

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 1 of 60

## Wed., Aug. 9, 2017

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Olde Bank Floral Ad
- 2- Chicken Soup of the Soul image
- 3- Jr. Legion is State Runner-up
- 4- Obit: Doris Townsend
- 5- Chip and seal happening soon
- 6- Obit: Genevieve Hoops
- 7- Pump prices climb as demand grows
- 8- State Parks outdoor activities
- 9- Junie B. Jones Muscial
- 10- Water main break
- 10- Home for Sale
- 11- Mannequin now a cowboy
- 11- Professional Management Services ad
- 12- Vedvei has Yard of the Week
- 13- Today in Weather History
- 14- Today's Forecast
- 15- Yesterday's Weather
- 15- Today's Weather Info
- 15- National Weather Map
- 16- Daily Devotional
- 17- News from the Associated Press

### Wednesday, Aug. 9

**Senior Menu:** Tater tot hot dish, green beans, grape juice, sour cream apple pie square, whole wheat bread.

**Olive Grove:** Men's League, 6 p.m.

### Thursday, Aug. 10

**Senior Menu:** Creamed chicken, buttermilk biscuit, peas, pineapple/mandarin orange sauce, peanut butter cookie.

### Friday, Aug. 11

**Senior Menu:** Meat loaf, baked potato with sour cream, California blend veggies, fruited Jell-O salad, whole wheat bread.

# 12

4 p.m.: Girls soccer hosts Garretson

## Official Notices

**Groton City (updated 8-8)**

**Other Notices (updated 8-8)**

**Groton Area School (updated 8-7)**

**Brown County (updated 8-7)**

**Frederick Area School Book (updated 7-26)**

**Westport Town Book (updated 7-26)**

**Frederick Town (updated 7-18)**

**Claremont Town Official Notices Book**

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

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

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*'N More*

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*& so much more*

101 N. Main St., Groton ~ 397-8650  
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# Groton Daily Independent

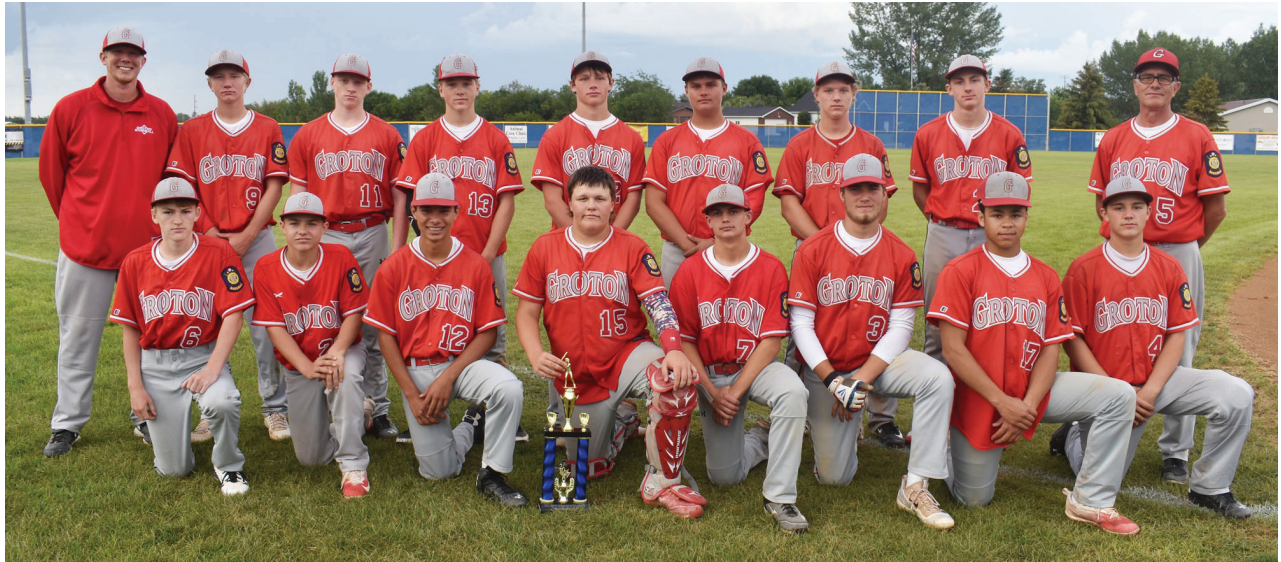
Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 2 of 60

**“SINCE THERE IS NOTHING SO WELL  
WORTH HAVING AS FRIENDS, NEVER LOSE  
A CHANCE TO MAKE THEM.”**

FRANCESCO GUICCIARDINI







## Groton Jr. Legion is State Runner-up

Pictured in back, left to right, are Coach Mason Madsen, Chandler Larson, Grady O'Neill, Jonathan Doeden, Austin Jones, Alex Morris, Caleb Furney, Garret Schroeder and Assistant Coach Tony Madsen; in front, left to right, are Riley Thurston, Kaden Kurtz, Anthony Schinkel, Wyatt Locke, Korbin Blackmun, Peyton Johnson, Darien Shabazz and Hunter Schaller. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

## Lennox won State Jr. Legion Tourney

Brock Anderson of Lennox struck out 11 of Groton's 18 batters to snatch the title game away from the host team, 10-0, in five innings. Anderson walked only two batters. Darien Shabazz had the only hit for Groton. Austin Jones and Peyton Johnson got on base via a walk and Jonathan Doeden was hit by the pitch in the very first pitch of the game.

Austin Jones and Darien Shabazz were the pitchers for Groton as Lennox had 10 runs on eight hits and left seven on base. Groton left just two runners on base.

The game ended as Brock Anderson, who was walked, scored on a passball. Only three runs for Lennox were earned.

The game was carried live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Blocker Construction, Harr Motors, Doug Abeln Seed Company, Groton Legion Post #39, Erickson Insurance Agency, Bahr Spray Foam and Construction, Groton Ford, McGannon Plumbing, heating and Cooling, John Sieh Agency, KR Body Shop of Andover and Allied Climate Professionals with Kevin Nehls.

## The Life of Doris Townsend



Services for Doris Townsend, 78, of Andover will be 11:00 a.m., Thursday, August 10th at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Groton. Pastor Frank McKeehan will officiate. Burial will follow in Sunset Memorial Gardens, Aberdeen under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the church on Wednesday from 5-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Doris passed away August 7, 2017 at the Good Samaritan Home in Clear Lake.

Doris was born on December 27, 1938 in Edmunds County to Alvin and Alma (Preszler) Hauck. She attended elementary school in Roscoe and graduated from Roscoe High School in 1956. Doris continued her education at NSU Business college from 1956-1958. She traveled to Yellowstone National Park and worked at Old Faithful until the earthquake in August of 1959. Doris returned to Aberdeen and was employed at Jackson Hardware for three years. She then began an eleven year career at Avera St. Lukes Hospital in the business office. Doris was united in marriage with Norman Townsend on May 6, 1962 at the Plymouth Congregational Church in Aberdeen. The couple worked side by side on the family farm for 55 years.

Doris was a member of the Eastern Star Diana Chapter #83. She held many local offices, including Past Matron and Grand Warder in the South Dakota Grand Chapter of Eastern Star. Doris was active as Secretary & Treasurer for Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Pierpont. She also spent many years as a 4-H Leader for the Jill & Jeans 4-H Club. Her hobbies included riding the bicycle her family gave to her later in life, her coffee groups, both in Groton and Pierpont. She also enjoyed taking bus trips and music events with her family. One of her greatest joys in life was spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren and watching them in all of their many activities.

Celebrating her life is her husband, Norman of Andover, her children: Brian Townsend of Brookings, Dean (Kellie) Townsend of Andover, Jane (Wade) Gubrud of Gary, and Gaylon (Nichol) Townsend of Warner, nine grandchildren: Kayla (Jordan) Martens, Collin Townsend, Cassandra & Travis Townsend, Grant, Kaitlyn, and Nolan Gubrud and Colton and Kya Townsend, two great-grandchildren, Rylee and Owen Martens. Doris is also survived by her sister, Janice (Myron) Voegele of Aberdeen and brother, Kenneth (Joni) Krause of Aberdeen.

Preceding her in death were her parents and step-mother, Bertha (Neuharth) Hauck.

Honorary Casketbearers will be All of Doris's Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren.

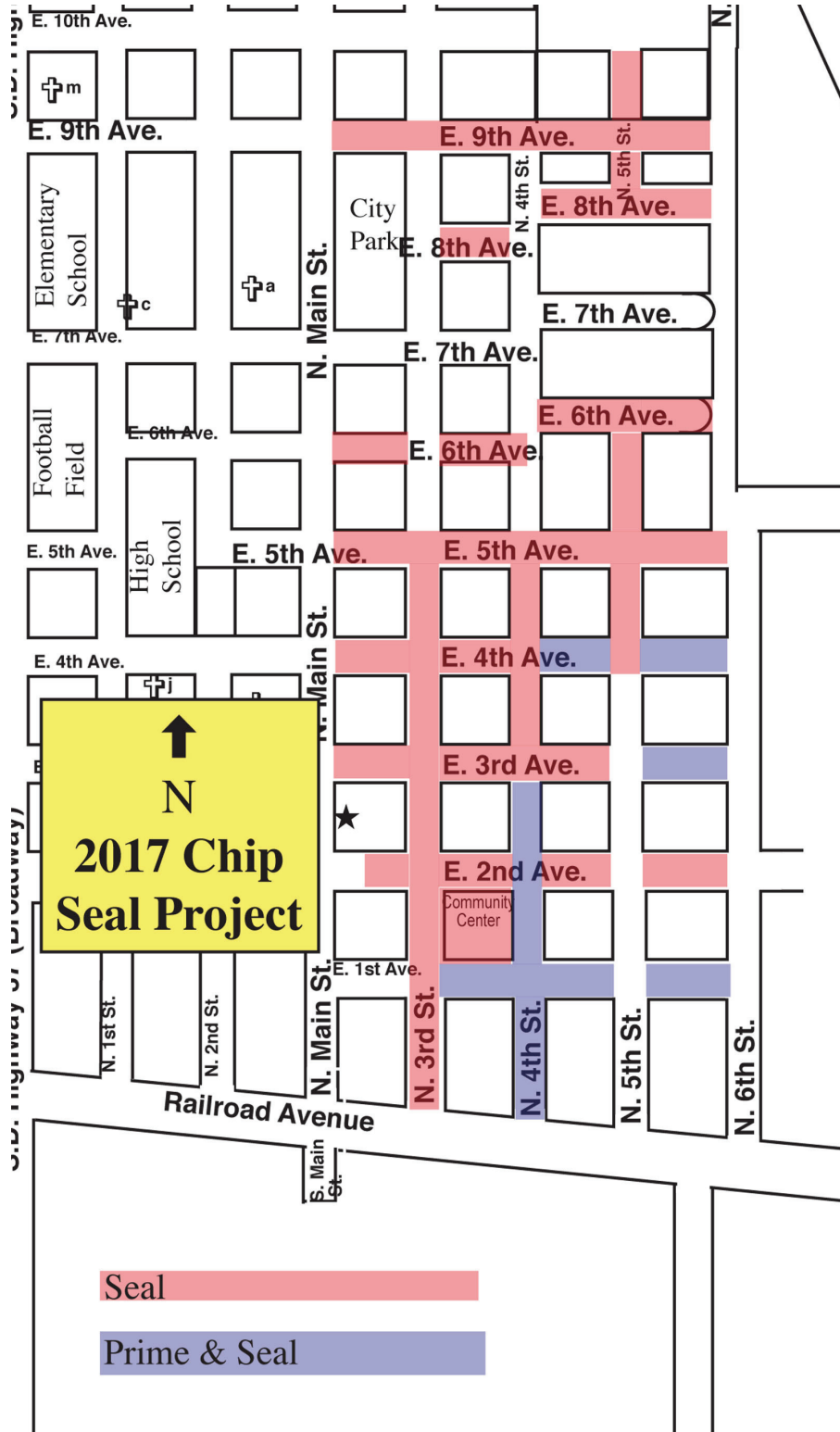
Casketbearers will be Bob Osterman, Jason Osterman, Steve Simon, James O. Olson, Loren Marzahn and Alan Townsend.



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 5 of 60

City residents are reminded not to park any vehicles on the shaded streets from now until the project is down. The city needs to get these streets ready as the chip and seal crew is expected to arrive on Friday or early next week. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!



## The Life of Genevieve Hoops



Mass of Christian Burial for Genevieve Hoops, 96, of Groton will be 10:30 a.m., Friday, August 11th at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church. Father Melvin Kuhn will officiate. Burial will follow in Union Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the chapel on Thursday from 5-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Gen passed away Sunday, August 06, 2017 at Sun Dial Manor, Bristol.

Genevieve Mary Hoops was an amazing woman. Born June 10, 1921 in Conde, South Dakota in the middle of the dirty thirties. She was one of 11 children born to John and Ina (Klapperich) Bertsch.

Gen married Fred Hoops on November 9, 1939. They celebrated just shy of 54 years of marriage before he passed away in 1993.

Gen was loved by everyone and was known across the state. She will be remembered for her love of playing cards and awesome caramel rolls for the Hop Inn in Groton. Nothing made her happier than to be surrounded by family and friends. Gen's Faith was important to her. She was a lifelong Catholic.

Celebrating her life are her children, Fred and Marlys Hoops of Farimont, MN and Don Hoops of Ferney, SD, her daughter-in-law, Pat Hoops, 9 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, 3 great-great-grandchildren and siblings: Lucille VonWold, Alice and Jim Rentz, Tom and

Edith Bertsch and Jerry and Mavis Bertsch.

Preceding her in death was her husband, Fred, son, Dale, great-grandson, Casey Hoops and sisters and brothers.

Honorary Caasketbearers will be all of Gen's great-grandchildren.

Casketbearers will be her grandsons, David, Bill, Danny, Terry, Todd, Bryan and Troy.

Memorials are preferred, in lieu of flowers.

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 7 of 60

## Pump Prices Climb as Demand Grows

August 7, 2017 – Falling supplies, rising exports and growing demand have put upward pressure on gas prices, leading to increases across the country and here in South Dakota as well. South Dakota's average price for regular gasoline today is \$2.34, according to AAA South Dakota, five cents higher than last week, and 9 cents higher than one month ago.

Today's national average price for regular unleaded gasoline is \$2.35 per gallon, which is three cents more than last week, nine cents more than one month ago, and 23 cents more than at the same time last year. The latest Energy Information Administration (EIA) report shows gasoline demand reached a new weekly record of 9.842 million b/d. The 2017 demand average over the past four-weeks is about one percent ahead of the same four-week period last year. With summer demand running full steam ahead, drivers can expect prices to continue rising.

**Check today's city, state and U.S. gasoline prices, visit [GasPrices.AAA.com](http://GasPrices.AAA.com).**

Current Price Averages per Gallon of Regular Gasoline

Sioux Falls – \$2.28, up 16 cents from one month ago ... up 27 cents from 8/7/16

Rapid City – \$2.39, up 15 cents from one month ago ... up 1 cent from 8/7/16

South Dakota – \$2.34, up 9 cents from one month ago ... up 12 cents from 8/7/16

U.S. – \$2.35, up 11 cents from one month ago ... up 23 cents from 8/7/16

### Quick Stats

The nation's top ten least expensive markets are: South Carolina (\$2.09), Mississippi (\$2.09), Alabama (\$2.10), Arkansas (\$2.11), Oklahoma (\$2.13), Tennessee (\$2.14), Virginia (\$2.15), Louisiana (\$2.16), Missouri (\$2.17) and Texas (\$2.17).

The nation's top ten markets with the largest weekly change include: Missouri \$2.17 (+9 cents), Iowa \$2.31 (+8 cents), Indiana \$2.30 (-8 cents), Nebraska \$2.32 (+7 cents), North Dakota \$2.31 (+7 cents), Texas \$2.17 (+7 cents), South Carolina \$2.09 (+7 cents), Alabama \$2.10 (+7 cents), Michigan \$2.41 (-7 cents) and Ohio \$2.25 (-7 cents).

### Great Lakes and Central States

Drivers in the Great Lakes region were some of the only people in the nation to see drops at the pump this week: Indiana (-8 cents), Michigan (-7 cents) and Ohio (-7 cents). The latest EIA report shows Midwest gasoline inventories dropped 1.2 million bbl to 51.6 million bbl last week. The current inventory levels are in pace with this same period last year and are about 2 million bbl above the five-year average.

### Oil Market Dynamics

After briefly pushing above the \$50 benchmark last week and then dropping down, the price per barrel for West Texas Intermediate (WTI) once again appears poised to push above \$50 after increasing 55 cents to settle at \$49.58 on Friday. With market observers watching crude storage levels to see if they decline, this week's EIA report was welcomed news since it showed that they had reached their lowest point this year at 481.9 million bbl. However, last week's excitement was tempered by total crude storage remaining at approximately 70 million bbl ahead of the five-year average.

EIA's report also showed an increase in domestic crude oil output to 9.43 million b/d last week, making it clear that the glut of crude will not disappear easily. On the other side, according to Baker Hughes, Inc., the U.S. lost one oil rig last week, bringing down the total number of active rigs to 765. The modest decline may be an indicator of investment in offshore drilling leveling out for the year.

As OPEC and non-OPEC countries convene today and tomorrow in Abu Dhabi to discuss compliance with the production reduction agreement in place through the end of March 2018, more time or dramatic actions from major producers may be needed to hasten efforts to rebalance the global oil market. In the meantime, gains in the market are likely to be moderate as drivers see prices continue to increase at the pump.

Motorists can find current gas prices along their route with the free AAA Mobile app for iPhone, iPad, and Android. The app can also be used to map a route, find discounts, book a hotel, and access AAA roadside assistance. Learn more at [AAA.com/mobile](http://AAA.com/mobile).



## South Dakota State Parks to Host Outdoor Activities August 11-13

PIERRE, S.D. – South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) is hosting events this weekend for kids and adults alike. The events offer a variety of opportunities to spend time outdoors.

### Friday, August 11

Watercraft Exploration, Chief White Crane Recreation Area, Yankton, 4-7 p.m. CT. Info: 605.668.2985

### Saturday, August 12

RiverKid Spring Triathlon, Farm Island Recreation Area, Pierre, 8:30 a.m. CT. Info: 605.773.2885

Star Gazing, Good Earth State Park at Blood Run, Sioux Falls, 10 p.m. CT. Info: 605.213.1036

Adams Homestead Celebration, Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve, North Sioux City, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. CT. Info: 605.232.0873

Bike Rodeo, Oakwood Lakes State Park, Bruce, 11 a.m. CT. Info: 605.627.5441

Steady Ed Memorial Disc Golf Tournament, Oahe Downstream Recreation Area, Fort Pierre, 9 a.m. CT. Info: 605.223.7722

Bike Rodeo, Lake Poinsett Recreation Area, Arlington, 9 a.m. CT. Info: 605.983.5085

Street Masters Car Show and Ice Cream Social, Oahe Downstream Recreation Area, Fort Pierre, 7:30 - 9 p.m. CT. Info: 605.223.7722

Dutch Oven Cookout, Richmond Lake Recreation Area, Aberdeen, 5-8 p.m. CT. Info: 605.626.3488

Perseid Meteor Shower and Star Party, Palisades State Park, Garretson, 10 p.m. CT. Info: 605.594.3824

All events are free with park entrance license.

For more information on activities in South Dakota state parks, visit [gfp.sd.gov](http://gfp.sd.gov), contact the individual park office or call 605.773.3391.

-GFP-

## Adams Homestead to Host Annual Celebration

PIERRE, S.D. – Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve is celebrating 20 years as a state park with its annual festival on Aug. 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Activities are scheduled throughout the day including a threshing machine demo, corn shelling, candle making, tin punching, homestead tours, rope making, musicians, watermelon seed spitting contest, buffalo chip throwing contest, Dutch oven cooking demonstration, kids games, homemade pie contest and more.

Those interested in participating in the homemade pie judging contest must deliver their pies to Adams Homestead by 10:30 a.m. CDT. Judging begins at 11:30 a.m. CDT. Pies will be judged by their appearance, texture and taste.

At 11 a.m., the new Cottonwood Playground will be dedicated. The playground was funded through private donations and a matching grant from the Wellmark Foundation.

