to call on Poland and all of America's European allies to stand united against extremism and other "shared enemies" that pose a threat to freedom and sovereignty, according to excerpts of his speech released by the White House in advance.

"We must work together to counter forces, whether they come from inside or out, from the South or the East, that threaten over time to undermine these values and to erase the bonds of culture, faith and tradition that make us who we are," Trump planned to say.

Trump started his day at the Royal Castle, welcomed by Duda with a vigorous handshake in front of a white marble bust of Stanislaw August Poniatowski, the last king of Poland. Joking later with leaders at a summit of eastern and central European nations, Trump boasted of a thriving U.S. economy but lamented his exclusion from recent stock market gains.

"Personally, I've picked up nothing," he said.

Associated Press writers Josh Lederman, Vivian Salama and Jill Colvin in Washington contributed to this report.

Police look into what prompted deadly ambush of officer By COLLEEN LONG and KAREN **MATTHEWS, Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — At the start of her midnight shift, Officer Miosotis Familia was in a New York Police Department mobile command post, writing in her notebook, when a gunman strode toward her.

She never saw Alexander Bonds coming before he shot her in the head through the passenger-side window, killing her before officers ultimately killed him, police said.

Police are investigating what may have prompted Wednesday's shoot-O'Neill described as an officer being on cops."

"Officer Familia was murdered for Commissioner. (AP Photo/Kathy Willens) her uniform and for the responsibility



A security guard stands at attention as New York Police Department officer Miosotis Familia is memorialized before ing, which Police Commissioner James the start of a baseball game between the New York Yankees and the Toronto Blue Jays in New York, Wednesday, "assassinated in an unprovoked attack July 5, 2017. Familia was killed in an "unprovoked attack," in the Bronx borough of New York, according to the NYPD

she embraced," O'Neill said in a message to officers Wednesday night. "For the NYPD, regularly achieving lower and lower crime figures means absolutely nothing when one of our own is brutally shot and killed." A 12-year NYPD veteran, the 48-year-old Familia had come to police work later in life than most on a

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force where the average recruit is 26. She had been a nurse and medical assistant first, according to her profile on the career site LinkedIn. A mother of three who lived with her own mother in the Bronx, she felt a calling to help her community, friends said.

"She'd give you the shirt off her back," said Tom Ritter, 59, a plumber who lived downstairs from Familia and said she treated his now-22-year-old son like one of her own children.

"She was the sweetest person you ever want to meet," Ritter said.

Familia worked her entire police career in the Bronx precinct where she was killed while staffing the RV-like command post, stationed to help combat rising crime in the neighborhood after a triple shooting in March.

Her policing earned praise even from a woman whose husband she had arrested.

"She gave me good advice, like a mother to a daughter," said Keisha Williams, 31, who said her husband was arrested on a marijuana charge last year. "She's good, but she's a tough cookie. She's a good cop. I'm just sad it was her."

Attorney General Jeff Sessions called the shooting "the latest in a troubling series of attacks on police officers over the past two years."

While tensions have been running high in recent years between police and black people around the country, there was no immediate indication the killing had a racial dimension. Bonds was black; Familia was black and Hispanic, her family having come from the Dominican Republic. She apparently had no previous contact with him.

Still, the attack recalled the 2014 ambush killings of two New York City officers who were gunned down in their cruiser by a man who had announced online moments before that he was planning to shoot two "pigs" in retaliation for the police chokehold death of Eric Garner in New York. The gunman then killed himself.

Bonds, also known as John Bonds, had a violent history and had vented his anger about police in a Facebook video last September. Rambling that law officers got away with killing and abusing people, he warned them to leave him alone or "we gonna do something."

"I'm not playing, Mr. Officer. I don't care about 100 police watching this," the 34-year-old said in a Facebook page otherwise filled largely with inspirational quotes and quizzes.

"It's time for people to wisen up," he added.

He had been released in 2013 after being sentenced to eight years in prison for a 2005 armed robbery in Syracuse. He had other arrests, including one in 2001, when as a teenager he was accused of attacking an officer with brass knuckles.

While he railed in his video about how inmates are treated behind bars, prison records show he had been written up more than two dozen times for disciplinary reasons — mostly for relatively minor infractions, but sometimes for top-level violations such as assaulting an inmate or fighting.

Early Wednesday, Bonds was caught on video leaving a convenience store, then moving tightly along the wall, pulling a hoodie over his head and walking purposefully toward the command post vehicle with gloved hands, according to police. The video didn't capture the shooting itself but showed him running away with a gun in his hand, police said.

Familia's partner frantically radioed for help, and officers caught up with Bonds about a block away and killed him in a hail of about 20 bullets when he pulled a stolen revolver, police said. He didn't get off a shot, authorities said.

All the NYPD's new patrol cars have bulletproof glass, and older vehicles are being fitted with window inserts to harden them against gunfire. But there are no plans to do the same with the rolling command centers, officials said.

Associated Press writers Jennifer Peltz and Tom Hays in New York, Carolyn Thompson in Buffalo, New York, and Patrick Mairs in Philadelphia contributed to this report.

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The Latest: Crowds gathering for Trump's Warsaw speech

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — The Latest on President Donald Trump's second official visit to Europe (all times local): 12:45 p.m.

Crowds waving U.S. and Polish flags have gathered in and around a Warsaw square where President Donald Trump is set to deliver his first public speech in Europe.

Many have come from various corners of Poland and are holding banners with the names of their towns, including "Pila" or "Gorzow" in the west. Other banners on display in Krasinski Square feature the rightwing, pro-government Gazeta Polska newspaper.

Crowds are also gathering in neighboring streets, where screens have been set up for viewing.

Former president Lech Walesa is among the special guests in the VIP sector.



U.S President Donald Trump speaks during the Three Seas Initiative transatlantic roundtable in the Great Assembly Hall of the Royal Castle, in Warsaw, Thursday July 6, 2017. The Three Seas Initiative is an alliance among a dozen eastern and central European nations that are bordered by the Adriatic, Baltic and Black seas. The group aims to reduce their dependence on oil and gas supplied by Russia. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

Poland's leaders have promised Trump a warm welcome before he heads to Germany later Thursday for a summit of the world's developed and developing nations.

12:30 p.m.

President Donald Trump is wrapping up his meeting with Croatia President Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic.

The two leaders met Thursday on the sidelines of the Three Seas summit, a meeting of countries all bordered by the Baltic, Adriatic and Black seas.

The group aims to expand and modernize energy and trade with the goal of reducing the region's dependence on Russian energy.

The Croatian leader has been a driving force behind the initiative to diversify the region's energy supply and make it less dependent on Russian energy sources.

11:58 a.m.

President Donald Trump says that everyone is benefiting from a thriving U.S. economy, except for him. Trump bragged about recent stock market gains as he addressed a summit with the leaders of the Three Seas Initiative in Warsaw, Poland.

But he says: "Personally I've picked up nothing."

He adds: "that's all right. Everyone else is getting very rich. That's ok, I'm very happy."

Trump gave his two adult sons and a senior executive control of his global real estate, property management and marketing empire when he took office in January. But Trump did not divest his businesses. Instead he placed his financial assets in a trust that he can seize control of at any time.

11:42 a.m.

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President Donald Trump has pledged that the United States will never use energy to coerce eastern and central European nations.

And he adds that the U.S. won't allow other nations to coerce them either.

Trump was addressing a meeting in Warsaw, Poland, of the Three Seas Initiative. It's an alliance among a dozen eastern and central European nations that are bordered by the Adriatic, Baltic and Black seas. The group aims to reduce their dependence on oil and gas supplied by Russia.

Trump says he's proud that the region is benefiting from U.S. energy supplies. Poland received a first shipment of liquefied natural gas from the U.S. last month.

Trump noted the region's special significance to him. His wife, Melania, is a native of Slovenia, which belongs to the group.

11:33 a.m.

Poland's President says he hopes the European nation will "soon" sign a long-term contract for U.S. liquefied gas deliveries that will help it cut dependence on Russian imports.

Andrzej Duda (AHN-shay DOO-dah) spoke alongside visiting President Donald Trump who said America is ready to sign a deal "in 15 minutes" to help the region diversify its energy sources.

Russia has in the past used its gas and oil exports as a tool to exert political pressure.

Poland received its first, one-time U.S. liquid gas delivery last month and wants to continue receiving shipments and supply other nations in the region.

Duda said he hopes for a long-term contract soon but offered no date.

11:05 a.m.

President Donald Trump says he agrees that Russia meddled in the 2016 presidential election, but he is repeating his assertion that he believes "other countries" may have done the same.

Trump did not elaborate on which other countries he believes meddled in the 2016 election during his remarks in Warsaw, Poland Thursday. He says "nobody really knows for sure."

He was speaking a day ahead of his first face-to-face meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Trump also repeated his claims that former President Barack Obama knew that Russia was meddling in the election.

Trump said people say Obama "choked" but he believes Obama purposely "did nothing" because he thought Democrat Hillary Clinton would win the election.

11:00 a.m.

The Polish first lady is hosting Melania Trump for tea during a brief visit as President Donald Trump attends events in the Polish capital.

Agata Kornhauser-Duda, 45, welcomed Mrs. Trump on Thursday to the Belvedere palace, a white palace fronted with four columns in the neo-Classical style.

Mrs. Trump was wearing a sleeveless jersey dress with a bright bold printed skirt by the Spanish fashion house Delpozo.

The first ladies will next visit the Copernicus Science Center, an interactive science museum geared heavily to young people.

10:56 a.m.

President Donald Trump says unnecessary regulations have hindered America's ability to expand energy investments.

Trump made his remarks Thursday in Warsaw, Poland, where he'll attend a meeting of the Three Seas Initiative. The group includes leaders of the Baltic, Adriatic and Black seas nations and aims to expand and modernize energy and trade with the goal of reducing the region's dependence on Russian energy.

Trump says, "we've taken unnecessary regulations out of our process" adding that the U.S. is "blessed

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with great land" that can benefit others.

10:53 a.m.

President Donald Trump says he's considering some "very severe things" to respond to North Korea's test launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile. But he adds that that doesn't mean he's going to follow through on them.

Trump says he wants to look at what happens over the coming weeks and months and calls North Korea's behavior "a shame."

Trump says the North is behaving in a "very, very dangerous manner" and that something will have to be done about it.

North Korea launched the missile earlier this week. The issue will be a topic of discussion when Trump meets with world leaders in Germany later this week.

10:50 a.m.

President Donald Trump is calling on nations to confront North Korea's "very, very bad behavior."

Speaking in Poland Thursday, Trump called on nations to exert pressure on North Korea after this week's ballistic missile launch.

He's speaking at a joint press conference with Polish President Andrzej Duda (AHN-shay DOO-dah) in Warsaw.

10:46 a.m.

