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Tues., July 11, 2017

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Groton Chiropractic Ad
- 2- Chicken Soup of the Soul image
- 3- School Board Story
- 4- City Council Story
- 5- Olde Bank Floral Ad
- 6- GDI News/Clean/Fit ad
- 7- Today in Weather History
- 8- Today's Forecast
- 9- Yesterday's Weather
- 9- Today's Weather Info
- 9- National Weather Map

Groton Area School Book

Other Official Notices Book

Frederick Area School Book

- 10- Daily Devotional
- 11- News from the Associated Press

Brown County Book (Updated 7-10)

Claremont Town Official Notices Book

Groton City Official Notices Book

Official Notices

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Senior Menu: Salmon loaf, creamed peas, watermelon, peanut butter brownie, whole wheat bread.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Church Council, 7 p.m.

Jr. Legion: at Mobridge, 5 p.m., DH

- U10 B/R: at Britton, 6 p.m., DH
- U8Blue: host Doland, 6 p.m., Falk Field, DH

T-Ball: Black host Doland, 5:30 p.m., Falk Field.

Softball: at Ipswich (U8 at 5:30 p.m., U10 at 6:30 p.m., U12 at 7:30 p.m.)

Amateurs: host Redfield, 6:30 p.m.

United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m., Girl Scouts, 3:30 p.m.

Olive Grove: Bridge, noon; Ladies League, 6 p.m.

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Senior Menu: Breaded pork cutlet with gravy, scalloped potatoes, corn O'Brien, pear slices, whole wheat bread.

Outdoor Story Time: at the Little Free Library located south of the Methodist Church, 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist: Wednesday coffee time, 9 a.m.; Finance Meeting, 6 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Joint circles potluck at 6 p.m. (bring salad or dessert)

U12: host Kusler, 6 p.m., DH, Nelson Field.

U10 W/R: host Andover, 7 p.m., 1 game, Nelson Field **T-Ball:** Black hosts Andover, 6 p.m., Falk Field **Olive Grove:** Men's League, 6 p.m.

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Groton Chiropractic Clinic

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C. 1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

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"IT TOOK ME A LONG TIME NOT TO JUDGE MYSELF THROUGH SOMEONE ELSE'S EYES." -SALLY FIELD Chicken Soup

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District mil levys will go down for commercial property During the budget hearing, it is anticipated that the Big Stone/Ellendale electrical transmission line project

During the budget hearing, it is anticipated that the Big Stone/Ellendale electrical transmission line project will be operational in 2019. This project will be the school district's next new additional source of property tax revenue. With an estimated commercial property valuation of \$23.75 million and using today's state levy rate for such property, Business Manager Mike Weber said the transmission project could generate approximately \$165,000 in new local taxes for our school district on a calendar year basis.

The valuation of the Groton Area School District was \$384 million 10 years ago. Today, it is \$1.234 billion. 2020 will be the last year that the payment for the Arena will be made.

Mil levy for the general fund is set by the state. Despite the increase in valuation, the district will see a decrease in general fund revenue.

Here is how the mil levy will be (subject to be tweeked). Ag property will increase from 3.269 (These mil levys are for Conde and Bristol as they do not pay the bond redemption tax - 3.026) to \$3.539 (\$3.315). The ag property also includes money for the Animal Diagnostic Research Lab in Brookings. The state legislature decided to have the school districts collect the money for the lab and that money will go to state and then to the lab. The owner-occupied property will increase from \$5.388 (\$5.145) to \$5.404 (5.180). Commercial property will be reduced from \$9.331 (\$9.088) to \$9.010 (\$8.786).

Gas and diesel prices have continued to go down from 2013-14 school year when the district spent \$102,707 compared to #49,823 this past school year.

Board member Merle Harder asked if it would be in the interest of the district to bid out the transportation. The question was asked as bus repairs are higher as well as having a tough time finding bus drivers. It is something the district will consider next year.

The elementary school project is going along well and to date, the district has spent 56 percent of its contingency budget. The total change orders have added up to \$103,001 and the district has budgeted \$184,439.

The math position has been offered and Superintendent Joe Schwan said that he hopes to hear back by Tuesday if they accepted the job.

The following positions remain open in the district: Opportunity room teacher, elementary librarian, three food service workers, bus route driver, head boys soccer coach, assistant volleyball coach and junior high football coach. There have been 13 staff changes this year.

The oath of office was given to Grant Rix and Steve Smith as newly elected board members.

Steve Smith was re-elected as board president for the upcoming school year. Kelly Kjelden was re-elected as board vice-president.

The committees will remain unchanged. Building, grounds and transportation will be Clint Fjelstad, Marty Weismantel and Merle Harder; personnel, policy and curriculum are Deb Gengerke and Grant Rix; and negotiations are Kelly Kjelden and Steve Smith. Grant Rix will serve as the voting member of the North Central Special Education Cooperative Governing Board. The salaries for the board members will remain unchanged at \$50 per meeting, \$75 per meeting for the chairman and mileage as applicable. Substitute pay for teachers is \$100 per day. Substitute pay for bus drivers was increased from \$60 to \$65 per day. The schedule for the board meetings and program overview presentations was approved.

Lunch prices and breakfast prices will increase by 15 cents. Admission rates will remain unchanged. OST rates will also remain unchanged. It was noted during the budget hearing that with the help of fundraising, the district has been able to keep the OST rates unchanged for several years at \$2.50 per hour, \$25 per week and \$100 per month. It was noted, "A good thing for the young families of our school district!"

An academic lane change for Joel Guthmiller from BS+15 to BS+30 was approved. Carla Kjelden submitted her resignation as elementary school librarian and it was accepted with board member Merle Harder voting no and Kelly Kjelden abstaining. She has been working in the district for the past 13 years.

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Clean up or the hammer will fall There was discussion on property owners who have not cleaned up their property. "At some point along

There was discussion on property owners who have not cleaned up their property. "At some point along the way we have to draw the line," Peterson said. Councilman David Blackmun said, "Whatever the ordinance is, we need to follow it." The council agreed that if it's time, the hammer must fall. Councilman Karyn Babcock said, "The hammer is coming."

A bill submitted by Shirlee Briggs for painting the community center was discussed. Councilman Eddy Opp questioned the bill, stating that the estimate was \$1,000. The bill came in at \$1,642.20. Councilman Jay Peterson said, "I think it was worth it," stating that a lot of extra work was done in scraping and painting. The council approved the bill.

There was discussion of a cell company wanting to put up equipment on the cell tower on Sixth Street. City Attorney Drew Johnson asked how the city could stop anyone from adding something to their tower. The future of cellular service is 5G which requires more mini antennas around town. The city has not allowed anyone to put antennas and equipment on the city's utility poles.

Officer Jerry Bjerke said people are still not stopping at the stop signs on SD37 crossing Second Avenue and Fifth Avenue. "They stop when we're there. When we're not there, they don't stop," he said. Bjerke said people ask why there are stop signs there when there is no traffic on SD37. He said the stop signs have always been there and that people need to continue to stop.

There was discussion on the police body camera. Blackmun said the city should put in the budget for next year a spare camera in case one is broken. Bjerke said the body camera is working very well.

Chuck Padfield was hired at \$9 an hour to fill in for Katie Hansen when she is not able to work the gate at the baseball complex.

For the newspaper quotes, the publisher of the Dakota Press, Kathy Sundermeyer, forgot her quote. One was submitted by the Groton Independent. Sundermeyer said she would accept the quote from the Independent. Both papers were designated as the official newspaper for the city.

Wells Fargo and the First State Bank of Claremont were designated as official banks.

Finance Officer Hope Block said she noticed some areas of the budget are currently overbudget and would like to get them back in the black. The council made contingency fund transfers to take care of the shortfalls. After this, there will be nothing left in the contingency. When the grant money comes in for the playground equipment, it will go back into contingency in the amount of about \$24,000.

Block said that she would like to attend the FEMA flood map training September 26-27 in Aberdeen. The council agreed to send her.

There are a bunch of Tacoma Park prints (about 50) left over from the original pool fundraiser. The price will be reduced from \$50 to \$25 and the funds raised will go back into the pool fund.

There is some interest in the jail building, so the council rescinded an earlier motion to tear it down and to declare it as surplus. The building would be moved and the grounds would have to be cleaned up. They would be responsible for any liability. They would have until the end of November to have it moved. The building was declared a value of \$1.

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LOWEST prices EVER!!!

Almost EVERYTHING is on sale!

July 13–14–15



101 N Main St, Groton SD Monday-Friday 9am-5pm Saturday - 9am-3pm (July 9th only)



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Today in Weather History

July 11, 1909: A deadly, estimated F2 tornado moved ESE across the Simpson Park section of Big Stone City in South Dakota. A bus was thrown from the road, and the driver was killed. Two homes and several barns were destroyed. As the tornado crossed the foot of Big Stone Lake, it tore apart a railroad yard and killed four of the 26 Armenian laborers who were living in box cars at Ortonville, Minnesota. Nineteen were injured.

July 11, 1981: Severe thunderstorms moved eastward across the entire length of the South Dakota along the northern portion of the state. Hail, with the largest up to nine inches in circumference, resulted in 100 percent crop loss, damage to numerous buildings and loss of livestock. Trees were stripped, and large limbs were broken. High winds also accompanied these storms. Storms lasted into the early morning hours on the 12. Thunderhawk in Corson County had estimated winds of 70 to 75 mph that destroyed a machine shop and seven metal grain storage bins. In and around Pollock, a silo was moved three feet off the foundation. Power and telephones lines were down. Rainfall measured 2.28 inches in two hours in Pollock.

1936: From July 5-17, temperatures exceeding 111 degrees in Manitoba and Ontario claimed 1,180 lives (mostly the elderly and infants) during the longest, deadliest heat wave on record. Four hundred of these deaths were caused by people who drowned seeking refuge from the heat. In fact, the heat was so intense that steel rail lines and bridge girders twisted, sidewalks buckled, crops wilted and fruit baked on trees. Some record temperatures include; 112 degrees at St. Albans and Emerson, Manitoba, 111 at Brandon, Manitoba, 108 at Atikokan, Ontario, and Winnipeg, Manitoba.

1990: The costliest hailstorm in U.S. history occurred along the Front Range of the Colorado Rockies. (Denver, Colorado): Softball-sized hail destroyed roofs and cars, causing more than \$600 million in total damage.

