

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 1 of 51

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Dakota Tree Ad
- 2- Chicken Soup of the Day
- 3- Hazy Sky
- 3- Help Wanted
- 6- Weekly Vikings Roundup
- 6- St. John's Luncheon Ad
- 7- Farmers Union PSA
- 8- Painted Lady Butterfly vs. the Monarch
- 9- Today in Weather History
- 10- Today's Forecast
- 11- Yesterday's Weather
- 11- Today's Weather Info
- 11- National Weather Map
- 12- Daily Devotional
- 13- News from the Associated Press

Official Notices

- Brown County (updated 8-31)**
- Frederick Area School (updated 8-29)**
- Groton City (updated 8-29)**
- Groton Area School (updated 8-29)**
- Westport Town (updated 8-21-17)**
- Other Notices (updated 8-21)**
- Frederick Town (Updated 8-15)**
- Groton Area School (updated 8-7)**
- 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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4 - LABOR DAY

Senior Menu: No Meal.

5

First Day of School!

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

School Breakfast: Cereal, yogurt, fruit, milk and juice.

School Lunch: Garlic cheese bread, corn, broccoli and dip, fruit.

Boys Golf: at Madison, 10 a.m.

Cross Country: at Britton, 4 p.m.

Volleyball: C and JV matches at 6 p.m. followed by varsity match. (JH matches postponed to a later date)

JV Football: at Sisseton, 5 p.m.

City Council: 7 p.m. at City Hall

United Methodist: Bible Study at 10 a.m.

Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance: Ladies Bible Study, 10 a.m.

6

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

School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, milk and juice.

School Lunch: Chicken strips, fries, romaine salad, fruit.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Sarah Circle at 5 p.m., Confirmation kick-off meeting with students and parents at 7 p.m.

United Methodist: Coffee fellowship, 9 a.m.

Lions Bar Bingo: 6:30 p.m. at the Groton Legion.

Groton Dance: Registration, 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Groton Community Center. (Pre-school through 8th grade)

Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance: 7 p.m.: Program for children up to sixth grade, youth group for 7th-12th grade, adult Bible Study.

Olive Grove: Men's League championship and banquet, 6 p.m.

Removal, Grinding, Chipping, Trimming

605-725-WOOD

Mason Dinger: 605-216-6098

Trevor Zeck: 605-216-8910



Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 2 of 51

*To find yourself,
think
for yourself.*

-Socrates



Chicken Soup
for the **Soul.**

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 3 of 51



Photo by Julianna Kosel

Hazy Sky

Notice how hazy the sky is? This haze is caused by forest fire smoke drifting down the spine of the Interstate 29 corridor from central and northwest Canada. A pilot from Joe Foss Field in Sioux Falls early Monday morning reported the smoke in a layer from about 5,000 to 10,000 feet above the ground, but it is quite possible it could lower through the day.

Looking at the forecasted winds in that layer, we could get at least a partial reprieve from the smoke during the middle of this week. However the winds turn northerly again late this week so if the fires are still active in several days, we may see a return to a thick smoke plume again Thursday Night or Friday.

Help Wanted

Full- or part-time for the following positions: Healthcare workers for Nurse's-RN or LPN, and Nursing Assistants, Dietary Cook and assistant, and Housekeeper. (12 hour shifts/rotating weekends for nurses and C.N.A.s)

Contact Jessica Lindskov or Nellie Peterson at 605-397-2365 or apply in person.

EOE/AA/M/F/V/D-Drug Free Workplace



GROTON
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

1106 N. 2nd Street, Groton
605-397-2365

0817.0914

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 4 of 51



A day at the State Fair

Julianna Kosel was petting a horse at the State Fair in the photo above. Below, Jeslyn Kosel is petting a rabbit. There were many activities going on throughout the week in Huron.



Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 5 of 51



A couple of shots from the Ferris Wheel of the State Fair in Huron. (Photos by Paul Kosel)



Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 6 of 51

Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

The NFL preseason has come and gone, and fans of the Minnesota Vikings have every right to be worried. The Vikings weakest link last season, the offensive line, had a lot of resources thrown at it (two draft picks and big money free agents) but has yet to show any signs of improvement. The Vikings defense, which should be one of the top units in the league, has given up quick scores which put the offense in a hole they aren't equipped to get out of. The only bright spot from the preseason is that the Vikings haven't been hit with many injuries.

The Vikings played their fourth and final preseason game on Thursday, August 31. Even though the team was at home, they were still outmatched by the Miami Dolphins, losing the game 30-9. The fourth preseason game doesn't mean a whole lot, as teams sit most of their starters in order to prevent injury and give the young guys one final chance to impress the coaches and make the team. Instead of writing

up a game recap, we're going to go over what the Vikings roster looks like after they trimmed it from 90 players to 53.

Quarterback: Sam Bradford, Case Keenum (Teddy Bridgewater was placed on the PUP, which means he can't play until at least week 6).

Running back: Dalvin Cook, Latavius Murray, Jerick McKinnon, C.J. Ham (fullback).

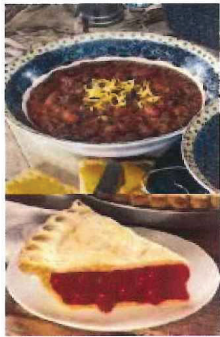
Wide receiver: Stefon Diggs, Adam Thielen, Laquon Treadwell, Jarius Wright, Rodney Adams, Stacy Coley (Michael Floyd doesn't count towards the 53-man roster while he's serving his 4-game suspension).

Tight end: Kyle Rudolph, David Morgan, Bucky Hodges.

Offensive line: Joe Berger, Nick Easton, Pat Elflein, Jeremiah Sirles, Danny Isidora, Aviante Collins, Rashod Hill, Riley Reiff, Mike Remmers.

Defensive line: Tashawn Bower, Everson Griffen, Danielle Hunter, Brian Robison, Stephen Weatherly, Jaleel Johnson, Tom Johnson, Linval Joseph, Shamar Stephen.

Linebacker: Anthony Barr, Kentrell Brothers, Ben Gedeon, Eric Kendricks, Emmanuel Lamur, Eric Wilson.



**Soup, Pie,
& Sandwich
\$2.00 per item**

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Groton, SD**

Thursday, September 14th

11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

**Craft Items – Baked Goodies –
Garden Produce**

**Soups available:
Chili, Wild Rice,
Potato, Ham & Bean**

**For take-out orders, please call
397-2386 at 10:30 a.m. or after.**

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 7 of 51

Cornerback: Mackensie Alexander, Tramaine Brock, Terence Newman, Xavier Rhodes, Marcus Sherels, Trae Waynes.

Safety: Antone Exum Jr., Anthony Harris, Jayron Kearse, Andrew Sendejo, Harrison Smith.

Special Teams: Kai Forbath (kicker), Ryan Quigley (punter), Kevin McDermott (long snapper).

Most of the players who made it to the final 53-man roster aren't surprises. However, there were a few moves the Vikings made that raised some eyebrows. The biggest shocker was the team releasing Alex Boone, who was projected to be the starting left guard. Boone came to Minnesota last offseason, and was supposed to bring much needed grit and nastiness to the offensive line. His bark was bigger than his bite, however, and his play was uninspiring at best last season. Some of the other surprising cuts include T.J. Clemmings and Datone Jones, two players who most predicted would remain on the roster as backups.



Keep in mind, this list was written on Sunday, Sept. 3, and it could change any minute. The Vikings front office is currently combing through the waiver wire, trying to spot players who they can bring in to help improve the roster. The Vikings will have to release someone from the roster to make room for Michael Floyd once he is back from suspension (week 5). It will also be interesting to see what the Vikings do about Teddy Bridgewater, but we'll leave that for another day!

Looking ahead, the Vikings host the New Orleans Saints on Monday, September 11. The Saints have one of the best offenses in the NFL, with QB Drew Brees averaging 5,074 yards and 37 touchdowns over the last five seasons. This is shaping up to be a revenge game for Adrian Peterson, who was released by the Vikings this past offseason and signed with the Saints. Peterson will likely be splitting carries with Mark Ingram, but you can bet he's begging Saints head coach Sean Peyton for as many carries as he can get against his former team.

Any questions or comments? Reach out to me on Facebook ([facebook.com/SkolJWright](https://www.facebook.com/SkolJWright)) or on Twitter (@SkolJWright)

Skol!

All auto owners!
Save \$2-\$4 /tank
& grow your local economy
by choosing low carbon
Super Premium E30's
94 octane, more power,
same mileage, fewer
carbon deposits, lower
maintenance costs,
slashed benzene & related
genotoxic, carcinogenic
tailpipe emissions;
*see sdfu.org's E30 tab for
info, E30 prices\locations.

***Farmers Union's
PSA: Courtesy Merle
Anderson (Merle is 94
year old founder of Ace
and legendary ethanol
supporter... "because it is
the right thing to do")**

Painted Lady Butterfly vs. the Monarch



Photo: Daren Mueller, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org



Photo: Kevin D. Arvin, Bugwood.org

Figure 1. Thistle caterpillar (top) and Painted lady butterfly (bottom).

Painted lady butterflies do not overwinter in the upper Midwest, but migrate from southern states each spring. Eggs are laid singly on the upper side of leaves of host plants, including Canada thistle, sunflower, and soybean. Caterpillars hatch and form webs by tying leaves together with silk, which creates a protected area for them to feed. After about 2–4 weeks, they form a chrysalis, which hangs from the host plant. After 7–10 days, the butterfly emerges. There are 1–2 generations per year. The life expectancy of the Painted Lady Butterfly is two weeks.



Above, a group of Painted Lady Butterflies are feeding on the flowers. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

During the past week, butterflies have emerged into the area. These are not the migratory Monarch butterflies, but rather the Painted Lady Butterfly that comes from the Thistle Caterpillar that feeds on soybeans.



The Monarch Butterfly has a broader wing span and has white markings around the whole outside of its wings. (Photo from Wikipedia)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 9 of 51

Today in Weather History

September 4, 2001: Near record or record heat hit central and north central South Dakota on this day in 2001. High temperatures during the afternoon were in the upper 90s to around 105 degrees. Pierre and Kennebec set record highs of 105 and 106, respectively. Mobridge rose to a high of 96, and Timber Lake topped out at 98 degrees on this day in 2001.

1766: A hurricane made landfall at modern-day Galveston, Texas. The following is from David Roth of the Weather Prediction Center. "A mission, named San Augustine de Ahumado was located in what is now-days known as Chambers County. This mission was destroyed and subsequently abandoned. A seven-foot storm surge put the area under water. A richly-laden treasure fleet of 5 galleons en route from Vera Cruz to Havana was driven ashore and had to wait many weeks for assistance to come. La Caraqueña wrecked on Galveston Island while El Nuevo de Constante sank along the western Louisiana coast. Fortunately, much of the treasure and people aboard were saved."

1939 - A thunderstorm deluged Washington D.C. with 4.4 inches of rain in two hours. September of that year was very dry across much of the nation, and Washington D.C. received more rain in that two hour period than most other places in the country that entire month. (David Ludlum)

1941: A violent tornado ripped through Northeast and North Minneapolis shortly after noon on this day. The hardest hit location was the Soo Line Railroad's Shoreham Yards where four people died, and at least 50 were injured. The death toll at Soo Line could have been higher, but the tornado struck five minutes after the lunch bell went off, meaning 100 men left the shops. Click [HERE](#) for photos from Historic Minneapolis.

1970 - The greatest natural disaster of record for Arizona occurred. Unprecedented rains caused rivers in central Arizona to rise five to ten feet per hour, sweeping cars and buildings as far as 30 to 40 miles downstream. Flooding claimed the lives of 23 persons, mainly campers, and caused millions of dollars damage. Water crested 36 feet above normal near Sunflower AZ. Workman's Creek was deluged with 11.40 inches of rain in 24 hours to establish a state record. Moisture from Pacific Tropical Storm Norma led to the severe flooding. (4th-6th) (The Weather Channel)

1986 - An unusually strong dust devil moved across the Flagstaff Pulliam Airport. The dust devil blew open the doors of the National Weather Service office scattering papers and bringing down a ceiling-mounted light fixture. (Storm Data)

1987 - Thunderstorms developing along a stationary front produced heavy rain across the Southern Atlantic Coast States. Up to eight inches was reported north of Charleston SC. Serious flooding was reported in Monks Corner SC. Seven cities in the northeastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. Houlton ME dipped to 32 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)






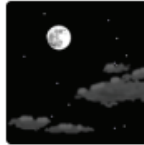

1988 - The western U.S. experienced another day of record heat. The afternoon high of 91 degrees at Stampede Pass WA established an all-time record for that location, and Los Angeles CA equalled their all-time record high with a reading of 110 degrees. A record high of 107 degrees at San Diego CA was their hottest reading in 25 years. Red Bluff CA was the hot spot in the nation with an afternoon reading of 118 degrees. (National Weather Summary)

1989 - Overnight thunderstorm rains of four and a half to seven inches drenched eastern Nebraska during the morning hours, pushing creeks out of their banks, and flooding fields, country roads and city streets. Totals ranged up to 6.97 inches south of Creston. It was also a soggy Labor Day for northern Florida. Jacksonville reported 6.82 inches of rain, and evening thunderstorms produced 2.75 inches of rain in one hour at Sandlewood. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)


2007: Hurricane Felix came ashore in the pre-dawn hours as a Category 5 storm on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua. At the time of its landfall, the maximum sustained surface winds were approximately 160 mph. Felix killed at least 130 people along the Miskito Coast, with damage in Nicaragua totaling \$46.7 million dollars.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 10 of 51

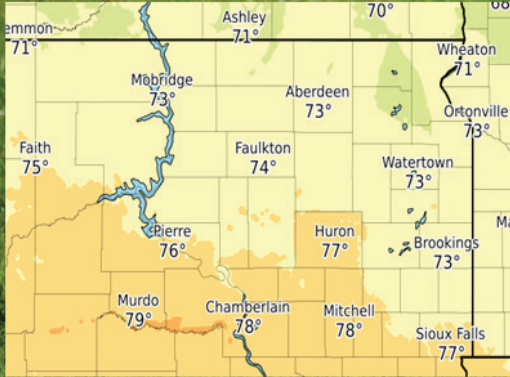

Labor Day	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
						
Mostly Sunny then Mostly Sunny and Breezy	Mostly Clear and Breezy then Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 73 °F	Low: 45 °F	High: 67 °F	Low: 38 °F	High: 71 °F	Low: 44 °F	High: 76 °F


Breezy Today





Cooler Conditions Today and Through Mid Week

This Afternoon's Highs


National Weather Service Aberdeen SD



Updated: 9/4/2017 4:42 AM Central

Published on: 09/04/2017 at 4:46AM

Approaching high pressure behind a cold front that moved through the area on Sunday will bring cooler conditions today. The cooler temperatures will linger into the middle of the week. Gusty northwest winds are also expected this afternoon.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 11 of 51

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 87.5

Low Outside Temp: 56.5

High Gust: 23

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 100° in 1931

Record Low: 30° in 1961

Average High: 77°F

Average Low: 51°F

Average Precip in Sept: 0.30

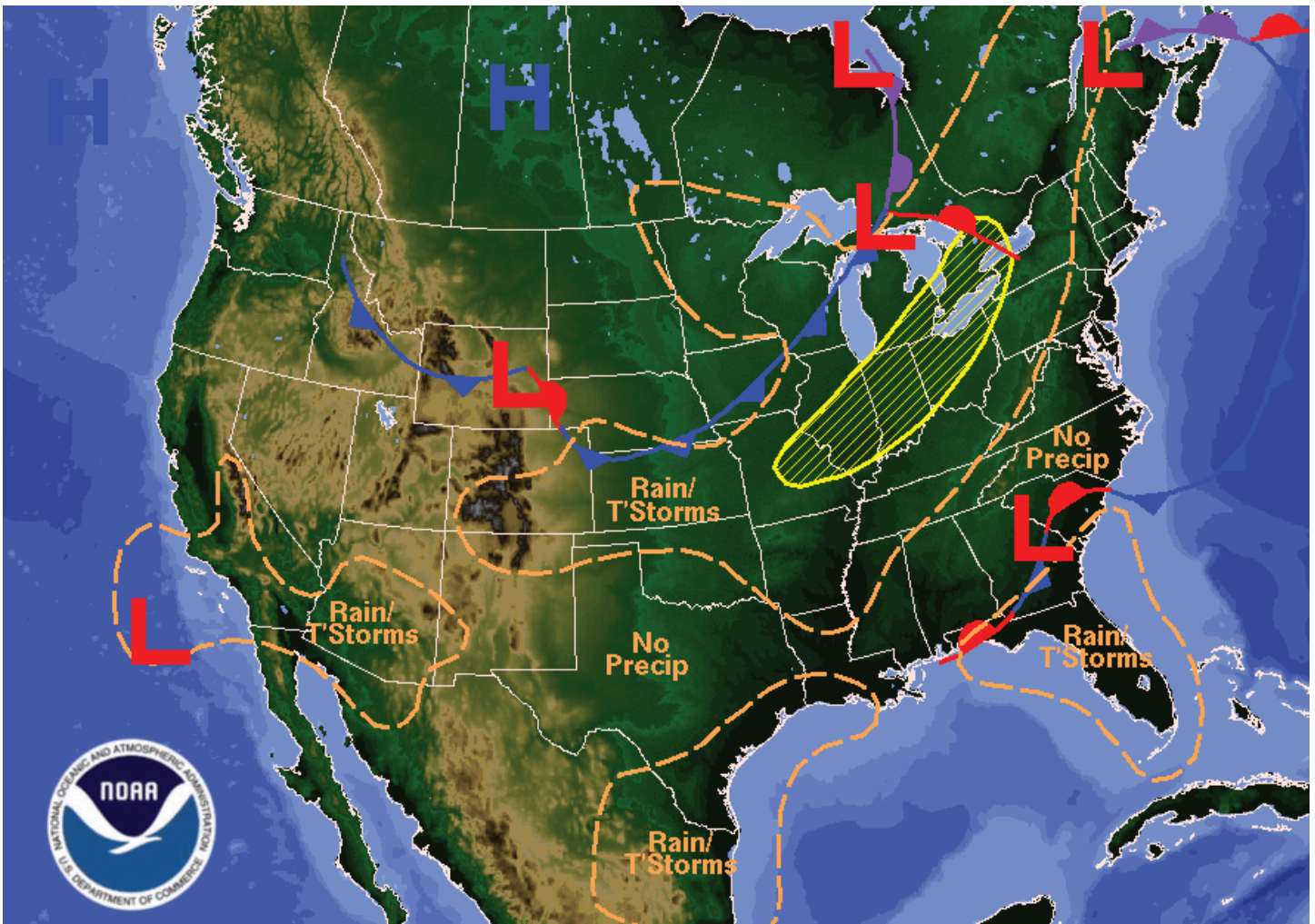
Precip to date in Sept: 0.11

Average Precip to date: 16.59

Precip Year to Date: 9.63

Sunset Tonight: 8:05 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:00 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Mon, Sep 04, 2017, issued 4:32 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

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

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 12 of 51



THE CALL FOR COURAGE

One of the major influences in our society today is the emphasis on being "politically correct." The threat or possibility of offending anyone about anything at any time has silenced many of us. We fear that we will be condemned or criticized. Unfortunately, many Christians now remain silent when opportunities to speak about their faith arise. Rather than defending the gospel we have become fearful of offending others even if their values are wrong and beliefs unscriptural.

