

# Groton Daily Independent

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**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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**The Boys Soccer match scheduled for Tuesday, Sept 12th vs Mitchell Christian/Mt. Vernon in Groton has been CANCELLED.**

## Saturday, Sept. 9

**Catholic Parish:** Mass at SEAS in Groton, 4:30 p.m.;  
Mass at St. Anthony, Bristol, 6 p.m.

**Cross Country:** at Milbank, 9:30 a.m.

**Boys Golf:** at Olive Grove in Groton, 10 a.m.

**Soccer:** at Sioux Falls Christian, girls at 1 p.m., boys at 3 p.m.

**Youth Football:** In Groton (3rd/4th host WYF at 9:30 a.m.; 5th/6th hosts Sisseton Red at 9:30 a.m.)

**Groton Rummage Day:** 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Sunday, Sept. 10

**Emmanuel Lutheran:** Worship, rally Sunday, 9 a.m.;  
Sunday School, 10 a.m.

**United Methodist Church:** Conde worship, 9 a.m.;  
coffee fellowship time, 10 a.m., Groton worship, 11 a.m.

**Catholic Parish:** Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church at 9 a.m., then at St. Joseph in Turton at 11 a.m.

**First Presbyterian:** Bible Study at 9:30 a.m., Worship at 11 a.m.

**Heaven Bound Ministries:** Worship at Buffalo Lake Lutheran Church, rural Sisseton, 10:30 a.m.; Worship at Groton Care & Rehab Center at 3 p.m.

**Groton Pool:** Doggie Day, 3-5 pm

**Butch Radke Benefit:** 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Groton Legion.

**Christian & Missionary Alliance:** Sunday School for children, youth and adults, 9:15 a.m.; Worship at 10:45 a.m.; Church family picnic at Wylie Park in the afternoon.

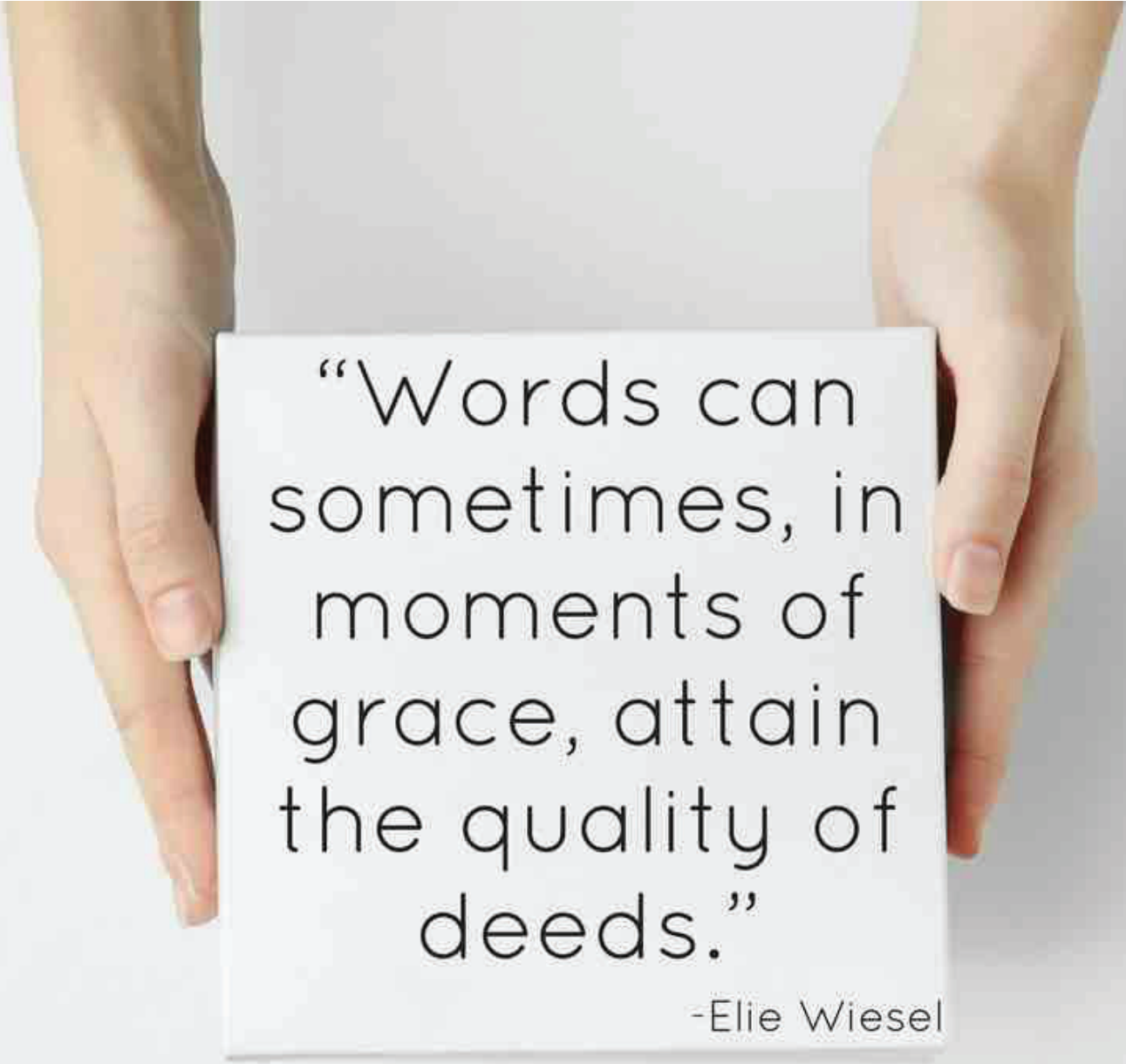


[www.harrmotors.com](http://www.harrmotors.com)

605-225-3078 ~ 1-800-658-3463

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A pair of hands is shown holding a white rectangular sign against a light gray background. The sign contains a quote in a black, sans-serif font.

“Words can  
sometimes, in  
moments of  
grace, attain  
the quality of  
deeds.”

-Elie Wiesel

**Chicken Soup**  
for the **Soul.**

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

St. John's Lutheran Church  
Groton, SD  
Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>

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.**

## Governor Asks For Flags At Half-Staff On 9/11 Anniversary

PIERRE, S.D. – The White House has issued a proclamation designating Friday, Sept. 8, through Sunday, Sept. 10, 2017, as National Days of Service and Remembrance.

President Trump calls for the flag of the United States to be displayed at half-staff on Monday, and he has invited governors of the United States to join in the observance.

At the President's request, Gov. Dennis Daugaard asks that all flags in the state be flown at half-staff on Monday, Sept. 11, from 8 a.m. until sunset in honor of those who lost their lives in terrorist attacks on the United States on Sept. 11, 2001.

## South Dakota Mountain Lion Season Set for 2 Years

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission agreed with a Department recommendation to make no changes to the 2017-18 mountain lion hunting season from the 2016-17 season during their September meeting in Sioux Falls.

The Black Hills Fire Protection District will have season dates of Dec. 26 – March 31 with a harvest limit of 60 mountain lions or 40 female mountain lions. This harvest limit includes mountain lions taken from Custer State Park.

Areas outside of the Black Hills Fire Protection unit will have a year-round season with no harvest limit.

The Commission also accepted a planned schedule from the Department to revise the South Dakota mountain lion management plan over the next 2 years. The adopted schedule includes multiple opportunities for public input into mountain lion management.

## 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



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



All auto owners!  
**Save \$2-\$4 /tank**  
& grow your local economy  
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94 octane, more power,  
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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")**

## Good Earth State Park Receives National Recognition for Cultural and Historical Significance

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. – The National Association of State Park Directors formally recognized and awarded Good Earth State Park as this year's recipient of the Ney Landrum Park History Award.

"On behalf of our team at Good Earth State Park and our entire department, we are grateful to be receiving the Ney Landrum Park History Award this year," stated Katie Ceroll, director of the division of parks and recreation. "The park and the brand new visitor center reflect the team's collaboration in research and presentation of this site's history, which has allowed the historical and cultural preservation of the area to come to life for current and future generations."

The park preserves a portion of a larger historically and culturally significant site referred to as Blood Run, which is a designated National Historic Landmark. The location is the largest known Oneota (tribal) habitation discovered to date. As many as 10,000 indigenous people occupied it at its peak, from 1500 to the early 1700s, with villages stretched over four miles along the Big Sioux River in what is now Iowa and South Dakota.

Descendants now make up four different tribes, Ioway, Otoe, Ponca and Omaha, located in several states.

Honoring the site's history, required collaboration and input from tribal people. The Good Earth team conducted interviews, researched legends and stories, analyzed artifacts, located family heirlooms, learned traditions and languages, and conducted focus groups. Tribal historic preservation officers, tribal elders and other members of the descendant tribes provided information and oversight for accuracy.

The park includes over six miles of hiking trails and three viewing platforms. Future plans include a 200-person outdoor amphitheater and a pedestrian bridge over the Big Sioux River, connecting Good Earth to areas of Blood Run managed by Iowa.

The land acquisitions that make up the park and the facility were funded by state dollars and \$8 million in private donations raised by the South Dakota Parks and Wildlife Foundation.

About the Ney Landrum Park History Award: Ney Landrum was the director of the Florida State Parks from 1969 (when it became the Division of Recreation and Parks within Department of Natural Resources) to 1989. Before that, he was in charge of the Outdoor Recreation Development Council. He was a major influence on the national state park movement, and was director of the National Association of State Park Directors for several years. The award honors an individual or team that has displayed outstanding efforts in original research and presentation of state park history that results in a tangible work product.

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## Tiger defense stops PAT conversion to beat Beresford by 1 point

A penalty nearly cost Groton Area the game, but the defense had a goal line stand to stop the two-point conversion as the Tigers defeated Beresford, 15-14.

Groton Area had Beresford pinned deep in Watchdog territory. It would have been fourth down and eight yards from the Watchdog eight yard line, but a 15-yard penalty and an automatic first down breathed new life into the Beresford drive. The Watchdogs would march all the way down the field and score with 1:51 left in the game to make it 15-14. Beresford would use two time-outs before attempting the two-point conversion. The Tiger defense held and the score stood. "We got lucky on that drive," said Coach Shaun Wanner. "We had two big penalties on that drive. Kudos to our defensive line for making the stop on the conversion. Seric Shabazz got the tackle right before the goal line."

Beresford then had an on-side kick with the ball going into Marshall Lane's hands, but he was hit hard after the hit and the ball popped out, going in and out of the hands of Darien Shabazz before Brandon Keith came up with the save. That hard hit to Lane prompted Coach Shaun Wanner to take the field as the rules had changed on the on-side kick and he was not happy. "Marshall was trying to catch the ball and the kid came leading into him with his helmet," Wanner said. "That's called spearing and the rules stated that you can't make contact with your helmet or shoulder pads - all you can do is push. I'm sure the kids didn't mean it initially, but I'm all for the safety of the kids. That's why the rule was put in place." The other penalty came when Beresford had a long pass. Wanner said, "If you both go up in the air and come down with the ball, it always goes to the offense and someone said something they were not suppose to say and we got zapped with a penalty."

Groton could not get a first down and Beresford had the ball with 7.8 seconds left in the game. Beresford would throw two hail marys down the field but the attempts failed and Groton won the game, 15-14.

The game was carried live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Groton Ford, Blocker Construction, Grain Solutions with Jesse Zak, Allied Climate Professionals with Kevin Nehls, Olson Development, Doug Abeln Seed Company, Bahr Spray Foam and Construction, Erickson Insurance Agency, James Valley Seed with Doug Jorgensen, Hanlon Brothers of Verdon and Groton, John Sieh Agency, Northern Plains Psychological Associates with Franne Sippel, Mike-N-Jos Body-N-Glass and Milbrandt Enterprises, Inc. Make sure you tell these sponsors "thank you" and that you patronize them as well!

Groton would fumble on its first possession on the Beresford nine-yard line. Two plays later, Beresford would fumble the ball and Brandyn Anderson would recover the ball on the Beresford nine-yard line. Three plays later, Seric Shabazz would score on a nine-yard pass from Marshall Lane with 1:44 left in the first quarter. Hunter Schaller would kick the PAT and Groton took a 7-0 lead.

Beresford would score on a 91-yard drive that took nine plays as Carter Kennedy would score on a one-yard run. Hunter Borah would run in the PAT and Beresford would take an 8-7 lead.

In the third quarter, Groton use 11 plays on 89 yards before Lucas Hinman would score on an three-yard run. Lane would connect with Brandon Keith for the PAT and Groton recaptured the lead, 15-8.

"It was an exciting game," Wanner said. "We still have to work on reducing our penalties. Jackson (Oliver) had a nice long run that got called back because of a holding far away from the ball, but a holding is still a holding."

Groton Area will be hosting Chamberlain on Friday and Wanner said, "They (Chamberlain) lost to Canton and beat Wagner and St. Francis. They're a big team and they have a good quarterback who passed for 17,00 yards last year. We are getting better as the season progresses and we're finding ways to win."