1888 - Heavy snow reached almost to the base of Mt. Washington, NH, and the peaks of the Green Mountains were whitened. (David Ludlum)

1987 - Early morning thunderstorms produced wind gusts to 90 mph at Parkston, SD, and wind gusts to 87 mph at Buffalo, MN. Later in the day strong thunderstorm winds at Howard WI collapsed a circus tent injuring 44 persons. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms produced heavy rain in southern Texas, with totals ranging up to 13 inches near Medina. Two men drowned when their pick-up truck was swept into the Guadalupe River, west of the town of Hunt. Ten cities in the eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Baltimore, MD, reported a record high reading of 102 degrees for the second day in a row. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced severe weather from North Dakota to Indiana. Thunderstorms in North Dakota produced tennis ball size hail at Carson. Thunderstorms in Indiana produced wind gusts to 75 mph at Fort Wayne. Five cities in the Southern Atlantic Coast Region reported record high temperatures for the date, including Lakeland, FL, with a reading of 100 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

Groton Daily Independent Tuesday, July 11, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 011 ~ 8 of 35 Heat Ad... Today Tonight Wednesday Wednesday Thursday Thursday Friday Night Night 309 30% Severe Severe Mostly Sunny Partly Cloudy Mostly Sunny Mostly Clear Hot Thunderstorms Thunderstorms then Partly Cloudy High: 96 °F Low: 65 °F High: 86 °F Low: 59 °F High: 86 °F Low: 64 °F High: 96 °F **Heat Advisory** Afternoon/Evening pm-7pm Storms 94) Ashley Sisseton Mobridge Aberdeen Mobridge Aberdeen Faith Watertown Redfield Pierre Gettysburg Huron Brookings Watertov Redfield Polo 0 Kadoka Chamberlain Mitchell Sioux Falls Miller Winner Pierre Merriman Yankton **High Heat & Humidity Main Risk:** Heat Index 95-105°F High Winds National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD Created: 7/11/2017 5:30 AM www.weather.gov/abr f NWSAberdeen ブ @NWSAberdeen Published on: 07/11/2017 at 5:37AM

Heat and humidity will build across most of the forecast area today ahead of a cold front. This will result in dangerous conditions outside through most of the afternoon. The heat and humidity will also result in storms that will form in North Dakota and push southeast across eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota. Large hail and strong winds are anticipated. High pressure begins to build in overnight with more seasonal temperatures Wednesday and Thursday.

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Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 87.3 F at 4:26 PM

High Outside Temp: 87.3 F at 4:26 PN Heat Index: 88.0 at 4:18 PM Low Outside Temp: 60.4 F at 6:30 AM High Gust: 26.0 Mph at 5:49 PM Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 110° in 1930

Record High: 110° in 1930 Record Low: 45° in 1941 Average High: 83°F Average Low: 59°F Average Precip in July: 1.18 Precip to date in July: 0.17 Average Precip to date: 12.02 Precip Year to Date: 5.94 Sunset Tonight: 9:21 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:57 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart Valid Tue, Jul 11, 2017, issued 4:31 AM EDT DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center Prepared by Mcreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain Rain and T'Storms Rain and Snow Snow Flash Flooding Possible (hatched) Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched) Freezing Rain Possible (hatched) Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



GETTING THERE FROM HERE

evotional

Following directions to get from one place to another is sometimes difficult. Even using a map or listening to a distant voice speak to us on a global positioning system often create suspicion. Often we have feelings of uncertainty until we arrive safely at our intended destination.

There was no doubt in the mind of David of what if someone wanted directions from God. It is a clear if/then. "If," David wrote, "you want to stand in His presence, 'then' you must have clean hands and a pure heart." Hands refer to our actions and hearts refer to our attitudes. Certainly, the word "pure" would eliminate most of us. In our moments of honesty and openness before God, we all recognize soiled hands and devious hearts. What then are we to do if we want to plead our case before God? Who can say, "My hands are clean and my heart is pure?"

Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." There is little doubt that any of us will achieve a pure heart in this life. Was Jesus teasing us? Indeed not!

In the beatitudes Jesus is talking about how we are to live. And He knew that we could never achieve the goals for Christian living that He was talking about.

So, what are we to do? Give up? No! In the beatitudes He is talking about motives! He wants us to have an inner attitude and desire to continually seek the Lord by reading His Word, seeking to know Him and then honoring Him.

Prayer: Thank You, Father, for Your Word that shows us the way to find our way into Your presence. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 24:3 Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place?

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News from the Associated Press

Polygamous leader pleads not guilty to fleeing fraud charges By LINDSAY WHITEHURST, Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A polygamous leader who was captured nearly a year after escaping home confinement on federal food-stamp fraud allegations pleaded not guilty Monday to new charges from his time on the run.

Lyle Jeffs faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted on a felony charge connected to being a fugitive. It is on top of charges in a multimillion-dollar food-stamp scheme that he is accused of helping orchestrate in a polygamous community on the Arizona-Utah border.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Brooke Wells ordered Jeffs held behind bars ahead of trial. Jeffs looked thinner than in previous court hearings, his gray hair cut short and shoulders rounded above shackled hands.

He was apparently living out of a pickup truck when he was arrested June 14 near the small South Dakota town of Yankton, close to the Nebraska state line. He was captured after a pawn shop employee looked online and discovered the man who had just sold him two pairs of Leatherman pliers was wanted by the FBI.

Jeffs had been in the area for about two weeks, was running low on resources and was struggling without the help of fellow sect members, the FBI has said.

Investigators say he had recently fallen out with his brother Warren Jeffs, who runs the polygamous group from prison in Texas, where he is serving a life sentence for sexually assaulting underage girls he considered brides.

Many of the other 10 defendants in the food-stamp scheme struck plea deals with federal prosecutors, but authorities consider Lyle Jeffs to more culpable than others, prosecutor Robert Lund said.

Defense attorney Kathyrn Nester didn't comment after the hearing.

Jeffs and the other defendants are accused of diverting at least \$12 million in food stamps to buy tractors, trucks and other items, prosecutors say. Defense attorneys have said that they have a religious belief in communal living and were simply sharing benefits.

Former group member Brenda Nicholson said Monday that she wished Jeffs was facing more charges. "He has spent years living like royalty. He had the best of everything," she said.

Jeffs, 57, is charged with conspiracy to commit food-stamp fraud, which carries a sentence of up to five years, and money laundering, which could bring up to 10 years in prison.

He was awaiting trial in the fraud case in June 2016 when he used olive oil to slip out of his ankle monitor and escape home confinement in Salt Lake City.

Members of his group, known as the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, believe polygamy brings exaltation in heaven.

The group is an offshoot of mainstream Mormonism, which disavowed polygamy more than 100 years ago.

Suspects plead guilty in choking death of South Dakota woman

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Two people have pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in the 2016 strangulation death of a South Dakota woman, but it's still unclear who's responsible.

Elizabeth LeBeau and Fred Quiver accuse each other of strangling 24-year-old Emily Bluebird with an electronics cord, the Rapid City Journal (http://bit.ly/2v35kXi) reported. Bluebird's remains were found on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation several weeks after her death following a search by volunteers. Bluebird had two daughters, who were ages 5 and 6 when she died.

Sentencing hearings were scheduled in June, but they were postponed after LeBeau's lawyer, Dana Hanna, noted that both defendants' statements had been validated by the U.S. Attorney's Office.

"What is very unusual in this case is that the government has affirmed to the court and to the defendant

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that both of these defendants are telling the truth," Hanna said.

Supervisory Assistant U.S. Attorney Gregg Peterman said the defendants' statements show they believe their accounts to be true because they were both intoxicated when the killing occurred.

District Court Chief Judge Jeffrey Viken could invalidate the defendants' plea agreements and schedule them for a trial or accept the pleas and move forward with sentencing.

"I have never seen anything like this in 40 years," Viken said. "I am really trying to sort this out."

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

Another hot, dry week for South Dakota farmers, ranchers

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Crops continue to wither as drought bakes South Dakota.

The federal Ágriculture Department says hot and dry conditions persisted across South Dakota last week, with temperatures in the western part of the state averaging 4 to 10 degrees above normal. Only scattered rain fell. Topsoil moisture was nearly 80 percent short or very short.

Crop conditions continued to decline. Winter wheat was rated 61 percent poor or very poor, while spring wheat was 72 percent poor or very poor. Much of the barley crop also is in poor or very poor condition. Sunflowers are emerging ahead of last year's pace. So far 98 percent of sunflowers have emerged com-

pared with 80 percent last year.

More than half of South Dakota's pastures and ranges are in poor or very poor condition.

5 killed in minivan crash on South Dakota reservation

RED SHIRT, S.D. (AP) — The FBI says four children and one adult died when the minivan in which they were passengers crashed on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

Authorities say the driver of the minivan and three other children survived the crash Saturday night, 10 miles (16 kilometers) south of Red Shirt, a small community on the northwestern edge of the reservation.

The FBI said Monday that the 19-year-old male driver apparently lost control and rolled the minivan into a ditch.

The agency identified the victims as 4-year-old Winya Wastewin Decory, 10-year-olds Mato Sires and Jenhae Swift Eagle, 13-year-old Jeremy Little and 66-year-old Wanda Sires.

The driver and surviving children, aged 2, 9 and 12, were injured. Authorities have not released any information on whether the victims are related.

Former South Dakota judge to run for Congress as a Democrat

CANISTOTA, S.D. (AP) — Former Circuit Court Judge Tim Bjorkman is planning to run for South Dakota's lone U.S. House seat as a Democrat.

Bjorkman will announce his candidacy Thursday in Canistota.

Bjorkman's campaign says in a statement that he plans to run an "issue-focused" race seeking to unite and deliver solutions to problems rather than promoting partisan squabbling.

Bjorkman recently stepped down from the First Judicial Circuit. He was elected in 2006 and re-elected in 2014.

South Dakota Democratic Party Executive Director Sam Parkinson says Bjorkman has a distinguished record as a judge and would be a strong fighter for South Dakota families in Washington.

Secretary of State Shantel Krebs is competing with Dusty Johnson, a former public utilities commissioner, in the GOP primary for the House seat. Current Republican U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem is running for governor.

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Gage Brothers to build \$40 million plant

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A manufacturer with deep roots in Sioux Falls says it will begin construction on a \$40 million plant this summer.

Gage Brothers says the new 210,000-square-foot facility will consolidate machinery and employees in one location. Current operations are scattered between 16 buildings.

The precast concrete producer has been at the same location in Sioux Falls since its founding in 1915. Gage Brothers president Tom Kelley says business growth has exceeded its existing capacity to the point where the company has turned away work. Once completed in January 2019, the new facility is expected to increase Gage Brothers' manufacturing capacity by 60 percent.

Currently 45 percent of production employees work outdoors. About 95 percent of production workers will be indoors at the new plant.

Rattlers down 6-time defending champ Storm for IFL crown

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Arizona Rattlers have ended the six-year reign of the Sioux Falls Storm in the Indoor Football League.

The Rattlers beat the six-time defending champion Storm 50-41 on Saturday in Sioux Falls for the 2017 IFL crown.

The game featured two teams with a combined 15 championships.

Victims of fatal crashes in Kingsbury, Meade counties ID'd

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The Highway Patrol has identified the victims of fatal crashes last week in Kingsbury and Meade counties.