Being politically correct was not a problem for David. In fact, it was the exact opposite. He was not ashamed to speak boldly and publicly about God's involvement in his life. He had no hesitancy or fear to talk about his relationship with God. Once, at a very special occasion in front of a large crowd he said, "I proclaim righteousness in the great assembly!" He put his faith on public display.

On one occasion in particular he had been through an intense struggle with God. It must have been both long and difficult. But finally, his patience and perseverance, his respect and reverence for God were rewarded and his prayer was finally answered.

As he reflected on God's goodness and thought about His mercy and blessings, he could not contain himself. "I speak of your faithfulness – Your salvation, love and truth," he proclaimed. "I do not seal...I could not conceal...my gratitude."

If we were talking about this event today, we would say that David "gave his testimony to a large gathering." However, it was not the size of the group that mattered to David. It was his need "to proclaim" God's salvation and faithfulness to others. He could not be contained when it came to sharing his faith.

Prayer: Father, give us a courageous attitude and deep desire to share your blessings with everyone, anywhere or anytime! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 40:9 I proclaim your saving acts in the great assembly; I do not seal my lips, LORD, as you know.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 13 of 51

News from the Associated Press

Boutier wins in Sioux Falls, wraps by LPGA Tour card

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Celine Boutier held off Benyapa Niphatsophon on Sunday in the Symetra Tour's Sioux Falls GreatLIFE Challenge to wrap up an LPGA Tour card.

Boutier bogeyed the final two holes for an even-par 71 and a one-stroke victory. The 23-year-old former Duke star from France opened with rounds of 69, 70 and 63.

Niphatsophon, from Thailand, also had a 71. She parred the 18th after birdieing Nos. 15-17.

Boutier earned \$31,500 for her second victory of the year to jump from fourth to second on the money list with \$96,748, with the final top 10 earning LPGA Tour cards.

"It is something I've been working on for a long time because I've always wanted to be on the LPGA," Boutier said. "I'm just going to use the last couple events on the Symetra Tour to get ready and prepare for next year on the LPGA."

She also won the Self Regional Healthcare Foundation Women's Health Classic in May in South Carolina.

"It's amazing, I definitely wanted to win again this season," Boutier said. "It's so great that I had my chance this week at the biggest tournament of the season. I'm just ecstatic."

Niphatsophon made \$19,887 to take the money lead with \$102,288. She's the third player in tour history to reach \$100,000 in a season.

Katelyn Dambaugh (71) was third at 8 under.

Murder victim's ashes sit forgotten in storage for 40 years

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Forty years after Lena Booth White Hat was slain in South Dakota, relatives in her native England now know what became of her remains.

Her ashes are in a small box inside a storage drawer at a Rapid City funeral home, along with the unclaimed ashes of about 15 others, the Rapid City Journal reported.

Booth White Hat's niece, Sharon Papen, 56, recently learned the whereabouts of the ashes while researching her family history but said her family can't afford to have them shipped.

"All I want is my aunt to come home to my mum, her last sibling, as she has been waiting a long time," Papen told the newspaper in an email from England.

Lena Booth was born into a nomadic family of the Roma ethnic group in 1940. She married Theodore White Hat, an American from the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation, who was serving at a U.S. Air Force base in England, in 1972.

Papen described her aunt as "beautiful inside and out" but a lost soul.

"Life was hard at times and I feel she wanted a new life in America — a fresh start," Papen said.

Lena Booth White Hat was killed in South Dakota in 1977 by a different man, John Thomas Martin, at Martin's home in the Rapid City suburb of Rapid Valley. Court records say Martin, who had been under psychiatric care, struck Lena with a rolling pin, drove a pickax into her skull and strangled her with a belt.

Martin was convicted of murder and is still serving a life term at the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls.

Papen said police informed them of her death but gave them little additional information. She said authorities told them that decisions about the remains would be made by Lena's husband, Theodore White Hat.

"We never heard any more and presumed she was buried or cremated," Papen wrote.

Records kept by Behrens-Wilson Funeral Home indicate that White Hat authorized the cremation but never took possession of the ashes. He died in 1979.

The current owner of the funeral home, Wade Wilson, said sending her ashes to England would cost about \$1,500 because commercial shippers won't take them, but airlines will. He encouraged donations on Papen's behalf via the funeral home so her relatives can bring her home.

"Unfortunately, she has no one there," Papen said. "She belongs back here with her family."

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

South Dakota city to acquire former sawmill

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — A city in the western part of South Dakota is finalizing the nearly \$3 million purchase of a former sawmill.

The Spearfish City Council approved a real estate purchase agreement Aug. 23 between the city and Northwestern Engineering Company, the seller of the former McLaughlin sawmill. The agreement was drawn up in March for the 80 acres of property, but due diligence was extended in order to conduct inspections and environmental assessments, the Black Hills Pioneer reported .

"The short version is, (we) did not see anything that we didn't expect to see; keeping in mind that that (property) was an operating sawmill for many, many years, there are some minor environmental conditions on the property, but DENR (Department of Environment and Natural Resources) has evaluated ... and we don't see any issues, so we are prepared to close that purchase," said City Attorney Eric Davis.

As part of the agreement, Northwestern Engineering is responsible for removing open containers and disposing the hydraulic fluid to meet compliance standards; removing the estimated 900 gallons of used oil from above-ground storage tanks; removing all used tires from the site; removing propane tanks; and removing an old trailer and dispose of all contents.

Council President Dan Hodgs said he's looking forward to the property's potential.

"This is something we've been working on since I came on City Council, and that was finding a piece of land that we can relieve some of the stress on our ball fields and on our parks and all sorts of processes inside of that," Hodgs said. "I'm excited to see it actually come to fruition. ... One of my key components is quality of life in Spearfish, so with that, I would say this is one step in the process of getting what I've desired since I've started."

The closing date was set to occur on or before Dec. 29.

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

South Dakota updates Breeding Bird Atlas

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's Game, Fish and Parks Department has created a new interactive atlas that helps bird enthusiasts learn about the state's breeding bird population.

The department unveiled its updated, online version of the Breeding Bird Atlas in early August, the Aberdeen American News reported .

Senior wildlife biologist Eileen Dowd Stukel said the tool features the results of a five-year field project about breeding birds found in the state.

"It was five years of field work, but there were a couple years of prep work and a couple years after the field work for analysis and report writing," she said. "It was more like a 10-year commitment to do it right."

Dowd Stukel said the atlas is a survey method to document as many breeding birds as possible at the highest level possible, adding that it's a repeat effort of South Dakota's first Breeding Bird Atlas from two decades ago to see what changes have occurred in the population over time.

"The data for this second atlas were collected from 2008 through 2012, exactly 20 years after the first atlas, where data were collected from 1988 through 1992," said Dowd Stukel, a 30-year department member who also helped organize the first atlas. "We were really excited to go back and see what changes we could detect in those 20 years."

The most significant difference between the two atlas surveys was that the most recent one had a dedicated budget that allowed the department to enlist help from a Colorado-based conservation organization called the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies.

"They were our major partner in this," Dowd Stukel said. "They coordinated it to an extent that we could not have done out of our agency."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 15 of 51

Funding for the atlas came from a state wildlife grant allocated by Congress each year. Dowd Stukel said that those federal funds were then matched by state Division of Wildlife dollars.

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

Trump expected to end program for young immigrants

By JILL COLVIN and CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is expected to announce that he will end protections for young immigrants who were brought into the country illegally as children, but with a six-month delay, people familiar with the plans said.

The delay in the formal dismantling of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA program, would be intended to give Congress time to decide whether it wants to address the status of the so-called Dreamers legislation, according to two people familiar with the president's thinking. But it was not immediately clear how the six-month delay would work in practice and what would happen to people who currently have work permits under the program, or whose permits expire during the six-month stretch.

It also was unclear exactly what would happen if Congress failed to pass a measure by the considered deadline, they said. The two spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter ahead of a planned Tuesday announcement.

The president, who has been grappling with the issue for months, has been known to change his mind in the past and could still shift course. The plan was first reported by Politico Sunday evening.

Trump has been wrestling for months with what to do with the Obama-era DACA program, which has given nearly 800,000 young immigrants a reprieve from deportation and the ability to work legally in the form of two-year, renewable work permits.

The expected move would come as the White House faces a Tuesday deadline set by Republican state officials threatening to sue the Trump administration if the president did not end the program. It also would come as Trump digs in on appeals to his base as he finds himself increasingly under fire, with his poll numbers at near-record lows.

Trump had been personally torn as late as last week over how to deal with what are undoubtedly the most sympathetic immigrants living in the U.S. illegally. Many came to the U.S. as young children and have no memories of the countries they were born in.

During his campaign, Trump slammed DACA as illegal "amnesty" and vowed to eliminate the program the day he took office. But since his election, Trump has wavered on the issue, at one point telling The Associated Press that those covered could "rest easy."

Trump had been unusually candid as he wrestled with the decision in the early months of his administration. During a February press conference, he said the topic was "a very, very difficult subject for me, I will tell you. To me, it's one of the most difficult subjects I have."

"You have some absolutely incredible kids — I would say mostly," he said, adding: "I love these kids."

All the while, his administration continued to process applications and renew DACA work permits, to the dismay of immigration hard-liners.

News of the president's expected decision drew strong reactions from advocates on both sides of the issue.

"IF REPORTS ARE TRUE, Pres Trump better prepare for the civil rights fight of his admin. A clean DREAM Act is now a Nat Emergency #DefendDACA," tweeted New Jersey Sen. Bob Menendez, a Democrat.

Republican Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Florida, tweeted: "After teasing #Dreamers for months with talk of his 'great heart,' @POTUS slams door on them. Some 'heart'..."

But Rep. Steve King, an Iowa Republican who has called DACA unconstitutional, warned that a delay in dismantling it would amount to "Republican suicide."

"Ending DACA now gives chance 2 restore Rule of Law. Delaying so R Leadership can push Amnesty is Republican suicide," he wrote.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 16 of 51

It would be up to members of Congress to pass a measure to protect those who have been covered under the program. While there is considerable support for that among Democrats and moderate Republicans, Congress is already facing a packed fall agenda and has had a poor track record in recent years for passing immigration-related bills.

House Speaker Paul Ryan and a number of other legislators urged Trump last week to hold off on scrapping DACA to give them time to come up with a legislative fix.

"These are kids who know no other country, who are brought here by their parents and don't know another home. And so I really do believe that there needs to be a legislative solution," Ryan told Wisconsin radio station WCLO.

The Obama administration created the DACA program in 2012 as a stopgap to protect some young immigrants from deportation as they pushed unsuccessfully for a broader immigration overhaul in Congress.

The program protected people in the country illegally who could prove they arrived before they were 16, had been in the United States for several years and had not committed a crime while being here. It mimicked versions of the so-called DREAM Act, which would have provided legal status for young immigrants but was never passed by Congress.

As of July 31, 2015, more than 790,000 young immigrants had been approved under the program, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

The House under Democratic control passed a Dream Act in 2010 but it died in the Senate. Since Republicans retook control of the House in late 2010, it has taken an increasingly hard line on immigration. House Republicans refused to act on the Senate's comprehensive immigration bill in 2013. Two years later, a GOP border security bill languished because of objections from conservatives.

Many House Republicans represent highly conservative districts. The primary upset of the former House Majority Leader Eric Cantor to a conservative challenger in 2014 in a campaign that cast him as soft on illegal immigration convinced many House Republicans that pro-immigrant stances could cost them politically.

So despite Ryan's personal commitment on the issue and his comments in favor of the young immigrants, action to protect them may be unlikely in the House — absent intense lobbying from Trump.

Associated Press writers Ken Thomas and Erica Werner contributed to this report.

S. Koreans worry North Korean nukes will damage US alliance

By FOSTER KLUG, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — U.S. President Donald Trump took to Twitter following North Korea's strongest-ever nuclear test explosion to criticize both Koreas and China. But his tweets will get as much attention in Asia for what's missing as for their tough words.

Following the clearest sign yet that North Korea is fast approaching a viable arsenal of nuclear-tipped missiles capable of hitting the U.S. mainland, Trump again skipped what for decades has been the bedrock of U.S. policy on the Korean Peninsula: A firm assurance that the United States would defend South Korea against any attack.

This feeds a growing worry that has many in South Korea and Japan asking a startling question. Could Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un want the same thing, namely a separation, or "decoupling," of the decades-old security alliance between the United States and its top Asian allies, South Korea and Japan?

The White House has occasionally issued statements in which Trump has repeated what past presidents regularly declared about the U.S. commitment to defend its Asian allies. But his public comments on the alliance have more often reflected deep skepticism — and skipped any security reassurance.

Trump, for instance, previously questioned the expensive stationing of U.S. troops in South Korea and Japan, and suggested that Seoul and Tokyo pursue nukes themselves, instead of relying on the so-called U.S. nuclear umbrella. Trump also appears to be taking a shot at another pillar of the U.S.-South Korean alliance, a hard-fought free trade deal, by considering triggering a withdrawal from the agreement, a U.S.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 17 of 51

business lobbying group said over the weekend.

Then came Trump's five tweets after the nuclear test which criticized North Korea's main ally and aid provider, China, for failing to contain the North; South Korea's liberal president for "talk of appeasement" (despite what many see as a consistent hard line toward the North's weapons tests) and, of course, "rogue" North Korea.

Nowhere did he seek to reassure a frazzled South Korea that the United States would have its back if attacked.

This matters because North Korea's relentless pursuit of nukes is seen by many analysts less as a way to beat the United States in a war than as a way to separate Washington from its Asian allies. The goal is to cause the United States to seriously consider whether it's worthwhile to fulfill its treaty obligations by treating an attack on Seoul as it would an attack on San Francisco.

Ironclad U.S. vows of protection were easier before North Korea's recent demonstrations that it may be very close to actually being able to hit San Francisco and other parts of the United States with nuclear missiles.

"What people in South Korea worry about most is whether the United States will defend South Korea at a time when the U.S. mainland is under threat (by North Korean missiles). If you look at what Trump said now, the answer seems to be no," said Shin Hee-Seok, a graduate student in international law at Seoul's Yonsei University. "While it still remains a fringe opinion, some South Koreans are wondering if we should now build our own nuclear deterrent. If the U.S. is not a reliable ally, South Korea may have to think about Plan B."

The possibility of losing the free trade deal seemed for some here yet another hit to the alliance.

"The United States now is not the United States we used to know," the Chosun Ilbo, South Korea's largest daily newspaper, said in an editorial. "The president prioritizes dollars over the alliance."

Some see a not-too-distant future where North Korea's possession of dozens of nuclear-tipped ICBMs allows it to attack Seoul or Tokyo without U.S. intervention because of American fears that North Korean retaliation could kill millions in American cities.

"I'm worried about whether the U.S. is really serious about defending its ally, South Korea, or if it's putting its own national interest first," said Woo Young-soo, a law lecturer at a university in Seoul. "As a true ally, I wish Trump would have a defense policy that is truly meant for South Korea."

Others believe North Korea can still be checked with firm statements from Washington that make clear how strongly the United States will respond if its allies are attacked. Because Kim Jong Un cares deeply about keeping power, this argument goes, he won't risk an attack if an overwhelming U.S. response seems more likely than not.