President Donald Trump is praising Poland for the role it's playing in helping to defeat the Islamic State group.

Trump says Polish armed forces help train Iraqi special forces and conduct reconnaissance missions. He also notes that Polish soldiers have fought and worked side by side with American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He says Poland is also host to 5,000 U.S. troops that serve as a deterrent to destabilizing behavior by Russia.

Trump also notes that Poland is one of the few NATO members that spends 2 percent of its gross domestic product on its military defense.

Trump spoke after meeting in Warsaw with Polish President Andrzej Duda (AHN-shay DOO-dah) and before a joint news conference.

10:41 a.m.

Poland's President Andrzej Duda (AHN-shay DOO-dah) is praising President Donald Trump for "thinking very seriously" about Polish security.

Duda spoke at a joint press conference with Trump in Warsaw, Poland Thursday.

Duda stressed the need for greater trans-Atlantic security and energy cooperation. He also called for long-term liquefied natural gas deliveries as Poland looks to diversify its energy sources.

10:04 a.m.

The White House says President Donald Trump plans to take questions at a joint news conference with Poland's president.

Trump is meeting with Poland President Andrzej Duda (AHN-shay DOO-dah) in Warsaw to start a day of meetings and a speech in the city's Krasinski Square.

The media event will be Trump's first overseas news conference.

It will come ahead of the president's high-profile meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin and follow North Korea's test of an intercontinental ballistic missile.

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President Donald Trump is meeting with Polish President Andrzej Duda (AHN-zhay DOO-dah) as he begins his second foreign trip.

Trump arrived at the Royal Castle in Warsaw, Poland, shortly before 9:30 a.m. local time.

The two leaders exchanged an extended handshake in front of a white marble bust of Stanislaw August Poniatowski, the last king of Poland, then posed for photos before commencing their closed-door meeting.

9:28 a.m.

President Donald Trump is preparing to meet with his Polish counterpart as he kicks off a 16-hour visit to the eastern European nation.

Trump and Andrzej Duda (AHN-zhay DOO-dah) will be holding morning meetings and may hold a joint news conference later in the day.

Trump is also expected to deliver a keynote address to the Poles from Krasinski Square, the site of a monument commemorating the 1944 Warsaw Uprising against the Nazis.

He'll also be meeting with the heads of a dozen countries bordered by the Baltic, Adriatic and Black seas known as the Three Seas Initiative. The group aims to expand and modernize energy and trade with the goal of reducing the region's dependence on Russian energy.

It's Trump's second trip abroad as president.

9:25 a.m.

Poland's Jewish community is expressing deep "regret" that President Donald Trump has not scheduled a visit to a memorial honoring those who fought and died in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising during his short visit to Warsaw.

The community issued a statement late Wednesday noting that all U.S. presidents and vice-presidents visiting Warsaw since 1989 had visited the monument, a tribute to the Jews who took up arms against all odds against the Nazi Germans in the Warsaw ghetto.

The statement said that, to the Jews of Poland, "this gesture meant recognition, solidarity and hope." It added: "We deeply regret that President Donald Trump, though speaking in public barely a mile away from the monument, chose to break with that laudable tradition, alongside so many other ones."

9:20 a.m.

Poland's defense minister says the Trump administration has agreed to sell Poland a new batch of medium-range Patriot missiles to upgrade the European nation's air defenses.

Minister Antoni Macierewicz made the announcement Thursday as President Donald Trump kicked off a day of meetings on defense and energy initiatives.

The purchase deal is still to be signed.

Warsaw is seeking to raise its defense potential amid Russia's heightened military activity, some of it near Poland's air space.

Macierewicz said the purchase could total some 30 billion zlotys (euro 7 billion.)

Trump is scheduled to meet with Polish President Andrzej Duda (ÀHN-zhay DOÓ-dah) Thursday, as well as with the heads of a dozen countries bordered by the Baltic, Adriatic and Black seas known as the Three Seas Initiative.

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. TRUMP WARNS NORTH KOREA HE'S WEIGHING A 'SEVERE' RESPONSE

The president, in his first public comments since North Korea tested an intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time, called on all nations to confront the North's "very, very bad behavior."

2. US STUDYING NEW SANCTIONS AGAINST PYONGYANG

Among the possible penalties intended to starve North Korea of cash for its nuclear program is one that

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would infuriate Beijing: sanctions on Chinese companies that help keep the North's economy afloat.

3. WHY NUKÉ THREAT ISN'T IM-MEDIATE

Despite North Korea's newly demonstrated missile muscle, experts say it will likely take several more years for the rogue nation to perfect an ICBM it could actually use in a real-world scenario.

4. WHICH CITY IS BRACED FOR A MAJOR PROTEST

Hamburg police are gearing up for "G-20: Welcome to Hell," as the event has been titled by anti-globalization demonstrators.

5. REP. SCALISE BACK IN INTENSIVE CARE

The setback for the Louisiana lawmaker, recuperating from a gunshot wound, stems from new concerns about infection.

6. WHO MIGHT BE FORCED TO TESTIFY

The AP learns that Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is increasingly expected to be deposed as New York's attorney general expands his probe into whether Tillerson's former employer, ExxonMobil, misled investors.

6. WHAT MIGHT HAVE PROMPTED GUNMAN TO AMBUSH, KILL NYC OFFICER

Police are investigating what the city's police commissioner describes as an officer being "assassinated in an unprovoked attack on cops."

7. HOW CANADA IS ATTACKING OPIOID CRISIS

Health authorities are rapidly expanding the number of "safe injection sites" — places where addicts can shoot up under medical supervision.

8. HOBBY LOBBY FINED \$3 MILLION OVER SMUGGLED ARTIFACTS

The U.S. government alleges that the Oklahoma City-based Hobby Lobby acquired thousands of ancient Iraqi artifacts that had been intentionally mislabeled.

10. WHO CAUGHT UP TO DIMAGGIO

Aaron Judge's major league-leading 29th home run tied Joe DiMaggio's New York Yankees record for home runs by a rookie — before the All-Star break.

To punish NKorea, US weighs sanctions on Chinese companies By JOSH LEDERMAN and MATTHEW LEE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Having lost patience with China, the Trump administration is studying new steps to starve North Korea of cash for its nuclear program, including an option that would infuriate Beijing: sanctions on Chinese companies that help keep the North's economy afloat.

It's an approach that's paid off for the U.S. in the past, especially with Iran, where American economic penalties helped drive Tehran to the nuclear negotiating table. Yet there are significant risks, too, including the possibility of opening a new rift with Beijing that could complicate U.S. diplomatic efforts on other critical issues.



New York Yankees' Aaron Judge watches his two-run home run in the fourth inning of a baseball game against the Toronto Blue Jays in New York, Wednesday, July 5, 2017. (AP Photo/Kathy Willens)

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The renewed look at "secondary sanctions" comes as Washington seeks a forceful response to North Korea's test this week of an intercontinental ballistic missile that could strike the United States. Few are advocating a military intervention that could endanger millions of lives in allied South Korea across the border. But options for turning the screw on the North financially also are imperfect.

"I don't like to talk about what I have planned, but I have some pretty severe things that we're thinking about," President Donald Trump said Thursday during an appearance at a news conference in Poland. "That doesn't mean we're going to do them."

He said the U.S. would be watching what happens in the coming weeks and months but chided North Korea for "behaving in a very, very dangerous manner" and added: "Something will have to be done about it."

Already, a wide array of U.S. and international sanctions target North Korean entities and officials, making it illegal for Americans to do business with them. The U.S. also has pursued companies outside North Korea accused of surreptitiously helping the communist country,



In this July 5, 2017, photo United States U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley, respond to Russia's statements, during United Nations Security Council meeting on North Korea's latest launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile, at U.N. headquarters. Having lost patience with China, the Trump administration is studying new steps to starve North Korea of cash for its nuclear program, including an option that would infuriate Beijing: sanctions on Chinese companies that help keep the North's economy afloat.

such as a small Chinese bank the U.S. penalized last week for allegedly laundering money for North Korea. But the U.S. thus far has avoided what sanctions experts describe as a logical escalation: secondary sanctions targeting banks and companies that do any business with North Korea — even legitimate transactions that aren't explicitly prohibited by U.N. Security Council resolutions.

Nikki Haley, Trump's U.N. ambassador, told an emergency session of the council Wednesday that the world must do more to "cut off the major sources of hard currency to the North Korean regime."

"We will look at any country that chooses to do business with this outlaw regime," Haley said.

On the Korean Peninsula on Thursday, South Korean jets and navy ships fired a barrage of guided-missiles into the ocean during drills, a display of military power two days after North Korea test-launched its first intercontinental ballistic missile. The live-fire drills off South Korea's east coast were previously scheduled.

In a show of force, South Korea and the United States also staged "deep strike" precision missile firing drills on Wednesday as a warning to the North. Thursday's drills were aimed at boosting readiness against possible maritime North Korean aggression. They involved 15 warships including a 3,200-ton-class destroyer, as well as helicopters and fighter jets, South Korea's navy said.

"Our military is maintaining the highest-level of readiness to make a swift response even if a war breaks out today," said Rear Adm. Kwon Jeong Seob, who directed the drills, according to the statement.

Potential sanctions targets previously identified by the Treasury Department include companies based in China, U.S. officials have said. Some may have no business with Americans or U.S. firms, making it

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harder for the U.S. to limit their operations or freeze assets. But secondary sanctions would still force such companies to stop doing business with North Korea or risk losing their access to the U.S. financial system, and with it, the dollar — the world's main currency for global trade and finance.

Beijing steadfastly opposes such measures. It says sanctions would hurt China's interests and criticizes the approach for being one-sided, as opposed to international penalties that are globally agreed.

"The U.S. needs to understand the Chinese will never allow Chinese companies and individuals to be designated (for sanctions) at the U.N., and the U.S. dollar is still pre-eminent. So the U.S. has leverage," said Anthony Ruggiero at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, which advocates for a tough approach to North Korea's nuclear program.

Trump, in recent days, appears to have concluded that his early efforts to enlist China's cooperation on North Korea haven't paid off. On Wednesday, Trump took to Twitter to chastise China for allowing its trade with the North to grow in recent months even as the U.S. urged a reduction.

"So much for China working with us — but we had to give it a try!" Trump wrote.

Senior U.S. officials said imposing sanctions on companies dealing with the North was among several steps considered after the ICBM launch, as U.S. intelligence, military and diplomatic officials reviewed different possibilities.

The Trump administration hasn't given up hope China will change course and step up pressure on North Korea, officials said.

In Congress, lawmakers have proposed new sanctions on North Korea's shipping industry and alleged use of slave labor. The House passed a bill in May, but the Senate has yet to approve it.

