

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 1 of 70

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- City Council Agenda
- 1- Dakota Brush Ad
- 2- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 3- Farmers Union PSA
- 3- Groton Care & Rehab Help Wanted
- 3- Groton Area Help Wanted
- 4- Photos of the bands from Lake Region Band Festival
- 5- Marshall County Land for Sale
- 18- Football First Round Pairings
- 20- Tigers beat Redfield-Doland in football
- 22- Today in Weather History
- 23- Today's Forecast
- 24- Yesterday's Weather
- 24- Today's Weather Info
- 24- National Weather Map
- 25- Daily Devotional
- 26- 2018 Community Events
- 27- News from the Associated Press

## Groton City Council Meeting Agenda

October 16, 2017 – 7:00pm  
Groton Community Center

- 1. Minutes
- 2. Bills
- 3. September Financial Statement
- 4. Forgive October 10th utility penalties
- 5. 7:30 Lee Buechler
- 6. 2017 Baseball report
- 7. 2017 Swimming pool report
- 8. Executive session personnel & legal 1-25-2 (1) & (3)

**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**

© 2017 Groton Daily Independent

## Dakota Brush

Brooms, Brushes, Mops, Can Liners, Paper Products.

Get Ready for Spring With  
Wash Brushes & Squeegees

**397-9337**

104 N. Main, Groton

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 2 of 70

Chicken Soup  
for the Soul



“Reading is not just  
an escape. It is  
access to a better  
way of life.”

-Karin Slaughter

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 3 of 70



All auto owners!

**Save \$2-\$4 /tank**

& grow your local economy  
by choosing low carbon

**Super Premium E30's**

94 octane, more power,  
same mileage, fewer  
carbon deposits, lower  
maintenance costs,  
slashed benzene & related  
genotoxic, carcinogenic  
tailpipe emissions;

\*see sdfu.org's E30 tab for  
info, E30 prices\locations.

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

## Groton Area Help Wanted

The Groton Area School District is seeking qualified applicants for a part-time Assistant Business Manager. Job description and application materials can be found under the employment tab at [www.grotonarea.com](http://www.grotonarea.com). Questions should be directed to Joe Schwan, Superintendent at 605-397-2351.

## Help Wanted

We are Hiring Nurses – RN or LPN,  
Full or Part Time. Cooks/Dietary Aid.

**NEW WAGE PACKAGE!!!**

Contact Brynn Pickrel or Nellie Peterson at 605-397-2365 or apply in person.

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



**GROTON**

CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

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

0913.1005

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 4 of 70



## Groton Area High School (exhibition)

The Groton Area High School Marching Band is under the direction of Mr. Austin Fordham, in just his second year. The drum major is Ms. Ashley Garduno and the Marching Tigers will be performing "Alive and Amplified."

The 45 member marching band marched in Groton Area's Homecoming Parade and NSU's Gypsy Day Parade. Today they are proud to host the 2017 Lake Region Marching Band Festival. Good luck to all the bands today! In exhibition, here is the Groton Area High School Marching Band with "Alive and Amplified."



## Groton Area Jr. High School (exhibition)

The Groton Area Junior High Marching Band is under the direction of Mrs. Desiree Yeigh in her tenth year of music education, the past three of which have been at Groton Area.

37 members strong, the Groton Area Junior High band has marched in the Groton Area Homecoming Day Parade and now the Lake Region Marching Festival. They are honored and excited to represent Groton Area at this festival. Performing "Handclap" here is the The Groton Junior High Marching Band!

## **Marshall County, South Dakota PRIVATE LAND SALE - 155 +/- ACRES**

Legal Description: The Northeast Quarter (NE ¼) of Section Nine (9), Township One Hundred Twenty-six (126), Range Fifty-nine (59), West of the 5th P.M., except five acres of said land in the northeast corner of said land which is used for cemetery purposes, Marshall County, South Dakota.

155 acres with the total acres to be determined by survey or the acres used by Farm Service Agency in Marshall County, South Dakota.

---

SELLERS: Estate of Nancy L. Wright  
Clark Wright & Elizabeth LaRocque Co- Personal Representatives

ATTORNEY FOR SELLERS: Rick A. Ribstein – Ribstein & Hogan Law Firm, 621 6th Street, Brookings, SD 57006. Phone: (605) 692-1818

REVISED SALE/AUCTION FORMAT: Preliminary written bids will be accepted by Rick A. Ribstein, Attorney for Sellers, until 5:00 o'clock p.m. on Friday, October 20, 2017. Prospective purchasers will be notified by mail that they are invited to a private auction to be held in Amherst, South Dakota, on Friday, November 3, 2017. Sellers reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

PRELIMINARY WRITTEN BID FORMAT: Preliminary written bids may be submitted in the form of a letter mailed or delivered to Seller's Attorney at the address printed above. Preliminary bid letters should include bidder's name and mailing address, the preliminary bid amount, and should be accompanied by a check for a down payment equal to 5% of the preliminary bid amount. Down payment checks should be payable to Ribstein & Hogan Trust Account.

TERMS: 5% down with preliminary written bid. A 10% additional nonrefundable earnest money payment required on the day of sale and balance at closing. Possession will be subject to existing tenant's rights under their current lease and their rights to harvest the 2017 crops, with Fall tillage privileges for a new buyer(s) to be permitted with approval of the current tenants. Cost of owner's policy of title insurance and closing fees split 50/50. Sellers will pay the 2016 taxes due in 2017, and all prior taxes. 2017 taxes will be prorated until the day of closing.

INQUIRIES: Informal packages available upon request from Seller's Attorney. Questions about the real estate or auction format should be directed to Seller's Attorney by mail, or by calling (605) 692-1818. Ask for Rick A. Ribstein, Attorney or Sheila Maffett, Legal Secretary.



## **Warner High School (High School) People's Award - Band of Distinction**

Our first band in competition is from Warner High School, under the direction of Mrs. Sharon Schwan in just her 34th year leading the Marching Monarchs.

Along with the Lake Region Marching Festival, this 70 member band and their Drum Major, Sydney Leidholt, has participated in their Homecoming Parade, NSU's Gypsy Day Parade, the East Central Marching Competition, the Chester Area Marching Festival, and the Festival of Bands USA in Sioux Falls.

Here come the Monarchs with "Confident."



## Great Plains Lutheran High School (High School) Band of Merit

The next band is the Great Plains Lutheran High School Marching Band under the direction of Mr. Eric Martens. Hailing from Watertown, SD, this 48 member marching band in just its 8th marching season is proud of their 2nd place finish at the 2016 Lake Region Marching Festival.

The band and its members are thankful to Mr. Fordham, the Groton Area School District and the many people in Groton that support the Lake Region Marching Festival.

Led by Drum Major, Ryan Maertz (Mertz), here is the Great Plains Lutheran High School Marching Band performing "25 or 6 to 4."

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 8 of 70



## **Britton-Hecla High School (High School)**

The next band to perform will be the Britton Hecla High School Band under the direction of Mr. Larry Telkamp. The Britton-Hecla High School Band has been performing in the Lake Region Marching Festival since its inception.

Performing "Sweet Caroline," please welcome the Britton-Hecla High School Marching Band.



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 9 of 70



## Redfield High School (High School)

The next band is in its inaugural trip to the Lake Region Marching Festival. The Redfield High School Marching Band also performs each year at Northern State University's Gypsy Day parade. Under the direction of Mr. Terrence Kenny in his third year and Drum Major Hannah Owens, here is the Redfield High School Marching Band performing "Forget You."



## Milbank Middle School (Middle School)

The Milbank Middle School Marching Bulldogs are the next band in our lineup and the first of three middle school bands competing today. They are under the direction of Susan Karels in her 26th year.

The 78 member Milbank Middle School Band is glad to be part of the 15th Annual Lake Region Marching Festival. Their other marching performances this year were the Milbank homecoming parade and an upcoming performance during Band Night at their home football game tonight.

Please welcome Drum Major, Taryn Dusky, and the Milbank Middle School Marching Band performing "Crunch Time."



## **Simmons and Holgate Middle Schools (Middle School) Band of Distinction**

The Aberdeen School District begins band in the 6th grade. Between Holgate and Simmons Middle Schools, there are 286 students in band. The next band to perform is a combination of the two 8th grade bands from the Aberdeen School District. This marks the fifth year of competition for this band at the Lake Region Marching Festival. The 65 member ensemble also performed at NSU's Gypsy Day Parade.

Under the direction of Mr. Jim Panerio, Ms. Sara Weschedel, and Mr. Dennis McDermott, here is the Aberdeen Simmons and Aberdeen Holgate Middle School band with "La Charanga."



## **Watertown Middle School (Middle School) Band of Merit**

The final middle school band hails from Watertown, SD. Under the direction of Melissa Todd and Drum Majors Jamie Robbins and Kolby Lacher, at 129 members strong, here is the Watertown Middle School Marching Band performing "Crunch Time."

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 11 of 70



## **Aberdeen Roncalli Marching Band (Combined) Best Drumline - Best Winds - Band of Distinction**

The Aberdeen Roncalli Marching Band under the direction of 21 year veteran Kimberly Carda is the first of the combined middle and high school marching bands of today's competition.

The Roncalli Band has marched in the Lake Region Marching Festival since the very beginning of the event and they are excited to be back. Thank you to Mr. Fordham and the Groton Area Schools for sponsoring this event.

Over the years, the Roncalli band has worked to establish a tradition of excellence. In 2016, the Roncalli Band received a Gold Award at NSU's Gypsy Day Parade and earned 2nd place in the combined division and took top percussion section honors in the Lake Region Marching Festival. They also traveled to Sioux Falls to perform in the Viking Day Parade and earned 2nd place while receiving outstanding brass section honors.

Assisting with flag choreography were Roncalli graduates and former flag members Amanda Imberi and McKayla Carda. Under the command of Drum Major Leah Norton, here is the Aberdeen Roncalli Marching Band performing "Am I Wrong."



## Langford Area Marching Lions (Combined)

The Langford Area Band is under the direction of Kelly Weiser, who has spent 22 of her 28 years of teaching in Langford. Today they will be performing the song "Timber" under the command of Drum Majors Brandy Peterson and Ashley Gustafson.

The Langford Area Marching Lions has a long-standing tradition of excellence. For the past several decades, the band has consistently received top awards at the NSU Gypsy Day Parade and Band of Merit and Band of Distinction honors at the Lake Region Marching Festival.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Langford Area Marching Lions present, "Timber."



## **Ipswich Marching Band (Combined) Best Auxiliary/Guard - Band of Merit**

The Ipswich Tiger Marching Band is under the direction of Becky Nierman, who has been teaching in Leola for the past 12 years. This 60 member band will be performing Journey's 1981 hit "Don't Stop Believin."

The Ipswich Marching Band is excited to be able to end their marching season here at the Lake Region Marching Festival and they appreciate the Groton Community for hosting this remarkable event.

Please welcome Drum Major, Allison Severson and the Ipswich Marching Band!

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 14 of 70



## Northwestern Area (Combined)

The Northwestern Area Marching Wildcats under the direction of twenty year teacher, Mrs. Wendy Thorson.

The Marching Wildcats received a gold placing at NSU's Gypsy Day Parade last year and annual march in the Lake Region Marching Festival, their homecoming parade, and the Gypsy Day parade.

With Drum Majors Peyton Groft and Riley Grandpre, here are the Northwestern Area Marching Wildcats performing "Uma Thurman."



## Selby Area Marching Band (Combined)

Our next band is from Selby Area, under the direction of Sam Glantzow who has taught 18 of his 36 years in Selby.

The Selby Area Marching Band thanks Groton Area High School for the invitation to the Lake Area Marching Festival and is pleased to return after a one-year hiatus. This 50 member marching band will also be marching in SDSU's Hobo Day Parade in Brookings. The band had a two-day camp before school started and has worked hard to prepare a quality performance.

Led by Drum Major Macy Mastellar, here comes the Selby Area Marching Band performing "Minnesota Rouser" and "Dark Horse."

**In case you missed it - you can watch the  
Lake Region Band Festival  
at  
GDILIVE.COM**

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 16 of 70



## Frederick (Combined)

The next band is from Frederick under the direction of Liz Labecky. The band marches two parades each fall with the goal of giving their best performance possible and making their community proud. Performing "Smoke on the Water," please welcome the Frederick Marching Band.



## Wilmot Wolves Marching Band (Combined)

The Wilmot Wolves Marching Band under the direction of Sharon Zettlemoyer is all about having fun. From playing pep band to marching in competitions, these 26 band students spend hours performing and sharing laughs as the joy of music bonds them together.

Drum Major Emma Greiner leads the 2017 Wolves Marching Band. Enjoy their performance of "Shut Up and Dance."



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 17 of 70



## Leola Marching Band (Combined)

The final band competing in the 2017 Lake Region Marching Festival is the Leola Marching Band. Under the direction of Nancy Kindelspire, the Leola High School Band enjoys the Lake Region Marching Festival and has attended every year. In the past, they have received the Band of Distinction and the Band of Merit. The group also marches in NSU's Gypsy Day Parade where they have received Gold Plaques. Here is the 40 member Leola Marching Band performing "Bang the Drum All Day."



Northern State University Drumline under the direction of Dr. Terry Beckler.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 18 of 70

## CLASS 11B - GAMES ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

### Region 1

#4	Bennett Co.	40.000	4-4	at	#1	Groton Area	41.000	5-3
#3	Mobridge-Pollock	40.000	4-4	at	#2	Ab. Roncalli	40.750	4-4

### Region 2

#4	Elk Point-Jefferson	39.375	3-5	at	#1	Sioux Valley	46.125	8-0
#3	Canton	40.000	4-4	at	#2	SF Christian	45.250	7-1

### Region 3

#4	Mt. Vernon/Plank.	40.250	5-3	at	#1	WWSSC	44.500	7-1
#3	McCook Central/Mont.	40.625	5-3	at	#2	Bridgewater-Em/Eth	43.500	6-2

### Region 4

#4	Stanley County	41.000	5-3	at	#1	Winner	43.875	6-2
#3	Lead-Deadwood	42.125	5-3	at	#2	Red Cloud	42.750	6-2

## CLASS 9AA - GAMES ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

### Region 1

#4	Wolsey-Wessington	40.750	4-4	at	#1	North Border	44.875	7-1
#3	Webster Area	42.375	6-2	at	#2	Miller/Highmore-Har.	43.125	6-2

### Region 2

#4	Garretson	42.375	6-2	at	#1	Hamlin	47.250	8-0
#3	Baltic	42.375	6-2	at	#2	Arlington/Lake Prestor	42.750	6-2

### Region 3

#4	Deuel	41.375	5-3	at	#1	Bon Homme	44.625	6-2
#3	Parkston	41.875	4-4	at	#2	Irene-Wakonda	43.750	7-1

### Region 4

#4	Elkton-Lake Benton	40.375	4-4	at	#1	Gregory	47.250	8-0
#3	RC Christian	40.750	4-4	at	#2	Kimball/White Lake	41.125	4-4

Tiebreaks:

11B: EPJ over Chamberlain based on Average Opponent PowerPoints

11B: Mobridge over Bennett Co based on Average Opponent PowerPoints

9AA: Baltic over Garretson on Head to Head

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 19 of 70

## CLASS 9A - GAMES ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

Region 1								
#4	Potter Co.	41.125	4-4	at	#1	Warner	44.250	6-2
#3	Clark/Willow Lake	42.750	6-2	at	#2	Britton-Hecla	43.750	7-1
Region 2								
#4	Chester Area	40.125	3-5	at	#1	Howard	43.750	7-1
#3	De Smet	40.375	4-4	at	#2	Canistota/Freeman	42.125	5-3
Region 3								
#4	Herreid/Selby Area	40.500	3-5	at	#1	Corsica-Stickney	46.875	8-0
#3	Alcester-Hudson	40.750	4-4	at	#2	Avon	43.125	6-2
Region 4								
#4	Philip	39.375	3-5	at	#1	Lyman	41.750	5-3
#3	New Underwood	40.625	5-3	at	#2	Timber Lake	41.375	5-3

## CLASS 9B - GAMES ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

Region 1								
#4	Hitchcock-Tulare	40.750	4-4	at	#1	Sully Buttes	48.375	8-0
#3	Langford Area	40.750	4-4	at	#2	Faulkton Area	42.125	5-3
Region 2								
#4	Northwestern	39.375	3-5	at	#1	Colman-Egan	46.500	8-0
#3	Waverly-South Shore	39.750	3-5	at	#2	Castlewood	44.125	7-1
Region 3								
#4	Sunshine Bible	39.625	4-4	at	#1	Colome	44.500	7-1
#3	Burke/South Central	40.750	4-4	at	#2	Scotland	40.750	4-4
Region 4								
#4	Bison	40.250	5-3	at	#1	Wall	45.750	8-0
#3	Kadoka Area	41.375	5-3	at	#2	Harding Co.	45.375	8-0

Tiebreaks:

9A: Philip over Deubrook & ORR based on Average Opponent Power Points

9B: Langford Area over Hitchcock-Tulare based on Head to Head

9B: Scotland over Burke/SC based on Head to Head

## Groton Area beats Redfield-Doland, advances to first round playoffs

Groton Area scored 39 points in the first half and went on to beat Redfield-Doland in football action Friday night Redfield, 39-6. The win gives Groton a home field advantage as the Tigers will be hosting Bennett County on Thursday night in the first round playoffs. The game will start at 6:30 p.m.

Seric Shabazz and Brandon Keith each had two touchdowns while Lucas Hinman and Jonathan Doeden each had one with Marshall Lane throwing for five of the six touchdowns. The Tigers had 198 yards rushing with Lucas Hinman having 105 yards, 163 yards passing with Brandon Keith having 70 yards in catches and Seric Shabazz 64 yards, and 16 first downs.

Redfield-Doland had 68 yards rushing with Cooper Baloun having 65 of those yards and 30 yards passing with Max Baloun having 22 yards in catches, and seven first downs.

The Tigers lost one fumble and that was on the



**Kaden Carda (51), Grady O'Neill (54) and Kale Pharis (68) hold back the Redfield-Doland line-men.** (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



**Seric Shabazz gets a nice run for the Tigers.**

(Photo by Julianna Kosel)

last drive of the game and had six penalties for 70 yards. Redfield-Doland had no fumbles and had three penalties for 25 yards.

**First Downs:** Groton 16, Redfield-Doland 7.

**Rushing:** Groton 24-198 (Lucas Hinman 17-105 1 TD, Marshall Lane 3-29, Seric Shabazz 1-33, Darrion Shabazz 4-25, Jamesen Stange 1-6). Redfield-Doland 27-68 (Cooper Baloun 17-65)

**Passing:** Groton: Marshall Lane 8-14-163 yards, 5 touchdowns. Redfield-Doland: Leyton Rohlfs 6-17-30.

**Receivers:** Groton: Brandon Keith 4-70, 2 TDs; Seric Shabazz 2-64, 2 TDs; Jonathan Doeden 1-20, 1 TD; Lucas Hinman 1-9. Redfield-Doland: Max Baloun 3-22.

**Fumbles:** Groton had 1, lost 1. Redfield-Doland had none.

**Penalties:** Groton 6-70, Redfield-Doland 3-25.

**Defense:** Groton: Brandon Keith 10 tackles, Luke Thorson 6 tackles, Brandyn Anderson 6 tackles and 1 sack each were Peyton Johnson, Darion Shabazz and Seric Shabazz. Redfield-Doland: Gannon Pudwill 10 tackles, Cooper Baloun 9 tackles.

**Record:** Groton 5-3. Redfield-Doland 0-8.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 21 of 70



**Alex Morris (59) and Jonathan Doeden (6) hold back the Redfield-Doland linemen to give Marshall Lane time to throw the ball.** (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



**Andy Rintala tries to get away from the Redfield-Doland players.** (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

**Next Game:** Groton Area hosts Bennett County in first round of football playoffs on Thursday.

## Scoring:

### First Quarter

5:55: Groton: Seric Shabazz 20 yard pass from Marshall Lane. PAT Kick by Hunter Schaller is good.

1:13: Groton: Lucas Hinman 1 yard run. PAT pass attempt failed.

### Second Quarter

8:43: Groton: Brandon Keith 22 yard pass from Marshall Lane. PAT pass attempt failed.

6:16: Groton: Brandon Keith 8 yard pass from Marshall Lane. PAT pass attempt failed.

4:03: Groton: Seric Shabazz 44 yard pass from Marshall Lane. PAT kick by Hunter Schaller was good.