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**First Down:** Groton 12, Beresford 13

**Rushing:** Groton: 33-130 (Marshall Lane 15-61; Lucas Hinman 13-32, 1 TD; Brandon Keith 2-21, Jackson Oliver 2-12, Jonathan Doeden 1-4). Beresford: 39-69 (Hunter Borah 9-28, Brad Christianson 10-27, Carter Kennedy 7-17, 2 touchdowns).

**Passing:** Groton: (Marshall Lane), completed 9 of 13 for 58 yards, 1 touchdown. Beresford: (Sam Nelson 3-8, 106 yards, Brad Christianson attempted 2 passes).

**Receivers:** Groton: Jonathan Doeden 3-26; Seric Shabazz 3-19, 1 touchdown; Brandon Keith 2-16, Lucas Hinman 1 catch. Beresford: Parker Goblirsch 1-70; Jack Antonsen 2-36.

**Fumbles:** Groton had 2, lost 1. Beresford had 2, lost 1 recovered by Brandyn Anderson.

**Penalties:** Groton 7-85, Beresford 1-5.

**Defense:** Groton: Brandon Keith 13 tackles, Seric Shabazz 12 tackles, Jonathan Doeden 9 tackles. Beresford: Brad Christianson 19 tackles.

**Record:** Groton 2-2, Beresford 0-4.

**Next Game:** Groton area hosting Chamberlain on Friday. Beresford at Canton on Friday.

## West Central girls beat Groton

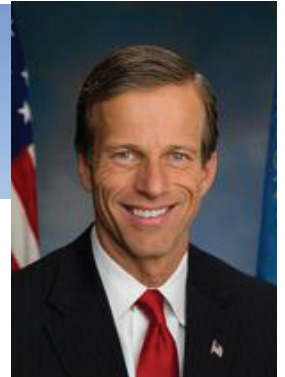
The West Central girls soccer team defeated Groton on Friday in Groton, 3-1. Harleigh Stange score the lone goal for Groton. Scoring for West Central were Kazia Ohayon with two goals and Olivia Becker with one.

## South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission Delays Decision on Boating Restriction Petition

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. – On Thursday, the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission tabled a petition request to place a “no boating restriction” from Oct. 20 through Dec. 31 on Swan Lake in Clark County.

The Commission plans to revisit the proposed change next summer as a part of a more comprehensive review of refuges and boating closures in South Dakota.

**John Thune**  
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



## My Principles for Pro-Growth Tax Reform

My biggest priority for the remainder of the year will be sending the president a comprehensive, pro-growth tax reform package that helps middle-class South Dakotans who are struggling to make ends meet. According to a recent study, 50 percent of American voters consider themselves to be living paycheck to paycheck, and about one-third of them say they're just \$400 away from a financial crisis. To put it into perspective, it means these folks are one broken refrigerator or unexpected car repair away from a financial emergency. While it might seem small, \$400 can go a long way for families in South Dakota.

Living in a constant state of financial fear and uncertainty, like so many cash-strapped families do these days, isn't how most people purposefully choose to live. The status quo simply isn't working for many of them, and it's putting the American Dream further out of reach. Many of these folks are fighting hard to get a leg up, but they feel burdened by a system and an economy that for years has kept wages down and opportunities few and far between. It doesn't have to be this way, though, which is why I believe Congress has a once-in-a-generation opportunity to help strengthen our economy by reforming our outdated tax code.

I have a set of five key principles that I believe must govern how any meaningful tax reform bill is drafted and passed. The first is a no-brainer. Any bill we pass has to result in increased wages, jobs, and economic growth for South Dakotans. It must help people increase their take-home pay and pursue opportunities that will put their family in a better position to succeed, period.

Second, and perhaps just as obvious, tax reform must provide tax relief to South Dakotans. It would be hard to find a South Dakotan who believes they aren't paying enough in taxes, and Washington already takes too much of what they earn. Congress needs to learn how to spend money more efficiently and let folks keep more of their hard-earned paycheck.

Third and fourth, we have to create a system that encourages well-paying American jobs to stay in this country, and it has to increase America's competitiveness in the global economy. A noncompetitive tax code not only discourages foreign companies from doing business in the United States, but it also can encourage some American businesses to move to a country with a more competitive system. We've got to correct this, and it's certainly within reach.

Fifth and finally, tax reform must simplify the tax code, which is far too large and complex. Whether you're an individual or a small business owner, everyone can benefit from a simplified system that lowers rates and doesn't stand in the way of a South Dakotan's ability to succeed.

Guided by these five basic, common-sense principles, which I'm hopeful will enjoy bipartisan support, I will work with my colleagues in Congress to deliver on our promise of creating a system that boosts wages, jobs, and economic growth. It would put middle-class families back in the driver's seat of the American economy. They've waited long enough.



## South Dakota Governor Dennis Daugaard



### Recovering Debts Owed To South Dakotans

When a debt is owed to you, sometimes it can be difficult to collect. Whether it's a grocery store that receives a bad check, a carpenter seeking payment on a bill or a person who loans a friend \$50, it's not enjoyable or easy to recover what you are owed.

Sometimes state government finds itself in the same position. Restitution payments and court-ordered child placement costs, fines for hunting violations, unpaid business taxes, reimbursements for damage to state property, or fees owed to a university can also be hard to collect. These unpaid obligations also place a greater financial burden on other taxpayers.

Until a couple of years ago, each state entity tried to collect these debts on their own. The Unified Judicial System, Secretary of State's Office, Board of Regents, Department of Revenue, and Game, Fish and Parks each had their own debt collection systems in place. That approach was inefficient and did not achieve the desired results.

South Dakota now has a much more effective way to recover money owed – the Obligation Recovery Center. This new centralized system doesn't just recover dollars owed to the state; it also helps crime victims and single parents who are owed money by convicted felons.

In 2015, the Legislature established the Obligation Recover Center to improve the state's debt-collection efforts. Now, in the instances where agency efforts to collect debts prove unsuccessful, those debts can be referred to the center, which can impose penalties for non-payment.

For debts exceeding \$50, hunting and fishing licenses can be suspended. For debts exceeding \$1,000, the state can place blocks on driver licenses and motor vehicle registrations. And for those who still do not work toward reducing their debts, their cases are referred to third-party debt collection agencies.

The Obligation Recovery Center is certainly a more active approach toward debt-collection. Still, it is important to understand that a debtor does not have to repay a debt in full to regain lost privileges. A debtor must simply agree to a payment plan to avoid these penalties.

The results of the new system have been promising. In its year of operation, the Obligation Recovery Center has recovered more than \$3.3 million. In addition, payment plans have been established that will collect another \$7.6 million.

Around 63,000 cases have been referred to the center and only 24 individuals have appealed their cases to an administrative hearing, which is an indication that the process is largely working as it should.

For the single parent who is owed child support or the crime victim who is owed restitution, the new process is making a big difference. Just as importantly, it's advancing fairness for the taxpayer.



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## Today in Weather History

September 9, 1961: A young girl in Bullhead, Corson County, was killed by lightning on the afternoon while walking on the highway. Her little brother was slightly injured.

September 9, 1983: High winds from the late evening into the early morning hours of the 10th blew through east central South Dakota damaging crops, downing hundreds of trees, breaking windows, damaging roofs and buildings, downing power poles and damaging vehicles. Gusts to 75 mph in Huron moved a semi-trailer a half block. Scattered power outages of up to 24 hours were reported in numerous areas as branches fell across power and telephone lines. Thirty power poles were downed in Kingsbury County alone. Corn, beans, and sunflowers suffered extensive damage in many areas with up to 50 percent losses reported. Gusts up to 90 mph were reported at Lake Poinsett, Lake Norden, and Estelline, where roofs and shingles were ripped from buildings and numerous windows, were broken. At Lake Poinsett, extensive damage was done to boats, docks, and automobiles.

1775: The Independence Hurricane slammed into Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Many ships were sunk and buildings demolished. 4,000 people died in what is considered to be Canada's deadliest hurricane disaster.

1821: A tornadic outbreak affected the New England states of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont on this day. Five tornadoes reportedly touched down from this event. One storm in New Hampshire had a path width of a half mile and tracked an estimated 23 miles. This tornado killed at least six individuals, which could be the deadliest tornado in New Hampshire history. Click [HERE](#) for more information from archive.org

1926 - A hurricane came inland near Daytona Beach, FL. The hurricane caused 2.5 million dollars damage in eastern Florida, including the Jacksonville area. (David Ludlum)

1939 - The temperature at Lewiston, ID, hit 117 degrees to establish an all-time record high for that location. (The Weather Channel)

1943 - On a whim, and flying a single engine AT-6, Lieutenant Ralph O'Hair and Colonel Duckworth were the first to fly into a hurricane. It started regular Air Force flights into hurricanes. (The Weather Channel)

1965: Hurricane Betsy slammed into New Orleans on the evening of September 9, 1965. 110 mph winds and power failures were reported in New Orleans. The eye of the storm passed to the southwest of New Orleans on a northwesterly track. The northern and western eyewalls covered Southeast Louisiana and the New Orleans area from about 8 PM until 4 AM the next morning. In Thibodaux, winds of 130 mph to 140 mph were reported. The Baton Rouge weather bureau operated under auxiliary power, without telephone communication.

1987 - Thunderstorms in Minnesota spawned a tornado which moved in a southwesterly direction for a distance of thirty miles across Rice County and Goodhue County. Trees were uprooted and tossed about like toys, and a horse lifted by the tornado was observed sailing horizontally through the air. Thunderstorms drenched La Crosse, WI, with 5.26 inches of rain, their second highest 24 hour total of record. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1988 - Hot weather prevailed in the north central U.S. Williston, ND, reported a record high of 108 degrees. Thunderstorms produced severe weather in the eastern U.S., and in southeastern Texas. Richland County, SC, was soaked with up to 5.5 inches of rain. (The National Weather Summary)

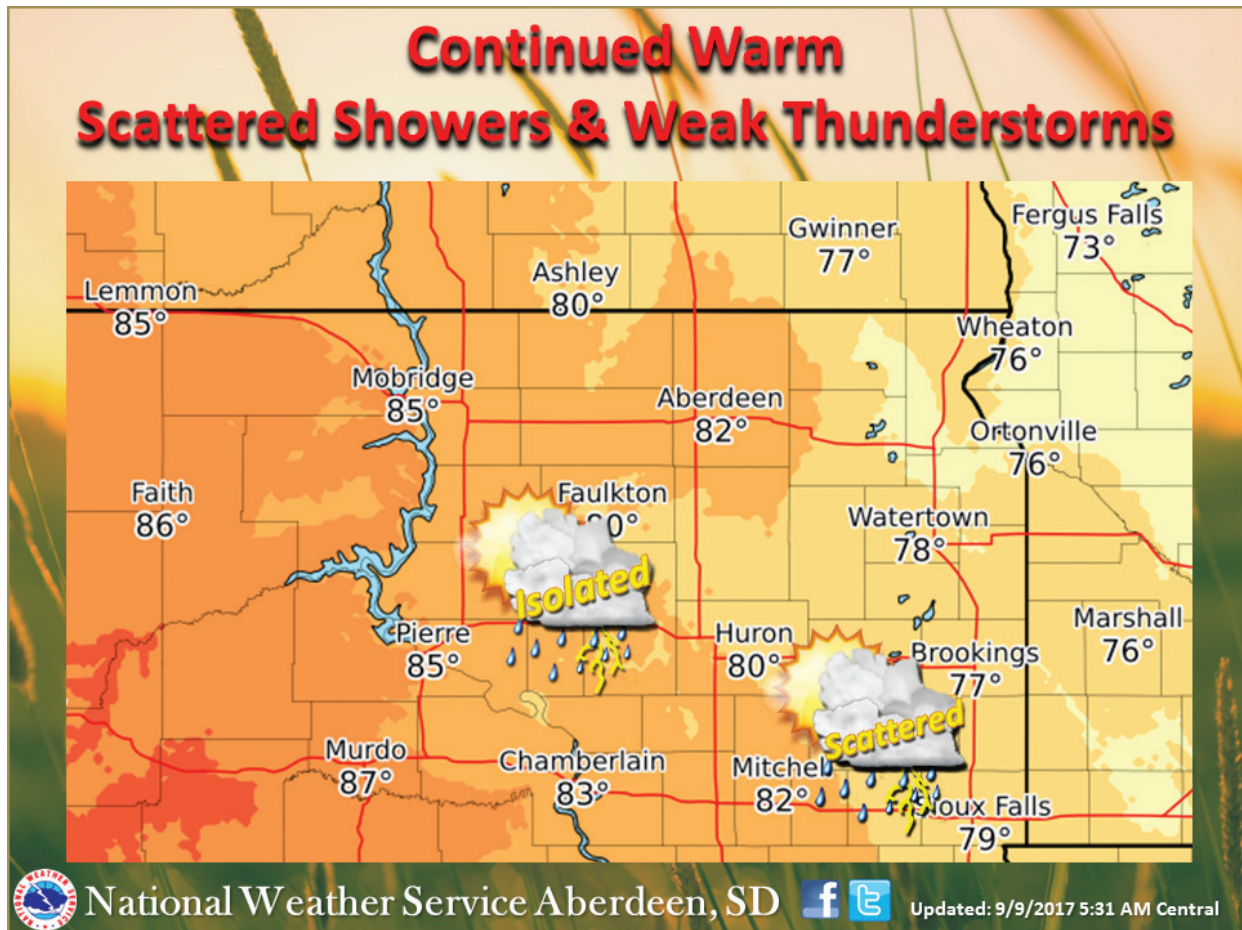
1989 - Thunderstorms produced locally heavy rains in the southwestern U.S. Yuma, AZ, experienced their most severe thunderstorm of record. Strong thunderstorm winds, with unofficial gusts as high as 95 mph, reduced visibilities to near zero in blowing dust and sand. Yuma got nearly as much rain in one hour as is normally received in an entire year. The storm total of 2.55 inches of rain was a record 24 hour total for July. Property damage due to flash flooding and high winds was in the millions. (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from Wisconsin and northern Illinois to New England, with 103 reports of large hail and damaging winds through the day. Thunderstorms in Wisconsin produced hail three inches in diameter near Oshkosh, and wind gusts to 65 mph at Germantown. (The National Weather Summary)

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This Afternoon	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
						
Chance Showers	Chance Showers	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 82 °F	Low: 60 °F	High: 84 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 84 °F	Low: 56 °F	High: 86 °F



An upper level system will provide just enough forcing for some weak convection today in mainly western and central South Dakota, and tonight with more scattered coverage in mainly east/southeast South Dakota. Otherwise most areas will remain dry and mild today.