Trump's experienced lieutenants have sought to signal this. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said all the right things after the test when he repeated what Seoul and Tokyo long to hear — that Washington's commitment to them is unshakeable.

"A lot of reassurance comes down to trust," Colin Kahl, a Georgetown University professor and former Obama administration national security official, said in a Twitter thread. "Our allies have to 'believe' we would trade San Francisco for Seoul or Toledo for Tokyo if push comes to shove. Yet instead of reassuring our democratic allies in East Asia, Trump has done the opposite."

"Undermining alliance solidarity at this moment is dumb and dangerous. It emboldens Pyongyang, increases the risk of (North Korean) miscalculation (and) potentially incentivizes (South Korea) and Japan to seek their own independent nuclear arsenals," Kahl wrote.

Associated Press writer Youkyung Lee contributed to this report.

Foster Klug, AP's Seoul bureau chief, has covered the Koreas since 2005. Follow him on Twitter at twitter.com/apklug

South Korea simulates attack on North's nuke site after test

By FOSTER KLUG and YOUKYUNG LEE, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Following U.S. warnings to North Korea of a “massive military response,” South Korea fired missiles into the sea to simulate an attack on the North’s main nuclear test site on Monday, a day after North Korea detonated its largest-ever nuclear test explosion.

South Korea’s Defense Ministry also said Monday that North Korea appeared to be planning a future missile launch, possibly of an ICBM, to show off its claimed ability to target the United States with nuclear weapons, though it was unclear when this might happen.

The heated words from the United States and the military maneuvers in South Korea are becoming familiar responses to North Korea’s rapid, as-yet unchecked pursuit of a viable arsenal of nuclear-tipped missiles that can strike the United States. The most recent, and perhaps most dramatic, advance came Sunday in an underground test of what leader Kim Jong Un’s government claimed was a hydrogen bomb, the North’s sixth nuclear test since 2006.

The United Nations Security Council planned to hold its second emergency meeting about North Korea in a week on Monday to discuss responses to the test.

In Seoul, Chang Kyung-soo, an official with South Korea’s Defense Ministry, told lawmakers on Monday that it was seeing preparations in the North for an ICBM test but didn’t provide details about how officials had reached that assessment. Chang also said the yield from the latest nuclear detonation appeared to be about 50 kilotons, which would mark a “significant increase” from North Korea’s past nuclear tests.

In a series of tweets, U.S. President Donald Trump threatened to halt all trade with countries doing business with North Korea, a warning to China, and faulted South Korea for what he called “talk of appeasement.”

In response, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang, told reporters in Beijing on Monday that China regarded as “unacceptable a situation in which on the one hand we work to resolve this issue peacefully but on the other hand our own interests are subject to sanctions and jeopardized. This is neither objective nor fair.”

South Korea’s military said its live-fire exercise was meant to “strongly warn” North Korea. The drill involved F-15 fighter jets and the country’s land-based “Hyunmoo” ballistic missiles firing into the Sea of Japan.

The target was set considering the distance to North Korea’s test site and the exercise was aimed at practicing precision strikes and cutting off reinforcements, Seoul’s Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

Each new North Korean missile and nuclear test gives the country’s scientists invaluable information that allows big jumps in capability. North Korea is thought to have a growing arsenal of nuclear bombs and has spent decades trying to perfect a multistage, long-range missile to eventually carry smaller versions of those bombs.

Both diplomacy and severe sanctions have failed to check the North’s decades-long march to nuclear mastery.

In Washington, Trump, asked by a reporter if he would attack North Korea, said, “We’ll see.” No U.S. military action appeared imminent, and the immediate focus appeared to be on ratcheting up economic penalties, which have had little effect thus far.

In brief remarks after a White House meeting with Trump and other national security officials, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis told reporters that America does not seek the “total annihilation” of North Korea, but then added somberly, “We have many options to do so.”

Mattis said the U.S. will answer any threat from the North with a “massive military response — a response both effective and overwhelming.”

Mattis also said the international community is unified in demanding the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and that Kim should know Washington’s commitment to Japan and South Korea is unshakeable.

The precise strength of North Korea’s underground nuclear explosion has yet to be determined. South Korea’s weather agency said the artificial earthquake caused by the explosion was five times to six times stronger than tremors generated by the North’s previous five tests.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 19 of 51

Sunday's detonation builds on recent North Korean advances that include test launches in July of two ICBMs. The North says its missile development is part of a defensive effort to build a viable nuclear deterrent that can target U.S. cities.

North Korea has made a stunning jump in progress in its nuclear and missile programs since Kim rose to power following his father's death in late 2011. The North followed its two tests of Hwasong-14 ICBMs, which, when perfected, could target large parts of the United States, by threatening to launch a salvo of Hwasong-12 intermediate range missiles toward the U.S. Pacific island territory of Guam in August.

It flew a Hwasong-12 over northern Japan last week, the first such overflight by a missile potentially capable of carrying nuclear weapons, in a launch Kim described as a "meaningful prelude" to containing Guam, the home of major U.S. military facilities, and vowed to launch more ballistic missile tests targeting the Pacific.

Ahead of the North's test, photos released by the North Korean government showed Kim talking with his lieutenants as he observed a silver, peanut-shaped device that was purportedly a thermonuclear weapon destined for an ICBM. The images were taken without outside journalists present and could not be independently verified. What appeared to be the nose cone of a missile could also be seen in one photo, and another showed a diagram on the wall behind Kim of a bomb mounted inside a cone.

The Arms Control Association in the United States said the explosion appeared to produce a yield in excess of 100 kilotons of TNT equivalent, which it said strongly suggests North Korea tested a high-yield but compact nuclear weapon that could be launched on a missile of intermediate or intercontinental range.

Beyond the science of the blast, North Korea's accelerating push to field a nuclear weapon that can target all of the United States is creating political complications for the U.S. as it seeks to balance resolve with reassurance to allies that Washington will uphold its decades-long commitment to deter nuclear attack on South Korea and Japan.

That is why some questioned Trump's jab at South Korea. He tweeted that Seoul is finding that its "talk of appeasement" will not work. The North Koreans, he added, "only understand one thing," implying military force might be required. The U.S. has about 28,000 troops stationed in South Korea and is obliged by treaty to defend it in the event of war.

Trump also suggested putting more pressure on China, North Korea's patron for many decades and a vital U.S. trading partner, in hopes of persuading Beijing to exert more effective leverage on its neighbor. Trump tweeted that the U.S. is considering "stopping all trade with any country doing business with North Korea." Such a halt would be radical. The U.S. imports about \$40 billion in goods a month from China, North Korea's main commercial partner.

Experts have questioned whether North Korea has gone too far down the nuclear road to continue pushing for a denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, an Obama administration policy goal still embraced by Trump's White House.

"Denuclearization is not a viable U.S. policy goal," said Richard Fontaine, president of the Center for a New American Security, but neither should the U.S. accept North Korea as a nuclear power, he said. "We should keep denuclearization as a long-term aspiration, but recognize privately that it's unachievable anytime soon."

Associated Press writers Robert Burns and Catherine Lucey in Washington and Kim Tong-hyung in Seoul contributed to this report.

Mnuchin: Congress needs to tie Harvey aid to debt limit bill

By HOPE YEN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress needs to combine a \$7.9 billion disaster relief package for Harvey with a contentious increase in the nation's borrowing limit, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin says, arguing it is needed to ensure storm victims in Texas get the help they need.

"The president and I believe that it should be tied to the Harvey funding," Mnuchin said Sunday. "If

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 20 of 51

Congress appropriates the money, but I don't have the ability to borrow more money and pay for it, we're not going to be able to get that money to the state. So, we need to put politics aside."

President Donald Trump visited storm-ravaged areas in Texas over the weekend, expressing hope for speedy congressional action on Harvey aid. But some House conservatives are opposed to directly pairing disaster aid with an increase in the debt limit, saying it sends the wrong message on overall government spending. Democrats have also been cool to the approach.

Linking the two issues could make it politically difficult for lawmakers to oppose the debt-limit bill.

Trump plans to meet with congressional leaders from both parties this week as lawmakers return to Washington after their summer recess.

The government's cash reserves are running low because the debt limit has actually already been reached, and the Treasury Department is using various accounting measures to cover expenses. Mnuchin originally had said that Congress would need to raise the \$19.9 trillion borrowing limit by Sept. 29 to avoid a catastrophic default on the debt, allowing the government to continue borrowing money to pay bills like Social Security and interest.

But on Sunday, he said that deadline had moved up due to unexpected new spending on Harvey.

"Without raising the debt limit, I'm not comfortable that we would get the money that we need this month to Texas to rebuild," Mnuchin said.

Asked about Trump's past threats to force a government shutdown if Congress does not also include his \$1.6 billion request for a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, Mnuchin said Harvey aid was Trump's "first objective right now."

The Associated Press reported last week that Republican leaders were making plans to pair Harvey aid with an increase in the debt limit. Other senior GOP aides told the AP that no final decision had been made, and Democrats, whose votes would be needed in the Senate, have yet to signal support.

"Providing aid in the wake of Harvey and raising the debt ceiling are both important issues, and Democrats want to work to do both," said Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York and House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi of California in a joint statement Sunday. "Given the interplay between all the issues Congress must tackle in September, Democrats and Republicans must discuss all the issues together and come up with a bipartisan consensus."

In an interview with a Milwaukee TV station that aired Sunday, House Speaker Paul Ryan did not address whether the two issues would be tied together, only expressing confidence that Congress will "step up" to fund disaster recovery efforts in Texas. "This is something that we've never seen before, so it's going to require a pretty unprecedented response," Ryan, R-Wis., said on "UPFRONT with Mike Gousha," which is produced in partnership with Wispolitics.com.

Sen. Roy Blunt of Missouri, a member of the Senate Republican leadership, said he wouldn't be opposed to combining the two measures and said the urgency of Harvey disaster relief provides "another reason as to why you want to keep the government open."

Trump's aid request would add \$7.4 billion to dwindling Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster aid coffers and \$450 million to finance disaster loans for small businesses. An additional \$5 billion to \$8 billion for Harvey could be tucked into a catch-all spending bill Congress must pass in the coming weeks to fund the government past Sept. 30.

On Sunday, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott described the federal aid package as an important initial "down payment" on Harvey relief that he expects will come to \$150 billion to \$180 billion. "We need Congress to step up and pass this and help Texas rebuild," he said.

More than 436,000 households have registered for FEMA aid, according to the White House.

Harvey came ashore Aug. 25 as a Category 4 hurricane, then went back out to sea and lingered for days off the coast as a tropical storm. The storm brought five straight days of rain totaling close to 52 inches (1.3 meters) in one location, the heaviest tropical downpour ever recorded in the continental U.S.

Mnuchin and Abbott appeared on "Fox News Sunday," and Blunt spoke on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Harvey's floodwaters mix a foul brew of sewage, chemicals

By JOHN FLESHER, AP Environmental Writer

Harvey's filthy floodwaters pose significant dangers to human safety and the environment even after water levels drop far enough that Southeast Texas residents no longer fear for their lives, according to experts.

Houston already was notorious for sewer overflows following rainstorms. Now the system, with 40 wastewater treatment plants across the far-flung metropolis, faces an unprecedented challenge.

State officials said several dozen sewer overflows had been reported in areas affected by the hurricane, including Corpus Christi. Private septic systems in rural areas could fail as well.

Also stirred into the noxious brew are spilled fuel, runoff from waste sites, lawn pesticides and pollutants from the region's many petroleum refineries and chemical plants.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reported Sunday that of the 2,300 water systems contacted by federal and state regulators, 1,514 were fully operational. More than 160 systems issued notices advising people to boil water before drinking it, and 50 were shut down.

The public works department in Houston, the nation's fourth-largest city, said its water was safe. The system has not experienced the kind of pressure drop that makes it easier for contaminants to slip into the system and is usually the reason for a boil-water order, spokesman Gary Norman said.

In a statement Thursday, federal and state environmental officials said their primary concerns were the availability of healthy drinking water and "ensuring wastewater systems are being monitored, tested for safety and managed appropriately."

About 85 percent of Houston's drinking water is drawn from surface sources — rivers and reservoirs, said Robin Autenrieth, head of Texas A&M University's civil engineering department. The rest comes from the city's 107 groundwater wells.

"I would be concerned about what's in the water that people will be drinking," she said.

The city met federal and state drinking water standards as well as requirements for monitoring and reporting, said Andrew Keese, spokesman for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Keeping it that way will require stepped-up chemical treatments because of the flooding, Norman said.

It's prudent to pump more chlorine and other disinfectants into drinking water systems in emergencies like this, to prevent outbreaks of diseases such as cholera and dysentery, said David Andrews, senior scientist with the Environmental Working Group, an advocacy organization. But doing so poses its own risks, he said.

There's often more organic matter — sewage, plants, farm runoff — in reservoirs or other freshwater sources during heavy rains. When chlorine reacts with those substances, it forms chemicals called trihalomethanes, which can boost the risk of cancer and miscarriages, Andrews said.

"Right now it's a tough time to deal with that, when you're just trying to clean the water up and make sure it's not passing illnesses through the system," he said. "But we should do better at keeping contamination out of source water in the first place."

Federal and state officials said about two-thirds of approximately 2,400 wastewater treatment plants in counties affected by Harvey were fully operational. They said they were monitoring facilities with reported spills and would send teams to help operators restart systems.

Sewage plants are particularly vulnerable during severe storms because they are located near waterways into which they can discharge treated water, said Autenrieth of Texas A&M. When they are flooded, raw or partially treated sewage can spill from pipes, open-air basins and tanks.

A report by the nonprofit research group Climate Central said more than 10 billion gallons of sewage was released along the East Coast during Superstorm Sandy.

The Houston Chronicle reported last year that Houston averages more than 800 sewage overflows a year and is negotiating an agreement with the EPA that would require system improvements.

Norman said Houston didn't have a running tally of overflows during Harvey.

"Anytime you have wet weather of this magnitude, there's going to be a certain amount of sanitary sewage that escapes the system," he said. "That's one reason why we advise people to stay out of floodwaters."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 22 of 51

A Texas A&M analysis of floodwater samples from the Houston area revealed levels of E. coli — bacteria that signal the presence of fecal matter — 125 times higher than is safe for swimming. Even wading through such tainted water could cause infections and sickness, said Terry Gentry, an associate professor and specialist in detecting tiny disease-producing organisms.

“Precautions should be taken by anyone involved in cleanup activities or any others who may be exposed to floodwaters,” said a statement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the state environmental quality commission.

They said they were developing a plan to sample residential wells.

Hazards will remain as waters gradually recede. Puddles, tires and other spots for standing water will attract mosquitoes, which can spread viruses such as West Nile and Zika, Autenrieth said.

Much of the dirty water will flow through rivers, creeks and bayous into Galveston Bay, renowned for its oyster reefs, abundant wildlife and seagrass meadows. Officials will need to monitor shellfish for signs of bacterial contamination, said Doug Rader, chief ocean scientist for the Environmental Defense Fund.

The waters also may be rich with nitrogen and phosphorus, which feed algae blooms. When algae die and rot, oxygen gets sucked from the water, creating “dead zones” where large numbers of fish can suffocate.

“You have a potential for localized dead zones in Galveston Bay for months or maybe even longer,” Rader said.

The bay opens into the Gulf of Mexico, where a gigantic dead zone forms in summer, powered by nutrients from the Mississippi River. This year’s was the largest on record, said oceanographer Nancy Rabalais of Louisiana State University.

Ironically, Hurricane Harvey may have done the environment at least one favor by churning the Gulf’s waters and sending an influx of oxygen from the surface to the depths. “A temporary silver lining,” Rabalais said.

But that also happened after 2005’s Hurricane Katrina, she added. “And within a week, the low-oxygen area had redeveloped.”

Follow John Flesher on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/johnflesher> .

Sign up for AP’s newsletter showcasing our best all-formats reporting on Harvey and its aftermath: <http://apne.ws/ahYQGtb>

Mayor says Houston ‘open for business’ despite huge hurdles

By MICHAEL GRACZYK and JAY REEVES, Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston’s mayor insists that America’s fourth-largest city is “open for business,” but with areas under water, people not yet in their homes, and billions in damage to repair, major disasters that Harvey created are by no means resolved.

Mayor Sylvester Turner said much of the city was hoping to get back on track after Labor Day.

“Anyone who was planning on a conference or a convention or a sporting event or a concert coming to this city, you can still come,” he told CBS. “We can do multiple things at the same time.”

One worry, of further explosions at a damaged chemical plant, eased after officials carried out a controlled burn Sunday evening of highly unstable compounds at the Arkema plant in Crosby. Three trailers had previously caught fire after Harvey’s floodwaters knocked out generators.

Authorities said they would keep monitoring the air, and people living within a mile and a half (2.4 kilometers) of the site outside Houston are still evacuated. But floodwaters also have inundated at least five toxic waste Superfund sites near Houston and some may be damaged, though Environmental Protection Agency officials have yet to assess the full extent of what occurred.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott told CNN the EPA is “working on some of them already,” but “they have restraints on their ability to check out some of them just simply because of the water.”