2:21: Groton: Jonathan Doeden 20 yard pass from Marshall Lane. PAT kick by Hunter Schaller was good.

### Fourth Quarter

6:23: Redfield-Doland: Cooper Baloun 19 yard run. PAT kick was no good.



**Chandler Larson (21) hands the ball off to Jamesen Stange (9).** (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 22 of 70

## Today in Weather History

October 14, 1969: Cold air during the overnight produced lows from six degrees in Custer, Gillette, and Devils Tower to fifteen degrees in Dupree, Hot Springs, and the Rapid City Airport.

1909: An F3 tornado struck Pittsburg Landing and Stantonville, TN killing 23 people and injuring 80 others.

1941: America's first television weather forecast was broadcast on New York's WNBT (later WNBC). There weren't many televisions at that time, so viewers were limited to perhaps a few hundred people. The weathercast consisted of a sponsor's message followed by a screen of text containing the next day's forecast.

1957 - Floodwaters roared through a migrant labor camp near the town of Picacho AZ flooding fifty cabins and a dozen nearby homes. 250 migrant workers lost their shelters. The month was one of the wettest Octobers in Arizona weather history. (The Weather Channel)

1965 - Heavy rains hit the coastal areas of southeastern Florida. In a 24 hour period rains of twenty inches were reported from Deerfield Beach to Fort Lauderdale, with 25.28 inches on the Fort Lauderdale Bahia-Mar Yacht Basin. Flooding that resulted caused considerable damage to roads and streets. The rains inundated numerous newly planted vegetable fields, and some residences. Ten miles away just 4.51 inches of rain was reported. (14th- 15th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1981: Four days of heavy rain across northern Texas and southern Oklahoma came to an end. The most torrential rains fell in a band from southwest of Abilene Texas to McAlester Oklahoma, with up to 21 inches reported at Breckenridge, in north central Texas. The torrential rains were the result of decaying Hurricane Norma, which also spawned thirteen tornadoes across the region. Seven deaths were attributed to the flooding.

1984: Dense fog contributes to an 118 vehicle accident on I-94, just south of Milwaukee, the seventh day of an eight-day stretch of fog. At the time of the accident, the visibility was reportedly close to zero.

1987 - Sixteen cities, mostly in the Appalachian Region, reported record low temperatures for the date. Record lows included 43 degrees at Lake Charles LA, 35 degrees at Augusta GA, and 27 degrees at Asheville NC. Gale force winds buffeted the Carolina coast. Light snow fell across parts of Wyoming, Colorado, and western South Dakota. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Forty cities in the eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. Elkins WV was the cold spot in the nation with a record low of 18 degrees above zero. Thunderstorms in Arizona drenched Phoenix with nine inches of rain in nine hours, the fifth highest total for any given day in ninety-two years of records. Carefree AZ was soaked with two inches of rain. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather over Michigan during the morning, and over New York State and Connecticut during the afternoon and evening hours. Thunderstorms spawned two tornadoes, and there were ninety reports of large hail or damaging winds, including seventy reports of damaging winds in New York State. A tornado at McDonough NY killed one person and injured three other people. Strong thunderstorm winds gusted to 105 mph at Somerset. Temperatures warmed into the 80s and lower 90s over much of the nation east of the Rockies, with eleven cities reporting record high temperatures for the date. Afternoon highs of 81 degrees at Beckley WV and Bluefield WV equalled October records. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

# Broton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 23 of 70

Today	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
40% → 90%	70%					
Chance Showers then Showers	Showers Likely then Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 49 °F	Low: 28 °F	High: 59 °F	Low: 31 °F	High: 69 °F	Low: 39 °F	High: 70 °F

## Rain Spreads Across the Area Today

**9:00am Saturday Forecast**

**1:00pm Saturday Forecast**

**5:00pm Saturday Forecast**

Temperatures will be cool today, with highs in the upper 40s to low 50s. The heaviest amounts of rain should range between a half inch to 1 inch.

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

[weather.gov/Aberdeen](http://weather.gov/Aberdeen)
[National Weather Service Aberdeen](#)
[@NWSAberdeen](#)
Updated: 10/14/2017 5:28 AM Central

Published on: 10/14/2017 at 5:40AM

A system moving across the region today will bring rain showers. Light showers are ongoing early this morning from central South Dakota northeast to just north of Aberdeen. Through the rest of the morning, showers are expected to increase over central South Dakota. As the day progresses, rain will spread eastward. The images show just one of many models we look at, and its depiction of what will happen today - although most models are in good agreement this morning. Notice how the rain advances eastward by early afternoon, then eventually overspreads northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota by early evening. Slight variations in timing and areal coverage are likely when comparing these images to reality, but you get the general idea. Expect a rainy and cool Saturday for most areas!

# Groton Daily Independent

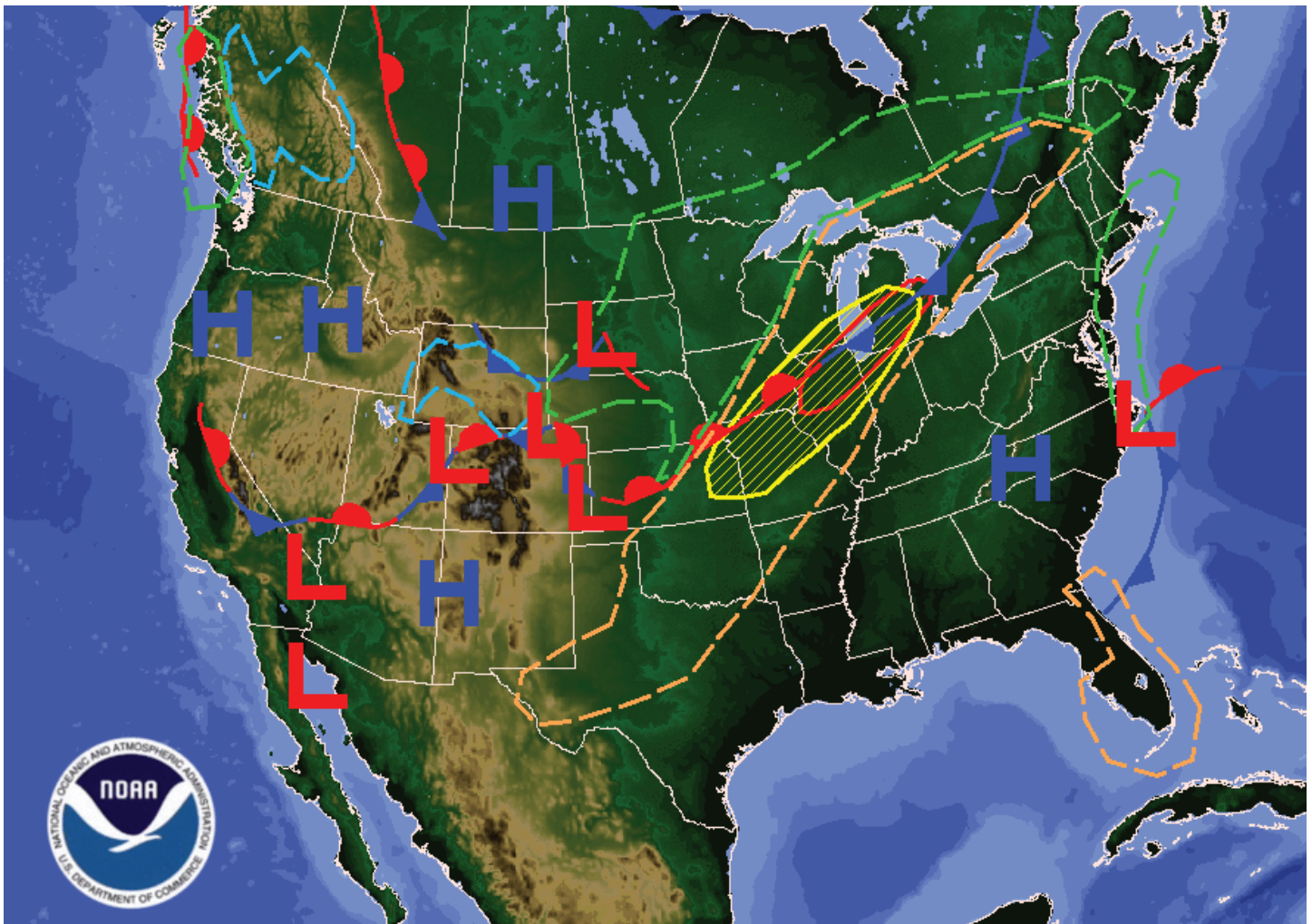
Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 24 of 70

## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 59.8**  
**Low Outside Temp: 35.4**  
**High Gust: 12**  
**Precip: 0.00**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 87° in 1962**  
**Record Low: 10° in 1937**  
**Average High: 59°F**  
**Average Low: 34°F**  
**Average Precip in Oct: 1.01**  
**Precip to date in Oct: 0.19**  
**Average Precip to date: 19.49**  
**Precip Year to Date: 13.28**  
**Sunset Tonight: 6:49 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:50 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sat, Oct 14, 2017, issued 4:49 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Krekeler with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

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



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 25 of 70



## IT'S EITHER – OR

It's been wisely said that "If He is not Lord of all He is not Lord at all. If we do not value Him above all, we do not really value Him at all." What does it mean when we say, "Jesus Christ, Savior and Lord." There is a natural progression that begins with Jesus as our Savior and ends with Him as our Lord.

Shouting in a loud voice with words that came from the bottom of his heart, David proclaimed, "Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let Your glory be over all the earth."

With God being Who He is and What He is and you and I being who we are and what we are, establishes a very specific relationship. It declares His role and our role: He is our Sovereign. And as our Sovereign we are to be submissive to Him. All that we are or ever will be and all that we have or ever will have is a result of the grace and mercy that comes from Him, Sovereign Lord.

If God were not Sovereign, He would have no authority to dispense grace and mercy. That is what sovereigns do: they rule over their subjects and choose who will receive their favor. And the more power that any sovereign has the more important and precious is the grace and mercy they bestow upon their subjects.

Our Sovereign said, "Whoever chooses me to be their Savior and Lord will receive my love, mercy and grace and will have eternal life with me." He also said, "Remember I am with you every step of life's journey to protect you." No wonder David said, "Be exalted, O God."

Prayer: How grateful we are, Father, for the blessings You give us each day. We bow before You in humility. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 57:5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

## 2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- 11/18/2017-3/31/2018 Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meat- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
- 1/28/2018 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 3/24/2018 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/5/2018 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/28/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
- 6/14/2018 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- 6/15/2018 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/16/2018 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2018 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/22/2018 Summer Fest (4th Sunday in July)
- 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
  
- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 27 of 70

News from the  Associated Press

## Friday's Scores By The Associated Press

### PREP FOOTBALL

Aberdeen Central 25, Watertown 7  
Bison 63, Crazy Horse 0  
Bon Homme 55, Platte-Geddes 6  
Brandon Valley 31, Yankton 7  
Britton-Hecla 55, Great Plains Lutheran 13  
Burke/South Central 40, Alcester-Hudson 28  
Canton 45, Wagner 0  
Castlewood 49, Elkton-Lake Benton 6  
Chamberlain 41, Stanley County 6  
Chester 34, Menno/Marion 30  
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 56, Crow Creek 12  
Colman-Egan 52, Arlington/Lake Preston 6  
Colome 26, Avon 20  
Corsica/Stickney 50, Gayville-Volin 0  
Dakota Valley 54, Lennox 21  
Dell Rapids 54, Flandreau 15  
Deubrook 55, Estelline 0  
Deuel 18, Waverly-South Shore 0  
Douglas 34, Hot Springs 14  
Dupree 56, Newell 18  
Elk Point-Jefferson 21, Vermillion 12  
Florence/Henry 22, Tri-State 12  
Garretson 48, Canistota 8  
Gregory 44, Placeholder 14  
Groton Area 39, Redfield/Doland 6  
Hamlin 22, Clark/Willow Lake 8  
Harrisburg 7, Mitchell 3  
Herreid/Selby Area 55, Lemmon/McIntosh 14  
Howard 66, Viborg-Hurley 20  
Huron 24, Spearfish 0  
Irene-Wakonda 41, Baltic 21  
Kadoka Area 52, Hill City 32  
Kimball/White Lake 52, Lyman 0  
Lead-Deadwood 38, Custer 14  
Madison 32, Tri-Valley 13  
Milbank Area 51, Sisseton 13  
Mobridge-Pollock 50, McLaughlin 0  
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 36, Beresford 29  
Northwestern 41, Iroquois 8  
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 33, Dell Rapids St. Mary 8  
Parker 36, Hanson 30, OT  
Parkston 50, Lower Brule 0  
Philip 8, Timber Lake 6

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 28 of 70

Pine Ridge def. Sturgis Brown, forfeit  
Potter County 36, Sunshine Bible Academy 6  
Red Cloud 54, Little Wound 0  
Scotland 48, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 8  
Sioux Falls Christian 30, Tea Area 25  
Sioux Falls Lincoln 34, Brookings 14  
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 37, Rapid City Stevens 24  
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 27, Pierre 21  
Sioux Falls Washington 52, Rapid City Central 19  
Sioux Valley 27, Bridgewater-Emery/Ethan 15  
St. Thomas More 48, Belle Fourche 0  
Sully Buttes 24, Faulkton 8  
Tiospa Zina Tribal 32, Standing Rock, N.D. 14  
Todd County 72, St. Francis Indian 0  
Wall 50, Edgemont 0  
Webster 49, Dakota Hills 12  
West Central 28, McCook Central/Montrose 21  
Woonsocket/Wessington Springs/Sanborn Central 21, Winner 14

Some high school football scores provided by Scorestream.com, <https://scorestream.com/>

## US agency's bid to allow trumpeter swan hunting draws fire

By STEVE KARNOWSKI, Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A federal plan to let hunters shoot trumpeter swans has drawn fire from some of the people who toiled to bring the majestic white birds back from the brink of extinction.

Trumpeter swans, North America's largest waterfowl species, have made a comeback in recent decades thanks to efforts to reintroduce them to their former breeding range. Now the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working on a plan that would let hunters shoot them in several states that allow the hunting of tundra swans, a more numerous species.

"Trumpeter swans are a conservation success story," said Brad Bortner, chief of the service's migratory bird management division. North America's population is estimated at more than 63,000 adult birds and it's growing by more than 10,000 a year, he said.

No state is currently proposing trumpeter swan seasons, he said, and the proposal is mostly aimed at protecting tundra swan hunters in five states who may mistakenly kill trumpeter swans. But he acknowledged the proposal opens the door to the possibility that some states could offer such a hunting season. The soonest the proposal could take effect is 2019-2020 season.

Tundra swans look almost identical to trumpeter swans, especially at a distance, and a tundra swan hunter who mistakenly shoots a trumpeter is subject to a fine. That rarely — if ever — happens. But the risk is expected to grow as trumpeter swans spread from states that have invested heavily in restoration efforts, such as Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan in the Mississippi Flyway.

The proposal essentially would make such incidental kills legal by letting states with low trumpeter numbers hold general swan seasons rather than specific tundra swan seasons. The service already allows something similar in the Pacific Flyway in Utah and Nevada. The new plan would most directly protect tundra swan hunters in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, North Carolina and Virginia.

But that approach doesn't sit well with some bird lovers, including the man who led the restoration effort in Minnesota, where the trumpeter swan population has grown over the past 35 years from none to more than 20,000. Carrol Henderson, supervisor of the Nongame Wildlife Fund at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, personally brought back the eggs from Alaska that seeded the state's flock in the 1980s.

Speaking for himself, not the state agency, Henderson said he fears the federal plan puts at risk a

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 29 of 70

population that Minnesota brought back using about \$500,000 raised through a program that lets people contribute by filling in a box on their income tax forms. He said the state pledged that the trumpeters would never be hunted, and he said waterfowl hunters are turned off by the idea of hunting them.

"If a proposal were made to turn it into a game species, I think the agency would suffer a huge black eye," he said.

The Fish and Wildlife Service put the plan out for public comments this summer. Officially, it's called a "draft environmental assessment" for a "proposal to establish a framework for general swan hunting seasons in the Atlantic, Mississippi and Central flyways." The online comment period closes Sunday. As of Friday, the comments were running heavily against any trumpeter swan hunting, though one Minnesota tribe supports the proposal because trumpeters have grazed so heavily on one of its best wild rice lakes that they've become pests.

Henderson recommended maintaining the existing ban on swan hunting in the Mississippi Flyway. In the Atlantic and Central flyways, which include the five states the plan is aimed at, he would change the rules so game wardens would confiscate trumpeter swans accidentally shot by hunters, but not fine the hunters. He said Minnesota did that for a goose species that was once protected.

"I'm not sure that sort of simplicity is something that flies well in Washington, but it worked here in Minnesota," he said.

Sign up for the AP's weekly newsletter showcasing our best reporting from the Midwest and Texas:  
<http://apne.ws/2u1RMfv>

## USS South Dakota to be christened at Connecticut shipyard

GROTON, Conn. (AP) — Dignitaries from Connecticut, Rhode Island and South Dakota will be gathering at the Electric Boat Shipyard to help launch a new submarine.

The USS South Dakota will be christened Saturday at the Groton shipyard. It marks the 17th Virginia-class submarine commissioned by the U.S. Navy and built by General Dynamics Electric Boat.

Electric Boat President Jeff Geiger and Gen. Martin Dempsey, the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will be on hand for the ceremony.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard, Lt. Gov. Matt Michels and U.S. Rep. Michael Rounds, all Republicans representing South Dakota, are scheduled to attend.

The Connecticut contingent includes Democrats Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, Lt. Gov. Nancy Wyman, U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal and U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney. Democratic Rhode Island Sen. Jack Reed is also attending.

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

02-07-18-26-31, Mega Ball: 12, Megaplier: 2

(two, seven, eighteen, twenty-six, thirty-one; Mega Ball: twelve; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$43 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$143 million

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 30 of 70

## South Dakota celebrates Native American's Day

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The sweet aroma of smoldering sage wafted through the air at Main Street Square as the late morning sunshine chased away the persistent chill of an October day.

Native Americans' Day participants — adults and children alike — smudged themselves with the smoke, waving it toward themselves with outstretched palms and washing it over their bodies and around their heads in a ritual of spiritual cleansing dating back centuries.

Recognizing cultural similarities and the cleansing of differences is what Native Americans' Day is all about, said Kobi Ebert of the Oyate Okolakiciye Prevention Coalition, which was established in 2010 to prevent underage drinking.

"This is a celebration of all cultures, Native American and non-Native alike," Ebert told the Rapid City Journal .

The activities at Main Street Square started with prayers in Lakota by Kay Allison, a signing of the Lord's Prayer and a Hoop Dance by her daughter, Marina Allison. Also included were displays of cultural art, along with a mixing of old and contemporary flute and guitar music by Sequoia Crosswhite, cultural relations adviser at the Children's Home Society.

"It's a great opportunity to express the lives and the things the indigenous peoples of the Americas shared with the newcomers from Europe," Crosswhite said. "It's also an opportunity to share with the kids what happened back in those times."

Native Americans' Day, formerly known as Columbus Day, is celebrated in South Dakota. In 1989 the state Legislature approved a proposal by then-Gov. George S. Mickelson, at the urging of newspaper publisher Tim Giago, to rename the holiday.

Many places have adopted Indigenous Peoples Day in lieu of Columbus Day since then.

The first Native Americans' Day in South Dakota was celebrated in 1990, 100 years after the Wounded Knee Massacre.

"It's awesome for (Mickelson's) legacy to carry on here in 2017," Crosswhite said.

This year's celebration at Main Street Square was the third sponsored by the Oyate Okolakiciye Prevention Coalition.

Event organizers at Crazy Horse Memorial near Custer first had to clear 5 inches of snow at the memorial grounds before the events, which included hands-on activities, a program, food drive, Native American performers and a buffalo stew feed.

Vaughn Vargas was recognized as Native American Educator of the Year during ceremonies at Crazy Horse. Vargas, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, was named the Rapid City Police Department's first cultural advisory coordinator by Police Chief Karl Jegeris in 2015.

Jadwiga Ziolkowski of Crazy Horse Memorial said Vargas was honored for establishing understanding between police officers and Native Americans.

"The honor is based upon the fact that education comes in different ways and how you educate others," she said. "The work that he does as community advisory coordinator of the Rapid City Police Department is so very important for so many young people."