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## Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 73.8

Low Outside Temp: 52.4

High Gust: 21

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

Record High: 101° in 1931

Record Low: 26° in 1898

Average High: 75°F

Average Low: 49°F

Average Precip in Sept: 0.67

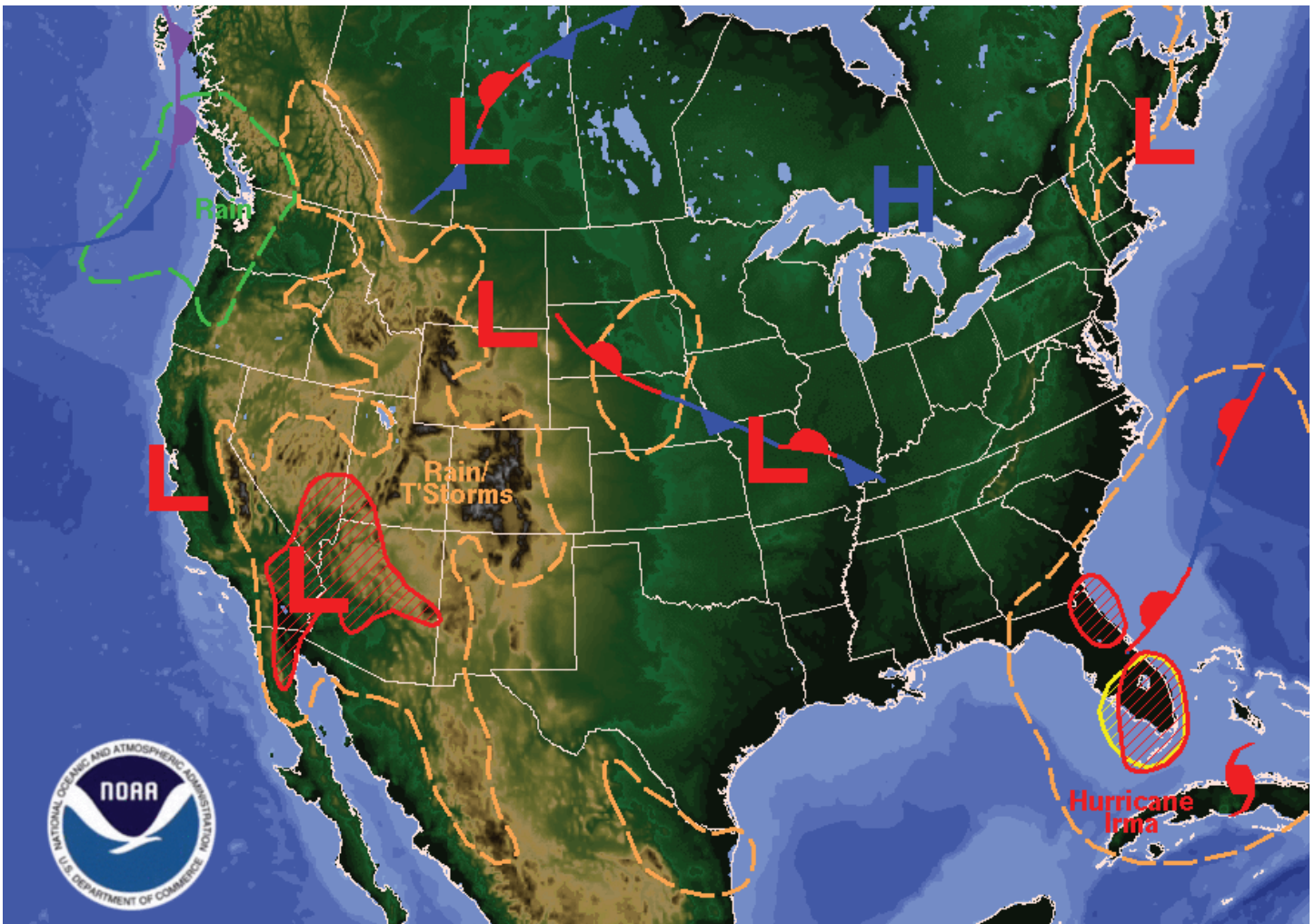
Precip to date in Sept: 0.11

Average Precip to date: 16.96

Precip Year to Date: 9.63

Sunset Tonight: 7:55 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:06 a.m.



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sat, Sep 09, 2017, issued 4:50 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Tate 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)

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## STORMS AND STRUGGLES

As James was preparing to leave for the weekend, the vice-president called him into his office and asked him to sit down across the desk from him. In a somber voice he said, "I'm sorry, James, but we are reducing the sales staff and this was your last day with this company. Here's a severance check that will help you make the transition."

Now he was not only out of work but facing a difficult job market. He was overwhelmed with the prospect of going home and telling his wife the news. She was a stay at home mom with a child that was paralyzed from an automobile accident. He could not help but ask, "Where's God in all of this? Is He for me or against me?" Those certainly are fair questions.

Life is often one storm after another. None of us can escape the fierce winds, raging waters or crashing waves. Sometimes they come swiftly. Other times they seem to brew slowly and painfully. Often a problem that started as a whispering breeze turns out to be a tornado.

The Psalmist said, "Deep calls to deep...all your waves and breakers have swept over me." It sounds as though he is accusing God of a conspiracy. But that is not true. He wants us to realize that our God is a God who, in the midst of life's storms, will never forsake us.

Think of it this way: In the depth of life's storms and in the midst of life's sorrows, God wants us to call on Him for the depth of His sympathy and support. He is ever present and all powerful and His grace is more than sufficient.

Never forget that whatever sorrow we experience in our lives Jesus experienced it before us. He has been there, endured that and understands our greatest sorrows and deepest needs.

Prayer: We are comforted, Lord, to know that You have gone before us, know us and care for us. Give us your grace to survive. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 42:7 Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me.

## News from the Associated Press

### **Gov. Daugaard orders flags flown at half-staff Monday**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard has ordered flags flown at half-staff Monday to honor those killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Daugaard asked that the flags remain at half-staff from 8 a.m. until sunset Monday. Nearly 3,000 people lost their lives in the attacks.

Sept. 11 has been designated as Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance.

### **Dispatch agency hopes to field more 911 calls in Sioux Falls**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Calls for emergency services are on the rise in Sioux Falls as the population of South Dakota's largest city continues to grow.

The agency that fields 911 calls hopes some recent changes will enable it to keep up with its increasing burden, the Argus Leader reported.

Metro Communications Director Paul Niedringhaus said his agency will add two "power shifts" to its staff schedule starting in January to ensure enough dispatchers are available during portions of the day when call volumes peak.

Two additional shifts will be staggered into the schedule, giving the call center extra staff to take calls between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 a.m.

"We'll have additional staff overlap during some of these peak hours that hopefully will alleviate some of the pressure on our staff," Niedringhaus said.

Niedringhaus said the schedule changes are possible because the Metro Management Council approved an additional employee in the 2018 budget.

The two power shifts could make the position enticing for those considering the job because it adds flexibility to the shift availability, Jessica Mundahl, deputy director of Metro Communications.

"It's more options for people to choose from," Mundahl said. "Some people might not want to get up at 6 a.m. to start their shift. Or it might take somebody who is usually working an afternoon shift and they don't get to be home with their family and now they can see them."

Metro Communications provides dispatching services for Sioux Falls and Minnehaha County, including three law enforcement agencies, five ambulance services and more than 10 fire departments.

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

### **South Dakota county permits mining as dispute continues**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — County officials in the western part of South Dakota say a company may continue mining at a limestone quarry as the state Supreme Court considers a dispute over a proposed expansion.

The county Planning Department said in a recent report that the current mining activity is permitted because activity is confined to an area that was disturbed before 1994, when the county began requiring construction permits for mining.

Residents near the quarry south of Rapid City have complained about mining that has continued since the county commission last year revoked a permit for a proposed expansion, The Rapid City Journal reported.

Quarry operator Croell Redi-Mix appealed the permit revocation and won in circuit court. The county has appealed that ruling to the high court, which hasn't issued a decision.

During a recent Pennington County Commission meeting, resident Duane Abata said he has seen up to 30 trucks a day emerging from the quarry since the revocation of the expansion permit. He said he also has seen rock-crushers, scrapers and other equipment operating there.

"We asked the county to issue a stop-work order," Abata said. "We felt it is important since the Supreme

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Court's action is still pending."

A motion to issue a stop-work order to Croell Redi-Mix until the Supreme Court appeal is resolved failed on a voice vote.

Tom Brady, an attorney for Croell Redi-Mix, said he believes the company could expand its mining now, but that it'll stay within the previously disturbed area while the appeal in the permit case is pending with the Supreme Court.

The company also has a separate, \$10 million lawsuit pending against the county for damages it alleges were caused by the permit revocation.

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

## Friday's Scores By The Associated Press

### PREP FOOTBALL

Aberdeen Roncalli 19, Mobridge-Pollock 18

Alcester-Hudson 46, Scotland 34

Arlington/Lake Preston 42, Elkton-Lake Benton 14

Avon 36, Gayville-Volin 14

Baltic 56, Viborg-Hurley 14

Bennett County 8, Pine Ridge 6

Bon Homme 22, Kimball/White Lake 14

Brandon Valley 41, Aberdeen Central 0

Britton-Hecla 60, Deuel 8

Brookings 24, Spearfish 0

Canistota 14, Chester 7

Castlewood 53, Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 16

Chamberlain 56, Wagner 0

Clark/Willow Lake 50, Great Plains Lutheran 0

Colman-Egan 48, Deubrook 14

Corsica/Stickney 48, Burke/South Central 0

Dakota Hills 26, Tri-State 8

Dakota Valley 43, Sisseton 7

DeSmet 58, Estelline 14

Dell Rapids 42, Belle Fourche 6

Douglas, Wyo. 34, Hot Springs 0

Faith 40, Newell 0

Faulkton 46, Ipswich/Edmunds Central 0

Garretson 68, Menno/Marion 14

Groton Area 15, Beresford 14

Harding County 22, Timber Lake 16

Howard 39, Hanson 8

Irene-Wakonda 52, Parker 0

Kadoka Area 14, New Underwood 12

Lead-Deadwood 30, Little Wound 22

Lemmon/McIntosh 56, Dupree 6

Lyman 54, Jones County/White River 34

Madison 33, Bridgewater-Emery/Ethan 6

McLaughlin 50, St. Francis Indian 0

Milbank Area 26, Lennox 14

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Mitchell 33, Yankton 21  
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 43, Redfield/Doland 6  
North Border, N.D. 48, Northwestern 14  
Parkston 50, Potter County 21  
Pierre 77, Douglas 14  
Platte-Geddes 32, Herreid/Selby Area 6  
Rapid City Central 42, Sturgis 0  
Rapid City Christian 37, Philip 16  
Rapid City Stevens 14, Watertown 13  
Sioux Falls Christian 36, Canton 12  
Sioux Valley 26, Flandreau 0  
Stanley County 35, Custer 7  
Sully Buttes 40, Hitchcock-Tulare 0  
Sunshine Bible Academy 38, Lower Brule 20  
Tea Area 44, Elk Point-Jefferson 0  
Todd County 46, Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 8  
Tri-Valley 27, Vermillion 7  
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 36, Centerville 0  
Wall 61, Hill City 8  
Warner 40, Langford 14  
Webster 65, Waverly-South Shore 13  
Wolsey-Wessington 50, Iroquois 0

Some scores provided by Scorestream.com, <http://scorestream.com/>

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

04-05-14-26-73, Mega Ball: 14, Megaplier: 3

(four, five, fourteen, twenty-six, seventy-three; Mega Ball: fourteen; Megaplier: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$70 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$102 million

## Sanford Health creating award for health care breakthroughs

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sanford Health is creating an award for health care breakthroughs.

The chief global brand officer for the Dakotas-based health system tells the Argus Leader that the honor will be bestowed beginning in December 2018 to people who make significant breakthroughs in the field.