Authorities say 52-year-old Crystal Morell, of Lake Preston, died Wednesday after she lost control of her car and it rolled in the ditch off a rural road north of the town.

The same day, 71-year-old Kathleen Moulton, of Piedmont, died when the sport utility vehicle she was driving clipped a semitrailer on Interstate 90 west of Rapid City and rolled in the ditch.

Senate GOP leaders hope for health care vote next week By ALAN FRAM and ERICA WERNER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican leaders are hoping to stage a climactic vote on their health care bill next week, though internal rifts over divisive issues like coverage requirements and Medicaid cuts leave the timing and even the measure's fate in question.

"We need to start voting" on the GOP bill scuttling much of President Barack Obama's health care law, No. 2 Senate GOP leader John Cornyn of Texas told reporters Monday. Some Republicans said a revised version of the bill could be introduced Thursday, and Cornyn said the "goal" was for a vote next week.

Cornyn cited seven years of unresolved Republican debate over how to replace the 2010 statute during which "we gain a vote, we lose a vote." That underscored a sense among top Republicans that they had little to gain by letting their disputes drag on much further.

Consensus on a replacement seemed more remote than ever as senators returned to the Capitol from a Fourth of July recess. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., who crafted the bill largely in secret, postponed a vote last month in the face of certain defeat.

Republicans were hearing divergent messages from the White House Monday. President Donald Trump pressured GOP senators to pass the measure quickly, while Vice President Mike Pence suggested they might have to revert to a straightforward "Obamacare" repeal if they can't agree on an alternative.

McConnell has little room for error as he tries to pass a bill with 50 GOP votes, and Pence as the tiebreaker, in a Senate Republicans control by 52-48. All Democrats are opposed.

With at least a dozen Republicans opposing or challenging parts of McConnell's bill, the leader has been

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working on revisions aimed at bringing more GOP senators on board. Final decisions remain to be made on how tightly to curb the growth of Medicaid, the health insurance program for the poor; whether to let insurers sell lowcost policies with very limited coverage; and how much money to devote to making health care tax credits more generous, said No. 3 Senate Republican John Thune of South Dakota.

Congress is beginning a three-week sprint toward its traditional five-week August recess, and GOP leaders want to finish work on the measure by then. Some lawmakers have suggested the break should be shortened or canceled if they can't get health care done first, though that's unlikely to happen.

"I cannot imagine that Congress would dare to leave Washington without a beautiful new HealthCare bill fully approved and ready to go!" Trump tweeted early Monday.

Hours later, Pence emphasized another approach Trump has at times suggested.



In this June 30, 2017 file photo, President Donald Trump speaks in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington. Trump pressed Congress on Monday, July 10, 2017, to get health care done before leaving for its long August recess, even as Republican senators say the GOP effort so far to repeal and replace the nation's health law is probably

dead. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci, File)

"We believe if they can't pass this carefully crafted repeal and replace bill, do those two things simultaneously, we ought to just repeal only," and then turn to replacement legislation later on, Pence told conservative radio host Rush Limbaugh.

Too many Republicans oppose repealing Obama's law without also enacting an alternative to give that tactic much chance of succeeding.

To succeed, the new legislation will have to address the concerns of conservatives like Mike Lee of Utah and Ted Cruz of Texas, who want a more full-blown repeal, and moderates like Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, who want essentially the opposite, a more generous bill.

McConnell himself has acknowledged that if he can't get the job done with Republicans alone, he'll have to turn to Democrats to shore up the market for individual insurance buyers.

The House managed to pass health care legislation in May after plentiful struggles of its own to reach agreement. Both the House and Senate bills eliminate Obamacare's mandates for people to buy insurance and individuals to provide it, gradually undo an expansion of Medicaid and reduce the size of the federal-state health care program for the poor and disabled. The measures would cut taxes for the wealthy.

Both bills would result in more than 20 million people kicked off insurance rolls over the next decade, numbers that have spooked lawmakers eyeing re-election.

Around 80 demonstrators opposed to the legislation were arrested around the Capitol complex Monday, according to U.S. Capitol Police.

Cruz has proposed letting insurers sell any policies they'd like, as long as they also sell one that covers a list of services like maternity care that Obama's law requires. The Cruz amendment was alienating senators like Collins amid concerns it would lead to unaffordable prices for people with pre-existing medical conditions because younger, healthier customers wouldn't be sharing their costs.

Pence endorsed Cruz's plan on Limbaugh's show, saying: "Rush, that's what freedom looks like, isn't it?"

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This story has been corrected to attribute quotation in 11th paragraph to Vice President Pence, not President Trump

Associated Press writer Andrew Taylor contributed to this report.

At least 16 die in military plane crash in rural Mississippi

ITTA BENA, Miss. (AP) — A U.S. military plane used for refueling crashed into a soybean field in rural Mississippi, killing at least 16 people aboard in a fiery wreckage and spreading debris for miles, officials said.

Leflore County Emergency Management Agency Director Frank Randle told reporters at a briefing late Monday that 16 bodies had been recovered after the KC-130 spiraled into the ground about 85 miles (135 kilometers) north of Jackson in the Mississippi Delta. A witness said some bodies were found more than a mile from the crash site.

Marine Corps spokeswoman Capt. Sarah Burns said in a statement that a KC-130 "experienced a mishap" Monday evening but provided no details. The KC-130 is used as a refueling tanker.

Andy Jones said he was working on

his family's catfish farm just before 4 p.m. when he heard a boom and looked up to see the plane corkscrewing downward with one engine smoking.

"You looked up and you saw the plane twirling around," he said. "It was spinning down."

Jones said the plane hit the ground behind trees in the soybean field, and by the time he and other reached the crash site, fires were burning too intensely to approach the wreckage. The force of the crash nearly flattened the plane, Jones said.

"Beans are about waist-high, and there wasn't much sticking out above the beans," he said.

Jones said a man borrowed his cellphone to report to authorities that there were bodies across U.S. Highway 82, more than a mile from the crash site.

Greenwood Fire Chief Marcus Banks told the Greenwood Commonwealth that debris from the plane was scattered in a radius of about 5 miles (8 kilometers).

Jones said firefighters tried to put out the fire at the main crash site but withdrew after an explosion forced them back. The fire produced towering plumes of black smoke visible for miles across the flat region and continued to burn after dusk, more than four hours after the crash.

Aerial pictures taken by WLBT-TV showed the skeleton of the plane burning strongly.

"It was one of the worst fires you can imagine," Jones said. He said the fire was punctuated by the pops of small explosions.

Officials did not release information on what caused the crash or where the flight originated.

In this photo provided by Jimmy Taylor, smoke and flames rise into the air after a military transport airplane crashed in a field near Itta Bena, Miss., on the western edge of Leflore County, Monday, July 10, 2017, killing several. (Jimmy Taylor via AP)



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US soldier arrested after pledging loyalty to Islamic State By AUDREY MCAVOY and LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — An active duty U.S. soldier was arrested on terrorism charges after authorities say he pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group and said he wanted to "kill a bunch of people."

The FBI arrested Sgt. 1st Class Ikaika Kang, 34, in a suburb of Honolulu over the weekend after a yearlong investigation involving multiple undercover officers and confidential informants. He made an initial appearance in federal court on Monday.

Kang's court-appointed defense attorney, Birney Bervar, said it appears his client may suffer from servicerelated mental health issues of which the government was aware but neglected to treat. Bervar declined to elaborate.

He said Kang was "a decorated veteran of two deployments" to Iraq and Afghanistan.

A 26-page affidavit from FBI Special Agent Jimmy Chen filed in court Monday detailed how Kang thought he was dealing with people working



Red evidence tape covers part of the door leading to the condo where Ikaika Kang, a sergeant first class in the U.S. Army, lives in Waipahu, Hawaii, Monday, July 10, 2017. Kang is being held on terrorism charges after the FBI claims he tried to get secret military documents to the Islamic State group. (AP Photo/Jennifer Sinco Kelleher)

for Islamic State but who were actually undercover agents.

Paul Delacourt, the FBI special agent in charge of the Hawaii bureau, said Kang gave military documents to people he believed would give them to Islamic State, but none of them got to the organization. He told reporters the FBI believed Kang was a lone actor and wasn't affiliated with anyone who poses a threat.

On Saturday, agents arrested him after he pledged loyalty to Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi and said he wanted to "take his rifle, his magazines and kill 'a bunch of people."

Kang and the agents together made combat training videos he believed would be taken to the Middle East to help prepare the group's soldiers to fight American forces, according to the affidavit. Kang had received the highest level of combat training available in the Army and was a mixed martial arts enthusiast.

Also on Saturday, Kang and an undercover agent allegedly went shopping for a drone to give to Islamic State fighters.

Kang said the drone would allow the fighters to view the battlefield from above "to find tank positions and avenues for escape" from U.S. soldiers, the affidavit said. He used his debit card to pay nearly \$1,400 for the drone, Go-Pro camera, and related equipment. The agent paid him \$700 to split the cost.

Kang, a trained air traffic controller based at Hawaii's Wheeler Army Airfield, had his military clearance revoked in 2012 for making pro-Islamic State comments while at work and on-post and threatening to hurt or kill fellow service members.

His clearance was reinstated a year later after he completed military requirements.

However, the affidavit says the Army believed Kang was becoming radicalized in 2016 and asked the FBI to investigate.

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Kang has two firearms registered in his name, an AR-15-style assault rifle and a handgun. After the shooting last summer at a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida, he told a confidential source that the "shooter did what he had to do and later said that America is the only terrorist organization in the world," according to the affidavit.

The document alleges he also later told the same source that "Hitler was right, saying he believed in the mass killing of Jews."

He told the source he was angry at a civilian who had taken away his air traffic controller's license and that he wanted to torture him, the affidavit said.

"Kang said that if he ever saw him again, he would tie him down and pour Drano in his eyes," the affidavit said.

Kang is from Hawaii, Delacourt said.

He enlisted in the Army in December 2001, just months after the Sept. 11 attacks. He served in South Korea in 2002-2003. He deployed to Iraq from March 2010 to February 2011 and Afghanistan from July 2013 to April 2014.

Kang was scheduled to appear in court for a detention hearing on Thursday.

Red tape with the word "evidence" on it covered part of the door to the Kang's apartment in the Honolulu suburb of Waipahu.

Pua Edayan, the office manager at the condo complex, described Kang as "a quiet person."

Dee Asunción, a real estate agent who represented Kang when he bought his home less than a year ago, said he came across as a "very respectful guy." She said he was "on the shy, quiet side."

But looking back she said there was one conversation that seemed strange to her. He talked about having respect for the ideology of Islamic terrorist groups.

"It sounded like he was just curious," she said, adding that in the same conversation he talked about helping his dad renovate his home.

"I feel very sad," Asuncion said. "I feel bad for him that he went down that road. I don't know exactly what he did."

Baldor reported from Washington. Jennifer Sinco Kelleher contributed to this report from Waipahu, Hawaii.