Crosswhite said Mickelson's legacy in his efforts to create Native Americans' Day serve to help break down barriers between cultures as exemplified by the Lakota saying, "Mitakuye oyasin," meaning, "We are all from one." The phrase is also commonly translated as "all my relatives."

Ebert also made that observation as children played on the turf courtyard at Main Street Square.

"You see these children out here running and playing together and learning that we are so alike in many ways," she said.

---

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

## High-poverty South Dakota school increases students' scores

By MEGAN RAPOSA, Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — It only takes five minutes in a Laura B. Anderson Elementary School classroom to see students there like learning.

When teacher Fred Jackson asked his fifth-grade students to solve a multiplication problem on the board, their pencils popped up almost in unison.

Down the hall of the northeast Sioux Falls school, Kim Runia's classroom of second-graders raised their hands excitedly, practically fighting for a chance to demonstrate appropriate behavior for "independent reading time."

"This is one of the happiest groups of children I've ever encountered," Principal Jayne Zielenski told the Argus Leader. "They are smiling, and they have every reason to not be smiling."

More than 8 in 10 of the kids come from low-income families or other groups that traditionally fall into achievement gaps. They're smiling, but they're not all excelling academically. In fact, about three-quarters of them are testing below proficiency on state reading and math tests.

But that doesn't mean they're not learning.

This fall, Laura B. Anderson students saw enough improvement in standardized test scores to move the school up a level in state rankings after two years of classification as a "focus school," meaning kids in those achievement gaps were doing particularly poorly on standardized tests.

It's an impressive achievement, especially because the school moved in and out of the "focus" category in two years, the shortest possible time-frame within the South Dakota Department of Education's classification system.

"It's difficult to move the needle, especially when you're talking about large numbers of students," said Mary Stadick Smith, spokeswoman for the department.

But now that the ranking has changed, Zielenski faces tough choices to keep the momentum going, especially as "focus"-specific grant funding runs dry for the school.

"We definitely will have to back down a bit on something because there just won't be the funds there," she said.

Zielenski doesn't want to downplay the hard work of Laura B. Anderson teachers and support staff in favor of a funding discussion, but she recognizes giving teachers time to provide thoughtful, data-driven instruction costs money.

Laura B. Anderson first received its designation as a "focus" school in 2015.

Focus schools differ from other school classifications because the designation places less emphasis on the overall school performance score — a compilation of data including test scores, student growth and attendance rates — and more emphasis on the performance of what the state calls the "gap group."

The most recent definition of the gap group for the state includes students from low-income families, black, Native American and Hispanic students, students with disabilities, and students with limited English.

Zielenski doesn't know exactly how many LBA students fall into that gap group, and, frankly, it's not important, she said. When she learned LBA had dipped into the "focus" category, she wasn't looking at subdividing students.

"We needed to raise our expectations for every single one of them," Zielenski said.

Improving student performance started with getting a very clear picture of where they were starting out. And that meant using student data to set goals.

Second-grade teacher Nicole Larson talks about goal-setting with her students as a way to "grow our brains."

In the last two years, Larson and other teachers at the school have worked more intentionally with tracking the progress of each individual student and differentiating instruction so all kids are working at their level.

In practice, this might mean instead of having all kids reading the same book, Larson might break the class into three groups, with each group reading at a different level.

Fourth- and fifth-graders in Katie Ellwein's classroom work on math on their Chromebooks, using a

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 32 of 70

program that adapts as students answer questions correctly or incorrectly, again, helping students learn regardless of the starting point.

"When they're working at their level, they're more engaged," Larson said.

Amanda Parker has seen the effects of differentiating instruction firsthand in her own child's progress. Her daughter, Gabrielle Parker, was a third-grade student at Laura B. Anderson last year and was learning beyond her grade level.

"They put her in an advanced class at LBA," Parker said. "She was learning the cells in the body and plant organisms. She was teaching me things by the end of the school year."

Parker also appreciated the attention teachers gave to setting long-term goals. Her daughter was among several students who took a field trip to the University of Sioux Falls to see what college is like and what they're working toward.

In a conference room near the principal's office at Laura B. Anderson, an entire wall is dedicated to visualizing student performance.

Multicolored index cards span various categories of student achievement. Each card has a student's name, photo and description of their performance on the most recent assessment.

"This is what made the difference," Zielenski said.

Of course, a wall full of index cards isn't responsible for the academic growth of 320 students, but shifting to a data-driven teaching model played a major role.

Teachers met regularly in teams that bring together special education teachers, reading specialists, English language learner teachers and any other support staff who interact with kids.

Everyone has a seat at the table, and they create consistent assessments to see how kids are doing in math and reading at any point in time.

For example, third graders may all answer the same three questions about a reading assignment. Their performance on that small assessment then helps teachers get immediate feedback as to how kids are doing so they can pace their lessons accordingly.

"There's no wasted learning time in a classroom for a student," said Instructional Coach Stephanie Muchow.

The level of teacher collaboration is aided by the consistent professional development Zielenski has provided her staff.

When Laura B. Anderson became a focus school, it received additional federal grant funding to the tune of about \$26,000 annually.

A portion of that extra money paid to send teachers to conferences with professional learning communities. Zielenski said getting all her teachers to these training opportunities helped create buy-in for the data-driven instruction model.

Part of the grant funds also went to cover the costs of Summer Climb, a two-year-old summer learning program the Sioux Falls School District started to improve reading and math scores in schools with high rates of poverty.

Zielenski hopes to continue offering Summer Climb and professional development opportunities for her teachers, but she recognizes the school's belt will tighten.

The federal grant continues one more year, but then Zielenski knows her budget will need to get more "creative."

Laura B. Anderson teachers will continue to use data-driven instruction, and the index card wall in the office isn't going anywhere.

Where the changes likely will come is in the amount of time teachers have to collaborate. Last year, teachers took a full day each quarter to meet and go over student progress.

In future years, the funds may not be there to hire substitutes for these full-day meetings or send teachers to conferences as frequently.

Zielenski's not worried about the quality of instruction, though. Teachers already have a commitment to meeting students where they are and helping set goals.

Larson, for one, said the move to focus school gave her more drive to help students succeed. Now that



the school is in the "progressing" category, she's going to keep making sure her students keep moving forward.

"When students have clear goals," Larson said. "They come to school with a purpose."

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

## 2 South Dakota women share their stories of harassment, rape

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A former South Dakota state senator, inspired by the dozens of women publicly accusing film producer Harvey Weinstein of sexual harassment or sexual assault, decided to come forward Friday with her own story of being sexually harassed on the job. In turn, that inspired a lobbyist to publicly share her story of being raped by someone who also worked at the South Dakota Capitol.

Former Sen. Angie Buhl O'Donnell took to Facebook on Friday and wrote about an incident with former House Majority Leader Brian Gosch in which he made comments about her breasts and asked her for a hug.

Gosch told the Argus Leader on Friday that the comments were made in jest and not meant to make her feel uncomfortable.

Buhl O'Donnell's story inspired Samantha Spawn, a lobbyist with NARAL-Pro Choice South Dakota, to share her own story of being raped by a man who worked at the Capitol after a lobbyist event in March in Pierre. Spawn said on Facebook that the man, whom she trusted, followed her to her hotel room and repeatedly assaulted her, causing her pain that lasted for days.

Both women hope going public will create a safer culture for women, especially younger ones who work at the Capitol.

"Maybe that will be a wake-up call to people," Spawn said Friday, according to the newspaper.

The Associated Press does not generally name victims of sexual assault, but Spawn and Buhl O'Donnell chose to go public with their stories.

Spawn said she considered going to police, but was worried she would be judged.

"With the culture of hypermasculinity out there, who was going to believe me?" Spawn said. "I asked myself, 'Am I complicit in rape culture for not reporting it?'"

Buhl O'Donnell, a Sioux Falls Democrat, said during one night in 2016, Gosch made a remark about how she was repeatedly hit in the breasts during a legislative dodgeball game. She tried to change the subject, but Gosch kept talking about her breasts, she said.

Gosch said Buhl O'Donnell initiated the conversation and he joked that she was hit more than once.

"I am sorry if she was offended by that," he said in a statement to the newspaper. "It was not intended to harass her or make her feel uncomfortable."

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

## Education Secretary Melody Schopp to retire in December

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard says that Secretary of Education Melody Schopp is set to retire in December.

Schopp, who has served in the role since 2011, said Friday that she's been honored to work on behalf of young people in South Dakota. Her last day will be Dec. 15.

Schopp started at the state Department of Education in 2000. Daugaard says he's appreciated Schopp's leadership as she's served in a "difficult and high-profile job," noting her role in helping pass a sales tax hike to increase South Dakota teacher pay.

Schopp says she's most proud of the work to hike educators' salaries.

But Schopp had faced criticism from some lawmakers over the state's oversight of a Platte-based educational cooperative where embezzling occurred.

## State: Insurance rate impact from Trump plan unclear

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota officials don't believe President Donald Trump's plan to halt payments to insurers under the Obama-era health care law will have much impact on the market in 2018, the state Division of Insurance said Friday.

South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation spokeswoman Dawn Dovre said in an email that the state plans to allow health insurers to refile rates to reflect the change. The subsidies help lower copays and deductibles for people with modest incomes.

The impact on insurance rates is unclear and will vary for individual consumers, Dovre said. Sanford Health Plan President Kirk Zimmer said earlier Friday that the insurer was weighing whether to continue participating in the Affordable Care Act's marketplace in both Dakotas, but Zimmer later confirmed through a spokeswoman that the carrier would remain.

Zimmer said premiums would increase beyond what the insurer had previously anticipated because of the move. Avera Health Plans and Sanford Health Plan currently provide exchange policies in the state and have signed an agreement with the federal government for 2018, Dovre said.

Avera Health Plans CEO Debra Muller urged Congress and the Trump administration to provide stability in the individual insurance market. Muller said she's disappointed that federal officials haven't found a solution on the subsidies, which cost the federal government about \$7 billion a year.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the planned halt in payments in a statement Thursday.

South Dakota U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem said in a statement that the Affordable Care Act created a broken system propped up by "government bailouts" and increasing burdens on families. The Republican lawmaker said the law should be repealed.

State Democratic Party Executive Director Sam Parkinson said in a statement that Trump "turned his back" on South Dakota residents by ending the subsidies that help make health care affordable for more than 16,000 state residents.

## Officials open to addressing initiative campaign finance gap

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota voters last year rejected a push by a Georgia-based car title lender to amend the state constitution to allow unlimited interest rates after the company spent more than \$1.8 million on the campaign.

Almost all of that money — over \$1.5 million — went to collecting thousands of signatures just to get the amendment on the ballot, but the company's contributions didn't become public until months after voters signed on and their names had been submitted to the state.

A new batch of ballot measure campaigns — on everything from government ethics to marijuana laws — are now collecting signatures before next month's submission deadline to get on the 2018 ballot. And campaign finance rules still don't require them to reveal who is paying for the push until next year.

But several South Dakota officials have said recently they're open to more financial reporting requirements for initiatives earlier in the election cycle, while supporters are in the vital stage of shopping their causes before voters. One state senator, after being contacted by The Associated Press, said he is having legislation drafted and would solicit feedback from other lawmakers before next year's legislative session.

"It would inform citizens so they would have some chance of knowing who is actually paying for a ballot committee's work before they sign the petition," said Democratic Sen. Reynold Nesiba, who helped lead a successful 2016 initiative to cap payday loan interest rates. "This ... seems to have been a hole in our process."

Nesiba said he planned to run the idea past other members of a legislative panel that met this year to weigh changes to South Dakota's ballot question process. A different campaign finance task force is to meet Monday at the Capitol, and Chairman Jordan Youngberg, a Republican senator, said he's open to discussing the issue.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 35 of 70

Gov. Dennis Daugaard's chief of staff, Tony Venhuizen, said in an email that the governor hasn't reviewed a bill on the topic, but "thinks the argument for this makes sense."

Republican officials have frequently complained about out-of-state interests experimenting with South Dakota's laws and constitution and have discussed changes to the state's ballot question system.

House Speaker Mark Mickelson said he has no objections to addressing the issue, but said it's not at the top of his list of desired changes to the ballot measure process. Mickelson is currently pursuing two measures of his own: One would ban out-of-state political contributions for ballot questions, and the other would raise tobacco taxes to improve tech school affordability.

The 2016 election season featured 10 ballot questions and more than \$10 million from out-of-state sources, including Alpharetta-based car title lender Select Management Resources LLC, which also funded opposition to the short-term lending interest rate cap that voters passed. CEO Rod Aycox hasn't returned telephone messages requesting comment from The AP since June 2015, while constitutional amendment sponsor Lisa Furlong largely avoided speaking publicly about the campaign.

Records filed when a campaign organizes do list a committee chair and treasurer. And some initiative campaigns voluntarily discuss funders with the public.

For example, a national nonprofit in August publicly pledged \$140,000 to help supporters gather signatures for a constitutional amendment that would move South Dakota to an open primary system for many political races.

More than 10 initiatives proposed for 2018 have been approved to circulate. Initiated measures need nearly 14,000 valid signatures, while constitutional amendments require almost 28,000 names.

"I'd like to know who is funding the marijuana petition, who is funding the tobacco tax," Nesiba said. "That'd be useful to know, and it'd be useful to know now."

## Roslyn man found guilty of first-degree murder, gets life

WEBSTER, S.D. (AP) — A Roslyn man who fatally shot another man during a burglary two years ago has been found guilty of first-degree murder.

Forty-six-year-old Jason Lewandowski was convicted by a jury Friday on multiple counts, including first-degree murder while engaged in a burglary. He was immediately sentenced to mandatory life in prison.

Both prosecutors and the defense agreed Lewandowski shot Jeremy Hendrickson in 2015, but Lewandowski's lawyers argued the shooting was not premeditated. They had hoped he'd be convicted of manslaughter.

According to KSFY-TV, Lewandowski testified Thursday that he didn't remember pulling the trigger and realized he shot Hendrickson only after walking away from the home.

Lewandowski originally pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity. Last month, a judge rejected a plea deal in which Lewandowski would have pleaded guilty to manslaughter.

## Rescued hostages home in Canada, getting medical exams

By ROB GILLIES, Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Former hostage Joshua Boyle returned to his parents' home Saturday where he said full medical exams were being arranged for him and his family after they were rescued from their captors in Afghanistan, the Taliban-linked extremist Haqqani network.

Boyle said earlier at Toronto's airport after landing with his American wife, Caitlan Coleman, and three young children that the network killed their newborn daughter and raped his wife during the five years they were held in captivity.

"The stupidity and evil of the Haqqani network's kidnapping of a pilgrim and his heavily pregnant wife engaged in helping ordinary villagers in Taliban-controlled regions of Afghanistan was eclipsed only by the stupidity and evil of authorizing the murder of my infant daughter," he said.

The couple was rescued Wednesday, five years after they were abducted by the extremist network while

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 36 of 70

in Afghanistan as part of a backpacking trip. Coleman was pregnant at the time and had four children in captivity. The birth of the fourth child had not been publicly known before Boyle appeared before journalists at the Toronto airport.

Boyle said his wife was raped by a guard who was assisted by his superiors. He asked for the Afghan government to bring them to justice.

"God willing, this litany of stupidity will be the epitaph of the Haqqani network," he said.

Boyle said he was in Afghanistan to help villagers "who live deep inside Taliban-controlled Afghanistan where no NGO, no aid worker and no government has ever successfully been able to bring the necessary help."

After returning to his parents' home in Smiths Falls, Ontario, Boyle emailed The Associated Press a new statement saying they had "reached the first true 'home' that the children have ever known — after they spent most of Friday asking if each subsequent airport was our new house hopefully."

"Our daughter has had a cursory medical exam last night, and hospital staff were enthusiastically insistent that her chances seemed miraculously high based on a quick physical. Full medical work-ups for each member of my family are being arranged right now, and God-willing the healing process — physically and mentally can begin."

Earlier, on a plane from London, Boyle provided a separate statement saying his family has "unparalleled resilience and determination."

Coleman, who is from Stewartstown, Pennsylvania, sat in the business-class cabin wearing a tan-colored headscarf.

She nodded wordlessly as she confirmed her identity to a reporter on board the flight. Next to her were her two elder children. In the seat beyond that was Boyle, with their youngest child in his lap. U.S. State Department officials were also on the plane with them.

The handwritten statement expressed disagreement with U.S. foreign policy.

"God has given me and my family unparalleled resilience and determination, and to allow that to stagnate, to pursue personal pleasure or comfort while there is still deliberate and organized injustice in the world would be a betrayal of all I believe, and tantamount to sacrilege," he wrote.

He nodded to one of the State Department officials and said, "Their interests are not my interests."

He added that one of his children was in poor health and had to be force-fed by their Pakistani rescuers.

The family left the plane with their escorts before the rest of the passengers, who then exited after a short delay.

"It will be of incredible importance to my family that we are able to build a secure sanctuary for our three surviving children to call a home," he said at the airport. "To try to regain some portion of the childhood that they have lost."

Dan Boyle, Joshua's younger brother, said outside the family home in Smiths Falls that he had spoken to his brother a few times in the past few days.

"He's doing very well. He sounds a lot like how he sounded five years ago. He sounds like he had his head on his shoulders and his wits about him," he said.

The Canadian government said in a statement it would "continue to support him and his family now that they have returned."

"Today, we join the Boyle family in rejoicing over the long-awaited return to Canada of their loved ones," the Canadian government said.

Pakistan's Foreign Ministry spokesman, Nafees Zakaria, said the Pakistani raid that led to the family's rescue was based on a tip from U.S. intelligence and shows that Pakistan will act against a "common enemy" when Washington shares information.

U.S. officials have long accused Pakistan of ignoring groups like the Haqqani network.

Washington considers it a terrorist organization and has targeted its leaders with drone strikes. But the Haqqani group also operates like a criminal network. Unlike the Islamic State group, it typically does not execute Western hostages, preferring to ransom them for cash.

A U.S. national security official, who was not authorized to discuss operational details of the release and

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 37 of 70

spoke only on condition of anonymity, said the U.S. obtained actionable information, passed it to Pakistani government officials, asked them to interdict and recover the hostages — and they did.

President Donald Trump, who previously had warned Pakistan to stop harboring militants, praised Pakistan for its “cooperation on many fronts.” He said Friday on Twitter that the U.S. is starting to develop “a much better relationship with Pakistan and its leaders.”

The operation appeared to have unfolded quickly and ended with what some described as a dangerous raid, a shootout and a captor’s final, terrifying threat to “kill the hostage.” Boyle told his parents that he, his wife and their children were intercepted by Pakistani forces while being transported in the back or trunk of their captors’ car and that some of his captors were killed. He suffered only a shrapnel wound, his family said.

U.S. officials did not confirm those details.

A U.S. military official said that a military hostage team had flown to Pakistan Wednesday prepared to fly the family out. The team did a preliminary health assessment and had a transport plane ready to go, but sometime after daybreak Thursday, as the family members were walking to the plane, Boyle said he did not want to board, the official said.

Boyle’s father said his son did not want to board the plane because it was headed to Bagram Air Base and the family wanted to return directly to North America. Another U.S. official said Boyle was nervous about being in “custody” given his family ties.

He was once married to Zaynab Khadr, the older sister of former Guantanamo Bay detainee Omar Khadr and the daughter of a senior al-Qaida financier. Her father, the late Ahmed Said Khadr, and the family stayed with Osama bin Laden briefly when Omar Khadr was a boy.

The Canadian-born Omar Khadr was 15 when he was captured by U.S. troops following a firefight and was taken to the U.S. detention center at Guantanamo Bay. Officials had discounted any link between that background and Boyle’s capture, with one official describing it in 2014 as a “horrible coincidence.”

The U.S. Justice Department said neither Boyle nor Coleman is wanted for any federal crime.

The Haqqani network had previously demanded the release of Anas Haqqani, a son of the founder of the group, in exchange for turning over the American-Canadian family. In one of the videos released by their captors, Boyle implored the Afghan government not to execute Taliban prisoners, or he and his wife would be killed.

U.S. officials have said that several other Americans are being held by militant groups in Afghanistan or Pakistan.

They include Kevin King, 60, a teacher at the American University of Afghanistan in Kabul who was abducted in August 2016, and Paul Overby, an author in his 70s who had traveled to the region several times but disappeared in eastern Afghanistan in mid-2014.