Micah Aberson says the award will be "Nobel-like." Sanford's international board will assist in identifying and selecting the award winners.

More details are to be released later this year.

Sanford Health is based in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Fargo, North Dakota. It bills itself as one of the largest health systems in the nation, with 45 hospitals and nearly 300 clinics in nine states and four countries.

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

## Wanblee man pleads not guilty to assaulting federal officer

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Wanblee man accused of assaulting a federal police officer has pleaded not guilty in U.S. District Court.

Forty-seven-year-old Shawn Ashley is accused of assaulting an on-duty Oglala Sioux officer on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in June.

U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says Ashley pleaded not guilty late last month to assault on a federal officer. The charge carries a maximum punishment of eight years in prison.

## Federal judge declines to dismiss visa program lawsuit

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A federal judge has declined to dismiss a lawsuit filed against the architect of South Dakota's EB-5 investment-for-visa program after finding potential public policy and state law violations.

The Argus Leader reports that former program administrator Joop Bollen had sought to be dismissed from the lawsuit brought by Tentexkota LLC and eight of its members. The group borrowed \$32.5 million from EB-5 investors and rehabilitated the historic Homestake slime plant into the Deadwood Mountain Grand resort.

But Tentexkota defaulted, and a financing company controlled by Bollen sued to collect the money from Tentexkota and its members, who had guaranteed the loans. Tentexkota members countersued, arguing that the guarantees should be voided because they violate federal law.

Judge Charles Kornmann wrote in his order that there are genuine issues of material fact about the guarantees' validity.

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

## South Dakota hatchery to release 90K paddlefish

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — A fish hatchery in South Dakota will release more than 90,000 American paddlefish into two reservoirs over the next two weeks.

Gavins Point Fish Hatchery plans to release the fish in Lake Francis Case and Lake Sharpe, the Press and Dakotan reported. Both reservoirs are good for maintaining paddlefish populations, but the fish's reproductive habitats have diminished and created a need for stocking.

"Paddlefish grow well in reservoir systems, but they don't reproduce well," said Jeff Powell, project leader at the hatchery. "They lost a lot of their spawning habitat with the creation of the dams along the Missouri River, but these reservoirs still provide great habitats for them to live and grow because there are large plankton populations for the fish to feed on."

The hatchery has been stocking Lake Francis Case with paddlefish for three decades and Lake Sharpe for about three years. The hatchery said this year's release is its largest yet, with about 50,000 of the paddlefish to be released into Lake Sharpe to boost its population.

"We want to have healthy and genetically appropriate paddlefish populations everywhere," Powell said. "South Dakota is a big part of their natural habitat along the Missouri River."

The hatchery raises paddlefish from May through September. Brood adults are captured at the mouth of the White River and brought back to the hatchery for breeding. Once the eggs hatch, the ponds are stocked with the fish.

Paddlefish, considered a sport fish, are a prehistoric species and sometimes survive for more than 50 years.

Information from: Yankton Press and Dakotan, <http://www.yankton.net/>



## Elk Point man killed in Lincoln County car crash identified

CANTON, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified an Elk Point man who died in a car crash in southeastern South Dakota's Lincoln County.

The Highway Patrol says 45-year-old Richard Strand Jr. lost control of his car and it rolled in the ditch 6 miles north of Canton shortly before 7 a.m. Tuesday.

He was pronounced dead at the scene. He was alone in the vehicle.

## 2 sides in corporate farming battle seek judge's approval

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The two sides in a legal battle over the constitutionality of North Dakota's Depression-era ban on corporate farming have both formally asked a judge for a decision on whether the law infringes on interstate commerce.

The two sides have been arguing in court documents throughout the summer, after Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem asked U.S. District Judge Daniel Hovland to agree with the state's argument that the law doesn't violate the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

A bench trial isn't scheduled until February 2019.

North Dakota Farm Bureau sued last summer to do away with the law that voters approved in 1932 to protect the state's family farming heritage by barring corporations from owning or operating farms. The law was updated by the 1981 Legislature to allow for exceptions involving small family farm corporations.

Farm Bureau and other plaintiffs contend the law limits farmers' business options and interferes with interstate commerce by barring out-of-state corporations from being involved in North Dakota's farm industry.

In lengthy court documents filed in June, July and August, Stenehjem argues that the law doesn't necessarily bar the involvement of out-of-state interests in family farm corporations, as long as kinship and other rules are followed.

"An out-of-state family corporate entity can own and operate a farm in North Dakota as long as it meets the same requirements that a North Dakota in-state family corporation must," Stenehjem wrote.

He also maintains that even if the 1981 update is deemed unconstitutional, it shouldn't nullify the entire law.

Farm Bureau, which also has asked Hovland to rule in its favor, argues in part that comments made by lawmakers in 1981 prove "clear intent to benefit North Dakota family farm corporations, to the disadvantage of out-of-state corporations," which the farm group says is discriminatory.

Farm Bureau believes the law requires corporate farm officials to have "at least some measure of physical presence in North Dakota" — similar to corporate farming laws in South Dakota and Nebraska that courts struck down earlier this century.

That's disputed by Stenehjem and also North Dakota Farmers Union and the Dakota Resource Council, both of which are helping defend the law.

"The family farm exception does not include any requirement that even a single shareholder or member be physically present on the farm or ranch," Farmers Union attorney Scott Carlson wrote.

Plaintiffs accuse the two defending groups of trying to "muddy the waters."

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit in addition to Farm Bureau are: a Wisconsin dairy farmer and a Wisconsin dairy company seeking to expand into North Dakota; a North Dakota hog farmer who is a member of the North Dakota Sow Center, which owns and operates several hog facilities and has partners in North Dakota, South Dakota and Iowa; the North Dakota Pork Council; a North Dakota cattle rancher who wants to expand; and Global Beef Consultants, which provides cattle consulting and export services and also owns two ranches in Kazakhstan.

## **Defense: Accused man tried to save girlfriend, not kill her**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A defense attorney says a man accused of killing his girlfriend at a Rapid City hotel in 2015 didn't strangle her, but instead administered first aid when he saw her gasping for air.

The Rapid City Journal reports that defense attorney Conor Duffy told a jury Thursday in his opening statement that 61-year-old Brian Duncan tried to clear 60-year-old Helen Wright's airway.

Wright's body was found in a room at the Western Thrifty Inn in November 2015. Duncan was arrested in San Marcos, Texas, in June 2016.

Wright's death certificate says she died from suffocation or "asphyxiation by strangulation" as a result of an assault. Duffy says she died from pneumonia, among her many ailments.

The second-degree murder trial is scheduled to last until Sept. 14.

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

## **Mitchell man pleads not guilty to murder in fatal stabbing**

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — A Mitchell man accused of stabbing another man to death outside of an apartment complex has pleaded not guilty to a murder charge.

Forty-nine-year-old Anthony Lewis is scheduled for trial in early December.

Lewis is accused of stabbing 30-year-old Quinn Schleuning four times after a confrontation on Aug. 22. Police say the two men knew one another and had an adversarial relationship.

## **Police suspect man fatally shot trying to break into home**

SPENCER, Iowa (AP) — Authorities suspect a man fatally shot in Spencer was trying to break into a home. Thirty-year-old Nicolas Bandomo was shot early on Sept. 1, and police said Thursday they think he was trying to reach people in the home whom he'd been barred by protection orders from contacting.

Bandomo fled to a nearby residence after he was shot. Police say he was taken to Spencer Hospital and then died after he was transferred to a Sioux Falls, South Dakota, hospital. He lived in Albert City.

The Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation is aiding Spencer Police with the case.

## **Fire damages gun shop in Sioux Falls; no one hurt**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — No one was hurt when a gun shop in Sioux Falls started on fire.

Authorities say the blaze at Gary's Gun Shop broke out about 1:15 p.m. Thursday. Everyone inside got out safely.

The cause of the fire wasn't immediately determined, and there was no immediate damage estimate.

## **Sen. Rounds won't commit to supporting DACA replacement**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds says he likely won't support efforts to protect younger immigrants who were brought to the country illegally without commitments to enhance border security.

President Donald Trump plans to dismantle the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program — protections approved by the Obama administration. Congress is debating an alternative.

Proposals to simply replace the program likely won't stand a chance and will probably come in a broader immigration plan, said Rounds, a Republican.

"I think there is some common ground that we all want to work toward and at the same time have compassion for these younger people who in many cases never knew another country," Rounds said. "But we can't do that without getting something done on border security."

U.S. Sen. John Thune and Rep. Kristi Noem, two other South Dakota Republicans, haven't said whether they would support legislation replacing the program.

More than 500 immigrants have been approved to work in South Dakota through the program since

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2012, according to the Argus Leader .

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

## Another casino robbed at gunpoint in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Police say another casino in Sioux Falls has been robbed at gunpoint, the fourth armed robbery in the last week.

Officers were called to Jokerz Casino just after midnight Friday where a man had threatened staff with a gun before fleeing with an undisclosed amount of cash.

KELO-TV reports the suspect remains at large. Police are searching for suspects in three other armed robberies that happened earlier this week in Sioux Falls, including one at the Crown Casino.

\_\_\_ Information from: KELO-TV, <http://www.keloland.com>

## Egypt announces discovery of 3,500-years old tomb in Luxor

By NARIMAN EL-MOFTY, Associated Press

LUXOR, Egypt (AP) — Egypt on Saturday announced the discovery in the southern city of Luxor of a pharaonic tomb belonging to a royal goldsmith who lived more than 3,500 years ago and whose work was dedicated to the ancient Egyptian god Amun.

The tomb, located on the west bank of the river Nile in a cemetery for noblemen and top officials, is a relatively modest discovery, but one that authorities have announced with a great deal of fanfare in a bid to boost the country's slowly recovering tourism industry.

"We want tomorrow's newspapers to speak about Egypt and make people want to come to Egypt," Antiquities Minister Khaled el-Anani told reporters, reflecting the country's desperate need to revitalize tourism.

El-Anani said the tomb was not in good condition, but contained a partially damaged sandstone statue of the goldsmith, named Amenemhat, and his wife. Between the couple stands a smaller figure of one of their sons.

The tomb has two burial shafts, one of which was likely dug to bury the mummies of the goldsmith and his wife. It also contained wooden funerary masks and a collection of statues of the couple, according to a ministry statement. Three mummies were found in the shaft.

It said a second shaft contained a collection of sarcophagi from the 21st and 22nd dynasties.

The tomb belonged to the 18th pharaonic dynasty when Amun was the most powerful deity. It was discovered by Egyptian archeologists, something that a senior official at the Antiquities Ministry hailed as evidence of their growing professionalism and expertise.

"We used to escort foreign archeologists as observers, but that's now in the past. We are the leaders now," said Mustafa Waziri, the ministry's chief archaeologist in Luxor.

## Irma shifts: The prime target is now Tampa, not Miami

By CURT ANDERSON and CLAIRE GALOFARO, Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — With the window closing fast for anyone wanting to escape, Irma hurtled toward Florida with 125 mph winds Saturday on a shifting track that took it away from Miami and instead threatened the Tampa area with its first direct hit from a major hurricane in nearly a century.

"You need to leave — not tonight, not in an hour, right now," Gov. Rick Scott warned residents in the evacuation zones ahead of the storm's predicted arrival on Sunday morning.

For days, the forecast had made it look as if the Miami metropolitan area of 6 million people could get hit head-on with the catastrophic and long-dreaded Big One.

The swing in the hurricane's projected path overnight caught many on Florida's Gulf coast off guard. By late morning, few businesses in St. Petersburg had even put plywood or hurricane shutters on their windows, and some locals groused about the change in the forecast.

"For five days, we were told it was going to be on the east coast, and then 24 hours before it hits, we're

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now told it's coming up the west coast," said Jeff Beerbohm, a 52-year-old entrepreneur in St. Petersburg. "As usual, the weatherman, I don't know why they're paid."

Tampa has not been struck by a major hurricane since 1921, when its population was about 10,000, National Hurricane Center spokesman Dennis Feltgen said. Now the area has around 3 million people.

The new course threatened everything from Tampa Bay's bustling twin cities of Tampa and St. Petersburg to Naples' mansion- and yacht-lined canals, Sun City Center's sprawling compound of modest retirement homes, and Sanibel Island's shell-filled beaches.

With the new forecast, Pinellas County, home to St. Petersburg, ordered 260,000 people to leave.

Irma has left more than 20 people dead in its wake across the Caribbean, ravaging such resort islands as St. Martin, St. Barts, St. Thomas, Barbuda and Antigua.

Irma weakened slightly in the morning but was expected to pick up strength again before hitting the Sunshine State.

Meteorologists predicted its center would blow ashore Sunday in the perilously low-lying Florida Keys, then hit southwestern Florida and move north, plowing into the Tampa Bay area. Though the center is expected to miss Miami, the metro area will still get pounded with life-threatening hurricane winds, Feltgen said.

On Saturday morning, the state was already beginning to feel Irma's muscle. Nearly 25,000 people had lost power, mostly in the Miami area, as the wind began gusting.

In Key West, 60-year-old Carol Walteson Stroud sought refuge in a senior center with her husband, granddaughter and dog. The streets were nearly empty, shops were boarded up and the wind started to blow.