Secondary sanctions on North Korea would borrow from President Barack Obama's Iran approach before the 2015 nuclear deal with Tehran. After Congress authorized such penalties, the Obama administration worked with nations around the world to get them to reduce their oil imports from Tehran, while negotiating secretly with Iranian officials. The sanctions effectively deterred European firms from doing business with Iran and commercial powers such as China and India were encouraged to buy less Iranian petroleum.

North Korea's isolation, which is far greater than Iran's was, could make it even more susceptible to such pressure. China accounts for about 90 percent of North Korea's trade.

But China has leverage, too, which is why previous U.S. administrations have held back. China is now the world's second-largest economy, it holds trillions of dollars in U.S. debt and its companies are increasingly tied financially with the West. And angering Beijing could lead to unpredictable responses in places like the South China Sea, where Beijing has various territorial disputes with America's allies and partners in Southeast Asia.

"It will put a magnifying glass on Chinese businesses that the Chinese government may not want," said Doreen Edelman, an attorney at Baker Donelson who specializes in sanctions compliance.

Putin, Trump to meet in Germany amid a sea of disputes By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV, Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — For Russian President Vladimir Putin, a meeting with U.S. counterpart Donald Trump on the sidelines of the Group of 20 summit in Germany offers a long-sought opportunity to negotiate a rapprochement with Washington. But controversy over the Trump campaign's ties with Russia will loom over the talks, making any agreements unlikely.

Rarely in recent history has a meeting of two heads of state generated so much excitement, anxiety and hope.

The Kremlin views Friday's encounter as a watershed moment that could ease Russia-West tensions. Some in the U.S., meanwhile, worry that Trump could make unjustified concessions to Russia.

Amid investigations into possible collusion with Moscow by Trump's campaign, any deal with Putin would expose Trump to more criticism. And if the two fail to get along, that would further exacerbate tensions between Moscow and Washington and put them on a collision course in regions around the world.

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"If Putin comes to the conclusion that even if Russia and the U.S. reach agreement, Trump would be unable to implement it for domestic policy reasons, he would lose interest in seeking an agreement," said Dmitri Trenin, the director of the Carnegie Moscow Center.

Putin, a KGB veteran who once described himself as an "expert in personal communications," always focuses closely on trying to establish warm ties with his counterparts. Kremlin-watchers say Putin meticulously prepares for meetings with foreign leaders, studying their track records and personal habits.

"He believes that personalities — not states, armies or companies — determine the course of global events," Trenin said.

Fyodor Lukyanov, the head of the Council for Foreign and Defense Poli-



In this May 29, 2017, file photo, Russian President Vladimir Putin gestures as he speaks during a news conference with French President Emmanuel Macron at the Palace of Versailles, near Paris, France. (AP Photo/Alexander Zemlianichenko, File)

cies, said even if Putin and Trump develop a good rapport, Trump's ability to deliver on his promises will be a key factor for the Russian leader.

"If Putin has a positive view, as a minimum he will give (Trump) more time to sort things out," he said. "But he could possibly conclude that he (Trump) may not succeed in sorting things out and, moreover, doesn't really want an honest deal. If Putin decides it's not going to work, he will drop all constraints."

The tense environment for the Trump-Putin meeting contrasts with the Kremlin's early expectations.

The Kremlin was very pleased with Trump's presidential victory, since he promised to improve ties with Russia and praised Putin during the campaign. It had hoped for a quick meeting after Trump's inauguration in January, but U.S. congressional and FBI investigations into links between Trump campaign aides and Russia blocked an early encounter.

In the last few months, Moscow's hopes that Trump could act to lift the sanctions imposed on Russia over the Ukrainian crisis have withered. Putin and his lieutenants have also become increasingly impatient about U.S.-Russia ties remaining at a freezing point.

"We realize that the situation is difficult and relations with Russia have become hostage to the U.S. political infighting, but so what?" Putin foreign affairs adviser Yuri Ushakov said this week. "We have difficulties of our own."

Russia and the U.S. have struggled to even set a specific time for Friday's meeting and the White House says there's "no specific agenda" for it. When the two presidents finally sit down for a talk, sharp differences remain on a wide range of issues, from Syria and the Ukrainian crisis to nuclear arms control.

While Trump has said the U.S. and Russia could pool efforts to fight the Islamic State group in Syria, Moscow's firm support for Syrian President Bashar Assad makes any agreement unlikely.

Moscow responded angrily when Trump ordered a missile strike on a Syrian base in April after a chemical attack blamed on Assad's forces, and was also vexed by the U.S. downing of a Syrian warplane in June. After last month's incident, the Russian military suspended a hotline with the U.S. to prevent mid-air incidents and warned that it would track U.S.-led coalition aircraft as potential targets over Syria.

And when the White House warned last week that Assad was preparing for another chemical attack and would "pay a heavy price" if he launches it, Russia responded by offering the Syrian ruler a tour of

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its air base.

Even though the Russian and U.S. militaries in Syria have worked out a way to avoid collisions, the situation could grow more unstable if Putin and Trump fail to get along, Trenin warned.

Bitter differences over Ukraine haven't been resolved. Some U.S. lawmakers have been pushing the White House to approve the delivery of weapons to the Ukrainian military in response to Moscow's support for separatists in eastern Ukraine — a move that would cross a red line for the Kremlin.

Also clouding Friday's meeting are Washington's concerns about Russian violations of a landmark Cold-War era nuclear arms deal. Moscow has rejected those claims and instead accused the U.S. of breaching the pact.

The only issue where observers think a deal could be made is President Barack Obama's decision in December to shut down Russian Embassy compounds in Maryland and on Long Island, New York. The Kremlin emphasized this week that it has shown remarkable restraint by failing to respond tit-for-tat and warned that its patience is running out.

U.S. officials have indicated that Washington expects Moscow to make some trade-offs in exchange for the two properties, but analysts in Moscow say the Kremlin isn't prepared to bargain on this.

"I would be surprised if Vladimir Putin offers any concessions in exchange for restoring what Russia sees as its inalienable rights," Trenin said. "If no agreement is reached, Russia will take retaliatory measures, which could trigger new U.S. moves."

Hospital: China's Nobel Peace laureate's ill health worsens By DIDI TANG, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China's ailing Nobel Peace Prize laureate Liu Xiaobo's health is further deteriorating as abdominal fluid accumulates, said a friend and the Chinese hospital that is treating him, adding to concerns about the long-term prognosis of the country's best-known political prisoner.

The First Hospital of China Medical University said in a statement that the doctor heading a medical team in charge of Liu's treatment has informed his family of this development. The statement appeared Thursday on the website of the hospital in the northeastern city of Shenyang but is undated.

A family friend confirmed on Thursday that Liu's family had been asked to be on standby in the hospital over the next 24 hours — which they took as a sign that Liu is critically ill.

"We are worried about whether we should start planning for what to do after he leaves," said family friend Wu Yangwei, who is better known by his penname Ye Du.



In this Thursday, June 29, 2017, photo, a video clip shows China's jailed Nobel Peace laureate Liu Xiaobo lying on a bed receiving medical treatment at a hospital on a computer screen in Beijing. China says it has invited U.S. and German liver cancer experts to join a medical team treating imprisoned Liu. The judicial bureau for the northeastern city of Shenyang said Wednesday, July 5, 2017, in an online statement that Liu's family members made a request for foreign experts and Liu's medical team agreed. (AP Photo/

Andy Wong)

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Liu was diagnosed in May while serving a 11-year sentence for inciting subversion by advocating sweeping political reforms that would end China's one-party rule. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2010, a year after his conviction.

Since the diagnosis was made public in late June, his supporters, Western governments and human rights groups have been urging Beijing to release Liu and give him the freedom to choose where he wants to be treated. Beijing has maintained that this is an internal affair other countries should stay out of and that Liu is under the care of experts in the Chinese medical facility.

Maya Wang, a researcher for Human Rights Watch, on Thursday called the treatment of the Nobel peace laureate "shameful."

"The Chinese government's treatment of Liu Xiaobo, which includes holding him and his family even in his dying days, reveal the cruelty and ruthlessness of the Chinese government," Wang said. "How can such a government be considered as a reliable and responsible partner for global leadership?"

The latest statement also included the names of some of the experts, including Dr. Mao Yilei, a reputed expert on liver cancer at the prestigious Peking Union Medical College Hospital, who conducted another round of group consultation on the day when the statement was released, which was most likely Thursday.

In a likely response to criticism that China might have failed to adequately care for Liu, the statement said the experts were approving of prior treatments of Liu. They also adjusted the treatment, the hospital said.

On behalf of the medical team, Mao informed Liu's family of the latest development, and Liu's family said they understood, the statement said. The statement was impossible to verify with Liu's wife or other family members, who have not been contactable and are said to face restrictions on their movements and communications with the outside world. Calls to the hospital were unanswered on Thursday.

S. Korea fires missiles in drills amid standoff with North By HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korean jets and navy ships fired a barrage of guided-missiles into the

ocean during drills Thursday, a display of military power two days after North Korea test-launched its first intercontinental ballistic missile.

The North's ICBM launch, its most successful missile test to date, has stoked security worries in Washington, Seoul and Tokyo as it showed the country could eventually perfect a reliable nuclear missile capable of reaching anywhere in the United States. Analysts say the missile tested Tuesday could reach Alaska if launched at a normal trajectory.

The live-fire drills off South Korea's east coast were previously scheduled. In a show of force, South Korea and the United States also staged "deep strike" precision missile firing drills on Wednesday as a warning to the North.

Thursday's drills were aimed at boosting readiness against possible maritime North Korean aggression.



In this photo provided by South Korea Defense Ministry, a South Korean navy ship fires a missile during a drill in South Korea's East Sea, Thursday, July 6, 2017. South Korean warplanes and navy ships have fired a barrage of missiles into the waters during one-day drills aimed at boosting a readiness against a possible North Korean aggression. (South Korea Defense Ministry via AP)

They involved 15 warships including a 3,200-ton-class destroyer, as well as helicopters and fighter jets,

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South Korea's navy said in a statement.

"Our military is maintaining the highest-level of readiness to make a swift response even if a war breaks out today," said Rear Adm. Kwon Jeong Seob, who directed the drills, according to the statement.

After the ICBM launch, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said he would never put his weapons programs up for negotiation unless the United States abandoned its hostile policy toward the North. Kim's statement suggested he will order more missile and nuclear tests until his country develops a functioning ICBM that can place the entire U.S. within its striking distance.

In a U.N. Security Council session Wednesday, U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley said the launch "is a clear and sharp military escalation" and the United States is prepared to use its "considerable military forces" to defend itself and its allies "if we must." She said the U.S. administration prefers "not to go in that direction," but to use its "great capabilities in the area of trade" to address "those who threaten us and ... those who supply the threats."

Speaking in Berlin before the Group of 20 summit, South Korean President Moon Jae-in said Wednesday that the world should look at tougher sanctions against the North and insisted the problem must be solved peacefully.