"We would like to thank all of the individuals, businesses and foundations who have donated to the Cottonwood Playground," said park manager, Jody Moats. "We appreciate your generosity and support and are very excited about this addition to the park. I encourage everyone to come out and enjoy the playground and be part of the 20-year anniversary celebration."

Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve is located off Interstate 29 Exit 4, one mile west, and a half mile south. Follow the brown nature area signs from the interstate.

For more information, call 605.232.0873.

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 9 of 60



The Junie B. Jones musical was held at the Granary Rural Culture Center and one of the cast members is Groton's own Tylan Glover. He is pictured front and center sitting. In the booklet that was produced, it stated, "Tylan is so happy to be here in his pulchritudinous color purple for his first year in Storybook Land Theatre! Not only a mad drummer, but he is also amazing at tying his own shoes. Tylan can have a very intense staring contest with a tree. The tree never wins. (Photo by Tina Kosel)



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 10 of 60



## Water Main broken

There was panic when the SD37 construction crew hit a six inch water main on Fourth Avenue. Water Superintendent Terry Herron was rushing to isolate the line. The alarm went off on the water tower indicating a low level alert. "It was draining the tower pretty fast," Herron said. The gush of water was quickly stopped and the repairs were done. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

## Home for Sale



**Comfortable, efficient and great location  
2006 home (28X44) with spacious deck and garage.  
\$95,000**

**Open House August 12th and 13th, 1:00 to 3:00**

**Contact Bob Walter 605-380-6804.**

**16 E 4th Ave., Groton**



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 11 of 60



The mannequin at Terry Kenny's home has a new look. He is no longer a gardener, but he has turned into a cowboy. Riding a stick horse. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



## Customer Appreciation Days

Aug. 22 through Aug. 24

**Specials All Week! Daily Drawings!**

Tuesday is Coffee, cookies and cheese samples

Wednesday is bring your pet in for a treat

Thursday is beef sandwiches, beans and drink served from noon to 7 pm.

Ritchie Waterer rep Curt Weyh available to speak with on Thursday

Come let us show you **OUR** appreciation for your business



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 12 of 60



## Vedvei has Yard of the Week

The Jon and Jerrie Vedvie home at 1004 N Main was chosen as this week's Yard of the Week. The Yard of the Week is chosen by the members of the Groton Garden Club. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 13 of 60

## Today in Weather History

August 9, 1918: An estimated F2 tornado touched down east of Bristol, in Day County, and moved NNE. The tornado was said to look like a long snake in a spiral, smashing barns into kindling.

August 9, 1992: A tornado packing winds estimated between 113 and 157 mph caused significant damage to the town of Chester, in Lake County. Shortly after 7 pm CDT a tornado tore right through the heart of Chester causing considerable damage. Four businesses were destroyed, three others had major damage, and five had minor damage. An elevator and new grain bin were leveled, and another bin was heavily damaged. Most of the building housing the fire department was demolished. Also, many houses and vehicles sustained damage, and large trees were uprooted or broken off. In one instance a steel beam was thrust through a garage and into the car inside. One mile north of Chester, an entire house was moved off the foundation. The town had to be evacuated for 19 hours after the tornado because the tornado damaged a 12,000-gallon ammonia tank releasing 4,000 gallons of the liquid gas into the air. The ammonia was a health hazard forcing residents out. To the south of Chester, the storm destroyed a new convenience store and blew two fuel tanks over 100 yards.

1878: The second deadliest tornado in New England history struck Wallingford, Connecticut, killing 34 persons, injuring 100 others, and completely destroying thirty homes. The tornado started as a waterspout over a dam on the Quinnipiac River. It was 400 to 600 feet wide and had a short path length of two miles. The deadliest New England tornado occurred in 1953 when an F4 killed 90 people in Worcester, Massachusetts.

1969: An F3 tornado hit Cincinnati, Ohio, killing four persons and causing fifteen million dollars property damage. The tornado moved in a southeasterly direction at 40 to 50 mph.

1987 - Florida baked in the summer heat. Nine cities reported record high temperatures for the date, including Jacksonville with a reading of 101 degrees. Miami FL reported a record high of 98 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)


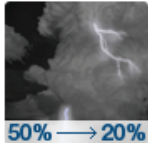




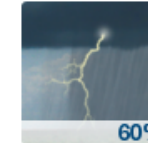
1988 - Tropical Storm Beryl deluged Biloxi with 6.32 inches of rain in 24 hours, and in three days drenched Pascagoula MS with 15.85 inches of rain. Afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced severe weather in the Southern Plains Region and over the Central High Plains Region. Thunderstorms in Oklahoma produced wind gusts to 92 mph at Harrah. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Evening thunderstorms in Arizona deluged Yuma with record torrential rains for the second time in two weeks. The rainfall total of 5.25 inches at the Yuma Quartermaster Depot established a state 24 hour record, and was nearly double the normal annual rainfall. Some of the homes were left with four feet of water in them. Seventy-six cities in the south central and eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. Lake Charles LA equalled their record for August with a low of 61 degrees. Canaan Valley WV was the cold spot in the nation with a low of 32 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 14 of 60

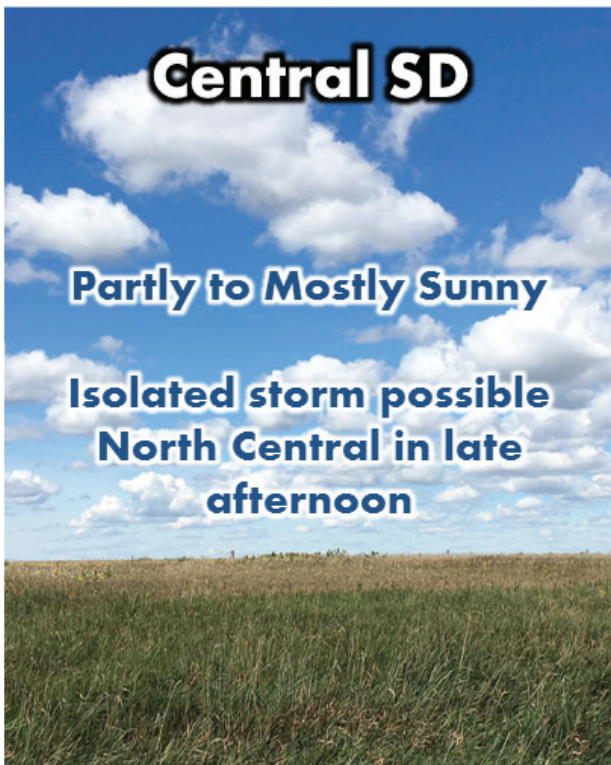
Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
 40%	 50% → 20%					 60%
Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms then Slight Chance T-storms	Partly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	T-storms Likely
High: 79 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 76 °F	Low: 53 °F	High: 78 °F	Low: 56 °F	High: 71 °F

## *Scattered Showers and Thunderstorms for Portions of the Region Today*

### Central SD

Partly to Mostly Sunny

Isolated storm possible  
North Central in late  
afternoon



### Eastern SD

Scattered rain showers in the  
morning

Decreasing clouds by early  
afternoon

Showers and thunderstorms again  
possible from late afternoon  
through the evening



### National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



[weather.gov/Aberdeen](http://weather.gov/Aberdeen)



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 8/9/2017 4:16 AM Central

Published on: 08/09/2017 at 4:22AM

A couple disturbances moving through the region will bring the potential for showers and thunderstorms to mainly eastern South Dakota through this evening. If you have outdoor plans today, keep an eye on the forecast and radar for the latest information.

# Groton Daily Independent

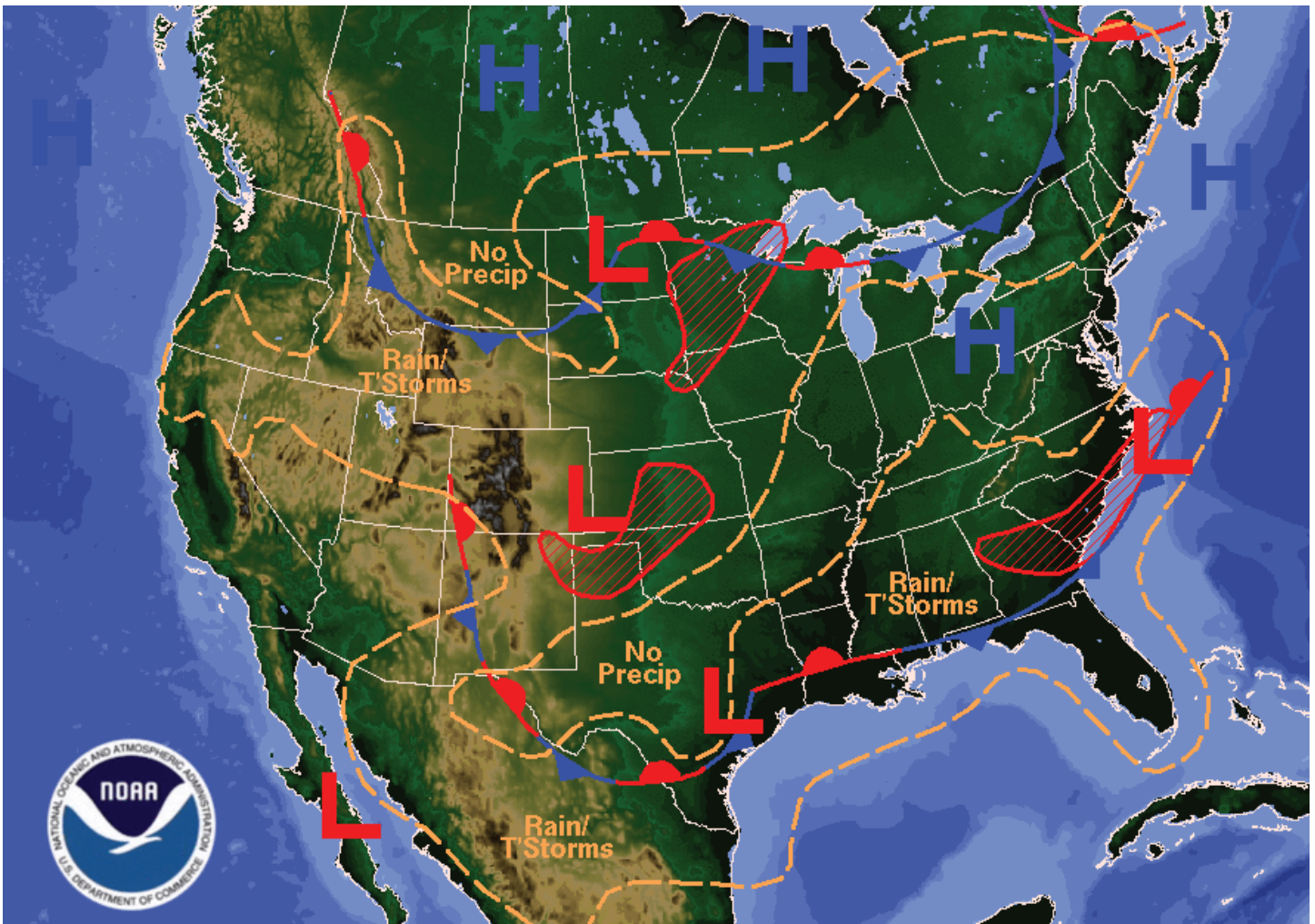
Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 15 of 60

## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 81.5 F at 2:55 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 53.0 F at 3:15 AM**  
**High Gust: 17.0 Mph at 2:51 PM**  
**Precip: 0.00**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 105° in 1947**  
**Record Low: 41° in 1927**  
**Average High: 83°F**  
**Average Low: 58°F**  
**Average Precip in Aug: 0.71**  
**Precip to date in Aug: 0.78**  
**Average Precip to date: 14.57**  
**Precip Year to Date: 8.13**  
**Sunset Tonight: 8:49 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:28 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Aug 09, 2017, issued 4:55 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain  
Rain and T'Storms  
Rain and Snow  
Snow

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



## THE SOURCE OF SIN

The seminary professor stood quietly before his class as though he was waiting for a traffic light to change. Wanting the class to think deep thoughts about the greatness of God's grace he asked, "Do you have any possession, do you have anything – anything – that you did not receive from the Lord?"

After a moment's thought, Len spoke up and said, "Yes!"

Startled, the professor asked in a voice of disbelief, "What?"

"Sin," came the reply.

Sin did not have its origin in God, but in Lucifer who became Satan. In Ezekiel 28:15 we read, "You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you." Satan and sin were not and are not eternal. But sin entered into the world through Adam. Paul wrote in Romans 5:12 that "sin entered into the world through one man."

Sin, then, is a legacy – an inheritance – that is passed on from one generation to another. But it is an inheritance that we can choose to refuse.

David says we can be "blessed" if there is "no deceit in our spirit." If we express true repentance and regret for our sins, God will certainly forgive us. How fortunate we are for His love, grace and forgiveness.

If, however, we have been born again and "miss God's mark" by sinning, we can go back to Him in honesty, humility, sincerity and truth and repent.

Prayer: Cleanse us, O Lord, and keep us from all sin. And if we fall, convict us, forgive us and draw us closer. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 32:2 Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.



## News from the Associated Press

### **Iowa man sentenced for vehicle hit on South Dakota officer**

TYNDALL, S.D. (AP) — An Iowa man has been sentenced to 25 years in prison for assaulting a South Dakota police officer with his vehicle.

Thirty-seven-year-old Travis McPeek, of Sioux City, Iowa, was accused of striking Tyndall Police Officer Kelly Young with his vehicle during a traffic stop on Aug. 6, 2016, dragging him across a parking lot and driving away. He was arrested in Arizona two months later.

Young suffered broken ribs, cuts, bruises and an injured foot. He was out of work for a month. He tells The Daily Republic that he still struggles with physical and emotional injuries.

A jury last month convicted McPeek of aggravated assault against a law officer, and he was sentenced this week to prison and ordered to pay more than \$14,000 in restitution.

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

### **350 airmen from Ellsworth serving on Guam**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Three-hundred-fifty airmen from the 28th Bomb Wing at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota are among military personnel on Guam, the tiny Pacific island that's been the focus of recent global attention with escalating tensions between the U.S. and North Korea.

The North Korean army announced it was examining plans for attacking the island, which serves as a launching pad for the U.S. military. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson says he doesn't believe there is "any imminent threat" from North Korea, including to Guam.

Ellsworth's 37th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron deployed to Guam late last month. The unit replaces the 9th squadron from Dyess Air Force Base in Texas. In July alone, that unit conducted missions that spanned from Guam to the East and South China Seas, Korean Peninsula and down to Australia.

### **American flight underscores hazards posed by turbulence**

By **DAVID KOENIG, AP Airlines Writer**

DALLAS (AP) — At some point during many flights, the captain will calmly announce that there could be some bumps ahead and so passengers must be seated with their seat belts on.

The plane might seem to bobble or bounce a bit, but rarely does it turn into a serious threat to safety. That, however, is just what happened to an American Airlines flight last weekend, when 10 people were injured as the plane plowed through turbulence on its way to landing in Philadelphia.

A rundown of statistics, recent incidents, and what pilots and airlines do to avoid hitting potholes in the sky:

#### THE NUMBERS

About 40 people a year are seriously injured by turbulence in the U.S., according to Federal Aviation Administration figures from the last 10 years. The FAA counted 44 injuries last year, the most since more than 100 were hurt in 2009.

But the official count is almost certainly too low.

The National Transportation Safety Board requires airlines to report incidents that result in serious injury or death, and FAA uses those reports to tally the number of people hurt by turbulence. But airlines are not required to report injuries unless they require a 48-hour hospital stay or involve certain specific injuries such as major broken bones, burns or organ damage.

Saturday's American Airlines flight to Philadelphia likely won't meet those standards — the injured people were released from the hospital within a few hours and didn't suffer the types of injuries that trigger a

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 18 of 60

report to the federal safety board.

## RECENT FLIGHTS

The American Airlines flight from Athens hit severe turbulence over the New York coastline. Seven crew members and three passengers among the 299 people on board were taken to a hospital for treatment. American Airlines spokesman Ross Feinstein said the seat-belt sign was on but none of the injured people were buckled in.

Feinstein said the plane was inspected and suffered no damage. After the interior was cleaned up — coffee and other drinks went flying, even splashing the ceiling — the plane was put back in service Monday, he said.

It was the latest in a string of scary turbulence incidents.

— In June, 10 people on a United Airlines flight from Panama City to Houston were injured when their plane was shaken over the Gulf of Mexico.

— In May, more than two dozen passengers suffered injuries including broken bones when they were tossed around the cabin of an Aeroflot plane headed from Moscow to Bangkok.

— More than 20 people were injured in August 2016 when a JetBlue plane ran into turbulence in a line of thunderstorms over South Dakota and had to make an emergency landing.

## RATING TURBULENCE

Turbulence is classified as light, moderate, severe or extreme. The first two might be frightening to some passengers, but it is only the latter two that are dangerous, especially for passengers and crew who aren't buckled in.

Most people associate turbulence with heavy storms. The most dangerous type, however, is so-called clear-air turbulence — a wind-shear phenomenon that can occur in wispy cirrus clouds or even clear air near thunderstorms, as differences in temperature and pressure create powerful currents of fast-moving air.

Planes can sail into clear-air turbulence without warning, as appeared to happen to the American Airlines flight.

## TECHNOLOGY, TERRAIN AND THE EYE TEST

Airlines rely on meteorologists to predict the location and intensity of bad weather, and dispatchers on the ground give updates to pilots during a flight.

Pilots are on notice anytime a flight goes over a mountain range or through certain kinds of weather fronts.

Modern airliners are equipped with sophisticated weather-radar technology, yet often "it's as simple as looking out the window," says Patrick Smith, an airline pilot and author of "Ask the Pilot." Indicators such as thunder clouds with an anvil-shaped top usually mean the ride is about to get bumpy. But the most helpful tool, he says, is reports from other pilots in the area.

## PILOTS REACT

Pilots have a few techniques for getting through turbulence safely. They can slow down to what is called turbulence-penetration speed — fast enough to avoid a stall, but not so fast that they risk damaging the plane. They can ask air traffic controllers to let them move to a lower or higher altitude or go around



**In this Jan. 25, 2016, file photo, a passenger talks on the phone as an American Airlines jets sit parked at their gates at Washington's Ronald Reagan National Airport. Ten people were injured last weekend as an American Airlines flight plowed through turbulence on its way to landing in Philadelphia.** (AP Photo/Susan Walsh, File)

troublesome clouds, but those requests can't always be honored.

"If you feel the plane climbing or descending midflight, (there is a) good chance it's because of a report from fellow pilots up ahead," Smith says.

Associated Press writer Anthony Izaguirre in Philadelphia contributed to this report. David Koenig can be reached at <http://twitter.com/airlinewriter>

## How states are handling Trump's voter information request

By The Associated Press

These are state-by-state responses to a request for detailed voter data from President Donald Trump's Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity, which is investigating voter fraud. The information indicates whether a state is willing to comply with, is denying or is undecided on the request for data. Some of the states that are willing to comply have fees or other requirements of the commission. All states that have agreed to provide the information are withholding some details that the commission said it wanted only if it was considered public under state law. The commission sent one request in late June and another in July after a court said the data collection could move ahead.

### ALABAMA

Comply

Secretary of State John Merrill, a Republican, said the commission can buy the information at a cost of more than \$32,000. And it will exclude information such as Social Security and driver's license numbers.

### ALASKA

Comply

Division of Elections Director Josie Bahnke says she will respond to the request as she would to any request for voter information. Some information, she said, can be provided, like voter names, voting histories and party affiliations. But other information is considered confidential and will not be provided.

### ARIZONA

Undecided

After initially saying the state would provide some records, Secretary of State Michele Reagan, a Republican, did an about-face and said the state wouldn't provide extensive voter registration information to the



**In this July 8, 2017 file photo, Maine Secretary of State Matt Dunlap speaks during a voter registration meeting at the National Association of Secretaries of State conference in Indianapolis. A voter fraud commission established by President Donald Trump could make it easier for hackers to get voter registration information. The panel asked election officials across the country for public information about voters. Most states are complying. Dunlap, a Democrat who is a member of Trump's voting commission, is not handing over the information. Dunlap said the information the commission is getting from other states "isn't wicked intimate" and may be too sparse to identify ineligible registered voters.** (AP Photo/Darron Cummings, File)



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 20 of 60

Trump administration. But on July 27, a spokesman said Reagan was asking a special counsel to review the latest version of the request. When she nixed sharing anything, Reagan cited privacy concerns.