Turner said Houston’s drinking water hadn’t been affected by the storm, but told CBS, “We would hope

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 23 of 51

that the EPA would be on the ground now to take a look at those Superfund sites, to make sure that contamination is contained and limited.”

Other issues across the region: too much water still in houses, but no water to drink.

Utility crews went door-to-door Sunday shutting off power and warning those still in some waterlogged homes in western parts of the city that more flooding was possible — not from rain, but from releases of water from overtaxed reservoirs. Thousands of Houston dwellings were under mandatory evacuation orders, though about 300 people were thought to be refusing to leave.

People briefly returned Sunday to some homes in the area, which included brick two-story and ranch homes bordering Buffalo Bayou, to try to salvage valuables.

More than a week since the storm hit, the 4 feet (1.2 meters) of water in her parents’ home had receded just a foot (30 centimeters), said Karen Mace. She was trying to retrieve family photos from the one-story ranch her parents built and have lived in for 56 years, which backs up to Buffalo Bayou.

“It came up fast. They had to get out by canoe,” Mace said, adding they thought the home would have to be demolished.

Harvey slammed into Texas on Aug. 25 as a Category 4 hurricane, but brought the worst flooding to Houston and other areas as a tropical storm. The rain totaled nearly 52 inches (1.3 meters) in some spots, and the storm is blamed for at least 44 deaths.

In other storm-ravaged neighborhoods, people worried about thefts.

Police in the southwest Bellaire neighborhood received reports of scavengers picking through water-damaged possessions and urged those cleaning up to keep anything left outside to dry closer to their homes and separate from what was considered a total loss. In the suburb of Dickinson, one homeowner used orange spray paint on a sheet of dirty plywood to warn: “Looters Will B Shot.”

Meanwhile, repairs continued on the water treatment plant in Beaumont, about 85 miles (140 kilometers) from Houston, which failed after the swollen Neches River inundated the main intake system and backup pumps halted. And outside the town of Liberty, about 45 miles (70 kilometers) from Houston, dozens of people were still cut off by the swollen Trinity River. A Texas National Guard helicopter landed at the local fire department with pallets of drinking water.

President Donald Trump has asked Congress for a \$7.9 billion down payment toward Harvey relief and recovery efforts. Abbott suggested the cost of recovery could be as much as \$180 billion.

Sign up for AP’s newsletter showcasing our best all-formats reporting on Harvey and its aftermath: <http://apne.ws/ahYQGtb>

Palace announces Prince William, Kate expecting third child

By **DANICA KIRKA, Associated Press**

LONDON (AP) — Prince William and his wife, the Duchess of Cambridge, are expecting their third child, Kensington Palace said Monday.

Kensington Palace made the pregnancy announcement as they said that the former Kate Middleton was not feeling well enough to attend an engagement later in the day. As with her other two pregnancies, the duchess is suffering from Hyperemesis Gravidarum, or acute morning sickness. Kate is being cared for at her Kensington Palace home in London.

“The queen and members of both families are delighted with the news,” the palace said in a statement.

William and Kate, both 35, already have two children: Prince George, 4, and Princess Charlotte, 2.

The announcement came at a time when the royal couple is due to mark a milestone in the life of their young family: They are set to send George to school for the first time on Thursday.

Their choice of Thomas’s Battersea in south London indicated that the Cambridges were settling into their Kensington Palace apartment, having moved recently from their Norfolk home Anmer Hall.

No details were immediately available about when the third baby is due, but betting agencies were quick to start offering odds on possible names for the soon-to-be-born child in the House of Windsor.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 24 of 51

Paddy Power offered 8-to-1 odds on Alice. Also popular was Diana, after Prince William's mother, particularly given the timing of the announcement.

Together with Prince Harry, William and Kate have taken a leading role in marking the 20th anniversary of Diana's death. Last week the royals toured the garden of their Kensington Palace home to remember the princes' mother and celebrate her contributions to their family and to the monarchy.

"Given the recent anniversary, there'll be plenty of interest in the name Diana if the baby is a girl," the agency said.

The royals have said from the time of their engagement that they wanted to have a family — the only question was how many children they wished for. Royal watchers recorded every aside for clues as to what the plans might be.

When asked on a royal tour in Singapore in 2012 about how many children he wanted, William said he was "thinking about having two."

More recently, during a royal tour of Poland, Kate joked about a third child when given a cuddly toy designed to soothe tiny babies.

Kate thanked the well-wisher for the present and turned to William. "We will just have to have more babies," she said laughing.

Kate is the eldest of three siblings, and reportedly had a very happy childhood. William has a younger brother, Prince Harry.

The royal couple can also be seen as following in the footsteps of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, who have four children.

UN Security Council sets emergency meeting on NKorea blast

By JENNIFER PELTZ, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.N. Security Council is holding its second emergency meeting in a week about North Korea on Monday after a powerful nuclear test explosion added another layer of urgency for diplomats wrestling with what to do about the North's persistent weapons programs.

Scheduled after North Korea said it detonated a hydrogen bomb underground Sunday, the emergency session comes six days after the council strongly condemned Pyongyang's "outrageous" launch of a ballistic missile over Japan. Less than a month ago, the council imposed its stiffest sanctions so far on the reclusive nation.

North Korea is "deliberately undermining regional peace and stability," the council said Tuesday when it rebuked the missile test, reiterating demands for the country to halt its ballistic missile and nuclear weapons programs.

The North trumpeted "perfect success" Sunday in its sixth nuclear test blast since 2006.

Requested by the United States, Japan, France, Britain and South Korea, the Security Council meeting Monday could bring additional condemnation and discussion of other potential steps. British Prime Minister Theresa May called in a statement Sunday for speeding the implementation of existing sanctions and "looking urgently" at new measures in the council.

The group aimed to take a big bite out of the North Korean economy earlier this month by banning the North from exporting coal, iron, lead and seafood products. Together, those are worth about a third of the country's \$3 billion in exports last year.

The council could look to sanction other profitable North Korean exports, such as textiles. Another possibility could be tighter limits on North Korean laborers abroad; the recent sanctions barred giving any new permits for such workers. The U.S. also suggested some other ideas earlier this summer, including air and maritime restrictions and restricting oil to North Korea's military and weapons programs.

However, Russian Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia told the council Tuesday that "addressing the issues plaguing the (Korean) Peninsula through sanction pressure alone is impossible" because "that path does not propose any options for engaging (North Korea) in constructive negotiations."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 25 of 51

Russia and China have both proposed a two-pronged approach: North Korea would suspend its nuclear and missile development, and the U.S. and South Korea would suspend their joint military exercises, which they say are defensive but Pyongyang views as a rehearsal for invasion. The North recently requested a Security Council meeting about the war games.

Washington says there is no comparison between its openly conducted, internationally monitored military drills and North Korea's weapons programs, which the international community has banned.

Neither North Korea nor South Korea is a Security Council member.

Cambodia paper is latest victim of intensifying crackdown

By **TODD PITMAN, Associated Press**

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — When Cambodia's main opposition leader was arrested over the weekend in a surprise police raid, one of the country's last independent media outlets rushed reporters out in the middle of night to cover the story, just as it has done for nearly a quarter century.

But the English-language Cambodia's Daily's reportage about the arrest of Kem Sokha, who stands accused by the government of treason, was a tragic story in and of itself: it was to be the paper's last.

On Monday the venerable broadsheet, which has helped pioneer press freedom and train generations of journalists since it was founded in 1993, appeared in newsstands for the last time — the latest victim of a determined push by the government of Prime Minister Hun Sen to silence critics in the run-up to 2018 elections.

The paper's owners said they were forced to close because of "extra-legal threats by the government," a reference to a \$6 million tax bill they say authorities contrived with no audit and a single purpose — to shut them down.

"It's terrible, it's frustrating," said Chhorn Chansy, who worked for a decade at the paper as a reporter and news editor. "We normally write about others. We can't believe that this happened to us."

During its 24-year-run, the Cambodia Daily served as a model for budding journalists, its stories offering a window into a growing nation that is still emerging from decades of conflict and genocide. About half the Daily's 30 editorial staff were Cambodian; the other half were foreigners drawn from around the world.

The paper, which included a Khmer-language section, acquired a reputation for hard-hitting investigations in a nation where such things were rare. It was also a consistent thorn in Hun Sen's side. Its final front-page headline, "Descent into Outright Dictatorship," ran above a story about Kem Sokha's arrest.

Below the piece was another announcing Monday's edition would be its last.

Jodie DeJonge, the paper's American chief editor, called the closure a "blow against press freedom, a blow against allowing dissenting voices to be heard, a blow against democracy in Cambodia."

"It's hard to imagine that after working for so hard for so long, these journalists just have to walk away," she said.

The Daily's fate is part of a much broader government crackdown on critics that has intensified dramatically in recent weeks and left many wondering where the nation is headed. It's also part of a major shift away from American influence, which has waned for years as Cambodia edges closer to China.

Last month, authorities expelled the Washington-based National Democratic Institute and ordered at least a dozen radio stations shut down for allegedly violating broadcasting agreements. Although Ouk Kimseng, an information ministry spokesman, said the government was simply enforcing the law, the stations appear to have been singled out because they gave air time to opposition politicians and to the U.S. government-funded Voice of America and Radio Free Asia, which have also been accused by authorities of failing to pay taxes.

The stations were among only a few in the country considered independent, and their closure will have a profound impact on the ability of rural populations — which comprise a majority of the country — to obtain contrarian views. "How will the Cambodian people be able to evaluate or access real information?" asked Yi Chhorvorn, managing director of Mohanokor Radio, which was among those shuttered with little explanation.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 26 of 51

Mu Sochua, a senior member of the opposition party, said the fate of the free press and the arrest of Kem Sokha are part of a government strategy aimed at clearing the stage for Hun Sen ahead of elections next year.

"They think that any voice that is critical has to be eliminated — the media, independent analysts, human rights groups, trade unions, the opposition."

But free speech, she said, is critical for Cambodia to grow. "This is not about winning or not winning. It's about giving democracy a chance."

Although Cambodia is nominally a democratic state, its institutions remain fragile and the rule of law weak. Hun Sen, one of the world's longest-serving rulers, has been in office since 1985 and has held tightly onto it since. Contentious elections in recent years, however, have seen an emboldened opposition slowly chip away at his party's strength.

When the Daily was founded in 24 years ago by Bernard Kushner, a veteran American journalist now living in Tokyo, Cambodia's government, emerging from the chaos of years of war, was barely functioning.

DeJonge, who also worked for The Associated Press for more than 20 years, acknowledged the paper had not paid taxes for most of its existence, but it operated openly for years under the patronage of the late King Norodom Sihanouk, who stepped down from the throne in 2004. It has also run at a loss since at least 2008, so there were never going to be many taxes to pay.

It is unclear how the government's tax bill was calculated. Authorities never visited the paper to conduct an audit and never allowed an appeal.

When Kushner's daughter, Deborah Kushner-Steele, registered the paper properly in April and began paying taxes for the first time, it may have given the government the opening it was looking for. On Monday, the tax department requested immigration authorities prevent her husband, Douglas Steele, from leaving without paying up.

DeJonge said the paper's targeting clearly indicated political motives; as many as 90 percent of Cambodian businesses are not tax-compliant, she said.

"It's crushing that tomorrow we are not going to wake up and keep working," DeJonge said as dozens of reporters wearing blue-and-white T-shirts emblazoned with the words "Save Press Freedom" worked into the night Sunday on the paper's final edition.

A few had tears in their eyes.

"Cambodia's democracy is dying in the darkness. Who is going to shine a light on that now?" DeJonge said. "We just don't know."

Part of that task will be left to the English-language Phnom Penh Post, which on Monday was already calling itself "Cambodia's only international award-winning newspaper."

Associated Press writer Sopheng Cheang contributed to this report.

Millions who buy health insurance brace for sharp increases

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Millions of people who buy individual health insurance policies and get no financial help from the Affordable Care Act are bracing for another year of double-digit premium increases, and their frustration is boiling over.

Some are expecting premiums for 2018 to rival a mortgage payment.

What they pay is tied to the price of coverage on the health insurance markets created by the Obama-era law, but these consumers get no protection from the law's tax credits, which cushion against rising premiums. Instead they pay full freight and bear the brunt of market problems such as high costs and diminished competition.

On Capitol Hill, there's a chance that upcoming bipartisan hearings by Sens. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., and Patty Murray, D-Wash., can produce legislation offering some relief. But it depends on Republicans and Democrats working together despite a seven-year health care battle that has left raw feelings on both sides.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 27 of 51

The most exposed consumers tend to be middle-class people who don't qualify for the law's income-based subsidies. They include early retirees, skilled tradespeople, musicians, self-employed professionals, business owners, and people such as Sharon Thornton, whose small employer doesn't provide health insurance.

"We're caught in the middle-class loophole of no help," said Thornton, a hairdresser from Newark, Delaware. She said she's currently paying about \$740 a month in premiums, and expects her monthly bill next year to be around \$1,000, a 35 percent increase.

"It's like buying two new iPads a month and throwing them in the trash," said Thornton, whose policy carries a deductible of \$6,000. "To me, \$1,000 a month is my beach house that I wanted to have."

A suggestion that she could qualify for financial assistance by earning less only irritates her more. "My whole beef is that the government is telling me: 'If you work less, we'll give you more,'" said Thornton, who's in her 50s.

If people such as Thornton drop out, they not only gamble with their own health. Their departure also means the group left behind gets costlier to cover as healthier customers bail out. That's counter to the whole idea of insurance, which involves pooling risk.

It wasn't supposed to be this way.

Buying health insurance has always been a challenge for people getting their own policies outside the workplace. Before "Obamacare," insurers could turn away those with health problems or charge them more. Former President Barack Obama sold his plan as the long-awaited fix.

It would guarantee coverage regardless of health problems, provide tax credits and other subsidies for people of modest means, and generate competition among insurers to keep premiums in check for all. The overhaul sought to create one big insurance pool for individual coverage in each state, no matter whether consumers bought plans through HealthCare.gov or traditional middlemen such as insurance brokers.

But an influx of sicker-than-expected customers drove up costs for insurers, while many younger, healthier people stayed on the sidelines. Political opposition from Republicans complicated matters by gumming up the law's internal financial stabilizers for insurers.

The result was a 25 percent average increase in the price of a midlevel plan on HealthCare.gov heading into this year. Many states expect a similar scenario for 2018, but this time insurers say uncertainty about the Trump administration's intentions is driving up their bids ahead of the Nov. 1 start of open enrollment.

About 17.6 million people buy individual health insurance policies, and half of them get no subsidies under the law, according to estimates by the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation. The number of unsubsidized customers with ACA plans outside the health insurance marketplaces dropped by 20 percent this year, after the big premium increases.

"The unsubsidized part of the market outside the exchanges has shrunk noticeably as premiums have increased," said Kaiser's Larry Levitt. "It's likely that the people dropping out of the market are healthier overall. So the pool has potentially deteriorated."

It's time to shift focus in the health care debate, said Sen. Alexander, chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, which plans hearings beginning this coming week.

"The people who are really getting hammered — they are the ones we need to help," said Alexander, R-Tenn. "We've got a few weeks to come to consensus in this seven-year-old partisan stalemate and if we don't break it, some people will be priced out and badly hurt."

Alexander envisions limited legislation that guarantees disputed subsidies for copayments and deductibles another year, while giving states more leeway to design less-costly plans. Democrats are looking for financing to help insurers with high-cost cases. Experts say that guaranteeing the subsidies should lead to an immediate cut in premiums in many states.

Thornton, the Delaware hairdresser, said she doesn't know what to believe anymore. She said she voted for Donald Trump — her first time for a Republican — partly out of frustration with her health care costs.

"I'm ready to stomp on the White House lawn," she said. "I am fuming."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 28 of 51

Congress returns to Washington with agenda upended by Harvey

By ERICA WERNER, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Harvey has scrambled the equation for Congress as lawmakers get ready to return to Washington on Tuesday after a five-week summer recess.

A daunting workload awaits, including funding the government by month's end and increasing the federal borrowing limit to head off a catastrophic first-ever default.

But the immediate focus will be on rushing an aid package to storm-ravaged Texas and Louisiana, and that bipartisan imperative has pushed aside talk of a government shutdown and President Donald Trump's feuding with GOP lawmakers.

"Somebody who's just been pulled off their roof doesn't want to hear about our internecine squabbles and debates over procedure when they've lost their homes and are trying to figure out where they're going to sleep the next night," said Rep. Charlie Dent, R-Pa.

The House and Senate are expected to vote quickly on the first \$7.9 billion aid installment to help with immediate recovery and rebuilding needs in Houston and beyond. Additional billions will be tucked into a catchall spending bill later in the month that will keep the lights on in government past Sept. 30, when the current budget year ends.

After spending the first six months of the year failing to repeal and replace the Obama-era health law and missing deadlines on other fronts, swift action on Harvey will give Congress and Trump the chance to look competent and remind voters that government can be a positive force.

GOP lawmakers head into the final quarter of the year desperate to notch accomplishments and make headway on a sweeping tax overhaul, and the majority party is eager for the chance to turn around their dreary track record ahead of next year's elections.

"People need to know there's some stability here," said Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla. "We're not going to have to worry about defaults, we're not going to have to worry about government shutdowns, these guys are all grown-up, they're adults, and that ought to be the aim."