The missile launch was a direct rebuke to President Donald Trump's earlier declaration on Twitter that such a test "won't happen!" and to Moon, who was pushing to improve strained ties with the North.

The U.N. Security Council could impose additional sanctions on North Korea, but it's not clear they would stop it from pursuing its nuclear and missile programs since the country is already under multiple rounds of U.N. sanctions for its previous weapon tests.

Hamburg braces for major pre-G20 protest as leaders land

HAMBURG, Germany (AP) — Hamburg police are gearing up for a major protest by anti-globalization activists as Germany's second-biggest city prepares to welcome leaders of the Group of 20 economic powers.

Organizers of Thursday's demonstration have titled the event "G-20: Welcome to Hell." While protests so far have been largely calm, city police chief Ralf Martin Meyer told ZDF television: "We are skeptical as to whether this evening and tonight will remain peaceful."

Hamburg is boosting its police force with reinforcements from around the country for the summit, which takes place Friday and Saturday, and will have 20,000 officers on hand to patrol the city's streets, skies and waterways.

Leaders of the participating countries, among them U.S. President Donald Trump, are expected to arrive in Hamburg Thursday.



A demonstrator lights smoke markers on top of the Rote Flora squat during a protest against the G-20 summit in Hamburg, northern Germany, Wednesday, July 5, 2017. The leaders of the group of 20 meet July 7 and 8. (AP Photo/ Matthias Schrader)
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Hobby Lobby fined \$3 million over smuggled Iraqi artifacts

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Hobby Lobby Stores has agreed to pay a \$3 million federal fine and forfeit thousands of ancient Iraqi artifacts smuggled from the Middle East that the government alleges were intentionally mislabeled, federal prosecutors said.

Prosecutors filed a civil complaint in New York on Wednesday in which Oklahoma City-based Hobby Lobby consented to the fine and forfeiture of thousands of tablets and bricks written in cuneiform, one of the earliest systems of writing, as well as other artifacts that prosecutors say were shipped without proper documentation.

Hobby Lobby executed an agreement to purchase over 5,500 artifacts in December 2010 for \$1.6 million. Prosecutors said acquisition of the artifacts "was fraught with red flags" and that packages bore shipping labels that described their contents as "ceramic tiles."

A dealer based in the United Arab Emirates shipped packages containing



In this June 30, 2014, file photo, customers walk to a Hobby Lobby store in Oklahoma City. Federal prosecutors say Hobby Lobby Stores has agreed to pay a \$3 million federal fine and forfeit thousands of ancient Iraqi artifacts smuggled from the Middle East that the government alleges were intentionally mislabled. Prosecutors filed a civil complaint in New York on Wednesday, July 5, 2017, in which Oklahoma City-based Hobby Lobby consented to the fine and forfeiture of thousands of tablets and bricks written in cuneiform, one of the earliest systems of writing, as well as other artifacts that prosecutors say were shipped without proper documentation. (AP Photo/Sue Ogrocki, File)

the artifacts to three different corporate addresses in Oklahoma City. Five shipments that were intercepted by federal customs officials bore shipping labels that falsely declared that the artifacts' country of origin was Turkey.

In September 2011, a package containing about 1,000 clay bullae, an ancient form of inscribed identification, was received by Hobby Lobby from an Israeli dealer and accompanied by a false declaration stating that its country of origin was Israel.

Prosecutors said Hobby Lobby has agreed to adopt internal policies for importing cultural property and training its personnel.

In a statement, Hobby Lobby President Steve Green said the company cooperated with the government and "should have exercised more oversight and carefully questioned how the acquisitions were handled." Green said Hobby Lobby began acquiring a variety of historical Bibles and other artifacts in 2009.

"Our passion for the Bible continues, and we will do all that we can to support the efforts to conserve items that will help illuminate and enhance our understanding of this Great Book," Green said.

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North Korean missile advances put new stress on US defenses By ROBERT BURNS, AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — North Korea's newly demonstrated missile muscle puts Alaska within range of potential attack and stresses the Pentagon's missile defenses like never before. Even more worrisome, it may be only a matter of time before North Korea mates an even longer-range ICBM with a nuclear warhead, putting all of the United States at risk.

The Pentagon has spent tens of billions to develop what it calls a limited defense against missiles capable of reaching U.S. soil. The system has never faced combat or been fully tested. The system succeeded May 30 in its first attempted intercept of a mock ICBM, but it hasn't faced more realistic conditions.

Although Russia and China have long



A man walks by a TV screen showing a local news program reporting about North Korea's missile firing at Seoul Train Station in Seoul, South Korea, Wednesday, July 5, 2017. North Korea's newly demonstrated missile muscle puts Alaska within range of potential attack and stresses the Pentagon's missile defenses like never before. Even more worrisome, it may be only a matter of time before North Korea mates an even longer-range ICBM with a nuclear warhead, putting all of the U.S. at risk. (AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)

been capable of targeting the U.S. with a nuclear weapon, North Korea is seen as the bigger, more troubling threat. Its opaque, unpredictable government often confounds U.S. intelligence assessments. And North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, has openly threatened to strike the U.S., while showing no interest in nuclear or missile negotiations.

"We should be worried," said Philip E. Coyle III, a former head of the Pentagon's test and evaluation office. North Korea's latest success, he said, "shows that time is not on our side."

U.S. officials believe North Korea is still short of being able to miniaturize a nuclear warhead to fit atop an intercontinental missile. And it's unclear whether it has developed the technology and expertise to sufficiently shield such a warhead from the extreme heat experienced when it re-enters Earth's atmosphere en route to a target.

A Pentagon spokesman, Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, said Wednesday, "We've still not seen a number of things that would indicate a full-up threat," including a demonstrated ability to mate a nuclear warhead to an ICBM. "But clearly they are working on it. Clearly they seek to do it. This is an aggressive research and development program on their part."

Davis said the U.S. defensive system is limited but effective.

"We do have confidence in it," he said. "That's why we've developed it."

The Trump administration, like its recent predecessors, has put its money on finding a diplomatic path to halting and reversing North Korea's nuclear program. While the Pentagon has highly developed plans if military force is ordered, the approach is seen as untenable because it would put millions of South Korean civilians at risk.

But diplomacy has failed so far. That's why U.S. missile defenses may soon come into play.

The Pentagon has a total of 36 missile interceptors in underground silos on military bases in Alaska and California, due to increase to 44 by year's end. These interceptors can be launched upon notice of a

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missile headed toward the United States. An interceptor soars toward its target based on tracking data from radars and other electronic sensors, and is supposed to destroy the target by sheer force of impact outside the Earth's atmosphere. Sometimes likened to hitting a bullet with a bullet, the collision is meant to incinerate the targeted warhead, neutralizing its nuclear explosive power.

This so-called hit-to-kill technology has been in development for decades. For all its advances, the Pentagon is not satisfied that the current defensive system is adequate for North Korea's accelerating missile advances.

"The pace of the threat is advancing faster than I think was considered when we did the first ballistic missile defense review back in 2010," Rob Soofer, who is helping review missile defenses, told a Senate Armed Service subcommittee last month. Beyond what U.S. officials have said publicly about the North Korean nuclear threat, he said the classified picture "is even more dire." Soofer didn't provide details.

The escalating danger has led the administration to consider alternative concepts for missile defense, including what is known as "boost phase" defense. This approach involves destroying a hostile missile shortly after its launch, before the warhead separates from the missile body and decoys can be deployed. One proposed tactic would be to develop a drone capable of long-endurance flight and armed with a solid-state laser to destroy or disable a missile in flight.

These and other possible new approaches would add to budget strains already felt in the missile defense program.

President Donald Trump's proposed 2018 budget would cut \$340 million from missile defense programs intended to deter a potential strike by North Korea, Iran or other countries. The Republican-led Congress has taken the first steps in rejecting the reduction. Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, the House Armed Services Committee chairman, declared last month that he was "astonished" Trump would propose trimming missile defense.

Thornberry's committee voted last week to provide about \$12.5 billion for missile defense in the 2018 fiscal year that begins in October, nearly \$2.5 billion more than Trump's request. The Senate Armed Services Committee also called for millions more than Trump requested. The full House and Senate are expected to consider the committees' legislation, and the boost in missile defense money, later this month.

Associated Press writers Deb Riechmann and Richard Lardner contributed to this report.

Wounded Rep. Scalise readmitted to intensive care

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Washington hospital where House Majority Whip Steve Scalise is recuperating from a gunshot wound says he has been readmitted to the intensive care unit.

MedStar Washington Hospital Center says the Louisiana congressman is back in intensive care because of new concerns for infection. Scalise was in serious condition Wednesday night.

Scalise and four other people were injured last month when a gunman opened fire on a Republican baseball practice in nearby Alexandria, Virginia. U.S. Capitol Police and other officers returned fire and killed the gunman.

The congressman was struck in the hip and the bullet tore into blood vessels, bones and internal organs. He has undergone several surgeries and had been upgraded to fair condition.

The shooting in the Virginia suburb that critically wounded Scalise and injured several others has forced members of Congress to examine their security arrangements to determine if they are sufficient.

House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi has said she favors more money for the U.S. Capitol Police force, which is seeking an 8 percent increase to nearly \$427 million for next year. Pelosi, a California Democrat, said more money would help the agency enhance its presence when members of Congress, staff and others congregate away from the Capitol.

"It's security for other people who are there, too," she said at one point. "If somebody is coming after a member of Congress, you don't want to be anywhere nearby."

Members of the U.S. Capitol Police engaged in a shootout with the assailant during the Alexandria

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incident, and lawmakers said their presence probably prevented many deaths. Two police officers were injured; the shooter, James Hodgkinson, later died.

The Capitol Police were at the ballfield in Virginia because Scalise is the majority whip and a member of the leadership. Other members of Congress are not afforded the same security as congressional leaders.

"It seems self-evident that when the teams are practicing, there should be security there," Pelosi said.

Even before the shooting, Speaker Paul Ryan and Pelosi had begun talking about changes that could improve members' safety, said Ryan's spokeswoman, AshLee Strong.



In this June 22, 2016, file photo, House Majority Whip Steve Scalise, of Louisiana, speaks at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) in Washington, on new proposals to repeal and replace President Barack Obama's health care law. The Washington hospital where Scalise is recuperating from a gunshot wound says he has been readmitted to the intensive care unit. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon, File)

US warns North Korea that diplomatic window is closing By JULIE PACE and EDITH M. LEDERER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States warned Wednesday that North Korea was "quickly closing off" the prospect of a diplomatic resolution to its provocations, as the Trump administration launched a government-wide effort to identify options for confronting Pyongyang following its unprecedented intercontinental ballistic missile launch.

President Donald Trump and other senior officials dangled the prospect of punishing countries that trade with North Korea — a threat aimed directly at China, Pyongyang's biggest benefactor. In a tweet Wednesday morning, Trump questioned why the U.S. should continue what he sees as bad trade deals "with countries that do not help us."