"Tonight, I'm sweating," she said. "Tonight, I'm scared to death."

In one of the biggest evacuations ever ordered in the U.S., about 6.3 million people in Florida — more than one-quarter of the state's population — were warned to leave, and 540,000 were directed to clear out from the Georgia coast.

Gas shortages and gridlock plagued the evacuations. Parts of interstates 75 and 95 north were bumper-to-bumper.

Major tourist attractions, including Walt Disney World, Universal Studios and Sea World, all prepared to close Saturday. The Miami and Fort Lauderdale airports shut down, and those in Orlando and Tampa planned to do the same later in the day.

With winds that peaked at 185 mph (300 kph), Irma was once the most powerful hurricane ever recorded in the open Atlantic. But given its mammoth size and strength and its projected course, it could still prove one of the most devastating hurricanes ever to hit Florida and inflict damage on a scale not seen here in 25 years.

It could also test the Federal Emergency Management Agency's ability to handle two crises at the same time. FEMA is still dealing with aftermath of catastrophic Hurricane Harvey in the Houston area.

Ray Scarborough and girlfriend Leah Etmanczyk left their home in Big Pine Key and fled north with her parents and three big dogs to stay with relatives in Orlando. Scarborough was 12 when Hurricane Andrew hit in 1992 and remembers lying on the floor in a hall as the storm nearly ripped the roof off his house.

"They said this one is going to be bigger than Andrew. When they told me that, that's all I needed to hear," said Scarborough, now a 37-year-old boat captain. "That one tore everything apart."

Andrew razed Miami's suburbs with winds topping 165 mph (265 kph), damaging or blowing apart over 125,000 homes. The damage in Florida totaled \$26 billion, and at least 40 people died.

Galofaro reported from Orlando. Associated Press writers Seth Borenstein in Washington; Terry Spencer in Palm Beach County; Gary Fineout in Tallahassee, Terrance Harris in Orlando; and Jason Dearen and David Fischer in Miami contributed to this report.

HURRICANE NEWSLETTER — Get the best of the AP's all-formats reporting on Irma and Harvey in your inbox: <http://apne.ws/ahYQGtb>

## Hurricanes drive addiction issues into public square

By CARLA K. JOHNSON and NOMAAN MERCHANT, Associated Press

In the whirr of preparations for Hurricane Irma, a needle exchange program in Miami's Overtown neighborhood handed out extra syringes to heroin users. Others trying to break from the drug's grasp picked up advance medication from methadone clinics.

Disasters cause stress, and stress can cause relapse for people struggling with addiction, whether their problem is alcohol, tobacco, pills or heroin. Authorities planning for the devastating effects of hurricanes now factor in the heightened danger of relapse and overdose.

The problems of alcoholism and addiction become more public in a storm, said researcher Andrew Golub of the National Development and Research Institutes in New York, who studied illicit drug users in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

"During a storm, it becomes harder to hide and cope with one's addiction in private," Golub said.

Scientists learned from Hurricane Katrina and Superstorm Sandy . Drug users took chances during storms, researchers found, avoiding evacuation to stay near their dealers or sharing needles with strangers putting themselves in danger of HIV and hepatitis. Those in treatment missed doses of medications and went back to street drugs to avoid withdrawal sickness. During Sandy, clinics that lost power measured methadone by candlelight.

"Disasters like this interrupt treatment," said Enrique Pouget, whose team interviewed 300 injection drug users in New York after the 2012 storm.

Methadone programs, highly regulated by the government, are required to have disaster emergency plans. The state of Florida, in cooperation with federal authorities, granted methadone clinics discretion to provide up to five days of medication ahead of Hurricane Irma.

In Texas and Louisiana, some patients took home advance doses of methadone. Others received it in shelters or from alternative facilities.

Florida's first needle exchange program — aimed at preventing overdoses and blood-borne infections — faces its biggest challenge yet with Irma. This past week, Dr. Hansel Tookes and his team gave away a week's supply of clean needles and overdose reversal kits, or Narcan.

"We want to make sure all of our people have Narcan so they can save lives and be first responders in the storm," Tookes said of the 400 drug users who rely on his program . Drug users equipped with Narcan can save others who overdose.

Mark Kinzly, co-founder of the Texas Overdose Naloxone Initiative, said his group distributed around 500 kits to clinics along the Texas coast in the midst of Harvey cleanup. Storms can be disastrous for people with addictions because they interrupt routines and schedules, he said.

"There's people that are going to be without jobs and without homes because of this hurricane," Kinzly said. "They're going to be less stable in their overall lives to begin with. That can be dangerous."

In the aftermath of flooded Houston, Julie Boon oversaw repairs at a sober-living home while giving advice to residents based on her own 30 years of sobriety.

"Have faith in the foundation you've built," said Boon of Eudaimonia Recovery Homes. "If you get into fear, reach out and speak to somebody."

People in long-term recovery have the ability to cope with disasters, said Julia Negron of Venice, Florida, a former injection drug user and organizer of the Suncoast Harm Reduction Project, a grassroots group working to prevent overdoses.

"You deal with life as it comes. So here you go: Here's a test," she said.

\_\_\_ This story has been updated to correct the spelling of Naloxone in the name of the group Mark Kinzly co-founded. It had been misspelled Naxolone.

\_\_\_ HURRICANE NEWSLETTER — Get the best of the AP's all-formats reporting on Irma and Harvey in your inbox: <http://apne.ws/ahYQGtb>

\_\_\_ Follow AP Medical Writer Carla K. Johnson on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CarlaKJohnson>

## Deadly quake, hurricane a one-two punch for Mexico; 63 die

By CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN, Associated Press

JUCHITAN, Mexico (AP) — One of the most powerful earthquakes ever to hit Mexico was followed by a Gulf coast hurricane, dealing a one-two punch to the country that killed at least 63 people as workers scrambled Saturday to respond to the twin national emergencies.

The 8.1 quake off the southern Pacific coast just before midnight Thursday toppled hundreds of buildings in several states. Hardest-hit was Juchitan, Oaxaca, where 36 people died and a third of the city's homes collapsed or were uninhabitable, President Enrique Pena Nieto said late Friday in an interview with the Televisa news network.

In downtown Juchitan, the remains of brick walls and clay tile roofs cluttered streets as families dragged mattresses onto sidewalks to spend a second anxious night sleeping outdoors. Some were newly homeless, while others feared further aftershocks could topple their cracked adobe dwellings.

"We are all collapsed, our homes and our people," said Rosa Elba Ortiz Santiago, 43, who sat with her teenage son and more than a dozen neighbors on an assortment of chairs. "We are used to earthquakes, but not of this magnitude."

Even as she spoke, across the country, Hurricane Katia was roaring onshore north of Tecolutla in Veracruz state, pelting the region with intense rains and maximum sustained winds of 75 mph (120) kph.

Veracruz Gov. Miguel Angel Yunes said two people died in a mudslide related to the storm, and he said some rivers had risen to near flood stage, but there were no reports of major damage.

Veracruz and neighboring Puebla states evacuated more than 4,000 people ahead of the storm's arrival.

The Hurricane Center said Katia could still bring 3 to 6 inches (7.5 to 15 centimeters) of additional rain (25 to 37 centimeters) to a region with a history of deadly mudslides and flooding.

Pena Nieto announced Friday that the earthquake killed 45 people in Oaxaca state, 12 in Chiapas and 4 in Tabasco, and he declared three days of national mourning. The toll included 36 dead in Juchitan, located on the narrow waist of Oaxaca known as the Isthmus, where a hospital and about half the city hall also collapsed into rubble.

Next to Ortiz, 47-year-old Jose Alberto Martinez said he and family members have long been accustomed to earthquakes. So when the ground started moving, at first they simply waited a bit for it to stop — until objects began falling and they bolted for the street.

"We felt like the house was coming down on top of us," Martinez said, accompanied by his wife, son and mother-in-law.

Now, he didn't feel safe going back inside until the home is inspected. Right next door, an older building had crumbled into a pile of rough timbers, brick and stucco, while little remained of a white church on the corner.

Rescuers searched for survivors Friday with sniffer dogs and used heavy machinery at the main square to pull rubble away from city hall, where a missing police officer was believed to be inside.

The city's civil defense coordinator, Jose Antonio Marin Lopez, said similar searches had been going on all over the area.

Teams found bodies in the rubble, but the highlight was pulling four people, including two children, alive from the completely collapsed Hotel Del Rio where one woman died.

"The priority continues to be the people," Marin said.

Pena Nieto said authorities were working to re-establish supplies of water and food and provide medical attention to those who need it. He vowed the government would help rebuild.

"The power of this earthquake was devastating, but we are certain that the power of unity, the power of solidarity and the power of shared responsibility will be greater," Pena Nieto said.

Power was cut at least briefly to more than 1.8 million people, and authorities closed schools in at least 11 states to check them for safety.

The Interior Department reported that 428 homes were destroyed and 1,700 were damaged just in Chiapas, the state closest to the epicenter.

"Homes made of clay tiles and wood collapsed," said Nataniel Hernandez, a human rights worker living

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in Tonalá, Chiapas, who worried that inclement weather threatened to bring more structures down.

"Right now it is raining very hard in Tonalá, and with the rains it gets much more complicated because the homes were left very weak, with cracks," Hernandez said by phone.

The earthquake also jolted the Mexican capital, more than 650 miles (1,000 kilometers) away, which largely lies atop a former lakebed whose soil amplifies seismic waves. Memories are still fresh for many of a catastrophic quake that killed thousands and devastated large parts of the city in 1985.

Mexico City escaped major damage, though part of a bridge on a highway being built to a new international airport collapsed due to the earthquake, local media reported.

The quake's power was equal to Mexico's strongest in the past century, and it was slightly stronger than the 1985 quake, the U.S. Geological Survey said. However its impact was blunted somewhat by the fact that it struck some 100 miles offshore.

The epicenter was in a seismic hotspot in the Pacific where one tectonic plate dives under another. Such subduction zones are responsible for some of the biggest quakes in history, including the 2011 Fukushima disaster and the 2004 Sumatra quake that spawned a deadly tsunami.

In the Gulf coast state of Veracruz, tourists abandoned coastal hotels as winds and rains picked up ahead of Hurricane Katia's landfall and workers set up emergency shelters.

"The arrival of (hashtag)Katia may be particularly dangerous for slopes affected by the earthquake. Avoid these areas," Pena Nieto tweeted.

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Associated Press writers Peter Orsi and Mark Stevenson in Mexico City contributed to this report.

## **New Moscow park brings 'wilderness' to the city center**

MOSCOW (AP) — With a visit from President Vladimir Putin, Moscow has inaugurated an innovative 32-acre (13-hectare) park that mimics features of Russia's landscape on land where a notoriously unsightly hotel once sprawled.

The Zaryadye Park's opening Saturday came as part of observances commemorating Moscow's 870th anniversary. The park includes artificial micro-climate areas with plants representing Russia's steppes, tundra, wetlands and forests.

The site, about 200 meters east of the Kremlin along the Moscow River, once held the immense Rossiya Hotel, a 1960s Soviet hulk that once was the world's largest hotel with some 3,000 rooms.

The new park was designed by the American architecture practice Diller Scofidio and Renfro, which called the park's concept "wild urbanism."

## **Iraq steps up strikes on IS-held Hawija ahead of offensive**

**By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA, Associated Press**

BAGHDAD (AP) — The Iraqi air force and the U.S.-led coalition have stepped up a campaign of airstrikes on the Islamic State group-held town of Hawija Saturday ahead of a planned ground assault there, according to Iraq's minister of defense.

Also Saturday, the secretary general of the Arab league visited Baghdad to encourage political dialogue with Irbil as Iraq's Kurdish region pushes forward with plans to hold a referendum on independence Sept. 25.

Despite ongoing military operations to clear out the last pockets of territory held by IS, the looming referendum has increased tensions between the central government and the Kurdish region.

"There are large operations underway ahead of the liberation of Hawija and surrounding areas," Iraqi Defense Minister Erfan al-Hayali told The Associated Press, explaining that his forces were working closely with Iraqi Kurdish forces known as the Peshmerga as well as the coalition.

During the operation to retake Iraq's second largest city of Mosul, Iraq's military coordinated attacks with the Kurdish Peshmerga forces. After a grueling nine-month fight Mosul was declared liberated in July.

It is unclear if Iraqi security forces and the Peshmerga will continue to cooperate once the referendum

is held.

Last month, the Iraqi military command overseeing the IS fight declared victory in Tal Afar, west of Mosul and announced Hawija, 150 miles (240 kilometers) north of Baghdad, would be the next battle against the extremists.

The stepped-up coalition strikes are targeting IS territory in western Anbar as well as Hawija, said U.S. Army Colonel Ryan Dillon, coalition spokesman.

"Coming off of their victory in Tal Afar (Iraqi security forces) will use a lot of the same techniques," Dillon said. "Simultaneous attacks proved to be very successful as did operations ahead of time to let civilians know what to do."

Defense Minister al-Hayali said his forces began radio broadcasts and leaflet drops on Hawija warning civilians of the planned push.