For Republican leaders, disaster spending has the added benefit of acting as a potential sweetener as they try to get colleagues to take the perennially unpopular step of raising the United States' \$19.9 trillion debt ceiling. That has to happen by Sept. 29 at the latest, to permit the government to continue borrowing money to pay its bills, including Social Security payments. A default on obligations such as U.S. bond payments could roil financial markets.

GOP leaders have been making plans to pair the debt limit increase with the first batch of Harvey aid. Conservatives who oppose raising the borrowing limit without getting something in exchange are warning against the step.

"To attach a debt ceiling vote to increased spending is not anything that any conservative would normally support," said Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., head of the House Freedom Caucus. Meadows said linking the two measures "puts everybody in a very difficult situation" and would not be practical.

Adding to the pile of work, a few important programs are expiring at the end of September and need to be renewed. They include children's health insurance payments and a national federal flood insurance program that has bipartisan support but continually pays out more than it takes in through premiums.

And Trump may be poised to throw another tricky issue Congress' way.

The White House says the president on Tuesday will decide the fate of the younger immigrants brought to the United States as kids and protected from deportation by former President Barack Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. If Trump ends or phases out the program, there will be pressure for Congress to step in with a fix to save nearly 800,000 from the threat of deportation.

"I think the president as well has mentioned that he wants to have a humane solution to this problem and I think that's something that we in Congress are working on and need to deliver," House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., said in an interview Friday with radio station WCLO in Wisconsin, after urging against ending the program.

Some Republicans have even begun to talk about the possibility of a deal to protect this group in ex-

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 29 of 51

change for Trump's border wall with Mexico, even though Democrats have called the wall a nonstarter.

Trump, despite threatening a government shutdown over the wall if it's not funded by Sept. 30, has pulled back. The expectation now is that the big spending fights will be delayed until later in the year, perhaps including a round of brinkmanship over the wall.

But for many Republicans, particularly Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., clearing the decks of the must-do items on spending and debt is all just a prelude to their work on overhauling the tax system, their holy grail for the year after the failure on health care legislation.

Despite Trump's attacks on McConnell over the summer, aides to the two men believe they share the same goals on taxes. Many believe that if they succeed on reworking taxes and lowering rates voters will forgive and forget the failure on health care. Some are arguing that a failure on taxes could cost the GOP its House majority because voters will question whether Republicans can accomplish anything after gaining control of Congress and the White House.

"It's extremely important. The failure of health care magnifies the importance of tax reform," Cole said. "You've got to get some big wins."

John Ashbery, celebrated and challenging poet, dies at 90

By HILLEL ITALIE, AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — John Ashbery, an enigmatic genius of modern poetry whose energy, daring and boundless command of language raised American verse to brilliant and baffling heights, died early Sunday at age 90.

Ashbery, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and often mentioned as a Nobel candidate, died at his home in Hudson, New York. His husband, David Kermani, said his death was from natural causes.

Few poets were so exalted in their lifetimes. Ashbery was the first living poet to have a volume published by the Library of America dedicated exclusively to his work. His 1975 collection, "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror," was the rare winner of the book world's unofficial triple crown: the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle prize. In 2011, he was given a National Humanities Medal and credited with changing "how we read poetry."

Among a generation that included Richard Wilbur, W.S. Merwin and Adrienne Rich, Ashbery stood out for his audacity and for his wordplay, for his modernist shifts between high oratory and everyday chatter, for his humor and wisdom and dazzling runs of allusions and sense impressions.

"No figure looms so large in American poetry over the past 50 years as John Ashbery," Langdon Hammer wrote in The New York Times in 2008. "Ashbery's phrases always feel newly minted; his poems emphasize verbal surprise and delight, not the ways that linguistic patterns restrict us."

But to love Ashbery, it helped to make sense of Ashbery, or least get caught up enough in such refrains as "You are freed/including barrels/heads of the swan/forestry/the night and stars fork" not to worry about their meaning. Writing for Slate, the critic and poet Meghan O'Rourke advised readers "not to try to understand the poems but to try to take pleasure from their arrangement, the way you listen to music." Writer Joan Didion once attended an Ashbery reading simply because she wanted to determine what the poet was writing about.

"I don't find any direct statements in life," Ashbery once explained to the Times in London. "My poetry imitates or reproduces the way knowledge or awareness comes to me, which is by fits and starts and by indirection. I don't think poetry arranged in neat patterns would reflect that situation."

Interviewed by The Associated Press in 2008, Ashbery joked that if he could turn his name into a verb, "to Ashbery," it would mean "to confuse the hell out of people."

Ashbery also was a highly regarded translator and critic. At various times, he was the art critic for The New York Herald-Tribune in Europe, New York magazine and Newsweek and the poetry critic for Partisan Review. He translated works by Arthur Rimbaud, Raymond Roussel and numerous other French writers. He was a teacher for many years, including at Brooklyn College, Harvard University and Bard College.

Starting at boarding school, when a classmate submitted his work (without his knowledge) to Poetry magazine, Ashbery enjoyed a long and productive career, so fully accumulating words in his mind that

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 30 of 51

he once told the AP that he rarely revised a poem once he wrote it down. More than 30 Ashbery books were published after the 1950s, including poetry, essays, translations and a novel, "A Nest of Ninnies," co-written with poet James Schuyler.

His masterpiece was likely the title poem of "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror," a densely written epic about art, time and consciousness that was inspired by a 16th century Italian painting of the same name. In 400-plus lines, Ashbery shifted from a critique of Parmigianino's painting to a meditation on the besieged 20th century mind.

I feel the carousel starting slowly
And going faster and faster: desk, papers, books,
Photographs of friends, the window and the trees
Merging in one neutral band that surrounds
Me on all sides, everywhere I look.
And I cannot explain the action of leveling,
Why it should all boil down to one
Uniform substance, a magma of interiors.

Ashbery was born in Rochester, New York, in 1927 and remembered himself as a lonely and bookish child, haunted by the early death of his younger brother, Richard, and conflicted by his attraction to other boys. Ashbery grew up on an apple farm in the nearby village of Sodus, where it snowed often enough to help inspire his first poem, "The Battle," written at age 8 and a fantasy about a fight between bunnies and snowflakes. He would claim to be so satisfied with the poem and so intimidated by the praise of loved ones that he didn't write another until boarding school, the Deerfield Academy, when his work was published in the school paper.

Meanwhile, he took painting lessons and found new meaning in *Life*, the magazine. An article about a surrealist exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art so impressed him that he kept rereading it for years. At Harvard University, he read W.H. Auden and Marianne Moore and met fellow poet and longtime comrade, Kenneth Koch, along with Wilbur, Donald Hall, Robert Bly, Frank O'Hara and Robert Creeley. He would be grouped with O'Hara and Koch as part of the avant-garde "New York Poets" movement, although Ashbery believed what they really had in common was living in New York.

His first book, "Some Trees," was a relatively conventional collection that came out in 1956, with a preface from Auden and the praise of O'Hara, who likened Ashbery to Wallace Stevens. But in 1962, he unleashed "The Tennis Court Oath," poems so abstract that critic John Simon accused him of crafting verse without "sensibility, sensuality or sentences." Ashbery later told the AP that parts of the book "were written in a period of almost desperation" and because he was living in France at the time, he had fallen "out of touch with American speech, which is really the kind of fountainhead of my poetry."

"I actually went through a period after 'The Tennis Court Oath' wondering whether I was really going to go on writing poetry, since nobody seemed interested in it," he said. "And then I must have said to myself, 'Well, this is what I enjoy. I might as well go on doing it, since I'm not going to get the same pleasure anywhere else.'"

His 1966 collection, "Rivers and Mountains," was a National Book Award finalist that helped restore his standing and "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror" raised him to the pantheon. In 2011, he was given an honorary National Book Award for lifetime achievement and declared he was "quite pleased" with his "status in the world of writers."

His style ranged from rhyming couplets to haiku to blank verse, and his interests were as vast as his gifts for expressing them. He wrote of love, music, movies, the seasons, the city and the country, and was surely the greatest poet ever to compose a hymn to President Warren Harding. As he aged, he became ever more sensitive to mortality and reputation. "How to Continue" was an elegy for the sexual revolution among gays in the 1960s and '70s, a party turned tragic by the deadly arrival of AIDS, "a gale (that) came and said/it is time to take all of you away."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 31 of 51

Reflecting on his work, Ashbery boasted about "strutted opinion doomed to wilt in oblivion," but acknowledged that "I grew/To feel I was beyond criticism, until I flew/Those few paces from the best." In the poem "In a Wonderful Place," published in the 2009 collection "Planisphere," he offered a brief, bittersweet look back.

I spent years exhausting my good works
on the public, all for seconds
Time to shut down colored alphabets
flutter in the fresh breeze of autumn. It
draws like a rout. Or a treat.

AP sources: Trump expected to end 'Dreamers' program

By JILL COLVIN and CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is expected to announce that he will end protections for young immigrants who were brought into the country illegally as children, but with a six-month delay, people familiar with the plans said Sunday.

The delay in the formal dismantling of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program would be intended to give Congress time to decide whether it wants to address the status of the so-called Dreamers in legislation, according to two people familiar with the president's thinking. But it was not immediately clear how the six-month delay would work in practice and what would happen to people who currently have work permits under the program, or whose permits expire during the six-month stretch.

It also was unclear exactly what would happen if Congress failed to pass a measure by the considered deadline. Two people familiar with the president's thinking spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter ahead of a planned Tuesday announcement.

The president, who has been grappling with the issue for months, has been known to change his mind in the past and could still shift course. The plan was first reported by Politico Sunday evening.

Trump has been wrestling for months with what to do with the Obama-era DACA program, which has given nearly 800,000 young immigrants a reprieve from deportation and the ability to work legally in the form of two-year, renewable work permits.

The expected move would come as the White House faces a Tuesday deadline set by Republican state officials threatening to continue sue the Trump administration if the president did not end the program. It also would come as Trump digs in on appeals to his base as he finds himself increasingly under fire, with his poll numbers hanging at near-record lows.

Trump had been personally torn as late as last week over how to deal with what are undoubtedly the most sympathetic immigrants living in the U.S. illegally. Many came to the U.S. as young children and have no memories of or connections to the countries they were born in.

During his campaign, Trump slammed DACA as illegal "amnesty" and vowed to eliminate the program the day he took office. But since his election, Trump has wavered on the issue, at one point telling The Associated Press that those covered could "rest easy."

Trump had been unusually candid as he wrestled with the decision in the early months of his administration. During a February press conference, he said the topic was "a very, very difficult subject for me, I will tell you. To me, it's one of the most difficulty subjects I have."

"You have some absolutely incredible kids — I would say mostly," he said. adding: "I love these kids."

All the while, his administration continued to process applications and renew DACA work permits, to the dismay of immigration hard-liners.

News of the president's expected decision appeared to anger advocates on both sides of the issue.

"IF REPORTS ARE TRUE, Pres Trump better prepare for the civil rights fight of his admin. A clean DREAM Act is now a Nat Emergency #DefendDACA," tweeted New Jersey Sen. Bob Menendez, a Democrat.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 32 of 51

But Rep. Steve King, an Iowa Republican who has called DACA unconstitutional, warned that a delay in dismantling it would amount to "Republican suicide."

"Ending DACA now gives chance 2 restore Rule of Law. Delaying so R Leadership can push Amnesty is Republican suicide," he wrote.

It would be up to congressional lawmakers to pass a measure to protect those who have been covered under the program. While there is considerable support for that prospect among Democrats and moderate Republicans, Congress is already facing a packed fall agenda and has had a poor track record in recent years in passing immigration-related bills.

House Speaker Paul Ryan and a number of other legislators urged Trump last week to hold off on scrapping DACA to give them time to come up with a legislative fix.

"These are kids who know no other country, who are brought here by their parents and don't know another home. And so I really do believe that there needs to be a legislative solution," Ryan told Wisconsin radio station WCLO.

The Obama administration created the DACA program in 2012 as a stopgap to protect some young immigrants from deportation as they pushed unsuccessfully for a broader immigration overhaul in Congress.

The program protected people in the country illegally who could prove they arrived before they were 16, had been in the United States for several years and had not committed a crime while being here. It mimicked versions of the so-called DREAM Act, which would have provided legal status for young immigrants but was never passed by Congress.

As of July 31, 2015, more than 790,000 young immigrants had been approved under the program, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

The House under Democratic control passed a Dream Act in 2010 but it died in the Senate. But since Republicans retook control of the House in late 2010, it has grown increasingly hardline on immigration, killing the Senate's comprehensive immigration bill in 2013 and failing to even take up a GOP border security bill two years later because of objections from conservatives.

Many House Republicans represent highly conservative districts. The primary upset of the former House Majority Leader Eric Cantor to a conservative challenger in 2014 in a campaign that cast him as soft on illegal immigration convinced many House Republicans that pro-immigrant stances could cost them politically.

So despite Ryan's personal commitment on the issue and his rhetoric in favor of the young immigrants, action to protect them may be unlikely in the House — absent intense lobbying from Trump.

Associated Press writer Ken Thomas contributed to this report.

Houston braces for more flooding, chemical plant fires out

By **MICHAEL GRACZYK** and **WILL WEISSERT**, Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Authorities carried out a controlled burn Sunday at a chemical plant damaged by Harvey, sending small flames and gray smoke into the sky, after saying the highly unstable compounds that had caused previous explosions needed to be neutralized.

Small flames burning in charred structures were seen, with a limited amount of the smoke, from the Arkema plant in Crosby, outside Houston. Sam Mannan, a chemical safety expert at Texas A&M University, said the gray smoke indicated a more complete burn with fewer harmful chemicals remaining. By Sunday night, officials said all fires at the plant were out.

Officials said the "proactive measures" to ignite six remaining trailers didn't pose additional risks to the community. People living within a mile and a half of the site are still evacuated, and the fire marshal's office says state, federal and local agencies will keep monitoring the air.

Three trailers containing unstable compounds had previously caught fire at the plant after backup generators were engulfed by Harvey's floodwaters, which knocked out the refrigeration necessary to keep them from degrading and igniting.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 33 of 51

Some Houston officials stressed that the recovery from Harvey was beginning, and Mayor Sylvester Turner proclaimed America's fourth-largest city "open for business." But the on-the-ground reality varied by place.

Utility crews went door-to-door shutting off power and warning those still in some waterlogged homes in western parts of the city that still more flooding could be heading their way — not from rain but from releases of water in overtaxed reservoirs. Thousands of Houston dwellings were under new, mandatory evacuation orders, though about 300 people were thought to be refusing to leave.

Some homes in the area, which included brick two-story and ranch homes with manicured lawns bordering Buffalo Bayou, remained evacuated but people briefly returned Sunday to try to salvage valuables like family photos.

"I called 911 for 15 minutes; no one answered. My neighbor had a canoe and saved us," said Gaston Kirby, who evacuated Aug. 27 with his two young children. When they left, he said, their home had about 2 inches of water and got another 2 feet from Harvey. But the reservoir releases added at least another 3 feet.

Contradictions could be seen as well in some people taking a break from their cleanup efforts in the sweltering heat to worship on a "National Day of Prayer," while others worried about thefts in storm-ravaged neighborhoods.

Harvey slammed into Texas on Aug. 25 as a Category 4 hurricane, but brought the worst flooding to Houston and other areas as a tropical storm. The rain totaled nearly 52 inches (1.3 meters) in some spots, and the storm is blamed for at least 44 deaths.

President Donald Trump has asked Congress for a \$7.9 billion down payment toward Harvey relief and recovery efforts. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott suggested the cost of recovery could be as much as \$180 billion.

Turner insisted, however, that much of the city was hoping to get back on track after Labor Day.

"Anyone who was planning on a conference or a convention or a sporting event or a concert coming to this city, you can still come," the mayor said on the CBS show "Face the Nation." "We can do multiple things at the same time."

In the southwest Bellaire neighborhood, police received reports of scavengers picking through water-damaged possessions and urged those cleaning up to keep anything left outside to dry closer to their homes and separate from what was considered a total loss. In the suburb of Dickinson, one homeowner used orange spray paint on a sheet of dirty plywood to warn: "Looters Will B Shot."

Robert Lockey, a 48-year-old school district bus monitor, worked to clean up his flooded home in Spring, Texas, outside Houston, in the 94-degree heat. A pile of wooden doors lay in his yard next to ripped-out drywall.

"They're sweating to death," Lockey said, looking at his neighbors and their similar piles of debris. Added his roommate, Elizabeth Hallman: "This definitely is not fun."

Meanwhile, repairs continued on the water treatment plant in Beaumont, about 85 miles from Houston, which failed after the swollen Neches River inundated the main intake system and backup pumps halted. In the nearby town of Vidor, Pat Lawrence and her fiancé, Jim Frasier, hopped on a tractor, the only way they could make it to services at the Pine Forest Baptist Church.

"You can't hardly comprehend all the water that's around," Lawrence said. "I've been in my house since last Saturday."

Sunday was declared a day of prayer in Texas and across the nation. At St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church in the Gulf Coast city of Port Aransas, the clergy set out holy water and bug spray, and many anointed themselves with both.

"We will remember the destruction of this uninvited guest but we will never stop being a people of hospitality" the Rev. Kris Bauta told about 50 worshippers. Harvey's storm surge ended just three feet from the building.