Sporadic clashes in Iraq's Mosul after victory declaration By BRAM JANSSEN, Associated Press

MOSUL, Iraq (AP) — Sporadic clashes continued Tuesday in Mosul, a day after Iraq's prime minister declared "total victory" over the Islamic State group and at least one airstrike hit the Old City neighborhood that was the scene of the fierce battle's final days.

A plume of smoke rose into the air from the strike as IS mortar shells landed near Iraqi positions and heavy gunfire could be heard on the western edge of the Old City.

The developments underscored the dangers still posed by the militants after Iraqi forces announced they retook full control of Mosul, the country's second-largest city, three years after it was seized by extremists bent on building a global caliphate.

Amnesty International warned in a report released Tuesday that the conflict in Mosul has created a "civilian catastrophe," with the extremists carrying out forced displacement, summary killings and using civilians as human shields.

The report also detailed violations by Iraqi forces and the U.S.-led coalition.

"The scale and gravity of the loss of civilian lives during the military operation to retake Mosul must immediately be publicly acknowledged at the highest levels of government in Iraq and states that are part of the U.S.-led coalition," said Lynn Maalouf, the research director for Mideast at Amnesty.

The report, which covers the first five months of this year, noted how IS fighters moved civilians with them around the city, preventing them from escaping, creating battle spaces with dense civilian populations while "Iraqi forces and the U.S.-led coalition failed to adapt their tactics."

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The Iragi forces and the U.S.-led coalition "continued to use imprecise, explosive weapons with wide area effects in densely populated urban environments," Amnesty stated, adding that some violations may constitute war crimes.

On Monday evening, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi came to Mosul for the second day in a row to declare "total victory." Flanked by his senior military leadership at a small base on the edge of the Old City, al-Abadi said "this areat feast day crowned the victories of the fighters and the Iragis for the past three years."

But the Iragi leader also alluded to the brutality of the conflict, saying the triumph had been achieved "by the blood of our martyrs."

chief urged Iraq's government to ensure that human rights will be respected in Mosul.

Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein described



Iraq's prime minister Haider al-Abadi addresses forces from a small base on the edge of Mosul's Old City, where heavy clashes have been underway for days, Monday, July 10, 2017. Al-Abadi returned to Mosul Monday and declared In Geneva, the U.N. human rights victory against the Islamic State group in the northern city following nine months of grueling urban combat. (Iraqi Prime Minister's Media Office via AP)

Mosul's fall as the "turning point" in the conflict against IS, but warned the group continues to subject people to "daily horrors" in its remaining strongholds of Tal Afar, west of Mosul, and Hawijah, north of Baghdad.

"Horrific though the crimes of ISIL are, there is no place for vengeance," said Zeid, who is a Jordanian prince, using an alternative acronym for the Islamic State group.

He cited allegations of threats of collective punishment and forced evictions in Mosul by Iragi security forces and their allies. He also cited three years of rights violations during IS' control of Mosul, including abuses like sexual slavery of women and girls that "have left deep scars on Iragi society."

In Baghdad, Shiite politician Karim al-Nouri warned that defeating IS in Mosul doesn't mean that "terrorism" is finished and urged the government to review its policies for dealing with Sunni areas of the country to "avoid previous mistakes that led to the emergence" of IS.

The government needs to work on "removing fears of marginalization and terrorism affiliation in Sunni areas," said al-Nouri, a senior member of Badr Organization. He said he believes the Iragi security forces should stay in Mosul until it is fully secure, before handing over to local forces.

While Mosul fell to the Islamic State group in a matter of days in 2014, the campaign to retake the city, which began last October, has lasted nearly nine months.

For more than two years before the operation started, Iraqi forces backed by coalition airstrikes slowly clawed back territory from IS elsewhere in Irag, and tens of thousands of Iragi troops went through a massive coalition training program.

The IS defeat in Mosul dealt a huge blow to the group's so-called Islamic "caliphate" — territory that the militants seized, spanning large swaths of both Irag and Syria — but also killed thousands, left entire neighborhoods in ruins and displaced nearly 900,000 from their homes.

Thousands of civilians are estimated to have been killed in the fight for the city, according to the provincial council of Nineveh, where Mosul is the capital — a toll that does not include those still believed buried under collapsed buildings.

Irag's military does not release official casualty numbers for soldiers killed in combat.

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A statement late Monday from IS claimed its fighters were still attacking Iraqi soldiers in the al-Maydan area of Mosul's Old City, purportedly killing and wounding many and seizing weapons and ammunition.

"The soldiers of the caliphate in Mosul continue to accomplish epics until they achieve either victory or martyrdom," it said.

Also Monday, the United Nations said that of the more than 897,000 people displaced from Mosul, thousands will probably not be able to return because of "extensive damage caused during the conflict."

"Make no mistake, this victory alone does not eliminate ISIS, and there's still a tough fight ahead," Lt. Gen. Stephen Townsend, the top U.S. commander in Iraq said in a recorded video from Baghdad following al-Abadi's statement. ISIS is another acronym for IS, also referred to as Daesh, an Arabic name.

"The coalition will continue to support our Iraqi partners until ISIS is defeated in Iraq," Townsend added, calling on Iraqis to unite and prevent a return of the conditions that allowed the extremists' rise more than three years ago.

Associated Press writers Susannah George in Irbil, Iraq; Maamoun Youssef in Cairo, Jamey Keaten in Geneva, Switzerland, and Sinan Salaheddin in Baghdad contributed to this report.

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 JR. ADMITS HE WANTED INFO ON CLINTON FROM KREMLIN-LINKED LAWYER

The president's eldest son was reportedly told ahead of time that the source of the information was the Russian government, fueling new questions about the Trump campaign's possible ties to Moscow.

2. WHY ISLAMIC STATE GROUP WILL LIKELY ENDURE

The extremist organization's mashup of local insurgency and digitallyconnected global jihadis gives the group staying power and a launchpad for its future.

3. WHAT MAY HOLD UP GOP HEALTH CARE VOTE

Internal rifts over issues like coverage requirements and Medicaid cuts leave the timing and even the measure's fate unclear.

4. I 'WANTED TO KILL A BUNCH OF PEOPLE'



Emergency officials respond to the site of a military plane crash near Itta Bena, Miss., Monday, July 10, 2017. Leflore County Emergency Management Agency Director Frank Randle told reporters at a late briefing that more than a dozen bodies had been recovered after the KC-130 spiraled into the ground about 85 miles (135 kilometers) north of Jackson in the Mississippi Delta. (Elijah Baylis/The Clarion-Ledger via AP)

Sgt. 1st Class Ikaika Kang, a Hawaii-based active duty soldier who pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group, is in FBI custody after being arrested on terrorism charges.

5. KC-130 MILITARY PLANE CRASH KILLS AT LEAST 16

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A U.S. Marine refueling tanker crashes into a soybean field north of Jackson in the Mississippi Delta, spreading debris for miles, officials say.

6. AP: FORMER FISHING SLAVES STRUGGLING TO START OVER

Some earn pennies an hour in cramped slums and rural villages. Some suffer night terrors from years or even decades of abuse on boats. Others fight their demons with drugs and alcohol.

7. EUROPEANS NOT IMMUNE TO TRUMP CRACKDOWN

The number of Europeans deported this year from the U.S. is on track to outstrip last year's total by a healthy margin, according to government figures provided to the AP.

8. MÁNY ŐRGANIZATIÓNS BANNED IN PAKISTAN THRIVE ONLINE

Islamabad says more than 40 of 65 organizations banned in the country operate flourishing social media sites, communicating on Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and Telegram.

9. ROB KARDASHIAN HIT WITH TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

The ruling against the reality TV star comes after his posting of explicit images of ex-fiancee Blac Chyna on social media last week.

10. JUDGE RULES HOME RUN DERBY

New York Yankees slugger Aaron Judge dominates the pre-All-Star Game event, reaching 513 feet and displaying remarkable power to all fields.

Trump Jr. admits he wanted info on Clinton from Russian By CHAD DAY and NEKESA MUMBI MOODY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A meeting between President Donald Trump's eldest son and a Russian lawyer during the presidential campaign occurred at the behest of a Moscow-based singer with family ties to Trump's businesses, according to a participant in the talks. Donald Trump Jr. acknowledged Monday he made time for the meeting hoping to get information about Democrat Hillary Clinton.

The circumstances surrounding the meeting, and a report by The New York Times late Monday that Trump Jr. was told ahead of time that the source of the information was the Russian government, fueled new questions about the Trump campaign's possible ties to Moscow, which are being scrutinized by federal and congressional investigators.

The Times reported that Trump Jr., who was a key campaign adviser to his father, was told the Russian government was behind the information on Clinton in an email from music publicist Rob Goldstone. The Times cited three unnamed people with knowledge of the email.

The report is the first public word that Trump Jr. accepted the meeting with the understanding that he would be presented with damaging information about his father's political opponent and that the material could have emanated from the Kremlin.

Goldstone spoke to The Associated Press earlier Monday to confirm he had set up the meeting on



In this May 8, 2017 file photo, Donald Trump Jr. speaks in Indianapolis. President Donald Trump's eldest son acknowledged Monday, July 10, 2017, that he met a Russian lawyer during the 2016 presidential campaign to hear information about his father's Democratic opponent, Hillary Clinton. (AP Photo/Darron Cummings, File)

behalf of his client, Emin Agalarov, but he did not disclose the contents of the email described by The

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Times. Goldstone did not immediately respond to attempts to contact him Monday night.

In a statement, Trump Jr.'s New York-based attorney Alan Futerfas called the Times report "much ado about nothing," though he acknowledged his client had received an email from Goldstone to set up a meeting with the purpose of passing along damaging information on Clinton. His statement did not dispute the Times report on the email.

Futerfas said Trump Jr. was not told the specifics of the information and nothing came of the meeting. "The bottom line is that Don, Jr. did nothing wrong," Futerfas said in the statement, noting that the younger Trump hasn't been contacted by any congressional panel or Special Counsel Robert Mueller's office.

The White House referred questions to the president's son. Mark Corallo, a spokesman for President Donald Trump's outside legal team, would not comment on the Times story, reiterating only that Trump "was not aware of and did not attend the meeting."

Earlier Monday, Trump Jr. tried to brush off the significance of the meeting, tweeting sarcastically, "Obviously I'm the first person on a campaign to ever take a meeting to hear info about an opponent ... went nowhere but had to listen."

Trump Jr. also said on Twitter he was willing to work with the Senate intelligence committee, one of the panels probing possible campaign collusion, "to pass on what I know."

Lawmakers on the committee from both parties said they indeed wanted to talk with the president's son. Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, said the panel "needs to interview him and others who attended the meeting." Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., agreed, saying, "Based on his own admissions, this is an attempt at collusion."

The sequence of events that led to the June 2016 meeting highlighted the tangled web of relationships that investigators now are sorting through.