The United Nations said the operation to retake Tal Afar forced some 20,000 people to flee, according to counts by Iraqi authorities. When the fight for Hawija begins, the U.N. estimates some 60,000 people will be impacted.

## Desperation spreads in Rohingya camps as resources scarce

By MUNEZA NAQVI, Associated Press

COX'S BAZAR, Bangladesh (AP) — With Rohingya refugees still flooding across the border from Myanmar, those packed into camps and makeshift settlements in Bangladesh were becoming desperate Saturday for scant basic resources as hunger and illness soared.

Fights were erupting over food and water. Women and children were tapping on car windows or tugging at the clothes of passing reporters while rubbing their bellies and begging for food. Health experts warned of the potential for outbreaks of disease.

The U.N. said Saturday that an estimated 290,000 Rohingya Muslims have arrived in the border district of Cox's Bazar in just the last two weeks, joining at least 100,000 who were already there after fleeing earlier riots or persecution in Buddhist-majority Myanmar. The number was expected to swell further, with thousands crossing the border each day.

"More and more people are coming," said UNHCR spokeswoman Vivian Tan. With camps already "more than full," the new arrivals were setting up spontaneous settlements along roadsides or on any available patches of land.

Within the camps "we are trying our best, but it is very difficult because every day we are seeing new arrivals" with nowhere to go.

The exodus began Aug. 25 after Rohingya insurgents attacked police posts in Myanmar's northern Rakhine state. The military responded with what it called "clearance operations" to root out any fighters it said might be hiding in villages. The Myanmar government says nearly 400 people have been killed in fighting it blames on insurgents, though Rohingya say Myanmar troops and Buddhist mobs attacked them and destroyed their villages.

Many of the newly arrived were initially stunned and traumatized after fleeing the violence. They are now growing desperate in searching for food distribution points that appeared only in recent days, passing out packets of biscuits and 25-kilogram (55-pound) bags of rice.

One aid worker who asked not to be identified because they were not authorized to speak to the media said "stocks are running out" with the refugees' needs far greater than what they had imagined. "It is impossible to keep up," she said.

At one food distribution point, women were volunteering to help keep order by tapping people with bamboo sticks to gently urge them back in line. Weary women carried infants in their arms while clutching other children to their sides, afraid they might be separated in the crowds.

One 40-year-old man, faint with hunger, collapsed while waiting and could not stand again on his own strength when others tried to help him up. They drizzled water between his lips in an attempt to revive him, to no avail.



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At one camp, a mobile clinic set up for the first time Saturday had already seen 600 patients by the afternoon. Patients, mostly children, were coming in with severe diarrhea, fungal skin infections, ear infections and high fever, said Nasima Yasmin, the director of the clinic run by a well-known Bangladesh health group.

Yasmin said their work was barely sufficient given the camp's scale and requirements.

"We need deep tube wells so that there is clean water and people can clean themselves. Also toilets are needed," she said, adding that the sheer number of newcomers raised fears of a serious outbreak of disease.

Refugee camps had already been filled to capacity before the influx. Makeshift settlements were quickly appearing and expanding along roadsides, and the city of Cox's Bazar — built to accommodate only 500,000 — was bursting at its seams.

There was an urgent need for more temporary shelters, Tan said. "We are seeing the mushrooming of these very flimsy shelters that will not be able to house people for too long," she said.

The U.N. has asked Bangladesh authorities to make more land available so they can build new relief camps.

The U.S. State Department said in a statement Saturday that it was "very concerned" about the situation and praised Bangladesh for its "generosity in responding to this humanitarian crisis."

It's not known how many Rohingya remain in Rakhine state. Previously the population had been thought to be roughly 1 million. Journalists in Rakhine state saw active fires in areas Rohingya had abandoned, adding to doubts over government claims that Rohingya themselves were responsible for setting them.

Dozens of Rohingya have died in boat capsizings as they fled the violence. Those who trek days through the jungle to cross the land border face other dangers, including land mines.

Land mines were planted years ago along parts of the border. Bangladeshi officials say Myanmar soldiers have planted new explosives since the latest wave of violence began, though the Myanmar military denies it.

"It may not be land mines, but I know there have been isolated cases of Myanmar soldiers planting explosives three to four days ago," Lt. Col. S.M. Ariful Islam, commanding officer of the Bangladesh border guard in Teknaf, said Friday. He added that he was aware of at least three Rohingya injured in explosions.

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Associated Press writers Nirmala George in New Delhi and Katy Daigle in Bangkok contributed to this report.

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Follow Muneeza Naqvi at [www.twitter.com/mnaqvi10](http://www.twitter.com/mnaqvi10) .

## Hurricane Irma lashes Cuba; Jose poses threat elsewhere

By **MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN, Associated Press**

HAVANA (AP) — Hurricane Irma battered Cuba on Saturday with deafening winds and relentless rain, pushing seawater inland that flooded homes and knocked out power across a wide area. Elsewhere in the Caribbean, islands already reeling from Irma prepared for a second pounding - from Hurricane Jose.

The twin Category 4 storms had desperate residents seeking shelter across the region. In Cuba, high winds from Irma upended trees, toppled utility poles and scattered debris across streets. Roads were blocked, and witnesses said a provincial museum near the eye of the storm was in ruins after being buffeted by brutal squalls.

On the French overseas islands of St. Martin and St. Barts, Jose was expected to bring torrential rains and dangerous rip currents.

"The protection and shelter of people already harshly tested by Irma is the priority," officials said in a statement. More than 1,100 police, military officials and others have been deployed to both islands to provide help. Crews were evacuating the sick and injured to nearby Guadeloupe.

The last airplane flew in to the battered Grande-Case de Saint Martin airport Friday carrying emergency workers to help with reconstruction as well as specialists who aim to re-establish the island's cutoff water supply and electricity. Remaining mothers and children were flown out Friday in small 40-person capacity

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planes.

Irma claimed at least 20 lives as it leveled islands in the Caribbean and headed toward Florida, where a massive evacuation was in progress. The hurricane center said the storm slowed down after slamming into Cuba's northern coast, but that wind speeds would likely regain momentum as it approached the Sunshine State. The center said it is looking more likely that the eye of powerful Irma will strike the Florida Keys, southwestern Florida and the Tampa Bay region on Sunday.

Early Saturday, the hurricane center said the storm was centered about 90 miles (145 kilometers) east-southeast of Varadero, Cuba, with maximum sustained winds of 125 mph (205 kph). Soldiers and government workers earlier had gone through coastal towns enforcing the evacuation, taking people to shelters at government buildings and schools — and even caves.

Many of Irma's victims fled their islands on ferries and fishing boats as Jose approached, threatening destruction for anything Irma might have left untouched. Early Saturday, Jose was located about 120 miles (190 kilometers) east of the northern Leeward Islands. The storm was moving to the northwest at 13 mph (20 kph), with maximum sustained winds of 145 mph (230 kph), according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center.

Hurricane warnings were in effect for Dutch Sint Maarten, St. Martin and St. Barthelemy, and tropical storm warnings were in effect for Barbuda and Anguilla, as well as Saba and St. Eustatius.

Some islands, though, received a last-minute reprieve as a hurricane warning for Barbuda and Anguilla was downgraded to a tropical storm. Both islands were devastated by Irma.

Many residents and tourists were left reeling after Irma ravaged some of the world's most exclusive tropical playgrounds, known for their turquoise waters and lush green vegetation. Among them: St. Martin, St. Barts, St. Thomas, Barbuda and Anguilla.

Irma smashed homes, shops, roads and schools; knocked out power, water and telephone service; trapped thousands of tourists; and stripped trees of their leaves, leaving an eerie, blasted-looking landscape littered with sheet metal and splintered lumber.

The dead included 11 on St. Martin and St. Barts, four in the U.S. Virgin Islands, four in the British Virgin Islands and one each on Anguilla and Barbuda.

Also, a 16-year-old junior professional surfer drowned Tuesday in Barbados while surfing large swells generated by an approaching Irma.

French authorities said Saturday that some 1,105 workers are now deployed St. Martin and St. Barts to help the islands' recovery. By Saturday, damage estimated to have already reached the 1.2 billion euro (\$1.44 billion) mark — pockmarking the islands that have become famous as lush playgrounds for the rich and famous.

It's still not known US President Donald Trump's luxury property on St. Martin has been damaged by the storm.

Jalon Shortte said riding out Irma in his top-floor apartment on Tortola, in the British Virgin Islands, was the scariest thing he has ever been through.

The air pressure hurt his ears, trees fell on his roof, windows blew out and a door came off, he wrote on Facebook. The storm even took paint off the walls, he said.

His Facebook page was filled with images he took from around Tortola of sunken yachts, crushed vehicles and mounds of debris. He said looting was rampant.

Amid the devastation, Shortte worked to bring a water desalination plant online.

"We have to stick together and rebuild," he said.

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Associated Press writers Ben Fox in Miami, Ian Brown in St. Thomas, U.S Virgin Islands; Danica Coto in San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Seth Borenstein in Washington contributed to this report.

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## Norway wrestles with EU ties, national values before vote

By MARK LEWIS, Associated Press

STAVANGER, Norway (AP) — Norway's upcoming election has sparked a wide-ranging debate about national values, leaving voters wrestling with how close the Nordic country should be to the European Union and what its responsibilities are toward migrants and asylum-seekers.

While Britain looks to Norway for inspiration in its divorce from the EU, some in Oslo see the U.K. as a model for severing ties to the 28-nation bloc altogether. This populist position is gaining traction as Norway's left-wing Labor party and the right-wing Conservatives look to forge ties with smaller partners to gain a thin majority in parliament.

In this wealthy nation of 5.3 million, both main parties are losing support, casting in doubt the direction of the dominant oil and gas business and creating a fight about Norwegian values.

All seats in the 169-member Parliament are up for grabs in Monday's vote.

The country is now ruled by Prime Minister Erna Solberg's Conservatives in coalition with the populist Progress Party, propped up by votes from the Christian Democrats and the Liberals. The main opposition comes from Labor, the biggest party in Parliament, but it needs support from at least two smaller parties to get a majority.

Surfing a populist wave, Norway's rural Center Party has promised to condition its coalition support for Labor with demands for a public inquiry into the country's EU relationship. Norway isn't in the EU, but it has access to its single market of half a billion people. It also accepts the free movement of EU workers, enacts reams of EU law and pays a membership fee to do that.

"We are a country that has always been opposed to elites. And the EU is an elite that takes too much power away from our parliament. We think it transfers too much sovereignty to an unelected bureaucracy in Brussels," Center Party leader Sygve Slagsvold Vedum told The Associated Press.

He says his party wants Norway to cut its governing ties with the EU.

"This is much less radical than Brexit, since we are not an EU country. But we will watch closely what happens in the U.K.," he said.

Before the vote, the Center Party's poll ratings have surged.

"You see a familiar populist message here. They are claiming to protect the people against the immoral elites who live in the big cities and are a threat to real people," says Torril Aalberg, a political science professor at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

But with both Labor and the Conservatives committed to the current arrangement, Aalberg believes a renegotiation with the EU or a referendum on the topic are unlikely. The Center Party leader, however, thinks the time is ripe.

"Brexit means there is a new reality, and there will be new trade agreements with the EU. We want to see the opportunities," Vedum said.

Labor's sinking poll ratings means getting an 85-seat majority depends on the euroskeptic Socialist Left party, and possibly even the Greens or far-left Red Party. All are hostile to the current EU arrangement, and to varying degrees the expansion of the oil and gas business, which accounts for more than half of all Norwegian exports and feeds the country's \$990 billion sovereign wealth fund.

Labor and the Conservatives have ruled out ending oil and gas exploration - a demand of the unaligned Greens. But outlawing drilling in ecologically sensitive areas and putting a moratorium on expanding new exploration licenses in the Arctic are seen as more realistic targets by some smaller parties jostling for a place in a left-wing government.

On the right, the latest poll gives the Conservatives a one-delegate majority, providing it can hold together its fractious supporting cast. But alternative visions of Christian and Norwegian values have cropped up between the Progress Party and the Christian Democrats.

"The Christian Democrats would be more understanding of different religions and values, and the Progress Party would connect Christianity more closely with a traditional Norwegian way of doing things," Aalberg said.

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A top Progress official has drawn criticism from the Christian Democrats for saying that failed asylum applicants should be locked up while awaiting deportation.

"We want Norway to be recognized as a nation that abides by its international reputation, characterized by compassion, being a peacemaker, the willingness to defend poor countries and those fleeing for their lives," said Hilde Frafjord Johnson, the Christian Democrats leader. "We want a new government where this Progress Party is not included."

## US-backed forces launch east Syria campaign against IS

BEIRUT (AP) — A U.S.-backed Syrian force says it has launched military operations against the Islamic State group in eastern Syria, heightening the possibility of conflict with rival, Russian-backed government forces, which are running their own operations in the same area.

The predominantly Kurdish Syrian Democratic Forces announced Saturday its Deir el-Zour Military Council has launched operation "Jazeera Storm" to defeat IS militants in the resource-rich Deir el-Zour province.

Syrian government forces broke an IS siege against the provincial capital, also called Deir el-Zour, last week.

The SDF remain locked in battle with IS militants over the jihadists' de-facto capital city, Raqqa, in north Syria. The U.S. military is providing ground and air support.