Outside the town of Liberty, about 45 miles from Houston, dozens of people were still cut off by the swollen Trinity River. Maggie King and her two children greeted a Texas National Guard helicopter that landed at the local fire department with pallets of drinking water.

"It's so far from over," King said. "There's so much more that has to be repaired from here."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 34 of 51

Weissert reported from Austin, Texas. Associated Press writers Jamie Stengle in Dallas; Kelly P. Kissel in Port Aransas, Texas; Jay Reeves in Liberty, Texas; and Johnny Clark in Vidor, Texas, contributed to this report.

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Mattis: NKorea threat would bring massive military response

By ROBERT BURNS and CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Jim Mattis on Sunday shot back at North Korea's claimed test of a hydrogen bomb with a blunt threat, saying the U.S. will answer any threat from the North with a "massive military response — a response both effective and overwhelming." Earlier, President Donald Trump threatened to halt all trade with countries doing business with the North, a veiled warning to China, and faulted South Korea for its "talk of appeasement."

The tough talk from America's commander in chief and the retired Marine general he picked to oversee the Pentagon came as the Trump administration searched for a response to the escalating crisis. Kim Jong Un's regime on Sunday claimed "perfect success" in an underground test of what it called a hydrogen bomb. It was the North's sixth nuclear test since 2006 — the first since Trump took office in January — and involved a device potentially vastly more powerful than a nuclear bomb.

Trump, asked by a reporter during a trip to church services if he would attack the North, said: "We'll see." No U.S. military action appeared imminent, and the immediate focus appeared to be on ratcheting up economic penalties, which have had little effect thus far.

In South Korea, the nation's military said it conducted a live-fire exercise simulating an attack on North Korea's nuclear test site to "strongly warn" Pyongyang over the latest nuclear test. Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the drill involved F-15 fighter jets and the country's land-based "Hyunmoo" ballistic missiles. The released live weapons "accurately struck" a target in the sea off the country's eastern coast, the JCS said.

The U.N. Security Council scheduled an emergency meeting at the request of the U.S., Japan, France, Britain and South Korea. It would be the Security Council's second urgent session in under a week on the North's weapons tests, which have continued in the face of a series of sanctions.

Members of Congress expressed alarm at the North's test and emphasized strengthening U.S. missile defenses. Leaders in Russia, China and Europe issued condemnations.

In briefs remarks after a White House meeting with Trump and other national security officials, Mattis told reporters that America does not seek the "total annihilation" of the North, but then added somberly, "We have many options to do so." The administration has emphasized its pursuit of diplomatic solutions, knowing the potentially horrific costs of war with the North. But the decision to have Mattis deliver a public statement seemed to suggest an escalating crisis.

Mattis also said the international community is unified in demanding the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and that Kim should know that Washington's commitment to Japan and South Korea is unshakable.

The precise strength of the underground nuclear explosion had yet to be determined. South Korea's weather agency said the artificial earthquake caused by the explosion was five times to six times stronger than tremors generated by the North's previous five tests.

North Korea's state-run television broadcast a special bulletin to announce the test, and said Kim attended a meeting of the ruling party's presidium and signed the go-ahead order. Earlier, the party's newspaper published photos of Kim examining what it said was a nuclear warhead being fitted onto an intercontinental ballistic missile.

Sunday's detonation builds on recent North Korean advances that include test launches in July of two ICBMs that are believed to be capable of reaching the mainland U.S. The North says its missile develop-

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 35 of 51

ment is part of a defensive effort to build a viable nuclear deterrent that can target U.S. cities.

The Arms Control Association said the explosion appeared to produce a yield in excess of 100 kilotons of TNT equivalent, which it said strongly suggests the North tested a high-yield but compact nuclear weapon that could be launched on a missile of intermediate or intercontinental range.

Hans Kristensen, a nuclear weapons expert at the Federation of American Scientists, said the North probably will need to do more tests before achieving a functioning hydrogen bomb design.

Beyond the science of the blast, North Korea's accelerating push to field a nuclear weapon that can target all of the United States is creating political complications for the U.S. as it seeks to balance resolve with reassurance to allies that Washington will uphold its decadeslong commitment to deter nuclear attack on South Korea and Japan.

That is why some questioned Trump's jab Sunday at South Korea. He tweeted that Seoul is finding that its "talk of appeasement" will not work. The North Koreans, he added, "only understand one thing," implying military force might be required. The U.S. has about 28,000 troops stationed in South Korea and is obliged by treaty to defend it in the event of war.

Patrick Cronin, an Asia expert with the Center for a New American Security, said Trump's comment on South Korea was probably "intended to stiffen the spine of an ally." He said he agreed with the intention.

"I think Washington is very serious about showing some unexpected resolve," he said. "We need our ally and we need to remain ironclad. But at the same time, we can't afford South Korea to go weak in facing down this growing danger."

Trump also suggested putting more pressure on China, the North's patron for many decades and a vital U.S. trading partner, in hopes of persuading Beijing to exert more effective leverage on its neighbor. Trump tweeted that the U.S. is considering "stopping all trade with any country doing business with North Korea." Such a halt would be radical. The U.S. imports about \$40 billion in goods a month from China, North Korea's main commercial partner.

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was calling counterparts in Asia.

It's unclear what kind of sanctions might make a difference. Lassina Zerbo, head of the U.N. test ban treaty organization, said sanctions already imposed against North Korea aren't working.

China's official Xinhua News Agency said President Xi Jinping and Russian leader Vladimir Putin, meeting on the sidelines of a Beijing-led economic summit, agreed "to adhere to the goal of the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, have close communication and coordination and properly respond" to the test.

Experts have questioned whether the North has gone too far down the nuclear road to continue pushing for a denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, an Obama administration policy goal still embraced by Trump's White House.

"Denuclearization is not a viable U.S. policy goal," said Richard Fontaine, president of the Center for a New American Security, but neither should the U.S. accept North Korea as a nuclear power. "We should keep denuclearization as a long-term aspiration, but recognize privately that it's unachievable anytime soon."

Trump warned last month that the U.S. military was "locked and loaded, should North Korea act unwisely" and that the U.S. would unleash "fire and fury" on the North if it continued to threaten America. The bellicose words followed threats from North Korea to launch ballistic missiles toward the U.S. Pacific territory of Guam, intending to create "enveloping fire" near the military hub that's home to U.S. bombers and other aircraft.

Associated Press writer Eric Talmadge in Tokyo contributed to this report.

Steely Dan co-founder, guitarist, Walter Becker dies at 67

By LINDSEY BAHR, AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A rock and roll fan with a penchant for harmony and obtuse references, Walter Becker, the guitarist, bassist and co-founder of the 1970s rock group Steely Dan, which sold more than 40 million albums and produced such hit singles as "Reelin' In the Years," "Rikki Don't Lose that Number"

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 36 of 51

and "Deacon Blues" died Sunday. He was 67.

His official website announced his death Sunday with no further details.

Donald Fagen said in a statement Sunday that his Steely Dan bandmate was not only "an excellent guitarist and a great songwriter" but also "smart as a whip," "hysterically funny" and "cynical about human nature, including his own."

"I intend to keep the music we created together alive as long as I can with the Steely Dan band," Fagen wrote.

Although Steely Dan had been touring recently, Becker had missed performances earlier in the summer in Los Angeles and New York. Fagen later told Billboard that Becker was recovering from a procedure. Fagen said at the time he hoped that Becker would be fine soon.

Musicians were quick to mourn Becker on social media Sunday. Mark Ronson tweeted that Becker was "one half of the team I aspire to every time I sit down at a piano."

Both Ryan Adams and the band The Mountain Goats tweeted that Becker changed their lives. Slash posted a photo of Becker on Instagram, writing "RIP #WalterBecker".

A Queens native who started out playing the saxophone and eventually picked up the guitar, Becker met Fagen as a student at Bard College in 1967.

"We started writing nutty little tunes on an upright piano in a small sitting room in the lobby of Ward Manor, a mouldering old mansion on the Hudson River that the college used as a dorm," Fagen recalled in his statement. "We liked a lot of the same things: jazz (from the twenties through the mid-sixties), W.C. Fields, the Marx Brothers, science fiction, (Vladimir) Nabokov, Kurt Vonnegut, Thomas Berger, and Robert Altman films come to mind. Also soul music and Chicago blues."

They played with the 1960s pop group Jay and the Americans and penned the song "I Mean to Shine," performed by Barbara Streisand in 1971 before moving to California and founding the band, which they named after a sex toy in William S. Burroughs' 1959 novel "Naked Lunch."

"Like a lot of kids from fractured families, he had the knack of creative mimicry, reading people's hidden psychology and transforming what he saw into bubbly, incisive art," Fagen recalled.

Their first album as Steely Dan, "Can't Buy Me a Thrill" was released in 1972, and featured both "Do It Again" and "Reelin' In the Years." A lukewarm Rolling Stone review from the time said it contained "three top-level cuts and scattered moments of inspiration."

The band continued producing albums throughout the 1970s, Boasting songs penned by Fagen and Becker and music provided by some of the best session musicians in the business.

"It wouldn't bother me at all," Becker said in an interview, "not to play on my own album."

In their music, Steely Dan offered an idiosyncratic combination of rock and jazz, backed with subversive and literary lyrics that neither expected many fans to understand — and which they themselves sometimes claimed to not understand. They scored a big hit with "Rikki Don't Lose that Number" in 1974 before hitting a high point in 1977 with the album "Aja."

"What underlies Steely Dan's music — and may, with this album, be showing its limitations — is its extreme intellectual self-consciousness, both in music and lyrics," wrote critic Michael Duffy in Rolling Stone in 1977 of the album. "Given the nature of these times, this may be precisely the quality that makes Walter Becker and Donald Fagen the perfect musical antiheroes for the Seventies."

But it wasn't quite enough to sustain Steely Dan past their next studio album, "Gaucho." They broke up in 1981 after the album's release.

Becker had suffered some personal hardships during this time, including addiction, his girlfriend's death by overdose and a resulting lawsuit, and a serious injury he sustained after being struck by a cab. When Steely Dan disbanded, Becker retreated to Maui and began growing avocados, while Fagen attempted a solo career.

Becker eventually reunited with Fagen and, after a nearly 20 year hiatus, released two albums: "Two Against Nature," which won four Grammys, including album of the year in 2001, and "Everything Must Go."

They were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2001.

Ever sardonic and ornery, when they got back together and started touring again, Becker joked in an

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 37 of 51

NPR interview that they were going to be wearing defibrillator backpacks during their performances just in case something went wrong.

When the interviewer asked about bands touring past their prime, Becker just said: "People were already thinking that about us in the '70s. It would be a shame if they didn't continue to think that."

A slow Labor Day caps a down summer at the box office

By LINDSEY BAHR, AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — With no new wide releases, Hollywood basically took the Labor Day weekend off and put an end to what's expected to be the lowest earning summer movie going season since 2006 — the last time the industry saw a sub-\$4 billion summer.

Things weren't as apocalyptic as analysts suggested going into the weekend, which had the potential to be the worst since 1992, but that's hardly cause for celebration. While official numbers for the four-day weekend won't be available until Tuesday, studio estimates and projections expect that in total this Labor Day weekend will be the lowest earning since 1998.

"There's no sugar coating the fact that this was a very slow labor day weekend," said Paul Dergarabedian, the senior media analyst for comScore. "This was a fitting end to a rough summer."

Some did make it out to the multiplexes over the holiday weekend, though. According to studio estimates on Sunday, the R-rated actioner "The Hitman's Bodyguard" topped the charts for a third weekend with \$10.3 million. The Samuel L. Jackson and Ryan Reynolds pic has earned a total of \$54.9 million from North American theaters.

In second place was the horror spinoff "Annabelle: Creation," from Warner Bros., which added \$7.3 million, bumping its domestic total to \$89 million.

The Weinstein Company took spots three and four, with the crime drama "Wind River" in third with \$5.9 million, and the animated family film "Leap!" in fourth with \$4.9 million.

However the company's new opener, the long-delayed period romance "Tulip Fever," wilted on release. Playing in 765 locations, the R-rated drama starring Alicia Vikander and Dane DeHaan, earned only \$1.2 million.

Steven Soderbergh's "Logan Lucky" rounded out the top five with \$4.4 million.

Audiences did have a few unconventional options to choose from this weekend, including a 40th anniversary re-release of Steven Spielberg's sci-fi classic "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and an IMAX-only run of the pilot episode of Marvel's "Inhumans." Neither made a significant splash, though.

"Close Encounters of the Third Kind" earned \$1.8 million from 901 locations, while "Inhumans" took in \$1.5 million from 393 North American IMAX screens in advance of its Sept. 29 premiere on ABC.

Still, Dergarabedian notes that both smartly took advantage of a quiet weekend and added money to the bottom line.

And as Hollywood looks to forget the dismal summer of 2017, which will likely cap out with just over \$3.8 billion, there is a bright spot on the horizon in the form of a red balloon and a homicidal clown as "It" prepares to break records when it hits theaters next weekend.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Tuesday.

1. "The Hitman's Bodyguard," \$10.3 million (\$14.2 million international).
2. "Annabelle: Creation," \$7.3 million (\$15.6 million international).
3. "Wind River," \$5.9 million (\$850,000 international).
4. "Leap!" \$4.9 million.
5. "Logan Lucky," \$4.4 million (\$1.3 million international).
6. "Dunkirk," \$4.1 million (\$36.5 million international).
7. "Spider-Man: Homecoming," \$3.7 million (\$1.6 million international).
8. "The Emoji Movie," \$2.5 million (\$6.8 million international).

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 38 of 51

9. "Despicable Me 3," \$2.4 million (\$9.9 million international).
10. "Girls Trip," \$2.3 million (\$1.9 million international).

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. "Dunkirk," \$36.5 million.
2. "Annabelle: Creation," \$15.6 million.
3. "The Hitman's Bodyguard," \$14.2 million.
4. "Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets," \$11.3 million.
5. "Despicable Me 3," \$9.9 million.
6. "Silver Soul (Gintama)," \$9.5 million.
7. "American Made," \$9.1 million.
8. "Wolf Warrior 2," \$8.7 million.
9. "Cars 3," \$8.6 million.
10. "The Emoji Movie," \$6.8 million.

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Follow AP Film Writer Lindsey Bahr on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/lbahr>

Teen's bar mitzvah gives Houston chance to commiserate, heal

By JULIET LINDERMAN, Associated Press

BELLAIRE, Texas (AP) — It wasn't a typical bar mitzvah, but then nothing has been typical in the Houston area since Harvey came ashore as a powerful hurricane and left whole sections of the city underwater, including its predominantly Jewish neighborhood.

Rabbi Scott Hausman-Weiss opened Saturday's ceremony ushering 13-year-old Doran Evan Yustein into manhood by pointing out the importance of coming together as a congregation and broader community during such times of hardship.

"We have an obligation to celebrate, nonetheless, because we are alive and have what is most important: ourselves, our families and this great opportunity to be together," he said.

Hausman-Weiss is the rabbi for Shma Koleinu, a roving Jewish congregation without a permanent house of worship, and he's been tending to his flock despite being forced from his home by the flooding. On the Friday the storm hit, he held a service on Facebook for congregants who were busy getting their own homes ready or who were riding out the storm outside the city.

With his home so damaged, Hausman-Weiss couldn't hold services there this past Friday night. And so on Saturday, the first Shabbat, or Sabbath, since the previous weekend's catastrophic flooding, Doran and his family opened his bar mitzvah service — typically an invite-only affair — to anyone from the larger Jewish community who wanted to come. It was held at congregation Brith Shalom's synagogue in Bellaire, a Houston enclave.

"We wanted people to come and celebrate the bar mitzvah, but also offer prayers for the community, because there's been so much sadness, and so many lives have been affected," said Doran's mother, Gabrielle Moses. The day before, the family helped Doran's Hebrew teacher, Debbie Uzick, clean her house. She lost everything in the flood.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 39 of 51

Flooding has had an outsized presence on this fledgling congregation. Its founder, David Rosenfeld, died suddenly the day before a Memorial Day flood in 2015. Hausman-Weiss and his wife, Natalie, waded through floodwaters to help bury him, she said. This time, the Hausman-Weisses were rescued by a congregant; nearly 60 people from the Jewish community showed up to help them in the days that followed.

"This is the time you need your community," Natalie Hausman-Weiss said. "This is the time when you need people to show they care and lift you up." Holding an open service "was a good opportunity for that," she said.

On Saturday evening, the synagogue was about half-full. Some were friends and family of Doran's. Others, including Bernadine Frank, came because they needed to feel connected after such a trying week.

"We're all in need of some prayer right now," said Frank, who saw the open invitation on social media.

Laurie Gass, a congregation member and religious school teacher, said it was important for her to attend services after going through such an ordeal.

"It's about healing and to celebrate a happy occasion," she said. "And after the last week, of all the bad things, it's very joyful to have something happy."

This story has been corrected to reflect that the quote beginning "This is the time you need your community..." was from Natalie Hausman-Weiss, not Gabrielle Moses.

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Houston's homeless shrug off riding out Harvey on streets

By MATT SEDENSKY, AP National Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — To the masses, it was a vicious blast of nature's cruelty, a bruising brawl to survive, a forced trip to an uncertain future. To the few, it was just another miserable day.

For all the hardship and pain unleashed by Hurricane Harvey, many of Houston's homeless shrugged it off.