The president's son said the meeting was arranged by an acquaintance he knew through the 2013 Miss Universe pageant Trump held in Moscow.

Trump Jr. initially didn't name the acquaintance, but in an interview with the AP, Goldstone confirmed he set up the meeting on behalf of Agalarov. Goldstone said the Russian lawyer, Natalia Veselnitskaya, stated that she had information about purported illegal campaign contributions to the Democratic National Committee that she thought Trump Jr. might find helpful.

Goldstone said Trump Jr. agreed to squeeze the meeting into a tight schedule.

Dmitry Peskov, a spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin, said Monday the Kremlin doesn't know Veselnitskaya and "cannot keep track" of every Russian lawyer who holds meetings in Russia or abroad. Although she has not been publicly linked with the Russian government itself, Veselnitskaya represented the son of a vice president of state-owned Russian Railways in a New York money-laundering case settled in May before a trial.

A staff member at Veselnitskaya's firm told the AP on Monday that she was unavailable for comment.

During his visit to Moscow, Trump spent time with Agalarov, appearing in a music video with him and several contestants in the pageant, which Trump owned at the time. Agalarov's father, Aras, is a Russian developer who sought to partner with Trump on a hotel project in Moscow and tried to set up a meeting between Trump and Putin during the Miss Universe contest.

According to The Washington Post and several other media accounts, the elder Agalarov paid Trump \$14 million to \$20 million to stage the pageant in Moscow. But Aras Agalarov was unable to persuade Putin to meet with Trump. Putin canceled the session, sending a Trump a friendly letter and a lacquered box in appreciation, the Post has reported.

On Monday, Goldstone said the Trumps and the Agalarovs stayed in contact after the pageant, and Emin Agalarov asked him to reach out to the Trumps to broker the June meeting with Veselnitskaya.

Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law and now White House senior adviser, and then-campaign chairman Paul Manafort attended the meeting. Goldstone said he and a translator also participated.

During the meeting, Goldstone said, Veselnitskaya made comments about campaign funding "that were not specific," and then turned the subject to a discontinued Russian adoption program and the Magnitsky Act, a bill passed in 2012 that allows the U.S. to impose sanctions on Russians for human rights violations.

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Goldstone said that at one point during the meeting, Trump Jr. or Kushner said, "Can we get to the point?" And later, after Veselnitskaya had finished her presentation, Trump Jr. said, "Is that it?"

"The whole thing was really vague," Goldstone said. He said he and Trump Jr. were the last to leave the room, and "I turned to him and said: 'I'm really embarrassed. I don't know what that was."

Unlike Kushner, Trump Jr. does not serve in the administration and is not required to disclose his foreign contacts.

Over the weekend, Trump Jr. initially omitted any mention of Clinton from his account of the meeting, describing it as a "short introductory meeting" focused on the disbanded program that had allowed American adoptions of Russian children. Moscow ended the adoptions in response to the Magnitsky Act sanctions.

A day later, Trump Jr. acknowledged he was told beforehand that Veselnitskaya might have information "helpful" to the Trump campaign, and was told by her during the meeting that she had something about Clinton.

"No details or supporting information was provided or even offered," he said. "It quickly became clear that she had no meaningful information." He said there was no follow-up after the meeting and his father was unaware it happened.

Foreign nationals are prohibited from providing "anything of value" to campaigns, and that same law also bars solicitation of such assistance. The law typically applies to monetary campaign contributions, but courts might consider information such as opposition research to be something of value.

Bradley A. Smith, a former Bill Clinton-appointed Republican Federal Election Commission member, said that based on what's known about the meeting, Trump Jr.'s actions are unlikely to be considered illegal solicitation. "It's not illegal to meet with someone to find out what they have to offer," Smith said.

But Larry Noble, a former general counsel at the Federal Election Commission, said the situation "raises all sorts of red flags."

"You do not want your campaign to be involved with foreign nationals, period," said Noble, now senior director at the Campaign Legal Center.

The New York Times first reported the lawyer's meeting with Trump Jr. and the meeting's prospect of negative information about Clinton. Trump Jr.'s acknowledgment that he hoped to get information from her on Clinton only came in response to questions from the Times.

Moody reported from New York. Associated Press writers Eric Tucker, Mary Clare Jalonick, Andrew Taylor and Stephen Braun in Washington, Julie Bykowicz in Baltimore and Nataliya Vasilyeva in Moscow contributed to this report.

Submit a confidential tip to The Associated Press: https://www.ap.org

Authorities scour vast farmland for 4 missing young men

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The search for four missing young Pennsylvania men feared to be the victims of foul play is set to continue Tuesday, a day after authorities arrested a man linked to a property that has become the focus of the investigation.

Officials said they were chasing "incredibly hot" leads as they spent much of Monday scouring a large swath of farmland in Solebury Township, about 30 miles (48 kilometers) north of Philadelphia, in their search for 22-year-old Mark Sturgis, 21-year-old Tom Meo, 19-year-old Dean Finocchiaro, and 19-year-old Jimi Tar Patrick. One of the men disappeared on Wednesday and three others on Friday.

"We're not going to rest until we get through every inch of that property," Bucks County District Attorney Matthew Weintraub said at a Monday afternoon news conference.

Hours after Weintraub's briefing, authorities arrested Cosmo DiNardo, whose family owns the sprawling farmland, on an unrelated gun charge. According to a police affidavit obtained by the Bucks County Courier Times, the 20-year-old Bensalem man was accused of possessing a shotgun and ammunition in February despite a history of mental illness that includes a voluntary commitment. DiNardo was ordered

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held on \$1 million bail. His lawyer and parents could not immediately be reached for comment. Authorities have not called him a suspect in the men's disappearance.

Weintraub said it remains unclear what relationship the missing men have with each other. But Sturgis' father, Mark Potash, told The Associated Press that his son and Meo are longtime friends who work in construction for him. He said Finocchiaro is a mutual friend of theirs.

The FBI, Pennsylvania state police and five local law enforcement agencies have joined the case, Weintraub said, describing the investigation as "all hands on deck."



A family walks down a blocked off drive way, Monday, July 10, 2017, in Solebury, Pa. Authorities are chasing fastdeveloping leads in the search for four young men feared to be the victims of foul play, but said Monday that it could take days despite intense efforts centered on a large swath of farmland. (AP Photo/Matt Slocum)

Hell and high water: Northern California is besieged again By DON THOMPSON, Associated Press

OROVILLE, Calif. (AP) — With looming floods and roaring flames, Chuck Wilsey's year sounds more like ancient scripture than modern living in Northern California.

Wilsey returned to his ranch home in Oroville on Monday, relieved to learn it had been spared by the wildfire, just as he had stayed clear of troubles brought on by a damaged spillway at a nearby dam five months ago.

"I don't know what's worse — fire, or water — it's a toss-up," Wilsey, 53, told The Associated Press after returning to his home on Monday afternoon.

He and his family were among the evacuees as flames raced through grassy foothills in the Sierra Nevada, about 60 miles (97 kilometers) north of Sacramento. Most of those evacuations remain in effect, though Wilsey and some others have been allowed to return home.

The blaze burned nearly 9 square miles (23 square kilometers) of grass, injured four firefighters and destroyed at least 37 structures. Officials couldn't immediately say how many were homes. It was 40 percent contained.

As the fire weakened throughout the day, waves of the 4,000 evacuees such as Wilsey were allowed to return home, though thousands were told they would have to stay away for at least another day.

Crews were making progress against that fire and dozens of others across California, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico, and into Canada.

Wilsey was far from celebratory, instead regrouping almost immediately and making new plans in case the fire makes another run at them. "I was ripping pictures off the wall trying to get ready," Wilsey said.

He said he was leaving his trailer attached to his truck and telling his daughters to keep prized possessions they couldn't take the first time close at hand.

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The area burning is southeast of Oroville, near where 200,000 residents downstream from the 770-foot-high Oroville Dam were briefly evacuated in February when the structure's spillways began crumbling. Wilsey's home was far enough away that he didn't have to evacuate from the floods.

His daughter, Krystle Chambers, who lives on the same property, said the one-two punch of floods and fires was taking its toll.

"It's hard, it's rough," she said. "Way too many hits. First it's this side of town, then the other side of town. It almost makes you want to move."

Pam Deditch, who is running the shelter where Wilsey and his family were huddled, also managed a shelter during the winter drenching.

"If it's not one thing, it's the other," she said with a laugh. "We're used to this. We're resilient. We're strong. We get fires and we get flooding."

In Southern California, at least 3,500 people remained out of their homes as a pair of fires raged at different ends of Santa Barbara County. The larger of the two charred more than 45 square miles (116 square kilometers) of dry brush and has burned 20 structures since it broke out. It was 20 percent contained.

The fire's broke out amid a blistering weekend heat wave that toppled temperature records. Slightly cooler weather

is expected to give crews a break in the coming days.

California officials said the extraordinarily wet winter caused thick spring blooms that are now dried out and burning, making for unpredictable fire behavior.

"You see rapid fire growth in a lot of these fires, larger acreage consumption, which makes it very difficult to firefighters to fight," said Bennet Milloy, spokesman for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

In Colorado, crews were winding down the fight against a wildfire that temporarily forced the evacuation of hundreds of people near the resort town of Breckenridge. Firefighters built containment lines around at least 85 percent of the blaze.

Across the border in Canada, crews contended with more than 200 wildfires in British Columbia that have forced thousands to flee and destroyed dozens of buildings, including several homes and two airport hangars.

"We are just, in many ways, at the beginning of the worst part of the fire season and we watch the weather, we watch the wind, and we pray for rain," British Columbia Premier Christy Clark said.

Rob Schweizer, manager of the Kamloops Fire Centre, said it had been an unprecedented 24 hours. "We probably haven't seen this sort of activity that involves so many residences and people in the history of



Chuck Wilsey returns to his home east of Oroville, Calif., after evacuation orders were lifted as the Wall fire threatened the Sierra foothill town Monday, July 10, 2017. When Wilsey was ordered to flee his ranch home over the weekend, he was ready. He started keeping his truck and camper loaded with supplies back in February, when some of the heaviest winter rains on record in Northern California nearly caused catastrophic flooding at the nation's tallest dam. "Fire and flood so close together," he marveled on Monday at a Red Cross shelter. "We just try to stay prepared."

(APnPhoto/Don Thompson)

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the province of B.C.," he said.

Associated Press writer Christopher Weber contributed from Los Angeles.

The Latest: Aaron Judge wins the Home Run Derby MIAMI (AP) — The Latest on the All-Star Game (all times local):

Aaron Judge of the New York Yankees has won the Home Run Derby, adding that title to his burgeoning list of rookie accomplishments.

Judge beat Miguel Sano of the Minnesota Twins 11-10 in the final at Marlins Park on Monday night. He becomes the fourth Yankees player to win the Derby after Tino Martinez in 1997, Jason Giambi in 2002 and Robinson Cano in 2011.

