

Groton Daily Independent

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Death Notice: Kervin Wolter

Kervin Wolter, 42, of Groton passed away August 15, 2017 at his home. Services are pending with Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Wed., Aug. 16

Senior Menu: Breaded fish, parsley buttered potatoes, beets, sherbet, whole wheat bread.

8 a.m.: Faculty In-Service at NSU

United Methodist: Wednesday coffee, 9 a.m.; Conde UMW, 10 a.m.; Ad Council, 7:15 p.m.

Thurs., Aug. 17

Senior Menu: Chicken tetrazzine, green peas, fresh fruit, cookie, whole wheat bread.

10 a.m.: Boys golf at Milbank

Emmanuel Lutheran: WELCA "Do Day" potluck lunch at 1:30 p.m. Election of officers.

Pool Hours: Open Swim, 1-4:50; Lap Swim, 5-5:45; Aerobics, 5:45-6:30.

Fri., Aug. 18

Senior Menu: Sweet and sour pork, steamed rice, carrot and broccoli medley, honey fruit salad, whole wheat bread.

Official Notices

Brown County (updated 8-15)

Frederick Town (Updated 8-15)

Groton City (updated 8-8)

Other Notices (updated 8-8)

Groton Area School (updated 8-7)

Frederick Area School Book (updated 7-26)

Westport Town Book (updated 7-26)

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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CONSTRUCTION INC.
GENERAL CONTRACTOR
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Chicken Soup
for the Soul

A hand is shown in the foreground, holding a string of heart-shaped sunglasses. The background is a soft, out-of-focus scene with many floating bubbles, creating a dreamy and optimistic atmosphere. The lighting is warm and golden, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

"Envy is a
waste of
time."

-Author Unknown

Heartland thanks you for your feedback

You may have gotten a call earlier this summer asking questions about your local electric utility as well as Heartland Consumers Power District. Thank you to everyone who took time to answer those questions and to those who went online and filled out the survey. Your input has been incredibly valuable.

Heartland provides wholesale power to your city utility as well as other municipal systems in the Midwest. We decided to perform the survey to get a better idea of what people expect from their utility, to determine areas that can be improved, and gauge awareness of services offered.

Feedback is important to any business and your electric utility is no exception. It gives consumers the opportunity to offer their perspective and for us to make improvements based on that feedback.

We will be sharing the survey results with each of our customer utilities and working with them to ensure the information gathered is a useful tool moving forward. We look forward to utilizing the results to create an even better customer experience.

Thank you again to everyone who completed the survey.

Russell Olson, CEO



Heartland Consumers Power District



Aberdeen and Groton Kiwanis Club members attending the Minn/Dakotas district convention in Watertown, August 11-13, were L-R Reed Litch, Art Buntin, Lee Schinkel, Mark Nelson and Glenn Jakober.

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The orange doors at Groton Area High School are disappearing. They are becoming white as Joann Donley has been busy painting them.



This is the electrical hookup for the new lights to be installed on SD37 in Groton.



Even the road is starting to take shape on SD37. This view is looking south at Seventh Avenue.

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Burlington-Northern Railroad workers were guiding a new crossing to its resting place. The railroad cross on the south edge of Groton is being replaced as part of the highway project.



The new west signal light and arm was installed on Tuesday. The east one is scheduled to be installed on Wednesday.



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Work is beginning on the Safe Route to School sidewalk. It will run on the west side of First Street from Fourth Avenue to Fifth Avenue. Then on the north side of Fifth Avenue from First Street to Lincoln Street.



These two photos show the progress that is being made on the sidewalk and curb along SD37 in Groton.





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

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Turn In Poachers Program Paying Off

PIERRE, S.D. - As summer comes to an end and hunting seasons ramp-up, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) is asking citizens to make the call to the Turn In Poachers (TIPs) hotline if they observe illegal hunting, fishing or trapping activity.

"During the annual reporting period from July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017, the TIPs program resulted in 364 investigations leading to 227 arrests, \$32,000 in fines and \$17,600 in liquidated civil damages," said GFP conservation officer specialist Joe Keeton. "Although the number of TIPs calls declined from the previous year, the number of arrests was the highest in program history."

This past year 364 citizens called in to report wildlife crimes, and the TIPs program rewarded those individuals with over \$7,500.

"We are grateful to the men and women who have cared enough to call," said Keeton. "Each and every report is integral in the effort to curb poaching and other illegal activity in our state."

Callers can remain anonymous and are eligible for rewards in cases that lead to an arrest. Rewards may range from \$100 to \$500, depending on the case. Higher rewards may be offered in extreme cases.

The TIPs program began in 1984, and since that time, citizens have generated 11,658 investigations that have led to 4,181 arrests.

Individuals may call the TIPs hotline at 1.888.OVERBAG (683-7224) to report violations, or report online at tips.sd.gov. Find TIPs on Facebook at [facebook.com/SDTIPs](https://www.facebook.com/SDTIPs).

2017 Sturgis Rally Vehicle Counts

STURGIS, S.D. – Traffic counts from the South Dakota Department of Transportation show an average number of vehicles entering Sturgis for the 77th annual Sturgis motorcycle rally Aug. 4-13, 2017.

Traffic counts at nine locations entering Sturgis for the 2017 Rally are as follows:

Friday, Aug. 4:	48,489 - up 11.3% from Friday last year
Saturday, Aug. 5:	54,254 – up 9.0% from Saturday last year
Sunday, Aug. 6:	54,425 – up 1.8% from Sunday last year
Monday, Aug. 7:	58,669 – up 3.7% from Monday last year
Tuesday, Aug. 8:	55,382 – down 1.4% from Tuesday last year
Wednesday, Aug. 9:	54,428 – up 3.8% from Wednesday last year
Thursday, Aug. 10:	50,479 – up 5.4% from Thursday last year
Friday, Aug. 11:	41,003 – down 8.9% from Friday last year
Saturday, Aug. 12:	34,255 – down 10.0% from Saturday last year
Sunday, Aug. 13:	17,812 – down 15.3% from Sunday last year

10 Day Total: 2017: 469,103 2016: 463,941 Up 1.1% overall

Once compiled, a full report will be available on the SDDOT website at: <http://www.sddot.com/transportation/highways/traffic/Default.aspx>

Groundbreaking Aug. 31 for New SD Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory

BROOKINGS, S.D. - Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new South Dakota Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (ADRDL) in Brookings will be at 4:30 p.m. on Aug. 31, 2017. Officials say the facility will both serve as the front line of defense in protecting South Dakota's \$7.3 billion livestock industry against diseases and provide important diagnostic information for the state's wildlife and companion animals.

"I'm very excited to see this project moving forward," South Dakota State Veterinarian Dustin Oedekoven said. "The expansion and renovation of the Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory is critical to animal health, public health, and food safety. This facility will protect the dedicated and talented people who work in the laboratory, and will give them the tools to do the best work possible. Expert veterinary laboratory diagnostic and research capacity is important for the timely identification of emerging and zoonotic diseases, and for the continuity of business when animal health events occur."

The groundbreaking ceremony will take place on the south lawn of the South Dakota State University Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences/SD ADRDL Building. The new facility will include an attached addition to the north of the current building along with renovation on the existing building on the SDSU campus.

Dr. Jane Christopher-Hennings, the head of the SDSU Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences and director of the South Dakota ADRDL explains the importance of the lab to the people of South Dakota and the country.

"The ADRDL is a key component in protecting both human and animal health in South Dakota," Christopher-Hennings said. "The lab promotes human health in dealing with food safety issues and zoonotic diseases; and animal health, by detecting diseases and finding methods to control them."

The renovation of the new building is important for continuing operations since many of the mechanical systems of the current building need to be replaced or updated to current standards (e.g., plumbing, HVAC, electrical). A drive up window for dropping off samples will provide easy access to the lab which is located off of Medary Avenue in close proximity to the U.S. Highway 14 bypass. A small Biosecurity Level 3 (BSL3) laboratory will be included for isolation of infectious agents.

Christopher-Hennings said the current lab has seen an increase in "same day" testing of samples. The new lab allows for better worker safety, biosecurity and biocontainment. In the new building, staff and faculty will be able to perform additional diagnostics and research needed to help control animal health issues.

The plan to upgrade and expand the ADRDL is supported by commodity and farm organizations represented through South Dakota's Ag Unity (SDAC), the state veterinarian, the SD Animal Industry Board, SD Veterinary Medical Association (SDVMA), legislative leaders and the governor's office to develop a funding package for the \$58 million project. The South Dakota Legislature approved the project in 2017.

Final construction plans are in progress, with some ground work expected to start this fall, followed by the majority of the building beginning in the spring of 2018. The proposed completion date is in 2020.

The current ADRDL was built in 1967 with an addition in 1993.

GAME MEAT DONATIONS INCREASED AGAIN

By: Ron Fowler, South Dakota Sportsmen Against Hunger

Donation of game meat to families in need increased again in 2016 with a modest increase in donations by hunters and significant increase in meat donation through the Sportsmen Against Hunger (SAH) salvage processing program.

Deer hunters continued to show interest in, and play an important part in, donation of game meat through SAH to food pantries across the state. Total harvested deer which were donated increased from 348 in 2015 to 397 in 2016. These numbers included 256 antlerless deer in 2016 compared with 204 antlerless deer in 2015. The antlerless deer were donated through the SAH processing certificate program in which a processing certificate completed and submitted by the hunter to a participating SAH game processor paid for most or all of the processing cost.

The SAH salvage processing program has always been an important program in that funding has been available to pay for processing of salvageable game carcasses provided by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) and other game management agencies. This game has included road-kills, confiscated game, euthanized research animals, culled animals from a National Wildlife Refuge, and animals taken in city deer reduction programs.

The amount of processed salvaged game meat received a huge boost this past winter when Wind Cave National Park conducted an elk herd reduction program from which harvested elk were processed and the meat provided to food pantries and other charitable food distributors affiliated with Feeding South Dakota. SAH was one of several funding partners which paid for processing of these salvaged elk.

Sportsmen and sportswomen also donated a variety of other types of game this past year including 7 antelope, 1,895 Canada geese, 1,831 pheasants, 1 buffalo and 237 walleyes. The total amount of processed donated game and fish meat provided to food pantries from all sources, including game meat food drives, increased from 31,512 pounds in 2015 to 48,174 pounds in 2016, and this meat was made available to families in need throughout the state..

In addition to recognizing those individuals and wildlife management agencies who donated game animals and fish, credit needs to be given to those hunters who donated considerable cash to SAH through the GFP license application check-off system. SAH would also like to acknowledge the corporations, foundations, organizations, and government entities who also provided funding to SAH for the primary purpose of paying for processing of certain donated game. The large variety and amount of support for SAH translates into much-appreciated game meat for families in need.

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Today in Weather History

August 16, 1986: Thunderstorm winds gusted to 60 mph in Forestburg, in Sanborn County. Thunderstorm winds gusting to 100 mph uprooted trees and damaged buildings in the northern part of Hanson County. On several farms, barns, garages, silos, and small buildings were destroyed. The worst affected area was south of Epiphany where large steel sheds were damaged, and a roof was blown in.

1777: The Battle of Bennington, delayed a day by rain, was fought. The rain-delayed British reinforcements and allowed the Vermont Militia to arrive in time, enabling the Americans to win a victory by defeating two enemy forces, one at a time.

1909 - A dry spell began in San Bernardino County of southern California that lasted until the 6th of May in 1912, a stretch of 994 days! Another dry spell, lasting 767 days, then began in October of 1912. (The Weather Channel)

1916 - Altapass, NC, was deluged with 22.22 inches of rain in 24 hours to establish a state record. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Afternoon and evening thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced severe weather from Oklahoma to Wisconsin and Lower Michigan. Thunderstorms in central Illinois produced wind gusts to 80 mph at Springfield which toppled two large beer tents at the state fair injuring 58 persons. Thunderstorms also drenched Chicago IL with 2.90 inches of rain, making August 1987 their wettest month of record. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

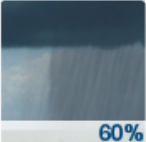






1988 - Thunderstorms developing along a slow moving cold front produced severe weather from North Dakota to Lower Michigan during the day. Nine tornadoes were sighted in North Dakota, and thunderstorms also produced hail three inches in diameter at Lakota ND, and wind gusts to 83 mph at Marais MI. Thirty-seven cities in the northeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Rockford IL with a reading of 104 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Late afternoon and evening thunderstorms in the Central High Plains Region produced golf ball size hail at La Junta CO, Intercanyon CO, and Custer SD. Afternoon thunderstorms over South Texas drenched Brownsville with 2.60 inches of rain. Fair skies allowed viewing of the late evening full lunar eclipse from the Great Lakes Region to the Northern and Central Plains Region, and across much of the western third of the country. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

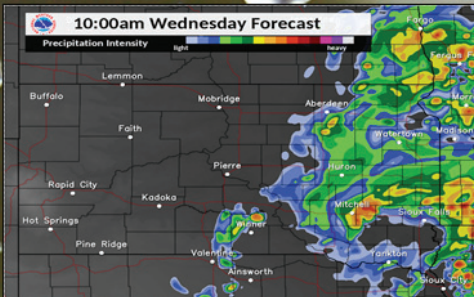
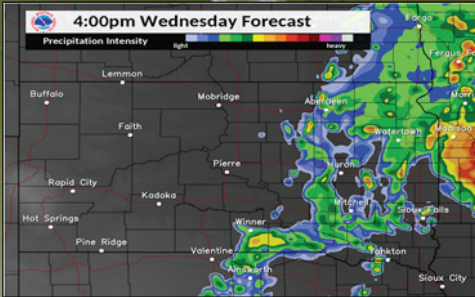
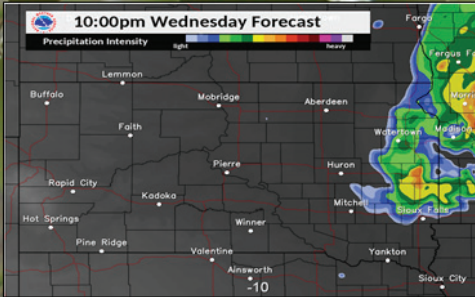
1992: One of the most destructive United States hurricanes of record started modestly as a tropical wave that emerged from the west coast of Africa on August 14. The wave spawned a tropical depression on August 16, which became Tropical Storm Andrew the next day.