## ARKANSAS

### Comply

Arkansas says it's received the letter and will provide publicly available information but not Social Security numbers, driver's license numbers or information about felony convictions or military status. Republican Gov. Asa Hutchinson says he recommended the secretary of state not release all the information, calling the panel's request too broad.

## CALIFORNIA

### Deny

Secretary of State Alex Padilla, a Democrat, reiterated his refusal to provide information to the commission on July 26. "The commission's new request does nothing to address the fundamental problems with the commission's illegitimate origins, questionable mission or the preconceived and harmful views on voting rights that many of its commissioners have advanced," he said in a statement. "Let me reassure voters: I will not provide this commission with Californians' personal voter data. I will continue to do everything in my power to protect California citizens' ability to exercise their rights to register and vote free of barriers and intimidation."

## COLORADO

### Comply

Secretary of State Wayne Williams, a Republican, is providing all information permitted under state open records law — information available to anyone. What won't be provided: full dates of birth, driver's license information, Social Security numbers. He urged the commission to handle the data securely.

## CONNECTICUT

### Comply

Connecticut's secretary of the state says her office plans to comply in part with a request for voter information from Trump's commission investigating voter fraud in the 2016 election. Denise Merrill, a Democrat, says in the spirit of transparency the state will share publicly available information with the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity. She says the state will ensure the privacy of voters is honored by withholding protected data.

## DELAWARE

### Deny

After being inundated with calls from concerned citizens and meeting with her deputy attorney general, Delaware's election commissioner said she will not provide the requested information. She also said she is drafting a policy stating that voter registration data, which is now available to anyone, will be made available only to candidates and political parties and only for political use, not for commercial purposes. She plans to follow up in January with legislation codifying the new policy. She had previously said she would not comply with the request for sensitive information, including birthdates, Social Security numbers and felony history. State law currently allows the commissioner to give voter registration data including names, addresses, political party, voting history, legislative district information and year of birth to members of the public.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

### Deny

"The best thing I can do to instill confidence among DC residents in our elections is to protect their personally identifiable information from the Commission on Election Integrity. Its request for voter information,

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 21 of 60

such as Social Security numbers, serves no legitimate purpose and only raises questions on its intent," Democratic Mayor Muriel Bowser said in a statement. "I will join leaders of states around the country and work with our partners on the Council to protect our residents from this intrusion."

## FLORIDA

Comply

Florida on July 28 turned over data that it says is already public record under state law and is made available to other organizations that seek voter registration information. Secretary of State Ken Detzner, a Republican, previously told the commission that Florida law prohibits the state from turning over driver's license information or Social Security numbers. He also said they would not turn over the names of voters whose information is protected, such as judges or police officers. Sarah Revell, a spokeswoman for Detzner, said, "As we have said all along, we will follow Florida law and will only submit information that is already available and regularly provided to anyone who requests it." A group of plaintiffs, including the American Civil Liberties Union, filed a lawsuit and requested a temporary restraining order. But a U.S. district judge ruled that Florida could go ahead and deliver information that was publicly available under state law.

## GEORGIA

Comply

"The Georgia Secretary of State's Office will provide the publicly available voter list. As specified in Georgia law, the public list does not contain a registered voter's driver's license number, Social Security number, month and day of birth, site of voter registration, phone number or email address." Secretary of State Brian Kemp's spokeswoman Candice Broce said the state had received the second letter from the commission in late July. The state has not responded yet. Broce said the state didn't provide any information to the first request and never received the \$250 payment that the state charges anyone who wants a copy of the registered voter file.

## HAWAII

Undecided

Scott Nago, elections chief for Hawaii, said July 24 that his office still has not received an official request. He said the Trump administration sent the request to the lieutenant governor's office, which is not responsible for elections in Hawaii. Nago also said his office received an email saying to hold off on sending the data because of lawsuits. Nago said if the elections office does receive the request, he will then forward it on to the county clerks, who are responsible for the information. According to state law, the counties would be able to release the voter's name, precinct and voting status — meaning whether the voter is active or inactive — because those details are public record, Nago said. But the voters' address, Social Security number, driver's license number, mailing address and voting history would not be released.

## IDAHO

Comply

Secretary of State Lawrence Denney, a Republican, has said he will provide public information but not information considered private.

## ILLINOIS

Undecided

Ken Menzel, general counsel for the Illinois State Board of Elections, said the board will consider the new request at its Aug. 22 meeting but won't provide any information without board approval and notice to the public. He has previously said the board won't provide information to the commission. In a letter to the commission, he said Illinois law limits the release of voter information to political committees and government entities, subject to a requirement that it not be released to the public. Menzel says that because the panel's request indicates the data provided will be made publicly available, the state cannot turn it over.

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 22 of 60

## INDIANA

### Comply

"Indiana law doesn't permit the Secretary of State to provide the personal information requested by Secretary Kobach. Under Indiana public records laws, certain voter info is available to the public, the media and any other person who requested the information for non-commercial purposes. The information publicly available is name, address and congressional district assignment," Secretary of State Connie Lawson, a Republican, said.

## IOWA

### Comply

Paul Pate, the Republican secretary of state, said: "There is a formal process for requesting a list of registered voters, as specified in Iowa Code. We will follow that process if a request is made that complies with Iowa law. The official list request form is available on the Iowa Secretary of State's website, sos.iowa.gov." Pate said some voter registration information is a matter of public record. However, he said, providing personal voter information, such as Social Security numbers, is forbidden under Iowa Code. "We will only share information that is publicly available and complies with Iowa Code. The commission will have to follow the same process candidates, political parties, media organizations, and everyone else follows when requesting a voter list," Pate said."

## KANSAS

### Comply

Secretary of State Kris Kobach, a Republican, is vice chairman of the commission, but even his office does not plan to provide the last four digits of Social Security numbers because that's not publicly available under Kansas law, spokeswoman Samantha Poetter said. All information that is publicly available will be provided.

## KENTUCKY

### Deny

"As the commonwealth's secretary of state and chief election official, I do not intend to release Kentuckians' sensitive personal data to the federal government," Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes said in a statement. "The president created his election commission based on the false notion that 'voter fraud' is a widespread issue. It is not." On July 26, Grimes again told the commission no. The Democrat said, "The compilation of every American voter's information would build a national voter registration database, which is unnecessary to improving our elections, opposite our Constitution and state's rights, and puts voters' privacy and personal data at risk."

## LOUISIANA

### Comply

Secretary of State Tom Schedler, a Republican, won't provide personal voter information, like Social Security numbers or birth dates. He says the commission can have the information that is publicly available — but only if the commission buys it like anyone else. Schedler calls the effort a politically motivated federal overreach. He said: "The release of private information creates a tremendous breach of trust with voters who work hard to protect themselves against identity fraud. That's why it is protected by six federal laws and two state laws. This Commission needs to understand clearly, disclosure of such sensitive information is more likely to diminish voter participation rather than foster it. I have been fighting this kind of federal intrusion and overreach, and will continue to fight like hell for the people who trust me with the integrity of our election process."



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 23 of 60

## MAINE

### Deny

Maine Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap, a member of the voting commission, rejected the request, saying it's not clear the commission has the authority to keep records confidential. He arrived at that decision after a re-evaluation. He initially rejected the request, then said on July 27 that he'd look at it again after the commission renewed the request.

## MARYLAND

### Deny

Maryland's election commissioner denied the request after receiving an opinion from Democratic Attorney General Brian Frosh, who said disclosure of the requested information is prohibited by law, and who also called the request for information "repugnant." Frosh also said it appears to be designed only to intimidate voters and indulge Trump's "fantasy" that he won the popular vote.

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Deny

A spokesman for Secretary of State William Galvin, a Democrat, said the state's voter registry is not a public record and information in it will not be shared with the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity.

## MICHIGAN

### Comply

A spokesman for Republican Secretary of State Ruth Johnson said the department will provide publicly available information but would exclude data including Social Security and driver's license numbers and full dates of birth. Fred Woodhams also said the commission would have to make a freedom of information request and pay \$23 to get the data.

## MINNESOTA

### Deny

Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon, a Democrat, announced he would not share the data with Trump's commission. "I will not hand over personal data on the nearly four million Minnesotans who are registered to vote," he said in a statement. "I have serious doubts about the commission's credibility and trustworthiness, and I fear it risks becoming a partisan tool to shut out millions of eligible American voters. In addition, Minnesotans who registered to vote never thought their personal data would end up in some federal database."

## MISSISSIPPI

### Deny

In a federal court case after a contentious U.S. Senate primary in Mississippi in 2014, a group called True the Vote sued Mississippi seeking similar information about voters, and Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann, a Republican, fought that request and won. Hosemann said if he receives a request from the Trump commission, "My reply would be: They can go jump in the Gulf of Mexico, and Mississippi is a great state to launch from." Hosemann also said: "Mississippi residents should celebrate Independence Day and our state's right to protect the privacy of our citizens by conducting our own electoral processes."

## MISSOURI

### Comply

In Missouri, Republican Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft said he is happy to "offer our support in the collective effort to enhance the American people's confidence in the integrity of the system." Ashcroft's

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 24 of 60

spokeswoman, Maura Browning, said the state is only providing publicly available information. She said that means no Social Security numbers, no political affiliations and no details on how people voted.

## MONTANA

### Comply

Derek Oestreicher, the director of elections and voter services, said the secretary of state's office will not release personal or confidential information such as Social Security numbers and birth dates. Information already available publicly in the state's voter file includes a voter's name, registration status, voting status and the reason the voter is designated as active or inactive. Voter information does not include party affiliation because Montana has an open primary system and voters do not register under any specific party.

## NEBRASKA

### Comply

Secretary of State John Gale, a Republican, says he's willing to provide publicly available information but only with assurances that the data won't be used in a way that runs afoul of state law. State law prohibits the use of data for commercial purposes and does not allow the release of Social Security numbers. Additionally, the law doesn't allow the release of information such as felony convictions or whether a voter's registration status is active or inactive, so Gale won't release that information. Gale said he has concerns about voter privacy and wants assurances that information is protected in any kind of national database.

## NEVADA

### Comply

Republican Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske says her office has not changed its position in the wake of the renewed commission request. It will provide public information but not data kept confidential under state law such as Social Security numbers or how people voted. The state will turn over voter names, addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, party affiliation and turnout.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Comply

As a result of a legal challenge regarding the information, New Hampshire is sending the commission millions of scanned and unsearchable images of voter information. Secretary of State Bill Gardner, a member of the commission, said his office will provide public information: names, addresses, party affiliations and voting history dating to 2006. Voting history includes whether someone voted in a general election and which party's primary they voted in. Gardner spent several hours on Independence Day taking calls from angry residents, and said the next day that he disagrees with critics who say he lacks legal authority to send voter roll information.

## NEW JERSEY

### Comply

State election officials they are reviewing a request by Trump's voting commission but would only release information that is publicly available. Robert Giles, director of New Jersey's division of elections, said no information has been released. He said no information will be given out if it doesn't "follow the appropriate legal process for information requests."

## NEW MEXICO

### Deny

Democratic Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse-Oliver has reaffirmed that she will never release personally identifiable information for New Mexico voters that is protected by law, including Social Security numbers and dates of birth. She says that sharing that information with the commission may discourage people from registering to vote. She has declined to provide information such as names and voting histories un-



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 25 of 60

less she is convinced the information is secure and will not be used for "nefarious or unlawful purposes."

## NEW YORK

Comply

Officials announced Aug. 2 that they would honor a new public information request from the commission but would not supply some details, such as Social Security numbers. This represents a reversal for the state. Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo said the state would not comply, in part because the state "refuses to perpetuate the myth voter fraud played a role in our election."

## NORTH CAROLINA

Comply

North Carolina's elections board is providing data requested by Trump's commission investigating alleged voter fraud. But the records will not include personal information deemed confidential in law, including dates of birth and Social Security numbers.

## NORTH DAKOTA

Undecided

North Dakota initially balked at the data request, though Deputy Secretary of State Jim Silrum said the state would supply responses to a series of questions posed by the voting commission. Silrum said that the voter information can be used only for "election-related purposes." But he said on Aug. 3 that the new letter from the commission is giving officials reason to reconsider because the state says individuals' data will not be made public. He said a decision on whether to provide the data is likely the week of Aug. 7.

## OHIO

Comply

Secretary of State Jon Husted, a Republican, issued a statement saying voter registration information is already public and available to the commission but that he will not provide the last four digits of voters' Social Security numbers or their driver's license numbers. He also said voter fraud is rare in the state and that bipartisan boards have conducted reviews of credible reports of voter fraud and suppression after the last three federal elections. Those results are in the public domain and available to the commission, he said. Husted added, "In responding to the commission, we will have ideas on how the federal government can better support states in running elections. However, we will make it clear that we do not want any federal intervention in our state's right and responsibility to conduct elections."

## OKLAHOMA

Comply

A spokesman for the Oklahoma State Election Board said the state will not provide the last four digits of voters' Social Security numbers. "That's not publicly available under the laws of our state," Bryan Dean said. He said the commission's request will be treated like any other from the general public. The election board will tell the panel to fill out a form available online asking for the information. Oklahoma's voter roll is routinely provided to political campaigns, the press and other groups that ask for it. Dean reaffirmed on July 27 that the agency will provide the same information to the commission that is available to the general public.

## OREGON

Comply

Secretary of State Dennis Richardson, a Republican, wrote a letter Friday to President Donald Trump's commission vice chairman Kris Kobach saying it could receive a statewide list of voters for \$500, just like anyone else. However, he noted that he's barred legally from disclosing Social Security and driver's license

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 26 of 60

numbers. Two members of Oregon's congressional delegation and Democratic Gov. Kate Brown had urged Richardson to refuse the request. Richardson said in the letter to Kobach that there is "very little evidence" of voter fraud or registration fraud in Oregon. "I do not believe the federal government should be involved in dictating how states conduct their elections," he said.

## PENNSYLVANIA

Comply

Gov. Tom Wolf, a Democrat, wrote a long letter saying that the state will not cooperate at all but that the state will sell them the same data the public can purchase. It can't be posted online, however.

## RHODE ISLAND

Comply

Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea, a Democrat, says she won't share some of the voter information requested by the presidential commission. Gorbea says she won't release Social Security information or information regarding felony or military status.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

Deny

The state's election commission said in a statement that "release of voter data to anyone who is not a registered South Carolina voter is not permitted by state law. The agency may only provide voter data to registered South Carolina voters. This rule is not specific to the PACEI request and applies to any request for voter data from any individual or organization from outside the state." But voter data (except party affiliation and Social Security numbers) are available to South Carolina residents for \$2,500 as long as it isn't used for commercial purposes. So Republican Party Chairman Drew McKissick has said he will buy the information and give it to the commission.

## SOUTH DAKOTA

Undecided

A spokesman for Secretary of State Shantel Krebs, a Republican, said in early July that she won't share voter information with Trump's commission. But on July 27, a spokesman for Krebs says that she has received the second letter and will be reviewing it.

## TENNESSEE

Deny

Secretary of State Tre Hargett, a Republican: "Although I appreciate the commission's mission to address election-related issues, like voter fraud, Tennessee state law does not allow my office to release the voter information requested to the federal commission."

## TEXAS

Comply

Texas Secretary of State Rolando Pablos, a Republican, said he will provide the commission public information and "protect the private information of Texas citizens." Much of the information requested — including names, addresses, date of birth and party data — are already publicly available in Texas. Social Security numbers are not releasable under Texas law. Publicly available voter registration lists in Texas also do not include information about military status or criminal history.

## UTAH

Comply

Republican Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox says he will send information classified as public, but data including voters' Social Security numbers and dates of birth are protected.



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 27 of 60

## VERMONT

### Comply

Democratic Secretary of State Jim Condos said he is bound by law to provide the publicly available voter file, which does not contain Social Security numbers or birth dates. Condos said he must first receive an affidavit signed by the commission chairman, as required by Vermont law. He said there is no evidence of the kind of fraud alleged by Trump. "I believe these unproven claims are an effort to set the stage to weaken our democratic process through a systematic national effort of voter suppression and intimidation," he said.

## VIRGINIA

### Deny

"At best, this commission was set up as a pretext to validate Donald Trump's alternative election facts, and at worst is a tool to commit large-scale voter suppression," said Democratic Gov. Terry McAuliffe.

## WASHINGTON

### Comply

Secretary of State Kim Wyman, a Republican, says the state will send the commission names, addresses and birth dates of registered voters because they are public record. She said Social Security information, driver's license numbers, phone numbers and email addresses won't be released because they aren't public records.

## WEST VIRGINIA

### Comply

Republican Secretary of State Mac Warner's office said in a statement that state law prohibits disclosing Social Security and driver's license numbers, phone numbers and some other details. The office also notes that it can charge \$500 for the voter registration list and another \$500 for data that shows elections in which each voter cast a ballot.

## WISCONSIN

### Comply

Administrator Mike Haas issued a statement saying most of the information in the state's voter registration system is public, including voters' names, addresses and voting history. The state doesn't collect any data about a voter's political preference or gender, he said.

The data is available for purchase and must be release to buyers, Haas said, adding that the commission routinely sells the information to political parties, candidates and researchers. The commission would charge the presidential panel \$12,500 for the data, the maximum amount allowed under agency rules, he said. State law doesn't contain any provisions for waiving the fee, he said. Wisconsin law allows the commission to share voter birthdates, driver's license numbers and Social Security numbers only with police and other state agencies, and the presidential commission doesn't appear to qualify, he said.

## WYOMING

### Deny

Secretary of State Ed Murray, a Republican, said in a statement that he would "safeguard the privacy of Wyoming's voters because of my strong belief in a citizen's right to privacy." Also, he expressed concern the request could lead to "federal overreach."

Information compiled by Associated Press reporters in each state and the District of Columbia.

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) \_ These South Dakota lotteries were drawn Tuesday:

Mega Millions

11-17-50-52-74, Mega Ball: 14, Megaplier: 2

(eleven, seventeen, fifty, fifty-two, seventy-four; Mega Ball: fourteen; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$350 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$307 million

## Keystone XL foes question proposed route through Nebraska

By GRANT SCHULTE, Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Opponents of the Keystone XL pipeline questioned its proposed pathway through Nebraska on Tuesday in hopes that state regulators will reject or reroute it, a decision that would create more delays for the 9-year-old project.

But pipeline builder TransCanada defended its proposal to the Nebraska Public Service Commission, arguing that the company's "preferred route" makes the most sense and causes the least amount of disruption.

The proposed pipeline faced another day of scrutiny in a hearing before the Nebraska Public Service Commission, whose five members must decide whether the Keystone XL serves the public interest. Approving the project would allow TransCanada to gain access to holdout landowners' property using Nebraska's eminent domain laws.

The 1,179-mile crude oil pipeline has faced relentless criticism from environmental groups, Native American tribes and a well-organized minority of Nebraska landowners who don't want the project cutting through their property. Business groups and some unions support the Keystone XL, saying it will provide jobs and property tax revenue for local governments.

Opponents argue that, if it wins approval, the Keystone XL should run along the same path as the original Keystone pipeline, a line through eastern Nebraska that was completed with little opposition in 2010.



**An unidentified child wears a Superman shirt in front of members of native American tribes who were holding a prayer during a rally outside the building where the Nebraska Public Service Commission was holding a hearing on the fate of the Keystone XL pipeline, in Lincoln, Neb., Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017. The Nebraska Public Service Commission is on Day 2 of a five-day public hearing to decide whether to approve the Keystone XL pipeline which would transport oil from tar sands deposits in Alberta, Canada, across Montana and South Dakota to Nebraska.** (AP Photo/Nati

Harnik)



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 29 of 60

TransCanada's preferred route would carry crude oil roughly 275 miles through Nebraska, whereas the original Keystone route only stretches 210 miles, said Brian Jorde, an attorney for the landowners.

Company officials have said their preferred route is the most direct way to transport oil from Alberta, Canada, to an existing pipeline in Steele City, Nebraska. Rerouting the pipeline would add millions of dollars to the project's \$8 billion price tag.