"We ain't got nothing to lose anyway," said Eric Brian, one of the thousands of the city's dispossessed.

Brian is 63 and is resting against a chain-link fence in midtown Houston, where he's lived on the streets the past two years. He's not interested in elaborating on the family problem that drove him here, and doesn't think people care too much what happens to the homeless anyway. He says he never thought twice about seeking shelter even as the torrents came down.

A few blocks away, beneath an overpass for Interstate 59, about 20 tents are clustered with dozens of bikes, numerous charcoal grills, the occasional piece of furniture and mounds of trash. Many of the dozens who live here chose to brave Harvey in this place they call home, where pigeons gather to pick at food scraps and the steady hum and clacking of overhead traffic sounds.

Asked why he did not fear the storm, Billy Matthews, 46, points upward, to the tons of concrete overhead that shelter him. He began staying here about two weeks ago, when he said he finished a yearlong prison stay for stealing a pair of Gucci sunglasses from the mall. For him, he said, Harvey was nothing.

"It's just rain," he said, echoing the words of others on the streets.

Some who live in the camp have phones or try to follow the news, but others rely entirely on the scraps of information passed along by their neighbors. They do not know whether to believe the stories they hear of how devastating the storm was, of overflowing rivers and swamped neighborhoods; they know only that flooding in their camp was minor, leaving them on muddy ground.

The camp's unofficial leader is Stanley Unc, 56. He too came here after time in jail, most recently for a drunken-driving arrest. He says even if conditions were worse here, many wouldn't have blinked — they are toughened by lives lived outside. He said others can't grasp what their lives are like each day, much less on a day when a Category 4 hurricane hits.

"They know what it took them through and we went right in the middle of it," he said.

For those who work with those on the streets, the steely assessment of the storm by the homeless is

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 40 of 51

not entirely surprising.

"They experience a different world than people who are not in their circumstances," said Joseph Cohen of the Salvation Army, which housed about 450 homeless people in its Houston facility. He said advocates are bracing for what may come next as waters further recede; help for the homeless, often hard to come by under normal circumstances, likely will be even more challenging in the storm's aftermath. To many affected by Harvey, there is newfound loss. To the homeless, though, it may be more familiar.

"It's heartbreaking every day," Cohen said.

Some of Houston's homeless did seek protection from the storm. The Coalition for the Homeless in Houston said its staff worked with partner organizations and the police department's homeless outreach teams to direct people to shelter ahead of landfall.

Desiree DeMarco, 29, turned to Ben Taub Hospital for refuge. She suffers from bipolar disorder and other mental conditions and had been seeing things and hearing voices as the storm approached. She works as a prostitute but hasn't had a good customer in a while. She said she didn't even have enough money in her pockets for a soda and figured the hospital was the only place she could go.

"I needed to get out of the rain," she said. "I needed to go somewhere."

Antonio Scoggins also ended up in the hospital. The 43-year-old man woke up at St. Joseph Medical Center as Harvey roared. Before the storm hit, he was knocked unconscious in a fight he can barely remember. He later wound up at Ben Taub's neuropsychiatric center because he suffers from schizoaffective disorder.

He was discharged Wednesday, wearing the light blue paper shirt they gave him, and dabbing a right knee still oozing blood with a hospital-issued boot.

Scoggins became homeless after relapsing into cocaine use a year ago. He sleeps beneath a Gulf Freeway overpass in southeast Houston and even though he has no walls or roof, he considers it home and was desperate to get back. As the hospital let him go, they handed him a yellow bus pass, though service had not been restored. He sat at a stop outside for a bus that would never come.

"I have nowhere to go," he said. "I don't know."

Earlier this year, an official count required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development found about 3,400 homeless people in Houston, without doubt an undercount of the problem in a city of 2.3 million but still the best official data available. Despite the uncertainty over the precise number of homeless people, there is general consensus there have been improving conditions over the past decade as locals undertook efforts to increase housing opportunities and made other changes aimed at getting people off the streets.

After Hurricane Katrina hit in 2005, New Orleans and Jefferson Parish saw its official count of homeless go from 2,000 people to 9,000 four years later. It wasn't until 2014 that it dipped to pre-storm numbers. Not every place hit with historic disasters has seen such a prolific surge in homelessness, but it has advocates nervous.

Nan Roman, president and CEO of the National Alliance to End Homelessness, said Houston will be "sorely tested" in the storm's aftermath. "A lot of poor and vulnerable people who lost their homes will be at risk of homelessness because there will be less affordable housing to replace them," she said by email.

Back at the homeless tent camp, 41-year-old Michelle Brown spoke of how she and others "just need an opportunity and a chance," and said a hurricane did nothing to change that. She's lived here for a few months, since an electrical fire torched her apartment. Her renter's insurance only went so far; living outside, her hygiene deteriorated, and the restaurant where she worked as a cook no longer wanted her. She cringes at the people who slow down as they drive by, gawking at this community as if it's a zoo, and she rejects stereotypes that most homeless people are "lowlifes and drug addicts."

Harvey, she said, was in most ways no different than so many days before it. She thinks it underscored the thing homeless people do best.

"The main thing people do here is survive and make it another day," she said.

Associated Press writer Geoff Mulvihill in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, contributed to this report.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 41 of 51

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The Latest: UN looking into 2nd North Korean seismic shock

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The Latest on North Korea's nuclear test and the world reaction (all times local):

7 p.m.

The head of the U.N. organization looking into North Korea's recent nuclear test says it is seeking information about a second seismic shock that followed the detonation to rule out the possibility it was a second explosion.

Lassina Zerbo of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization says experts believe the second shock was geological and was caused by the blast.

But he told reporters Monday that because it was recorded at the same location, the experts are working to have a better understanding of what caused the second shock.

The U.N. Security Council is to hold an emergency meeting on Monday to discuss responses to Sunday's nuclear test, North Korea's most powerful to date.

6 p.m.

Switzerland's president says her country could help mediate the standoff between North Korea and other countries over its nuclear and missile programs.

Doris Leuthard said Monday the small, proudly neutral Alpine country that has represented U.S. interests in places like Iran and Cuba in the past could now use "its good services as a mediator" to help address the tensions.

She said: "We are ready to also offer our role for good services as a mediator, and in the coming weeks it will all depend on how the U.S. and China can have an influence in this crisis."

Swiss cities have hosted numerous international mediation efforts over the years, and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un once studied in Switzerland.

Speaking to journalists in the Swiss capital, Bern, Leuthard said: "Perhaps these actions of North Korea are also an invitation for dialogue: We'll see."

She added, "it's really time for dialogue."

5:30 p.m.

A senior Russian diplomat has strongly condemned North Korea's latest nuclear test.

The U.N. Security Council is scheduled to hold an emergency meeting, its second in less than a week, after North Korea conducted its most powerful nuclear test to date.

In unusually strong language, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov on Monday urged North Korea to "stop provocative actions that destabilize the situation."

He said Moscow sees "a dangerous trend in how quickly North Korea is making progress" in its nuclear program.

Ryabkov insisted that Moscow still sees diplomacy as the only viable solution to the Korea crisis.

He said: "The one who is stronger and smarter should show restraint."

Ryabkov was speaking to Russian news agencies on the sidelines of a summit of major emerging economies in China.

5:15 p.m.

China has warned North Korea against proceeding with its reported plans to launch another ballistic missile, saying it should not worsen tensions.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told reporters Monday that North Korea "must be

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 42 of 51

very clear" that U.N. Security Council resolutions prohibit such activities.

South Korea's Defense Ministry said Monday that North Korea appeared to be planning a future missile launch, possibly of an ICBM.

In Beijing, Geng said China hopes all parties, especially North Korea, "exercise restraint and refrain from further escalating tensions."

Geng also said that China had lodged "stern representations" with the North Korean Embassy in Beijing after the North conducted its sixth nuclear test on Sunday.

5 p.m.

South Korea says Donald Trump's national security adviser H.R. McMaster spoke with his South Korean counterpart on Monday, a third time the two spoke since North Korea's sixth nuclear test.

South Korea's presidential office said Chung Eui-yong, President Moon Jae-in's national security director, spoke with McMaster for 30 minutes on the phone on Monday morning to discuss the latest updates on the two countries' response to the North's test and their future response.

The U.S. confirmed its strong defense commitment on South Korea and they both agreed to closely collaborate to come up with stern punitive measure against the North's provocation.

4:50 p.m.

China says President Donald Trump's threat to cut off trade with countries that deal with North Korea is unacceptable and unfair.

Trump said on Twitter on Sunday the United States is considering halting trade with "any country doing business with North Korea." His remarks came after North Korea detonated a thermonuclear device in its sixth and most powerful nuclear test.

Geng Shuang, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, told reporters at a briefing in Beijing on Monday that China regarded as "unacceptable a situation in which on the one hand we work to resolve this issue peacefully but on the other hand our own interests are subject to sanctions and jeopardized."

Geng said: "This is neither objective nor fair."

China is the North's closest ally and commercial partner.

4:30 p.m.

South Korea says the U.S. military will soon install additional missile-defense launchers at the site in southeastern South Korea in order to counter North Korea's provocations.

South Korea's defense ministry says the installation of four missile launchers of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system, also known as THAAD, was a "temporary" deployment as it needed to respond to the advancement of the North's nuclear and missile threats.

The ministry says the final deployment of the THAAD missile system will hinge on an environmental impact study. The U.S. anti-missile system has been a source of diplomatic tensions between South Korea and China, which fears its powerful radar may peer into Chinese territory. It has also faced opposition from local residents who say the previous administration made a hasty decision to install the U.S. anti-missile system without due procedures.

4:20 p.m.

China and other major emerging economies say they "strongly deplore" North Korea's latest nuclear test.

The leaders of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa are meeting at the BRICS summit in southeastern China. The leaders adopted a declaration Monday in which they expressed "deep concern over the ongoing tension and prolonged nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula."

The text of the declaration, posted on India's Ministry of External Affairs website, also said the countries emphasized the issue should be settled through peaceful means and dialogue — echoing Beijing's long-held position.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 43 of 51

4:15 p.m.

Japan's leader says he will seek to bolster his country's missile defense in the face of the growing North Korean threat.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Monday that his government would push for adding equipment such as the U.S.-developed Aegis Ashore missile interceptor.

His comments to a meeting of top officials from the government and his ruling party came one day after North Korea conducted its biggest nuclear test to date.

Abe said Japan would maintain high caution for what he called "further provocations" from North Korea.

Japan's Defense Ministry said last week in its 2018 budget proposal that it is considering the Aegis Ashore anti-missile system.

3:40 p.m.

Egypt has condemned North Korea's nuclear test, warning of threats to regional security.

The Foreign Ministry expressed worries Monday that the escalating activity could unleash a nuclear arms race in the region.

The statement on Monday comes nearly 10 days after the U.S. announced it was withholding millions of dollars in aid to Egypt over human rights concerns. Observers, however, have noted that the move is also linked to Egypt's relations with North Korea as the U.S. continues to isolate North Korea economically and politically.

In a phone call in July, President Donald Trump gave a thinly veiled warning to Egypt's President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi to stop its economic cooperation with Pyongyang.

3:30 p.m.

A publication of the ruling Communist Party has urged China to avoid imposing a full embargo on North Korea. The Global Times newspaper said in an editorial Monday that such a response would trigger war.

The paper said the nuclear test conducted Sunday was "another wrong choice that Pyongyang has made" in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions.

It said China should avoid overly aggressive sanctions, as long as North Korea's tests do not contaminate China's northeastern provinces. China's Ministry of Environmental Protection says radiation monitoring data showed no impact from the test as of early Monday.

Meanwhile, leading Chinese government-backed scholar Lu Chao says China will likely agree to slap more sanctions on its ally North Korea over its latest nuclear test. But Lu asserted that dialogue remained necessary.

"The U.S should take specific and sincere actions toward North Korea instead of making enhanced threats," said Lu, of the Academy of Social Sciences in Liaoning province abutting North Korea.

3:20 p.m.

South Korean media says Seoul's military believes North Korea is readying the launch of a ballistic missile, possibly an ICBM.

Yonhap news agency reports that Seoul's defense ministry also measures North Korea's nuclear test at 50 kilotons. The detonation Sunday was the strongest ever from the North, which claimed the test was of a hydrogen bomb.

South Korea responded to the nuclear test with live-fire drills off its eastern coast Monday that were meant to simulate an attack on the North's main nuclear test site.

12:30 p.m.

The leaders of South Korea and Japan have agreed to work together to build support for further sanctions against North Korea following its latest nuclear test.

Japanese broadcaster NHK says Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and South Korean President Moon

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 44 of 51

Jae-in discussed the crisis by telephone Monday, ahead of an emergency U.N. Security Council meeting.

Abe also spoke with President Donald Trump and Russian leader Vladimir Putin late Sunday night.

Japan's Foreign Ministry said that Abe strongly encouraged Russia to respond constructively as a permanent member of the Security Council. He and Putin agreed to continue talks later this week in Vladivostok, Russia.

Abe told Trump that North Korea's nuclear test is a serious threat to Japan's security that poses a "head-on challenge" to the international community.

11 a.m.

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has called on China to bring North Korea to its "senses" following its apparent test of a hydrogen bomb.

He said China will be enforcing U.N. economic sanctions against North Korea but "there will be more that needs to be done given the affront that North Korea has shown to China" by testing its sixth nuclear device on Sunday.

Turnbull told reporters in Canberra on Monday that the risk of war breaking out on the Korean Peninsula is at its highest in over 60 years. He said China, as the North's closest ally and commercial partner, had the economic leverage to and therefore the responsibility to influence North Korea.

7:45 a.m.

South Korea's military says it conducted a live-fire exercise simulating an attack on North Korea's nuclear test site to "strongly warn" Pyongyang over the latest nuclear test.

Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff says the drill involved F-15 fighter jets and the country's land-based "Hyunmoo" ballistic missiles and that the released live weapons "accurately struck" a target in the sea off the country's eastern coast.

The JCS says that the target was set considering the distance to where the North's test site was and the exercise was aimed at practicing precision strikes and cutting off reinforcements.

5:45 a.m.

The U.N. Security Council has scheduled an emergency meeting after North Korea conducted its most powerful nuclear test to date.

The U.S., Japan, France, Britain and South Korea requested Monday's meeting after North Korea detonated what it called a hydrogen bomb.

It will be the Security Council's second urgent session in under a week on the North's weapons tests, which have continued in the face of a series of sanctions.

After North Korea launched a ballistic missile over Japan, the council Tuesday strongly condemned the test and reiterated demands that Pyongyang halt its ballistic missile and nuclear weapons programs.

Monday could bring additional condemnation and discussion of other potential steps.

Meanwhile, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres condemned Sunday's nuclear test. His spokesman calls it "profoundly destabilizing for regional security."

4:35 a.m.

U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis is responding to North Korea's latest nuclear test by saying threats to the United States and its allies "will be met with a massive military response."

Mattis spoke at the White House on Sunday following a meeting with President Donald Trump and national security advisers. He says any response will be "both effective and overwhelming."

Mattis says the United States is "not looking to the total annihilation" of North Korea, but added "we have many options to do so."

North Korea claimed "perfect success" in an underground test of what it called a hydrogen bomb — potentially vastly more destructive than an atomic bomb. It was the North's sixth nuclear test since 2006,

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 45 of 51

but the first since Trump took office in January.

2:30 a.m.

The president of the European Commission says North Korea's latest nuclear test compels the international community to unite in swift and decisive reaction.

Donald Tusk said the European Union stands ready to sharpen its policy of sanctions and invites North Korea to restart dialogue on its nuclear and missile programs without condition.

In Sunday's statement, Tusk said the EU calls on the U.N. Security Council "to adopt further U.N. sanctions and show stronger resolve to achieve a peaceful denuclearization of the Korean peninsula," adding, "The stakes are getting too high."

He said North Korea must abandon its nuclear weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programs in a verifiable and irreversible manner and it must cease all related activities at once.

2:20 a.m.

Turkey has strongly condemned the latest North Korean nuclear test.

In a statement published Sunday, Turkey's foreign ministry said the test was "irresponsible and provocative," while ignoring international law and endangering regional peace and security.

Turkish troops were part of a United Nations command aiding South Korea during the Korean War between 1950 and 1953. More than 700 soldiers died in the battles.

1:35 a.m.

President Donald Trump says the United States is considering halting trade with "any country doing business with North Korea."

Trump said on Twitter Sunday that the approach was under consideration, "in addition to other options," after North Korea detonated a thermonuclear device in its sixth and most powerful nuclear test.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said Sunday that he was putting together new sanctions seeking to cut off trade with North Korea. On "Fox News Sunday," Mnuchin described Pyongyang's behavior as "completely unacceptable."

Trump is meeting with his national security team Sunday afternoon to discuss North Korea.

The president was asked if he would attack North Korea as he left a church service Sunday. He said: "We'll see."

1:30 a.m.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has spoken by telephone with Japanese leader Shinzo Abe and urged restraint in responding to North Korea's claim to have set off a hydrogen bomb test.

Putin, in China for a meeting of leaders of the BRICS economic bloc, called Abe on Sunday.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told journalists that Putin "said the international community could not give in to emotions, should act calmly and deliberately, and stressed that the complex settlement of the nuclear and other problems of the Korean Peninsula can be achieved exclusively through political and diplomatic means."