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Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
						
60%	10%		30%	20% 20%		
Showers Likely and Areas Fog	Isolated Showers then Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Chance Showers	Slight Chance T-storms then Slight Chance Showers	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 72 °F	Low: 55 °F	High: 82 °F	Low: 58 °F	High: 81 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 84 °F

Rain Spreading Across Eastern SD and West Central MN Today

Central SD stays mostly dry today, with areas along and east of the James River seeing rainfall much of the day. Severe storm threat is very minimal.

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

 weather.gov/Aberdeen
 National Weather Service Aberdeen
  @NWSAberdeen
 Updated: 8/16/2017 5:39 AM Central

Published on: 08/16/2017 at 5:48AM

Low pressure will move across the region today and spread rainfall northward across eastern South Dakota and west central Minnesota. The images above are just one of several models we look at, but today they are all in pretty good agreement. What this shows is the timing and placement of rainfall today with mainly eastern portions of the forecast area being affected. Notice that the precipitation sticks around through much of the day, with the far east still potentially seeing rain as late as 10pm this evening. Amounts could exceed an inch, especially around the I-29 corridor and into parts of east central South Dakota and western Minnesota. The threat for severe weather is very minimal, and it appears we will just be dealing with general rainfall with embedded thunderstorms today.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 74.0 at 2:40 PM

Low Outside Temp: 60.1 at 2:28 AM

High Gust: 21 mph at 1:49 PM

Precip: 0.12

Today's Info

Record High: 105° in 1988

Record Low: 42° in 1897

Average High: 82°F

Average Low: 57°F

Average Precip in Aug: 1.25

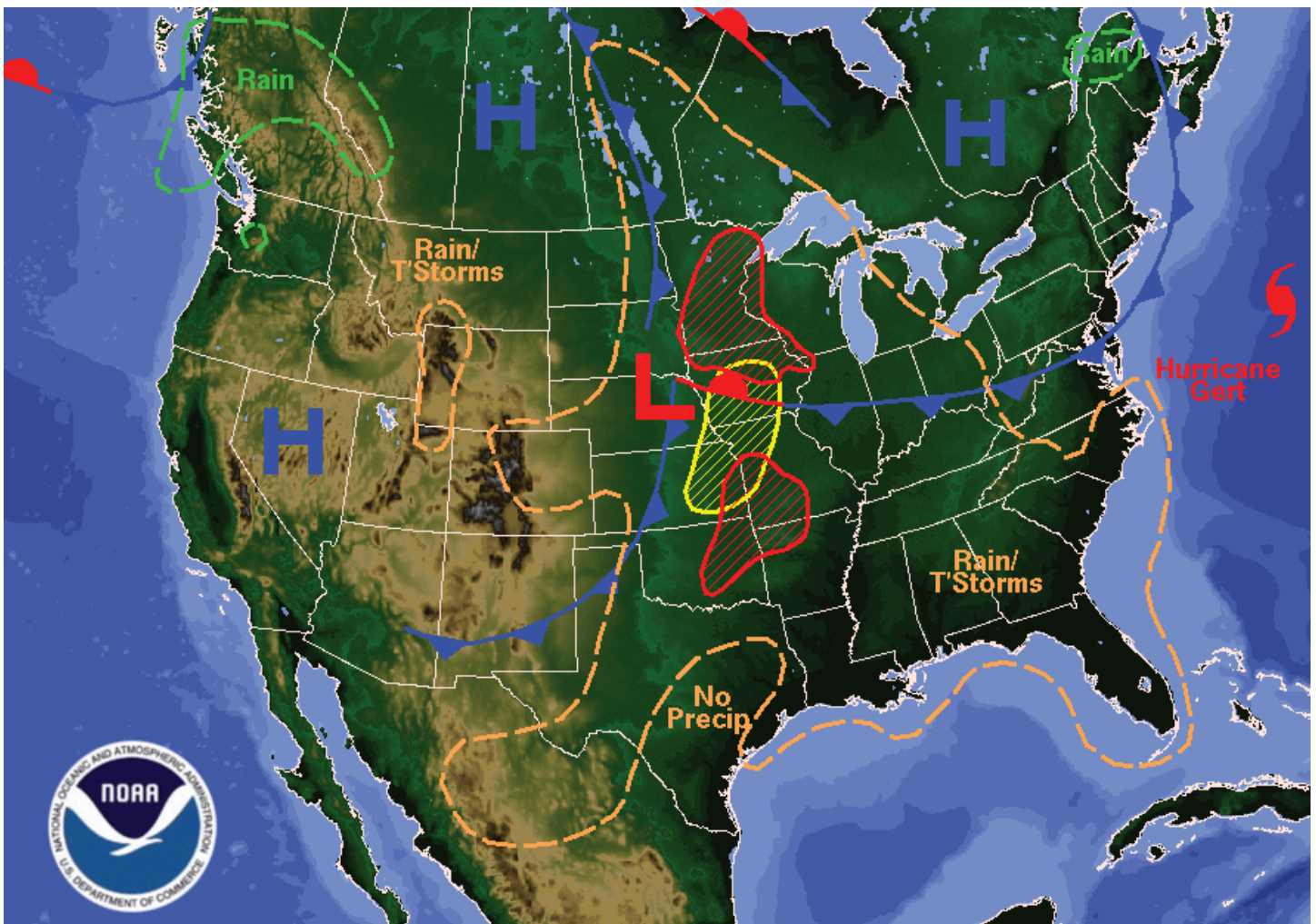
Precip to date in Aug: 1.23

Average Precip to date: 15.11

Precip Year to Date: 8.58

Sunset Tonight: 8:38 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:37 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Aug 16, 2017, issued 4:46 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)



DAVID'S "TASTE TEST"

"Try it for thirty days. If you are not completely satisfied with the results, return the unused portion and you will receive a complete refund!"

"We guarantee that your pain will be gone in fourteen days and your joints will become pain free and function with no limitations or we will refund the cost of the tablets – plus the shipping and handling charges! How can you lose?"

Guarantees for anything and everything seem to be very popular. Most advertisers, manufacturers and marketing experts have combined their efforts to sell their products and give us the assurance that they will work – or else.

But that's nothing new. In fact a king made that claim about his God years ago. David said, "Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him."

He'd been through sickness and survived. He was hunted and escaped. He was emotionally drained and overwhelmed with guilt. He was so sick that his bones were wasting away. He watched as nations rose to prominence and collapsed. He saw armies that were well prepared lose battles. In fact, if we were to make a list of everything in his life that had gone wrong or if we were to compile a catalog of the disasters he faced and overcame in his life, it would be a book so large that would be very difficult to carry from one place to another. Yet, with no hesitance he said, "God's good! Try Him. You'll see!"

Prayer: Help us Father, to recognize Your goodness in our lives. May we see Your hand at work and rejoice! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 34:8 Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

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News from the Associated Press

Lead retirement home abruptly closing, upsetting residents

LEAD, S.D. (AP) — A retirement home in Lead has announced it's closing in about a month, leaving about 20 residents scrambling to find another place to live.

The Black Hills Pioneer reports that Golden Ridge Assisted Living has given residents until Sept. 15 to leave. Resident Maxine Kermu calls it, "a pretty dirty trick to pull on a bunch of old people."

Golden Ridge Manager Jordan Murphy referred inquiries about the closing to California-based owners Northstar Senior Living Communities. The company didn't immediately comment.

The company's notice to residents says it will help them move to other company properties in Rapid City at their current rates, or give them referrals to other facilities.

Information from: Black Hills Pioneer, <http://www.bhpioneer.com>

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

07-16-20-66-73, Mega Ball: 7, Megaplier: 2

(seven, sixteen, twenty, sixty-six, seventy-three; Mega Ball: seven; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$15 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$430 million

ND, tribe to collaborate on Standing Rock elk season

FORT YATES, N.D. (AP) — State and tribal authorities will collaborate on an elk hunting season within the Standing Rock Reservation in southwestern North Dakota.

Gov. Doug Burgum and Standing Rock Sioux Chairman Dave Archambault signed a memorandum of understanding on the new elk season Tuesday.

The agreement was developed by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department and the Standing Rock Game, Fish and Wildlife Department.

Burgum says the new elk season "is the right thing for landowners, tribal members, wildlife and North Dakota hunting enthusiasts."

The agreement establishes an elk hunting unit and emphasizes coordination among tribal and state wildlife officials and private landowners.

Archambault says the agreement establishes a single season on the reservation that is consistent for all hunters, and could lead to future collaboration on other hunting seasons.

Inmate sues state over lack of prison air conditioning

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota inmate is suing the state over a lack of air conditioning and ventilation at the prison he's in, saying it amounts to cruel and unusual punishment.

The lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court by Winston Brakeall, 50, asks a judge to find the Department of Corrections and Department of Health have violated the constitution by failing to attend to his medical needs as a diabetic inmate, the Argus Leader reported.

He referred to himself in the lawsuit as morbidly obese and said most of his troubles relate to Mike Durfee State Prison staff mismanagement of his condition.

"Plaintiff sweats excessively due to the constant heat and experiences severe cramps in his legs and arms," the lawsuit stated. "Plaintiff has fallen repeatedly attempting to stand for count when his calves cramped and would not support him. Plaintiff could easily die from heat stroke."

Prison warden Bob Dooley said inmate health and safety are taken seriously and that it's not the intention of the Department of Corrections to punish inmates.

"It's not the DOC's business to punish inmates, and we don't do that," Dooley said.

Brakeall wants a judge to order corrective measures by installing a larger-capacity ice machine, repairing air conditioning, improving ventilation and reducing the number of inmates per room.

He also wants monetary payments that include damages of \$10,000 from each defendant and fines of \$1,000 per day for every day the heat index at Springfield exceeded 95 degrees Fahrenheit in 2016 and 2017.

The corrections department has not filed a response to the lawsuit.

Brakeall is being held at the prison for first-degree rape and sexual contact with a child.

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

5 injured when truck crashes into Chamberlain house

CHAMBERLAIN, S.D. (AP) — Three children and two adults suffered minor injuries when the pickup truck they were in struck a house in Chamberlain.

Police Chief Joe Hutmacher tells The Daily Republic that the 37-year-old man driving the truck had a medical problem that caused the crash about 9:15 a.m. Monday. No charges are expected.

The other people in the vehicle were a 66-year-old woman and three children ranging in age from 5-8.

The crash left a hole in the side of the house. There were no reports of injuries to anyone inside.

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

Man drowns in Missouri River near Marty during weekend storm

MARTY, S.D. (AP) — A 24-year-old man drowned Saturday afternoon in the Missouri River south of Marty after being swept away by the current during a storm.

Yankton Sioux Police Chief Chris Saunsoci tells The Daily Republic that a group of people were swimming at a beach area about 5 miles south of Marty when the man disappeared.

Tribal officials with help from the Wagner Fire Department deployed a search party including multiple boats and a scuba diver, and found the man's body about three hours later. He wasn't immediately identified.

Saunsoci says the storm that rolled through played a role in the man's death.

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

Judge sides with state against fair game operator

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A federal judge has sided with the state of South Dakota in its order against a fair amusement game operator.

The South Dakota Department of Revenue ordered Lonnie Fowler to turn off his six machines at the Sioux Empire Fair, saying they violated an attorney general's opinion that identified coin-operated machines as games of chance.

The Argus Leader reports the case is about whether Fowler's machines are games of skill or games of chance. Fowler's attorney asked a judge for a restraining order against the state's order which would have allowed Fowler to operate at the Brown County Fair. Judge Larry Piersol on Monday refused to do that.

The machines have been determined to be games of skill in other states, including New Mexico.

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

Mourners gather to remember woman killed at Virginia rally

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP) — Mourners will gather in Charlottesville, Virginia, on Wednesday to honor the woman who was killed when a car rammed into a crowd of people protesting a white nationalist rally that descended into violence last weekend.

A memorial service for Heather Heyer is scheduled Wednesday morning at a downtown Charlottesville theater. Attendees were asked to wear purple, Heyer's favorite color, in her memory.

The 32-year-old was a Charlottesville resident and legal assistant whose mother described her daughter as a courageous, principled woman and firm believer in justice and equality.