Because it would travel along a nearly straight path, company officials said their preferred route would affect the least amount of land. TransCanada considered other routes, including one that would have run along Interstate 90 in South Dakota, but rejected them because they were longer, said Meera Kothari, a company engineer.

The most direct path "lends itself to a diagonal route through Alberta, Montana, South Dakota and Nebraska," Kothari said.

The company has also argued that the route through neighboring South Dakota is already set, thus requiring it to cross the border at a point near Mills, Nebraska.

The arguments didn't sit well with Art Tanderup, a farmer who grows corn, soybeans and rye on land the pipeline would traverse near the town of Neligh, in northern Nebraska.

Tanderup said he was worried construction would irreparably disrupt the worms, microorganisms and air pockets he has cultivated in his soil, despite the company's promises to restore the land to its original state. "Basically, it's going to ruin 13 years of no-till farming," he said.

On Tuesday, a leading advocate for Nebraska landowners who oppose the pipeline argued that South Dakota's route wasn't set in stone.

"We've been here for two days of hearings in which we've heard witness after witness say that we have to approve a route with a fixed starting point because the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission approved it, but all the South Dakota Public Utilities commission did was to grant a construction permit," said Dave Domina, an Omaha attorney.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission must decide by Nov. 23 whether to approve or reject the project, based on evidence presented at hearings that could continue through Friday. The elected commission is comprised of four Republicans and one Democrat.

Outside the hearing, about 40 Native American tribe members and supporters gathered to protest the project. The tribes voiced concerns about the pipeline contaminating the state's groundwater.

"We just don't think there's a need for this," said Larry Wright Jr., chairman of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska.

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Follow Grant Schulte on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/GrantSchulte>

## Report: Hunting, fishing vital to South Dakota economy

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A new report indicates that South Dakota's hunting and fishing industry majorly influences the state's economic health.

The Colorado-based Outdoor Industry Association released the national report last month. It said the outdoors industry brings about 48,000 jobs to South Dakota, generating \$1.2 billion in wages and salaries, \$4.7 billion in consumer spending and \$255 million in state and local tax revenues annually.

"No matter your political affiliation, where you live or your walk of life, the outdoors brings us together," said Amy Roberts, the association's executive director.

Fishing shop owner Mike Cummings told the Rapid City Journal that the state's unpredictable but generally favorable weather, its game and fish populations, and its healthy economic conditions increase the amount of money outdoor enthusiasts spend on recreation.

"Outdoor recreation is a powerful economic engine that contributes to businesses and healthy communities in each and every state and is a vital and sustainable sector that relies on investing in and protecting America's public lands and waters," Roberts said.

The report said the number of outdoor industry jobs surpasses the 30,000 livestock industry jobs in the state.

Several nearby states — including Wyoming, Montana and Nebraska — showed similar economic impact due to hunting and fishing, according to the report.

The report also suggested ways to increase outdoor recreation participation, including developing urban areas to encourage people to find activities within 30 minutes of home.

"There is always someone out fly-fishing in Rapid Creek," said Julie Schmitz Jensen, executive director of Visit Rapid City. "How many cities can say that you can just fly-fish in town? Not many I would bet."

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

## Vermillion community worried about proposed law school move

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Former University of South Dakota administrators and community leaders in Vermillion say both the school and the city would be negatively impacted if the university moves its law school to Sioux Falls.

The University of South Dakota Law School Relocation Task Force met formally for the first time Monday.

The group is in charge of considering whether relocating the state's only law school from Vermillion to Sioux Falls would be in the best interest of students, the university and the state.

The panel received opposition from former law school administrators, local elected officials and Vermillion business leaders who urged the group to resist the proposal.

"This (university) is a flagship liberal arts school. The law is a part of that liberal arts education," said Sen. Art Rusch of Vermillion. "What will be the effect of the loss on the university? What will be the effect on the law students who are not a part of that larger university?"

Business leaders and officials also said moving the school won't resolve the declining enrollment in law schools occurring nationwide for the past decade.

"The first of those (questions) is the fact that the decline in enrollment is a nationwide problem; it's not a Vermillion problem, so why would we think that moving the location of the law school would necessarily be a solution?" Rusch said. "My understanding from the people that I've talked to is that the decline in law school enrollment nationwide is because there are other jobs available."

University administrators said the move could encourage more applications and an opportunity to expand part-time class offerings. Sheila Gestring, the university's chief financial officer, said cutting spending from other areas would be difficult because the law school faculty is already as condensed as it can get.

The group's next meeting is Sept. 6.

## Sage grouse conservation changes draw mix of praise, alarm

By MEAD GRUVER and MATTHEW BROWN, Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — President Donald Trump's administration has opened the door to industry-friendly changes to a sweeping plan imposed by his predecessor to protect a ground-dwelling bird across vast areas of the U.S. West.

Wildlife advocates warned that the proposed changes would undercut a hard-won struggle to protect the greater sage grouse.

Representatives of the ranching and energy industries cheered the policy shift as needed to give states flexibility.

The recommended changes released Monday by Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke recognized for the first time the importance of livestock grazing on sage grouse habitat, said Jim Magagna, executive vice president of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association.

It also backed away from requirements to keep rangeland grasses and shrubs at a prescribed minimum height, which ranchers had complained was arbitrary.

"I was very pleased with what I saw there in terms of the tone," Magagna said.

Millions of sage grouse once populated the American West, but development, livestock grazing and an

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 31 of 60

invasive grass that encourages wildfires has reduced the bird's population to fewer than 500,000.

The conservation plan that was years in the making affects 11 states, and just how much Zinke intends to tinker with it remains to be seen.

It was hashed out under President Barack Obama and unveiled in 2015 as a solution to keeping the bird off the endangered species list following a decadelong population decline caused by disease and pressure on habitat from energy development, grazing and wildfires.

The proposed changes, the result of a 60-day review by Zinke's agency, could give states wiggle room in areas such as setting population goals and drawing boundaries of recognized habitat.

Advocacy groups such as The Wilderness Society and National Wildlife Federation said the proposal was a backdoor attempt to allow unfettered oil and gas development that ignored previous scientific studies showing that drilling too close to breeding areas would harm the birds.

"Wholesale changes to the plans are not necessary and could derail years of hard work," federation President Collin O'Mara said in a statement. "We cannot fall victim to the false dichotomy that pits wildlife conservation against the administration's energy development goals."

The birds inhabit large swaths of Wyoming, Utah, Idaho and Nevada — big ranching states that include areas with vast wind energy and gas drilling potential.

Wyoming has a larger number of greater sage grouse than any other state and keeping the bird off the endangered list is a priority, Wyoming Gov. Matt Mead said.

"We've come a long ways to get to this point," Mead said. "As we make changes — and certainly I think there's room for improvement — we have to move cautiously because we don't want to get to the point where the bird is listed."

Wyoming officials are concerned by how the administration wants to set population goals for sage grouse. The birds are difficult to count and their numbers can fluctuate significantly in response to weather patterns, Mead said.

If revisions to the conservation plan are not sufficient to protect the bird, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service could list it as a threatened or endangered species, which could trigger new restrictions on the livestock and energy industries, Montana officials said.

"The Department of Interior's efforts to provide states greater flexibility could imperil the overall effort to prevent a listing," Montana Gov. Steve Bullock, a Democrat, said in a statement Tuesday.

Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter said Zinke's announcement marked an appropriate step toward giving the state more power to manage sage grouse. Idaho, along with Utah and Nevada, had sued to challenge the Obama-era conservation plans.



**In this April 20, 2013 file photo, male greater sage grouse perform mating rituals for a female grouse, not pictured, on a lake outside Walden, Colo. President Donald Trump's administration has opened the door to industry-friendly changes to a sweeping plan imposed by his predecessor to protect a ground-dwelling bird across vast areas of the West. Wildlife advocates warn that the proposed changes would undercut a hard-won struggle to protect the greater sage grouse.** (AP Photo/David Zalubowski, File)



The proposed changes drew a muted reaction from some other Western governors who had been heavily involved in crafting the plan.

Democratic Gov. John Hickenlooper of Colorado, who co-chaired a federal-state sage grouse task force established in 2011, was still reviewing Zinke's announcement, according to spokeswoman Jacque Montgomery.

In Nevada, Republican Gov. Brian Sandoval didn't have any immediate comment. Sandoval had worked closely with former Interior Secretary Sally Jewell to develop protection plans for the state.

Sandoval, Hickenlooper and Wyoming's Mead met with Zinke in April and urged him to coordinate with the states before changing the plans.

Areas where sage grouse live and gas drilling overlap include the upper Green River Basin of western Wyoming, home of some of the nation's biggest onshore natural gas fields.

A third gas field could add an additional 3,500 wells in a 220-square-mile area. Drilling could begin next year if federal land officials sign off.

Jonah Energy LLC, recognizes that sage grouse spend winters in part of its proposed gas field about 200 miles (322 kilometers) northeast of Salt Lake City, said Paul Ulrich of the Denver-based petroleum company.

"From our perspective, that definitely presents challenges but also provides an opportunity to do what we've done from day one, which is follow the science," he said.

Brown reported from Billings, Montana.

## Tribes want Dakota pipeline shut, but offer fallback plan

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON**, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — American Indian tribes fighting the Dakota Access oil pipeline are asking a judge to shut down the line while more environmental review is conducted, but they've also presented a fallback plan should the judge disagree.

The "alternative relief" that Standing Rock Sioux attorney Jan Hasselmen "reluctantly" proposed in court documents filed Monday includes increased public reporting of pipeline issues such as repairs, and implementation of a spill response plan — including equipment staging — at the Lake Oahe reservoir on the Missouri River, from which the tribe draws its water.

"Neither the Corps (of Engineers) nor DAPL has ever communicated with the tribes about spill response planning," Hasselman wrote.

The \$3.8 billion pipeline built by Texas-based Energy Transfer Partners began moving oil from western North Dakota to a distribution point in Illinois on June 1, after President Donald Trump earlier this year pushed through its completion.

U.S. District Judge James Boasberg later in June ruled that the Army Corps of Engineers largely complied with environmental law when permitting the pipeline but didn't adequately consider how an oil spill under Lake Oahe might affect the Standing Rock Sioux tribe. He ordered the Corps to reconsider



**In this Oct. 10, 2016, file photo, law enforcement officers, left, drag a person from a protest against the Dakota Access pipeline, near the town of St. Anthony in rural Morton County, N.D. American Indian tribes fighting the Dakota Access oil pipeline want a federal judge to shut down the line while more environmental review is done, to ensure tribal safety. The tribes have been battling the pipeline on the ground and in the courts for more than a year, over fears of environmental harm.** (Tom Stromme/

The Bismarck Tribune via AP, File)

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 33 of 60

certain areas of its environmental analysis and is deciding whether to shut down the 1,200-mile pipeline through the Dakotas, Iowa and Illinois while the work is done.

The Corps and ETP have advocated for keeping the pipeline operating. The company maintains a shut-down would cost it \$90 million each month and also impact the energy industry, consumers and government tax revenue. The Corps says the agency expects to be able to substantiate its earlier determination that the pipeline poses no significant environmental threats.

Hasselmann said "such an approach would make a mockery" of the federal environmental review process. "Both the Corps and (ETP) have made it abundantly clear that they will treat the remand as a paper exercise designed to generate additional explanation for decisions already made," he wrote.

Boasberg's ruling is not expected until September at the earliest.

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

## **Polygamous leader wants fugitive charge, fraud case separate**

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The recaptured leader of a polygamous sect wants new charges stemming from his time as a fugitive separated from fraud and money laundering charges from his alleged role in the sect's food stamp fraud scheme.

Lyle Jeffs' attorney Kathryn Nester argued in a court filing Monday night that the failure to appear charge filed in June after he was caught in South Dakota should be separate because prosecutors may try to use to show the jury he fled from home confinement in June 2016 due to a "guilty conscience."

Melodie Rydalch of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Utah declined comment, saying prosecutors will file their response to the court at a later date.

Jeffs was first charged in February 2016 along 10 other members of the sect in the fraud scheme.

## **Drought hay donation lottery program now offered in 3 states**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A hay donation lottery program set up in North Dakota to help drought-stricken ranchers is being expanded to producers in South Dakota and Montana.

The effort was launched last week by North Dakota's Agriculture Department, North Dakota State University and the Michigan-based nonprofit Ag Community Relief. Officials set up a site near the NDSU campus to accept hay donations that will be doled out to needy producers through a lottery process.

North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring on Tuesday said the lottery will be opened to ranchers throughout the tristate area. The application deadline is Aug. 31.

Ag Community Relief is organizing a large hay donation convoy to North Dakota later this month. The first hay drawing will be in early September. More drawings will be held as donations allow.

## **Gift of \$6.5 million for Planned Parenthood**

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — An unnamed couple has donated \$6.5 million to Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota.

The organization says the donation is lead gift in a three-year initiative to expand and update 19 health care clinics throughout the region, including its Uptown location in Minneapolis.

The clinic serves 13,000 people and Planned Parenthood says demand for services has increased. Planned Parenthood says the regional clinics provide family planning and reproductive health services to 66,000 people each year.

## **Piedmont man pleads not guilty in Rapid City shooting**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Piedmont man accused of attempting to kill a Rapid City man has pleaded not guilty to felony charges.

The Rapid City Journal reports that 48-year-old Michael Wisecarver faces alternative charges of attempted

first-degree murder and aggravated assault and one count of commission of a felony with a firearm. Wise-carver pleaded not guilty Monday in the case.

Authorities say Wisecarver drove to Chad Arnold's house last month and started shooting at him. Authorities have said Arnold lay with a bullet lodged in his spine in his driveway overnight until a passer-by called authorities the following morning.

Police have said a preliminary evaluation found him paralyzed from the waist down.

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

## Trump touts nuke strength as Tillerson urges calm on NKorea

By JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump declared the U.S. nuclear arsenal "far stronger and more powerful than ever before," even as his top diplomat was working to calm the North Korea crisis and insisting there wasn't "any imminent threat."

In a series of early-morning tweets Wednesday, Trump reaffirmed his threat from a day earlier by reposting video of him warning that Pyongyang would be "met with fire and fury like the world has never seen" if it made more threats to the U.S. Then he said that his first order as president had been to "renovate and modernize" the U.S. nuclear arsenal.

"Hopefully we will never have to use this power, but there will never be a time that we are not the most powerful nation in the world!" Trump tweeted.

It wasn't immediately clear what evidence the president had, if any, to support his claim about the nuclear force.

Trump did issue an executive order in his first days in office calling for a review to ensure the U.S. nuclear deterrent is "modern, robust, flexible, resilient, ready" and appropriately tailored for 21st century threats. The White House has not detailed any findings from that evaluation. A modernization effort started by former President Barack Obama is in the early stages, but the force is essentially unchanged from the way Trump inherited it on Jan. 20.

Only hours before Trump's tweets, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson urged calm and said Americans should have "no concerns" despite the exchange of threats between the president and North Korea. Aboard his plane as he flew home from Asia, Tillerson insisted the developments didn't suggest the U.S. was moving closer to a military option to dealing with the crisis.

"Americans should sleep well at night," Tillerson said. He added: "Nothing that I have seen and nothing that I know of would indicate that the situation has dramatically changed in the last 24 hours."

The mixed messages from Tillerson and Trump put the onus on the North Koreans to decide how to interpret the latest missives from the U.S.

In more tranquil terms than Trump, Tillerson sought to explain the thinking behind Trump's warning. He said the president was trying to send a strong and clear message to North Korea's leader so that there wouldn't be "any miscalculation."

"What the president is doing is sending a strong message to North Korea in language that Kim Jong Un can understand, because he doesn't seem to understand diplomatic language," Tillerson said. "I think the president just wanted to be clear to the North Korean regime on the U.S. unquestionable ability to defend itself." He said the U.S. "will defend itself and its allies."

The comments put Tillerson once again in the role of translating the president's aggressive rhetoric into more diplomatic terms, and of working to minimize the chances of public panic. In fact, Tillerson argued that North Korea's escalating threats indicated it was feeling the pressure from a successful U.S. strategy.

Tillerson spoke to reporters as he returned from Malaysia to Washington, stopping along the way in Guam. Hours earlier, North Korea's army had said in a statement it was exploring plans for attacking the tiny U.S. territory, which houses U.S. military bases and is a common refueling stop for U.S. government aircraft traversing the Pacific Ocean.



Tillerson said he never considered re-routing his trip from Malaysia so as to avoid stopping in Guam. Though he insisted there was no imminent threat, he noted that even if there were, "the North Korean missile capability can point in many directions, so Guam is not the only place that would be under threat."

Though it's extremely unlikely the North would risk annihilation by pre-emptively attacking American citizens, the escalating rhetoric has heightened concern that a miscalculation could spiral out of control and lead to military conflict — a concern especially acute in Guam, residents of the territory said.

At least one prominent lawmaker felt Trump wasn't bluffing with his threat. Sen. Lindsey Graham, a Republican on the Armed Services Committee, told CBS' "This Morning" that Trump had "basically drawn a red line" by saying Pyongyang can't ever have a nuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missile capable of striking the U.S.

"He's not going to let that happen," Graham said. "He's not going to contain the threat. He's going to stop the threat."

Tillerson, who spent the past days in Asia working the North Korea conflict, said he didn't believe a new diplomatic strategy was needed. To the contrary, he said the latest threat from the North suggested the current strategy was working. After months of frustration over China's reluctance to pressure Pyongyang economically, the U.S. on Saturday secured a unanimous U.N. Security Council vote to authorize sweeping new sanctions that target one-third of the North's exports.

"The pressure is starting to show," Tillerson said. "I think that's why the rhetoric coming out of Pyongyang is beginning to become louder and more threatening. Whether we've got them backed into a corner or not is difficult to say, but diplomatically, you never like to have someone in a corner without a way for them to get out."

To that end, Tillerson said there was still an off-ramp available to Pyongyang: A return to negotiations with the U.S., a step that Tillerson has previously said can happen only if Kim Jong Un's government gives up its nuclear aspirations, starting with an extended pause in missile tests.

"Talks," Tillerson said when asked if North Korea had a way out. "Talks, with the right expectation of what those talks will be about."

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AP National Security Writer Robert Burns and AP writer Catherine Lucey contributed to this report.

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Reach Josh Lederman on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/joshledermanAP>

## Man arrested in search for driver who hit French soldiers

By **ANGELA CHARLTON** and **RAPHAEL SATTER**, Associated Press

LEVALLOIS-PERRET, France (AP) — French police arrested a man Wednesday in the search for a driver who slammed his BMW into soldiers in a Paris suburb Wednesday, injuring six of them in what appeared to be a carefully timed ambush before speeding away, officials said.

The driver's motive was unclear, but officials said he deliberately aimed at the soldiers, and counterterrorism authorities opened an investigation. None of the soldiers had life-threatening injuries, authorities said.

It was the latest of several attacks targeting security forces guarding France over the past year. While others have targeted prominent sites like the Eiffel Tower, Wednesday's attack hit the leafy, relatively affluent suburb of Levallois-Perret that is home to France's main intelligence service, the DGSI.

Witnesses described seeing a BMW with one person inside waiting in a cul-de-sac near a building used for the soldiers, according to two police officials. One official said the attacker struck just as a group of soldiers emerged from the building to board vehicles for a new shift.

Authorities checked video surveillance of the area, near the city hall of Levallois, northwest of Paris, and police fanned out around the French capital and stopped numerous cars as they searched for the attacker.

Most were released. But in one case, police stopped a car on the A16 highway and arrested the driver and were verifying his possible links to the attack, according to two police officials. One said the arrest was violent and police fired at the suspect to subdue him. The officials weren't authorized to be publicly

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 36 of 60

named because of an ongoing police operation.

A witness to the Levallois attack described an ear-piercing scream of pain that is still echoing through her head.

Nadia LeProhon, 45, was startled by a loud crash outside her building and rushed outside her seventh-floor window to see two soldiers on the ground. Other soldiers ran after a speeding car, shouting "After him! Follow that car!"

"I'll never forget that scream — a scream of pain and distress," she told The Associated Press.

Resident Jean-Claude Veillant said he saw two uniformed soldiers prone on the ground when he came down to the entrance of his 13-story building.

"It was horrible," he said, adding that both soldiers appeared to be in bad shape and one of them was unconscious.