---

AP writer Martin Benedyk contributed reporting from the plane, and Jill Colvin contributed from Washington. Associated Press writers Deb Riechmann and Matthew Lee in Washington, Jon Gambrell in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Patrick Lejtenyi in Smiths Falls, Ontario, and Lolita C. Baldor in Tampa, Florida, also contributed.

## **Pro-Trump states most affected by his health care decision**

**By CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY and MEGHAN HOYER, Associated Press**

President Donald Trump’s decision to end a provision of the Affordable Care Act that was benefiting roughly 6 million Americans helps fulfill a campaign promise, but it also risks harming some of the very people who helped him win the presidency.

Nearly 70 percent of those benefiting from the so-called cost-sharing subsidies live in states Trump won last November, according to an analysis by The Associated Press.

The subsidies are paid to insurers by the federal government to help lower consumers’ deductibles and co-pays. People who benefit will continue receiving the discounts because insurers are obligated by law

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 38 of 70

to provide them. But to make up for the lost federal funding, health insurers will have to raise premiums substantially, potentially putting coverage out of reach for many consumers.

Some insurers may decide to bail out of markets altogether.

"I woke up, really, in horror," said Alice Thompson, 62, an environmental consultant from the Milwaukee area who purchases insurance on Wisconsin's federally run health insurance exchange.

Thompson, who spoke with reporters on a call organized by a health care advocacy group, said she expects to pay 30 percent to 50 percent more per year for her monthly premium, potentially more than her mortgage payment. Officials in Wisconsin, a state that went for a Republican presidential candidate for the first time in decades last fall, assumed the federal subsidy would end when they approved premium rate increases averaging 36 percent for the coming year.

An estimated 4 million people were benefiting from the cost-sharing payments in the 30 states Trump carried, according to an analysis of 2017 enrollment data from the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Of the 10 states with the highest percentage of consumers benefiting from cost-sharing, all but one — Massachusetts — went for Trump.

Kentucky embraced former President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act under its last governor, a Democrat, and posted some of the largest gains in getting its residents insured. Its new governor, a Republican, favors the GOP stance to replace it with something else.

Roughly half of the estimated 71,000 Kentuckians buying health insurance on the federal exchange were benefiting from the cost-sharing subsidies Trump just ended. Despite the gains from Obama's law, the state went for Trump last fall even as he vowed to repeal it.

Consumers such as Marsha Clark fear what will happen in the years ahead, as insurers raise premiums on everyone to make up for the end of the federal money that helped lower deductibles and co-pays.

"I'm stressed out about the insurance, stressed out about the overall economy, and I'm very stressed out about our president," said Clark, a 61-year-old real estate broker who lives in a small town about an hour's drive south of Louisville. She pays \$1,108 a month for health insurance purchased on the exchange.

While she earns too much to benefit from the cost-sharing subsidy, she is worried that monthly premiums will rise so high in the future that it will make insurance unaffordable.

Sherry Riggs has a similar fear. The Fort Pierce, Florida, barber benefits from the deductible and co-pay discounts, as do more than 1 million other Floridians, the highest number of cost-sharing beneficiaries of any state.

She had bypass surgery following a heart attack last year and pays just \$10 a visit to see her cardiologist and only a few dollars for the medications she takes twice a day.

Her monthly premium is heavily subsidized by the federal government, but she worries about the cost soaring in the future. Florida, another state that swung for Trump, has approved rate increases averaging 45 percent.

"Probably for some people it would be a death sentence," she said. "I think it's kind of a tragic decision on the president's part. It scares me because I don't think I'll be able to afford it next year."

Rates already were rising in the immediate aftermath of Trump's decision. Insurance regulators in Arkansas, another state that went for Trump, approved premium increases on Friday ranging from 14 percent to nearly 25 percent for plans offered through the insurance marketplace. Had federal cost-sharing been retained, the premiums would have risen by no more than 10 percent.

In Mississippi, another state Trump won, an estimated 80 percent of consumers who buy coverage on the insurance exchange benefit from the deductible and co-pay discounts, the highest percentage of any state. Premiums there will increase by 47 percent next year, after regulators assumed Trump would end the cost-sharing payments.

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners has estimated the loss of the subsidies would result in a 12 percent to 15 percent increase in premiums, while the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has put the figure at 20 percent. Experts say the political instability over Trump's effort to undermine Obama's health care law could prompt more insurers to leave markets, reducing competition and driving up prices.

In announcing his decision, Trump argued the subsidies were payouts to insurance companies, and the

government could not legally continue to make them. The subsidies have been the subject of an ongoing legal battle because the health care law failed to include a congressional appropriation, which is required before federal money can be spent.

The subsidies will cost about \$7 billion this year.

Many Republicans praised Trump's action, saying Obama's law has led to a spike in insurance costs for those who have to buy policies on the individual market.

Among them is Republican Rep. Andy Biggs of Arizona, a state Trump won. An estimated 78,000 Arizonans were benefiting from the federal subsidies for deductibles and co-pays.

"While his actions do not take the place of real legislative repeal and revitalization of free-market health care, he is doing everything possible to save Americans from crippling health care costs and decreasing quality of care," Biggs said.

Cassidy reported from Atlanta, Georgia. Hoyer, an AP data journalist, reported from Washington, D.C.

Associated Press writers Jeff Amy in Jackson, Mississippi; Scott Bauer in Madison, Wisconsin; Philip Marcelo in Boston; and Kevin Vineys in Washington, D.C., contributed to this report.

Follow Cassidy on Twitter at [http://twitter.com/AP\\_Christina](http://twitter.com/AP_Christina) and Hoyer at <https://twitter.com/Meghan-Hoyer>.

## Trump's speech sparks a new war of words between US, Iran

By **NASSER KARIMI** and **JON GAMBRELL**, Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — President Donald Trump's refusal to certify the Iran nuclear deal has sparked a new war of words between the Islamic Republic and America, fueling growing mistrust and a sense of nationalism among Iranians.

The speech has also served to unite Iranians across the political spectrum — from Trump's declining to call the Persian Gulf, the waterway through which a third of all oil traded by sea passes, by its name, to undercutting those trying to change Iran's clerically overseen government from within.

That is also likely to strengthen the hand of hard-liners within Iran, who long have insisted that United States remains the same "Great Satan" denounced in the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

"Under the deal, it was supposed to be that we get concessions, not that we give more concessions," the hard-line Kayhan newspaper raged.

Iranian officials and media outlets on Saturday uniformly condemned Trump's comments that angrily accused Iran of violating the spirit of the 2015 accord and demanded Congress toughen the law governing U.S. participation. Trump said he was not ready to pull out of the deal but warned he would do so if it were not improved.

In a televised speech shortly after Trump made his announcement, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said his country would remain in the deal, but criticized Trump's words, referring to them as "curses."

Rouhani also said Iran would continue to build and test ballistic missiles, something allowed under the nuclear deal though Americans believe it violates the accord's spirit.

"We have always been determined and today we are more determined," Rouhani said. "We will double our efforts from now on."

The Iranian president also offered a list of moments that showed the United States could not be trusted by the average Iranian, dating back to the 1953 CIA-backed coup that cemented U.S.-backed Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's power.

Like many others in Iran, Rouhani focused on the fact that Trump used the term "Arabian Gulf" to refer to the Persian Gulf. Some traded online video clips of past American presidents calling it the Persian Gulf, while one semi-official news agency published a photo gallery with the title "Persian Gulf forever."

Posts with the hashtag PersianGulf and the Iranian flag circulated on social media.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 40 of 70

The name of the body of water has become an emotive issue for Iranians who embrace their country's long history as the Persian Empire, especially as the U.S.' Gulf Arab allies and the American military now call it the "Arabian Gulf." Rouhani even suggested during his speech that Trump needed to "study geography."

"Everyone knew Trump's friendship was for sale to the highest bidder. We now know that his geography is too," Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif wrote on Twitter.

Zarif went on, with sarcasm, to mention Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, all hereditarily ruled Gulf nations, saying: "No wonder supporters of Trump's inane Iran speech are those bastions of democracy in the Persian Gulf."

Iran's Education Minister Mohammad Bathai also suggested in a tweet that American teachers allocate more time toward teaching "history and geography" — another dig at Trump.

Recent surveys have shown an increasing majority of Iranians are skeptical that the U.S. will live up to its obligations in the nuclear deal. Meanwhile, most have yet to see the benefits of the deal itself as Iran's economy still struggles to overcome rampant inflation, few jobs and bad loans to its banks.

"Iran has in no way violated the nuclear deal, and as far as we know it has always remained committed to its promises, but it has always been (the Americans) who have broken their promises and have had other options on the table," Tehran resident Hamed Ghassemi said.

The U.S. has also levied new sanctions against Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, whose forces fight the Islamic State group in Iraq, support embattled Syrian President Bashar Assad, have tense encounters with U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf and run the country's ballistic missile program.

However, the U.S. has balked at adding the Guard's name to a formal State Department list of foreign terrorist organizations. That could have proven problematic, especially with the Guard's vast economic holdings across Iran.

Gen. Masoud Jazayeri, a Guard commander and spokesman for Iran's joint armed forces staff, said late on Friday that the country's military will continue boosting its power and influence.

"We tell the corrupt and evil government of the U.S. that we will continue promoting defensive power of the country, more determined and with more motive than before," Jazayeri was quoted as saying by the Guard's news website. "We do not spare a while for defending suppressed people in any point of the world."

Gambrell reported from Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

## **GOP demanded say on Iran deal, changing it won't be easy**

**By RICHARD LARDNER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans demanded a major say on the Iran nuclear agreement two years ago and never got it from Democrat Barack Obama. Now that President Donald Trump has directed Congress to make the international pact more stringent, the GOP is finding it won't be easy.

Republicans will have to win over skeptical Democrats and key allies in Europe who are wary of altering the accord that they believe has prevented Iran from assembling an arsenal of atomic weapons in exchange for lifting economic sanctions. Republican leaders also may face resistance from members of their own party.

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, said Friday he'll reserve judgment on any legislation but has "serious doubts about whether it is even possible to fix such a dangerously flawed agreement."

Trump on Friday angrily accused Iran of violating the spirit of the nuclear deal that was forged with the U.S. and other world powers in 2015, blaming Tehran for a litany of malign behavior and hitting its main military wing with anti-terrorism sanctions. But the president, breaking with a campaign pledge to rip up the agreement, said he was not yet ready to pull the U.S. out or re-impose nuclear sanctions.

Instead he kicked the issue to Congress and told them to toughen the law.

Taking the lead will be the Republican whom Trump has been feuding with — Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. Trump belittled Corker this past week with a series of



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 41 of 70

tweets and erroneously blamed the senator, who will retire at the end of next year, for the original Iran deal. Corker dubbed the White House an "adult day care center" and charged that Trump could be setting the nation on the path toward World War III.

Corker, in a conference call with reporters on Friday, focused on perhaps the most significant task of his chairmanship and didn't address the bitter back and forth with Trump.

He previewed the main elements of legislation he is developing with Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., a national security hawk who has echoed Trump's more confrontational approach toward Iran, to toughen the nuclear accord and the law governing U.S. participation in the deal.

"Over the last several months, we have been working closely with the State Department, National Security Council and Senator Cotton to develop a legislative strategy to address bipartisan concerns about the (Iran deal) without violating U.S. commitments," Corker said in a statement.

On the call, Corker promised an open legislative process.

"You're going to see all this evolve in daylight," he said, adding that the bill could be introduced in the next two weeks.

The legislation would amend a two-year-old law that allowed Congress to review the accord. It would reduce from four to two the number of times a year Trump is required to certify to Congress that Iran is complying with the terms of the agreement.

It would also rid the deal of sunset provisions, which expire after predetermined periods of time. The provisions relate to enriching uranium to levels near those needed to produce the fuel for a nuclear weapon, as well as other activities that limit Iran's atomic capabilities at various sites. The bill would propose a mechanism to automatically restore the prior U.S. sanctions if Iran gets within a year of acquiring a nuclear weapon.

The emerging bill also would give the International Atomic Energy Agency greater power to verify that Iran is complying with the deal.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., welcomed Trump's decision and cast it as an opportunity for Congress to strengthen the law it passed in 2015 and "create a standard for certification that is consistent with our interests."

Democrats condemned Trump's announcement and criticized him for punting presidential responsibilities to Congress just as he did on health care and extending protection from deportation for young immigrants known as "Dreamers."

Sen. Ben Cardin of Maryland, the top ranking Democrat on the Foreign Relations Committee, issued a sharply worded statement that called Trump's move a "reckless, political decision" that put U.S. national security at risk. He said the president and his Cabinet should be principally in charge of addressing concerns about the Iran deal.

"Instead, he is abdicating his leadership role to Congress, just like with Dreamers and just like with affirming and strengthening our health care system," said Cardin, who opposed the nuclear deal two years ago but is now opposed to ditching the pact. "It is a troubling pattern. We will not buy into the false premise that it is Congress' role to legislate solutions to problems of his own making."

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., called Trump's move a "grave mistake."

Without changes, Trump warned, he would likely pull the U.S. out of the deal — which he has called the worst in U.S. history — and snap previously lifted sanctions back into place. Such a step would likely kill the landmark deal.

Follow Richard Lardner on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/rplardner>

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 42 of 70

## Spy, temptress, victim? Mata Hari still eludes definition

By RAF CASERT, Associated Press

LEEWARDEN, Netherlands (AP) — A century ago on Sunday, an exotic dancer named Mata Hari was executed by a French firing squad, condemned as a sultry Dutch double agent who supposedly caused the deaths of thousands of soldiers during World War I.

Her life and death became fodder almost overnight for one of the greatest spy stories of all time — featuring an alluring temptress who could dance, dazzle and draw secrets from the hapless military men unable to resist her.

Increasingly, though, Mata Hari — the stage name adopted by Margaretha Zelle — is also being reinterpreted as a victim of a time when a sexually liberated woman with artistic ambitions faced harsh judgment.

The irony is not missed on Yves Rocourt, curator of “Mata Hari. The Myth and the Maiden,” an exhibit opening this weekend in Leeuwarden, the Dutch town where Zelle was born in 1876.

“Unfortunately, issues like money and having to sleep with someone in a position of power to achieve something are not time-related,” Rocourt said.

“You cannot help but think about what is going in Hollywood at this very moment,” said Julie Wheelwright, author of the biography “The Fatal Lover.” “All these allegations that are coming out now and you just wonder, ‘But what’s changed in 100 years?’ Not much.”

On a canal close to her childhood home, where vicious winds and icy temperatures can freeze the water for months, a statue erected in 1976 shows Mata Hari in her typical stage regalia. Dressed in little more than pearls and veils, she stands with legs apart and arms outstretched, ready to take on the world.

How she got to the glittering salons and theaters of Paris and Berlin before ending up in front of a firing squad was due to desperation as much as boldness.

Her comfortable youth was disrupted when her father went broke and her mother died. At age 18, she answered an ad placed by an aristocrat military officer seeking a wife. Soon, she was living in the Dutch East Indies, in what is now Indonesia.

The couple had two children despite her husband’s violence and unfaithfulness and Margaretha’s own fiery, flirtatious personality. After their son died, the marriage disintegrated and her ex-husband refused to pay alimony. Zelle, facing being a single mother without financial support, gave up custody of her daughter and in 1903 left for Paris, where she reinvented herself.

“I am tired of struggling against life,” she wrote. The choice she saw was to “be a decent mother or live life as it is dazzlingly offered to me here.”

Lourens Oldersma, who edited a book of Mata Hari’s letters published late last year, said “she evolved from being a flirt into the woman that started living this loose, decadent life.”

Building a dance repertoire on the sensuous temple dances she had observed in Asia, Mata Hari had her breakthrough performance at the Paris Musee Guimet on March 13, 1905. She soon became a sensation across Europe.

But the brilliant life she envisioned was expensive to maintain, especially as she got older and her popularity as an exotic dancer declined. When World War I broke out, she used her passport from a neutral country to continue traveling and took wealthy, well-connected lovers from all sides of the conflict.

The promise of a steady supply of francs to support herself persuaded Zelle to accept an offer to spy, first for Germany and then for France.

“She thought that spying was just another role. It was another kind of performance,” Wheelwright said. “She was very naive.”

French intelligence eventually intercepted a German telegram discussing the work of an agent codenamed H-21. The details revealed Mata Hari as a double agent two-timing France. She was arrested while having breakfast in her suite at the Elysee Palace Hotel.

During 16 interrogation sessions, she cracked and admitted to working for the Germans. At 41, she was shot at a military ground close to Paris at dawn on Oct. 15, 1917.

The rest is history — and an awful lot of books and movies, including one starring Greta Garbo. Mata

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 43 of 70

Hari's story ebbs and flows with the mood of the times and geography.

"When I was talking to people in France, even until quite recently, their view was very much more that 'Here was this decadent woman who was responsible for all these deaths, so why should we feel any sympathy for her?'" Wheelwright said.

In the Netherlands, there was more ambivalence.

"They stressed more the spy story and the exotic dancer rather than the fact she was a decadent woman," Oldersma said in front of the Mara Hari statue as it was being restored for the commemorations.

With the publication of his book last year, "people started realizing that, yes, this is also a mother, and she had to go through a fight," he said.

Still, the question of who Mata Hari really was defies easy answers. One year she refused to pose naked for a painter, the next she slept with men for money. The verdict on whether the secrets she gained from her lovers' lips' doomed thousands of young Allied soldiers continues to be debated but seems increasingly unlikely.

"There is a kind of paradoxical thing going on," Wheelwright said. "On the one hand, she is very vulnerable. But then on the other hand, she's also got a sense of manipulating people."

The mystery of Mata Hari still confounds Rocourt, the exhibit curator.

"The truth is very complex," he said. "I don't know what the truth is."

## Trump's 'Obamacare' move shakes up health care and politics

By ALAN FRAM and RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's abrupt move to cut off federal payments to insurers jolted America's health care and political worlds alike, threatening to boost premiums for millions, disrupt insurance markets and shove Republicans into a renewed civil war over their efforts to shred "Obamacare."

Defiant Democrats, convinced they have important leverage, promised to press for a bipartisan deal to restore the money by year's end. That drive could split the GOP. On one side: pragmatists seeking to avoid political damage from hurting consumers. On the other: conservatives demanding a major weakening of the Affordable Care Act as the price for returning the money.

"The American people will know exactly where to place the blame," declared Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., all but daring Trump to aggravate what could be a major issue in the 2018 congressional elections.

The money goes to companies for lowering out-of-pocket costs like co-payments and deductibles for low- and middle-income customers. It will cost about \$7 billion this year and help more than 6 million people.

Ending the payments would affect insurers because President Barack Obama's law requires them to reduce their poorer customers' costs. Carriers are likely to recoup the lost money by increasing 2018 premiums for people buying their own health insurance policies.

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners estimates that Trump's move would produce a 12 percent to 15 percent upsurge in premiums, while the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has put the figure at 20 percent. That's on top of premium increases from growing medical costs.

Experts say the political instability over Trump's effort to undermine Obama's health care law could also prompt more insurers to leave markets. As Trump frequently points out, next year about half of U.S. counties will have only one insurer on "Obamacare's" online marketplaces, up from the one-third of counties with one carrier in 2017.

Trump relished his latest blow against the law that he pledged to repeal during his presidential campaign, only to see the effort crash in the GOP-run Senate this summer. He's long derided the subsidies as bailouts to insurers, even though the payments and the cost reductions for consumers are required by law.

The scrapping of subsidies would affect millions more consumers in states won by Trump last year, including Florida, Alabama and Mississippi, than in states won by Democrat Hillary Clinton. Nearly 70 percent of the 6 million who benefit from the cost-sharing subsidies are in states that voted for the Republican.

"Congress, they forgot what their pledges were," Trump told conservative activists at the Values Voter Summit on Friday, recalling GOP candidates' repeated vows to repeal Obama's law. "So we're going a little

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 44 of 70

different route. But you know what? In the end, it's going to be just as effective, and maybe it will even be better."

He later reiterated his belief that his move would pressure Democrats to bargain over major changes in the law and said, "There's going to be time to negotiate health care that's going to be good for everybody."

Trump's move was hailed by conservative groups including Heritage Action for America and Freedom Partners, backed by the Koch brothers.

But rallying against it were medical and consumer groups including the American Heart Association, the American College of Physicians and insurance industry behemoths America's Health Insurance Plans and Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.