Heyer was among the hundreds of protesters who had gathered Saturday in Charlottesville to decry what was believed to be the largest gathering of white supremacists in a decade — including neo-Nazis, skinheads and Ku Klux Klan members. They descended on the city for a rally prompted by the city's decision to remove a Confederate monument.

Chaos and violence erupted before the event even began, with counter-demonstrators and rally-goers clashing in the streets.

Authorities forced the crowd to disperse, and groups then began roaming through town. Counter-protesters had converged for a march along a downtown street when suddenly a Dodge Challenger barreled into them, hurling people into the air. Video shows the car reversing and hitting more people.

The Ohio man who police say was driving, 20-year-old James Alex Fields Jr., was described by a former high school teacher as an admirer of Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany. He was quickly taken into custody and has been charged with second-degree murder and other counts.

Heyer grew up in nearby Greene County and worked as a legal assistant at a law firm. Her boss, Larry Miller, said the young woman was active in the firm's bankruptcy practice and was like a family member to him.

"She's very compassionate, she's very precise, got a big heart, she wants to make sure that things are right. She cares about the people that we take care of. She's just a great person," Miller said.

Her mother, Susan Bro, said she would prefer to grieve in private but felt compelled to try to follow her daughter's example.

"I miss her so, so much, but I'm going to make her death worth something," Susan Bro told The Associated Press.

Charlottesville Police Chief Al Thomas said this week that his department is working with Heyer's family to ensure the safety of those at vigils and other memorials.

The Paramount Theater, which is hosting the vigil, said in a statement that it had made arrangements for overflow attendees to view the service through a livestream.

Also killed Saturday were two Virginia State Police troopers who were aboard a helicopter that was providing video of the event before it broke off to lend support to a motorcade for Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe. The helicopter crashed outside of Charlottesville. An investigation into the crash is ongoing.

A funeral for Trooper-Pilot Berke M.M. Bates has been set for Friday and a funeral for Lt. H. Jay Cullen, the helicopter's pilot, is scheduled for Saturday.

Man recounts pushing fiancée away from car during protest

By BRIAN WITTE, Associated Press

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP) — With tires screeching and bodies flying, Marcus Martin shoved his fiancée out of the way of a car charging through a crowd of peaceful protesters in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Marcus Martin was promptly hit and upended by the car as it plowed through the crowd. Flat on his back

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with a broken leg, he says he experienced several minutes of terror.

"The only thing running through my mind was: please don't let her be dead," Martin, 26, told The Associated Press in an interview. "Please don't let her be dead."

Marissa Blair was OK, and Martin's body was captured in a photograph as he tumbled over the crashing car that fatally hit Heather Heyer, a friend who had been marching with Blair and Martin. Nineteen others were injured.

Martin's mother, Kimberly Martin, was terrified as she watched the scene replayed on television.

"I'm thanking God, because after seeing that photo and then I'm seeing videos and I'm seeing my son behind this car and then when I see the car backing back up the street, it was nobody but God that got him out of the way, you know? And it was just a cruel, cruel, act because those peaceful people: it was like going to a battleground without any protection from anybody," she said.

While her son survived, Kimberly Martin said she's pained by Heyer's death.

"As a mother it hurts, you know, because I could have lost my child, but somebody else did and, like I said, it just hurts," she said.

James Alex Fields Jr., a 20-year-old Ohio man who was said to idolize Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany in high school, has been charged with second-degree murder in Heyer's death. Authorities say he drove into a group of counter-protesters at a white nationalist rally on Saturday after the crowd had moved from a nearby park to downtown. Fields has been held without bail.

Blair said she has never had a close friend pass away. She saw Heyer every day at work at a local law firm and on weekends. They had met up in Charlottesville on Saturday to march as counter-protesters against participants in the white nationalist rally. Even when distraught by her death, she brightens at the thought of Heyer, who was 32.

"I just smile when I think about Heather," Blair said Sunday night after attending a vigil at the spot of the crash now covered with flowers. "She always spoke with so much conviction and she stood up for what she believed in, and she liked to make you laugh and she didn't care what she said. It was Heather. She cared about people. She wanted the best for everyone. She stood up for equality. She didn't want hate. She just wanted everybody to be equal."

Blair said the crash was an "act of terror," a hate crime that she believes should be treated as such.

"The group that was here, the alt right, the neo-Nazis, they stood for hate, and he knew what he was doing. It was a deliberate act," Blair said.

Martin said he attended the march in a peaceful response to the white nationalist rally, at a time when he is focusing on turning his life around. He pleaded guilty to robbery in 2013 and was released last summer in July. He said in an interview he is a "100-percent" different person.

Martin, who may have surgery this week on his ankle, said the crash shouldn't have happened. He doesn't think the white nationalist rally should have been allowed near the city. Other cities should consider what happened in Charlottesville before allowing similar rallies, he said.

A total of three people died as a result of Saturday's violent protests. As the violence of that day's rally waned, a state police helicopter deployed in a large-scale police response to the violence crashed outside the city. Both troopers on board, Lt. H. Jay Cullen and Berke M.M. Bates, were killed. An investigation into the crash is ongoing.

"Is not one life enough?" Martin said. "Do you need more of that?"

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. MOURNERS TO GATHER FOR HEATHER HEYER

The 32-year-old woman was killed when a car rammed into a crowd of people protesting a white nationalist rally will be honored in Charlottesville, Virginia.

2. TRUMP REVERTS TO ORIGINAL THOUGHT PROCESS ON CHARLOTTESVILLE

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The Republican president defiantly blames "both sides" for the weekend violence between white supremacists and counter-demonstrators in Virginia.

3. 'HIT THE BRAKES'

China is telling the U.S. and North Korea to stop threatening words and actions and work toward a peaceful resolution of their dispute.

4. WHAT MAY PROVE BELLWETHER FOR MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Former Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore forces a primary runoff against Trump-backed incumbent Sen. Luther Strange in a race likely to be closely watched for clues about GOP prospects in 2018.

5. MODERATE UTAH MAYOR WINS GOP PRIMARY FOR US HOUSE SEAT

John Curtis overcomes \$1 million in attacks from out-of-state groups to win a three-way race to fill a seat vacated by Jason Chaffetz.

6. LABOR-SHORT JAPAN MORE AT HOME WITH AUTOMATION THAN AMERICA

It would be hard to find a culture that celebrates robots more, evident in the popularity of companion robots for consumers.

7. IRAQI SHIITE CLERIC DISPLAYS REALPOLITIK

Muqtada al-Sadr, notorious for his followers' deadly attacks on U.S. troops over a decade ago, is cultivating ties with two Sunni nations in the Gulf fiercely critical of Iran.

8. WHO TRUMP IS NOT EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE IN

Top strategist Steve Bannon, former leader of conservative Breitbart News, is drawing fire from some of the president's closest advisers.

9. COLORFUL PORTRAITS SHOW VISAGES OF DRUG CRISIS

The New Hampshire State Library's latest art exhibit shows more than 80 paintings featuring the faces of the state's opioid epidemic.

10. WHAT CAVS STAR IS IMPLORING KIDS TO DO

LeBron James is encouraging children in his foundation to stand up for their beliefs and he gave them a lesson in how it's done by condemning the recent violence in Virginia and criticizing Trump.

China urges US, North Korea to 'hit the brakes' on threats

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China has urged the United States and North Korea to "hit the brakes" on threatening words and work toward a peaceful resolution of their tense standoff created by Pyongyang's recent missile tests and threats to fire them toward Guam.

The dispute has also raised fears in South Korea, where a conservative political party on Wednesday called for the United States to bring back tactical nuclear weapons to the Korean Peninsula.

In a sign of growing concern on the part of Pyongyang's only major ally, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said in a phone conversation with his Russian counterpart, Sergey Lavrov, that the two countries should work together to contain tensions and permit no one to "stir up an incident on their doorstep," according to a statement posted on the Chinese foreign ministry's website.

"The most important task at hand is for the U.S. and North Korea to 'hit the brakes' on their mutual needling of each other with words and actions, to lower the temperature of the tense situation and prevent the emergence of an 'August crisis,'" Wang was quoted as saying in the Tuesday conversation.

The ministry quoted Lavrov as saying tensions could rise again with the U.S. and South Korea set to launch large-scale military exercises on Aug. 21.

"A resolution of the North Korea nuclear issue by military force is completely unacceptable and the peninsula's nuclear issue must be peacefully resolved by political and diplomatic methods," Lavrov was quoted as saying.

China is North Korea's main economic partner and political backer, although relations between Beijing and Pyongyang have deteriorated amid the North's continuing defiance of China's calls for restraint. In recent months, China has joined with Russia in calling for the U.S. to suspend annual military drills with South

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Korea in exchange for Pyongyang halting its missile and nuclear tests as a first step toward direct talks. On Wednesday, the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford, continued a visit to China following talks the day before with his Chinese counterpart that touched on North Korea. No details of the talks have been released.

Dunford on Tuesday told Fang Fenghui, chief of the People's Liberation Army's joint staff department, that the sides had "many difficult issues" between them but were willing to deal with them through dialogue.

On Monday, Dunford was in Seoul to meet with senior South Korean military and political officials and the local media, seeking to ease anxiety while showing his willingness to back President Donald Trump's warnings if need be.

The United States wants to peacefully resolve tensions with North Korea, but Washington is also ready to use the "full range" of its military capabilities, Dunford said. His visit to Asia, which also will include a stop in Japan, comes after Trump last week declared the U.S. military "locked and loaded" and said he was ready to unleash "fire and fury" if North Korea continued to threaten the United States.

North Korea's military on Tuesday presented leader Kim Jong Un with plans to launch missiles into waters near the U.S. territory of Guam and "wring the windpipes of the Yankees," even as both Koreas and the United States signaled their willingness to avert a deepening crisis, with each suggesting a path toward negotiations.

The tentative interest in diplomacy follows unusually combative threats between Trump and North Korea amid worries Pyongyang is nearing its long-sought goal of being able to send a nuclear missile to the U.S. mainland. Next week's start of U.S.-South Korean military exercises that enrage the North each year could make diplomacy even more difficult.

North Korea's threats against Guam and its advancing missile capabilities, highlighted by a pair of inter-continental ballistic missile flight tests in July, have raised concern in South Korea, where some believe a fully functional ICBM in Pyongyang would undermine the alliance between Washington and Seoul.

This has led to growing calls among South Korean conservatives for the United States to redeploy tactical nuclear weapons in South Korea after withdrawing them in the 1990s. The opposition Liberty Korea Party on Wednesday adopted the demand as its official party line, saying that the presence of such weapons would strengthen deterrence against the North.

During an inspection of the North Korean army's Strategic Forces, which handles the missile program, Kim praised the military for drawing up a "close and careful plan" and said he would watch the "foolish and stupid conduct of the Yankees" a little more before deciding whether to order the missile test, the state-run Korean Central News Agency said. Kim appeared in photos sitting at a table with a large map marked by a straight line between what appeared to be northeastern North Korea and Guam, and passing over Japan — apparently showing the missiles' flight route.

The missile plans were previously announced. Kim said North Korea would conduct the launches if the "Yankees persist in their extremely dangerous reckless actions on the Korean Peninsula and its vicinity," warning the United States to "think reasonably and judge properly" to avoid shaming itself, the news agency said.

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson told reporters in Washington on Tuesday, "We continue to be interested in trying to find a way to get to dialogue, but that's up to (Kim)."

Lobbing missiles toward Guam, a major U.S. military hub in the Pacific, would be deeply provocative from the U.S. perspective. A miscalculation on either side could lead to military confrontation.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in, meanwhile, a liberal who favors diplomacy, urged North Korea to stop provocations and to commit to talks over its nuclear weapons program.

Moon, in a televised speech Tuesday on the anniversary of World War II's end and the Korean Peninsula's liberation from Japanese colonial rule, said Seoul and Washington agree that the nuclear standoff should "absolutely be solved peacefully." He said no U.S. military action on the Korean Peninsula could be taken without Seoul's consent.

North Korea's military said last week that it would finalize the plan to fire four ballistic missiles near Guam,

which is about 3,200 kilometers (2,000 miles) from Pyongyang. It would be a test of the Hwasong-12, a new missile the country flight-tested for the first time in May. The liquid-fuel missile is designed to be fired from road mobile launchers and has been described by North Korea as built for attacking Alaska and Hawaii.

Associated Press writers Foster Klug, Kim Tong-hyung and Hyung-jin Kim in Seoul, South Korea, and Matthew Lee and Robert Burns in Washington contributed to this report.

Defiant Trump renews criticism of 'both sides' in protest

By **JULIE PACE** and **JONATHAN LEMIRE**, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — President Donald Trump defiantly blamed "both sides" for the weekend violence between white supremacists and counter-demonstrators in Virginia, seeking to rebuff the widespread criticism of his handling of the emotionally-charged protests while showing sympathy for the fringe group's efforts to preserve Confederate monuments.

In doing so, Trump used the bullhorn of the presidency to give voice to the grievances of white nationalists, and aired some of his own. His remarks Tuesday amounted to a rejection of the Republicans, business leaders and White House advisers who earlier this week had pushed the president to more forcefully and specifically condemn the KKK members, neo-Nazis and white supremacists who took to the streets of Charlottesville.