His message was bolstered at the United Nations, where U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley told an emergency meeting of the Security Council that the Trump administration was eyeing penalties against "any country that does business with this outlaw regime." She also raised the specter of military action, declaring that the U.S. was prepared to use force if necessary.

"Their actions are quickly closing off the possibility of a diplomatic solution," she said of North Korea's leaders.

Some administration officials are still holding out hope of persuading China to ratchet up economic pressure on Pyongyang, despite Trump's increasingly pessimistic attitude toward Beijing. Trump, who departed for Europe early Wednesday, is scheduled to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the Group of 20 summit in Germany.

Thus far, both China and North Korea have proven to be impervious to Trump's tough talk and threatening tweets. Pyongyang heightened tensions this week with the test of a missile capable of hitting the U.S., a

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step officials described as a worrisome escalation by an unpredictable regime and perhaps the most pressing threat facing a new U.S. president with little national security experience.

Following the launch, the White House, Treasury Department, State Department, Pentagon and intelligence agencies accelerated discussions on options for responding to Pyongyang's nuclear pursuits. The talks center in part on the same bucket of ideas prior administrations have considered, including direct diplomatic negotiations and pre-emptive military action.

Haley announced that the U.S. will put forward a new Security Council resolution in the coming days "that raises the international response in a way that is proportionate to North Korea's escalation."

She offered no details but said that



President Donald Trump stops briefly in front of reporters as he and first lady Melania Trump walk to Marine One on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, July 5, 2017. The Trumps are heading to Poland and then Germany for the G20. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

if the council is united, the international community can cut off major sources of hard currency to North Korea, restrict oil to their military and weapons programs, increase air and maritime restrictions, and hold senior officials accountable.

South Korea's president said the world should look at tougher sanctions against North Korea and insisted the problems across his border should be addressed through diplomatic channels.

"I think that the North Korean question should be solved by peaceful means," said President Moon Jaein, who will also meet Trump at the G-20 gathering.

The North Korean threat appears certain to hang over Trump's European trip, which opens in Poland. Trump is expected to use the trip to try to forge consensus with European Union partners, which could also put more financial pressure on North Korea.

As he flew to Warsaw on Air Force One on Wednesday, Trump also spoke by phone about North Korea with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, emphasizing the need for countries to implement Security Council resolutions. The White House said Trump also discussed the need for nations to "stop hosting North Korean guest workers" — an issue Secretary of State Rex Tillerson also mentioned in his response a night earlier to the missile launch.

Restricting guest workers is one way the U.S. and other countries could try to reduce North Korea's access to foreign currency. Some 50,000 to 60,000 North Koreans work abroad, mostly in Russia and China, South Korea's spy service has said, including at about 130 restaurants North Korea operates overseas. The workers' mission involves earning money to bring into North Korea.

North Korea conducts about 90 percent of its trade through China, giving Beijing enormous sway over the reclusive government. Despite forging a friendly relationship with Xi, Trump has become increasingly dismayed at China's reluctance to take tougher action against North Korea. He asserted Wednesday that "trade between China and North Korea grew almost 40% in the first quarter."

In April, Chinese customs data said total two-way trade between China and North Korea increased 36.8 percent in the first quarter of this year compared with the same period a year earlier. However, raw data from the first quarter showed that total two-way trade increased by only 7.4 percent. It was unclear why

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the customs agency reported a higher rate.

Anthony Ruggiero, a North Korea expert at the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, said the U.S. could try to prod Beijing to take a tougher line on North Korea by exploiting Chinese banks and other companies' desire for access to the U.S. dollar.

"The administration can give them a choice: Do business with North Korea or have access to the U.S. financial system," Ruggiero said.

The Trump administration signaled its willingness to take that approach last week when it announced it was blacklisting a small Chinese bank over dealings with North Korea.

China has long resisted intensifying economic pressure on neighboring North Korea, in part out of fear of the instability that could mount on its doorstep, including the possibility of millions of North Koreans fleeing into China. China has also been concerned that a reunited, democratic Korea — dominated by South Korea — would put a U.S. ally, and possibly U.S. forces, on its border.

Lederer reported from the United Nations. Associated Press writers Vivian Salama, Josh Lederman and Robert Burns contributed to this report.

Follow Julie Pace at http://twitter.com/jpaceDC and Edith M. Lederer at http://twitter.com/EdithLedererAP

Tensions rise between Iraqi forces and civilians in Mosul By SUSANNAH GEORGE

MOSUL, Iraq (AP) — "Don't stop!" the Iraqi special forces lieutenant yelled as a wave of fleeing civilians

trudged past his position in Mosul's Old City in the scorching heat. "Don't pretend you're tired! Keep going!" Nearby, dozens of women and children, their hands raised, dropped their bags for security forces to search. Keeping the crowd at a distance, the soldiers yelled at the women to roll up their sleeves and empty everything they were carrying.

"We know you're Daesh," the soldiers said, using the Arabic acronym for the Islamic State group.

Tensions have escalated in the final days of the battle for Mosul, as suicide bombings carried out mostly by women hiding among groups of civilians target Iraqi forces closing in on the last few hundred square meters (yards) of territory IS controls. At least one such attack struck Wednesday.

At a screening center, security forces detained boys as young as 14 they accused of belonging to IS and barred



Civilians trying to flee get undressed to be checked for explosives after suicide bombers exploded as Iraqi forces continue their advance against Islamic State militants in the Old City of Mosul, Iraq, Monday, July 3, 2017. (AP Photo/ Felipe Dana)

the elderly and sick from stopping to rest during the difficult journey out of the war-torn district, a more than kilometer-long (half-mile) trek on foot over mounds of rubble in 115-degree (47-degree Celsius) heat. Many civilians are believed still trapped in the IS-run enclave, with around 1,500 fleeing with every 100-meter (yard) advance by Iraqi forces. Those emerging from the Old City at this late stage in the fight

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were weak, injured, gaunt and pale. For months, the district has been bombarded by Iraqi artillery and cut off from food and water.

The fight for Mosul is taking a "devastating" toll on the Old City's residents, Doctors Without Borders said in a statement Wednesday. Only a "fraction ... who require medical attention are receiving it, and many are dying on the battlefield," the humanitarian organization warned.

One man with a fractured leg was carried out Wednesday by a relative, surgical metal pins protruding through the white bandages. A small girl, her head wrapped in gauze, walked past the soldiers holding her mother's hand. Another man approached on crutches, his right leg missing below the knee, the stump bandaged.

An elderly man, stripped down to his underwear, staggered toward the soldiers.

"I recognize him from the Daesh propaganda videos!" special forces Lt. Fadhel Hadad yelled as two soldiers grabbed the man and sat him on the side of the road. Hadad began questioning him, but the man made motions that he was unable to speak.

"Don't pretend you are too tired to speak. Give him water and he'll speak," Hadad said.

Iraqi soldiers increasingly accuse civilians still inside the Old City of being relatives of IS fighters. Some 300 militants are estimated to be inside a 500-square-meter (600-square-yard) sliver of territory.

"We know they are all Daesh families, but what do we do, kill them all?" said a special forces solider, Amar Tabal, stationed deeper inside the Old City.

Women and children who aren't found to be carrying weapons are allowed to pass. Men and boys go through a much more stringent process: Their identity cards are checked and those with documents not issued in Mosul or whose name appears on a database are held for further questioning.

Lt. Gen. Abdul-Ghani al-Asadi, a senior special forces commander, defended the screening procedures. He described the IS suicide bombings as "barbaric" and maintained that searching and questioning civilians is essential to protecting his forces and preventing IS fighters from escaping Mosul.

"These are not children. They are cubs of the caliphate," Hadad, the officer at the Old City checkpoint said, gesturing to a group of young boys being held in custody. Another solider kicked a man into the back of a Humvee and began binding the detainees' hands with plastic zip-ties.

A group of women in black hijabs covered in dust said they had been traveling for about an hour and had been checked at gunpoint three times.

"They suspect we are all Daesh families, but we aren't," said Ruqaya Mahmoud, 24, who said she was originally from the Old City.

IS captured Mosul in a matter of days in the summer of 2014. Iraqi forces backed by a U.S.-led coalition launched a major operation to retake the city in October. In January the city's east was declared liberated and the push on the Old City — the last stand for IS in Mosul — was launched in June.

As civilians continued to flee Wednesday, one woman rushed up to Hadad and a group of soldiers standing outside a Humvee with three young men inside.

"My son! Please let me wait for him, he didn't do anything," Nowal Abdel Assad begged.

"Get out of here!" Hadad yelled, "He will follow you."

Sobbing, the woman said: "I don't know why (the security forces) are doing this. My son had nothing to do with Daesh."

Russia's Putin, North Korea to challenge Trump overseas By DARLENE SUPERVILLE and KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — President Donald Trump opens his two-nation European visit expecting a warm welcome in Poland before he encounters what could be a frostier reception and thornier issues at an international summit in Germany. Trump's sit-down with Russian President Vladimir Putin and North Korea's first launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile threaten to put Trump's skills as a negotiator to the test.

Trump arrived in Warsaw late Wednesday for a 16-hour visit that includes a keynote address to the Poles from Krasinski Square, site of a monument commemorating the 1944 Warsaw Uprising against the Nazis.

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Scores of people who lined darkened roads waved American and Polish flags and recorded video of Trump's motorcade as it sped him and his wife, Melania, to their hotel.

Trump has scheduled talks with the leaders of Poland and Croatia and may hold a joint news conference — his first one abroad — with Polish President Andrzej Duda. He also was meeting with the heads of a dozen countries bordered by the Baltic, Adriatic and Black seas. Collectively known as the Three Seas Initiative, the group aims to expand and modernize energy and trade with a goal of reducing the region's dependence on Russian energy.

Duda told Polish broadcaster TVN24 on Wednesday that he wants to tackle concrete issues like energy security in the meeting with Trump, not engage in "some general talk about world security." Trump recently devoted a week to U.S. energy production.

At the same time, Trump will have to contend with escalating tensions with North Korea after it successfully



President Trump, right and the first lady Melania Trump walk past the honor guards as they arrive to Warsaw, Poland, Wednesday, July 5, 2017. President Donald Trump is back to Europe hoping to receive a friendly welcome in Poland despite lingering skepticism across the continent over his commitment to NATO, his past praise of Russian President Vladimir Putin and his decision to pull the U.S. out of a major climate agreement. (AP Photo/Czarek Sokolowski)

launched its first intercontinental ballistic missile this week. Asked, as he left the White House, what he would do about North Korea, Trump said only, "We're going to do very well."

Trump, who's been seeking China's help in containing Pyongyang's missile and nuclear weapons programs, also tweeted his frustration with China for continuing to trade with North Korea.