Nineteen Democratic state attorneys general are suing Trump over the stoppage. Attorneys general from California, Kentucky, Massachusetts and New York were among those who filed the lawsuit in federal court in California to stop Trump's attempt "to gut the health and well-being of our country."

A federal judge has found that Congress never properly approved the payments. The subsidies have continued under Obama and Trump until now, despite prior Trump threats to block them.

Schumer told reporters that Trump's "threats and bullying are not going to work." He said he saw a good chance of forcing money for the cost-sharing reductions into a massive spending bill Congress is expected to approve late this year.

Democrats think Trump would have little clout to block a bipartisan deal, citing support for the payments by some Republicans and polls showing the public would fault the GOP for any failure. Some Republicans privately agree.

"Now, President Trump has his fingerprints all over the knife," said Maryland Sen. Chris Van Hollen, who heads Senate Democrats' campaign committee.

In a survey released Friday by the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation, 7 in 10 said the administration should help Obama's law work, not undermine it, including nearly half of Republicans. The same group conducted an August poll showing 6 in 10 people would blame Trump and the GOP for future health care woes.

Sens. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., and Patty Murray, D-Wash., have been seeking a deal that Alexander said in a recent interview would reinstate the payments for two years. He said in exchange, Republicans want "meaningful flexibility for states" to offer lower-cost insurance policies with less coverage than Obama's law mandates.

Republicans are divided over that effort.

Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., who leads the conservative House Freedom Caucus, said in an interview that he's willing to back the payments if they're "part of a transition from Obamacare to something else" with greater state flexibility than Alexander and Murray are discussing. Another conservative leader, Rep. Mark Walker, R-N.C., said "under no circumstance" should the payments be revived.

Some GOP leaders have expressed openness to continuing the payments, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., who's said he wants them accompanied by significant changes. House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady, R-Texas, said this summer that the payments should be continued, citing their impact on premiums.

Moderates like Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, said Friday that halting the payments would make insurance costs "unaffordable for some people." Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla., tweeted that the cuts "will mean more uninsured in my district."

AP reporters Ken Thomas and Jill Colvin contributed.

## Keuchel strikes out 10, Astros beat Yanks 2-1 in ALCS opener

By KRISTIE RIEKEN, AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Dallas Keuchel faced the New York Yankees in the postseason for the second time and the Houston Astros ace shut them down again.

Keuchel struck out 10 in seven scoreless innings to help Houston to a 2-1 victory on Friday night in the AL Championship Series opener.

"I think it's just pitch execution, and it's just been there more times than it hasn't against the Yankees," Keuchel said.

Keuchel threw six scoreless innings in a 3-0 win over New York in the 2015 AL wild card game.

He allowed four hits — all singles — and walked one to improve to 8-2 with a 1.09 ERA in eight starts against the Yankees in the regular season and postseason combined. He joined Nolan Ryan and Mike Scott as the only Astros pitchers to reach double digits in strikeouts in a postseason game.

"Late movement — he moves the ball and he commands it well," the Yankees Greg Bird said.

Carlos Correa and Yuli Gurriel hit RBI singles in the fourth off loser Masahiro Tanaka, and left fielder Marwin Gonzalez threw out Bird at the plate trying to score on Aaron Judge's two-out single in the fifth.

"We had a shot," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said. "If Bird's safe maybe we really get to him in that inning."

Bird homered off Ken Giles with two outs in the ninth, and the closer struck out pinch-hitter Jacoby Ellsbury. Giles, who threw a season-high 37 pitches, escaped a two-out jam in the eighth by striking out Didi Gregorius.

Greeted by MVP chants each time to the plate, Jose Altuve had three more hits and at 11 for 19 (.579) has the most hits in a team's first five postseason games since Seattle's Ichiro Suzuki in 2001.

Houston is in the Championship Series for the first time since beating St. Louis in 2005. The Yankees, who overcame a 2-0 deficit to beat Cleveland in the Division Series, lost their sixth straight ALCS game since 2010.

After the Astros totaled eight runs in the first innings of their four AL Division Series games, Tanaka kept the Astros hitless until Altuve's infield single rolled through the pitcher's legs in the fourth. Altuve swiped second before scoring on Correa's single. Gurriel followed with a two-out single, his 10th hit of the postseason.

Bird singled to start the fifth and Matt Holliday, making his first appearance of the postseason, reached when Altuve dropped his slow bouncer to second for an error. Judge singled with two outs and Gonzalez, throwing with such force that he fell to the ground, made a 97 mph one-hop throw to catcher Brian McCann, who tagged the sliding Bird.

"That was their best moment in the game, (I needed) to stop the momentum," Gonzalez said. "All I was thinking was to go get the ball as fast as I could."

The call was confirmed in a video review.

"I'm too slow. I wish I was a little faster," Bird said.

Primarily an infielder, Gonzalez had just two outfield assists in the regular season. He beat his hand into his glove three times in celebration after watching McCann make the tag.

"It's one of the best throws I've ever seen from an outfielder," Correa said. "Long hop, low tag right there. It was just perfect. Unbelievable."

Gonzalez threw out Boston's Mitch Moreland at the plate in the Division Series finale and is the first outfielder with assists in consecutive postseason games since Jim Rice in the 1986 World Series. He joined Lance Berkman as the only players in franchise history to have two outfield assists in one postseason.

After controversially failing to challenge a call in Game 2 of the Division Series, Girardi didn't hesitate to ask for a review.

"We thought he was out," he said. "But God knows I'm not doing that again."

UP NEXT

Yankees: Luis Severino will make his third start of this postseason on Saturday. Severino yielded three runs and four hits in seven innings of a win in Game 4 of the ALDS to bounce back after allowing three

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 46 of 70

runs and getting just one out in the wild-card game.

"I feel good, I feel confident in myself," he said. "I knew that that first start I did, that wasn't me, and I made adjustments. That's how we do it; we make adjustments and the second start I put in place those adjustments and did good."

Astros: Justin Verlander is scheduled to make his 18th playoff start on Saturday. Verlander got the win in Game 1 of the ALDS against the Red Sox and picked up win No. 2 of this postseason when he made his first career relief appearance in Game 4. He's 9-5 with a 3.36 ERA and 115 strikeouts in his postseason career.

## GAME 3

Manager A.J. Hinch announced that Charlie Morton will start Game 3 and that Lance McCullers, a starter who pitched in relief in the ALDS, could pitch Game 4. The Yankees will start CC Sabathia in Game 3 and Sonny Gray in Game 4.

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

## Family freed returns to Canada, says 1 child killed

By MARTIN BENEDYK, ROB GILLIES and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Former hostage Joshua Boyle said upon arriving back in Canada that the Haqqani network in Afghanistan had killed his infant daughter and raped his American wife during the years they were held in captivity.

Boyle gave the statement shortly after landing in Canada late Friday with his wife, Caitlan Coleman, and three young children.

The couple was rescued Wednesday, five years after they had been abducted by the Taliban-linked extremist network while in Afghanistan as part of a backpacking trip. Coleman was pregnant at the time and had four children in captivity. The birth of the fourth child had not been publicly known before Boyle appeared before journalists at the Toronto airport.

"The stupidity and evil of the Haqqani network's kidnapping of a pilgrim and his heavily pregnant wife engaged in helping ordinary villagers in Taliban-controlled regions of Afghanistan was eclipsed only by the stupidity and evil of authorizing the murder of my infant daughter," he said.

Boyle said his wife was raped by a guard who was assisted by his superiors. He asked for the Afghan government to bring them to justice.

"God willing, this litany of stupidity will be the epitaph of the Haqqani network," he said.

He said he was in Afghanistan to help villagers "who live deep inside Taliban-controlled Afghanistan where no NGO, no aid worker and no government has ever successfully been able to bring the necessary help."

On the plane from London, Boyle provided a written statement to The Associated Press saying his family has "unparalleled resilience and determination."

Coleman, who is from Stewartstown, Pennsylvania, sat in the aisle of the business-class cabin wearing a tan-colored headscarf.

She nodded wordlessly when she confirmed her identity to a reporter on board the flight. In the two seats next to her were her two elder children. In the seat beyond that was Boyle, with their youngest child in his lap. U.S. State Department officials were on the plane with them.

The handwritten statement that Boyle gave the AP expressed disagreement with U.S. foreign policy.

"God has given me and my family unparalleled resilience and determination, and to allow that to stagnate, to pursue personal pleasure or comfort while there is still deliberate and organized injustice in the world would be a betrayal of all I believe, and tantamount to sacrilege," he wrote.

He nodded to one of the State Department officials and said, "Their interests are not my interests."

He added that one of his children is in poor health and had to be force-fed by their Pakistani rescuers.

The family was able to leave the plane with their escorts before the rest of the passengers. There was

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 47 of 70

a short delay before everyone else was allowed out.

"It will be of incredible importance to my family that we are able to build a secure sanctuary for our three surviving children to call a home," he said in his later statement at the airport. "To try to regain some portion of the childhood that they have lost."

Dan Boyle, Joshua's younger brother, said outside the family home in Smiths Falls, Ontario, that he had spoken to his brother a few times in the past few days.

"He's doing very well. He sounds a lot like how he sounded five years ago. He sounds like he had his head on his shoulders and his wits about him," he said.

The Canadian government said in a statement they will "continue to support him and his family now that they have returned."

"Today, we join the Boyle family in rejoicing over the long-awaited return to Canada of their loved ones," the Canadian government said.

Pakistan's Foreign Ministry spokesman, Nafees Zakaria, said the Pakistani raid that led to the family's rescue was based on a tip from U.S. intelligence and shows that Pakistan will act against a "common enemy" when Washington shares information.

U.S. officials have long accused Pakistan of ignoring groups like the Haqqani network.

U.S. officials consider it a terrorist organization and have targeted its leaders with drone strikes. But the Haqqani group also operates like a criminal network. Unlike the Islamic State group, it does not typically execute Western hostages, preferring to ransom them for cash.

A U.S. national security official, who was not authorized to discuss operational details of the release and spoke only on condition of anonymity, said the U.S. obtained actionable information, passed it to Pakistani government officials, asked them to interdict and recover the hostages — and they did.

President Donald Trump, who previously had warned Pakistan to stop harboring militants, praised Pakistan for its "cooperation on many fronts." On Twitter, he wrote Friday that the U.S. is starting to develop "a much better relationship with Pakistan and its leaders."

The operation appeared to have unfolded quickly and ended with what some described as a dangerous raid, a shootout and a captor's final, terrifying threat to "kill the hostage." Boyle told his parents that he, his wife and their children were intercepted by Pakistani forces while being transported in the back or trunk of their captors' car and that some of his captors were killed. He suffered only a shrapnel wound, his family said.

U.S. officials did not confirm those details.

A U.S. military official said that a military hostage team had flown to Pakistan Wednesday prepared to fly the family out. The team did a preliminary health assessment and had a transport plane ready to go, but sometime after daybreak Thursday, as the family members were walking to the plane, Boyle said he did not want to board, the official said.

Boyle's father said his son did not want to board the plane because it was headed to Bagram Air Base and the family wanted to return directly to North America. Another U.S. official said Boyle was nervous about being in "custody" given his family ties.

He was once married to Zaynab Khadr, the older sister of former Guantanamo Bay detainee Omar Khadr and the daughter of a senior al-Qaida financier. Her father, the late Ahmed Said Khadr, and the family stayed with Osama bin Laden briefly when Omar Khadr was a boy.

The Canadian-born Omar Khadr was 15 when he was captured by U.S. troops following a firefight and was taken to the U.S. detention center at Guantanamo Bay. Officials had discounted any link between that background and Boyle's capture, with one official describing it in 2014 as a "horrible coincidence."

The U.S. Justice Department said neither Boyle nor Coleman is wanted for any federal crime.

The Haqqani network had previously demanded the release of Anas Haqqani, a son of the founder of the group, in exchange for turning over the American-Canadian family. In one of the videos released by their captors, Boyle implored the Afghan government not to execute Taliban prisoners, or he and his wife would be killed.

U.S. officials have said that several other Americans are being held by militant groups in Afghanistan or

Pakistan.

They include Kevin King, 60, a teacher at the American University of Afghanistan in Kabul who was abducted in August 2016, and Paul Overby, an author in his 70s who had traveled to the region several times but disappeared in eastern Afghanistan in mid-2014.

Benedyk reported from the plane, Colvin from Washington. Associated Press writers Deb Riechmann and Matthew Lee in Washington, Jon Gambrell in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Patrick Lejtenyi in Smiths Falls, Ontario, and Lolita C. Baldor in Tampa, Florida, contributed to this report.

## Teams report first progress against wine country wildfires

By PAUL ELIAS and JOCELYN GECKER, Associated Press

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (AP) — A fifth day of desperate firefighting in California wine country brought a glimmer of hope Friday as crews battling the flames reported their first progress toward containing the massive blazes, and hundreds more firefighters poured in to join the effort.

The scale of the disaster also became clearer as authorities said the fires had chased an estimated 90,000 people from their homes and destroyed at least 5,700 homes and businesses. The death toll rose to 35, making this the deadliest and most destructive series of wildfires in California history. The deaths were briefly tallied at 36, but authorities said one was double-counted.

In all, 17 large fires still burned across the northern part of the state, with more than 9,000 firefighters attacking the flames using air tankers, helicopters and more than 1,000 fire engines.

"The emergency is not over, and we continue to work at it, but we are seeing some great progress," said the state's emergency operations director, Mark Ghilarducci.

Over the past 24 hours, crews arrived from Nevada, Washington, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, North and South Carolina, Oregon and Arizona. Other teams came from as far away as Canada and Australia.

Since igniting Sunday in spots across eight counties, the blazes have reduced entire neighborhoods to ash and rubble. The death toll has risen daily as search teams gain access to previously unreachable areas.

Individual fires including a 1991 blaze in the hills around Oakland killed more people than any one of the current blazes, but no collection of simultaneous fires in California ever led to so many deaths, authorities said.

People remained on edge, worried about the wind shifting fires in their direction, said Will Deeths, a Sonoma middle school principal helping to supervise volunteers at Sonoma Valley High School, now an evacuation shelter.

"In the afternoons we start looking up at the flag pole and we start looking to see, is the wind blowing? Is the flag moving?" he said. "It's been really crazy."

Video was released of body camera footage on the first night of the fire, showing an unnamed deputy braving wild flames and thick smoke to clear out a community already being devoured by the flames.

"Go! Go! Go! Go! Go!" the Sonoma County deputy yells to drivers who are hesitating and moving slowly as they flee.

The deputy, wheezing and coughing, runs to several doors shouting "sheriff's office!" for anyone who may be in earshot.

He then comes across another deputy with a woman in a wheelchair right next to a house that is burning and lifts her into an SUV to take her away.

On Friday dozens of search-and-rescue personnel at a mobile home park in Santa Rosa, also in Sonoma County, carried out the grim task Friday of searching for remains. Fire tore through Santa Rosa early Monday, leaving only a brief window for residents to flee, and decimated the park, which was known as Journey's End and was home to hundreds of people.

Workers were looking for two missing people who lived at the park. They found one set of remains, mostly bone fragments, and continued looking for the other, said Sonoma County Sgt. Spencer Crum.

To help in the search, the Alameda County Sheriff's Office near San Francisco sent specialized equip-



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 49 of 70

ment, including drones with three-dimensional cameras and five dogs trained to sniff out human remains. Authorities have said that some victims were so badly burned they were identified only by metal surgical implants found in the ashes that have ID numbers on them.

The influx of outside help offered critical relief to firefighters who have been working with little rest since the blazes started.

"It's like pulling teeth to get firefighters and law enforcement to disengage from what they are doing out there," CalFire's Napa chief Barry Biermann said. "They are truly passionate about what they are doing to help the public, but resources are coming in. That's why you are seeing the progress we're making."

In addition to manpower, equipment deliveries have poured in. Crews were using 840 fire engines from across California and another 170 sent from around the country.

Two of the largest fires in Napa and Sonoma counties were at least 25 percent contained by Friday, which marked "significant progress," said Ken Pimlott, chief of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. But he cautioned that crews would face more gusty winds, low humidity and higher temperatures. Those conditions were expected to take hold later Friday and persist into the weekend.

Smoke from the blazes hung thick over the grape-growing region and drifted south to the San Francisco Bay Area. Face masks were becoming a regular accessory, and sunsets turned blood-red from the haze.

"It's acrid now," said Wayne Petersen in Sonoma. "I'm wearing the mask because I've been here two or three days now. I live here. It's starting to really affect my breathing and lungs."

Fire officials were investigating whether downed power lines or other utility failures could have sparked the fires, but they say they are far from determining how the blazes began.

---

Gecker reported from San Francisco. Associated Press writers Janie Har in Sonoma, Olga R. Rodriguez and Daisy Nguyen in San Francisco and Martha Mendoza in Santa Cruz also contributed to this report.

Follow the AP's complete wildfire coverage here: <https://apnews.com/tag/Wildfires> .

## Weinstein rebukes continue, brother says business continues

By MARK KENNEDY, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The chorus of Hollywood stars denouncing film producer Harvey Weinstein echoed across the Atlantic on Friday, even as his brother said the embattled production company that bears both their names insisted business was "continuing as usual."

Bob Weinstein, co-chairman of The Weinstein Co. issued a statement saying the company wasn't shutting down or exploring a sale following allegations that co-founder Weinstein sexually harassed or sexually assaulted dozens of women. The statement mentioned a slate of three upcoming films — "Polaroid," "Paddington 2" and "War with Grandpa" — and said: "Business is continuing as usual as the company moves ahead."

The public pressure increased on the one-time movie mogul, with Oscar-winners and former Weinstein colleagues Emma Thompson and Quentin Tarantino airing their displeasure, and more actresses coming forward to describe harrowing hotel encounters with movie mogul.

"I don't think you can describe him as a sex addict — he's a predator. There's a difference," Thompson, who starred in the Weinstein produced film "Bridgeshead Revisited," said on BBC Two's "Newsnight." "What he's at the top of the ladder of is a system of harassment and belittling and bullying and interference."

Some 30 women — including actresses Angelina Jolie, Ashley Judd and Gwyneth Paltrow — have spoken out recently to say Weinstein had sexually harassed or sexually assaulted them. Weinstein was fired Sunday by The Weinstein Co., a studio he co-founded with his brother. Harvey Weinstein has denied any nonconsensual sexual conduct with any women.

Thompson said she had only "business contact" with Weinstein but recalled his "bullying behavior." The actress said there are "many" men in Hollywood in the Weinstein vein and asked: "Does it only count if you really have done it to loads and loads and loads of women or does it count if you do it to one woman,

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 50 of 70

once? I think the latter.”

Tarantino said he was “stunned and heartbroken” about the allegations, but needed time to wrap his head around it. In a brief statement via Twitter relayed by Amber Tamblyn, Tarantino, whose films “Reservoir Dogs,” “Pulp Fiction” and “The Hateful Eight” were produced by Weinstein, says he will address the issue soon.

“For the last week I’ve been stunned and heartbroken about the revelations that have come to light about my friend for 25 years Harvey Weinstein. I need a few more days to process my pain, emotions, anger and memory and then I will speak publicly about it.”

More actresses took to social media to describe uncomfortable past meetings Weinstein had requested with them in hotels.

Minka Kelly said on Instagram on Friday that after meeting Weinstein at an industry party, he invited her to his hotel room. Uncomfortable with that, they instead met at a hotel restaurant, joined by an assistant who left shortly afterward.

Kelly said Weinstein suggested he’d give her “a lavish life filled with trips around the world on private planes” if she agreed to be his girlfriend. She declined, saying she wanted to keep things professional, and excused herself. He allegedly responded: “I trust you won’t tell anyone about this.”

Kelly, who had a role in “Lee Daniels’ The Butler,” which was produced by Weinstein’s company, said she spoke out to add her voice to those demanding such abuses end.

“I’m sorry for obliging his orders to be complicit in protecting his behavior, which he obviously knew was wrong or he wouldn’t have asked me not to tell anyone in the first place,” she wrote.

Claire Forlani, who starred in “Meet Joe Black,” said she also felt regret for not speaking up sooner about multiple meetings in her 20s with Weinstein, a man she recalled requested massages and whom she called in a tweeted statement a “master manipulator.”

“I had two Peninsula Hotel meetings in the evening with Harvey and all I remember was I ducked, dived and ultimately got out of there without getting slobbered over, well just a bit,” she wrote. He bragged about the actresses he had slept with “and what he had done for them.”