The angry exchange with reporters at his skyscraper hotel in New York City laid bare a reality of the Trump presidency: Trump cannot be managed by others or steered away from damaging political land mines. His top aides were stunned by his comments, with some — including new chief of staff John Kelly — standing by helplessly as the president escalated his rhetoric.

Standing in the lobby of Trump Tower, Trump acknowledged that there were "some very bad people" among those who gathered to protest Saturday. But he added: "You also had people that were very fine people, on both sides."

The rally was organized by white supremacists and other groups under a "Unite the Right" banner. Organizers said they were initially activated by their objections to the removal of a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee, but the larger aim was to protest what they saw as an "anti-white" climate in America.

In his remarks, Trump condemned bigoted ideology and called James Alex Fields Jr., who drove his car into a crowd of counter-protester killing a 32-year-old woman, "a disgrace to himself, his family and his country." But Trump also expressed support for those seeking to maintain the monument to Lee, equating him with some of the nation's founders who also owned slaves.

"So, this week it's Robert E. Lee," he said. "I noticed that Stonewall Jackson's coming down. I wonder, 'is it George Washington next week and is it Thomas Jefferson the week after?' You really do have to ask yourself, where does it stop?"

He continued: "You're changing history. You're changing culture."

The president's comments effectively wiped away the more conventional statement he delivered at the White House a day earlier when he branded the white supremacists who take part in violence as "criminals and thugs." Trump's advisers had hoped those remarks might quell criticism of his initial response, but the president's retorts Tuesday suggested he had been a reluctant participant in that cleanup effort.

Once again, the blowback was swift, including from fellow Republicans. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida said Trump should not allow white supremacists "to share only part of the blame." House Speaker Paul Ryan declared in a tweet that "white supremacy is repulsive" and there should be "no moral ambiguity," though he did not specifically address the president.

Trump's remarks were welcomed by former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke, who tweeted: "Thank you President Trump for your honesty & courage to tell the truth."

Some of the president's comments Tuesday mirrored rhetoric from the far-right fringe. A post Monday by the publisher of The Daily Stormer, a notorious neo-Nazi website, predicted that protesters are going to demand that the Washington Monument be torn down.

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Trump's handling of the weekend violence has raised new and troubling questions, even among some supporters. Members of his own Republican Party have pressured him to be more vigorous in criticizing bigoted groups, and business leaders have begun abandoning a White House jobs panel in response to his comments.

White House officials were caught off guard by his remarks Tuesday. He had signed off on a plan to ignore questions from journalists during an event touting infrastructure policies, according to a White House official not authorized to speak publicly about a private discussion. Once behind the lectern and facing the cameras, he overruled the decision.

As Trump talked, his aides on the sidelines in the lobby stood in silence. Chief of staff John Kelly crossed his arms and stared down at his shoes, barely glancing at the president. Press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders looked around the room trying to make eye contact with other senior aides. One young staffer stood with her mouth agape.

Kelly was brought into the White House less than a month ago to try to bring order and stability to a chaotic West Wing. Some Trump allies hoped the retired Marine general might be able to succeed where others have failed: controlling some of Trump's impulses. But the remarks Tuesday once again underscored Trump's insistence on airing his complaints and opinions.

Democrats were aghast at Trump's comments. Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine said on Twitter that the Charlottesville violence "was fueled by one side: white supremacists spreading racism, intolerance & intimidation. Those are the facts." Sen. Brian Schatz of Hawaii said on Twitter that he no longer views Trump as his president.

"As a Jew, as an American, as a human, words cannot express my disgust and disappointment," Schatz said. "This is not my president."

When asked to explain his Saturday comments about Charlottesville, Trump looked down at his notes and again read a section of his initial statement that denounced bigotry but did not single out white supremacists. He then tucked the paper back into his jacket pocket.

Trump, who has quickly deemed other deadly incidents in the U.S. and around the world as acts of terrorism, waffled when asked whether the car death was a terrorist attack.

"There is a question. Is it murder? Is it terrorism?" Trump said. "And then you get into legal semantics. The driver of the car is a murderer and what he did was a horrible, horrible, inexcusable thing."

Trump said he had yet to call the mother of crash victim Heather Heyer, but would soon "reach out." He praised her for what he said was a nice statement about him on social media.

As he finally walked away from his lectern, he stopped to answer one more shouted question: Would he visit Charlottesville? The president noted he owned property there and said — inaccurately — that it was one of the largest wineries in the United States.

AP writers Darlene Superville and Richard Lardner contributed to this report. Pace reported from Washington.

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Rising tensions with North Korea bring back nuclear fears

By JOHN ROGERS, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — After the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, the era of nuclear nightmares — of the atomic arms race, of backyard bomb shelters, of schoolchildren diving under desks to practice their survival skills in the event of an attack — seemed to finally, thankfully, fade into history.

Until now.

For some baby boomers, North Korea's nuclear advances and President Donald Trump's bellicose response have prompted flashbacks to a time when they were young, and when they prayed each night that they might awaken the next morning. For their children, the North Korean crisis was a taste of what

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the Cold War was like.

"I'm not concerned to where I can't sleep at night. But it certainly raises alarms for Guam or even Hawaii, where it might be a real threat," said 24-year-old banker Christian Zwicky of San Bernardino, California.

People of his parents' generation were taught to duck and cover when the bombs came. "Maybe those types of drills should come back," Zwicky said.

He isn't old enough to remember the popular 1950s public service announcement in which a cartoon character named Bert the Turtle teaches kids how to dive under their desks for safety. But Zwicky did see it often enough in high school history classes that he can hum the catchy tune that plays at the beginning. That's when Bert avoids disaster by ducking into his shell, then goes on to explain to schoolchildren what they should do.

"I do remember that," says 65-year-old retiree Scott Paul of Los Angeles. "And also the drop drills that we had in elementary school, which was a pretty regular thing then."

Even as a 10-year-old, Paul said, he wondered how much good ducking under a desk could do if a bomb powerful enough to destroy a city fell nearby. No good at all, his teacher acknowledged.

Then there were backyard bomb shelters, which briefly became the rage during the missile crisis of 1962, when it was learned the Soviets had slipped nuclear-tipped missiles into Cuba and pointed them at the United States. After a tense, two-week standoff between President John F. Kennedy and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev that some believe brought the world the closest it's ever come to nuclear war, the missiles were removed and the shelters faded from public interest.

Now they, too, seem to be having a revival.

"When Trump took office it doubled our sales, and then when he started making crazy statements we got a lot more orders," says Walton McCarthy of Norad Shelter Systems LLC of Garland, Texas. "Between now and a year ago we've quadrupled our sales."

His competitor, California-based Atlas Survival Shelters, says it sold 30 shelters in three days last week. During its first year in business in 2011 it sold only 10.

Bill Miller, a 74-year-old retired film director living in Sherborn, Massachusetts, thinks these days are more nerve-wracking than the standoff in October 1962.

"I think it's much, much crazier, scarier times," he said. "I think the people who were in charge in the Kennedy administration had much more of a handle on it."

Nathan Guerrero, a 22-year-old political science major from Fullerton, California, agrees, saying he learned in history class that the "shining example" of a way to resolve such a conflict was how Kennedy's brother and attorney general, Robert Kennedy, brokered the tense negotiations.

"But knowing the way the current administration has sort of been carrying itself, it doesn't look like they are keen to solving things diplomatically," he said.

"As a young person, honestly, it's pretty unsettling," he continued.

Had he given any thought to building a backyard bomb shelter?

"I'd be lying if I said such crazy things haven't crossed my mind," he said, laughing nervously. "But in reality it doesn't strike me as I'd be ready to go shopping for bunkers yet." Instead, he studies for law school and tries "not to think too much about it."

Other Americans are more sanguine about the possibility of nuclear war. Rob Stapleton has lived in Anchorage, Alaska, since 1975, and he is aware that Alaska has been considered a possible target because it is within reach of North Korean missiles.

"There's been some discussion about it around the beer barrel and I'm sure the United States is taking it seriously, but we're not too concerned around here," he said.

Alaska is so vast and spread out, said Stapleton, that he and his friends can't imagine why North Korea would waste its time attacking The Last Frontier.

"I mean sure you'd be making a statement, but you'd not really be doing any damage."

Utah mayor shrugs off attacks, wins GOP primary for US House

By MICHELLE L. PRICE, Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A Utah mayor overcame nearly \$1 million in attacks from out-of-state groups to win a three-way Republican primary in a race to fill a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives vacated by Jason Chaffetz.

Tuesday's win puts Provo Mayor John Curtis on an easy path toward victory in the November special election. Republicans outnumber Democrats 5-to-1 in Utah's 3rd Congressional District. Chaffetz represented the district until he abruptly resigned in June, citing a desire to spend more time with family.

Utah's special election is one of seven this year to fill vacancies in the U.S. House and Senate, five of which opened up when elected officials took posts in President Donald Trump's administration.

Chaffetz, a five-term Republican, carved out a reputation for using the House Oversight committee he chaired to run aggressive investigations of Hillary Clinton before the 2016 presidential elections. He's since taken a role as a Fox News commentator.

His departure opened up a congressional seat in an area that stretches from the Salt Lake City suburbs and several ski towns southeast to Provo and coal country.

The three Republicans running to replace him carved out nuanced stances toward Trump that were emblematic of the divisions roiling the GOP under the president.

Curtis, who drew support from the GOP's more moderate flank, was the only candidate who didn't vote for Trump, saying he had significant moral concerns about supporting the billionaire businessman.

Tanner Ainge, the Sarah Palin-endorsed son of Boston Celtics president Danny Ainge, said he voted for Trump because he always votes for the Republican candidate in presidential elections.

Chris Herrod, a former state lawmaker backed by Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, was the most vocal supporter of Trump, having spoken at a rally for the president.

However, all three candidates said they support the president's agenda, including plans to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border and repeal the Affordable Care Act.

Unofficial results show Curtis as the victor after his opponents split support from more conservative Republicans.

The 57-year-old used his victory speech Tuesday to decry the heavy outside spending, which usually isn't seen in primary races in overwhelmingly Republican Utah.

"I've got a message to those PACs in Washington, D.C. and those special interests: This is my town, this is my district. Go home. You wasted your money," Curtis said.

As supporters erupted into cheers at his Provo election night party, Curtis said in a phone interview with The Associated Press that his victory showed that voters liked his positive campaign.

"It was Utah-based, Utah-principled, Utah-endorsed. That's what they want," Curtis said. "They didn't like the negativity."

Herrod, a 51-year-old known for strict immigration positions, wasn't ready to concede Tuesday night, holding out hope for tens of thousands of ballots not yet counted in the county with the most voters.

Ainge, a 33-year-old first-time candidate, conceded earlier in the evening and said he was glad the district would be represented by someone with a business background like Curtis.

Curtis was known as mayor for helping to negotiate a deal for Google to take over the city's troubled fiber-optic system. But he was dogged in the primary by questions about whether he was really a Republican, having led a county Democratic party and run in 2000 as a Democrat for the state Legislature.

Curtis has said he had a "fling on the dark side," but noted that Ronald Reagan, Trump and Chaffetz were all Democrats at one point.

Ada Wilson, a 59-year-old Republican homemaker from Orem, said Curtis' stint across the aisle was one of the reasons she voted for him. Wilson said it shows Curtis can work in a bipartisan way to get things done.

"I think he acknowledges that being Republican with an 'R' by your name does not automatically make you a keeper of all the answers," she said.

David Muir, the city treasurer for the Salt Lake City suburb of Cottonwood Heights, said he voted for Curtis because of his experience running a city and that he wasn't worried about Curtis' Democratic past.

Curtis's win marked another key test of Utah's relatively new dual-track system for nominating political candidates, which allows candidates to bypass a conservative group of GOP delegates and instead compete for the votes of a larger, more moderate group of Republicans.

Several hundred GOP delegates backed Herrod, which allowed him to advance to the primary election. Curtis and Ainge earned their spots on the ballot by collecting voter signatures. The system was added after then-Sen. Bob Bennett, a longtime Republican, lost re-election in 2010 to tea-party backed Mike Lee.

Curtis moves on to face a well-funded Democratic opponent who initially announced her intent to challenge Chaffetz in 2018 but now is a candidate in November's special election. Dr. Kathryn Allen socked away more than half a million dollars after she called out Chaffetz earlier this year for his comments suggesting people should spend money on health care instead of iPhones.

Allen released a statement late Tuesday congratulating Curtis and vowing to keep her campaign positive.

Several third-party candidates are also running in November, including Jim Bennett, the son of the late former Sen. Bob Bennett.

Jim Bennett, the first candidate of a new centrist United Utah Party, congratulated Curtis but said in a statement that as a good man, Curtis should feel uncomfortable in the "Party of Trump."

Associated Press writer Brady McCombs contributed to this report.

Racial politics haunt GOP in the Trump era

By **STEVE PEOPLES** and **BILL BARROW**, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The statue of Robert E. Lee in Charlottesville, Virginia, was the focus of an emotional debate in the state's Republican primary election weeks before it became a flashpoint in the nation's struggle over race.