"So much for China working with us - but we had to give it a try!" Trump wrote.

Chinese President Xi Jinping is among at least nine leaders Trump is scheduled to meet with later in the week in Germany during the Group of 20 summit of the world's leading rich and developing countries.

Trump will meet one-on-one with German Chancellor Angela Merkel immediately after he arrives in Germany on Thursday. U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson planned to join Trump later.

Trump will also walk a fine line when he meets Friday with Putin. The highly anticipated sit-down comes when relations between the two nations are at a low point, and with the president showing reluctance to adopt a harder line toward Russia amid conclusions by multiple U.S. intelligence agencies that Moscow meddled in the 2016 presidential election to benefit Trump, and continuing federal and congressional investigations into possible collusion between Trump campaign associates and Russian government officials.

Trump's return to Europe follows a shaky inaugural visit in late May and signs of unhappiness around the globe with his presidency.

A recent Pew Research Center survey of attitudes toward Trump in more than three dozen countries found fewer than 3 in 10 respondents expressing confidence in his ability to do the right thing on international affairs.

Trump's earlier visit was marred by several awkward encounters, including a tough speech to NATO members urging them to spend more on their armed forces, an uncomfortable handshake with France's new president and a caught-on-camera moment when Trump pushed past the prime minister of Monte-

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negro to get to the front of a group photo opportunity.

Poland may offer him a chance to shine.

Polish media reports say the government promised the White House cheering crowds as part of its invitation. Ruling party lawmakers and pro-government activists plan to bus in groups of people for Trump's speech. The White House didn't respond to a request for comment on the reports.

With Trump's sights already set on getting re-elected in 2020, the visit to Poland could also be seen as a power play for battleground states like Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, home to hundreds of thousands of Polish-American voters.

Trump may also seek to use Poland as an exemplar of partnership. A U.S. ally in Iraq and Afghanistan, Poland is among the five NATO members that spend at least 2 percent of their gross domestic product on the military. That's something that Trump — and U.S. leaders before him — have demanded of NATO allies. Poland also hosts a few thousand U.S. troops, in addition to supporting U.S. and NATO forces in Iraq

and Afghanistan. It's also a regular purchaser of U.S. military equipment.

The Polish government has emphasized that Russia's aggression in Ukraine poses a threat to the whole of Europe, something that will inevitably be raised in discussions with Trump as Europeans aim to gauge his willingness to confront Putin when they meet face to face on Friday.

Associated Press writer Vivian Salama in Washington contributed to this report.

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Ukraine says it foiled 2nd cyberattack after police raid By RAPHAEL SATTER,

AP Cybersecurity Writer

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine has dodged a second cyberattack, officials said Wednesday, suggesting that the digital campaign which paralyzed computers across the country and around the world is ongoing.

Ukraine is still trying to find its feet after scores or even hundreds of businesses and government agencies were hit by an explosion of data-scrambling software on June 27. In a Facebook post, Interior Minister Arsen Avakov said there was a second stage to that attack, timed to hit its peak at 4 p.m. in Ukraine on July 4.

Avakov said the second strike — like the first one — originated from servers at the Ukrainian tax software company M.E. Doc, which sheds a little more light on Tuesday's heavily armed raid on M.E. Doc's office and the seizure of its servers. Video released Wednesday showed men in camouflage carrying assault-style weapons storming the company's modest offices in Kiev



Ukraine's infrastructure minister Volodymyr Omelyan talks at an interview to the Associated Press in his office in Kiev, Ukraine, Tuesday, July 4, 2017. Omelyan said that last week's data-scrambling software outbreak has dealt millions of dollars in damage to Ukraine's Department of Infrastructure alone, the minister said Tuesday, an early hint of the cost to the wider Ukrainian economy. (AP Photo/ Efrem Lukatsky)

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as office workers calmly watched them. Police spokeswoman Yulia Kvitko said there were no arrests.

"We prevented the initiation of the second wave of viruses," Yaroslav Trakalo, another police spokesman, said in the video released Wednesday. He said investigators have already found "evidence of Russian presence on these servers," although he did not elaborate.

Ukraine has blamed the Kremlin for the attacked that sowed chaos. Kremlin officials routinely deny claims of electronic interference in Ukraine and elsewhere.

The raid on M.E. Doc caps a week of increasingly implausible claims from the company that it was not at the heart of the outbreak. On Wednesday the firm reversed itself, acknowledging that it had been broken into and used by hackers to seed the malware epidemic.

It's not clear what the thrust or scope of the second cyberattack in Ukraine was, but M.E. Doc is widely used across Ukraine, making it a tempting springboard for hackers. An executive at the company was quoted by Interfax-Ukraine as saying the software was installed on 1 million machines across the country. How many of those machines have been infected is an open question.

The June 27 attack initially seemed to be a particularly aggressive form of ransomware, but many analysts who picked it apart later said it appeared to be a thinly disguised attempt to destroy data and sow chaos. Some said the malware epidemic was likely state-backed, and Ukrainian officials have squarely put the blame on the Kremlin.

In the meantime, the online wallet carrying roughly \$10,000 worth of digital currency extorted by the cyber attackers was emptied shortly around the time of the July 4 raid, according to Bitcoin's public ledger. Information security experts say some of the money appears to have been used to purchase space on a darknet text storage site, where a statement demanding 100 bitcoin, or roughly \$260,000, in exchange for unscrambling all the affected files materialized around the same time.

It was difficult to determine whether the offer was serious or just a distraction and The Associated Press was unable to immediately reach the hackers for comment.

Ukrainian officials have not offered a global estimate of the amount of damage inflicted by the June 27 attack. But in an interview Tuesday with the Associated Press, Infrastructure Minister Volodymyr Omelyan said the damage at his department alone ran into the millions of dollars.

This story has been corrected to show that the purported hackers have demanded 100 bitcoin, not 100,000 bitcoin.

Officer's killer had ranted about police killing and abusing By COLLEEN LONG and JENNIFER PELTZ, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A killer who strode up to a mobile police command post and put a bullet in an officer's head Wednesday had ranted in a Facebook video last September about law officers killing and abusing people and warned them to leave him alone or "we gonna do something."

"I'm not playing, Mr. Officer. I don't care about 100 police watching this," 34-year-old ex-convict Alexander Bonds said, adding: "It's time for people to wisen up."

Ten months later, Bonds went up to the RV-like command post in the Bronx and ambushed Officer Miosotis Familia, shooting her through the passenger side window as she wrote in her notebook around 12:30 a.m. Police Commissioner James O'Neill said Familia was "assassinated in an unprovoked attack on cops."

Familia's partner frantically radioed for help, and officers caught up with Bonds about a block away and killed him in a hail of about 20 bullets when he pulled a stolen revolver, police said. He didn't get off a shot, authorities said. The burst of gunfire as the Fourth of July wound down was initially mistaken by some people for fireworks.

The 48-year-old Familia was a 12-year veteran of the police force who spent her entire career with the New York Police Department in the high-crime Bronx precinct. The command post there had been set up and staffed around the clock since a triple shooting in March.

Mayor Bill de Blasio said Familia "was on duty serving this city, protecting people, doing what she believed

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in and doing the job she loved."

Police said they were trying to establish the motive for the shooting. While tensions have been running high in recent years between police and black people around the country, there was no immediate indication the killing had a racial dimension. Bonds was black; Familia was black and Hispanic, her family having come from the Dominican Republic. She apparently had no previous contact with him.

Still, the attack recalled the 2014 ambush killings of two New York officers who were gunned down in their cruiser by a man who had announced online moments before that he was planning to shoot two "pigs" in retaliation for the police chokehold death of Eric Garner, an unarmed black man. The gunman, 28-year-old Ismaaiyl Brinsley, then killed himself.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions called Familia's killing a "murder in cold blood."

"Sadly, it is the latest in a troubling series of attacks on police officers over the past two years. These attacks must stop," he said in a statement.

Bonds was seen on video leaving a convenience store, then moving tightly along the wall, pulling a hoodie over his head and walking purposefully toward the command post vehicle with gloved hands, police said. The video didn't capture the shooting but showed Bonds running away with a gun in his hand, police said.

All new patrol cars rolled out by the NYPD have bulletproof glass, and older vehicles are being fitted with window inserts to harden them against gunfire. But there are no plans to do the same with the rolling command centers, officials said.

Bonds, also known as John Bonds, had been paroled in 2013 after being sentenced to eight years in prison for a 2005 armed robbery in Syracuse. He had other arrests, including one in 2001, when as a teenager he was accused of attacking an officer with brass knuckles.



This undated photo provided by the New York Police Department shows officer Miosotis Familia, who was shot to death early Wednesday, July 5, 2017, ambushed inside a command post RV by an exconvict, authorities said. The gunman was killed by police about a block away. (NYPD via AP)

While his Facebook page is filled largely with inspirational quotes and quizzes, he alluded to his troubled past.

"Just few years ago I was in the devil house," he noted in a New Year's Eve post thanking God and people who had helped him.

But months earlier, he posted his rambling tirade full of bitterness over how inmates are treated in prison. "Don't think every brother, cousin, uncle you got that get killed in jail is because of a Blood or Crip or Latin

King killing them. Nah, police be killing them and saying that an inmate killed them," he said in the video. Prison records show he had been written up more than two dozen times for disciplinary reasons behind

bars, mostly for relatively minor infractions, but some for violations such as assaulting an inmate or fighting. Familia had three children, including twins, lived with her mother and worked the midnight shift. Friends said she became an officer to help her community, and her family was heartbroken.

"She was the sweetest person you ever want to meet," downstairs neighbor Tom Ritter said.

He said his son, now 22, played with Familia's children and she practically "adopted" him.

Even a woman who said her husband had been arrested by Familia had only kind words for the slain officer.

"She gave me good advice, like a mother to a daughter," said Keisha Williams, who said her husband was arrested on a marijuana charge. "She's good, but she's a tough cookie. She's a good cop. I'm just sad it was her."

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This story has been corrected to show Bonds said people should "wisen up," not "rise up."

Associated Press writers Karen Matthews and Tom Hays in New York and Carolyn Thompson in Buffalo contributed to this report.

Pope John Paul II's longtime spokesman dies at age 80 By VICTOR L. SIMPSON, Associated Press

ROME (AP) — Joaquin Navarro-Valls, a suave, silver-haired Spaniard who was a close confidant of Pope

John Paul II, serving for more than two decades as chief Vatican spokesman, has died at the age of 80.

Manuel Sanchez, spokesman for the Opus Dei movement in Rome of which Navarro-Valls was a member, said he died Wednesday after a long illness. Opus Dei said on its website that he had been suffering from pancreatic cancer.

Navarro-Valls was fiercely loyal to John Paul, accompanying the Polish pope on most of his 104 international trips. He also performed delicate diplomatic missions, such as helping to prepare the pope's historic pilgrimage to Cuba.