The street is normally guarded by posts that are removed when vehicles move in and out, so the driver must have known exactly when to strike, Veillant said. "They must've really planned this," he said.

Three of the soldiers hit in the morning attack were slightly injured, while three were more seriously hurt, but their lives weren't in danger, according to the Defense Ministry. The defense minister said she received "reassuring" news about their condition Wednesday afternoon.

The soldiers were from the 35th infantry regiment and served in Operation Sentinelle, created to guard prominent French sites after a string of deadly Islamic extremist attacks in 2015.

French counterterrorism prosecutors opened an investigation aimed at pursuing perpetrators on charges of attempted murder of security forces in connection with a terrorist enterprise, the Paris prosecutor's office said. The move means authorities believe the attack was deliberate and planned with a terrorist motive.

French President Emmanuel Macron discussed the attack at a previously scheduled top-level security meeting Wednesday morning. He has pledged to boost military spending and entrench security measures after a string of Islamic extremist attacks since 2015.

Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said the attack shows the importance of a new terrorism law permanently enshrining some aspects of the state of emergency in place in France since 2015.

Angela Charlton reported from Paris. Elaine Ganley and Sylvie Corbet in Paris contributed to this report.

## Guam's worries grow as tensions rise between US, North Korea

By GRACE GARCES BORDALLO and CATHY BUSSEWITZ, The Associated Press

HAGATNA, Guam (AP) — Residents of the tiny Pacific island of Guam say they're afraid of being caught in the middle of escalating tensions between the U.S. and North Korea after Pyongyang announced it was examining plans for attacking the strategically important U.S. territory.

Though local officials downplayed any threat and Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was unruffled as he headed to Guam to refuel on his trip back to Washington from Malaysia, people who live and work on the island said they could no longer shrug off the idea of being a potential target. Guam serves as a launching pad for the U.S. military.

"I'm a little worried, a little panicked. Is this really going to happen?" said Cecil Chugrad, a 37-year-old bus driver for a tour bus company in Guam. "If it's just me, I don't mind, but I have to worry about my son. I feel like moving (out of Guam) now."

About 163,000 people live on the island that spans only about 12 miles at its widest. They are used to the threats from North Korea. But advances in the country's nuclear program paired with fiery rhetoric from President Donald Trump has raised the already high animosity and heightened worries that a miscalculation might spark conflict between the nuclear-armed nations.

Reports suggested North Korea mastered a technological hurdle needed to strike the U.S. with a nuclear missile. The advances were detailed in an official Japanese assessment and later a Washington Post story that cited U.S. intelligence officials and a confidential Defense Intelligence Agency report.

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 37 of 60

In response, Trump on Tuesday threatened the communist country "with fire and fury." On Wednesday, the North Korean army said in a statement that it was studying a plan to create an "enveloping fire" in areas around Guam with medium- to long-range ballistic missiles.

On his flight back to Washington, Tillerson said he never considered re-routing the trip to avoid refueling in Guam.

"I do not believe that there is any imminent threat," Tillerson told reporters aboard the plane. "What we're hopeful is that this pressure campaign (including sanctions), which the entire world now has joined us in, and with the engagement of China and Russia, two of North Korea's closest neighbors — that they can begin to persuade the regime that they needed to reconsider the current pathway they're on and think about engaging in a dialogue about a different future."

While it is extremely unlikely that Pyongyang would risk the assured annihilation of its revered leadership with a pre-emptive attack on U.S. citizens, some residents of Guam are concerned.

"If anything happens, we all got to be ready, be prepared, and pray to God that it doesn't happen," Daisy Mendiola, 56, said after finishing lunch with her family at a restaurant near Hagatna. "Everyone's afraid, because we're dealing with powers that's beyond us."

Other residents are worried about the political atmosphere and the government's ability to find a peaceful solution.

Todd Thompson, a lawyer who lives on Guam, said he laughed off past threats because he "figured cooler heads in Washington would prevail, and it was just an idle threat."

"But I have to say, I'm not laughing now," Thompson said. "My concern is that things have changed in Washington, and who knows what's going to happen?"

His brother Mitch Thompson, who also lives on Guam, added he believes "a lot of people have no confidence that the White House will do the right thing under the circumstances."

However, the brothers say they haven't seen anyone panicking or stocking up on supplies.

"I think people are just stunned and really don't know what to think," Todd Thompson said.

Guam is about 2,100 miles (3,380 kilometers) southeast of Pyongyang and 3,800 miles (6,115 kilometers) west of Honolulu in the Pacific Ocean. For years, North Korea has claimed Guam is within its missiles' striking distance, making furious statements each time when the U.S. flew powerful bombers from the island's air base to the Korean Peninsula.

In August last year, the North's Foreign Ministry warned that all U.S. military bases in the Pacific including Guam would "face ruin in the face of all-out and substantial attack" by the North's military. In the spring of 2013, state media cited leader Kim Jong Un as having ordered his military to prepare plans on launching strikes on U.S. military bases in Guam, Hawaii and South Korea as well as the American mainland.

Guam is armed with the U.S. Army's defense system known as Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, which can intercept missiles.

Similar threats in 2013 led Guam's U.S. Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to advocate for the THAAD system, she said in a statement Wednesday.

"North Korea's most recent threat to target Guam is dangerous and it further heightens tensions in our region," Bordallo said. "While we have heard threats like this in the past, I take them very seriously."

Guam's Homeland Security Adviser George Charfauros urged calm and said defenses are in place for such threats.

"An attack or threat to Guam is a threat or attack on the United States," said Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo, who said he spoke with White House officials Monday morning. "They have said that America will be defended."

A travel agent on Guam said they haven't had a surge of customers seeking to book flights off the island.

"It's not bad at all, no chaos," said Mariah Sablan, who works for Golden Dragon Travel Inc. "It's just like a regular business day."

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Bussewitz reported from Honolulu. Associated Press writer Mark Thiessen in Anchorage and AP foreign affairs reporter Josh Lederman contributed to this story.

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This story has been corrected to show that the North Korean announcement came Wednesday in Guam due to the international date line.

## Trump, North Korea trade escalating threats of fire

By **FOSTER KLUG** and **MATTHEW PENNINGTON**, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — In an exchange of threats, President Donald Trump warned Pyongyang of “fire and fury like the world has never seen” and the North’s military claimed Wednesday it was examining plans for attacking Guam.

The high-level tit-for-tat follows reports that North Korea has mastered a crucial technology needed to strike the United States with a nuclear missile.

Despite regular North Korean threats against Guam, a U.S. territory in the Pacific about 2,100 miles (3,400 kilometers) from the Korean Peninsula, it is extremely unlikely that Pyongyang would risk the assured annihilation of its revered leadership with a pre-emptive attack on U.S. citizens. It’s also not clear how reliable North Korea’s mid-range missiles would be in an attack against a distant target given the relatively few times they’ve been tested.

Even so, the competing threats and Trump’s use of North Korea-style rhetoric — Pyongyang has long vowed to reduce Seoul to a “sea of fire” — raise already high animosity and heighten worries that a miscalculation might spark conflict between the rivals.

The North Korean army said in a statement that it is studying a plan to create an “enveloping fire” in areas around Guam with medium- to long-range ballistic missiles. The statement described Andersen Air Force Base on Guam as a “beachhead” for a potential U.S. invasion of North Korea it needed to neutralize. It was unlikely the North’s threat was a direct response to Trump’s comments to the camera at his golf course in Bedminster, New Jersey.

South Korea’s Unification Ministry, which deals with matters related to North Korea, said the North’s army statement hurts efforts to improve inter-Korean relations. Ministry spokesman Baek Tai-hyun said Seoul remains committed to both dialogue and sanctions for solving the North Korean nuclear problem and called for Pyongyang to stop its provocations. Baek did not mention Trump’s comments.

Trump spoke hours after reports indicated North Korea can now wed nuclear warheads with its missiles, including its longest-range missiles that may be able to hit the American mainland. The North has strived for decades to have the ability to strike the U.S. and its Asian allies, and the pace of its breakthroughs is having far-reaching consequences for stability in the Pacific and beyond.

The nuclear advances were detailed in an official Japanese assessment Tuesday and a later Washington Post story that cited U.S. intelligence officials and a confidential Defense Intelligence Agency report. The U.S. now assesses the North Korean arsenal at up to 60 nuclear weapons, more than double most assessments by independent experts, according to the Post’s reporting.

“North Korea had best not make any more threats to the United States,” said a stern-looking Trump, seated with his arms crossed and with his wife beside him. “They will be met with fire and fury like the world has never seen.”

“He has been very threatening beyond a normal state. And as I said they will be met with fire, fury and frankly power the likes of which this world has never seen before.”

The remarks appeared scripted, with Trump glancing at a paper in front of him. They evoked President Harry Truman’s announcement of the U.S. atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, in 1945, in which he warned of “a rain of ruin from the air, the like of which has never been seen on this earth.”

But it wasn’t clear what Trump, who is prone to hyperbole and bombast in far less grave situations, meant by the threat. White House officials did not elaborate, but U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson downplayed Trump’s threat, saying the president intended to send a strong message “in language that Kim Jong Un can understand.”

Tillerson said Trump delivered the message the way he did because the North Korean leader “doesn’t seem to understand diplomatic language.” Trump wanted to make clear to North Korea that the U.S. has

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 39 of 60

the “unquestionable ability to defend itself” and will protect itself and its allies, Tillerson said, adding Trump wanted to “avoid any miscalculation” by Pyongyang.

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer issued a statement saying, “We need to be firm and deliberate with North Korea, but reckless rhetoric is not a strategy to keep America safe.”

The Trump administration considers North Korea to be America’s greatest national security threat and tensions have steadily risen this year.

Pyongyang responded angrily to the U.N. Security Council’s adoption this weekend of new, tougher sanctions spearheaded by Washington. The sanctions followed intercontinental ballistic missile tests last month, the second of which was estimated as having a range that could reach more of the U.S. mainland. The newly revealed U.S. intelligence assessment indicates those missiles can carry nuclear warheads.

Denouncing the U.N. sanctions through state media, the North warned: “We will make the U.S. pay by a thousand-fold for all the heinous crimes it commits against the state and people of this country.”

For North Korea, having a nuclear-tipped missile that could strike America would be the ultimate guarantee against U.S. invasion.

It is an ambition decades in the making. North Korea began producing fissile material for bombs in the 1990s and conducted its first nuclear test explosion in 2006. Four subsequent nuclear tests, the latest a year ago, have accelerated progress on miniaturizing a device — something North Korea already claimed it could do. Over that span, multiple U.S. presidents have tried and failed to coax or pressure Pyongyang into abandoning its nuclear ambitions.

The secrecy of the North’s nuclear program and the underground nature of its test explosions make it very difficult to properly assess its claims. But the new assessments from Japan and the U.S. suggest that doubts over the North’s abilities are receding.

In an annual report, Japan’s Defense Ministry on Tuesday concluded that “it is possible that North Korea has achieved the miniaturization of nuclear weapons and has developed nuclear warheads.” Japan, a key U.S. ally, is a potential, front-line target of North Korean aggression.

The Post story, citing unnamed U.S. intelligence officials, went further. It said the Defense Intelligence Agency analysis, completed last month, assessed North Korea has produced nuclear weapons for ballistic missile delivery, including by intercontinental missiles.

Officials at the agency wouldn’t comment Tuesday. The Office of the Director of National Intelligence also wouldn’t discuss the report.

It’s unclear how North Korea’s new capabilities will immediately affect how the U.S. approaches the country’s regular missile launches and occasional nuclear tests. The U.S. military has never attempted to shoot a North Korean missile out of the sky, deeming all previous tests to pose no threat to the United States. The U.S. could weigh military action if the threat perception changes.

The calculation of North Korea’s nuclear arsenal at 60 bombs exceeds other assessments, which range from around one dozen to about 30 weapons. The assessments are typically an estimate of the amount of plutonium and enriched uranium North Korea has in its inventory rather than how much of that material has been weaponized. It’s unclear how many, if any, miniaturized warheads North Korea has built.

Last month’s ICBM tests highlighted the growing threat. Both missiles were fired at highly lofted angles and landed in the sea near Japan, but analysts said the weapons could reach Alaska, Los Angeles or Chicago if fired at a normal, flattened trajectory.

North Korea threatened to hit Guam with its Hwasong-12 missiles, which it says can carry a heavy nuclear warhead.

Not all technical hurdles have been overcome, however. North Korea is still believed to lack expertise to ensure a missile could re-enter the Earth’s atmosphere without the warhead burning up. And it’s still working on striking targets with accuracy.

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Pennington reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Kim Tong-hyung and Hyung-jin Kim in Seoul, Deb Riechmann in Washington and Catherine Lucey in New Jersey 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. WHAT'S NEXT AFTER 'FIRE AND FURY' REMARK

Trump answers North Korea's threats with rhetoric the nuclear-armed nation might appreciate, but the risk now is that the tough talk could lead to war, an AP analysis finds.

### 2. VEHICLE HITS SOLDIERS IN PARIS SUBURB, INJURING 6

French police are searching for a driver who they say deliberately slammed his BMW into a group of soldiers, the latest of several attacks targeting security forces in the country.

### 3. KENYAN OPPOSITION LEADER ALLEGES FRAUD

Kenya's election commission says allegations by Raila Odinga that the commission's database was hacked in order to manipulate results will be investigated as protesting broke out in an opposition stronghold.

### 4. AN UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCE OF CENTRALIZED VOTER LISTS

By compiling a national list of registered voters, the U.S. government could provide one-stop shopping for hackers and hostile foreign governments seeking to interfere with elections.

### 5. WHY THOUSANDS OF MIGRANTS ARE CHOOSING CANADA

Syrians, Congolese, Haitians and others are fleeing the U.S. for its northern neighbor, risking arrest rather than possible deportation from America.

### 6. HACKERS LOOKING TO SHUT DOWN FACTORIES FOR PAY

A report by NTT Security says manufacturers, government and financial firms are now the top targets globally for illicit intrusions by criminals, foreign espionage agencies and others.

### 7. HOW US POSTAL SERVICE AIMS TO FIX WOES

Buffeted by threats from Amazon drones to deliveries by golf cart, the beleaguered agency may raise stamp prices to increase revenues, AP learns.

### 8. ATHENS TO PHILLY FLIGHT SPOTLIGHTS DANGERS OF TURBULENCE

Ten people were injured on the American Airlines' flight last weekend, despite technology and pilots' efforts to avoid it.

### 9. 'YOU CAN ALWAYS SAY NO'

Taylor Swift's attorneys say the pop superstar wants to be an example to other assault victims after she accused a former Colorado DJ of groping her before a concert.

### 10. TIGER WOODS FACES ARRAIGNMENT

The star golfer's lawyers could indicate whether he plans to take the misdemeanor case to trial or go into a DUI offender diversion program.

## Venezuela's new assembly declares itself all-powerful

By JOSHUA GOODMAN and FABIOLA SANCHEZ, Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — The new constitutional assembly assumed even more power in Venezuela by declaring itself as the superior body to all other governmental institutions, including the opposition-controlled congress.

That decree came Tuesday just hours after the assembly delegates took control of a legislative chamber and put up pictures of the late President Hugo Chavez, who installed Venezuela's socialist system.

Delcy Rodriguez, the head of the ruling socialist party and leader of the body, said the unanimously approved decree prohibits lawmakers in congress from taking any action that would interfere with laws passed by the newly installed constitutional assembly.

"We are not threatening anyone," said Aristobulo Isturiz, the constitutional assembly's first vice president. "We are looking for ways to coexist."

Leaders of congress, which previously voted not to recognize any of the new super-body's decrees, said



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 41 of 60

lawmakers would try to meet in the gold-domed legislative palace Wednesday, but there were questions whether security officers guarding the building would let them in.

The opposition to President Nicolas Maduro also faced another fight Wednesday before the government-stacked Supreme Court, which scheduled a hearing on charges against a Caracas-area opposition mayor. The judges convicted another mayor Tuesday for failing to move against protesters during four months of political unrest.

In calling the July 30 election for the constitutional assembly, Maduro said a new constitution would help resolve the nation's political standoff, but opposition leaders view it is a power grab and the president's allies have said they will go after his opponents. Before its decree declaring itself all-powerful, the assembly ousted Venezuela's outspoken chief prosecutor, established a "truth commission" expected to target Maduro's foes and pledged "support and solidarity" with the unpopular president.

The latest surge of protests began in early April in reaction to a quickly rescinded attempt by the government-supporting Supreme Court to strip the National Assembly of its powers. But the unrest ballooned into a widespread movement fed by anger over Venezuela's triple-digit inflation, shortages of food and medicine, and high crime.

Opposition lawmakers said security forces led by Rodriguez broke into the congress building late Monday and seized control of an unused, ceremonial chamber almost identical to the one where lawmakers meet.

"This government invades the spaces that it is not capable of legitimately winning," Stalin Gonzalez, an opposition lawmaker, wrote on Twitter, alluding to the opposition's overwhelming victory in the 2015 congressional elections.

Before the assembly met Tuesday, the pro-government Supreme Court sentenced a Caracas-area mayor to 15 months in prison for not following an order to remove barricades set up during anti-government demonstrations.

Ramon Muchacho was the fourth opposition mayor ordered arrested by the high court the past two weeks. His whereabouts were not known, but he denounced the ruling on Twitter.

The constitutional assembly's meeting Tuesday came amid mounting criticism from foreign governments that have refused to recognize the new body.

The foreign ministers of 17 Western Hemisphere nations met in Peru to discuss how to force Maduro to back down. The ministers issued a statement after the meeting condemning the body and reiterating previous calls for the parties in Venezuela to negotiate on ending the political crisis.

Meanwhile, leaders from the Bolivarian Alliance, a leftist coalition of 11 Latin American nations, met in Caracas and declared the creation of the constitutional assembly a "sovereign act" aimed at helping Venezuela overcome its difficulties.

"We reiterate the call for a constructive and respectful dialogue," the alliance said in a statement read after the meeting.

Since the disputed election, security forces have stepped up their presence. A U.N. human rights commissioner report issued Tuesday warned of "widespread and systematic use" of excessive force, arbitrary detention and other rights violations against demonstrators.

Only a few dozen demonstrators heeded the opposition's call to set up traffic-snarling roadblocks in Caracas on Tuesday to show opposition to the new assembly, underlining the fear and resignation among that has weakened turnout for street protests that once drew hundreds of thousands. At least 124 people have been killed and hundreds injured or detained during the protests.

## Guam residents fear attack after North Korea statements

By GRACE GARCES BORDALLO and CATHY BUSSEWITZ, The Associated Press

HAGATNA, Guam (AP) — Residents of the tiny Pacific island of Guam say they're afraid of being caught in the middle of escalating tensions between the U.S. and North Korea after Pyongyang announced it was examining plans for attacking the strategically important U.S. territory.

Though local officials downplayed any threat, people who live and work on the island, which serves as

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 42 of 60

a launching pad for the U.S. military, said Wednesday they could no longer shrug off the idea of being a potential target.

"I'm a little worried, a little panicked. Is this really going to happen?" said Cecil Chugrad, a 37-year-old bus driver for a tour bus company in Guam. "If it's just me, I don't mind, but I have to worry about my son. I feel like moving (out of Guam) now."

Guam is used to the threats from North Korea but advances in the country's nuclear program paired with fiery rhetoric from President Donald Trump has raised the already high animosity and heightened worries that a miscalculation might spark conflict between the nuclear-armed nations.

Reports suggested North Korea mastered a technological hurdle needed to strike the U.S. with a nuclear missile. The advances were detailed in an official Japanese assessment and later a Washington Post story that cited U.S. intelligence officials and a confidential Defense Intelligence Agency report.

In response, Trump on Tuesday threatened the communist country "with fire and fury." On Wednesday, the North Korean army said in a statement that it was studying a plan to create an "enveloping fire" in areas around Guam with medium- to long-range ballistic missiles.

While it is extremely unlikely that Pyongyang would risk the assured annihilation of its revered leadership with a pre-emptive attack on U.S. citizens, some residents are concerned.

"If anything happens, we all got to be ready, be prepared, and pray to God that it doesn't happen," Daisy Mendiola, 56, said after finishing lunch with her family at a restaurant near Hagatna. "Everyone's afraid, because we're dealing with powers that's beyond us."