## Irma's victims in the Caribbean brace for another hurricane

By ANIKA KENTISH and MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN, Associated Press

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua (AP) — Thousands of Irma victims across the Caribbean fought desperately to find shelter or escape their storm-blasted islands altogether Friday as another hurricane following close behind threatened to add to their misery.

Irma regained Category 5 status late Friday, and with its 160 mph (260 kph) winds battering Cuba and taking aim at the Miami metropolitan area of 6 million people, the death toll in the storm's wake across the Caribbean climbed to 22.

Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and the eastern part of Cuba reported no major casualties or damage by mid-afternoon after Irma rolled north of the Caribbean's biggest islands.

But many residents and tourists farther east were left reeling after the storm ravaged some of the world's most exclusive tropical playgrounds, known for their turquoise waters and lush green vegetation. Among them: St. Martin, St. Barts, St. Thomas, Barbuda and Anguilla.

Irma smashed homes, shops, roads and schools; knocked out power, water and telephone service; trapped thousands of tourists; and stripped trees of their leaves, leaving an eerie, blasted-looking landscape littered with sheet metal and splintered lumber.

On Friday, looting and gunshots were reported on St. Martin, and a curfew was imposed in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Many of Irma's victims fled their islands on ferries and fishing boats for fear of Hurricane Jose, a Category 4 storm with 150 mph winds that could punish some places all over again this weekend.

"I don't think it takes a rocket scientist to know that further damage is imminent," said Inspector Frankie Thomas of the Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda.

On Barbuda, a coral island rising a mere 125 feet (38 meters) above sea level, authorities ordered an evacuation of all 1,400 people to neighboring Antigua, where Stevet Jeremiah was reunited with one son and made plans to bury another.

Jeremiah, who sells lobster and crab to tourists, was huddled in her wooden home on Barbuda early Wednesday with her partner and their 2- and 4-year-old boys as Irma ripped open their metal roof and sent the ocean surging into the house.

Her younger son, Carl Junior Francis, was swept away. Neighbors found his body after sunrise.

"Two years old. He just turned 2, the 17th, last month. Just turned 2," she repeated. Her first task, she said, would be to organize his funeral. "That's all I can do. There is nothing else I can do."

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The dead included 11 on St. Martin and St. Barts, four in the U.S. Virgin Islands, four in the British Virgin Islands and one each on Anguilla and Barbuda.

Also, a 16-year-old junior professional surfer drowned Tuesday in Barbados while surfing large swells generated by an approaching Irma.

Many victims picked through the rubble of what had once been Caribbean dream getaway homes.

On St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands, power lines and towers were toppled, a water and sewage treatment plant was heavily damaged, and the harbor was in ruins, along with hundreds of homes and dozens of businesses.

Opera singer Laura Strickling and her husband, Taylor, moved to St. Thomas three years ago from Washington so he could take a job as a lawyer. They rented a top-floor apartment with a stunning view of the turquoise water of Megan's Bay, which is surrounded by low hills covered by trees.

Strickling huddled with her husband and their year-old daughter in a basement apartment along with another family as the storm raged for 12 hours.

"The noise was just deafening. It was so loud we thought the roof was gone. The windows were boarded up, so it was hot and we had no AC, no power," she said. She said she and the three other adults "were terrified but keeping it together for the babies."

Strickling, who used to visit her husband in Afghanistan when he worked there, added: "I've had to sit through a Taliban gunfight, and this was scarier."

When they emerged, they found their apartment was unscathed and the trees had no leaves.

"We're obviously worried by the thought of having to do it all again with Hurricane Jose. It's a little, a little, well, it's not good," she said, her voice trailing off.

Irma threatened to push its way northward from one end of Florida to the other beginning Sunday morning in what many fear could be the long-dreaded, catastrophic Big One. Across Florida and Georgia, more than 6 million people were warned to leave their homes, clogging interstates as far away as Atlanta.

At the same time, more than 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) to the east, authorities commandeered a ferry from Montserrat with room for 350 and began moving people from Barbuda to the larger island of Antigua. The owners of several fishing boats also volunteered to help.

Thomas, the royal police inspector, said few structures were left standing in Barbuda, and even those that were not destroyed had some damage.

On St. Martin, which is divided between Dutch and French control, cafes and shops were swamped, and the storm left gnarled black branches denuded of leaves. Battered cars, corrugated metal, plywood, wrought iron and other debris covered street after street. Roofs were torn off numerous houses.

There was little left of St. Martin's Hotel Mercure but its sign, painted on a still-standing wall.

The cleanup was already underway for some. One man chopped at the branches of a bare tree. Another heaved what appeared to be furniture stuffing onto a pile. People sat in chairs outside a hospital, waiting to be seen.

William Marlin, prime minister of the Dutch side of St. Martin, said recovery was expected to take months even before Jose threatened to make things worse.

"We've lost many, many homes. Schools have been destroyed," he said. "We foresee a loss of the tourist season because of the damage that was done to hotel properties, the negative publicity that one would have that it's better to go somewhere else because it's destroyed. So that will have a serious impact on our economy."

On St. Thomas, Jodi Jabas and Matt Biber were combing through the wreckage of the home they had been busy remodeling before the storm. They huddled in a studio apartment on the ground floor as Irma roared overhead.

The storm took off the roof and a good section of the house with it.

"We found it funny that the only thing left standing was this stupid closet that we hated," said Matt Biber, a 36-year-old originally from North Dakota.

Jalon Shortte said riding out Irma in his top-floor apartment on Tortola, in the British Virgin Islands, was the scariest thing he has ever been through.

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The air pressure hurt his ears, trees fell on his roof, windows blew out and a door came off, he wrote on Facebook. The storm even took paint off the walls, he said.

His Facebook page was filled with images he took from around Tortola of sunken yachts, crushed vehicles and mounds of debris. He said looting was rampant.

Amid the devastation, Shortte worked to bring a water desalination plant online.

"We have to stick together and rebuild," he said.

Weissenstein reported from Havana. Associated Press writers Ben Fox in Miami, Ian Brown in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands; Danica Coto in San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Seth Borenstein in Washington contributed to this report.

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This story has been corrected to show that the surfer drowned in Barbados, not Barbuda.

## Irma bears down on Florida; more than 5M told to flee coast

By CURT ANDERSON and CLAIRE GALOFARO, Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Irma trained its sights on Florida and officials warned more than 5 million people that time was running out Friday and ordered them to evacuate ahead of the deadly hurricane as it followed a path that could take it from one end of the state to the other.

By late Friday, Irma had regained Category 5 strength with winds of 160 mph (260 kph). Forecasters expect the storm to be near the Florida Keys on Sunday morning and approach the state's southwest coast by that afternoon.

Forecasters adjusted the storm's potential track more toward the west coast of Florida, away from the Miami metropolitan area of 6 million people, meaning "a less costly, a less deadly storm," University of Miami researcher Brian McNoldy said.

Nevertheless, forecasters warned that its hurricane-force winds were so wide they could reach from coast to coast, testing the nation's third-largest state, which has undergone rapid development and more stringent hurricane-proof building codes in the last decade or so.

"This is a storm that will kill you if you don't get out of the way," National Hurricane Center meteorologist Dennis Feltgen said. "Everybody's going to feel this one."

Irma killed at least 20 people in the Caribbean and left thousands homeless as it devastated small resort islands known for their warm, turquoise water.

In Florida, gas shortages and gridlock plagued the evacuations, turning normally simple trips into tests of will. Parts of interstates 75 and 95 north were bumper-to-bumper, while very few cars drove in the southbound lanes.

"We're getting out of this state," said Manny Zuniga, who left his home in Miami at midnight Thursday to avoid the gridlock. "Irma is going to take all of Florida."

Despite driving overnight, he still took 12 hours to reach Orlando — a trip that normally takes four hours. From there, he and his wife, two children, two dogs and a ferret were headed to Arkansas.

In one of the country's largest evacuations, about 5.6 million people in Florida — more than one-quarter of the state's population — were ordered to evacuate and another 540,000 were told to leave the Georgia coast. Authorities opened hundreds of shelters for people who did not leave. Hotels as far away as Atlanta filled up with evacuees.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott said people fleeing could drive slowly in the shoulder lane on highways. He hasn't reversed the southbound lanes because he said they were needed to deliver gas and supplies.

"If you are planning to leave and do not leave tonight, you will have to ride out this extremely dangerous storm at your own risk," Scott said.

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Tony Marcellus racked his brain to figure out a way to get his 67-year-old mother and 85-year-old grandfather out of their home five blocks from the ocean in West Palm Beach. He lives 600 miles away in Atlanta. He checked flights but found nothing and rental cars were sold out, so he settled on a modern method of evacuation.

He hired an Uber to pick them up and drive them 170 miles to Orlando, where he met them to take them to Atlanta. He gave the driver a nice tip.

"I have peace of mind now," said Marcellus' mother, Celine Jean. "I've been worried sick for days."

Several small, poor communities around Lake Okeechobee in the south-central part of Florida were added to the evacuation list because the lake may overflow — but the governor said engineers expect the protective dike to hold up. Many people in the area said they wouldn't leave because they either had no transportation or nowhere to go.

Disney World parks will close early Saturday and remain shuttered through Monday, as will Universal Orlando and Sea World.

Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez said he planned for enough space to hold 100,000 people before the storm arrives, although most shelters were only beginning to fill on Friday.

Hurricane Andrew in 1992 revealed how lax building codes had become in the country's most storm-prone state, and Florida began requiring sturdier construction. Now, experts say a monstrosity strong Irma could become the most serious test of Florida's storm-worthiness since then.

Andrew razed Miami's suburbs with winds topping 165 mph (265 kph), damaging or blowing apart over 125,000 homes. Almost all mobile homes in its path were obliterated. The damage totaled \$26 billion in Florida's most-populous areas. At least 40 people were killed in Florida.

CoreLogic, a consultant to insurers, estimated that almost 8.5 million Florida homes or commercial properties were at extreme, very high or high risk of wind damage from Irma.

Police in the Fort Lauderdale suburb of Davie said a 57-year-old man who had been hired to install hurricane shutters Thursday morning died after falling about 15 feet (5 meters) from a ladder and hitting his head on a pool deck. The man's name wasn't immediately released.

Forecasters predicted a storm surge of 8 to 12 feet (2.4 to 3.7 meters) above ground level along Florida's southwest coast and in the Keys. As much as a foot of rain could fall across the state, with isolated spots receiving 20 inches.

With winds that peaked at 185 mph (300 kph), Irma was once the most powerful hurricane ever recorded in the open Atlantic.

Galofaro reported from Orlando. Associated Press writers Seth Borenstein in Washington; Gary Fineout in Tallahassee, Terrance Harris in Orlando and David Fischer in Miami contributed to this report.

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## Death toll 61 in Mexico quake as hurricane hits Gulf coast

By MARK STEVENSON, Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — One of the most powerful earthquakes ever recorded in Mexico struck off the country's southern coast, toppling hundreds of buildings and sending panicked people fleeing into the streets in the middle of the night. At least 61 people were reported dead.

The quake that hit minutes before midnight Thursday was strong enough to cause buildings to sway violently in the capital city more than 650 miles (1,000 kilometers) away. As beds banged against walls, people still wearing pajamas ran out of their homes and gathered in frightened groups.

Rodrigo Soberanes, who lives near San Cristobal de las Casas in Chiapas, the state nearest the epicenter, said his house "moved like chewing gum."

The furious shaking was followed by a second national emergency for Mexican agencies as Hurricane

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Katia made landfall north of Tecolutla in Veracruz state late Friday amid intense rains.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center said Katia's maximum sustained winds had dropped to 75 mph (120 kph), making it a Category 1 storm, but it was still expected to bring life-threatening floods and a dangerous storm surge off the Gulf of Mexico.

President Enrique Peña Nieto said Friday evening in a televised address that 61 people were killed by the quake — 45 in Oaxaca state, 12 in Chiapas and 4 in Tabasco — and he declared three days of national mourning.

The worst-hit city was Juchitan, on the narrow waist of Oaxaca known as the Isthmus, where 36 quake victims died.

About half of Juchitan's city hall collapsed in a pile of rubble and streets were littered with the debris of ruined houses. A hospital also collapsed, Peña Nieto said after touring the city and meeting with residents. The patients were relocated to other facilities.

The president said authorities were working to re-establish the supply of water and food and provide medical attention to those who need it. He vowed the government would help people rebuild and called for people to come together.

"The power of this earthquake was devastating, but we are certain that the power of unity, the power of solidarity and the power of shared responsibility will be greater," Peña Nieto said.

Mexico City escaped major damage, but the quake terrified sleeping residents, many of whom still remember the catastrophic 1985 earthquake that killed thousands and devastated large parts of the city.

Families were jerked awake by the grating howl of the capital's seismic alarm. Some shouted as they dashed out of rocking apartment buildings. Even the iconic Angel of Independence Monument swayed as the quake's waves rolled through the city's soft soil.

Part of a bridge on a highway being built to the site of Mexico City's planned new international airport collapsed due to the earthquake, local media reported.