Judge will bat third for the AL in Tuesday's All-Star Game. The rookie leads the majors with 30 home runs this season, and is a Triple Crown contender with his .329 average and 66 RBIs so far. No one in Yankees history has ever hit more homers in a rookie season.

Judge's display of power Monday started in batting practice, when he hit a ball off the retractable roof at the ballpark. He needed to rally to beat the Marlins' Justin Bour in the first round 24-22, then topped the Dodgers' Cody Bellinger to reach the final.

10:08 p.m.

There probably were few, if any, fans at the Home Run Derby taller than Joel Embiid.

And the Philadelphia 76ers big man got himself a rebound, sort of. Embiid posted a photo on Twitter of his hand wrapped around a baseball during the Derby at Marlins Park on Monday night, in relative proximity to one of the outfield fences.

"And I got a ball," Embiid wrote.

It was a diverse sports day for Embiid, who was tweeting about Wimbledon earlier Monday.

10 p.m.

Second-seeded Aaron Judge will meet fifth-seeded Miguel Sano in the final of the Home Run Derby. Judge beat Cody Bellinger in the semifinals, 13-12.

It was a matchup of the probable favorites to win the AL and NL rookie of the year awards this season. Judge leads the majors with 30 home runs so far for the New York Yankees; Bellinger has 25 home runs this season for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Yankees have had three previous Home Run Derby champions — Tino Martinez in 1997, Jason Giambi in 2002 and Robinson Cano in 2011. No team has had four Derby winners, something Judge could change in the final.

Sano knocked off Judge's Yankees teammate, Gary Sanchez, in the semifinals.

Sano has 24 homers in his first two rounds. Judge had 37 — and could have had more, had he not clinched his semifinal win with just over a minute on the clock.

Judge had the longest homer of the first round, at 501 feet. He connected on 504- and 513-footers in the semifinals.



New York Yankees' Aaron Judge competes in the MLB baseball All-Star Home Run Derby, Monday, July 10, 2017, in Miami. (AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee)

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Miguel Sano will have a chance at becoming the second player to win a Home Run Derby for Minnesota. The fifth-seeded Sano topped the New York Yankees' Gary Sanchez in the semifinals of the Derby on Monday night, prevailing 11-10. The only other player to win a Derby for the Twins was Justin Morneau in 2008.

Sano will meet either Aaron Judge or Cody Bellinger in the final.

The eighth-seeded Sanchez defeated top-seeded and defending champion Giancarlo Stanton of the Miami Marlins in the first round. Sano ousted fourth-seeded Mike Moustakas of the Kansas City Royals in his quarterfinal matchup, then waited well over an hour before his semifinal.

It's the second straight year a No. 5 seed made the final — Stanton won the title as the No. 5 seed a year ago.

9:30 p.m.

Second-seeded Aaron Judge is through to the semifinals of the Home Run Derby after holding off Miami's Justin Bour in a spectacular first-round matchup.

Judge prevailed 23-22, winning with a home run in his 30-second bonus window (and then he hit a second for good measure). He'll meet the Dodgers' Cody Bellinger in the semifinals.

Judge leads MLB with 30 home runs, and had plenty of support in the crowd from Yankees fans wearing the English-style white judge's wigs. But he needed a monster effort to beat Bour, who delighted his home crowd with quite a show — 22 homers, and one doughnut eaten in a time-out.

Bour, playing big-time to the crowd, called time and got some help from teammate Giancarlo Stanton, the top seed and defending champion who was ousted in his quarterfinal matchup. Stanton handed Bour a drink, then stuffed a doughnut into his teammate's mouth.

But the biggest show was yet to come, as Judge delivered in his Home Run Derby debut.

Judge had the longest home run of the first round, a 501-footer.

9:05 p.m.

The Dodgers' Cody Bellinger beat the clock, and beat Colorado's Charlie Blackmon.

Connecting on the winning homer with one second left on the clock, Bellinger advanced to the semifinals of the Home Run Derby with a 15-14 win over Blackmon on Monday night.

He was the first higher-seed to advance, after No. 5 Miguel Sano beat No. 4 Mike Moustakas and No. 8 Gary Sanchez eliminated top-seeded and defending champion Giancarlo Stanton in another quarterfinal. And the Year of the Homer in baseball marches on. Just through the first three guarterfinals Monday

night, 83 home runs were hit. That's more than the 78 home runs in the entire 2014 Home Run Derby.

8:45 p.m.

Defending Home Run Derby champion Giancarlo Stanton of the Miami Marlins has been bounced in the first round of this year's event, eliminated by Gary Sanchez of the New York Yankees.

The eighth-seeded Sanchez won 17-16.

Sanchez went first, put up the big score and then Stanton had to play catch-up.

Stanton started slowly, took his time-out with 2:31 left in his 4-minute window, then composed himself with a few sips of a drink and got back into a groove. He connected on his last two swings to get to 15, then got set for the 30-second bonus round — needing two to tie, three to advance.

He only got one, and Sanchez advanced to meet Miguel Sano in the semifinals.

Stanton moved into No. 2 on the all-time Home Run Derby career list with 83, eight behind Todd Frazier.

8:30 p.m.

Miguel Sano of the Minnesota Twins has reached the semifinals of the Home Run Derby, topping Kansas City's Mike Moustakas 11-10 in the opening matchup Monday night at Marlins Park.

Sano went first and connected on nine homers in his 4-minute allotment — then got two more in a 30-second bonus period, thanks to him hitting enough qualifying home runs of 440 or more.

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Moustakas could have used those extra 30 seconds.

He homered on his first swing, then slumped for a bit before rallying to hit his 10th with about a minute left. Only line drives and pop-ups were left for him though, and Sano advanced.

Sano's longest homer was 470 feet.

7:58 p.m.

Want a dog and a beer at the All-Star Game? You can get that, of course.

And a whole lot more.

The dining options at Marlins Park for the All-Star festivities are many, from the basic to the seriously dressed-up. Fans at the Home Run Derby on Monday night could dine on cheeseburgers (\$11), double cheeseburgers (\$14), chicken tenders (\$13), a bucket of fried chicken (\$25) and a play on chicken-and-waffles disguised as a sandwich — chicken breast, with a fried egg, fruity jam and all between two waffles — for \$15.

Barbecue fans could munch on pulled pork sandwiches or pulled pork nachos, both \$14.

For those looking for something out of the seafood realm — when in Miami, right? — there were lobster tail skewers (\$20), some yellowtail snapper served with rice (\$23) and a Key West shrimp boil (\$25).

Half-pound hot dogs were \$14, dogs with jalapenos, cheese and chili went for \$10 and good old-fashioned Italian sausages were going for \$9.

As far as the plain, basic, classic, hot dog? A popular choice, at \$7.

7:45 p.m.

Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred says three groups are prepared to meet Jeffrey Loria's price for buying the Miami Marlins.

Áll three groups are doing the financing and legal work needed before reaching an agreement to buy the team, and Loria will then choose a winner in the competition, Manfred said Monday.

Manfred made his comments as the Marlins prepared to host the first All-Star Game in Florida on Tuesday. One investment group includes Jeb Bush and Tagg Romney; a second group is led by Derek Jeter, the 14-time New York Yankees All-Star shortstop; and the third group is led by South Florida businessman Jorge Mas.

7:25 p.m.

Major League Baseball will continue to delay any plans for expansion until after the Oakland Athletics and Tampa Bay Rays get new ballparks.

"I think it would be difficult to convince the owners to go forward with an expansion until those situations are resolved," baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred said Monday during an All-Star Game town hall meeting.

"Once they're done, I think we have some great candidates," Manfred said. "I know the mayor of Montreal has been very vocal about bringing baseball back to Montreal. It was not great when the Expos left. The fact of the matter was baseball was successful in Montreal for a very long time. Charlotte is a possibility. And I would like to think that Mexico City or some place in Mexico would be another possibility."

7:10 p.m.

Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred has repeated the sport's opposition to having top major leaguers play at the Tokyo Olympics.

The 2020 Games are scheduled for July 24 to Aug. 9, and Major League Baseball has repeatedly said it will not interrupt its season. The World Baseball Classic, co-owned by MLB and the Major League Baseball Players Association, has been the sport's alternative.

"I can't imagine a situation where we would take the kind of break that would be necessary to have our best players in the Olympics," Manfred said Monday during an All-Star Game town hall meeting. "As a result of that, we feel the WBC is crucial as a substitute, a premiere international tournament that allows our players to play for their countries."

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6:55 p.m.

Buster Posey is going to be on the home team in Miami.

For once.

The San Francisco Giants catcher will be playing for the NL in the All-Star Game at Marlins Park on Tuesday night. It'll be a rare instance of Posey being on the fan-favorite side in Miami — since, after all, he played his college baseball at Florida State.

And the Seminoles are the archrival of the University of Miami. The Hurricanes' campus is about eight miles from Marlins Park.

"I remember coming down here and the humidity just being stifling," Posey said of playing against the Hurricanes. "It was probably May or early June at the time. Good memories."

Marlins Park has a roof. So at least humidity won't be an issue this time.

6:30 p.m.

A bat signed by Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig has sold for \$458,250 at the annual Major League Baseball All-Star FanFest. The auction will continue Tuesday with the personal collection of the late Hall of Fame outfielder, Roberto Clemente.

Ruth and Gehrig did the briskest business Monday. Ruth's 1931 autographed bat went for \$317,250, and Gehrig's 1934 All-Star team pendant sold for \$146,875. Among individual baseball cards at a Hunt Auctions exhibit, the top seller was Hall of Fame pitcher Eddie Plank from 1909-11, which sold for \$64,625.

There were hundreds of bidders in person, along with thousands online and on the phone, Hunt Auctions said.

4:45 p.m.

Giancarlo Stanton will defend his Home Run Derby title short on sleep.

Stanton and the rest of the Marlins flew back to Miami early Monday after completing a sweep of the Giants in San Francisco on Sunday. Stanton says he got about 2¹/₂ hours of sleep, including an hour on the plane.

Stanton joked during a 45-minute interview session at the National League All-Star Game news conference that the questions were making him even sleepier. He said he hoped to sneak in a nap before the derby. "Dude, I'm dead," he said.

New York Yankees rookie slugger Aaron Judge, who leads the majors with 30 homers, is also part of the eight-man field for the derby.

2:15 p.m.

Chris Sale will become the first pitcher to make consecutive All-Star starts representing different teams. The Boston Red Sox ace will start Tuesday night's game for the American League, and Washington's Max Scherzer will open for the National League.

Then with the Chicago White Sox, Sale pitched the first inning of last year's game at San Diego and allowed a two-out home run to Kris Bryant.

Sale will be the 16th pitcher to make consecutive All-Star starts. He is 11-4 with a 2.75 ERA and a major league-leading 178 strikeouts in 127 2/3 innings.