Other residents are worried about the political atmosphere and the government's ability to find a peaceful solution.

Todd Thompson, a lawyer who lives on Guam, said he laughed off past threats because he "figured cooler heads in Washington would prevail, and it was just an idle threat."

"But I have to say, I'm not laughing now," Thompson said. "My concern is that things have changed in Washington, and who knows what's going to happen?"

His brother Mitch Thompson, who also lives on Guam, added he believes "a lot of people have no confidence that the White House will do the right thing under the circumstances."

However, the brothers say they haven't seen anyone panicking or stocking up on supplies.

"I think people are just stunned and really don't know what to think," Todd Thompson said.

Guam is about 2,100 miles (3,380 kilometers) southeast of Pyongyang and 3,800 miles (6,115 kilometers) west of Honolulu in the Pacific Ocean. For years, North Korea has claimed Guam is within its missiles' striking distance, making furious statements each time when the U.S. flew powerful bombers from the island's air base to the Korean Peninsula.

In August last year, the North's Foreign Ministry warned that all U.S. military bases in the Pacific including Guam would "face ruin in the face of all-out and substantial attack" by the North's military. In the spring of 2013, state media cited leader Kim Jong Un as having ordered his military to prepare plans on launching strikes on U.S. military bases in Guam, Hawaii and South Korea as well as the American mainland.

Guam is armed with the U.S. Army's defense system known as Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, which can intercept missiles.

Similar threats in 2013 led Guam's U.S. Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo to advocate for the THAAD system, she said in a statement Wednesday.

"North Korea's most recent threat to target Guam is dangerous and it further heightens tensions in our region," Bordallo said. "While we have heard threats like this in the past, I take them very seriously."

Guam's Homeland Security Adviser George Charfauros urged calm and said defenses are in place for such threats.

"An attack or threat to Guam is a threat or attack on the United States," said Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo, who said he spoke with White House officials Monday morning. "They have said that America will be defended."

A travel agent on Guam said they haven't had a surge of customers seeking to book flights off the island.

"It's not bad at all, no chaos," said Mariah Sablan, who works for Golden Dragon Travel Inc. "It's just

like a regular business day.”

Bussewitz reported from Honolulu. Associated Press writer Mark Thiessen in Anchorage contributed to this report.

This story has been corrected to show that the North Korean announcement came Wednesday in Guam due to the international date line.

## Glen Campbell, ‘Rhinestone Cowboy’ singer, dies at age 81

By KRISTIN M. HALL, Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Glen Campbell, the affable superstar singer of “Rhinestone Cowboy” and “Wichita Lineman” whose appeal spanned country, pop, television and movies, died Tuesday, his family said. He was 81.

Campbell’s family said the singer died Tuesday morning in Nashville and publicist Sandy Brokaw confirmed the news. No cause was immediately given. Campbell announced in June 2011 that he had been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease and that it was in its early stages at that time.

“Glen is one of the greatest voices there ever was in the business and he was one of the greatest musicians,” said Dolly Parton in a video statement. “He was a wonderful session musician as well. A lot of people don’t realize that. But he could play anything and he could play it really well.”

Tributes poured in on social media. “Thank you Glen Campbell for sharing your talent with us for so many years May you rest in peace my friend You will never be forgotten,” wrote Charlie Daniels. One of Campbell’s daughters, Ashley, said she was heartbroken. “I owe him everything I am, and everything I ever will be. He will be remembered so well and with so much love,” she wrote on Twitter.

“You were a shining light in so many ways,” Brad Paisley tweeted.

In the late 1960s and well into the ‘70s, the Arkansas native was seemingly everywhere with his boyish face, wavy hair and friendly tenor. He won five Grammys, sold more than 45 million records, had 12 gold albums and 75 chart hits, including No. 1 songs with “Rhinestone Cowboy” and “Southern Nights.”

His performance of the title song from the 1969 film “True Grit,” in which he played a Texas Ranger alongside Oscar winner John Wayne, received an Academy Award nomination. He twice won album of the year awards from the Academy of Country Music and was voted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2005. Seven years later, he received a Grammy for lifetime achievement.

His last record was “Adios,” released in June, featured songs that Campbell loved to sing but never recorded, including tunes made famous by Bob Dylan, Linda Ronstadt and Johnny Cash. Ashley Campbell, also a musician, made a guest appearance and said making the album was “therapeutic.”

Campbell was among a wave of country crossover stars that included Johnny Cash, Roy Clark and Kenny Rogers, and like many of his contemporaries, he enjoyed success on television. Campbell had a weekly audience of some 50 million people for the “Glen Campbell Goodtime Hour,” on CBS from 1969 to 1972. He gained new fans decades later when the show, featuring his cheerful greeting “Hi I’m Glen Campbell,” was rerun on cable channel CMT.

“I did what my Dad told me to do — ‘Be nice, son, and don’t cuss. And be nice to people.’ And that’s the way I handled myself, and people were very, very nice to me,” Campbell told The Telegraph in 2011.

He released more than 70 of his own albums, and in the 1990s recorded a series of gospel CDs. A 2011 album, “Ghost On the Canvas,” included contributions from Jacob Dylan, Rick Nielsen of Cheap Trick and Billy Corgan of Smashing Pumpkins.

The documentary “Glen Campbell ... I’ll Be Me” came out in 2014. The film about Campbell’s 2011-12 farewell tour offers a poignant look at his decline from Alzheimer’s while showcasing his virtuoso guitar chops that somehow continued to shine as his mind unraveled. The song “I’m Not Gonna Miss You” won a Grammy for best country song in 2015 and was nominated for an Oscar for best original song.

Campbell’s musical career dated back to the early years of rock ‘n roll. He toured with the Champs of



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 44 of 60

"Tequila" fame when the group included two singers who formed the popular '70s duo Seals & Crofts. He was part of the house band for the ABC TV show "Shindig!" and a member of Phil Spector's "Wrecking Crew" studio band that played on hits by the Ronettes, the Righteous Brothers and the Crystals. He played guitar on Frank Sinatra's "Strangers In the Night," the Monkees' "I'm a Believer" and Elvis Presley's "Viva Las Vegas."

"We'd get the rock 'n' roll guys and play all that, then we'd get Sinatra and Dean Martin," Campbell told The Associated Press in 2011. "That was a kick. I really enjoyed that. I didn't want to go nowhere. I was making more money than I ever made just doing studio work."

A sharecropper's son who was one of 12 children, he was born outside of Delight, Arkansas, and grew up revering country music stars such as Hank Williams.

"I'm not a country singer per se," Campbell once said. "I'm a country boy who sings."

He was just 4 when he learned to play guitar. As a teenager, anxious to escape a life of farm work and unpaid bills, he moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico to join his uncle's band and appear on his uncle's radio show. By his early 20s, he had formed his own group, the Western Wranglers, and moved to Los Angeles. He opened for The Doors and sang and played bass with The Beach Boys as a replacement for Brian Wilson, who in the mid-'60s had retired from touring to concentrate on studio work. In 1966, Campbell played on The Beach Boys' classic "Pet Sounds" album.

"I didn't go to Nashville because Nashville at that time seemed one-dimensional to me," Campbell told the AP. "I'm a jazzier. I just love to get the guitar and play the hell out of it if I can."

By the late '60s, he was a performer on his own, an appearance on Joey Bishop's show leading to his TV breakthrough. Tommy Smothers of the Smothers Brothers saw the program and asked Campbell if he'd like to host a summertime series, "The Summer Brothers Smothers Show." Campbell shied from the Smothers Brothers' political humor, but still accepted the offer. He was out of the country when the first episode aired.

"The whole lid just blew off," Campbell told the AP. "I had never had anything like that happen to me. I got more phone calls. It was awesome. For the first couple of days I was like how do they know me? I didn't realize the power of television."

His guests included country acts, but also The Monkees, Lucille Ball, Cream, Neil Diamond and Ella Fitzgerald.

He was married four times and had eight children. As he would confide in painful detail, Campbell suffered for his fame and made others suffer as well. He drank heavily, used drugs and indulged in a turbulent relationship with country singer Tanya Tucker in the early 1980s.

He is survived by his wife, Kim; their three children, Cal, Shannon and Ashley; and his children from previous marriages, Debby, Kelli, Travis, Kane and Dillon. He had 10 grandchildren.

In late 2003, he was arrested near his home in Phoenix after causing a minor traffic accident. He later pleaded guilty to "extreme" DUI and leaving the scene of an accident and served a 10-day sentence.

Among Campbell's own hits, "Rhinestone Cowboy" stood out and became his personal anthem. Written and recorded by Larry Weiss in 1974, "Rhinestone Cowboy" received little attention until Campbell heard it on the radio and quickly related to the story of a veteran performer who triumphs over despair and hardship. Campbell's version was a chart topper in 1975.

"I thought it was my autobiography set to song," he wrote 20 years later, in his autobiography, titled "Rhinestone Cowboy."

## DJ in groping case says he may have touched Swift's ribs

By JAMES ANDERSON and TATIANA FLOWERS, Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — A former radio disc jockey accused of groping Taylor Swift before a concert testified Tuesday that he may have touched the pop superstar's ribs with a closed hand as he tried to jump into a photo with her but insisted he did not touch her backside as she claims.

David Mueller told jurors at the civil trial on dueling lawsuits filed by Mueller and Swift that he and the

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 45 of 60

singer-songwriter were trying to reach around one another and "our hands touched and our arms touched" during a photo opportunity he estimated lasted no more than 40 seconds.

Under questioning by his attorney, Mueller said he may have touched Swift's "rib cage, or rib, or ribs."

The 2013 photo of Swift, Mueller and Mueller's girlfriend taken at the pre-concert event in Denver is a key piece of evidence in Mueller's suit claiming he was fired after being falsely accused by Swift. He is seeking at least \$3 million.

The photo shows Mueller with his hand behind Swift, just below her waist. Both are smiling.

Her lawyers have called the photo "damning" proof that Mueller groped her.

Mueller's lawyer, Gabriel McFarland, showed jurors the photograph during his opening remarks. Two jurors stared at the photo on their computer monitors while a few others kept glancing at it as McFarland spoke.

"If you look at that photograph, his hand is not underneath Miss Swift's skirt, and her skirt is not ruffled in any fashion," McFarland said, noting that no one on Swift's concert team saw anything amiss.

Mueller also testified that one of his station bosses, Hershel Coomer, told him that he had met Swift earlier before the show and that "he told me that he had his hands on her butt."

Mueller said, "I thought he was just telling me one of his stories."

Under cross-examination, Mueller couldn't explain why he didn't tell a boss investigating the incident about the exchange with Coomer.

Swift has said she is positive it was Mueller who groped her.

Swift has countersued Mueller, claiming sexual assault. She is seeking a symbolic \$1, saying she wants to serve as an example to other women who have been assaulted.

Proceedings ended for the day Tuesday and were set to resume Wednesday.

In his opening statement, Douglas Baldrige, an attorney for Swift, told jurors that his superstar client is "absolutely certain" she was sexually assaulted and will prove it in court.

Baldrige also asked what possible reason Swift would have to make up an allegation.

"That's the one and only story we have to tell you — that Mr. Mueller grabbed her rear end," he said.

Mueller's attorney told jurors that inappropriate touching is wrong, but falsely accusing someone of the offense is equally unacceptable.

Mueller, wearing a smoke gray jacket and a white shirt, sat in court with his back to Swift and her mother, Andrea Swift.

Taylor Swift had her hair in a bun and wore a conservative black dress with tights. She is expected to testify later in the trial.

Mueller testified that he wants to clear his name and recover earnings he lost after being fired. He said he hasn't been able to get a job in radio since the incident.

"It's a humiliating experience to be accused of something that despicable," he testified.

Baldrige repeatedly interrupted Mueller during an aggressive cross-examination and noted that Mueller has said he lost an audio recording of a meeting he had with his bosses before they fired him.

"We'll never know what's on it, will we?" Baldrige asked.

"No, we won't," Mueller responded. "They're gone."

Baldrige repeatedly asked Mueller if he could grasp "any reason, incentive or motive for Miss Swift" to make up the allegation or be involved in 2 years of litigation.

"I cannot," Mueller replied.

Baldrige did get Mueller to concede that various supervisors with KYGO and its parent firm had discussed the possibility of letting him go even before the encounter with Swift.

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Associated Press writer P. Solomon Banda contributed to this report.

## US scientists contradict Trump's climate claims

By **MICHAEL BIESECKER** and **SETH BORENSTEIN**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As President Donald Trump touts new oil pipelines and pledges to revive the nation's struggling coal mines, federal scientists are warning that burning fossil fuels is already driving a steep increase in the United States of heat waves, droughts and floods.

It is the latest example of collisions between Trump's environmental policies and the facts presented by his government's experts.

Contradicting Trump's claims that climate change is a "hoax," the draft report representing the consensus of 13 federal agencies concludes that the evidence global warming is being driven by human activities is "unambiguous." That directly undercuts statements by Trump and his Cabinet casting doubt on whether the warming observed around the globe is being primarily driven by man-made carbon pollution.

"There are no alternative explanations, and no natural cycles are found in the observational record that can explain the observed changes in climate," says the report, citing thousands of peer-reviewed studies. "Evidence for a changing climate abounds, from the top of the atmosphere to the depths of the oceans."

Faced with reams of evidence compiled by federal scientists that conflicts with their policy positions, Trump and his advisers frequently cite the work of industry-funded think tanks. Environmental Protection Agency chief Scott Pruitt and Energy Secretary Rick Perry have championed the formation of a "red-team, blue-team" exercise where climate-change skeptics would publicly debate mainstream climate scientists.

Submitted as part of the upcoming National Climate Assessment, the draft federal report sends the overriding message that failing to curb carbon pollution now will exacerbate negative consequences in the future. That assessment calls into question the wisdom of Trump's environmental and energy policies, which seek to boost U.S. production and consumption of fossil fuels even as the world's other leading economies promote cleaner sources of energy.

An early version of the report, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, was distributed widely in December for review by leading scientists. The New York Times published a copy Monday.

The U.S. Global Change Research Program, which will edit and produce the final climate report, did not respond to phone calls and emails seeking comment on Tuesday.

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders criticized the Times for reporting on the draft document "without first verifying its contents with the White House or any of the federal agencies directly involved with climate and environmental policy."

She then declined to comment on the report.

"The White House will withhold comment on any draft report before its scheduled release date," Sanders said.

The assessment has generally been released every four years under a federal initiative mandated by Congress in 1990. The current draft for 2018, targeted for release later this year, largely builds on the conclusions of the 2014 assessment released under the Obama administration.

The assessment said global temperatures will continue to rise without steep reductions in the burning of fossil fuels, with increasingly dire effects on the lives of every American.

Worldwide, 15 of the last 16 years have been the warmest years on record. Today, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said 2017 is on track to be the second warmest for the United States.

Scientists from all over the world have documented warming in the air and water, melting glaciers, disappearing snow, shrinking sea ice and rising sea level. The report said the United States will see temperature increases of at least 2.5 degrees (1.4 degrees Celsius) over the next few decades, even with significant cuts to carbon pollution.

Even if humans stop spewing heat-trapping gases today, the world will warm another half a degree (0.3 degrees Celsius), the report said, citing high confidence in those calculations. Scientists, such as Stanford University's Chris Field, say that even a few tenths of a degree of warming can have a dramatic impact on human civilization and the natural environment.

"Every increment in warming is an increment in risk," said Field, who wasn't part of the report but re-



viewed it for The National Academy of Sciences.

Trump, who has called climate change a "total con job" and "hoax" perpetrated to harm U.S. economic competitiveness, has spearheaded a wholesale scrapping of Obama-era initiatives that sought to reduce carbon emissions from coal-fired power plants and other sources. Last week, Trump's administration formally told the United Nations that the U.S. intends to pull out of the international climate accord signed in 2015, in which nearly 200 nations pledged to reduce carbon emissions.

U.S. climate scientists have watched these policy developments with increasing alarm, with some expressing concern the Trump administration might seek to bury or significantly water down the quadrennial climate assessment.

Four co-authors of the science assessment, who spoke to AP on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the issue, said they have not heard of or witnessed any attempt by the White House to suppress or censor the scientific document.

"It was under the radar and we were fine about that," one author told AP on Tuesday.

Follow Associated Press environmental writer Michael Biesecker at [www.Twitter.com/mbieseck](http://www.Twitter.com/mbieseck) and science writer Seth Borenstein at [www.Twitter.com/borenbears](http://www.Twitter.com/borenbears)

## Experts: Lives at risk if no sleep tests for train engineers

By MICHAEL BALSAMO and MICHAEL R. SISAK, Associated Press

U.S. officials are abandoning plans to require sleep apnea screening for truck drivers and train engineers, a decision that safety experts say puts millions of lives at risk.

The Federal Railroad Administration and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration said late last week that they are no longer pursuing the regulation that would require testing for the fatigue-inducing disorder that has been blamed for deadly rail crashes in New York City and New Jersey and several highway crashes.

The agencies argue that it should be up to railroads and trucking companies to decide whether to test employees. One railroad that does test, Metro-North in the New York City suburbs, found that 11.6 percent of its engineers have sleep apnea.

The decision to kill the sleep apnea regulation is the latest step in President Donald Trump's campaign to drastically slash federal regulations. The Trump administration has withdrawn or delayed hundreds of proposed regulations since he took office in January — moves the Republican president has said will help bolster economic growth.

Late last year, the FRA issued a safety advisory that was meant as a stopgap measure urging railroads to begin sleep apnea testing while the rules made their way through the regulatory process. Without a regulation mandating testing, which would have needed approval from Congress, regulators couldn't cite trucking companies or railroads if a truck or train crashed because the operator fell asleep at the helm.

Sleep apnea is especially troubling for the transportation industry because sufferers are repeatedly awakened and robbed of rest as their airway closes and their breathing stops, leading to dangerous daytime drowsiness. Treatments include wearing a pressurized breathing mask, oral appliances or nasal strips to force the airway open while sleeping. Severe cases require surgery.

"It's very hard to argue that people aren't being put at risk," said Sarah Feinberg, the former administrator of the FRA, who had issued the safety advisory in December. "We cannot have someone who is in that condition operating either a train going 70 mph or operating a multi-ton truck traveling down the interstate. It's just not an appropriate level of risk to be exposing passengers and the traveling public to."

The National Transportation Safety Board said it was disappointed the agencies decided to scrap the "much-needed rulemaking."

"Obstructive sleep apnea has been in the probable cause of 10 highway and rail accidents investigated by the NTSB in the past 17 years and obstructive sleep apnea is an issue being examined in several, ongoing, NTSB rail and highway investigations," NTSB spokesman Christopher O'Neil said.

The NTSB has long recommended sleep apnea testing for engineers, and Metro-North and the Long

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 48 of 60

Island Rail Road started requiring it after finding the engineer in a 2013 Metro-North crash had fallen asleep at the controls because he had a severe, undiagnosed case of sleep apnea. The engineer, William Rockefeller, told investigators he felt strangely "dazed" right before the crash, which occurred as he sped through a 30 mph curve at 82 mph.

The engineer of a New Jersey Transit train that slammed into a station in Hoboken last September, killing a woman, also suffered from undiagnosed sleep apnea, according to his lawyer.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer said he will push the federal agencies to reconsider withdrawing the proposed regulation.

"We know from recent examples that if there had been testing for sleep apnea there would be people alive walking the face of the earth today who are not, unfortunately, because the engineer had sleep apnea," he said Tuesday at a news conference on Long Island.

When asked by The Associated Press in a separate interview about the government's contention that businesses could enact their own testing policies, the New York Democrat said: "Tell that to the families of the people who died in Spuyten Duyvil," referring to the neighborhood where the Metro-North train crashed in 2013, killing four people.

Train engineers are currently required to undergo vision and hearing testing at least every three years. Some railroads require annual physicals, but there are no federal standards for comprehensive medical exams. Many of the largest passenger railroads, including Amtrak, require engineers to undergo sleep apnea screening.

The Association of American Railroads, an industry group, said railroads are continuing to take steps to combat worker fatigue, including confidential sleep disorder screening and treatment.

Marc Willis, a spokesman for the FRA, said the agency sought information from the public about sleep apnea and "believes that current railroad and FRA safety programs sufficiently address this risk."

Feinberg said that isn't sufficient and the government shouldn't rely on industries regulating themselves.