Social media remained a flashpoint. Rose McGowan, one accuser who has heavily relied on Twitter, was locked out of her account over what the company said were violations of its terms of service, prompting a protest movement using the hashtag WomenBoycottTwitter.

In response, Twitter issued a statement, saying it was “proud to empower and support the voices on our platform, especially those that speak truth to power. We stand with the brave women and men who use Twitter to share their stories, and will work hard every day to improve our processes to protect those voices.”

Pushback against Weinstein and his company also came after Showtime said it will not move forward with an Oliver Stone drama in development, “Guantanamo,” unless The Weinstein Co. was removed as a producer.

The drama about detainees at Guantanamo Bay had not yet been approved for a series and scripts are currently being written. Showtime was a partner with The Weinstein Co. in the project but the network said Friday “we do not intend to move forward with the current configuration of the project and are exploring our options.”

Robert De Niro, Julianne Moore and director David O. Russell said late Friday that they had agreed to scrap an untitled Amazon Studios series that was being produced by The Weinstein Co. The move came one day after Amazon Studios suspended its chief, Roy Price, after a producer on another series publicly accused him of making crude comments directed at her.

## Trump's blow to 'Obamacare' jolts health consumers, politics

By ALAN FRAM and RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's abrupt move to cut off federal payments to insurers jolted America's health care and political worlds alike on Friday, threatening to boost premiums for millions, disrupt insurance markets and shove Republicans into a renewed civil war over their efforts to shred "Obamacare."

Defiant Democrats, convinced they have important leverage, promised to press for a bipartisan deal to restore the money by year's end. That drive could split the GOP. On one side: pragmatists seeking to avoid political damage from hurting consumers. On the other: conservatives demanding a major weakening of the Affordable Care Act as the price for returning the money.

"The American people will know exactly where to place the blame," declared Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., all but daring Trump to aggravate what could be a major issue in the 2018 congressional elections.

The money goes to companies for lowering out-of-pocket costs like co-payments and deductibles for low- and middle-income customers. It will cost about \$7 billion this year and help more than 6 million people.

Ending the payments would affect insurers because President Barack Obama's law requires them to reduce their poorer customers' costs. Carriers are likely to recoup the lost money by increasing 2018 premiums for people buying their own health insurance policies.

The National Association of Insurance Commissioners estimates that Trump's move would produce a 12 percent to 15 percent upsurge in premiums, while the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has put the figure at 20 percent. That's on top of premium increases from growing medical costs.

Experts say the political instability over Trump's effort to undermine Obama's health care law could also prompt more insurers to leave markets. As Trump frequently points out, next year about half of U.S. counties will have only one insurer on "Obamacare's" online marketplaces, up from the one-third of counties with one carrier in 2017.

Trump relished his latest blow against the law that he pledged to repeal during his presidential campaign, only to see the effort crash in the GOP-run Senate this summer. He's long derided the subsidies as bailouts to insurers, even though the payments and the cost reductions for consumers are required by law.

The scrapping of subsidies would affect millions more consumers in states won by Trump last year, including Florida, Alabama and Mississippi, than in states won by Democrat Hillary Clinton. Nearly 70 percent of the 6 million who benefit from the cost-sharing subsidies are in states that voted for the Republican.

"Congress, they forgot what their pledges were," Trump told conservative activists at the Values Voter Summit, recalling GOP candidates' repeated vows to repeal Obama's law. "So we're going a little different route. But you know what? In the end, it's going to be just as effective, and maybe it will even be better."

On Twitter Friday night, he wrote: "Money pouring into Insurance Companies profits, under the guise of ObamaCare, is over. They have made a fortune. Dems must get smart & deal!"

Trump's move was hailed by conservative groups including Heritage Action for America and Freedom Partners, backed by the Koch brothers.

But rallying against it were medical and consumer groups including the American Heart Association, the American College of Physicians and insurance industry behemoths America's Health Insurance Plans and Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.

Nineteen Democratic state attorneys general are suing Trump over the stoppage. Attorneys general from California, Kentucky, Massachusetts and New York were among those who filed the lawsuit in federal court in California to stop Trump's attempt "to gut the health and well-being of our country."

A federal judge has found that Congress never properly approved the payments. The subsidies have continued under Obama and Trump until now, despite prior Trump threats to block them.

Schumer told reporters that Trump's "threats and bullying are not going to work." He said he saw a good chance of forcing money for the cost sharing reductions into a massive spending bill Congress is expected to approve late this year.

Democrats think Trump would have little clout to block a bipartisan deal, citing support for the payments

by some Republicans and polls showing the public would fault the GOP for any failure. Some Republicans privately agree.

"Now, President Trump has his fingerprints all over the knife," said Maryland Sen. Chris Van Hollen, who heads Senate Democrats' campaign committee.

In a survey released Friday by the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation, 7 in 10 said the administration should help Obama's law work, not undermine it, including nearly half of Republicans. The same group conducted an August poll showing 6 in 10 people would blame Trump and the GOP for future health care woes.

Sens. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., and Patty Murray, D-Wash., have been seeking a deal that Alexander said in a recent interview would reinstate the payments for two years. He said in exchange, Republicans want "meaningful flexibility for states" to offer lower-cost insurance policies with less coverage than Obama's law mandates.

Republicans are divided over that effort.

Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., who leads the conservative House Freedom Caucus, said in an interview that he's willing to back the payments if they're "part of a transition from Obamacare to something else" with greater state flexibility than Alexander and Murray are discussing. Another conservative leader, Rep. Mark Walker, R-N.C., said the payments should be revived "under no circumstance."

Some GOP leaders have expressed openness to continuing the payments, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., who's said he wants them accompanied by significant changes. House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady, R-Texas, said this summer that the payments should be continued, citing their impact on premiums.

Moderates like Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, said Friday that halting the payments would make insurance costs "unaffordable for some people." Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla., tweeted that the cuts "will mean more uninsured in my district."

AP reporters Ken Thomas and Jill Colvin contributed.

## 'She was my life': Longtime loves among those lost in fire

By The Associated Press

More than 30 people have died in the deadliest week of wildfires in California history. The victims include a couple who recently celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary, a woman born with a spinal defect who worked to help others despite her own troubles and a woman who died in her husband's arms as they sought safety in a backyard swimming pool.

A look at some of those who were killed in the blazes:

TIMID AND GIGGLY

At 14, Kai Shepherd was among the youngest victims of the wildfires.

After flames swept over a mountain, the Shepherds had tried to drive down to escape. Their neighbor Paul Hanssen found their two charred vehicles blocking the road, doors still ajar from when they had apparently abandoned them and fled on foot.

Hanssen found the mother, Sara Shepherd, and her 17-year-old daughter, Kressa, lying on the ground, more than half their bodies burned. Kai Shepherd was further down the mountain and did not survive.

First responders found Kai's father, Jon Shepherd, separately, on the mountain. He was also badly burned but alive. Kai Shepherd's parents and sister are being treated at burn centers.

His sister, Kressa Shepherd, a Ukiah High School junior, had to have both legs amputated beneath her knees.

Family friend Irma Muniz remembers Kai Shepherd was timid and giggly after she met him last year while shooting a Christmas card photo of the family posing in the woods of Redwood Valley, a community of about 1,800 roughly 70 miles (113 kilometers) north in Mendocino County

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 53 of 70

## 'SHE WAS MY LIFE'

George Powell woke to a wall of fire already bearing down on his Santa Rosa home and immediately yelled to his 72-year-old wife, Lynne Anderson Powell: "Get out!"

Lynne Powell grabbed her border collie, Jemma, which always slept next to her, a laptop and asked for the best way to get off their mountain before jumping in her car.

George Powell left 15 minutes later after fetching his three dogs. George Powell now realizes when he raced down the mountain he drove past his wife's car that had gone off the road and into a ravine in the heavy smoke.

After searching for her all night and the next day, a detective called to tell him a body burned beyond recognition was found steps from her car. Inside was a dog also burned to death.

"If I had known, I would have gone down there with her, even if it meant I would have died with her," George Powell, 74, said. "I don't know how I'm going to cope. She was my life." He repeated: "She was my life."

The couple had been married for 33 years. He was a photojournalist and she was a professional flutist, spending much of her career playing for the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, which operated until 2011.

The two met while she was on vacation in Los Angeles, where George Powell freelanced for newspapers. He said it was "love at first sight" and he moved to New Mexico to be with her. After they retired, they settled in northern California so his wife could take care of her aging parents.

The two shared a love of border collies and entered in agility runs with their dogs. She was an avid quilter. The fire took everything, including her quilts and his life's photo archive.

Lynne Powell did not want a memorial service or obituary. But George Powell said he may hold a special lunch with friends to celebrate her life.

"I don't think I ever felt unloved or uncared for any second of my life with her," he said.

## TOGETHER IN LIFE AND DEATH

Charles Rippey, 100, and his wife, Sara, 98, are the oldest victims of the wine country wildfires identified so far.

Their bodies were found by one of their sons who had made his way past security and found the home in Napa where they had lived for 35 years completely gone. Only two blackened metal chairs, a porcelain tea set of white and soft washes of blue and other small remnants remained to testify to the couple's long life together.

Charles Rippey — who was known by his nickname "Peach" since he was a toddler — appeared to be heading to the room of his wife, who had had a stroke in recent years.

Mike Rippey said his father would have never left his mother. The couple met in grade school and recently celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary with their five children.

"Those of us in the family always would, you know, wonder what would happen if one of them died and the other one was still left because we knew that, you know, there's no way they would ever be happy whoever was the last one and so they went together," Rippey, 71, said as he stood among the charred ruins of their home.

The couple attended the University of Wisconsin and married in 1942 before Charles Rippey served as a U.S. Army engineer in World War II. He then became an executive with the Firestone tire company.

## DEDICATED TO HELPING OTHERS

Christina Hanson, 27, used a wheelchair and spent her life dedicated to helping others despite her own hardships, her family said.

Kelsi Mannhalter had posted on social media asking people to search for her cousin after the fire Monday ravaged Santa Rosa where Hanson lived.

Mannhalter later confirmed on Facebook that Hanson did not survive when the flames consumed her home.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 54 of 70

"Just surreal," Manhalter posted. "I love you so much and am going to miss you sweet cousin. I can't say it enough."

Her father was found collapsed on the street in front of his home with third-degree burns and was taken to a hospital in San Francisco. Hanson had tried unsuccessfully to reach him as flames surrounded her apartment around 1:30 a.m. Monday, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

Hanson was born with a spinal defect and lost her mother at 9 to lupus.

Still, her focus was always on others, her stepmother, Jennifer Watson, told the newspaper, describing her as "a very happy, social and positive person."

Hanson volunteered two days a week at an Alzheimer's residential care facility in Santa Rosa, where she would entertain residents.

She also taught herself sign language and interpreted for the hearing impaired.

"She loved helping people and loved her family," said Watson, who was with her stepdaughter the day before she died.

Her family wrote in an online obituary that Hanson "was granted her angel wings."

## DIED IN HER HUSBAND'S ARMS

In the 55 years they were married, Carmen Caldentey Berriz had spent countless hours in her husband Armando's arms.

In his arms was where the 75-year-old took her last breath on Monday, as he held her afloat in a swimming pool as walls of fire burned around them, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

Carmen had known Armando was the one since she was 12, and the two dated for years before marrying in 1962. By the time Carmen turned 75, their family had grown to include two daughters, a son, their children's spouses and seven grandchildren.

The Berrizes were three days into a vacation at a Santa Rosa rental house with family when son-in-law Luis Ocon woke early Monday morning and saw the fire begin to overtake the neighborhood.

They fled to their cars.

Luis, Monica Ocon, and their daughter made it through the thick smoke and flames and pulled over, watching for Carmen and Armando's car to emerge behind them. It never came.

Armando Berriz's car had gotten stuck on a fallen tree. He told his wife they had to run back to the house to take shelter in the backyard pool.

As flames melted the chaise lounges a few feet away, Carmen clung to Armando, who kept them both afloat by hanging onto the brick sides of the pool.

Armando Berriz held on for hours, even as the brick burned his hands, even as his wife stopped breathing. He let go only after the flames had burned out, laying Carmen on the steps of the pool with her arms carefully crossed over her chest.

He walked 2 miles to find firefighters.

"Everything they did was as a team," daughter Monica Ocon said. "They had this bond and this strength that literally lasted a lifetime."

## ONE LAST PHONE CALL

Linda Tunis moved from Florida to the Journey's End Mobile Home Park in Santa Rosa to be closer to her family. When the northern California wildfires quickly overtook the park, the 69-year-old woman phoned her daughter.

She was trapped, she told her daughter, Jessica Tunis. She was surrounded by fire, and going to die.

Jessica Tunis screamed at her mom to run to safety, to flee the burning home.

"I was telling her I love her when the phone died," Jessica Tunis told the San Francisco Chronicle.

After three days of hope and dread, Jessica's brother Robert Tunis found his mother's remains in the debris where her house once stood.

Linda Tunis was spunky and sweet, Jessica Tunis said Wednesday. She was also fiercely independent,

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 55 of 70

an attitude that wasn't dampened by her health problems. She had failing memory because of a stroke, and had lost the sight in one of her eyes because of high blood pressure.

She loved bingo and the beach, choosing to move California mostly because it brought her nearer to her close-knit family, Jessica Tunis said.

"My mother's remains have been found at her home at Journey's End. May she rest in peace, my sweet Momma," Jessica Tunis posted on Facebook earlier this week.

## A VERY KIND COUPLE

LeRoy and Donna Halbur were married more than 50 years when they died in their Santa Rosa home. They were both 80.

Fox 40 anchor Paul Robins posted on his Facebook page that he spoke to LeRoy Halbur hours before the fire swept the neighborhood.

"He had stopped by the house as our family was gathered celebrating my mom's birthday, bringing some of the last tomatoes from his garden," he wrote in his post.

Robins said LeRoy Halbur was an adventurous traveler who had recently given up globe-trotting to look after his ailing wife.

Halbur helped found the Sonoma County branch of the Catholic charity St. Vincent de Paul and was a member of its board.

Jack Tibbetts, executive director of St. Vincent de Paul district council of Sonoma County, told the San Francisco Chronicle Halbur had a great sense of humor and a smile that reflected his compassion.

## Las Vegas gunman targeted responding police, jet fuel tanks

By KEN RITTER, Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The gunman who sprayed more than 1,000 bullets into a Las Vegas country music concert also took shots at jet fuel tanks and targeted police officers responding to the scene, investigators said Friday in portraying a killer who seemed determined to inflict even more carnage than the 58 people he murdered.

Investigators gave more details on the chronology of events surrounding the shooting and pushed back against criticism that they were changing their story. Shifting accounts about when Stephen Paddock fired his first shots in his 32nd floor Mandalay Bay suite have led to questions about whether police could have done more to stop him on Oct. 1.

"In the public space, the word 'incompetent' has been brought forward," Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said. "I am absolutely offended with that characterization."

In a chronology provided Monday, Lombardo had said Paddock started spraying 200 rounds from his suite into the hallway of the Mandalay Bay at 9:59 p.m., wounding an unarmed security guard in the leg. He said Friday that the security guard came to a barricaded stairwell door at 9:59 and wasn't shot until around 10:05 p.m.

About that time, the gunman unleashed a barrage of bullets on the festival crowd. Then he killed himself with a gunshot to the head.

The timeline comes as investigators say they have yet to identify a motive behind the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history. The FBI says agents have conducted hundreds of interviews, chased nearly 2,000 leads, looked at Paddock's computers and phone, collected 1,000 pieces of evidence, and analyzed hours of video footage.

"We are establishing a timeline of this suspect's life, his motivation and everybody associated with him throughout time," Lombardo said.

The sheriff became emotional describing gunshot wounds one on-duty officer, Brady Cook, received to the shoulder, bicep, chest and back as he arrived in a police patrol car moments after shooting started.

"It is readily apparent to me that (Paddock) adjusted his fire and directed it toward the police vehicles," Lombardo said. "No matter what his personal vendetta is against the police or not, maybe he was pre-

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 56 of 70

venting the wolf from getting to his door sooner than later, but he chose to fire upon police vehicles.”

A visual inspection of Paddock’s brain during a coroner’s autopsy found “no abnormalities,” Lombardo said.

Paddock’s body is being sent to Stanford University for study, Clark County Coroner John Fudenberg said. He added he would await findings of multiple forensic analyses, including a neuropathological examination of Paddock’s brain tissue, before issuing a finding on a cause and manner of his death. That ruling is not expected for several months, the coroner said.

The sheriff, who has become a regular fixture on news channels since the shooting, also said the FBI is now taking on a greater role in the investigation

Lombardo’s newest version of events aligns with what Mandalay Bay owner MGM Resorts International said Thursday. They had disputed whether six minutes actually passed between the first shots in the hallway and the start of the concert rampage and said Paddock may have wounded the security guard within 40 seconds of firing into the crowd.

Earlier this week, lawyers had questioned why police and security weren’t able to stop Paddock sooner when Lombardo said six minutes passed between the shooting of guard Jesus Campos and the gunfire into a crowd of 22,000 at the Route 91 Harvest Festival concert.

The 10-minute attack on the crowd began at 10:05 p.m., when the 64-year-old real estate investor, high-stakes video poker player and retired accountant began firing more than 1,000 rounds from two bashed-out windows, police said. Officers arrived on the 32nd floor at 10:17 p.m., two minutes after he had stopped shooting, Lombardo said.

The wounded Campos used his radio and cellphone to call for help, police said. A maintenance worker, Stephen Schuck, has said he also called for help on his radio, asking a dispatcher to call police because someone was shooting a rifle on the 32nd floor.

It’s not clear what Mandalay Bay maintenance and security workers did with those radio messages.

The timeline given by police earlier this week differed dramatically from the one they gave last week: that Paddock wounded Campos after he had fired on the crowd. Campos was called a hero whose presence outside Paddock’s suite stopped the concert carnage.

Lombardo confirmed that Paddock intentionally opened fire on jet fuel tanks at the nearby McCarran International Airport and said he took shots at arriving police officers, possibly to keep them at bay as police rushed to his room.

The FBI continues to seek the public’s help in solving the case.

“We continue to ask you if you have factual information in furtherance of this investigation, please call us. If you know something, say something,” FBI Special Agent in Charge Aaron Rouse said.

---

Associated Press writers Michael Balsamo in New York and Sadie Gurman in Washington contributed to this report.

---

For complete coverage of the Las Vegas shooting, click here: <https://apnews.com/tag/LasVegasmassshooting> .

## Trump won’t pull out of ‘worst’ Iran nuclear deal \_ for now

By MATTHEW LEE, AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Friday angrily accused Iran of violating the landmark 2015 international nuclear accord, blaming the Iranians for a litany of sinister behavior and hitting their main military wing with anti-terror penalties. But Trump, breaking his campaign pledge to rip up the agreement, did not pull the U.S. out or re-impose nuclear sanctions.

He still might, he was quick to add. For now, he’s tossing the issue to Congress and the other world powers in the accord, telling lawmakers to toughen the law that governs U.S. participation and calling on the other parties to fix a series of deficiencies. Those include the scheduled expiration of key restrictions under “sunset provisions” that begin to kick in in 2025, as well as the omission of provisions on ballistic



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 57 of 70

missile testing and terrorism.

Without the fixes, Trump warned, he would likely pull the U.S. out of the deal — which he has called the worst in U.S. history — and slap previously lifted U.S. sanctions back into place. That would probably be a fatal blow for the accord.

“Our participation can be canceled by me, as president, at any time,” Trump declared in a carefully delivered speech read from a teleprompter in the Diplomatic Reception Room at the White House. He added later, speaking of Congress, “They may come back with something that’s very satisfactory to me, and if they don’t, within a very short period of time, I’ll terminate the deal.”

Under U.S. law, Trump faces a Sunday deadline to certify to Congress whether Iran is complying with the accord. That notification must take place every 90 days, a timetable that Trump detests. Since taking office, he has twice reluctantly certified that Iran is fulfilling its commitments.

On Friday, he said he would not do so again.

Trump alone cannot actually terminate the accord, which lifted sanctions on Iran in exchange for concessions regarding its nuclear program. But withdrawing the U.S. would render the deal virtually meaningless.

That would be risky, though, and could badly damage U.S. credibility in future international negotiations. The accord was struck after 18 months of negotiations between the Obama administration, Iran, Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the European Union and then endorsed by a unanimous vote in the U.N. Security Council.

Trump’s main national security aides have all argued for staying in the deal. So have key allies in Europe who are leery of altering an accord that they believe has prevented Iran from assembling an arsenal of atomic weapons.