Scherzer also will be making his second All-Star start. Then with Detroit, he pitched a perfect inning at New York's Citi Field in 2013, when Sale followed with a pair of 1-2-3 innings and got the win. Scherzer will be the fifth pitcher to start All-Star Games for both leagues. He is 10-5 with a 2.10 ERA and 173 strikeouts.

More AP baseball: https://apnews.com/tag/MLBbaseball

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Officer who killed Castile to be paid \$48,500 in buyout By AMY FORLITI, Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota police officer who was acquitted in last year's fatal shooting of black motorist Philando Castile will receive \$48,500 as he leaves the suburban department that employed him at the time of the killing, according to a separation agreement announced Monday.

Jeronimo Yanez will be paid the money in a lump sum, minus applicable deductions and withholdings for state and federal taxes. Under the five-page agreement released through a public records request, the Minneapolis suburb of St. Anthony also will pay Yanez for up to 600 hours of accrued and unused personal leave pay. The agreement, which has Monday's date, doesn't say how much time he has accrued.

His annual salary at the time of the July 6, 2016, shooting was more than \$72,600, not including overtime pay, according to documents released by the city.

Yanez shot Castile, a 32-year-old elementary school cafeteria worker,



In this May 30, 2017, file photo, St. Anthony police officer Jeronimo Yanez stands outside the Ramsey County Courthouse while waiting for a ride in St. Paul, Minn. It was announced Monday, July 10, that Yanez, the Minnesota police officer acquitted in last year's fatal shooting of black motorist Philando Castile, has left the police department where he served. (David Joles/Star Tribune via AP, File)

several times during a traffic stop after Castile told the officer he was armed. Castile had a permit for his gun. The shooting gained widespread attention after Castile's girlfriend, who was in the car along with her then-4-year-old daughter, livestreamed its gruesome aftermath on Facebook.

Yanez, 29 and Latino, was acquitted of manslaughter and other charges in June. On the day of the verdict, the city announced the "public will be best served" if Yanez were no longer an officer. The city said Monday that the agreement "ends all employment rights" for Yanez.

"Since Officer Yanez was not convicted of a crime, as a public employee, he would have appeal and grievance rights if terminated," it said in a statement. "A reasonable voluntary separation agreement brings to a close one part of this horrible tragedy. The City concluded this was the most thoughtful way to move forward and help the community-wide healing process proceed."

Under the agreement, the city is released from lawsuits by Yanez. He was given 10 days to consider and sign the agreement and has 15 days to rescind it in writing. The agreement noted the official "date of separation" as June 30.

Yanez wrote his initials and Monday's date on each page of the agreement and signed the last page along with the city manager. Yanez had been with the St. Anthony department since November 2011.

Castile's uncle, Clarence Castile, said he's glad Yanez will no longer be an officer.

"He should be in jail," the uncle said. "He's like a fish that wiggled his way off a hook. ... Hopefully he won't be able to get a police job in the United States. Because he's a poor example of a police officer."

Yanez's acquittal led to days of protests, including one in St. Paul that shut down Interstate 94 for hours and ended with 18 arrests. At a recent city council meeting, residents of St. Anthony called on the city's

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mayor to resign.

After the trial, Castile's mother, Valerie Castile, reached a nearly \$3 million settlement with the city, precluding a wrongful death lawsuit.

The Associated Press examined several high-profile fatal police shootings and found severance or separation agreements for officers to be unusual. In some cases, officers were fired outright. In many cases where charges were not brought or officers were acquitted, they have remained on the job.

In the August 2014 shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown, who was unarmed and black, Ferguson, Missouri, police officer Darren Wilson did not receive a severance package when he resigned. Wilson was not charged in Brown's death, which led to months of sometimes violent protests and became a catalyst for the national Black Lives Matter movement. At the time of Wilson's resignation in November 2014, the St. Louis suburb said it had cut ties with Wilson and he would not receive any additional pay or benefits. Wilson's attorney said he chose to resign after threats were made against the police department.

Chicago officer Dante Servin resigned last year just days before a hearing to determine if he should be fired for the 2012 shooting of Rekia Boyd, an unarmed 22-year-old black woman. Servin, who was acquitted of involuntary manslaughter, has since asked for disability pay for post-traumatic stress disorder. A decision on whether he qualifies for that pay, which could amount to tens of thousands of dollars, is pending.

David Larson, an employment law professor at Mitchell-Hamline School of Law in St. Paul, said reaching a voluntary separation agreement can be simpler than firing a public employee like Yanez. Most collective bargaining agreements require several steps before someone can be dismissed. And if a dismissal is contested, there can be a lengthy grievance and arbitration process.

"Given the emotion that's been involved with this and the public protests, St. Anthony is probably saying the most important thing to us is to wrap this up as quickly as we can," Larson said.

Follow Amy Forliti on Twitter: http://www.twitter.com/amyforliti. More of her work can be found at https://apnews.com/search/amy%20forliti.

AL's Chris Sale, NL's Max Scherzer to start All-Star Game By RONALD BLUM, AP Baseball Writer

MIAMI (AP) — In a year when it seems just about everyone is a power hitter, Chris Sale and Max Scherzer know what awaits in Tuesday night's All-Star Game.

The American League's starting batting order has combined for 181 home runs, led by New York Yankees rookie sensation Aaron Judge with 30. The National League's lineup has 158, topped by 26 from hometown star Giancarlo Stanton of the Miami Marlins.

That's a whole lot of long balls.

"I'm gonna grip and rip as usual," Sale said Monday when AL manager Brad Mills announced the Boston ace will become the first pitcher to make consecutive All-Star starts representing different teams.

"I give up my fair share of homers. You can check the book. It happens," Sale said. "If you let that creep in your mind, it's going to be a long night."

Sale has given up 11 homers after allowing a career-high 27 last year. Scherzer, who opens for the National League, tied for the NL high by giving up 31 homers last season and has allowed 13 this year.

There have been 3,343 home runs in 1,327 games this season, a rate that would leave this season's total at 6,122 — on track to break the record of 5,693 hit in 2000 during the height of the Steroids Era.

"I've given up a lot of homers over the past year-and-a-half. That's really been something that's been a thorn in my side," Scherzer said. "I've had to become a better pitcher, locate better. Because of the home-run spike, I've dialed it in even more to try to make my location better to try to prevent them."

Then with the Chicago White Sox, Sale pitched the first inning of last year's game at San Diego and allowed a two-out home run to Kris Bryant. Sale was traded in December for top prospects.

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Sale will be the 16th pitcher to make consecutive All-Star starts, the first since Arizona's Randy Johnson in 2000-01 and the first in the AL since Toronto's Dave Stieb in 1983-84. Born in Lakeland, about 240 miles northwest of Miami, the 28-year-old left-hander is 11-4 with a 2.75 ERA and a major league-leading 178 strikeouts in 127 2/3 innings.

"All my family lives here. Brothers, sisters, in-laws, parents, even my aunts and uncles and cousins," Sale said. "So to be able to be here not too far from where I live now is nice. I can have my family, extended family come down and experience this with me."

"At the end of the day this is something I'll never forget," he said. "This is something I'll be hopefully sitting in a rocking chair when I'm 80 years old telling my grandkids and great-grandkids and things like that."

Scherzer, a 32-year-old right-hander who heads Washington's rotation, also will be making his second All-Star start. Then with Detroit, he pitched a perfect inning at New York's Citi Field in 2013, when Sale followed with a pair of 1-2-3 innings and got the win. Scherzer will be the fifth pitcher to start All-Star Games for both leagues, following Vida Blue, Roger Clemens, Roy Halladay and Johnson. Scherzer is 10-5 with a 2.10 ERA and 173 strikeouts.

Sale and Scherzer took turns complimenting each other at Monday's announcement of the All-Star lineups. "I love the way Chris goes out and competes. ... He'll

do anything to win. He makes big-time pitches all the way — even if he takes 120 pitches. By far he's been one of my favorite players, pitchers to watch. It's even better to compete against him," Scherzer said. Sale echoed that sentiment.

"I could almost say the same thing. I don't know if I've seen a guy compete as hard as he competes day in and day out," Sale said. "The fire, the intensity, the role model he can be for kids coming up to kind of take the bull by the horns and just compete. It's fun."

Sale and Scherzer have a common thread: both played for the La Crosse Loggers in the Northwoods League, a collegiate summer circuit. Scherzer was there in 2004 and Sale in 2008.

"So that's pretty interesting, too. We've had some ties for a while and played against each other for a while, too," Sale said.

Los Angeles Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw, 14-2 with a 2.18 ERA, is ineligible to pitch in the All-Star Game because he started Sunday.

"I had already chosen Max, based on what I had just read numerically," NL manager Joe Maddon said, Maddon's batting order has Colorado center fielder Charlie Blackmon leading off, followed by Stanton as the designated hitter. Washington right fielder Bryce Harper is third, followed by San Francisco catcher Buster Posey, Washington second baseman Daniel Murphy, Colorado third baseman Nolan Arenado, Washington first baseman Ryan Zimmerman, Miami left fielder Marcell Ozuna and Cincinnati shortstop Zack Cozart.

Maddon said it was a "pretty easy decision" to slot Stanton as the DH.

"Looking at the breakdown of the team positionally, I thought to draw a DH out of the outfield was smart, or possibly a first baseman, having three outstanding first baseman," Maddon said. "And furthermore playing here under the circumstances I thought it was the right thing to do."



American League pitcher Chris Sale, of the Boston Red Sox, left, poses with National League pitcher Max Scherzer, of the Washington Nationals after the All-Star starting pitchers were introduced at a press conference in Miami, Monday, July 10, 2017. (AP Photo/Ron Blum)

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AL manager Brad Mills hits Houston second baseman Jose Altuve leadoff, followed by Cleveland third baseman Jose Ramirez, Judge in right, Houston's George Springer in left, Astros shortstop Carlos Correa, Toronto first baseman Justin Smoak, Tampa Bay designated hitter Corey Dickerson, Kansas City catcher Salvador Perez and Boston's Mookie Betts in center.

Judge tops the majors with 30 home runs and is among the leaders in several other hitting categories. Mills said he wanted to see the rookie bat early — and figured a lot of fans did, too.

"Where was I going to hit him in the lineup? It was a situation you wanted him to hit in the first inning because of the story he's been all year long," Mills said.

Cleveland's bench coach, Mills took over as AL manager after Indians manager Terry Francona had a procedure last week to correct an irregular heartbeat.

"Getting this responsibility is very humbling," Mills said. "I'm thrilled to be here. I definitely would love to have him sitting here in this chair."

More AP baseball: https://apnews.com/tag/MLBbaseball

Afghanistan combat vet charged with killing wife, trooper By CHRIS CAROLA, Associated Press

A New York state police trooper responding to reports of gunfire was shot to death by a soldier who had just killed his wife at their home near his Army base, authorities said Monday.