Corey Stewart, an outsider candidate for governor sometimes compared to President Donald Trump, seized on possible removal of the Confederate general's memorial as an "attempt to destroy traditional America." Stewart, who said in an interview Tuesday that such an action "hits people in the gut," found unexpectedly strong support, forced his main opponent to defend the statue and almost won.

Now the fight over "traditional America" is throwing a spotlight on the Republican Party's struggle with race in the age of Trump. The deadly white supremacist rally against removal of the Lee statue served as a painful example of the uncomfortable alignment between some in the party's base and the far-right fringe. But despite the party's talk of inclusiveness and minority outreach, it's clear white fears continue to resonate with many in the GOP base. Politicians willing to exploit those issues are often rewarded with support. One big beneficiary, critics say, has been the president himself.

For those critics, on both the left and right, Trump's response to Charlottesville was a glaring example. On Saturday, he denounced hatred and violence on "many sides," seeming to assign blame equally to counterdemonstrators as well as hate groups protesting the proposed removal of the statue. He waited until Monday to specifically name the groups he was condemning — the KKK, neo-Nazis and white supremacists.

On Tuesday, he was back to assigning partial blame to those protesting the white supremacists.

"I think there's blame on both sides," Trump charged in a fiery Trump Tower press conference. He added, "There are two sides to a story."

"Not all of those people were neo-Nazis, believe me. Not all of those people were white supremacists by any stretch," Trump continued. "Those people were also there because they wanted to protest the taking down of the statue of Robert E. Lee."

For Republicans who hoped the president might use the moment to send a new message about racism and their party, Trump failed the test.

"We have reached a defining moment," New Hampshire GOP chair Jennifer Horn said. "We, as Republicans, every single one of us, needs to speak up and make it very clear that this is not our party, these are not our values."

Such moments have the potential to undermine years of attempts to portray the party as more welcom-

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ing to minority voters.

The Republican National Committee, led by Trump's former chief of staff Reince Priebus, released an exhaustive report in 2013 noting that the GOP's traditional base of older, white voters was becoming a smaller and smaller portion of the electorate in America. "If we want ethnic minority voters to support Republicans, we have to engage them and show our sincerity," the RNC wrote.

Yet Republican officeholders, including the president, have found success by seizing on semi-hidden "dog whistle" rhetoric and policies largely designed to appeal to whites.

— Across the Midwest, Trump and others have appealed to suburban white voters by decrying a rise in urban violence, even as statistics show violent crime is down in many cities.

— With no evidence of widespread voter fraud, Republicans nationwide have promoted voter ID laws that several courts determined discriminate against minority voters.

— Trump's promise to build a massive wall along the southern border resonates with conservatives across the West and even in overwhelmingly white Northeastern states where Republicans fear the influx of illegal Hispanic immigrants.

— And, particularly in the South, some conservatives continue fight to preserve symbols of a Confederate Army that fought for Southern states' rights to continue slavery. The relics are simultaneously denounced as symbols of oppression by most blacks and celebrated as marks of Southern pride by many whites.

This week in Alabama, three Republicans running in Tuesday's special U.S. Senate primary demonstrated the careful tiptoeing politicians do around the subject.

Rep. Mo Brooks generally bemoaned "bigotry." Former Alabama Supreme Court Justice Roy Moore rejected "violence and hatred." Sen. Luther Strange, appointed to the seat when Trump tapped Jeff Sessions as attorney general, made no reference to racial motivations at all.

Brooks and Strange also expressed support for Trump's remarks, and Strange seemed to echo the president's assertion that "many sides" were at fault, as he encouraged "Americans to stand together in opposition to those who encourage hate or promote violence." Trump recently endorsed Strange.

The careful language reflects a political reality in a state where nearly all Republican votes come from white voters, says David Mowery, an Alabama-based political consultant who has worked for Republicans and Democrats. That doesn't mean Republicans actively pursue racist votes, he said, but sometimes it means they take the most cautious path to avoid controversy.

"I don't think here that any Republican benefits by talking about it or is necessarily hurt by not talking about it," he said.

Former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, now Trump's representative to the United Nations, said as recently as 2014 that the Confederate battle flag should fly at the state Capitol. She changed course two summers ago only after a white supremacist who was photographed holding a Confederate flag murdered nine black people inside a South Carolina church. About the same time, then-Gov. Robert Bentley of Alabama removed Confederate banners from a Confederate monument outside his office, though the monument remains.

In this year's Virginia primary for the Republicans' candidate for governor, outsider Stewart lost to establishment favorite Ed Gillespie, but by less than 2 percentage points. On Sunday, Gillespie attended church in Charlottesville and minced no words in naming names and urging those responsible for the violence to take their "vile hatred" out of the state.

"We have stared down racism and Nazism and white supremacy before, and we will stare it down again," the Republican candidate for governor told a local TV station.

His campaign later added that Gillespie continues to oppose removal of confederate statues, but "believes it is an issue best resolved at the local level."

Stewart is now running for the Senate in 2018.

Associated Press writer Alan Suderman in Richmond, Virginia, contributed to this report.

Violence adds momentum to removal of Confederate statues

By **JESSE J. HOLLAND**, Associated Press

Cities and states accelerated their plans to remove Confederate monuments from public property Tuesday as the violence over a Robert E. Lee statue in Charlottesville, Virginia, moved leaders across the country to plan to wipe away much of the remaining Old South imagery.

Only two statues were taken down immediately, in Gainesville, Florida, where the Daughters of the Confederacy removed a statue of a Confederate soldier known as "Ole Joe," and in Durham, North Carolina, where protesters used a rope to pull down a Confederate monument dedicated in 1924.

But the anti-Confederate momentum seemed to ensure that other memorials would come down soon. Many local and state governments announced that they would remove statues and other imagery from public land, or consider doing so, in the aftermath of Saturday's white nationalist rally that killed one person and injured dozens more.

The changes were publicized as President Donald Trump defended Confederate statues in wide-ranging remarks.

"This week it's Robert E. Lee. I notice that Stonewall Jackson's coming down," Trump said during a visit to Trump Tower in New York. "I wonder, is it George Washington next week, and is it Thomas Jefferson the week after? You know you really do have to ask yourself, where does it stop?"

Asked specifically whether Charlottesville's Lee statue should come down, he said: "I would say that's up to a local town, community or the federal government, depending on where it is located."

All around the country, Republican and Democratic officials at the state and local levels moved swiftly to begin a process to remove the statues.

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper said he would ask the Legislature to reverse a 2015 law signed by his Republican predecessor, Pat McCrory, that prevents the removal or relocation of monuments, and to defeat a measure giving immunity to motorists who strike protesters. He also planned to ask state officials to determine the cost of moving Confederate statues and to give him options of where they could go.

"Our Civil War history is important, but it belongs in textbooks and museums?— not a place of allegiance on our Capitol grounds," Cooper said in a statement.

In Maryland, GOP Gov. Larry Hogan said Tuesday he would push to remove the statue of former Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger Taney, author of the infamous Dred Scott ruling in 1857 affirming slavery, from state land.

"While we cannot hide from our history, nor should we, the time has come to make clear the difference between properly acknowledging our past and glorifying the darkest chapters of our history," said Hogan, who before had resisted calls to move the statue.

Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings announced plans Tuesday to ask his city council to appoint a task force to study the fate of the city's Confederate statues. Rawlings said he personally finds the monuments to be "dangerous totems," but a task force would ensure a productive conversation.

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam, a Republican, called on state officials Monday to remove a bust of Nathan Bedford Forrest, a Confederate cavalry general and an early leader of the Ku Klux Klan, from the Tennessee Capitol. Protesters earlier draped a black jacket over the head of the bust while cheering, "Tear it down!"

Similar plans were being made in Baltimore and San Antonio, as well as Lexington, Kentucky; Memphis, Tennessee; Jacksonville, Florida; and elsewhere.

In Durham, Sheriff Mike Andrews said protesters who toppled a nearly century-old Confederate statue in front of a North Carolina government building would face felony charges. The Confederate Soldiers Monument, dedicated in 1924, stood in front of an old courthouse that now houses local government offices. The crumpled and dented bronze figure has been taken to a warehouse for storage.

Deputies later arrested Takiyah Thompson, who identified herself Tuesday as the woman who tied the rope that was used to tear it down. She said her actions were justified because Confederate statues represent white supremacy.

A law professor and director of the Center for Terrorism Law at St. Mary's University in San Antonio

called removal a "slippery slope," saying judging historical figures through a modern lens can be difficult. "A healthy democracy and people within that democracy should be able to say, 'This is our history.' And history is made up of actions of human beings, and human beings aren't perfect," said Jeffrey F. Addicott, who stressed he was speaking for himself and not the law school.

Statues, he added, can be moved, but he's opposed to them being "put in a warehouse never to be seen again because then you're kind of erasing or rewriting history."

The Sons of Confederate Veterans condemned attempts to take down Confederate statues around the country.

"These statues were erected over 100 year ago to honor the history of the United States," added Thomas V. Strain Jr., the group's commander in chief. "They're just as important to the entire history of the U.S. as the monuments erected to our forefathers."

Strain, who said his group did not participate in Charlottesville, condemned the Klan, white nationalist groups, neo-Nazis and other extremists.

"It's painful to watch for lack of better words," he said. "It was our family that fought, and it was our families that died, and now we have these knuckleheads hijacking the flag for their own purposes."

But city and state officials said Charlottesville convinced them it's time to move on from having Confederate imagery in prominent public places.

In Lexington, Kentucky, Mayor Jim Gray moved up his announcement by a day in reaction to the Charlottesville bloodshed. Memorials to John C. Breckinridge and John Hunt Morgan are perched outside a former courthouse that was the site of slave auctions before the Civil War.

"This is the right time," Gray said Monday. "We accelerated that because of the events in Charlottesville, but I knew that it was the right thing to do."

Associated Press reporters Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar in Washington, Claudia Lauer in Dallas, Bruce Schreiner in Louisville, Kentucky; Erik Schelzig in Nashville, Tennessee; Jonathan Drew in Durham, North Carolina; and Jason Dearen in Gainesville, Florida, contributed to this report.

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Moore, Strange in GOP runoff in Alabama Senate race

By KIM CHANDLER, Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Former Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore, who was twice removed from his judicial duties, forced a primary runoff Tuesday against Trump-backed incumbent Sen. Luther Strange in a race likely to be closely watched for clues about Republicans' prospects in 2018 midterm elections.

Despite being buoyed by millions of dollars in advertising by a super political action committee tied to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Strange was unable to defeat the firebrand jurist who took losing stands for the public display of the Ten Commandments and against gay marriage.

Moore told cheering supporters that they had sent a great message to Washington, D.C., in a race where Moore presented himself as the better carrier of Trump's outsider appeal.

"This is a great victory. The attempt by the silk stocking Washington elitists to control the vote of the people of Alabama has failed," Moore said at his victory party in downtown Montgomery, with a copy of the Ten Commandments among the decorations.

Strange's struggles have already raised concerns among sitting GOP members of Congress, even if he ultimately survives.

"There are a probably a number of incumbents on both sides of the aisle who should take notice of another demonstration that voters still want change," said Greg Strimple, a Republican pollster for a political action committee aligned with House Speaker Paul Ryan.

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"The takeaway is that Washington is very unpopular," Strimple said, and that overrides even President Donald Trump's endorsement, because he cannot simply "transfer his brand" to candidates, like the lobbyist-turned-politician Strange, who fail to establish their own outsider credentials.

Trump's approval rating has hit a new low of 34 percent, according to Gallup, but strong currents of support still flow through the Republican electorate in Alabama, where the GOP candidates went all-out to attract Trump voters and throw shade on the Washington, D.C. "swamp."

Strange had emphasized his Trump endorsement — delivered first via Twitter and then in recorded phone calls to voters — in the closing days of the race but had acknowledged all along that a runoff was likely because of the crowded GOP field in a low-turnout special election.

"He knows that I'm the person in the race who is going to help him make this country great again," Strange said of Trump's support. "It all boils down to who's best suited to stand with the people of this country — with our president — to make America great again," Strange said.

The senator, a former college basketball player sometimes called "Big Luther" because of his 6-foot-9 frame, said he liked his chances in a "one-on-one" matchup with Moore. The two will meet in a Sept. 26 runoff. The winner will face Democratic nominee Doug Jones in a December election.

Moore harnessed his strong support among evangelical voters to lead the first round of primary voting despite a shoestring budget. His critics have sometimes derided him as the "Ayatollah of Alabama," accusing him of intertwining his personal religious beliefs and judicial responsibilities.

Alabama's judicial discipline panel removed Moore as chief justice in 2003 for disobeying a federal judge's order to remove a boulder-sized Ten Commandments monument from the state courthouse. He was permanently suspended last year after telling probate judges they remained under a state court order to deny marriage licenses to gay

Throughout the race, Moore wore his ousters from the bench as something of a badge of honor, telling Republican voters in the blood-red state that they are akin to battle scars for standing up for what he believes.

In the rural community of Gallant in northeast Alabama, Jimmy Wright, 41, showed up early Tuesday to vote for Moore.

Aside from being a neighbor, Wright said, he likes the way the ousted judge conducted his campaign.

"He's the only one who hasn't been talking crap about the others," Wright said. Trump's support for Strange didn't matter to him, he said.