A notice posted in the Federal Register said the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration would consider updating a 2015 bulletin to medical examiners about the physical qualifications standard and respiratory dysfunction. Duane DeBruyne, a spokesman for the agency, declined to answer questions about the NTSB's concerns.

Follow Mike Balsamo and Mike Sisak on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/mikebalsamo1](http://www.twitter.com/mikebalsamo1) and [www.twitter.com/mikesisak](http://www.twitter.com/mikesisak).

## Trump has escaped Washington, but don't call it a vacation

By CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. (AP) — President Donald Trump would like to interrupt his vacation to deliver the following message: Don't call this a vacation.

The president has decamped from Washington to his private golf club in central New Jersey. But he has repeatedly pushed back on the idea that this is a relaxing August getaway, posting on Twitter over the weekend: "this is not a vacation - meetings and calls!"

Trump's aides are referring to the 17-day break as a "working vacation." They say Trump is meeting with advisers and cabinet members to discuss policy. He is expected to go to New York City next week. On Tuesday, he attended a meeting on the opioid crisis. On Monday, he had nothing on his public schedule. Aides declined to answer repeated questions about whether he is playing golf.

Early Tuesday, Trump touted his plans for the day on Twitter, saying "I will be holding a major briefing on the Opioid crisis, a major problem for our country."

Still, the only sighting of Trump since he landed in New Jersey was a video that surfaced online Saturday of the president greeting wedding guests at his club. Dressed in a golf shirt and a red "Make America Great Again" hat, Trump exited a golf cart to chat with the guests.

So far, the main proof Trump is not off the clock is his steady flow of Twitter comments, particularly

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 49 of 60

Monday, when rain likely kept him indoors. Throughout the day he pushed out messages touting his supporters, attacking Democratic Sen. Richard Blumenthal and highlighting a vote by the United Nations Security Council to slap more sanctions on North Korea.

"Working hard from New Jersey while White House goes through long planned renovation," he said, referring to White House updates underway, including the replacement of a West Wing heating and cooling system.

Getting out of Washington in the dog days of summer is a well-established presidential tradition. President George W. Bush enjoyed his Texas ranch, while President Barack Obama frequented Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts. President Ronald Reagan went out to Santa Barbara, California.

Of course, the president never really leaves the job, traveling with a mini-White House of advisers and aides and continuing briefings and conversations wherever he goes.

While there is precedent for Trump to get a change of scenery, the president may be chafing at calling it vacation because he frequently slammed his predecessor for leaving town and for playing golf. In August 2011, Trump tweeted: "@BarackObama played golf yesterday. Now he heads to a 10 day vacation in Martha's Vineyard. Nice work ethic."

"President Trump is hyper-sensitive about the word 'vacation' because he hammered President Obama for so long for taking it," said presidential historian Douglas Brinkley, a professor of history at Rice University. Brinkley added that presidents are "always having to work. Hence the phrase 'working vacation.'"

So far, Trump has spent 14 of 29 weekends in office away from the White House, mostly at his properties in Palm Beach, Florida, or in Bedminster, New Jersey, according to an Associated Press count. The figures include a weekend during official travel overseas, and Father's Day weekend at Camp David, the government-owned presidential retreat in Maryland, as well as the first weekend of his summer break.

Anita McBride, who served as Laura Bush's chief of staff, agreed that the White House travels with the president. She said getting out of Washington has benefits, recalling George W. Bush's love of cycling and other activities at his ranch in Crawford, Texas.

"That's where he recharged his batteries," she said. "Any of us who have worked in the White House really understands the need for getting away."

The real world often intrudes on these summer presidential getaways.

In 1998, Clinton briefly came back to Washington from Martha's Vineyard to deal with missile attacks in Sudan and Afghanistan. Reagan came home early from a California vacation in 1983 after Korean Airlines Flight 007 was shot down in by a Soviet fighter jet. In 2005, George W. Bush was criticized for not cutting off his vacation after Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans.

Brinkley recalled a series of serious events that intruded on Obama's summer breaks, including the beheading of journalist James Foley by Islamic State militants in 2014 and Syria's chemical weapons use in 2013.

"Things happen when presidents are away," said Brinkley. "Every August you have something horrific that's going to happen."

## Acclaimed singer and actress Barbara Cook has died at 89

By MARK KENNEDY, AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Barbara Cook, whose shimmering soprano made her one of Broadway's leading ingenues and later a major cabaret and concert interpreter of popular American song, has died. She was 89.

Cook died early Tuesday of respiratory failure at her home in Manhattan, surrounded by family and friends, according to publicist Amanda Kaus. Her last meal was vanilla ice cream, a nod to one of her most famous roles in "She Loves Me."

Throughout her nearly six decades on stage, Cook's voice remained remarkably supple, gaining in emotional honesty and expanding on its natural ability to go straight to the heart.

On social media, powerhouse singers paid their respect, including Betty Buckley, who called Cook "one of the great artists & lovely being," and Lea Salonga, who wrote "Rest In Peace" on Twitter. New Tony Award winner Ben Platt from "Dear Evan Hansen" wrote: "Thank you Barbara Cook for the beautiful songs, the



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 50 of 60

indelible characters, and the masterful storytelling. Heaven must sound glorious today."

On Broadway, Cook was best known for three roles: her portrayal of the saucy Cunegonde in Leonard Bernstein's "Candide" (1956); librarian Marian opposite Robert Preston in "The Music Man" (1957); and Amalia Balash, the letter-writing heroine of "She Loves Me" (1963).

Yet when Cook's pert ingenue days were over, she found a second, longer career in clubs and concert halls, working for more than 30 years with Wally Harper, a pianist and music arranger. Harper helped in shaping her material, choosing songs and providing the framework for her shows.

To celebrate her 80th birthday, she appeared with the New York Philharmonic in two concerts in November 2007 and then had a similar birthday salute in London. In 2011, she was saluted at the Kennedy Center Honors and remained a singer even in her 80s.

"Of course, I think I've gotten better at it," she said in an interview with The Associated Press in her Manhattan home in 2011. "I still think this is a work in progress. I do. Seriously. As the years go by, I have more and more courage to go deeper and deeper and deeper."

Born in Atlanta in 1927, Cook always hated vocal exercises, never had a vocal coach and had an effortless skill of creating beauty by just opening her mouth. "I don't remember when I didn't sing. I just always sang," she said in 2011. "I think I breathed and I sang."

Her father was a traveling salesman who sold hats; her mother worked for Southern Bell. Her baby sister died of pneumonia when she was 3 and her father left when she was 6. She was raised by her far-too-clingy mother, who blamed young Barbara for both the death and the abandonment.

Cook made her Broadway debut in "Flahooley" (1951), a short-lived musical fantasy about a mass-produced laughing doll. The show became a cult classic for musical-theater buffs, primarily because it was recorded, keeping its memory alive long after the production closed.

Cook then appeared in a pair of Rodgers and Hammerstein classics, playing Ado Annie in a City Center revival of "Oklahoma!" and then on tour in 1953. She followed that by portraying Carrie Pipperidge in a 1954 revival of "Carousel." It led to Cook's first original musical success, a yearlong Broadway run in "Plain and Fancy" (1955), in which she portrayed an innocent, unworldly Amish girl.

The following year, she starred in "Candide," which ran only 73 performances but later became a staple of opera houses around the world. In the musical, Cook got to sing "Glitter and Be Gay," a fiendishly difficult coloratura parody of the "Jewel Song" from Charles Gounod's "Faust."

Meredith Willson's "The Music Man" was Cook's biggest Broadway hit, opening in December 1957 and running for more than 1,300 performances. She won a Tony Award for her portrayal of the prim librarian who realizes Professor Harold Hill (Preston) is a con man selling band instruments and uniforms to the gullible residents of a small Iowa town.

Cook scored a personal triumph in "She Loves Me," a Jerry Bock-Sheldon Harnick-Joe Masteroff musical based on the film "The Shop Around the Corner." It told of two squabbling employees in a Budapest perfume shop who, unknown to each other, are romantically inclined pen pals.

Harnick and Cook became lifelong friends after teaming up on the show. "Barbara was a superb singer, a fine actress and, as a person, the soul of candor. I'll miss her in all three capacities," he said Tuesday.

In the show, Cook sang a number extolling a gift of "Vanilla Ice Cream," which became a signature number for the performer when she began appearing in cabaret. Laura Benanti, who starred in Cook's old role on Broadway in a 2016 revival, posted a photo of her and Cook on Tuesday and wrote: "Thank you for inspiring so many of us. You will not be forgotten."

Cook turned to solo shows after her Broadway career withered in the late 1960s as she battled alcoholism and weight gain. In her 2016 memoir "Then & Now," Cook describes hitting rock bottom as a drunk: "I was so broke that I was stealing food from the supermarket by slipping sandwich meat in my coat pocket."

But she gave up drinking in the 1970s and, with the help of Harper, reinvented herself as a solo artist, working in small New York clubs and finally Carnegie Hall. Her first concert album, "Barbara Cook at Carnegie Hall" (1975), became a classic.

Cook and Harper, who died in 2004, worked methodically and carefully on her shows, mixing show tunes with standards not from musical theater. Often the programs were constructed around themes, specific

composers such as Stephen Sondheim, lyricists such as Dorothy Fields, or directors such as Harold Prince and Gower Champion.

Sondheim became one of her biggest champions. Cook starred, along with Lee Remick, Mandy Patinkin and George Hearn, in a legendary 1985 concert version of "Follies" at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall.

Her marriage to acting teacher David LeGrant ended in divorce. Cook is survived by a son, Adam LeGrant.

When asked what her advice usually was to aspiring singers, she told The AP it boiled down to three words that she learned early on herself and have been her guide.

"You are enough. You are always enough. You don't ever have to pretend to be anything other than what you are. All you have to do is deeply embrace who you are and you'll be fine," she said. "In life, aren't you drawn to the more authentic people? Of course. You're not drawn to phonies."

Mark Kennedy is at <http://twitter.com/KennedyTwits>

## Marines eye plan to put women in West Coast combat training

By LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Marine Corps for the first time is eyeing a plan to let women attend what has been male-only combat training in Southern California, as officials work to quash recurring problems with sexism and other bad behavior among Marines, according to Marine Corps officials.

If approved by senior Marine leaders, the change could happen as soon as next spring. And it could be the first step in a broader campaign to give male Marines who do their initial training on the West Coast the opportunity to work with female colleagues early in their career.

Marine leaders are also considering allowing women to attend boot camp in San Diego, the officials said. Currently all women recruits go through boot camp at Parris Island, South Carolina, while male recruits go either there or to San Diego. The combat training comes after troops have finished boot camp, and is done both in South Carolina and at Camp Pendleton in Southern California, but women attend the course only on the East Coast.

The officials were not authorized to publicly discuss the matter because final decisions have not been made, so they spoke on condition of anonymity. The boot camp decision is still under discussion.

Asked about the ongoing discussions, Gen. Glenn Walters, assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, said Tuesday that all options are being considered, and decisions will depend on the analysis, including logistics, personnel and cost benefits.

"If we're going to change the culture of the Marine Corps, we need to change how we're organized. Our recruit training is a component of that," he said, adding that Marine leaders want to go after any "unconscious bias" that may exist in the Corps.

Marine leaders have come under persistent criticism from members of Congress because the Corps is the only military service to separate men and women for portions of their boot camp. And only the Marine Corps allows half of its recruits to go through initial training without any female colleagues.

Because there are only a small number of female Marines, they all go through boot camp at Parris Island, where they are separated from the men for portions of the training. Congress members have been highly critical of that policy and demanded changes, and the Corps has been reviewing the issue.

Marines have argued that the separation from the men is needed so the women can become more physically competitive before joining their male counterparts. They also have argued that it gives the female Marines the support they need during their early weeks of boot camp. Women make up 8.4 percent of the Marine Corps, and that is the smallest percentage of all the armed services.

But Marine Corps officials are now suggesting that training half of their recruits on the West Coast with no females in their units could be contributing to some of the disciplinary problems they've had. Giving the male Marines greater exposure to females during training could foster better relations and greater respect over time, some have suggested.

Over the last several years, Marine leaders have battled persistent accusations that the Corps is hos-

tile to women. The Marines were the only service to formally request an exception when the Pentagon moved to allow women to serve in all combat jobs. That request was denied in late 2015 by then-Defense Secretary Ash Carter.

More recently, the service was rocked by a nude-photo sharing scandal in which Marines shared sexually explicit photos on various social media and other websites and included crude, derogatory and even violent comments about the women. A task force led by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is looking into the matter.

On Tuesday, Maj. Iain Pedden, the Marine Corps' head of military justice, said that so far 33 Marines have faced some type of punishment or administrative action in connection with the ongoing investigation into the nude-photo sharing. No action was taken against 12 others, and two more have cases pending.

Walters added that separately, five Marine lieutenant colonels have been relieved of duty this year, and two of those cases involved problematic behavior involving women.

A Marine task force has been reviewing a range of options and changes for several months to try and reduce the problems.

Months ago, Gen. Robert Neller, the Marine Corps commandant, told Congress that the service has been looking at the recruit training issue. But to date, no major changes have been made.

The nude-photo sharing investigation represents a broader military problem. In a report issued earlier this year, the Pentagon said that nearly 6,200 military members said that sexually explicit photos of them were taken or shared against their will by someone from work, and it made them "uncomfortable, angry or upset." But, across the services, female Marines made up the largest percentage of women who complained.

More than 22,000 service members said they were upset or angry when someone at work showed or sent them pornography. Again, female Marines represented the highest percentage of complaints from women.

## South Africa's president survives no-confidence motion again

By KRISTA MAHR, Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — President Jacob Zuma survived a no-confidence vote Tuesday in the seventh and most serious attempt to unseat him after months of growing anger in South Africa over alleged corruption and a sinking economy. But his African National Congress party, which has ruled since the end of apartheid, continued to fracture.

The latest vote to try to dislodge Zuma was the first held by secret ballot after parliamentary speaker Baleka Mbete made the surprise decision to allow it. Opposition parties hoped it would encourage ANC legislators to vote against Zuma without fear of retaliation.

Instead, ANC members in the chamber began singing shortly before the results were announced, while supporters outside started to dance.

A jubilant Zuma, who would have had to resign with his Cabinet if the motion had succeeded, promised the ANC would win the next election in 2019 "in a big number once again." He dismissed "propaganda" that said his party no longer has the people's support. Then he broke into song.

"We will never endorse or vote in favor of any motion that seeks to cripple our country," the ANC said, calling the vote an attempt to remove the party from power.

Of the 384 votes cast, 177 were in favor of the no-confidence motion and 198 were against, with nine abstentions. The no-confidence motion needed 201 votes to succeed.

Dozens of ANC members ended up supporting the no-confidence motion, as the ruling party holds 249 of the 400 parliament seats, five of them currently vacant. Some party members denounced those who voted against Zuma as sellouts, and chief whip Jackson Mthembu said the party would consider disciplining them.

The main opposition Democratic Alliance party said after the vote that "the majority of the ANC have chosen corruption, looting" over the country's interests. Its no-confidence motion said Zuma had "lost all sense of rationality and sound judgment," harming the country's poorest citizens. More than a quarter of the country's workers are unemployed.



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 53 of 60

Widespread frustration over Zuma has hurt the ANC, the former liberation movement of Nelson Mandela that has led South Africa since the end of white minority rule and the first all-race elections in 1994. Some longtime party members and anti-apartheid activists have openly called on Zuma to go.

On Tuesday, former President Thabo Mbeki said ANC lawmakers must "recall that they are the representatives of the people," according to a video posted by a Nairobi-based journalist on Twitter.

Many predicted the vote would fail, saying most members of the decades-old party would hesitate to make any major leadership changes initiated by the opposition.

"For me, it's among the biggest reasons for the failure of African liberation movements, this misplaced loyalty to the end for the sake of holding it together," said William Gumede, executive chairman of the Johannesburg-based Democracy Works Foundation.

Demonstrations both for and against the 75-year-old Zuma, who has led South Africa since 2009, took place in front of the parliament building in Cape Town before the vote.

"As you can see, thousands of people have reached the end of their tether in terms of what is happening in our beautiful country, our beautiful, diverse country that we should enjoy but we can't enjoy because millions of our people are without jobs," said one protester, Johnnie Jacobs.

"We have got to get rid of this man before he destroys everything that we have all worked so hard for," said another protester, Anne Shirley.

While Zuma's term continues until elections in 2019, there have been calls from within the ANC for him to quit earlier and allow the party to build up support before the vote. The party is expected to replace Zuma as ANC president at a meeting in December.

The reputation of Zuma, who spent a decade in prison for his anti-apartheid activities and has been popular among some South Africans for his personal warmth and populist policies, has been tarnished by allegations of impropriety.

Last year, the Constitutional Court ruled unanimously that Zuma "failed to uphold" the constitution by not paying back some of the \$20 million-plus in state money used to upgrade his rural home. Zuma's ties to the Gupta family, immigrant businessmen accused of trying to manipulate government leaders and state companies for financial gain, also have stirred public anger.

The president's firing of widely respected finance minister Pravin Gordhan in a Cabinet reshuffle in March led two agencies, Fitch and Standard & Poor's, to lower South Africa's credit rating to below investment grade, or junk status.

## Vote count begins in Kenya's fiercely contested election

By CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA, Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Polls closed across Kenya after millions voted peacefully Tuesday in a fiercely contested election pitting President Uhuru Kenyatta against challenger Raila Odinga in the East African country known for its stability but also its divided ethnic allegiances.

Long lines formed at many of Kenya's 40,000 polling stations before dawn, but the Kenyan election commission tweeted in the evening that the balloting concluded "with minimal hitches." Some sites remained open to process those people still waiting to cast their votes.

In preliminary results, Kenyatta was ahead with 55.4 percent while Odinga had 43.9 percent after votes from nearly one-quarter of 40,883 polling stations had been counted, according to the Kenyan election commission.

Authorities hope to avoid the post-election violence a decade ago when ethnic divisions fueled unrest that killed more than 1,000 people. A 2013 vote was mostly peaceful despite opposition allegations of vote-tampering.

Reaction to the result could partly depend on the performance of Kenya's electoral commission, which will collect and count the ballots in the coming days. In addition to the bitterly contested presidential race, more than 1,800 elected positions were at stake, including governors, legislative representatives and county officials.

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 54 of 60

By law, election officials have up to a week to announce results, though many analysts believe the outcome of the presidential race will be declared far sooner, possibly within one or two days.

Former U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, who is the chief election observer for The Carter Center, described it as "an inspiring day in Kenya watching democracy in action."

"Enthusiastic voters not fazed by long lines," he tweeted.

More than 300 people, including ethnic Maasai draped in traditional red blankets, waited for hours in the dark before a polling station opened in the Rift Valley town of Il Bissil. Kenyan TV also showed lines of voters in the port city of Mombasa. In some locations, inmates in striped prison garb cast ballots under the watch of guards.

Because Kenya is an African leader, its election is a closely watched event across the continent and beyond. Its diversity, symbolized by the gulf between its so-called Silicon Savannah ambitions for a booming tech industry and the poverty and lack of services found in shantytowns or remote rural areas, as well as its complex ethnic patchwork, mirror the potential for advancement, and the obstacles to it, across the wider region.

"If the elections are not fair, if there was rigging, people will definitely go to the streets," said Sophia Ajwang, a 29-year-old student in Kisumu city.

However, Moses Otieno, a 33-year-old businessman, said that Kenyans desperately want to avoid another bout of election unrest.

"We've learned a lot in the past, so we don't want such repetition in this election," Otieno said. "That's why we will accept whatever outcome it is."

Three polling stations in the Laikipia area were "affected by insecurity," but security forces restored order and polling resumed, the election commission said. Farms and homes in Laikipia County have been under siege for more than a year from herders who say they are desperate for grazing land for their animals; some farmers believe the land invasions are politically motivated.

Kenyatta, the 55-year-old son of Kenya's first president after independence from British colonial rule, campaigned on a record of major infrastructure projects, many backed by China, and claimed strong economic growth. Odinga, 72, also the son of a leader of the independence struggle, has cast himself as a champion of the poor and a harsh critic of endemic corruption.