Overseas reaction to Friday’s speech was swift.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said that his country would continue to stick to the nuclear deal and that the U.S. was isolating itself, “more lonely than ever,” by condemning the accord.

Indeed, the leaders of Britain, Germany and France urged Trump in a joint statement not to do anything rash.

“We encourage the U.S. administration and Congress to consider the implications to the security of the U.S. and its allies before taking any steps that might undermine the (deal), such as re-imposing sanctions on Iran lifted under the agreement,” they said. Still, they added, “Independent of the (deal) we need to make sure that our collective wider concerns are being addressed.”

In Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu praised Trump and said the U.S. president had created an opportunity to “fix this bad deal” and roll back Iran’s aggression. Netanyahu has long warned that the accord failed to address Iran’s support for militant groups who act against Israel.

Trump opened his speech by reciting a long list of grievances with Iran dating back to the 1979 Islamic Revolution and the seizure of the U.S. Embassy and American hostages in Tehran. He then noted terrorist attacks against Americans and American allies committed by Iranian proxies, such as Hezbollah, and Iran’s ongoing ballistic missile tests.

“We cannot and will not make this certification” that Iran is complying with the accord, he said. “We will not continue down a path whose predictable conclusion is more violence, more terror and the very real threat of Iran’s nuclear breakout.”

But “decertifying” the deal stops well short of pulling out and simply moves the issues over to Congress. Lawmakers now have 60 days to decide whether to put the accord’s previous sanctions back into place, modify them or do nothing.

Republicans face a heavy lift in rallying GOP lawmakers and Democrats behind legislation that would make the accord more stringent and please Trump. Some GOP senators, like Marco Rubio of Florida, question whether the pact can be fixed.

Further complicating matters, a GOP lawmaker who will be at the center of what’s sure to be a stormy debate is Bob Corker of Tennessee, who recently compared Trump’s White House to “an adult day care center” and said the president could be setting the U.S. on a path toward World War III.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 58 of 70

Ahead of Trump's speech, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said the administration wants lawmakers to come up with legislation that would automatically re-impose sanctions that were lifted under the deal should Iran cross any one of numerous nuclear and non-nuclear "trigger points."

Those would include illicit atomic work or ballistic missile testing; support for Syrian President Bashar Assad, Lebanon's Hezbollah movement and other groups that destabilize the region, or human rights abuses and cyber warfare, Tillerson said.

Also Friday, Trump said he was hitting Iran's Revolutionary Guard with sanctions for supporting terrorism. But the U.S. is not adding the Guard to the formal U.S. list of foreign terrorist organizations. That step would force the U.S. to take even further steps against the Guard that Tillerson says could be problematic.

AP writers Deb Riechmann and Richard Lardner contributed to this report.

## Texas couple survives being stranded 6 days in rural Utah

By BRADY McCOMBS, Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A Texas couple who set out for a day trip to Lake Powell while on vacation in southern Utah ended up narrowly surviving six harrowing days stranded on a rocky, desolate dirt road that was impassable in their rental car, authorities said Friday.

Helena Byler, 78, was found lying on the road Oct. 2 by a rancher who happened to be checking on his cattle in the area of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Kane County Chief Deputy Alan Alldredge said. She was confused and severely dehydrated.

Search and rescue teams aboard a helicopter found her husband, Gerald Byler, 76, later that day in a trailer he took shelter in after spotting an SOS sign made out of rocks and flowers that was nearby. He was severely dehydrated and unable to move, but could speak with rescuers.

Gerald Byler remained hospitalized Friday in St. George, where he is in good condition in a neuro specialty rehabilitation unit at Dixie Regional Medical Center, said hospital spokeswoman McKoye Mecham. Helena Byler only had to spend one night in the hospital.

The couple from Houston may not have survived one more day in the extremely remote area with no cellphone coverage where it's normal to go a full week without any cars using the road, Alldredge said. They had hardly any food or water, drinking only from puddles that formed in the ground after rains.

"It's an amazing story," Alldredge said.

The couple left their motel in a small town of Kanab, Utah, in the morning on Sept. 26 to drive to Lake Powell in a rental sedan and took a rocky dirt road while following directions from a GPS-mapping app, he said. The dirt road that winds through a small canyon has large rocks and 18-inch drops at some points, Alldredge said. The couple turned around when they realized they were on the wrong road, but they couldn't get out.

Helena Byler said Friday in an interview at the hospital that she sensed they were on the wrong road, but that her husband insisted on continuing, KSL-TV reports.

"I told Gerry, 'Sweetheart, this doesn't sound right.' And he said, 'No it's OK' ... He wanted to continue. See, us women know better," she said, chuckling.

After popping a tire and getting stuck, they realized the GPS app was leading them to Lake Powell trail, not the lake, Helena Byler said. They started walking back on the road and spent the first night in the open as it rained and lightning struck nearby, she said.

The next morning, Gerald Byler couldn't go on, his leg hurting too much, so she set out to get help.

"We had to do something about it, so when the GPS said 16 miles, I said, 'I can do 16 miles,'" Helena Byler said. "I guessed I would do what I saw on the History Channel, drinking your own urine."

Helena Byler kept walking to get help, but she didn't see anyone until five days later when the rancher found her.

She told rescuers that she had talked to dispatchers on the phone, saw a helicopter coming to rescue her husband and was in granite building and talking to other people — all of which authorities believe

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 59 of 70

were hallucinations triggered by her lack of food and water. Investigators believe she may have even spent a couple of days in a trailer nearby the one her husband was found in without knowing he was nearby.

Gerald Byler said there was no heat or water in the trailer, but that he was protected from the wind. He said he hung his towel on the side of the fence in hopes that would let someone know he needed help because he has heard people told to do that in the Houston floods.

He said he won't let the experience stop him from returning to Utah, but quipped: "But I'll do a little more planning next time."

The best route to Lake Powell from Kanab is on established highways, but it's not the first time tourists have gotten stuck on treacherous dirt roads that their GPS mapping apps thought would be shortcuts, Alldredge said. He said his agency frequently rescues tourists stuck on dirt roads.

"GPS apps are great. But out here in rural Utah, they sometimes get you in trouble," Alldredge said.

## France's Audrey Azoulay wins vote to be next UNESCO chief

By THOMAS ADAMSON, Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — UNESCO's executive board voted Friday to make a former French government minister the U.N. cultural agency's next chief after an unusually heated election that was overshadowed by Middle East tensions.

The board's selection of Audrey Azoulay over a Qatari candidate came the day after the United States announced that it intends to pull out of UNESCO because of its alleged anti-Israel bias.

The news rocked a weeklong election already marked by geopolitical resentments, concerns about the Paris-based agency's dwindling funding and questions about its future purpose.

If confirmed by UNESCO's general assembly next month, Azoulay will succeed outgoing Director-General Irina Bokova of Bulgaria, whose eight-year term was marred by financial woes and criticism over Palestine's inclusion in 2011 as a member state.

Azoulay narrowly beat Qatar's Hamad bin Abdulaziz al-Kawari in the final 30-28 vote after she won a runoff with a third finalist from Egypt earlier Friday. The outcome was a blow for Arab states that have long wanted to lead the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

UNESCO has had European, Asian, African and American chiefs, but never one from an Arab country.

In brief remarks after she won the election, Azoulay, 45, said the response to UNESCO's problems should be to reform the agency, not to walk away from it.

"In this moment of crisis, I believe we must invest in UNESCO more than ever, look to support and re-inforce it, and to reform it. And not leave it," she said.

The new director will set priorities for the organization best known for its World Heritage program to protect cultural sites and traditions. The agency also works to improve education for girls, promote an understanding of the Holocaust's horrors, defend media freedom and coordinate science on climate change.

The next leader also will have to contend with the withdrawal of both the U.S. and Israel, which applauded its ally for defending it and said Thursday that it also would be leaving UNESCO.

The election itself had become highly politicized even before the U.S. announced its planned departure.

Azoulay started the week with much less support than Qatar's al-Kawari but built up backing as other candidates dropped out. She went on to win a runoff with a third finalist, Moushira Khattab of Egypt. Egypt's foreign ministry has demanded an inquiry into alleged "violations" during the voting.

Jewish groups opposed al-Kawari, citing a preface he wrote to a 2013 Arabic book called "Jerusalem in the Eyes of the Poets" that they claimed was anti-Semitic. He wrote, "We pray to God to liberate (Jerusalem) from captivity and we pray to God to give Muslims the honor of liberating it."

In March, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre wrote an open letter to German Ambassador Michael Worbs, chair of the UNESCO Executive Board, to criticize the organization for accepting the former Qatari culture minister's candidacy.

During the months leading up to the election, Egypt and three other Arab nations were engaged in a boycott of Qatar over allegations that the government funds extremists and has overly warm ties to Iran.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 60 of 70

French media reported that Qatar recently invited several members of the UNESCO executive board on an all-expenses-paid trip to the country's capital, Doha.

Azoulay's late entry into the leadership race in March also annoyed many UNESCO member states that argued that France shouldn't field a candidate since it hosts the agency. Arab intellectuals urged French President Emmanuel Macron to withdraw his support for her.

She will be UNESCO's second female chief and its second French chief after Rene Maheu, UNESCO's director general from 1961-74. While she is Jewish, her father is Moroccan and was an influential adviser to Moroccan kings, so she also has a connection to the Arab world.

The Trump administration had been preparing for a likely withdrawal from UNESCO for months, but the timing of the State Department's announcement that it would leave at the end of 2018 was unexpected. Along with hostility to Israel, the U.S. cited "the need for fundamental reform in the organization."

The outgoing Bokova expressed "profound regret" at the U.S. decision and defended UNESCO's reputation.

The U.S. stopped funding UNESCO after it voted to include Palestine as a member state in 2011, but the State Department has maintained a UNESCO office and sought to weigh in on policy behind the scenes. UNESCO says the U.S. now owes about \$550 million in back payments.

Azoulay acknowledged the image of the organization — founded after World War II to foster peace, but marred by infighting between Arab member states and Israel and its allies — needed rebuilding.

"The first thing I will do will be to focus on restoring its credibility," she said.

While UNESCO's general assembly must sign off month on the executive board's leadership pick, but officials said the confirmation vote typically is a formality.

Masha Macpherson contributed to this report.

## Facing populism, world finance chiefs defend globalization

By **MARTIN CRUTSINGER** and **PAUL WISEMAN**, AP Economics Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Global finance officials on Friday defended their efforts to promote free trade and closer international links against a rising ride of populism around the world and criticism from a Trump administration intent on pursuing its "America First" agenda.

Finance ministers from the world's major economies wrapped up two days of talks with German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble saying that the G-20's efforts represented a solid response to unhappiness over globalization.

Schaeuble said a year ago people were talking about the "swan song of multilateral cooperation," but now with the global economy beginning to grow at a faster clip "we see that things are not as bad as predicted."

The G-20 did not issue a closing communique, but Schaeuble, who served as the group's leader because Germany holds the rotating chairmanship this year, said he and his colleagues were united in their commitment to promoting economic initiatives that will foster stronger growth. Other leaders said that higher growth was essential to combat a widening income gap in many countries.

Schaeuble told a news conference it was wrong to interpret as a repudiation of globalization Britain's vote to leave the European Union, the populist anger that led to Donald Trump's election in the United States, and in Germany, parliamentary gains for a far right party when Chancellor Angela Merkel returned to power with a reduced majority last month.

The finance minister also disputed reports of growing tensions inside the G-20 over new U.S. demands for a tougher stance on trade violators that Trump contends have cost millions of American jobs.

Schaeuble said talks with the U.S. this week were "much more relaxed" than those earlier this year, soon after Trump took office. The United States was represented at the finance meetings by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen.

The G-20 discussions served as a prelude to the annual meetings of the 189-nation International Monetary Fund and its sister lending organization, the World Bank. Officials of those organizations told the finance

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 61 of 70

officials that it was important that all countries strive to promote faster global growth.

"It often feels like our increasingly interconnected world is in fact falling apart and countries and peoples are pulling away from each other," World Bank President Jim Yong Kim said Friday.

Kim said it should be understood that the IMF and the World Bank both represented a "part of the post-1945 world order that was predicated on the notion that what affects one city, one country, one region can have immediate and lasting impacts on us all."

IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde told the finance officials that the global economy is expected to turn in the best growth in six years. She said this "offers us a major opportunity to secure the recovery and to expand it to those who are not yet benefiting, and to include those who are excluded or are at the risk of being excluded."

Behind the scenes, the United States did find itself at odds on some major issues confronting the two multilateral lending institutions.

The Trump administration is balking at the current outlines of a World Bank request for more money to finance its lending programs.

A senior U.S. Treasury Department official previewing the meetings earlier this week told reporters the bank needs to provide financing "to countries that need it" instead of continuing to lend heavily to China, the world's second-biggest economy. On Friday, Kim warned that without more funding the bank may be forced to slash its main lending program by a third.

In remarks prepared for the World Bank's steering committee, Mnuchin said, "More capital is not the solution when existing capital is not allocated effectively."

The finance discussions were scheduled to wrap up on Saturday with meetings of the policy-setting councils of both the IMF and the World Bank.

IMF forecasters expect the global economy to expand 3.6 percent this year, the fastest pace since 2010.

But Lagarde said many workers are still seeing wages stagnate and their jobs replaced or threatened by technology. And many countries are seeing a widening income gap between rich and poor. "The result is growing political tensions in many places and increased skepticism about the benefits of globalization," Lagarde told reporters at an opening news conference on Thursday.

## 'Star Wars' fantasy? Cubans doubt US sonic attacks claims

By **MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN** and **ANDREA RODRIGUEZ**, Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — A bizarre string of attacks on diplomats in Havana has sent Cuban-American relations to their lowest point in decades, with the Trump administration virtually closing its embassy here and expelling Cuban officials from Washington. But few people on this communist-run island believe a word of the U.S. allegations.

Despite increasingly tough talk by the U.S., including White House Chief of Staff John Kelly saying Thursday that Cuba "could stop the attacks on our diplomats," the common reaction in Havana is mocking disbelief.

"It isn't the first or the last excuse that they invent to discredit Cuba and its leaders," lawyer Alexander Tamame, 36, said as he walked through the Vedado neighborhood in this city where the U.S. says at least 22 strange episodes have occurred over the last year. "I don't think anything really happened."

This skepticism stretches from government supporters like Tamame to its detractors; from fans of the United States to those wary of the giant to the north. Talk to anyone, anywhere in the country about the U.S. allegations that Cuba bears responsibility for attacks with a strange sonic weapon that have affected at least 22 embassy officials or spouses — some very seriously — and you'll likely be met with laughter.

"I don't believe any part of it," said Luis Felipe Gonzalez, a 59-year-old taxi driver, as he waited for customers nearby. "It's absurd propaganda."

American officials say embassy officials began hearing strange, high-pitched shrieking noises in their homes last year, with many soon after reporting severe symptoms including deafness, vision problems and difficulty concentrating. Despite unprecedented Cuban cooperation with a U.S. investigation, the Trump administration says President Raul Castro's government has failed to guarantee that Americans will be

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 62 of 70

safe in Cuba.

Some Havana residents took a mocking tone.

"It sounds like Star Wars," said Dayan Rosete, a 23-year-old language student, as he stood chatting with a friend in front of the Habana Libre hotel.

Cuban skepticism reflects an increasingly assertive stance by President Raul's Castro's government, which has gone in three months from issuing statements of deep concern about the attacks to questioning whether they even occurred. While the Cuban media diet has diversified with the spread of internet access around the country over the last three years, most Cubans still get their news from state-controlled media that function fundamentally as outlets for such statements from the government.

The Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations said after the attacks became public in August that "Cuba has addressed the matter with the utmost seriousness and has acted swiftly and professionally to clear up the situation."

It ended its statement saying the government "reiterates its willingness to cooperate to clear up the situation."

In September, Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez requested an urgent meeting with Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, leading State Department officials to surmise that he might be coming with information uncovered by Cuba about what had occurred, or other new developments to share with the U.S., an official familiar with the meeting said. Instead, Rodriguez once again said Cuba hadn't committed the attacks and don't know who did. Rodriguez also appealed to Tillerson not to overreact by closing down the embassy, as Tillerson had said was under consideration, according to the U.S. official, who wasn't authorized to discuss the meeting publicly and requested anonymity.

By the time the U.S. pulled staff from Havana last month and expelled Cubans a few days later, Rodriguez was striking a different tone, calling the attacks "alleged incidents" and blaming the United States for impeding the investigation by failing to share information with Cuba.

Other Cuban officials went even further.

"Even Star Wars didn't contain such fantasies," Raul Castro's daughter Mariela, a legislator and head of Cuba's sexual education agency, said in a Sept. 26 interview with Al Mayadeen, a Beirut-based pan-Arab news agency close to Hezbollah and the Syrian government. The American government, she said, "will use any lie, any absurdity, to justify their political vandalism."

The same tone was struck on Sunday by Miguel Diaz-Canel, the first vice president widely expected to succeed Raul Castro when he steps down as president in February.

"A few spokespeople and media outlets have lent themselves to divulging bizarre nonsense without the slightest evidence, with the perverse intention of discrediting Cuba's impeccable behavior," Diaz-Canel said in a speech in the central city of Santa Clara.

The government rhetoric is echoing in public opinion about one of the worst diplomatic crises between the U.S. and Cuba since Cuba shot down two planes operated by Cuban-American exiles in 1996, provoking stiff new sanctions from the U.S.

Cubans' doubts have been infused with rising anger since the U.S., along with the decision to reduce more than half its diplomatic staff in Havana, stopped issuing visas there and warned Americans against traveling to Cuba.

The halt has dashed tens of thousands of Cubans' hopes of visiting family abroad in the coming months, and dealt a grave blow to a burgeoning private tourism industry that had been flush with American cash. "We're the victims here," Gonzalez, the taxi driver, said.

---

Michael Weissenstein on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/mweissenstein>

---

Associated Press writer Josh Lederman in Washington contributed to this report.

## Boy dies, man survives California wildfire 'nuclear blast'

By AMY TAXIN, Associated Press

When flames swept over the mountain like a "nuclear blast," Paul Hanssen ran from his burning home, a water-soaked towel around his head and dog by his side, and took shelter in a trailer. He waited nervously for two long hours as winds howled and embers flew by.

When the fire passed, he emerged, parched with thirst. He went to a nearby spring for water and screamed to see if anyone else was around.

No one answered.

Hanssen hurried toward his neighbors' house, where he found Sara Shepherd and her 17-year-old daughter, Kressa, lying on the ground, more than half their bodies burned. He called 911 and took water from a hot water heater left in the charred remnants of the family's home, squeezing drops into their mouths with the towel from his head.

"It was the most gut-wrenching, heartbreaking thing I've ever seen in my life," he said. "They were so thirsty, and I knew how they felt because I just went through that thirst."

Farther down the mountain, Hanssen found Shepherd's 14-year-old son, Kai. The eighth-grader at Eagle Peak Middle School, who loved baseball and wrestling, did not survive.

First responders found Kai's father, Jon Shepherd, separately, on the mountain. He was also badly burned but alive.

The wildfires that started late Sunday and swept across a wide area north of San Francisco are the deadliest and most destructive the state has ever seen. While much of the devastation is in Sonoma and Napa counties, the heart of California's wine country, fire also wiped out a swath of Redwood Valley, a community of about 1,800 roughly 70 miles (113 kilometers) north in Mendocino County.

Sara, 40, and Jon Shepherd, 44, finished building their dream home there two years ago on a long, winding road up a mountain where they could garden and raise their two children.

Now, the house is gone, their son is dead and the couple and their daughter are hospitalized in three different Northern California burn centers.

"Our minds are swirling," said Mindi Ramos, Sara's sister. "We've lost our nephew. Everyone is in critical care right now. We don't know if Sara or Jon — we don't know what they remember. We don't know if they know that Kai is gone."

Ramos, who grew up in the tight-knit community, said her family got a call from the Shepherds around 1 a.m. Monday to let them know they were evacuating. Time passed and when they didn't hear more, Ramos' parents grew nervous and checked the hospital in the nearby town of Ukiah.

It was then, Ramos said, that they learned their son-in-law had been brought in for burns. They later found out about the other family members.

Hanssen, a 46-year-old construction worker and sculptor, said he spoke with Jon Shepherd by phone shortly after they got a call to evacuate as flames lapped on the ridge across the valley. Shepherd said he was leaving with his wife and children. Hanssen decided to stay, hoping to save his home.