Trooper Joel Davis was approaching the couple's home in rural Theresa, near the Canadian border, when Staff Sgt. Justin Walters shot him in the torso with a rifle, leaving him in a roadside ditch, police and court documents said. Another trooper arrived and found Davis, who died about an hour later at a hospital.

Walters' wife, Nichole Walters, was found dead in the driveway, with multiple gunshot wounds. A female friend of hers, who was living on the property, also was shot, suffering non-lifethreatening injuries, police said.

Davis, 36, had been a state police trooper for four years, after 10 years as a county sheriff's deputy in the area, police and friends said.

"He truly did love being a law enforcement officer," family friend Chris Fletcher said. "One of his last texts to another one of his cousins was he couldn't believe he got paid to do what he does."



In this screen shot from video provided by WWNY-TV, Army Staff Sgt. Justin Walters is escorted by New York State Police officers, Monday, July 10, 2017 outside the Le Ray Town Court in Le Ray, N.Y., after authorities say Walters killed his wife and State Police Trooper Joel Davis, 36, who had responded to reports of shots fired at the couple's rural upstate New York property. Walters surrendered after the Sunday night slayings and was charged with two counts of murder. A second woman living on the couple's property was also shot, but her injuries weren't considered life-threatening, police said. (WWNY-TV via AP)

Gov. Andrew Cuomo said "the entire New York family grieves" for Davis, a married father of three teen-

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agers who was commissioner of a youth baseball league in his tight-knit community.

State police Superintendent George P. Beach II noted that signs had already sprung up around the area to pay tribute to Davis.

"It's not just the police who suffer a loss like this," Beach said.

Justin Walters, 32, was barefoot and clad only in shorts when he was taken to a town court around 4 a.m. Monday to be charged with murder. He was in an orange jail uniform and shackles when he was rearraigned Monday evening in LeRay Town Court, where he was ordered held without bail for grand jury action.

His assigned lawyer, Eric Swartz, waived a preliminary hearing. He said the next appearance would be in Jefferson County Court later. He wouldn't comment further, saying he had only met Walters minutes before court.

Walters, a native of Zeeland, Michigan, joined the Army in 2007 and did two one-year tours in Afghanistan, in 2009 and again from March 2011 to March 2012, Army officials said. He was stationed at Fort Drum, home of the 10th Mountain Division.

Fort Drum's senior commander, Maj. Gen. Walter E. Piatt, called the slain trooper a hero.

"It takes an uncommon valor to run toward acts of terrible violence, to sacrifice for the safety of strangers," Piatt said.

Cuomo, a Democrat, called Davis' death "yet another sad reminder of the risks law enforcement officers face each day."

Davis was the second New York law enforcement officer killed on duty in less than a week. New York City police Officer Miosotis Familia was fatally shot last Wednesday by a man who was then killed by other officers.

The state police superintendent said Davis was wearing body armor but the round hit him in his side, where he had no protection. He said Walters gave no motive for the shootings.

Walters and his wife, who was 27, met around the time she finished high school in Mattydale, a community near Syracuse, her hometown friend Jerry Mikels said. She was devoted to her toddler-age son and was always willing to help people, he said.

"She got along with everybody," he said. "If she knew you needed help, she would help out. She was there for my wife when she had cancer."

Data on domestic violence among military couples varies widely. A 2010 federal Centers for Disease Control survey, prepared for the Department of Defense, said domestic violence aimed at military wives occurs at a similar rate as it does to women in the general population, with about 30 percent of the wives having been physically attacked, raped or stalked by an intimate partner.

But other studies on the percentage of women in military couples who've experienced domestic violence have given rates ranging from about 13 to 60 percent.

____ Associated Press writers Michael Hill in Albany, New York, and Jennifer Peltz in New York City contributed to this report.

Microsoft announces rural broadband initiative By The Associated Press

Microsoft is announcing a project to bring broadband internet access to rural parts of the United States. Microsoft President Brad Smith says in a blog post that he plans to unveil details about the initiative at a Tuesday event in Washington, D.C.

The company, based in Redmond, Washington, is calling for a combination of private and public investments to get about 2 million rural Americans online in the next five years.

Smith says the strategy would use TV white spaces, which are unlicensed and unused airwaves. He says the powerful bandwidth will allow wireless signals to travel over hills and through buildings and trees.

The company plans to partner with telecommunications companies that serve rural counties in 12 states. It's also asking for regulatory support from the Federal Communications Commission.

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Asian shares edge higher ahead of Yellen testimony By ELAINE KURTENBACH, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Shares edged higher in Asia on Tuesday following a listless day of trading on Wall Street. Investors are awaiting Federal Reserve chair Janet Yellen's testimony to Congress.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 index gained 0.4 percent to 20,156.64 on expectations the yen will weaken further against the dollar. Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 1.1 percent to 25,773.10. The Kospi in South Korea climbed 0.2 percent to 2,387.96 while Australia's S&P ASX 200 edged 0.1 percent higher to 5,728.60. The Shanghai Composite index slipped 0.3 percent to 3,202.21 while shares in Southeast Asia were mixed.

WALL STREET: Gains by technology and materials stocks were mostly outweighed by losses among real estate companies, banks and other sectors. Macy's and other big retailers also took hefty losses. The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 0.1 percent to 2,427.43 while the Dow Jones industrial average was almost flat at 21,408.52. The Nasdaq composite rose 0.4 percent, to 6,176.39.

YELLEN FACTOR: Traders are looking ahead to potential news out of the Federal Reserve when Yellen addresses Congress on Wednesday and Thursday. "We're going through a transition phase where interest rates and Fed policy were very friendly for quite some time and that was the most important support for the markets," said Bruce Bittles, chief investment strategist at Baird. "Now we're moving more toward the revival of the global economy, including the U.S., and what that might mean for earnings prospects going forward, and the markets are now dwelling on that potential."

THE QUOTE: "A data-light day in Europe and the U.S. yielded low volume and minimal movements for markets. These movements are unlikely to inspire Asian markets in the day with investors expected to continue positioning for key events," Jingyi Pan of IG said in a commentary.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude gained 15 cents to \$44.55 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It added 17 cents to settle at \$44.40 a barrel on Monday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, climbed 17 cents to \$47.05 a barrel.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 114.19 from 114.04 yen late Monday. The euro slipped to \$1.1394 from \$1.1400.

AP Business Writer Alex Veiga in Los Angeles, California, contributed.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, July 11, the 192nd day of 2017. There are 173 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On July 11, 1767, John Quincy Adams, the sixth president of the United States, was born in Braintree, Massachusetts.

On this date:

In 1798, the U.S. Marine Corps was formally re-established by a congressional act that also created the U.S. Marine Band.

In 1804, Vice President Aaron Burr mortally wounded former Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton during a pistol duel in Weehawken, New Jersey. (Hamilton died the next day.)

In 1922, the Hollywood Bowl officially opened with a program called "Symphonies Under the Stars" with Alfred Hertz conducting the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

In 1937, American composer and pianist George Gershwin died at a Los Angeles hospital of a brain tumor; he was 38.

In 1952, the Republican National Convention, meeting in Chicago, nominated Dwight D. Eisenhower for president and Richard M. Nixon for vice president.

In 1955, the U.S. Air Force Academy swore in its first class of cadets at its temporary quarters at Lowry

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Air Force Base in Colorado.

In 1960, the novel "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee was first published by J.B. Lippincott and Co. In 1977, the Presidential Medal of Freedom was presented to polio vaccine pioneer Dr. Jonas Salk and (posthumously) to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. by President Jimmy Carter.

In 1979, the abandoned U.S. space station Skylab made a spectacular return to Earth, burning up in the atmosphere and showering debris over the Indian Ocean and Australia.

In 1989, actor and director Laurence Olivier died in Steyning, West Sussex, England, at age 82.

In 1991, a Nigeria Airways DC-8 carrying Muslim pilgrims crashed at the Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, international airport, killing all 261 people on board.

In 1995, the U.N.-designated "safe haven" of Srebrenica (sreh-breh-NEET'-sah) in Bosnia-Herzegovina fell to Bosnian Serb forces, who then carried out the killings of more than 8,000 Muslim men and boys. The United States normalized relations with Vietnam.

Ten years ago: Lady Bird Johnson, the former first lady who'd championed conservation and worked tenaciously for the political career of her husband, President Lyndon Johnson, died in Austin, Texas, at age 94. Pakistani army commandos completed an eight-day siege and storming of Islamabad's radical Red Mosque; some 102 people were killed, including 10 elite troops and at least 73 suspected militants.

Five years ago: Unflinching before a skeptical NAACP crowd in Houston, Republican Mitt Romney declared he'd do more for African-Americans than Barack Obama, the nation's first black president. Hillary Rodham Clinton became the first U.S. secretary of state to visit Laos in more than five decades. Cookbook author Marion Cunningham, 90, died in Walnut Creek, California. Donald J. Sobol, 87, author of the popular "Encyclopedia Brown" series of children's mysteries, died in Miami.

One year ago: Defense Secretary Ash Carter announced that the United States would send 560 more troops to Iraq to transform a freshly retaken air base into a staging hub for a long-awaited battle to recapture Mosul from Islamic State militants. Two bailiffs at the Berrien County, Michigan, courthouse were shot to death by a jail inmate during an escape attempt; the inmate was also killed.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Tab Hunter is 86. Actress Susan Seaforth Hayes is 74. Singer Jeff Hanna (Nitty Gritty Dirt Band) is 70. Ventriloquist-actor Jay Johnson is 68. Actor Bruce McGill is 67. Singer Bonnie Pointer is 67. Actor Stephen Lang is 65. Actress Mindy Sterling is 64. Boxer Leon Spinks is 64. Actress Sela Ward is 61. Reggae singer Michael Rose (Black Uhuru) is 60. Singer Peter Murphy is 60. Actor Mark Lester is 59. Jazz musician Kirk Whalum is 59. Singer Suzanne Vega is 58. Rock guitarist Richie Sambora (Bon Jovi) is 58. Actress Lisa Rinna is 54. Rock musician Scott Shriner (Weezer) is 52. Actress Debbe (correct) Dunning is 51. Actor Greg Grunberg is 51. Wildlife expert Jeff Corwin is 50. Actor Justin Chambers is 47. Actress Leisha Hailey is 46. Actor Michael Rosenbaum is 45. Pop-rock singer Andrew Bird is 44. Country singer Scotty Emerick is 44. Rapper Lil' Kim is 42. Actor Jon Wellner is 42. Rock singer Ben Gibbard is 41. Rapper Lil' Zane is 35. Pop-jazz singer-musician Peter Cincotti is 34. Actress Serinda Swan is 33. Actor Robert Adamson is 32. Actor David Henrie is 28. Actor Connor Paolo is 27. Tennis player Caroline Wozniacki is 27.

Thought for Today: "All men profess honesty as long as they can. To believe all men honest, would be folly. To believe none so, is something worse." — President John Quincy Adams (1767-1848).