However, many voters were expected to vote along ethnic lines. Kenyatta is widely seen as the candidate of the Kikuyu people, the country's largest ethnic group. Odinga is associated with the Luo voting bloc, which has never produced a head of state. There are six other presidential candidates, though they lack the wide support of the top two.

"I feel positive because we ran a positive campaign," Kenyatta, who seeks a second term, said after voting in his birthplace of Gatundu, north of Nairobi.

Odinga voted in the poor area of Kibera, an opposition stronghold in the capital, Nairobi.

"Uhuru must go," chanted his supporters, referring to the president by his first name.

The winner of the presidential race must get more than 50 percent of the votes as well as one-quarter or more votes in at least 24 of Kenya's 47 counties, according to officials. If the front-runner falls short of those benchmarks, the two top contenders will contest a run-off vote.

Kenyatta and Odinga also faced off in the 2013 election. Kenyatta won by a thin margin, with just over 50 percent of the vote; Odinga alleged voting irregularities and took his case to Kenya's highest court, which ruled in Kenyatta's favor by validating the results.

Kenya has nearly 20 million registered voters out of a population of more than 40 million.

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Associated Press journalists Tom Odula in Nairobi and Jerome Delay in Il Bissil contributed.

## **APNewsBreak: Dems seek federal payments to Trump business**

**By JULIE BYKOWICZ, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — As President Donald Trump spends much of August at his New Jersey golf club, Democratic lawmakers are making a new push for information about how much money the federal government is spending at his for-profit properties.

Democrats on the House Oversight Committee on Tuesday asked departments to hand over information about their Trump-related spending by Aug. 25.

"The American people deserve to know how their tax dollars are spent, including the amount of federal funds that are being provided to private businesses owned by the president and the purposes of these expenditures," reads the lawmakers' letter to Elaine Duke, the acting secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. The lawmakers sent similar requests to all Cabinet secretaries.

Their request seeks documents about any payments the departments made to the Trump Organization or any business in which the Trump organization has an ownership stake.

Trump hasn't shied away from his homes away from the White House. He's visited his own properties 48 times since his inauguration, including a dozen overnight stays such as the one he's on now, according to an Associated Press tally.

He's planning an excursion to New York City next week, raising the possibility he'll stop by Trump Tower, where he lived for decades until moving into the White House.

Most presidents have maintained and visited their personal homes while in office. Think George W. Bush's Crawford, Texas, ranch and Barack Obama's Chicago house.

The difference with Trump is that his residences are part of his business empire. That means when the Defense Department and Department of Homeland Security spend money to move and protect the president around his own properties, some taxpayer money makes its way into Trump Organization coffers.

Trump turned over company leadership to his adult sons and a senior business executive, but he did not divest as previous presidents have done. The trust in which he placed his business assets includes a clause that he can draw down money at any time.

The Democratic Oversight letter cites reports about the State Department booking rooms at a new Trump hotel in Vancouver, British Columbia, where his adult sons were on site for the grand opening, and the Defense Department and Homeland Security renting space at Trump Tower, where first lady Melania Trump and the couple's 11-year-old son lived until the end of the school year.

"President Trump also makes frequent trips to properties he owns, and these trips may result in U.S. taxpayers' money flowing into President Trump's pockets," the letter to Duke reads.

The new effort is one of many to understand how much money the Trump-led government is spending on businesses that he still owns. The Government Accountability Office is undertaking the most comprehensive study.

The office agreed to a congressional request earlier this year to analyze all government spending involved in several weekend trips Trump made to his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida.

A GAO spokesman said Tuesday there's no estimate yet for when that report will be ready.

Associated Press writer Chad Day contributed to this report.

## **Sinead O'Connor pleads for help, says she's living in motel**

**By PATRICK MAIRS, Associated Press**

Sinead O'Connor emotionally pleaded for help from her family and opened up about her mental illness in a Facebook video posted from a New Jersey motel she had been living in.

The video is the latest public glimpse of the singer's ongoing struggle with mental health problems.

The 50-year-old Irish singer says in the 12-minute video posted Thursday that she was staying alive for the sake of others, like her psychiatrist, and if it were up to her, she'd "be gone."

"I'm fighting, fighting, fighting, fighting — like all the millions and millions that I know I'm one of — to



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 56 of 60

stay alive every day," she said in the video.

O'Connor lamented what she described is a lack of support from loved ones, saying that "strangers on Facebook" are kinder to her than her own family. She asked her adult children and their fathers to make an effort to bring her home to Ireland.

"It should not be acceptable to any man who knows me and claims to love and care about me that I'm still sitting here after two years and I'm begging ... to be brought home," she said through tears.

O'Connor said she was living in a New Jersey Travelodge and later posted the address of a Travelodge in South Hackensack.

South Hackensack Police Capt. Robert Kaiser said Tuesday that officers conducted a welfare check, but O'Connor wasn't in her room at the time. He said she is no longer staying there and police don't know where she is currently living. An email sent to her agent wasn't immediately returned.

A follow-up Facebook post on O'Connor's page late Monday, said to be made on the singer's behalf, said the singer is safe and not suicidal.

"She is surrounded by love and receiving the best of care," the post read.

O'Connor has been open about her mental health problems over the years and previously said she was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. The singer was found in a Chicago-area hotel room last year after a call from a concerned doctor prompted a search by authorities.

The singer topped charts across the globe in 1990 with her cover of Prince's ballad "Nothing Compares 2 U." She was sharply criticized two years later after ripping up a picture of Pope John Paul II during a performance on "Saturday Night Live."

## 102-year-old Kenyan voter wouldn't dream of missing election

By **BEN CURTIS, Associated Press**

GATUNDU, Kenya (AP) — Stooped but determined, a 102-year-old woman believed to be one of Kenya's oldest citizens cast her ballot in national elections on Tuesday.

"I have come here to vote because good leadership comes from God," Lydia Gathoni Kiingati said. "I want to vote because I believe God has kept me alive for so many years."

Kiingati, who wore a wool cap and walked with a cane to the ballot box, smiled broadly when an election official marked her finger with indelible ink after she voted. The procedure is a safeguard that prevents anyone from trying to vote more than once.

The veteran voter did her civic duty at a polling station set up in a primary school in Gatundu, north of Nairobi. The area is the birthplace of President Uhuru Kenyatta, who voted at the same place, urging Kenyans to return home and peacefully await the results.

Kiingati said she voted for Kenyatta, who seeks a second term and faces a fierce challenge from opposition leader Raila Odinga. The woman also referred with respect to Jomo Kenyatta, the president's father who was Kenya's first leader after independence from British colonial rule in 1963.

Scola Wambui, Kiingati's daughter, said her mother was delighted to vote.

"She always votes and it's not the first time she is doing it and she told us that since the day has come, we have to bring her here to vote because she is a proud Kenyan," Wambui said.

## Postal Service bets on higher stamp prices to fix woes

By **HOPE YEN, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Buffeted by threats from Amazon drones to deliveries by golf cart, the beleaguered U.S. Postal Service is counting on a different strategy to stay competitive: more freedom to raise prices on mailing letters.

After a 10-year review, the Postal Regulatory Commission appears likely to move to grant the Postal Service power to increase stamp costs beyond the rate of inflation, marking the biggest change in its pricing system in nearly a half-century. A decision is expected next month.

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 57 of 60

The commission, which oversees postal rates, might limit how high stamp prices could go. But the price of a first-class stamp, now 49 cents, could jump, though it's not known how much.

The plan has received praise from financial analysts but raised the ire of the mail-order industry, which could pay millions more for sending items like prescription drugs and magazines and be forced to pass the costs onto consumers.

The Postal Service is trying to stay financially afloat as it seeks to invest billions in new delivery trucks to get packages more nimbly to American homes.

An independent agency of government, the Postal Service has lost money for 10 consecutive years. While online shopping has led to years of double-digit growth in its package-delivery business, it hasn't offset declines in lucrative first-class mail. Overall mail volume, which makes up more than two-thirds of postal revenue, dropped 27 percent over the last decade as people rely more on email and online bill payments.

Congress' failure to address its underlying financial woes, such as onerous requirements to pre-fund retiree health benefits, has left the commission more likely to embrace the Postal Service's request for complete freedom to set prices. The Postal Service has already ruled out closing post offices and ending Saturday delivery to reduce costs.

"We are calling for action from Congress, but we'll do what we have to, based on the reality of what is," Robert Taub, the Republican chairman of the regulatory commission, said in a telephone interview.

He declined to comment on the upcoming decision, but noted the Postal Service doesn't make enough money to cover its mandated expenses and invest for the future. Taub stressed a need to fix the balance sheet at the 242-year-old Postal Service, which generates \$71 billion in annual revenue.

The decision comes as internet sales continue to flourish, led by Amazon, spurring consumer demand for ever-faster and cheaper delivery. Forty percent of the e-commerce giant's packages are delivered by the Postal Service, compared to 20 to 25 percent by United Parcel Service and 15 to 20 percent for FedEx, thanks to lower package delivery rates it can offer by tapping into a network that already delivers to every U.S. household six days a week.

Still, growing competition is challenging postal dominance in the "last mile" portion of delivery, the final and usually most expensive stretch of a package's journey from a retailer's warehouse to a customer's door. In a bid to control more of its deliveries, Amazon has been testing the use of drones and launched Amazon Flex, a network of contract drivers similar to courier services offered by Uber. UPS has been trying deliveries via golf carts.

The post office also takes hits for perceived bad service, including Reddit threads devoted to consumer complaints about lackluster home delivery attempts. One thread on Amazon's site has 1,000 posts under the title, "Amazon, Quit shipping via USPS and btw, you suck."

"Price increases are long overdue," said David G. Ross, a shipping analyst at Stifel Financial Corp., noting that first-class stamp prices in countries like Germany cost the equivalent of 80 cents or more. He said the Postal Service needs "to make the investment and deliver the packages so that Amazon doesn't have to do it themselves."

Shipping rival UPS takes a different view, branding loosened stamp rates as anticompetitive, by having stamps essentially subsidize package deliveries.

If the post office could freely raise stamp prices, UPS wrote the commission in March, mailers would "end up paying for investments and expenses they do not benefit from, while the Postal Service leverages those investments to undercut efficient private-sector rivals in competitive markets."

The periodicals industry argues the Postal Service needs more pricing oversight, since it holds a monopoly in delivering letter-sized mail.

A big driver of the Postal Service's losses has been a requirement under a 2006 law that it prefund 75 years' worth of retiree health benefits. Neither the government nor private companies are required to do that.

The Postal Service, which reached its debt limit of \$15 billion and runs perilously low in cash every October, has avoided bankruptcy by defaulting on billions of dollars in the health prepayments. It also has

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 58 of 60

postponed much-needed upgrades to information technology systems.

Still, the Postal Service hopes to replace its vehicles, many 30 years old and wearing down. A purchase order worth up to \$6 billion would cover up to 140,000 trucks. The tall right-hand drive vehicles would seek to accommodate slim letters and oversized packages alike, more akin to fuel-efficient UPS trucks.

Postmaster General Megan Brennan hasn't made final commitments, citing in part financial uncertainties. Bipartisan legislation passed by a House oversight committee would ease much of the Postal Service's problems caused by the 2006 health benefits law, requiring retirees to enroll in Medicare. But it faces uncertain prospects.

Ravi Shanker, an equity analyst at Morgan Stanley, said even if regulators lift the cap on stamp prices, legislation is still needed to address health payments. "Given the size of the balance sheet hole, the Postal Service would have to raise prices astronomically to fix it," he said.

Ross, the shipping analyst, said the Postal Service would have to show restraint in raising rates or risk losing price-sensitive customers.

He said lawmakers "may feel if you don't give the Postal Service limits, they can just raise prices to \$3 a stamp and people will go nuts."

But overly high rates, Ross said, would only "accelerate the demise of first-class mail."

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## Asian stocks lower as US, NKorea nuclear tensions rise

By JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Asian stock markets slid Wednesday following Wall Street's decline as President Donald Trump and North Korea traded threats over the North's nuclear program.

KEEPING SCORE: Tokyo's Nikkei 225 tumbled 1.3 percent to 19,737.59 points and Seoul's Kospi fell 0.7 percent to 2,378.56. The Shanghai Composite Index lost 0.2 percent to 3,273.71 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng was off 0.2 percent at 27,803.55. Benchmarks in Taiwan and New Zealand also declined. Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 gained 0.5 percent to 5,773.70 while Manila, Malaysia and Jakarta also rose.

KOREA JITTERS: North Korea and the United States traded escalating threats, heightening fears miscalculation might spark conflict. President Donald Trump warning the North would be met "with fire and fury." Pyongyang said it was examining plans for attacking Guam, a U.S. territory in the Pacific that has a U.S. military base. The comments follow reports that North Korea has mastered a crucial technology needed to strike the United States with a nuclear missile.

WALL STREET: Losses in health care and consumer-focused companies pulled U.S. stocks lower, snapping a 10-day winning streak for the Dow Jones industrial average. Energy stocks fell along with crude prices as investors kept an eye on the latest company earnings and geopolitical news. The market slide accelerated slightly in the last half-hour of trading as Trump denounced North Korea's nuclear program. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 0.2 percent, to 2,474.92. The Dow slid 0.2 percent to 22,085.34. Both were coming off record highs. The Nasdaq composite lost 0.2 percent, to 6,370.46.

U.S. ECONOMY: Employers posted a record number of open jobs in June while a survey of small businesses showed optimism improving. Job openings jumped 8 percent to 6.2 million, the Labor Department said Tuesday. The number of people quitting their jobs also dropped. The data suggest employers have plenty of jobs to fill but are struggling to find workers. The NFIB small business optimism index rose to 105.2 in July from 103.6 in June. That "looks high enough to be consistent with a 5 percent-plus pace for real GDP growth," said Jim O'Sullivan of High Frequency Economics in a report.

FED WATCH: Investors looked ahead to an appearance Thursday by Bill Dudley, president of the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank of New York, for signs of the Fed's outlook on the economy. They are looking for confirmation the Fed is sticking with plans for a possible December interest rate hike.

ANALYST'S TAKE: The U.S. jobs figure "was through the roof" and the NFIB survey "painted a much better picture for the U.S. economy than most believed," said Stephen Innes of OANDA in a report. Against



# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 59 of 60

that backdrop, Dudley might provide an upbeat outlook and confirm the Fed is on track for a rate hike, said Innes. Still, he said, "the Washington, D.C., bedlam and North Korea's saber-rattling is muddying the broader landscape."

**CURRENCY:** The dollar declined to 109.79 yen from Tuesday's 110.34 yen. The euro edged down to \$1.1726 from \$1.1751.

**ENERGY:** Benchmark U.S. crude lost 23 cents to \$48.94 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract shed 22 cents on Tuesday to close at \$49.17. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gave up 29 cents to \$51.85 in London. It declined 23 cents on Tuesday to \$52.14.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 9, the 221st day of 2017. There are 144 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 9, 1945, three days after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, a U.S. B-29 Superfortress code-named Bockscar dropped a nuclear device ("Fat Man") over Nagasaki, killing an estimated 74,000 people.

On this date:

In 1854, Henry David Thoreau's "Walden," which described Thoreau's experiences while living near Walden Pond in Massachusetts, was first published.

In 1902, Edward VII was crowned king of Britain following the death of his mother, Queen Victoria.

In 1936, Jesse Owens won his fourth gold medal at the Berlin Olympics as the United States took first place in the 400-meter relay.

In 1942, British authorities in India arrested nationalist Mohandas K. Gandhi; he was released in 1944.

In 1967, Ethel Le Neve, the mistress of notorious convicted wife killer Hawley Harvey Crippen, died in Croydon, England, at age 84.

In 1969, actress Sharon Tate and four other people were found brutally slain at Tate's Los Angeles home; cult leader Charles Manson and a group of his followers were later convicted of the crime.

In 1974, Vice President Gerald R. Ford became the nation's 38th chief executive as President Richard Nixon's resignation took effect.

In 1982, a federal judge in Washington ordered John W. Hinckley Jr., who'd been acquitted of shooting President Ronald Reagan and three others by reason of insanity, committed to a mental hospital.

In 1992, closing ceremonies were held for the Barcelona Summer Olympics, with the Unified Team of former Soviet republics winning 112 medals, the United States 108.

In 1997, Haitian immigrant Abner Louima was brutalized in a Brooklyn, New York, stationhouse by Officer Justin Volpe, who raped him with a broken broomstick. (Volpe was later sentenced to 30 years in prison.) An Amtrak train with more than 300 people aboard derailed on a bridge near Kingman, Arizona; 183 people were injured.

In 2002, Oscar-winning actor and National Rifle Association president Charlton Heston, 78, revealed that doctors had told him he had symptoms consistent with Alzheimer's disease (Heston died in April 2008). Barry Bonds of the San Francisco Giants hit his 600th homer, becoming the fourth major leaguer to reach the mark (the Pittsburgh Pirates won the game, 4-3.)

In 2014, Michael Brown Jr., an unarmed 18-year-old black man, was shot to death by a police officer following an altercation in Ferguson, Missouri; Brown's death led to sometimes-violent protests in Ferguson and other U.S. cities.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush held a news conference in which he publicly prodded Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, his embattled war-on-terror partner, to hold free presidential elections, share intelligence and take "swift action" against terrorist leaders pinpointed in his country. China banned exports by two toy manufacturers whose products were subject to major recalls in the United States. David Beckham made his long-awaited Major League Soccer debut, entering in the 72nd minute of the Los Angeles

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 040 ~ 60 of 60

Galaxy's 1-0 loss to D.C. United.

Five years ago: The United States began a landmark project to clean up dioxin left from Agent Orange at the site of a former U.S. air base in Danang in central Vietnam, 50 years after the defoliant was first sprayed by American planes on Vietnam's jungles to destroy enemy cover. At the London Games, Usain Bolt won the 200 meters in 19.32 seconds, making him the only man with two Olympic titles in that event. The U.S. women's soccer team won the gold medal, avenging one of its most painful defeats with a 2-1 victory over Japan. Actor Al Freeman Jr., 81, died in Washington, D.C. Mel Stuart, 83, an award-winning film documentarian who also directed "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory," died in Los Angeles.

One year ago: Gunfire broke out during a demonstration in Ferguson, Missouri, on the second anniversary of Michael Brown's death, disrupting what had been a peaceful gathering but apparently wounding no one. House Speaker Paul Ryan defeated Paul Nehlen, a longshot Republican challenger praised by Donald Trump, in a Wisconsin congressional primary. At the Rio Games, Michael Phelps earned the 20th and 21st Olympic gold medals of his career as he won the 200-meter butterfly and anchored the United States to victory in the 4x200 freestyle relay. Katie Ledecky earned her second gold in Rio by winning the 200-meter freestyle. The U.S. women's gymnastics team won gold for a second consecutive Olympics.

Today's Birthdays: Basketball Hall of Famer Bob Cousy is 89. Actress Cynthia Harris is 83. Tennis Hall of Famer Rod Laver is 79. Jazz musician Jack DeJohnette is 75. Comedian-director David Steinberg is 75. Actor Sam Elliott is 73. Singer Barbara Mason is 70. Former MLB All-Star pitcher Bill Campbell is 69. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player John Cappelletti is 65. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Doug Williams is 62. Actress Melanie Griffith is 60. Actress Amanda Bearse is 59. Rapper Kurtis Blow is 58. Hockey Hall of Famer Brett Hull is 53. TV host Hoda Kotb (HOH'-duh KAHT'-bee) is 53. Actor Pat Petersen is 51. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Deion Sanders is 50. Actress Gillian Anderson is 49. Actor Eric Bana is 49. Producer-director McG (aka Joseph McGinty Nichol) is 49. NHL player-turned-assistant coach Rod Brind'Amour is 47. TV anchor Chris Cuomo is 47. Actor Thomas Lennon is 47. Rock musician Arion Salazar is 47. Rapper Mack 10 is 46. Actress Nikki Schieler Ziering is 46. Latin rock singer Juanes is 45. Actress Liz Vassey is 45. Actor Kevin McKidd is 44. Actress Rhona Mitra (ROH'-nuh MEE'-truh) is 42. Actor Texas Battle is 41. Actress Jessica Capshaw is 41. Actress Ashley Johnson is 34. Actress Anna Kendrick is 32.

Thought for Today: "The man who makes no mistakes does not usually make anything." — Edward John Phelps, American lawyer and diplomat (1822-1900).