In Montgomery, retired teacher Tommy Goggans said he turned out specifically "to keep Roy Moore from getting it." Why? "He's been kicked out of everything he's done."

Strange was Alabama's attorney general before he was appointed to the Senate in February by Gov. Robert Bentley, who soon resigned in scandal. Strange said he did Bentley no favors, but his challengers questioned the ethics of seeking the appointment while investigating the governor.

On the Democratic side, a former U.S. attorney under the Clinton administration, Jones was backed by former Vice President Joe Biden and some other national party figures. He is perhaps best known for leading the prosecution of two Klansmen for the 1963 bombing of a Birmingham church that killed four little girls.

Although Alabama has not been represented by a Democrat in the U.S. Senate in 20 years, Jones has said Democrats must not concede the seat without a fight. He says Democrats can win if they can turn the conversation to "kitchen table issues" such as wages, health care and jobs.

"I think there are enough people in the state who are yearning for new leadership and a change," Jones said.

Associated Press Writer Jay Reeves in Gallant, Alabama and Bill Barrow in Atlanta contributed to this report.

DJ in Taylor Swift case wasn't interested in backing down

By JAMES ANDERSON and TATIANA FLOWERS, Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — The former radio host who lost a groping lawsuit to Taylor Swift in federal court this week said Tuesday he realizes the case was in the pop star's favor, but he had no interest in backing down.

David Mueller told The Associated Press someone he knew suggested he pull out of the case early, but he refused.

"I knew that I couldn't go on with my life without representing myself," he said. "I'm never going to back down."

A six-woman, two-man jury determined Monday that Mueller groped Swift during a photo op before a concert in Denver in 2013. In keeping with Swift's request, they awarded her \$1 in damages — an amount her attorney, Douglas Baldrige, called "a single symbolic dollar, the value of which is immeasurable to all women in this situation."

Mueller said he is thinking of giving Swift a Sacagawea dollar because the Native American is a prominent female.

"I mean if this is all about women's rights. ... It's a little poke at them, a little bit," he said. "I mean, I think they made this into a publicity stunt, and this is my life."

Swift's team initially tried to keep the accusation quiet by not reporting the incident to police, and instead contacting Mueller's bosses.

But it became public when Mueller sued Swift for up to \$3 million, claiming her allegation cost him his \$150,000-a-year job at country station KYGO-FM, where he was a morning host.

After Mueller sued, Swift countersued for assault and battery. During an hour of testimony last week, she blasted a low-key characterization by Mueller's attorney, Gabriel McFarland, of what happened. While Mueller testified he never grabbed Swift, she insisted she was groped.

"He stayed attached to my bare ass-cheek as I lurched away from him," Swift testified.

"It was a definite grab. A very long grab," she added.

Mueller emphatically denied reaching under the pop star's skirt or otherwise touching her inappropriately, testifying he touched her ribs and that his hand may have brushed the outside of her skirt as they awkwardly posed for the picture before Swift's performance at an arena.

That photo was virtually the only evidence besides the testimony.

In the image shown to jurors during opening statements but not publicly released, Mueller's hand is behind Swift, just below her waist. Both are smiling. Mueller's then-girlfriend is standing on Swift's other side.

"I don't even know what to think of the photo. Everyone looks at it, and they see different things. It's like a Rorschach," Mueller said, referring to a psychological test that uses inkblots to gauge a subject's perceptions. "I look at it. I know what happened. To me, it's an awkward photo."

Swift testified that after she was groped, she numbly told Mueller and his girlfriend, "Thank you for coming," and moved on to photos with others waiting in line because she did not want to disappoint them.

But she said she immediately went to her photographer after the meet-and-greet ended and found the photo of her with Mueller, telling the photographer what happened.

Swift's radio liaison, Frank Bell, said he emailed the photo to Robert Call, KYGO-FM's general manager so Call could use it in his investigation of Mueller. Bell testified he did not ask for Mueller to be fired but that "appropriate action be taken."

Jurors also rejected Mueller's claims that Swift's mother, Andrea Swift, and Bell cost him his job.

U.S. District Judge William Martinez last Friday dismissed claims that Taylor Swift ruined Mueller's career, ruling that Mueller's legal team failed to present evidence that the then-23-year-old superstar did anything more than report the groping to her representatives, including her mother.

Associated Press writers P. Solomon Banda and Thomas Peipert contributed to this report.

AP Fact Check: What Trump said about Virginia protesters

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE and SARAH RANKIN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — President Donald Trump on Tuesday defended his response to Saturday's racially-charged protests in Charlottesville, Virginia, in a winding, combative exchange with reporters that at times mischaracterized the message and purpose of event.

In his remarks, Trump described the rally as largely over the removal of a Confederate monument, although an organizer billed it as pushback against the "anti-white climate."

Trump also misstated his levels of political support in the 2016 election.

A look at Trump's claims and the facts:

TRUMP: "But not all of those people were neo-Nazis, believe me. Not all of those people were white supremacists, by any stretch. Those people were also there because they wanted to protest the taking down of a statue, Robert E. Lee."

THE FACTS: The organizer of the rally, a local right-wing blogger and activist, has said he initially was spurred because of the city's decision to remove the statue. But he has also said the event, dubbed "Unite the Right," came to represent much more than that.

Jason Kessler told The Associated Press last week before the event that it was "about an anti-white climate within the Western world and the need for white people to have advocacy like other groups do."

Those in the crowd included Ku Klux Klan members, skinheads and members of various white nationalist factions. Many were heavily armed. Some flew Nazi flags. They hurled racial slurs at counter-demonstrators and gave Nazi salutes.

White nationalist Richard Spencer — who popularized the term "alt-right" to describe the fringe movement mixing white supremacy, white nationalism, anti-Semitism and anti-immigration populism — told the AP on Tuesday that the event was more than "just a Southern heritage festival."

He said Confederate monuments are "a metaphor for something much bigger, and that is white dispossession and the de-legitimization of white people in this country and around the world."

TRUMP: "In fact, the young woman, who I hear is a fantastic young woman and it was on NBC, her mother wrote me and said through, I guess Twitter, social media, the nicest things and I very much appreciated that. I hear she was a fine, really actually an incredible young woman. But her mother on Twitter thanked me for what I said."

THE FACTS: Trump is correct. On Monday, NBC News tweeted that Susan Bro, the mother of the counter-protester killed on Saturday, had thanked Trump for "denouncing those who promote violence and hatred." When asked in an AP interview Tuesday about her comments, Bro did not repeat the praise for the president.

"I was so tired I don't remember saying something nice or derogatory about him," Bro said, adding she did not want to criticize the president.

Kim Bro, her husband, said he didn't think it was fair for the president to use a grieving mother for his own personal gain.

He added that he thinks the focus should be on his stepdaughter, "what she stood for and what will come out of it."

TRUMP: "I went through 17 senators, governors, and I won all the primaries."

THE FACTS: Trump won most of the Republican presidential primary contests. He lost the Ohio GOP primary to John Kasich, the Ohio governor. Texas Sen. Ted Cruz bested Trump in primaries in Cruz's home state and in Wisconsin. Trump also lost Puerto Rico's primary to Florida Sen. Marco Rubio. Primary elections were also held on the Democratic side, none of which Trump would have won.

Business leaders quit Trump panel; he hits back hard

By JOSH BOAK and MICHELLE CHAPMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Tuesday ripped into business leaders who resigned from his White House jobs panel — the latest sign that corporate America's romance with Trump is faltering — after his equivocal response to violence by white supremacists in Charlottesville, Virginia.

"They're not taking their job seriously as it pertains to this country," the president said at an impromptu news conference at Trump Tower in New York City.

After his remarks, a fifth member of his manufacturing panel resigned: AFL-CIO president Richard Trumka, who said in a statement, "We cannot sit on a council for a president who tolerates bigotry and domestic terrorism."

The president denied that his original statement about the violence in Virginia on Saturday — saying "many" sides were to blame, rather than hate groups — was the cause of the departures.

"Some of the folks that will leave, they're leaving out of embarrassment because they make their products outside" the United States, he said as he seemed to double down on his earlier comments.

Trump also assailed the CEOs who left on Twitter as "grandstanders" and said he had plenty of executives available to take their place. The president added that he believes economic growth in the U.S. will heal its racial divide.

But the parade of departing leaders from the informal panel seems closely linked to how the president responded to events that led to the death of a counter-protester that opposed the white supremacists.

Among those who've left are the chief executives for Merck, Under Armour and Intel and the president of the Alliance for American Manufacturing.

Alliance president Scott Paul, in a tweet, said simply, "I'm resigning from the Manufacturing Jobs Initiative because it's the right thing for me to do." Within minutes of the tweet on Tuesday, calls to Paul's phone were being sent to voicemail.

Wal-Mart CEO Doug McMillon joined the chorus, saying in a note Monday to employees, "(We) too felt that he missed a critical opportunity to help bring our country together by unequivocally rejecting the appalling actions of white supremacists."

But McMillon, whose business has customers on all sides of the political spectrum, plans to stay on a separate Trump advisory panel and said that the president's follow-up remarks on Monday that named white supremacists were a step in the right direction.

Corporate leaders have been willing to work with Trump on taxes, trade and reducing regulations, but they've increasingly found themselves grappling with cultural and social tensions amid his lightning rod-style of leadership. The CEOs who left the council quickly faced his wrath, while those who have stayed have said it's important to speak with the president on economic issues.

Like several other corporate leaders, Alex Gorsky, chairman and CEO of Johnson & Johnson, said that intolerance and racism have no place in U.S. society but that he intended to stay on the manufacturing council.

"We must engage if we hope to change the world and those who lead it," he said in a statement.

A White House official downplayed the importance of the manufacturing council and a separate policy and strategy forum featuring corporate leaders. The official, who insisted on anonymity to discuss private conversations, said the panels were informal rather than a set body of advisers. The departures, the official said, were unlikely to hurt the administration's plans to overhaul taxes and regulations.

Many corporate leaders have faced a lose-lose scenario in which any choice involving politics can alienate customers, not to mention a U.S. president who has shown a willingness to personally negotiate government contracts.

Merck CEO Kenneth Frazier, one of only four African-Americans leading a Fortune 500 company, was the first to tender his resignation Monday.

Trump criticized Frazier almost immediately Monday over drug prices, and again Tuesday for having factories overseas. Merck has 25,000 U.S. employees in all 50 states and has invested \$50 billion in research

and development since 2010, primarily in the United States.

Then came resignations from Under Armour CEO Kevin Plank and then Intel CEO Brian Krzanich. On Under Armour's Facebook page Tuesday, customers who supported Trump threatened to boycott the athletic clothier.

Austan Goolsbee, the former chief economist for President Barack Obama, said the departures suggest the president's response to the violence in Charlottesville could alienate those who work for the companies, and those who buy the products and services that they sell.

"It's certainly a sign that Trump's more controversial stuff isn't playing well with companies selling to middle America," said Goolsbee, now a professor at the University of Chicago.

There had already been departures from two major councils created by the Trump administration that were tied to its policies.

Tesla CEO Elon Musk resigned from the manufacturing council in June, and two other advisory groups to the president, after the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris climate agreement. Walt Disney Co. Chairman and CEO Bob Iger resigned for the same reason from the President's Strategic and Policy Forum.

The manufacturing jobs council had 28 members initially, but it has shrunk since it was formed earlier this year as executives retire, are replaced, or, as with Frazier, Musk, Plank, Paul and Krzanich, resign.

So far, the majority of CEOs and business leaders that are sitting on the two major, federal panels, are condemning racism, but say they want to keep their seats at the table.

"Our commitment to diversity and inclusion is unwavering, and we will remain active champions for these efforts," said a spokesman for Campbell Soup for CEO Denise Morrison. "We believe it continues to be important for Campbell to have a voice and provide input on matters that will affect our industry, our company and our employees in support of growth."

Boeing CEO Dennis Muilenburg also will remain. So will Michael Dell, the head of his namesake computer company. Both companies contract with the government.

Lawrence Summers, once the chief economist at the World Bank and senior Treasury official, wondered when more business leaders will distance themselves from Trump.

"After this weekend, I am not sure what it would take to get these CEOs to resign," he tweeted. "Demonizing ethnic groups? That has happened."

More than 300 dead, 600 missing in Sierra Leone mudslides

By CLARENCE ROY-MACAULAY, Associated Press

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (AP) — Fatmata Kamara had just stepped outside her house before dawn Monday when she saw the muddy hillside collapsing above her. The only thing she could do was run.

She was one of the survivors, those who managed to escape the surging mudslides and floodwaters in and around Sierra Leone's capital that killed more than 300 people, many of them trapped as they slept. Another 600 people are missing, the Red Cross said Tuesday, and the death toll is expected to rise.

Thousands lost their homes in the disaster, which was triggered by heavy rains.

"I ran away from the house, leaving behind my family," a grieving Kamara told The Associated Press. "I am the only one that has survived, as my house and dozens of others were covered with mud and boulders."

Rescuers dug with their bare hands through the thick, reddish mud to try to find any survivors in the debris of the homes. Heavy equipment was later brought in, said government spokesman Cornelius Deveaux. The military also was deployed to help.

Late Tuesday, Deveaux said that 297 bodies have been recovered so far, including 109 males, 83 females and 105 children.