1:10 a.m.

North Korea has claimed a "perfect success" for its most powerful nuclear test so far, a further step in the development of weapons capable of striking anywhere in the United States.

U.S. President Donald Trump, asked if he would attack the North, said, "We'll see."

The president was meeting later Sunday with his national security team. North Korea's nuclear test was the first since Trump took office in January.

In a series of tweets, Trump said the latest provocation from the isolated communist country reinforces the danger facing America. He said "talk of appeasement" is pointless because "They only understand

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 46 of 51

one thing!"

After attending church in Washington, the president made his "We'll see" comment in response to a question from reporters.

This Week: Nissan Leaf, jobless claims, Kroger earnings

By The Associated Press

A look at some of the key business events and economic indicators upcoming this week:

A NEW LEAF?

Japanese automaker Nissan Motor is expected to show off a new version of its Leaf electric car. In July, Nissan said the remodeled Leaf would help keep Nissan among the world leaders in electric vehicles. U.S. sales of the Leaf, which was launched in 2010, have risen 22 percent through August to 9,685.

LABOR MARKET BELLWETHER

The Labor Department reports its latest weekly tally of applications for unemployment benefits on Thursday. Jobless aid applications ticked up two weeks ago to 236,000. The less volatile four-week average declined 1,250 to 236,750. The number of people collecting unemployment benefits has fallen 9.5 percent over the past 12 months to 1.94 million.

Initial jobless benefit claims, weekly, seasonally adjusted:

Sept. 2: (est.) 236,000

Aug. 26: 236,000

Aug. 18: 235,000

Aug. 11: 232,000

Aug. 4: 244,000

July 28: 241,000

KROGER'S CONUNDRUM

Grocery chain Kroger reports its latest earnings on Friday. The owner of the Fred Meyer, Ralphs and Fry grocery chains has seen its shares slump by around 25 percent since June, after Amazon.com said it would buy Whole Foods and begin cutting prices at the upscale chain. Kroger is also scrambling to respond to challenges from discount grocers like Aldi and Lidl.

Growing dilemma: Automated jobs meet social consciousness

By JANIE HAR, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Security guard Eric Leon watches the Knightscope K5 security robot as it glides through the mall, charming shoppers with its blinking blue and white lights. The brawny automaton records video and sounds alerts. According to its maker, it deters mischief just by making the rounds.

Leon, the all-too-human guard, feels pretty sure that the robot will someday take his job.

"He doesn't complain," Leon says. "He's quiet. No lunch break. He's starting exactly at 10."

Even in the technology hotbed stretching from Silicon Valley to San Francisco, a security robot can captivate passers-by. But the K5 is only one of a growing menagerie of automated novelties in a region where you can eat a delivered pizza made via automation and drink beers at a bar served by an airborne robot. This summer, the San Francisco Chronicle published a tech tourism guide listing a dozen or so places where tourists can observe robots and automation in action.

Yet San Francisco is also where workers were the first to embrace mandatory sick leave and fully paid parental leave. Voters approved a \$15 hourly minimum wage in 2014, a requirement that Gov. Jerry Brown signed into law for the entire state in 2016. And now one official is pushing a statewide "tax" on robots that automate jobs and put people out of work.

It's too soon to say if the effort will prevail, let alone whether less-progressive jurisdictions might follow suit. The tussle points to the tensions that can flare when people embrace both technological innovation and a strong brand of social consciousness.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 47 of 51

Such frictions seem destined to escalate as automation makes further inroads into the workplace. One city supervisor, Norman Yee, has proposed barring food delivery robots from city streets, arguing that public sidewalks should be solely for people.

"I'm a people person," Yee says, "so I tend to err on the side of things that should be beneficial and safe for people."

Jane Kim, the city supervisor who is pushing the robot tax, says it's important to think now about how people will earn a living as more U.S. jobs are lost to automation. After speaking with experts on the subject, she decided to launch a statewide campaign with the hope of bringing revenue-raising ideas to the state legislature or directly to voters.

"I really do think automation is going to be one of the biggest issues around income inequality," Kim says.

It makes sense, she adds, that the city at the center of tech disruption take up the charge to manage that disruption.

"It's not inherently a bad thing, but it will concentrate wealth, and it's going to drive further inequity if you don't prepare for it now," she says.

"Preposterous" is what William Santana Li, CEO of security robot maker Knightscope calls the supervisor's idea. His company created the K5 robot monitoring the Westfield Valley Fair mall in San Jose.

The private security industry, Li says, suffers from high turnover and low pay. As he sees it, having robots handle menial tasks allows human guards to assume greater responsibilities — like managing a platoon of K5 robots — and likely earn more pay in the process.

Li acknowledges that such jobs would require further training and some technological know-how. But he says people ultimately stand to benefit. Besides, Li says, it's wrong to think that robots are intended to take people's jobs.

"We're working on 160 contracts right now, and I can maybe name two that are literally talking about, 'How can I get rid of that particular human position?'"

The question of whether — or how quickly — workers will be displaced by automation ignites fierce debate. It's enough to worry Bill Gates, who suggested in an interview early this year a robot tax as a way to slow the speed of automation and give people time to prepare. The Microsoft co-founder hasn't spoken publicly about it since.

A report last year from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development concluded that 9 percent of jobs in the United States — or about 13 million — could be automated. Other economists argue that the impact will be much less drastic.

The spread of automation should also generate its own jobs, analysts say, offsetting some of those being eliminated. Workers will be needed, for example, to build and maintain robots and develop the software to run them.

Technological innovation has in the past created jobs in another way, too: Work involving new technologies is higher-skilled and typically higher-paying. Analysts say that much of the extra income those workers earn tends to be spent on additional goods and services, thereby creating more jobs.

"There are going to be a wider array of jobs that will support the automation economy," said J.P. Gownder, an analyst at the research firm Forrester. "A lot of what we're going to be doing is working side by side with robots."

What about people who lose jobs to automation but can't transition to more technologically demanding work?

Lawmakers in Hawaii have voted to explore the idea of a universal basic income to guarantee wages to servers, cooks and cleaners whose jobs may be replaced by machines. Kim, the San Francisco supervisor, is weighing the idea of using revenue from a robot tax to supplement the low wages of people whose jobs can't be automated, like home health care aides.

Doug Bloch, political director of Teamsters Joint Council 7 in Northern California and northern Nevada, said there have been no mass layoffs among hotel, trucking or food service staff resulting from automation. But that day is coming, he warns.

Part of his responsibility is to make sure that union drivers receive severance and retraining if they lose work to automation.

"All the foundations are being built for this," he says. "The table is being set for this banquet, and we want to make sure our members have a seat at the table."

Tech companies insist their products will largely assist, and not displace, workers. Savioke, based in San Jose, makes 3-foot-tall (91 centimeter) robots — called Relay — that deliver room service at hotels where only one person might be on duty at night. This allows the clerk to stay at the front desk, said Tessa Lau, the company's "chief robot whisperer."

"We think of it as our robots taking over tasks but not taking over jobs," Lau says. "If you think of a task as walking down a hall and waiting for an elevator, Relay's really good at that."

Similarly, friends Steve Simoni, Luke Allen and Gregory Jaworski hatched the idea of a drink-serving robot one night at a crowded bar in San Francisco. There was no table service. But there was a sea of thirsty people.

"We all wanted another round, but you have to send someone to leave the conversation and wait in line at the bar for 10 minutes and carry all the drinks back," Allen says.

They created the Bbot, a box that slides overhead on a fixed route at the Folsom Street Foundry in San Francisco, bringing drinks ordered by smartphone and poured by a bartender — who still receives a tip. The bar is in Kim's district in the South of Market neighborhood.

Simoni says the company is small and it couldn't shoulder a government tax. But he's glad policy makers are preparing for a future with more robots and automation.

"I don't know if we need to tax companies for it, but I think it's an important debate," he says.

As for his trio, he says: "We're going to side with innovation every time. Innovation is what moves the world forward."

AP Writer Christopher Rugaber in Washington contributed to this report.

Stories in the AP's Future of Work series are available here: <https://apnews.com/tag/FutureofWork>

Watching Katla: Icelanders plan for next volcanic eruption

By EGILL BJARNASON, Associated Press

VIK, Iceland (AP) — Sneeze next to the Katla volcano, goes the joke in this Icelandic village, and a seismologist in Reykjavik will analyze the disturbance.

After a summer of increased seismic activity at Katla, Icelanders are obsessing over the smallest sign of an eruption at the country's most closely watched volcano.

Katla last erupted in 1918. Never before in recorded history, dating back to the 12th century, have 99 years passed without an eruption from the volcano. Eight out of the last 10 eruptions at Katla have occurred between September and November, when glacial melting is believed to create conditions for the magma to burst forth.

Vik, a coastal hamlet known for its black sand beach and red-roofed concrete church, is prepared for the worst. In the event of an eruption, a text message will be sent to every mobile phone connected to the regional network. All 543 residents will know what to do — inform their neighbors — and where to go: the church, which is sheltered by the mountain.

Air travelers and visitors to Iceland should also take note. The last major volcanic eruption in the north Atlantic nation created an ash cloud that stranded more than 10 million people in April 2010. And while civil defense officials are confident of procedures for notifying locals, they are still developing plans for alerting tourists who are flocking to Iceland's waterfalls and geysers in record numbers.

"Tourists are the greatest challenge today," said Vidir Reynisson, a Katla specialist at the Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management. "They are in large numbers, spread out and less likely than locals to be aware of emergency actions."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 49 of 51

Of Iceland's 30 active volcanoes, none is watched more closely than Katla. One of the nation's largest and most feared, Katla lies under glacial ice hundreds of meters (yards) thick, meaning that any eruption is likely to melt the ice and cause widespread flooding.

The volume of water that could stream toward the black volcanic beaches, one of Iceland's most popular tourist attractions, is predicted by the emergency department to reach 300,000 cubic meters per second, greater than the Amazon river discharge. Ocean levels may rise sharply if flooding reaches the coast, so authorities plan to evacuate the entire coast on the island's southern tip.

Planning for such an event isn't just an academic exercise.

Over the past 11 months, the Icelandic Met Office has twice raised its Katla alert level to yellow, signaling "elevated unrest."

For four days this summer, Icelanders watched with concern as a series of strengthening earthquakes peaked at magnitude 3. Natural reservoirs of glacial melt under the ice cap burst and flooded the Mulakvisl River near Vik.

There are also risks from ash, lava and poisonous gases spewing out of the volcano.

On average, a major volcanic event occurs once every five years in Iceland. The Eyjafjallajokull eruption of 2010 stranded millions of tourists worldwide as it grounded more than 100,000 flights over seven days because of concerns that its volcanic ash would damage aircraft engines.

Ironically, the publicity surrounding the Eyjafjallajokull eruption contributed to Iceland's current tourist boom. A record 2.4 million people are expected to visit the country this year, up from 400,000 in 2006. About half of the tourists report visiting Vik, according to the Icelandic Tourist Board.

The country's emergency text message system has tested well. For areas with weak phone signals, the plan is to search for travelers with drones. Reynisson's team is also considering asking visitors to sign up for an app that would make phones ring loudly and deliver messages in the appropriate language.

Much of this mimics systems developed in response to forest fires in Europe, which pose similar challenges and occur more often, Reynisson said.

"Unlike volcanic activity, technology changes fast," he said.

Magnus Tumi, a geophysicist at the University of Iceland, says the long wait offers few clues about what will happen when Katla finally erupts.

"For Katla, unlike many other volcanoes in Iceland, a long rest does not contribute to the size of the next eruption," he said.

While Katla has a larger magma chamber than neighboring Eyjafjallajokull, that doesn't necessarily mean it will have a greater impact on aviation, said Sara Barsotti, a volcanic hazards coordinator at the Icelandic Met Office.

Barsotti notes that airlines now are better prepared to measure ash within a given airspace than they were seven years ago, and decisions about whether it's safe to fly are now left up to airlines rather than a central regulatory agency.

"From a volcanic perspective, ash from Katla has the potential to reach Europe but it will ultimately come down to wind conditions," she said.

Meanwhile, the lure of Iceland's rugged beauty has turned sleepy little Vik into a bustling hub for travelers. The town now has more than 1,600 hotel rooms, compared with 400 before the Eyjafjallajokull eruption.

The new hotels and restaurants are largely manned with seasonal workers from all over the world. The vast majority of them —more than 100 people —attended a recent meeting where scientists and police officers discussed the Katla volcano in English, as opposed to the local Icelandic language. The local government plans to offer those briefings at least once a year.

Mayor Asgeir Magnusson said all the village can do is prepare and hope for the best.

"Controlling Katla is above my pay grade, I think," he said. "All we know for sure is that every day we move closer to the next eruption."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 50 of 51

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, Sept. 4, the 247th day of 2017. There are 118 days left in the year. This is Labor Day.

Today's Highlight in History:

On September 4, 1917, the American Expeditionary Forces in France suffered their first fatalities during World War I when a German plane attacked a British-run base hospital in Camiers.

On this date:

In 1781, Los Angeles was founded by Spanish settlers under the leadership of Governor Felipe de Neve.

In 1886, a group of Apache Indians led by Geronimo (also known as Goyathlay, "One Who Yawns") surrendered to Gen. Nelson Miles at Skeleton Canyon in Arizona.

In 1888, George Eastman received a patent for his roll-film box camera, and registered his trademark: "Kodak."

In 1948, Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands abdicated after nearly six decades of rule for health reasons.

In 1951, President Harry S. Truman addressed the nation from the Japanese peace treaty conference in San Francisco in the first live, coast-to-coast television broadcast.

In 1957, Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus used Arkansas National Guardsmen to prevent nine black students from entering all-white Central High School in Little Rock. Ford Motor Co. began selling its ill-fated Edsel.

In 1967, Detroit TV station WKBD aired an interview with Michigan Gov. George Romney in which the Republican presidential hopeful attributed his previous support for the war in Vietnam to a "brainwashing" he'd received from U.S. officials during a 1965 visit.

In 1971, an Alaska Airlines jet crashed near Juneau, killing all 111 people on board.

In 1972, U.S. swimmer Mark Spitz won a seventh gold medal at the Munich Olympics in the 400-meter medley relay.

In 1987, a Soviet court convicted West German pilot Mathias Rust of charges stemming from his daring flight to Moscow's Red Square, and sentenced him to four years in a labor camp. (Rust was released in August 1988.)

In 1998, Internet services company Google filed for incorporation in California.

In 2014, comedian Joan Rivers died at a New York hospital at age 81, a week after going into cardiac arrest in a doctor's office during a routine medical procedure.

Ten years ago: Hurricane Felix slammed into Nicaragua's coast, the first time on record that two Category 5 Atlantic hurricanes hit land in the same year. Toy maker Mattel Inc. recalled 800,000 lead-tainted, Chinese-made toys worldwide, a third major recall in just over a month.

Five years ago: Democrats opened their national convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, by ridiculing Republican Mitt Romney as a millionaire candidate who "quite simply doesn't get it"; first lady Michelle Obama lovingly praised her husband as a devoted spouse and caring father at home and a "man we can trust" to revive the nation's weak economy as president. The Treasury Department reported the national debt had topped \$16 trillion.

One year ago: Elevating the "saint of the gutters" to one of the Catholic Church's highest honors, Pope Francis canonized Mother Teresa, praising her radical dedication to society's outcasts and her courage in shaming world leaders for the "crimes of poverty they themselves created."

Today's Birthdays: Actress Mitzi Gaynor is 86. Actor Kenneth Kimmins is 76. Singer Merald "Bubba" Knight (Gladys Knight & The Pips) is 75. TV personality and veterinarian Dr. Jan (yahn) Pol (TV: "The Incredible Dr. Pol") is 75. World Golf Hall of Famer Raymond Floyd is 75. Actress Jennifer Salt is 73. World Golf Hall of Famer Tom Watson is 68. Rhythm-and-blues musician Ronald LaPread is 67. Actress Judith Ivey is 66. Rock musician Martin Chambers (The Pretenders) is 66. Actor Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs is 64. Actress Khandi Alexander is 60. Actor-comedian Damon Wayans Sr. is 57. Rock musician Kim Thayil is 57. Actor Richard Speight Jr. is 48. Actor Noah Taylor is 48. Actress Ione (eye-OH'-nee) Skye is 47. Actor-singer James Monroe

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Sept. 4, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 066 ~ 51 of 51

Iglehart is 43. Pop-rock singer-DJ-musician-producer Mark Ronson is 42. Rhythm-and-blues singer Richard Wingo (Jagged Edge) is 42. Rock musician Ian Grushka (New Found Glory) is 40. Actor Wes Bentley is 39. Actor Max Greenfield is 38. Singer Dan Miller (O Town) is 37. Singer Beyonce (bee-AHN'-say) Knowles is 36. Country singer-musician Tom Gossin (Gloriana) is 36. Actress-comedian Whitney Cummings is 35. Actor-comedian Kyle Mooney (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 33. Folk-rock musician Neyla Pekarek (NEE'-lah peh-KAYR'-ehk) (The Lumineers) is 31. Pop-rock singer-songwriter James Bay is 27. Actor Carter Jenkins is 26. Actor Trevor Gagnon is 22.

Thought for Today: "I am one of the people who love the why of things." — Catherine the Great, Russian czarina (1729-1796).