Known for his coolness and restraint, Navarro-Valls nearly broke into tears when John Paul was dying in April 2005. He choked up and walked out of a conference room when a German reporter at a briefing on the pope's condition asked him how he personally felt.

"I was trying to keep my emotions in check, but then a reporter asked how



In this photo taken on April 1, 2005, Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro Valls delivers a statement on Pope John Paul II's condition at the Vatican. Joaquin Navarro-Valls, a suave, silver-haired Spaniard who was a close confidant of Pope John Paul II, serving for more than two decades as chief Vatican spokesman, has died at the age of 80, Wednesday, July 5, 2017. (AP Photo/Plinio Lepri)

I was experiencing the passing of the pope personally, and I couldn't control myself," he explained later. Navarro-Valls, who spoke four languages, was a foreign correspondent for the Spanish newspaper ABC when John Paul offered him the job as director of the Vatican press office. He was the first journalist to hold the post.

He was a lay member of the conservative Catholic movement Opus Dei, an order much favored by the pope, but Navarro-Valls always insisted the fact he was president of Rome's Foreign Press Association at the time weighed heavily in his hiring at the Vatican.

Navarro-Valls was credited with bringing computer technology to the press office, promoting the use of multiple languages in the Italian-centric press operation and giving journalists better access - making him the perfect press aide for a pope known for his media savvy.

Navarro-Valls held degrees in both journalism and medicine, specializing in psychiatry.

Some saw the combination as perfect for his job as papal "spin doctor."

In 1997, just a few months before the papal pilgrimage to Cuba, he flew to Havana and was summoned

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for what turned out to be a six-hour-long encounter with Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

Navarro-Valls said he told Castro that the pope had one particular request - that the regime restore the Christmas holiday that was abolished under communism. Castro kept his word to do so, and the holiday is still celebrated today.

With three successive non-Italian popes, Navarro-Valls helped lead a quiet revolution to internationalize the Vatican. The current spokesman is an American, Greg Burke, a former Fox correspondent.

Burke's assistant is the first woman to hold a ranking position in the press office. Paloma Garcia Ovejero worked as a Spanish TV journalist before accepting the Vatican post.

Burke said that Navarro-Valls "embodied what Ernest Hemingway defined as courage: grace under pressure.".

"I got to know Navarro when I was working for Time, and the magazine named John Paul II Man of the Year," Burke recalled in a note. "I expected to find a man of faith, but I found a man of faith who was also a first-class professional."

He recalled Navarro-Valls working at the U.N. Population Conference in Cairo in 1994, calling it "one of the best examples of what Pope Francis calls ideological colonization. It was fascinating to see someone who was defending the faith, but he wasn't on the defensive. He was leading the fight."

Burke continued, "I didn't always agree with Navarro, but he always behaved like a Christian gentlemen, and those can be hard to find these days."

As the Vatican spokesman, Navarro-Valls naturally sought to put the pope in the best light. He said he always regretted overreacting when he barred the Vatican correspondent of the Italian newspaper La Repubblica from the papal plane for criticizing the pope in a column.

He faced some ridicule when he described a meeting in Guatemala of the pope and Rigoberta Menchu, a Nobel peace prize winner known for her critical views of the Roman Catholic church.

Navarro-Valls told reporters Menchu seemed much more moderate and understanding than she had been depicted in the media.

A short while later, he sent an aide to tell reporters to forget the remarks because the meeting never took place. No explanation was ever given.

He found himself under fire from some in the Vatican when he became the first official to publicly hint that John Paul was suffering from Parkinson's disease. The pope's condition clearly was evident, but not something many wanted to disclose.

During a 1996 trip to Hungary, at a time when John Paul looked extremely frail, Navarro-Valls said the pope suffered from an "extra pyramidal syndrome." His comments referring to drug-induced side effects nearly cost the Spaniard his job.

After John Paul died, Navarro-Valls remained as spokesman for 15 months with the new pope, Benedict XVI.

"I am conscious of having received in these years so much more than I have been able to give," he said upon resigning in July 2006.

He was not married and lived in an Opus Dei residence in Rome.

Simpson retired as the Rome bureau chief of The Associated Press in 2013 after four decades covering the Vatican, including the entirety of John Paul II's papacy.

Colleen Barry contributed from Milan and Nicole Winfield from Rome.

Replaces paragraph 14 to correct name to Ovejero.

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Volvo goes electric, ditches cars powered solely by gas By MATTI HUUHTANEN, Associated Press

HELSINKI (AP) — Volvo plans to build only electric and hybrid vehicles starting in 2019, making it the first major automaker to abandon cars and SUVs powered solely by the internal combustion engine.

CEO Hakan Samuelsson said the move was dictated by customer demand. It means that in two years, all new Volvo vehicles will have some form of electric propulsion.

The announcement comes as the global auto industry slowly moves toward electric-powered vehicles after more than a century of using engines that burn only fossil fuels. Even though sales are a fraction of conventional autos, companies must sell them to meet fuel economy and



A Volvo XC 90 during an interview with Volvo Cars CEO Hakan Samuelsson at Volvo Cars Showroom in Stockholm, Sweden, Wednesday, July 5, 2017. Samuelsson said that all Volvo cars will be electric or hybrid within two years. The Chinese-owned automotive group plans to phase out the conventional car engine. (Jonas Ekströmer/TT via AP)

emissions regulations. In some markets electric vehicles are seeing increased demand.

Yet the transition to fully electric vehicles will take years. Although Tesla Inc. has announced a \$35,000 electric car for the masses and General Motors Co. is selling the all-electric Chevy Bolt for a similar price, less-expensive hybrids are likely to sell more at least in the short run.

Still, other automakers are likely to follow Volvo's announcement in a few years, said Sam Abuelsamid, senior analyst for Navigant Research, with luxury automakers leading the way.

"I think we'll probably see most of the premium brands do the same thing in roughly the same time frame," he said. "More high-volume mainstream brands will be a little slower."

In order to meet government fuel economy requirements worldwide, automakers are developing more hybrid systems. Many are 48-volt "mild hybrids" that assist a gas engine to move a car to make it more efficient, improving gas mileage by 10 or 15 percent, Abuelsamid said.

Such systems generate enough electricity to allow automakers to move functions such as air conditioners and water and oil pumps to electric power, getting rid of mechanical belts that are a drag on the engine. Those systems can run only when needed, and that can save another 2 or 3 percent on fuel consumption — so a vehicle that gets 20 mpg could get about another four miles per gallon, he said.

European luxury brands such as Audi and Mercedes-Benz already are rolling out mild hybrid cars in Europe. Those systems likely will be coming to the U.S. because it's expensive for the companies to build different cars for different markets, Abuelsamid said. General Motors and others already have such systems as options on some models in the U.S.

All manufacturers are moving toward more hybrids, but the transition to 100 percent electric vehicles is still years away, said Darren Jukes, head of industrial products for the accounting firm PricewaterhouseC-oopers. "I don't think we're seeing the end of combustion engines just yet," Jukes said.

Fully electric and hybrid vehicle sales have risen a little since 2012 but still accounted for only 2.6 million, or about 3 percent of worldwide new vehicle sales, last year. Navigant predicts that will increase to around

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3.7 million in 2018 and to more than 9 million by 2025. That's about 9 percent of sales.

Volvo's announcement, coupled with some negative analyst notes and Monday's announcement of lower than expected production, weighed on Tesla's stock Wednesday. Shares of the Palo Alto, California, company closed down 7.2 percent to \$327.09.

Volvo, which is based in Sweden but owned by Chinese firm Geely, will launch five fully electric cars between 2019 and 2021. Three of them will be Volvo models and two will be electrified cars from Polestar, Volvo Cars' performance car arm. It also plans to offer a range of hybrids as options, expecting to sell 1 million electrified cars by 2025.

The company said its long range models could travel 500 kilometers (310 miles) on a single charge using current technology, but it is looking for suppliers of new and better batteries.

Samuelsson, who acknowledged that the company had been skeptical about electrification only two years ago, said circumstances have changed. "Things have moved faster; customer demand is increasing," he said.

Last year, Volvo sold 534,332 cars in 100 countries, up more than 6 percent from 2015.

Auto Writer Tom Krisher contributed to this report from Detroit. Video Journalist Kevin Scott contributed from London.

Malaysia, Indonesia Muslim groups call for Starbucks boycott

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Muslim groups in Malaysia and Indonesia have called for a boycott of Star-

bucks because of the coffee chain's support for LGBT rights.

Malaysian group Perkasa, which supports a hard-line form of Islam and nationalism, this week called on its more than 500,000 members to stay away from Starbucks coffee shops. This week and last, leaders of Indonesia's second largest mainstream Muslim group, Muhammadiyah, with an estimated 29 million members, denounced the chain.

The groups were apparently reacting to comments made several years ago by former CEO Howard Schultz in support of gay rights that drew renewed attention amid an increasingly anti-LGBT climate in both of the predominantly Muslim countries.

Perkasa said in a statement that the Malaysian government should revoke the trading license given to Starbucks and other companies such as Microsoft and Apple that support LGBT rights and same-sex marriage.



An Indonesian couple sit at Starbucks Coffee shop in Jakarta, Indonesia, Thursday, July 6, 2017. Muslim groups in Malaysia and Indonesia have called for a boycott of Starbucks because of the coffee chain's support for LGBT rights. (AP Photo/Tatan Syuflana)

Amini Amir Abdullah, who heads Perkasa's Islamic affairs bureau, said Muslims should stay away from Starbucks because its pro-gay rights policy is against Islam and Malaysia's constitution.

Sodomy is illegal in Malaysia and punishable by up to 20 years in prison. Homosexuality is not illegal in Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation, but a case before the Constitutional Court is seeking

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to criminalize gay sex and sex outside of marriage.

A boycott Starbucks hashtag was briefly popular on Twitter in Indonesia and shares of the company that operates Starbucks in the country fell sharply this week. But its stores in the capital Jakarta appeared as popular as ever.

Gavin Bowring, a Malaysia analyst at risk consulting company Eurasia Group, said the boycott was unlikely to amount to much but reflected "a growing tendency toward conservatism and strict adherence to Islamic principles."

Asian stocks edge lower on mixed signals from Fed minutes By YOUKYUNG LEE, AP Business Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Asian markets were trading marginally lower on Thursday as investors brushed off tensions over North Korea's intercontinental ballistic missile launch and instead focused on mixed signals from the U.S. central bank.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 fell 0.6 percent to 19,970.25 while South Korea's Kospi lost 0.2 percent to 2,384.44. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index shed 0.3 percent to 25,440.35. China's Shanghai Composite Index gave up 0.3 percent to 3,197.12. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 edged 0.1 percent lower to 5,758.80. Southeast Asian stocks were mixed.