Some bodies were swept into the sea off the coast of the West African nation and have begun washing back ashore.

The mortuary of the Connaught Hospital in central Freetown was overwhelmed with the dead. More than 300 bodies of men, women and children were brought there, and many were laid out on the floor. Deveaux said an exact death toll was unknown, and many of the bodies were horribly mangled.

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President Ernest Bai Koroma said Sierra Leone was in a state of grief and mourning, with many survivors still in shock. He called for seven days of mourning starting on Wednesday.

Radio journalist Gibril Sesay said he lost his entire family.

"I am yet to grasp that I survived, and my family is gone," he said through sobs, unable to continue.

Ahmed Sesay, caretaker of a two-story house near the Guma Valley Dam east of the capital, said he was sleeping around 6 a.m. when he felt a vibration.

"It was like an earthquake. I ran out of my quarters to the gate of the compound," he said. "The ground shook and I had to stay outside the compound until daybreak."

An estimated 9,000 people have been affected in some way by the disaster, said Abdul Nasir, program coordinator for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

"I have never seen anything like it," he said. "A river of mud came out of nowhere and swallowed entire communities, just wiped them away. We are racing against time, more flooding and the risk of disease to help these affected communities survive and cope with their loss."

Charles Mambu, a civil society activist and resident of one affected area, Mount Sugar Loaf, said the magnitude of the destruction indicated that hundreds more people could be dead.

In one sign of hope, two people were pulled alive from the debris Monday evening, Mambu said.

The U.N. said it is providing emergency response assistance.

Contingency plans are being put in place to try to stem the outbreak of diseases such as cholera, De-veaux told radio station FM 98.1.

The bodies that have been recovered will begin to be buried in the next 48 hours, said Sulaiman Parker, environmental protection officer for the Freetown City Council.

Many of the poor areas of Freetown are near sea level and have poor drainage systems, which makes flooding worse during the rainy season. The capital also is plagued by unregulated construction of large residential houses in hilltop areas.

Thousands of makeshift settlements in and around the city were severely affected.

"The government has been warning people not to construct houses in these areas. When they do this, there are risks," Nasir said. "People don't follow the standard construction rules, and that is another reason that many of these houses have been affected."

Deforestation for firewood and charcoal is one of the leading contributors to the flooding and mudslides.

Associated Press writer Carley Petesch in Dakar, Senegal, contributed.

US decries Islamic State 'genocide' of Christians, others

By MATTHEW LEE, AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration denounced the Islamic State group on Tuesday for carrying out "genocide" against Christians and other religious minorities in areas under its control.

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said the group is "clearly responsible for genocide" against Christians and Yazidis in Iraq and Shiite Muslims in Syria and elsewhere. His comments were made as the State Department released its annual report on international religious freedom.

Tillerson said he was making the pronouncement to "remove any ambiguity" about previous genocide assertions made by his predecessor, John Kerry, who in March 2016, determined that genocide was occurring in Islamic State-held areas but was criticized by lawmakers and religious groups for not declaring genocide was taking place earlier. Neither administration's genocide determination carries with it any legal obligation for the U.S. or others.

"ISIS has and continues to target members of multiple religions and ethnicities for rape, kidnapping, enslavement and death," Tillerson told reporters in presenting the report.

"ISIS is clearly responsible for genocide against Yazidis, Christians and Shia Muslims in areas it controlled. ISIS is also responsible for crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing directed at these same groups,

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and in some cases against Sunni Muslims, Kurds and other minorities," Tillerson said. "The protection of these groups — and others who are targets of violent extremism — remains a human-rights priority for the Trump administration."

The religious freedom report, which is mandated by Congress, covers 2016 and does not address the Trump administration's decision to temporarily halt the admission of all refugees, many of whom are fleeing religious persecution. The administration has appealed challenges to the suspension of those admissions to the Supreme Court.

An appendix to the report covering refugees said admissions are "a vital tool" in addressing religious persecution and other human rights abuses. It said more than 70 percent of the nearly 85,000 refugees admitted to the U.S. in 2016 came from five nations — Congo, Syria, Myanmar, Iraq and Somalia — where the report itself said that freedom to worship is under threat. Syria and Somalia are among the six mainly Muslim nations that are also included in the administration's visa ban that is also before the Supreme Court.

Michael Kozak, the acting assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights and labor, said the administration is concentrating on trying to alleviate repressive conditions to reduce the need for people to flee their homes. He noted that many who have fled would prefer to return to their homes than move abroad. And, he noted that in Iraq and Syria specifically, it was preferable not to disturb millennia-old religious minorities.

"We don't want to uproot communities that have been there for thousands of years and take them elsewhere," he said.

In addition to the Islamic State, Tillerson and the report called out Bahrain, China, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Turkey for persecuting, stigmatizing or otherwise restricting the rights of religious minorities.

"Religious persecution and intolerance remains far too prevalent," Tillerson said, noting that some 80 percent of the world's population live "with persecution or limits on their ability to worship."

"We cannot ignore these conditions," he said.

Maria Sharapova granted wild-card entry into US Open

NEW YORK (AP) — Maria Sharapova was granted a wild-card invitation for the U.S. Open's main draw on Tuesday and will take part in a Grand Slam event for the first time in more than 1½ years.

Sharapova is among eight women given entry into the 128-player field by the U.S. Tennis Association — and by far the most noteworthy.

The former No. 1-ranked player and owner of five major titles, including the 2006 U.S. Open, has not entered a major tournament since the Australian Open in January 2016, when she tested positive for the newly banned drug meldonium.

That led to a 15-month doping ban, which expired in April. She returned to the tour, but her ranking — currently 148th — was too low to allow entry into major tournaments, and the French Open denied her a wild card. Sharapova planned to try to qualify for Wimbledon, but the 30-year-old Russian wound up skipping the grass-court portion of the season because of an injured left thigh.

The USTA didn't consider her suspension in awarding the wild card, saying it was following past practice of granting them to former U.S. Open champions who needed them, such as Martina Hingis, Lleyton Hewitt, Kim Clijsters and Juan Martin del Potro.

"Her suspension under the terms of the tennis anti-doping program was completed and therefore was not one of the factors weighed in our wild-card selection process," the USTA said in a statement.

The organization added that Sharapova had volunteered to speak to young players at the USTA national campus about the importance of the tennis anti-doping program and the responsibility each player has to comply with it.

Sharapova has been participating in tournaments via wild-card invitations, beginning in April on red clay at Stuttgart, Germany. She's only played nine matches this season.

Sharapova was 19 when she won her U.S. Open trophy. Two years before, at 17, Sharapova won her

first Grand Slam title at Wimbledon. She has since completed a career Grand Slam and become one of the most recognizable — and marketable — athletes in the world.

Also receiving wild cards were: Taylor Townsend, reigning U.S. Open girls' champion Kayla Day, 2017 NCAA singles champion Brienne Minor, U.S. Open wild-card challenge winner Sofia Kenin, USTA Girls' 18s national champion Ashley Kratzer and Amandine Hesse of France. The final women's wild card for singles will be an Australian player named later.

The U.S. Open starts in Flushing Meadows on Aug. 28.

More AP tennis coverage: <https://apnews.com/tag/apf-Tennis>

Lawsuit claims rodent was baked into Chick-fil-A sandwich

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A lawsuit claims a suburban Philadelphia woman got an extra topping on her Chick-fil-A sandwich: a dead rodent.

Ellen Manfalouti sued in Bucks County Court over the tiny rodent she claims was baked into the bottom bun of her chicken sandwich.

A co-worker picked up the sandwich for her at a Langhorne restaurant in November, and the two started to eat in a conference room at the insurance agency where they work.

"I felt something funny on the bottom of the bun," Manfalouti told The Philadelphia Inquirer (<http://bit.ly/2vDnJvu>) on Monday. "I turned it over. I said to (my co-worker), 'They burned my roll really bad.'"

Her co-worker, Cara Phelan, said that as soon as Manfalouti threw the sandwich on the table, "I realized it was a small rodent of some sort. I could see the whiskers and the tail."

Manfalouti's lawyer Bill Davis told the newspaper that he filed the lawsuit last week against Chick-fil-A franchise owner Dave Heffernan and the store after they weren't responsive to complaints.

Heffernan and the Atlanta-based fast-food chain said they can't comment on litigation.

Manfalouti is seeking more than \$50,000 for physical and psychological damages.

She told the newspaper she was treated at a hospital for nausea, had to see a therapist for anxiety and could hardly eat for weeks.

Information from: The Philadelphia Inquirer, <http://www.inquirer.com>

Hillary Clinton's pastor plagiarized prayer at heart of book

By RACHEL ZOLL, AP Religion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Hillary Clinton's pastor has acknowledged he plagiarized part of the prayer commentary he sent her the day after she lost the presidential election, a devotional that is at the heart of a book he published Tuesday.

The Rev. Bill Shillady said in a statement he was "stunned" to learn that his devotional, "Sunday is Coming," was so similar to an earlier blog post by the Rev. Matt Deuel of Mission Point Community Church in Warsaw, Indiana. Shillady said he has apologized to Deuel and will credit the Indiana pastor in future editions of the book, titled "Strong for a Moment Like This: The Daily Devotions of Hillary Rodham Clinton."

The book is a collection of some of the Scripture, devotionals and inspirational writing that Shillady, a United Methodist Church minister, emailed to Clinton, a lifelong Methodist, during the campaign.

Mary Catherine Dean, editor-in-chief of Shillady's publisher, Abingdon Press, said in a statement, "We fully accept his explanation that he did not intentionally leave Matt Deuel's passages unattributed."

Deuel said he noticed the similarities when CNN published the devotional last week. Deuel said in an email that he spoke with Shillady on Monday and accepted the Methodist minister's apology.

Shillady leads the United Methodist City Society, a social service agency in New York. He officiated at Chelsea Clinton's wedding, led a memorial service for Hillary Clinton's mother, Dorothy Rodham, and gave the closing benediction at the Democratic National Convention. Clinton wrote the forward to his book.

Shillady said he sought inspiration for the Nov. 9 email by searching for material along the familiar Chris-

tian theme of holding onto hope and emerging from adversity.

"I searched for passages that offered perspective of this theme. I am now stunned to realize the similarity between Matt Deuel's blog sermon and my own. Clearly, portions of my devotional that day incorporate his exact words," Shillady said in a statement.

Shillady credited Deuel with graciously accepting the apology. "My entire approach to this book project has been to credit all of the many ministers and sources who contributed to the devotionals that were written for Hillary over the course of the campaign," the Methodist minister said.

Clinton is scheduled to discuss the book with Shillady at a Sept. 7 event in New York. A representative for Clinton did not immediately respond to a request for comment

Labor-short Japan more at home with automation than US

By YURI KAGEYAMA, AP Business Writer

MORIYA, Japan (AP) — Thousands upon thousands of cans are filled with beer, capped and washed, wrapped into six-packs, and boxed at dizzying speeds — 1,500 a minute, to be exact — on humming conveyor belts that zip and wind in a sprawling factory near Tokyo.

Nary a soul is in sight in this picture-perfect image of Japanese automation.

The machines do all the heavy lifting at this plant run by Asahi Breweries, Japan's top brewer. The human job is to make sure the machines do the work right, and to check on the quality the sensors are monitoring.

"Basically, nothing goes wrong. The lines are up and running 96 percent," said Shinichi Uno, a manager at the plant. "Although machines make things, human beings oversee the machines."

The debate over machines snatching jobs from people is muted in Japan, where birth rates have been sinking for decades, raising fears of a labor shortage. It would be hard to find a culture that celebrates robots more, evident in the popularity of companion robots for consumers, sold by the internet company SoftBank and Toyota Motor Corp, among others.

Japan, which forged a big push toward robotics starting in the 1990s, leads the world in robots per 10,000 workers in the automobile sector — 1,562, compared with 1,091 in the U.S. and 1,133 in Germany, according to a White House report submitted to Congress last year. Japan was also ahead in sectors outside automobiles at 219 robots per 10,000 workers, compared with 76 for the U.S. and 147 for Germany.

One factor in Japan's different take on automation is the "lifetime employment" system. Major Japanese companies generally retain workers, even if their abilities become outdated, and retrain them for other tasks, said Koichi Iwamoto, a senior fellow at the Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry.

That system is starting to fray as Japan globalizes, but it's still largely in use, Iwamoto said.

Although data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development show digitalization reduces demand for mid-level routine tasks — such as running assembly lines — while boosting demand for low- and high-skilled jobs, that trend has been less pronounced in Japan than in the U.S.

The OECD data, which studied shifts from 2002 to 2014, showed employment trends remained almost unchanged for Japan.

That means companies in Japan weren't resorting as aggressively as those in the U.S. to robots to replace humans. Clerical workers, for instance, were keeping their jobs, although their jobs could be done better, in theory, by computers.

That kind of resistance to adopting digital technology for services also is reflected in how Japanese society has so far opted to keep taxis instead of shifting to online ride hailing and shuttle services.

Still, automation has progressed in Japan to the extent the nation has now entered what Iwamoto called a "reflective stage," in which "human harmony with machines" is being pursued, he said.

"Some tasks may be better performed by people, after all," Iwamoto said.

Kiyoshi Sakai, who has worked at Asahi for 29 years, recalls how, in the past, can caps had to be placed into machines by hand, a repetitive task that was hard not just on the body, but also the mind.