Elsewhere, the extent of destruction was still emerging. Hundreds of buildings collapsed or were damaged, power was cut at least briefly to more than 1.8 million people and authorities closed schools Friday in at least 11 states to check them for safety.

The Interior Department reported that 428 homes were destroyed and 1,700 were damaged in various cities and towns in Chiapas.

"Homes made of clay tiles and wood collapsed," said Nataniel Hernandez, a human rights worker living in Tonalá, Chiapas, who warned that inclement weather threatened to bring more down.

"Right now it is raining very hard in Tonalá, and with the rains it gets much more complicated because the homes were left very weak, with cracks," Hernandez said by phone.

The earthquake's impact was blunted somewhat by the fact that it was centered 100 miles offshore. It hit off Chiapas' Pacific coast, near the Guatemalan border, with a magnitude of 8.1 — equal to Mexico's strongest quake of the past century. It was slightly stronger than the 1985 quake, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

The epicenter was in a seismic hotspot in the Pacific where one tectonic plate dives under another. These subduction zones are responsible for producing some of the biggest quakes in history, including the 2011 Fukushima disaster and the 2004 Sumatra quake that spawned a deadly tsunami.

The quake struck at 11:49 p.m. Thursday (12:49 a.m. EDT; 4:49 a.m. GMT Friday). Its epicenter was 102 miles (165 kilometers) west of Tapachula in Chiapas, with a depth of 43.3 miles (69.7 kilometers), the USGS said.

Dozens of strong aftershocks rattled the region in the following hours.

Three people were killed in San Cristobal, including two women who died when a house and a wall collapsed, Chiapas Gov. Manuel Velasco said.

"There is damage to hospitals that have lost energy," he said. "Homes, schools and hospitals have been damaged."

In Tabasco, one child died when a wall collapsed, and an infant died in a children's hospital when the



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facility lost electricity, cutting off the ventilator, Gov. Arturo Nunez said.

The quake triggered tsunami warnings and some tall waves, but there was no major damage from the sea. Authorities briefly evacuated a few residents of coastal Tonalá and Puerto Madero because of the warning.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center reported waves of 3.3 feet (1 meter) above the tide level off Salina Cruz, Mexico. Smaller tsunami waves were observed on the coast or measured by ocean gauges elsewhere.

In neighboring Guatemala, President Jimmy Morales appeared on national television to call for calm while emergency crews surveyed damage. Officials later said only four people had been injured and several dozen homes damaged.

The quake occurred near the point of collision between three tectonic plates, the Cocos, the Caribbean and the North American.

The area has seen at least six other quakes of magnitude 7.0 or greater since 1900. Three of those occurred within a nerve-racking nine-month span in 1902-1903, according to Mexico's National Seismological Service.

Scientists were still reviewing data, but a preliminary analysis indicated the quake was triggered by the sudden breaking or bending of the Cocos plate, which dives beneath Mexico. That type of process does not happen often in subduction zones. Usually, big quakes in subduction zones occur along the boundary between the sinking slab and the overriding crust.

"It's unusual, but it's not unheard of," said seismologist Susan Hough of the USGS, describing how stresses on the seafloor can produce big earthquakes.

The new quake matched the force of a magnitude 8.1 quake that hit the country June 3, 1932, roughly 300 miles (500 kilometers) west of Mexico City.

A study by the seismological service concluded that that quake killed about 400 people and caused severe damage around the port of Manzanillo. A powerful aftershock that hit 19 days later caused a tsunami that devastated 15 miles (25 kilometers) of coastline, killing 75 people.

In Veracruz, tourists abandoned coastal hotels as winds and rains picked up ahead of Hurricane Katia's expected landfall. Workers set up emergency shelters and cleared storm drains, and residents were urged to avoid going outside or crossing flooded rivers.

"The arrival of (hashtag)Katia may be particularly dangerous for slopes affected by the earthquake. Avoid these areas," Pena Nieto tweeted.

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Associated Press writers Peter Orsi in Mexico City and Frank Griffiths in London contributed to this report.

## Giant portrait of toddler peers over US-Mexico border wall

By JULIE WATSON, Associated Press

TECATE, Calif. (AP) — A photo of a giant toddler stands in Mexico and peers over a steel wall dividing the country from the United States.

The boy appears to grip the barrier with his fingers, leaving the impression the entire thing could be toppled with a giggle.

A French artist who goes by the moniker "JR" erected the cut-out of the boy that stands nearly 65 feet (20 meters) tall and is meant to prompt discussion of immigration.

On Friday, a steady stream of people drove to the remote section of wall near the Tecate border crossing, about 40 miles (64 kilometers) southeast of San Diego. Border Patrol agents warned visitors to keep the dirt road clear for their patrols and not pass anything through the fence.

Elmond Davantes, a software developer from Carlsbad, California, took photos from the U.S. side.

"It's larger than life," he said. "It just draws attention to the whole issue in a positive way."

On the Mexican side, families scrambled down a scrubby hillside to take selfies with the artwork. Children in school uniforms played tag under the scaffolding supporting the photo.

People on each side of the wall waved to each other.

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Salma Montoya, 18, a student in Tecate said her town is abuzz about it. "It's beautiful," she said.

JR has done other large-scale portraits around the world, with much of his recent work focused on immigrants.

He told reporters at Wednesday's unveiling of the portrait that he was spurred by a dream in which he imagined a kid looking over the border wall.

"And when I woke up, I wondered: 'What was he thinking?'" he said. "Like for us we know all the implications, what it represents, how it divides, but for a kid, I didn't have the answer."

A year later when JR was scouting for the perfect spot for his project, he noticed a house in Tecate near the border wall. He and a Mexican friend knocked on the door to see about the possibility of locating it around there. After they drove away, it occurred to him that the 1-year-old at the home who had been staring at them reminded him of the boy he had dreamed about.

JR and his friend immediately went back. JR asked the woman if he could photograph her son. She knew his work and agreed.

The artwork was unveiled the week President Donald Trump said he would end a program that has allowed young immigrants who were brought to America illegally as children to remain in the country.

The administration also accepted more proposals for its plans to build a continuous wall along the nearly 2,000-mile border.

JR said he did not intend for the project in Tecate to coincide with the news about the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, known as DACA.

JR has worked for years to highlight the "Ellis Islands of today," which has taken him from the shores of Italy where migrants have been arriving by boat from Africa to the California desert.

"Now as an artist I think that it's amazing that the piece arrived at a moment when it creates more dialogue," he said. "Because the idea itself is to raise more questions."

For artists and activists, the 650 miles of existing wall and fencing between the U.S. and Mexico has long been a blank canvas.

Musicians have played simultaneously on both sides. A giant wooden Trojan-style horse was once parked near a crossing in Tijuana. There have been volleyball games and church services held simultaneously on each side of the border.

Sections of wall on the Mexican side have been covered with paintings of everything from butterflies to an upside-down American flag.

JR has erected other large-scale portraits in the slums of Paris, from the top of buildings in Rio de Janeiro, and set up giant photo booths from Israel and Palestine to the United States.

The latest piece will remain in Tecate for a month. JR hopes people will view it from each side.



**A Border Patrol vehicle drives in front of a mural in Tecate, Mexico, just beyond a border structure Friday, Sept. 8, 2017, in Tecate, Calif. A French artist aiming to prompt discussions about immigration erected a 65-foot-tall cut-out photo of a Mexican boy, pasting it to scaffolding built in Mexico. The image overlooks a section of wall on the California border and will be there for a month.** (AP Photo/Gregory Bull)

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AP freelance writer Jorge Lebrija contributed to this report from Tecate, Mexico.

This story corrects the spelling of the name Elmond Davantes sted Edmond.

## Keys, Stephens in 1st all-American US Open final in 15 years

NEW YORK (AP) — Madison Keys and Sloane Stephens are set to meet in the first all-American final at the U.S. Open since the Williams sisters played each other for the title in 2002.

Neither the 15th-seeded Keys nor the unseeded Stephens had ever participated in a Grand Slam title match before Saturday at Flushing Meadows.

Keys is 22; Stephens is 24.

Both are playing the best tennis of their careers after having surgery.

Keys had an operation on her left wrist during the offseason, missed the first two months of 2017, then needed another procedure on that arm in June.

Stephens was sidelined for 11 months because of a stress fracture in her left foot. She had surgery in January and returned to the tour in July.

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

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Sept. 9, the 252nd day of 2017. There are 113 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On September 9, 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the first civil rights bill to pass Congress since Reconstruction, a measure primarily concerned with protecting voting rights and which also established a Civil Rights Division in the U.S. Department of Justice.

On this date:

In 1776, the second Continental Congress made the term "United States" official, replacing "United Colonies."

In 1850, California became the 31st state of the union.

In 1893, Frances Cleveland, wife of President Grover Cleveland, gave birth to a daughter, Esther, in the White House; it was the first (and, to date, only) time a president's child was born in the executive mansion.

In 1919, some 1,100 members of Boston's 1,500-man police force went on strike. (The strike was broken by Massachusetts Gov. Calvin Coolidge with replacement officers.)

In 1926, the National Broadcasting Co. (NBC) was incorporated by the Radio Corp. of America.

In 1942, during World War II, a Japanese plane launched from a submarine off the Oregon coast dropped a pair of incendiary bombs in a failed attempt at igniting a massive forest fire; it was the first aerial bombing of the U.S. mainland by a foreign power.

In 1956, Elvis Presley made the first of three appearances on "The Ed Sullivan Show."

In 1967, the comedy show "Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In" aired as a onetime special on NBC; its success led to a regular series beginning in January 1968.

In 1971, prisoners seized control of the maximum-security Attica Correctional Facility near Buffalo, New York, beginning a siege that ended up claiming 43 lives.

In 1976, Communist Chinese leader Mao Zedong died in Beijing at age 82. JVC unveiled its new VHS videocassette recorder during a presentation in Tokyo.

In 1986, Frank Reed, director of a private school in Lebanon, was taken hostage; he was released 44 months later.

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In 1997, Sinn Fein (shin fayn), the IRA's political ally, formally renounced violence as it took its place in talks on Northern Ireland's future. Actor Burgess Meredith died in Malibu, California, at age 89.

Ten years ago: Seemingly taunting Osama bin Laden, President George W. Bush's homeland security adviser, Frances Fragos Townsend, said in Sunday talk-show appearances that the fugitive al-Qaida leader was "virtually impotent" beyond his ability to hide away and spread anti-American propaganda. Roger Federer beat Novak Djokovic 7-6 (4), 7-6 (2), 6-4 to win his fourth straight U.S. Open championship. Britney Spears performed her new single "Gimme More" in a much-criticized comeback attempt at the MTV Video Music Awards in Las Vegas.

Five years ago: Iraq sentenced fugitive Sunni Vice President Tariq al-Hashemi to death on charges he masterminded death squads against rivals in a trial that fueled sectarian tensions in the country. Two points from defeat, Serena Williams regained her composure and her game to come back to beat Victoria Azarenka, 6-2, 2-6, 7-5, for her fourth U.S. Open championship. Shannon Eastin became the first woman to officiate an NFL regular-season game, serving as a line judge in the St. Louis Rams-Detroit Lions game. (Detroit beat St. Louis 27-23.)

One year ago: Defying the White House, Congress sent President Barack Obama legislation giving the families of victims of the September 11 attacks the right to sue Saudi Arabia. (Obama vetoed the bill, but Congress overrode his veto.) Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, speaking at an LGBT fundraiser in New York City, described half of Republican Donald Trump's supporters as "a basket of deplorables," a characterization she ended up expressing regret over. Shaquille O'Neal and Allen Iverson were inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame, along with international star Yao Ming, WNBA great Sheryl Swoopes, coach Tom Izzo, and owner Jerry Reinsdorf, an architect in the Michael Jordan-led Chicago Bulls championship teams of the 1990s.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Sylvia Miles is 83. Actor Topol is 82. Rhythm-and-blues singer Luther Simmons is 75. Singer Inez Foxx is 75. Singer Dee Dee Sharp is 72. Rock singer-musician Doug Ingle is 71. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Joe Theismann is 68. Rock musician John McFee (The Doobie Brothers) is 67. Actor Tom Wopat is 66. Actress Angela Cartwright is 65. Musician-producer Dave Stewart is 65. Actor Hugh Grant is 57. Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., is 54. Actor-comedian Charles Esten (formerly Chip) is 52. Actress Constance Marie is 52. Actor David Bennent is 51. Actor Adam Sandler is 51. Rock singer Paul Durham (Black Lab) is 49. Actress Julia Sawalha is 49. Model Rachel Hunter is 48. Actor Eric Stonestreet is 46. Actor Henry Thomas is 46. Actor Goran Visnjic (VEEZ'-nihch) is 45. Pop-jazz singer Michael Buble' (boo-BLAY') is 42. Latin singer Maria Rita is 40. Actress Michelle Williams is 37. Actress Julie Gonzalo is 36. Neo-soul singer Paul Janeway (St. Paul & the Broken Bones) is 34. Actress Zoe Kazan is 34. Author-motivational speaker-businessman Farrah Gray is 33. Contemporary Christian singer Lauren Daigle is 26. Country singer-songwriter Hunter Hayes is 26.

Thought for Today: "Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off the goal." — Hannah More, English author and social reformer (1745-1833).