FED MINUTES: Minutes from the Federal Reserve's June meeting showed that the Fed is weighing when it will start letting its \$4.5 trillion bond portfolio shrink, a major turning point for the U.S. accopany. Some Fed officia



In this Wednesday, July 8, 2015, file photo, a statue of George Washington stands at Federal Hall near the flag-covered pillars of the New York Stock Exchange, in New York. Global shares are mostly higher in Europe, Wednesday, July 5, 2017, after Asia reversed early losses spurred by concern over North Korea's launch of a longrange missile on Tuesday. Trading was subdued after the U.S. Independence Day holiday and ahead of the summit of the Group of 20 industrial nations later in the week. (AP

Photo/Bebeto Matthews, File)

for the U.S. economy. Some Fed officials want to announce the start of that process within a few months, while others want to wait longer.

ANALYST'S VIEW: "The latest Fed minutes yielded a mixed perception from the market with varying views from members on both the inflation outlook and the timing for the reduction of the Fed's balance sheet," said Jingyi Pan, a market strategist at IG in Singapore. "With the mixed tone from the minutes and the essential delay to the announcement of balance sheet reduction timing, there is no surprise why we are seeing the muted reaction from the markets."

WALL STREET: U.S. stock indexes finished mixed on Wednesday. The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 0.2 percent to 2,432.54. The Dow Jones industrial average slid 1.10 points to 21,478.17. Nasdaq composite rose 0.7 percent to 6,150.86.

OIL: Benchmark U.S. crude added 31 cents to \$45.44 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Wednesday, the contract slumped \$1.94, or 4.1 percent, to \$45.13 a barrel in

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New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, added 37 cents to \$48.16 per barrel in London. In the previous session, it sank \$1.82, or 3.7 percent, to \$47.79 a barrel. CURRENCIES: The dollar declined to 112.98 yen from 113.28 yen. The euro fell to \$1.1338 from \$1.1351.

CNN faces backlash over handling of doctored Trump video By DAVID BAUDER, AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — CNN says safety concerns led to its decision not to reveal the identity of the man behind a doctored anti-CNN video. Yet the way the decision was explained and deep distrust of the network among President Donald Trump's supporters provoked a backlash Wednesday.

The network said late Tuesday it had identified the Reddit user who originally posted an old WWE video of Trump "roughing up" pro wrestling maven Vince McMahon, superimposing the CNN logo over McMahon's face. Trump tweeted a link to the video, with some modifications, and it has become the president's most-shared social media post yet, according to Twitter.

Reporter Andrew Kaczynski said in an online story that CNN had found

Copies of the New York Post with an illustration of president Donald Trump as a professional wrestler on the front page are displayed at a newsstand in New York City, Monday, July 3, 2017. On Sunday, Trump's apparent fondness for wrestling emerged in a tweeted mock video that shows him pummeling a man in a business suit with his face obscured by the CNN logo. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

the Reddit user, who used the tag "HanA-----Solo," and reached out to him Monday. Before returning Kaczynski's message the next day, the user posted a public apology for the Trump video — he called it a prank — and for some racist and anti-Semitic postings also made under that name. He said he was just trying to get a reaction and didn't mean what he said, and was closing his Reddit account.

CNN said online that it had decided not to publish the user's name because he is a private citizen who apologized, showed remorse and said he would not repeat his ugly behavior. "CNN reserves the right to publish his identity should any of that change," Kaczynski wrote.

That last sentence made CNN a target.

"That's essentially blackmail," wrote conservative activist Ben Shapiro. "That's CNN stating that it will out the guy if he dares to defy their political perspective or offends them sufficiently."

Such charges spread swiftly online. Fox News Channel host Sean Hannity shared another video on Twitter, this one showing a professional wrestler whose face was replaced with a Trump picture bashing several other men identified as "CNN" with a chair. "Is CNN going to blackmail this person, too?" Hannity asked.

CNN said Wednesday that it did not publish the user's name out of concern for his safety, and that any claim that it tried to blackmail or coerce him was false. Kaczynski tweeted that the user told him he had not been threatened in any way.

CNN's online critics, including Donald Trump Jr., claimed the Reddit user was a 15-year-old boy. CNN said he was an adult male and Kaczynski tweeted, "People claiming he's 15 are wrong."

The video sent out by Trump on Sunday morning had been retweeted more than 340,000 times by



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Wednesday morning. That passes Trump's tweet the morning of last November's election — "TODAY WE MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN! — as his most-shared post, Twitter said.

CNN also received heat from another direction for its decision to withhold the user's name.

There are many reasons to keep a name out of a story, said William Grueskin, a Columbia University professor. The person could be an abuse victim, a confidential witness whose life or job would be endangered, a source promised anonymity or a juvenile. The Reddit user "doesn't appear to fit any of these categories," he said.

"That puts a high expectation on other reporters, who are asked every day to withhold names and who don't, for good reason," he said. "Are others now supposed to engage in a negotiation with sources that illustrates moral probity and predicts future conduct?"

Indira Lakshmanan, an expert on journalism ethics for the Poynter Institute, said she has no problem with CNN finding out the user's identity, since the person put his opinions in the public square and boasted about the president's retweet. She said it's more likely the user pleaded with CNN to have his name withheld out of fear than the network trying to blackmail him in any way.

Still, she said, the network could have explained its decision better and the "reserves the right" claim is unnecessarily problematic.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, July 6, the 187th day of 2017. There are 178 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On July 6, 1957, Althea Gibson became the first black tennis player to win a Wimbledon singles title as she defeated fellow American Darlene Hard 6-3, 6-2. The Harry S. Truman Library, the nation's first presidential library, was dedicated in Independence, Missouri. Sixteen-year-old John Lennon first met 15-year-old Paul McCartney when Lennon's band, the Quarrymen skiffle group, performed a gig at St. Peter's Church in Woolton, Liverpool.

On this date:

In 1535, Sir Thomas More was executed in England for high treason.

In 1777, during the American Revolution, British forces captured Fort Ticonderoga.

In 1885, French scientist Louis Pasteur tested an anti-rabies vaccine on 9-year-old Joseph Meister, who had been bitten by an infected dog; the boy did not develop rabies.

In 1917, during World War I, Arab forces led by T.E. Lawrence and Auda Abu Tayi captured the port of Aqaba (AH'-kah-buh) from the Ottoman Turks.

In 1933, the first All-Star baseball game was played at Chicago's Comiskey Park; the American League defeated the National League, 4-2.

In 1942, Anne Frank, her parents and sister entered a "secret annex" in an Amsterdam building where they were later joined by four other people; they hid from Nazi occupiers for two years before being discovered and arrested.

In 1944, an estimated 168 people died in a fire that broke out during a performance in the main tent of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1964, the movie "A Hard Day's Night," starring The Beatles, had its world premiere in London. British colony Nyasaland became the independent country of Malawi.

In 1967, war erupted as Nigeria sent troops into the secessionist state of Biafra. (The Biafran (bee-AF'-ruhn) War lasted 2 1/2 years and resulted in a Nigerian victory.)

In 1971, jazz trumpeter and singer Louis Armstrong died in New York at age 69.

In 1988, 167 North Sea oil workers were killed when explosions and fires destroyed a drilling platform. Medical waste and other debris began washing up on New York City-area seashores, forcing the closing of several popular beaches.

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In 1997, the rover Sojourner rolled down a ramp from the Mars Pathfinder lander onto the Martian landscape to begin inspecting the soil and rocks of the red planet.

Ten years ago: A man on a balcony over the New York-New York casino floor in Las Vegas opened fire on the gamblers below, wounding four people before he was tackled by off-duty military reservists. (The gunman, Steven Zegrean, was later convicted of charges including attempted murder and was sentenced to 26 to 90 years in prison; he died in April 2010 less than a year into his term.) Kathleen E. Woodiwiss, pioneer of the modern historical romance novel, died in Princeton, Minnesota, at age 68.

Five years ago: At a 100-nation conference in Paris, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton hailed an accelerating wave of defections in President Bashar Assad's inner circle as the United States and its international allies pleaded once again for global sanctions against the Syrian regime. Former neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman was released from jail in Florida for a second time while he awaited his second-degree murder trial for fatally shooting Trayvon Martin. (Zimmerman was acquitted.)

One year ago: President Barack Obama scrapped plans to cut American forces in Afghanistan by half before leaving office. Double-amputee Olympian Oscar Pistorius was sentenced to six years in a South African prison for murdering girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp. Philando Castile, a black elementary school cafeteria worker, was killed during a traffic stop in the St. Paul suburb of Falcon Heights by Officer Jeronimo Yanez, who was charged with second-degree manslaughter (Yanez was acquitted at trial). Former Fox News Channel anchor Gretchen Carlson sued network chief executive Roger Ailes, claiming she was cut loose after she had refused his sexual advances and complained about harassment in the workplace, allegations denied by Ailes. (Carlson later settled her lawsuit for a reported \$20 million.) The augmented-reality game Pokemon Go made its debut in the U.S., Australia and New Zealand.

Today's Birthdays: Singer-actress Della Reese is 86. The 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, is 82. Actor Ned Beatty is 80. Singer Gene Chandler is 77. Country singer Jeannie Seely is 77. Actor Burt Ward is 72. Former President George W. Bush is 71. Actor-director Sylvester Stallone is 71. Actor Fred Dryer is 71. Actress Shelley Hack is 70. Actress Nathalie Baye is 69. Actor Geoffrey Rush is 66. Actress Allyce Beasley is 66. Rock musician John Bazz (The Blasters) is 65. Actor Grant Goodeve is 65. Country singer Nanci Griffith is 64. Retired MLB All-Star Willie Randolph is 63. Jazz musician Rick Braun is 62. Actor Casey Sander is 62. Country musician John Jorgenson is 61. Former first daughter Susan Ford Bales is 60. Hockey player and coach Ron Duguay (doo-GAY') is 60. Actress-writer Jennifer Saunders is 59. Rock musician John Keeble (Spandau Ballet) is 58. Actor Pip Torrens is 57. Actor Brian Posehn is 51. Political reporter/moderator John Dickerson (TV: "Face the Nation") is 49. Actor Brian Van Holt is 48. Rapper Inspectah Deck (Wu-Tang Clan) is 47. TV host Josh Elliott is 46. Rapper 50 Cent is 42. Actress Tia Mowry is 39. Actress Tamera Mowry is 39. Comedian-actor Kevin Hart is 38. Actress Eva (EH'-vuh) Green is 37. Actor Gregory Smith is 34. Rock musician Chris "Woody" Wood (Bastille) is 32. Rock singer Kate Nash is 30. Actor Jeremy Suarez is 27.

Thought for Today: "Nothing is worth more than laughter. It is strength to laugh and to abandon oneself, to be light. Tragedy is the most ridiculous thing." — Frida Kahlo (FREE'-dah KAH'-loh), Mexican painter (born this date in 1907, died 1954).