And so he is grateful for automation's helping hand. Machines at the plant have become more than 50 percent smaller over the years. They are faster and more precise than three decades ago.

Gone are the days things used to go wrong all the time and human intervention was needed to get machines running properly again. Every 10 to 15 minutes, people used to have to go check on the products; there were no sensors back then.

Glitches are so few these days there is barely any reason to work up a sweat, he added with a smile.

Like many workers in Japan, Sakai doesn't seem worried about his job disappearing. As the need for plant workers nose-dived with the advance of automation, he was promoted to the general affairs section, a common administrative department at Japanese companies.

"I remember the work being so hard. But when I think back, and it was all about delivering great beer to everyone, it makes me so proud," said Sakai, who drinks beer every day.

"I have no regrets. This is a stable job."

See other Future of Work stories at <https://www.apnews.com/tag/FutureofWork> . Follow Yuri Kageyama on Twitter at twitter.com/yurikageyama. Her work can be found at <https://www.apnews.com/search/yuri%20kageyama>

Cuba struggling to keep professionals from leaving

By ANDREA RODRIGUEZ, Associated Press

PINAR DEL RIO, Cuba (AP) — Calle Marti is a modest half-mile boulevard split by a simple winding flagstone path that's bracketed by green grass, pine trees and curving blue cement benches.

But the project is part of a fragile experiment whose success or failure might help determine if Cuba is able to pull itself out of years of economic stagnation and brain drain.

The central avenue in the western city of Pinar del Rio, population 150,000, was redesigned over the last three years by a private firm of three 20- and 30-something architects hired by the communist provincial government — a contract that would have been unimaginable in Cuba just a few years ago.

Over the last decade, Cubans making state salaries of less than \$25 a month have moved by the hundreds of thousands into the private sector — opening stores, restaurants and bed-and-breakfasts that have been among the few sources of growth for the island's moribund centrally planned economy.

Graduates of Cuba's renowned free universities have been mostly left out of private jobs in their fields, because the state sees the privatization of professions like architecture and accounting as unacceptable in Cuba's socialist system. The government has argued that individuals shouldn't profit, feeding inequality, from society's costly investment in free education. Professionals looking for better lives have emigrated by the tens of thousands or turned to unskilled but higher-paying work like waiting tables or driving taxis.

The experience of Agora, the three-year-old boutique design firm in Pinar del Rio, offers a glimpse at an alternative future.

The three architects began Agora, a Greek word meaning public space, thinking they would work largely for private citizens renovating their homes as bed-and-breakfasts in Pinar and the town of Vinales, a major tourist attraction 30 miles away.

In 2014, however, the firm learned that the provincial government was asking state-run engineering firms to bid on renovating the median strip of Calle Marti.

Agora bid for the design of the project and won, convincing officials it could do the work quickly and more efficiently. State workers are now finishing the project, and today thousands of Pinarenos a week stroll and sit in the shade along the newly rebuilt avenue.

"We really appreciate the open minds of those in the government who realized they needed help from people," said Yasser Jimenez, 36, who founded the firm with Oriesky Bencomo, 37, and Jose Luis Valdes, 27.

All three were born and raised in Pinar but graduated from the prestigious architecture program at Jose Antonio Echeverria University in Havana. All three took state jobs in architecture and design before founding Agora in 2014.

Agora isn't officially an architecture firm — the government doesn't yet permit that. Jimenez, Bencomo and Valdes are individually registered as self-employed decorators and artisans.

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That leaves them and others like them legally unprotected and vulnerable to the whims of bureaucrats. A highly successful 200-member cooperative that provided accounting and auditing services to state and private businesses was closed by the government this month because it had violated "its social purpose," according to state officials who provided no further explication.

Private business people in all sectors are equally exposed. The government this month froze all new private business licenses until further notice, saying in vaguely worded statements that it would be "re-ordering" and "perfecting" the permit system.

Young professionals such as Agora's founders are watching carefully to see if Cuba becomes a place where people like them can flourish.

"We're young people who've decided to stay, to live here, and really we'd like to do more," said Jimenez. "All types of projects, provide engineering services, build a building from zero."

Government figures showed that the number of Cubans working in 200 permitted categories of private employment rose from 140,000 in 2009 to 535,000 in 2016. Some 400 worker-owned and run cooperatives are currently operating in non-agricultural fields like construction or recycling.

Cuba opened to private business because the state firms that control most of the economy are widely acknowledged to be inefficient and slow and plagued by poor workmanship and pilferage. But the success of the private sector has come to be seen as a threat by government officials who are both competing with it and have the power to regulate it.

Pavel Vidal, a Cuban economist who emigrated to work as a professor at Javeriana University in Cali, Colombia, said he believes private sector employment grew 7 percent in 2016 even as the national economy shrank 0.9 percent, throwing the country into recession.

Vidal said Cuba's reluctance to legalize skilled private labor is driving a brain drain to other countries and pushes professionals from low-paying state job to higher-paying unskilled labor.

"It doesn't make sense to invest billions in education and then send its graduates to a sector of low added-value."

Irina Garcia graduated from the University of Havana's law school in 2009 and left a job with the state prosecutor's office to be a lawyer for a group that works with the Catholic Church to train entrepreneurs.

She said the state was mistakenly focusing on limiting private-sector work instead of making government jobs more appealing.

"When professionals really feel motivated, not all of them are going to leave for the private sector," she said. "Not all of them have the inclination, the capital, or the daring. They prefer stability."

While some in her field are hopeful that the state will accelerate its opening to more private professional business, she said she wasn't optimistic.

"It's been working a certain way for years and these transitions are slow," she said. "I don't see it in the immediate future, but I hope I'm wrong."

Andrea Rodriguez on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ARodriguezAP>

Asian shares mixed after US indexes take small losses

By **JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer**

BEIJING (AP) — Asian stock markets were mixed Wednesday after U.S. indexes took small losses as Washington and North Korea indicated their willingness to reduce nuclear tensions.

KEEPING SCORE: The Shanghai Composite Index lost 0.4 percent to 3,239.30 points and Tokyo's Nikkei 225 was unchanged at 19,753.70. Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 0.5 percent to 27,309.20 and Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 shed 0.2 percent to 5,745.20. Seoul's Kospi advanced 0.6 percent and benchmarks in New Zealand, Malaysia and Jakarta also rose. Taiwan, Singapore and Manila retreated.

WALL STREET: U.S. indexes took small losses as weak results from sporting goods and auto parts retailers left smaller companies with steep declines. Dick's Sporting Goods and Advance Auto Parts both disclosed disappointing second-quarter results and cut their annual forecasts. The Standard & Poor's 500

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index lost less than 0.1 percent to 2,464.61. The Dow Jones industrial average picked up 5.28 points to 21,998.99. The Nasdaq composite fell 0.1 percent to 6,333.01.

NORTH KOREA: North Korea's military presented leader Kim Jong Un with plans to launch missiles into waters near Guam even as both Korea's and the United States suggested a path toward negotiations to ease nuclear tensions. Kim said he would watch U.S. conduct a little more before deciding whether to order the missile test. Kim's tone hinted the friction could ease if the U.S. offered a gesture Pyongyang sees as a step back from "reckless actions." South Korean President Moon Jae-in urged North Korea to commit to talks. The chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford, said Washington wants to resolve tensions peacefully but is ready to use its military capabilities.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "The impact of geopolitical tensions on the stock markets has proven once again to be impulsive and short lived. Global equities switched back to 'risk-on' mode, with investors taking their cues from Washington claiming to pursue a political resolution of the North Korea threat," said Margaret Yang Yan of CMC in a report. She noted stronger month-on-month retail sales growth and rising expectations of a December interest rate hike. "Investors are taking advantage of the technical pullback as re-entry opportunities are resulting in a relief rebound in risky assets, and a retracing in safe-haven assets."

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude rose 19 cents to \$47.74 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract lost 4 cents on Tuesday to close at \$47.55. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gained 24 cents to \$51.04 in London. It added 7 cents on Tuesday to close at \$50.80.

CURRENCY: The edged up to 110.67 yen from Tuesday's 110.66 yen. The euro was little-changed at \$1.1737.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 16, the 228th day of 2017. There are 137 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 16, 1977, Elvis Presley died at his Graceland estate in Memphis, Tennessee, at age 42.

On this date:

In 1777, American forces won the Battle of Bennington in what was considered a turning point of the Revolutionary War.

In 1812, Detroit fell to British and Indian forces in the War of 1812.

In 1858, a telegraphed message from Britain's Queen Victoria to President James Buchanan was transmitted over the recently laid trans-Atlantic cable.

In 1937, the American Federation of Radio Artists was chartered.

In 1948, baseball legend Babe Ruth died in New York at age 53.

In 1954, Sports Illustrated was first published by Time Inc.

In 1956, Adlai E. Stevenson was nominated for president at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

In 1967, Louis Armstrong recorded "What a Wonderful World" by Bob Thiele and George David Weiss for ABC Records.

In 1977, a judge in New York ruled that Renee Richards, a male-to-female transgender, had the right to compete in the U.S. Open without having to pass a sex chromosome test. (In the opening round of the Open, Richards lost to Virginia Wade in straight sets, 6-1, 6-4). The Debby Boone recording of "You Light Up My Life" by Joseph Brooks was released by Warner Bros./Curb Records.

In 1987, 156 people were killed when Northwest Airlines Flight 255 crashed while trying to take off from Detroit; the sole survivor was 4-year-old Cecelia Cichan (SHEE'-an).

In 1987, people worldwide began a two-day celebration of the "harmonic convergence," which heralded what believers called the start of a new, purer age of humankind.

In 1991, Pope John Paul II began the first-ever papal visit to Hungary.

Ten years ago: Jose Padilla (hoh-ZAY' puh-DEE'-uh), a U.S. citizen held for 3½ years as an enemy com-

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batant, was convicted in Miami of helping Islamic extremists and plotting overseas attacks. (Padilla, once accused of plotting with al-Qaida to detonate a radioactive "dirty bomb," was later sentenced to 17 years and four months in prison on the unrelated terror support charges, but that sentence was later increased to 21 years.) A cave-in killed three rescuers in the Crandall Canyon Mine in Utah; the search for six trapped miners was later abandoned. Master jazz percussionist Max Roach died in New York at age 83.

Five years ago: Republican presidential contender Mitt Romney declared he had paid at least 13 percent of his income in federal taxes every year for the previous decade; President Barack Obama's campaign shot back: "Prove it." A U.S. military helicopter crashed during a firefight with insurgents in southern Afghanistan, killing seven Americans and four Afghans. Ecuador decided to identify WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange as a refugee and give him asylum in its London embassy. Actor William Windom, 88, died in Woodacre, California.

One year ago: Democrat Kathleen Kane, Pennsylvania's first elected female attorney general, announced her resignation a day after being convicted of abusing the powers of the state's top law enforcement office to smear a rival and lying under oath to cover it up. (Kane, who was succeeded by Republican Bruce L. Castor Jr., was later sentenced to 10 to 23 months in jail, but remains free while she appeals.) Simone Biles captured her fourth gold of the Rio Games with an electric performance in the floor exercise. Political commentator and TV host John McLaughlin, 89, died in Washington, D.C.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Ann Blyth is 89. Actor Gary Clarke is 84. Actress Julie Newmar is 84. Actress-singer Ketty Lester is 83. Actor John Standing is 83. College Football Hall of Famer and NFL player Bill Glass is 82. Actress Anita Gillette is 81. Actress Carole Shelley is 78. Country singer Billy Joe Shaver is 78. Movie director Bruce Beresford is 77. Actor Bob Balaban is 72. Ballerina Suzanne Farrell is 72. Actress Lesley Ann Warren is 71. Actor Marshall Manesh is 67. Rock singer-musician Joey Spampinato is 67. Actor Reginald VelJohnson is 65. TV personality Kathie Lee Gifford is 64. Rhythm-and-blues singer J.T. Taylor is 64. Movie director James Cameron is 63. Actor Jeff Perry is 62. Rock musician Tim Farriss (INXS) is 60. Actress Laura Innes is 60. Singer Madonna is 59. Actress Angela Bassett is 59. Actor Timothy Hutton is 57. Actor Steve Carell (kuh-REHL') is 55. Former tennis player Jimmy Arias is 53. Actor-singer Donovan Leitch is 50. Actor Andy Milder is 49. Actor Seth Peterson is 47. Country singer Emily Robison (The Dixie Chicks) is 45. Actor George Stults is 42. Singer Vanessa Carlton is 37. Actor Cam Gigandet is 35. Actress Agnes Bruckner is 32. Singer-musician Taylor Goldsmith (Dawes) is 32. Actress Cristin Milioti is 32. Actor Shawn Pyfrom is 31. Country singer Ashton Shepherd is 31. Country singer Dan Smyers (Dan & Shay) is 30. Actor Kevin G. Schmidt is 29. Actress Rumer Willis is 29. Actor Parker Young is 29. Actor Cameron Monaghan is 24. Singer-pianist Greyson Chance is 20.

Thought for Today: "In politics people give you what they think you deserve and deny you what they think you want." — Cyril Northcote Parkinson, British historian and author (1909-1993).