But the fire sped across the mountain too quickly, pushed by fierce winds. Within a half-hour, the windows blew in and everything inside Hanssen's home was on fire.

"It was like a nuclear blast wave that hit," he said. "The embers were insane. They penetrated everything and set everything on fire."

Hanssen retreated to the trailer and shut himself in with his dog. At one point, he stepped out and grabbed a piece of hose that held some trapped water, then soaked himself and resumed hiding.

When the winds died down, Hanssen came out. Everything had burned. Water tanks had melted.

The only things left were the trailer that sheltered him and a backhoe.

"I really should be dead right now, and the only reason I lived was an act of God, or something," he said.

The Shepherds had tried to drive down the mountain to escape the fire. Their two charred vehicles were blocking the road, doors still ajar from when they apparently abandoned them and fled on foot, Hanssen said.

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 64 of 70

Irma Muniz, Sara Shepherd's childhood friend who lives in Redwood Valley, evacuated with her family when a neighbor knocked on her door early Monday and told them to get out. Her house burned to the ground.

The 40-year-old photographer, who is 38 weeks pregnant with her third child, is now staying in a trailer on a friend's property.

She remembers driving up to the Shepherds' home last year to take photos of the family for a Christmas card. It was the first time she had met the children and remembers how Kai was timid, giggling as she had the family pose in the woods.

Now, the surviving Shepherds face a lengthy road to recovery. Kressa Shepherd, a Ukiah High School junior and talented artist, had both legs amputated beneath her knees, Ramos said.

Relatives are raising money to cover medical expenses and to prepare to eventually bring the family to live with Sara Shepherd's parents in Redwood Valley. Neighbors have offered to help retrofit the house to make it wheelchair accessible, Ramos said.

She said the Shepherds could not get fire insurance for their home due to its remote location.

Hanssen is staying with a friend in Pacifica, near San Francisco, thankful he survived and that his two children weren't with him at the time.

"I lost everything that didn't matter and I kept everything that did," he said of his family. "I'm not going to go back up on the mountain anytime soon."

## Suspect in 4 Ohio slayings arrested while walking along road

By KANTELE FRANKO, Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Unarmed, worn out and ready to give up, the suspect in the fatal shootings of three adults and a 7-year-old boy didn't try to flee when officers arrested him Friday as he walked along a road in far southern Ohio, a sheriff said.

Officers were acting on a tip from a resident who spotted 23-year-old Arron Lawson. Authorities had said he fled into the woods Thursday, shortly after midnight.

Lawson is an outdoorsman and hunter who liked being in the woods, but "I think he was just plumb worn out from being out in the elements" during a manhunt that spanned two cool nights, Lawrence County Sheriff Jeffery Lawless said.

The sheriff wouldn't discuss any potential motive or the chronology of the slayings, and he declined to disclose what Lawson said to the arresting officers. Lawson was wearing a camouflage jacket, but the sheriff said investigators hadn't determined whether it was his or an item he stole while on the run.

Lawson is being held on charges of murder and aggravated murder. It wasn't immediately clear whether he has an attorney.

He was arrested roughly 12 miles (19 kilometers) south of where authorities found three adults dead in a house trailer on Wednesday evening. The sheriff identified them Friday as a 28-year-old resident of the home, Stacey Jackson, and two relatives who lived at a property on the same road, 50-year-old Donald McGuire and 43-year-old Tammie McGuire.

The father of 7-year-old victim Devin Holston came upon the scene after work, was stabbed and fled the home to seek help. He was flown to a hospital in Huntington, West Virginia, and is recovering well, Lawless said.

Devin initially was the subject of a missing-child alert after the adults were discovered. Authorities spent hours searching for him, only to later find him dead in the same house trailer, his body apparently hidden, Lawless said.

A few relatives of the victims said after the arrest that they had seen no sign or warning of such violence by Lawson, who lived up the road from the trailer home.

Lawson was being questioned by investigators Friday and could face more charges, the sheriff said.

Agents from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation have been helping Lawrence County with the investigation, BCI spokeswoman Jill Del Greco said.



# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 65 of 70

The initial report about the slayings — violence against multiple people believed to be related — recalled details from a still-unsolved homicide case that rattled rural southern Ohio last year, but the cases didn't appear to be connected, Del Greco said.

The deaths on Wednesday occurred roughly 40 miles (64 kilometers) southeast of the Piketon area, where eight people from the Rhoden family were found shot to death in four homes in April 2016.

Associated Press writer Mark Gillispie in Cleveland contributed to this report.

Find Kantele Franko on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/kantele10> and her work at <http://bit.ly/2qEaebN>.

## Trump, unlikely religious favorite, hails Christian values

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's evolution from twice-divorced casino owner viewed warily by Christian conservatives to evangelical favorite defending religious liberty was on full display Friday as he promised conservatives a return to traditional American values, including restoring "Merry Christmas" to the national discourse.

Trump, the first sitting president to address the Values Voter Summit, ticked off the promises he's fulfilled to evangelical Christians and other conservatives, pledging to turn back the clock in what he described as a nation that has drifted away from its religious roots.

"How times have changed, but you know what, now they are changing back again, just remember that," Trump told the cheering crowd.

It was a far cry from the skeptical welcome Trump received when he first addressed the group as a neophyte politician in 2015. With questions swirling then about whether he could appeal to evangelicals over conservative candidates like Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, Trump held a Bible aloft and declared: "I believe in God. I believe in the Bible. I'm a Christian."

Trump appeared before the group again last September, in the electoral stretch run usually devoted to wooing undecided voters, and aimed his pitch toward his religious base. Though he avoided some hot-button social issues like same-sex marriage and abortion, he vowed his support for Israel, an important issue for evangelicals, and said it was the "dream" of the Islamic State for his opponent Hillary Clinton to be elected president.

This time, he had the crowd won over before he stepped onstage.

He bemoaned the use of the phrase "Happy Holidays" as a secular seasonal greeting and vowed a return to "Merry Christmas."

He noted, as Christian conservatives often do, that there are four references to the "creator" in the Declaration of Independence, saying "religious liberty is enshrined" in the nation's founding documents.

"I pledged that in a Trump administration, our nation's religious heritage would be cherished, protected and defended like you have never seen before," Trump said. "Above all else in America, we don't worship government. We worship God."

Trump stressed his move to weaken the Johnson Amendment, which limited political activity or endorsements by religious groups that received tax exemptions, as well as his administration's effort to expand the rights of employers to deny women insurance coverage for birth control. The White House has also issued sweeping guidance on religious freedom that critics have said could erode civil rights protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

Trump waded again into the cultural war that has captured his attention in recent weeks, declaring to loud applause that "we respect our great American flag," a not-too-subtle reference to his repeated denunciations of NFL players who have taken to kneeling during the national anthem.

But Trump also struck several empathetic notes, offering condolences to the victims of the Las Vegas mass shooting with a quote from scripture and pledging support to the people of Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico, which have been ravaged by recent hurricanes. His kind words for Puerto Rico — which included a

morning tweet in which he vowed to “always” be with its residents — stood in stark contrast to his tweets the day before, when he declared that federal personnel would not be able to stay “forever” to help the island. Puerto Rico remains largely without power weeks after the storm.

Follow Lemire on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire> and Thomas at <http://twitter.com/@KThomasDC>

## AP Explains: What is Iran’s Revolutionary Guard?

By JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Iran’s paramilitary Revolutionary Guard faces new sanctions from U.S. President Donald Trump as he accuses the country of violating the spirit of the 2015 nuclear deal between Tehran and world powers. But what is this organization?

### BORN IN REVOLUTION

The Guard formed out of Iran’s 1979 Islamic Revolution as a force meant to protect its Shiite-cleric-overseen government and later enshrined in its constitution. It operated parallel to the country’s regular armed forces, growing in prominence and power during a long and ruinous war with Iraq in the 1980s. Though facing possible disbandment after the war, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei allowed it to thrive, granting it powers to expand into private enterprise. The Guard answers only to Iran’s supreme leader.

### WARS ABROAD

One of the main reasons the U.S. is targeting the Guard is its expeditionary Quds — or Jerusalem — Force. That force is headed by Gen. Qassem Soleimani, who has risen to prominence by advising forces fighting the Islamic State group in Iraq and in Syria on behalf of embattled Syrian President Bashar Assad. U.S. officials say the Guard under Soleimani taught Iraqi militants how to manufacture and use especially deadly roadside bombs against U.S. troops after the 2003 invasion of Iraq. Iran has denied that. Soleimani himself remains popular among many Iranians, who see him as a selfless hero fighting Iran’s enemies abroad.

### TENSE NAVAL ENCOUNTERS

The U.S. Navy regularly has direct, tense encounters with Revolutionary Guard vessels in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow waterway at the Gulf’s mouth through which a third of all oil traded by sea passes. Its speedboats race alongside U.S. aircraft carriers, while it also has flown drones over U.S. warships and near U.S. fighter jets. Those encounters have stepped up since the 2015 nuclear deal, a direct sign of hard-liners’ displeasure over any warming ties with the West. Iran has more than 2,000 kilometers (1,240 miles) of shoreline facing the Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

### BALLISTIC MISSILES

The Guard oversees Iran’s ballistic missile program and has conducted several tests since the nuclear deal. While the atomic accord does not specifically stop those tests, U.S. officials have said they violate the spirit of the deal. The missiles can reach Israel, an American ally in the region. In March 2016, the Guard launched a ballistic missile bearing the words “Israel must be wiped out” in Hebrew. Iranian President Hassan Rouhani criticized the Guard over such missile launches during his re-election campaign this year, but has since embraced the group.

### DUAL NATIONALS TARGETED

The Guard also operates its own intelligence services and has been behind a series of arrests and convictions of dual nationals and those with Western ties on espionage charges in closed hearings. The United Nations recently criticized Iran over the detentions, calling it an “emerging pattern” since the nuclear deal.

Follow Jon Gambrell on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/jongambrellap](http://www.twitter.com/jongambrellap). His work can be found at <http://apnews/2galNpz>.

## **GOP's Susan Collins to stay in Senate, ditches governor run**

**By DAVID SHARP, Associated Press**

ROCKPORT, Maine (AP) — Republican U.S. Sen. Susan Collins announced Friday that she won't run for governor because she believes she can do more good by remaining in Washington, where she serves as an important swing vote.

Her announcement was welcomed by supporters who view her as an important check on President Donald Trump, with whom she's crossed on the GOP's health care proposal.

"My voice and vote really matter in Washington right now. The Senate is closely divided and I am able to make a difference," Collins, 64, told The Associated Press after a local chamber breakfast.

Speculation about Collins' political future has been swirling for more than a year in her home state, where the moderate remains popular even as the Maine GOP has become more conservative. Collins acknowledged it was a difficult decision, one that she'd struggled over.

The only Republican senator from New England has found herself among a dwindling number of GOP centrists like Arizona's John McCain who are willing to work across the aisle. But she's not afraid to buck her own party: She introduced a bill to let transgender people serve in the military and opposed efforts to kill the Affordable Care Act without a replacement.

In Washington, she's been a consistent thorn in the side of Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, as her willingness to go her own way has left him short of votes on key bills, most prominently his efforts to repeal "Obamacare."

On Friday, McConnell praised Collins for choosing to remain in the Senate, saying she "brings conviction, smarts and leadership to every issue." Maine's other senator, independent Angus King who caucuses with the Democrats, called her "a champion for the state of Maine."

Collins spent much of her announcement touting the importance of finding bipartisan solutions to make health care affordable for all. She said her fellow lawmakers "must stop allowing partisanship to be a pre-existing condition."

Collins was one of three Republican senators who sunk the Republican Senate health care bill. She also serves key roles on the Appropriations Committee and on the Intelligence Committee, which is investigating Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election.

She's embraced her role as a centrist who bridges the gap and will keep that role in a Senate that's likely to remain bitterly divided as ever in the years ahead.

"When you're in the center, you expect that you're going to get attacked from both the far left and the far right, and I certainly have been," she said. "But there are still people on both sides of the aisle on specific issues who are willing to come together in the middle."

Her decision will likely free more gubernatorial candidates who have been waiting on the sidelines to enter the race. Republican Gov. Paul LePage cannot run again because of term limits.

The gubernatorial race is already a crowded field, with more than a dozen members of the Republican and Democratic parties having announced primary runs.

If she'd chosen to run for governor, Collins said, she was confident she could have won the GOP primary and the general election, despite LePage's criticisms that she's not conservative enough. She dismissed LePage's complaints, saying he didn't have an impact on her decision.

Collins said most Americans are moderates like herself — and need to speak up and become "fanatical moderates" to ensure Congress represents their interests.

In Washington, she said, she's going to maintain a positive outlook despite partisan fights and a series of disagreements with Trump. She didn't vote for him in November, despite his being on the Republican ticket.

"I am a congenital optimist. I continue to believe that Congress can, and will, be more productive," she said. "I want to continue to play a key role in advancing policies that strengthen our nation, help our hardworking families, improve our health care system, and bring peace and stability to a troubled and violent world."

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 68 of 70

Associated Press writers Patrick Whittle in Portland and Erica Werner in Washington contributed to this report.

A look at all the changes coming to 'Thomas & Friends'

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Change is coming to "Thomas & Friends," the 30-year-old TV show based on a series of books from 1945.

Here's a look at what's different:

— Two new female engines will be added to the series next fall, Nia and Rebecca. They will be part of the Steam Team, the seven main characters that live in Tidmouth Sheds. The Steam Team will be made up of three females and four males, up from just one female.

— Henry and Edward will move out of Tidmouth Sheds to make room for Nia and Rebecca. They'll still appear on the show from time to time.

— Thomas will visit real countries, such as China and Australia, for the first time.

— The show will move at a faster pace.

— There's a new theme song.

— Thomas will be the narrator of the show. And he'll talk directly to the camera at the start and end of the show.

— The characters will crack more jokes.

— There will be more music throughout the episode.

## Gas leaking from Kansas wells amid dispute over who must fix

By ROXANA HEGEMAN, Associated Press

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Natural gas is leaking through unplugged abandoned wells that have penetrated a massive underground storage field in Kansas, creating a public safety hazard amid a dispute over who is responsible for fixing the problem, regulatory filings show.

Northern Natural Gas Co., which owns the underground storage facility, wants the Kansas Corporation Commission, which regulates oil and gas drilling in the state, to force well owners to plug abandoned wells. But the commission said in a filing last month that Northern Natural is responsible for making sure its natural gas isn't escaping from the wells — and it asked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to order the company to take "remedial action."

Officials are aware of the dangers of not fixing the problem. A series of explosions in 2001 in Hutchinson involving leaking natural gas from another company's underground storage field killed two people and damaged the city. In that case, natural gas migrated from the Yaggy Storage Field northwest of Hutchinson and shot up through unplugged salt brine wells.

Yet Northern Natural Gas told federal regulators in a recent filing that the Kansas Corporation Commission "has sat on its hands with full knowledge of the risk, and has been complicit by allowing the wells to remain unplugged."

In an emailed statement, the state commission said it "recognizes these are very serious issues for our state." The Kansas agency declined to more directly respond to assertions in the company's filing, citing pending litigation.

The dispute involves the Cunningham Storage Field, a depleted natural gas reservoir that was converted into a storage area for natural gas supplies. The wells in question are in an area that Northern Natural acquired through condemnation proceedings in 2010 after it discovered its gas had migrated, something that is not unusual for such storage fields. The wells were capturing some of Northern's stored gas, and as a part of the compensation drillers were also awarded \$3,000 per well to either plug their wells or seal them off from Northern's supplies. No money has been paid out yet because the case was appealed.

The fact that wells weren't plugged became an issue in April, when a farmer spreading fertilizer on his field struck the surface pipe of one well, unleashing an outburst of gas and liquids. The farmer turned off his vehicle, the gas did not ignite and no one was hurt. But the well owner refused to take responsibility for extinguishing the blowout, according to the Kansas Corporation Commission. Northern also said it had

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 69 of 70

no obligation to act.

The commission called in experts to extinguish the blowout and plug the well, costing Kansas \$166,030, the agency said. The commission inspected other abandoned wells in the storage field, and found two that have been leaking gas for at least three months.

Northern contends in its filing that five unplugged wells above its field are a safety risk. The company did not learn of the two leaking wells until the commission filed its motion, and the agency has still not told the company which wells are leaking, Northern spokesman Michael Loeffler said.

"We don't want our facilities to be unsafe. We have spent hundreds of millions of dollars in integrity issues over the years to ensure the safety of our pipeline. And then you have someone like the KCC who is charged with the responsibility of keeping us safe and they really are complicit with allowing this situation to continue," Loeffler said.

Kansas has 17 underground natural gas storage facilities, according to the commission. Cunningham Storage Field spans parts of Pratt, Kingman and Reno counties. The Yaggy Storage Field is nearby and is owned by Kansas Gas Service Co.

Kansas Gas Services' then-owner, Tulsa, Oklahoma-based ONEOK Inc., reached a settlement with families of the people who died in 2001. A jury later awarded damages to some homeowners.

Sign up for the AP's weekly newsletter showcasing our best reporting from the Midwest and Texas:  
<http://apne.ws/2u1RMfv>

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Oct. 14, the 287th day of 2017. There are 78 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 14, 1947, U.S. Air Force Capt. Charles E. ("Chuck") Yeager (YAY'-gur) became the first test pilot to break the sound barrier as he flew the experimental Bell XS-1 (later X-1) rocket plane over Muroc Dry Lake in California.

On this date:

In 1066, Normans under William the Conqueror defeated the English at the Battle of Hastings.

In 1890, Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th president of the United States, was born in Denison, Texas.

In 1912, former President Theodore Roosevelt, campaigning for the White House as the Progressive ("Bull Moose") candidate, went ahead with a speech in Milwaukee after being shot and wounded in the chest by New York saloonkeeper John Schrank, declaring, "It takes more than one bullet to kill a bull moose."

In 1926, "Winnie-the-Pooh" by A.A. Milne was first published by Methuen & Co. of London.

In 1939, a German U-boat torpedoed and sank the HMS Royal Oak, a British battleship anchored at Scapa Flow in Scotland's Orkney Islands; 833 of the more than 1,200 men aboard were killed.

In 1944, German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel committed suicide rather than face trial and certain execution for allegedly conspiring against Adolf Hitler.

In 1959, actor Errol Flynn died in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, at age 50.

In 1960, Democratic presidential candidate John F. Kennedy suggested the idea of a Peace Corps while addressing an audience of students at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

In 1964, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was named winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. Soviet leader Nikita S. Khrushchev was toppled from power; he was succeeded by Leonid Brezhnev as First Secretary and by Alexei Kosygin as Premier.

In 1977, singer Bing Crosby died outside Madrid, Spain, at age 74.

In 1987, a 58-hour drama began in Midland, Texas, as 18-month-old Jessica McClure slid 22 feet down a narrow abandoned well at a private day care center; she was rescued on Oct. 16.

In 1997, novelist Harold Robbins died in Palm Springs, California, at age 81.

Ten years ago: Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice opened an intense round of Mideast shuttle diplo-

# Groton Daily Independent

**Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 097 ~ 70 of 70**

macy. Three University of Texas students exploring Airman's Cave were rescued after getting lost inside a day earlier. Lorena Ochoa clinched her second straight LPGA Tour player of the year award with a runaway victory in the Samsung World Championship, finishing at 18-under 270. The reality TV show "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" premiered on E! Entertainment Television.

Five years ago: Extreme athlete Felix Baumgartner landed gracefully in the eastern New Mexico desert after a 24-mile jump from a balloon in the stratosphere in a daring, dramatic feat that officials said made him the first skydiver to fall faster than the speed of sound. Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Chuck Yeager, at the age of 89, marked the 65th anniversary of his supersonic flight by smashing through the sound barrier again, this time in the backseat of an F-15 which took off from Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada. Former Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, 82, died in Philadelphia. The St. Louis Cardinals beat the San Francisco Giants 6-4 in Game 1 of the National League Championship Series, while the Detroit Tigers blanked the New York Yankees 3-0 to take a 2-0 lead in the American League Championship Series.

One year ago: A judge in Connecticut dismissed a wrongful-death lawsuit by Newtown families against the maker of the rifle used in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting massacre, citing a federal law that shielded gun manufacturers from most lawsuits over criminal use of their products. The Cleveland Indians defeated the Toronto Blue Jays 2-0 in Game 1 of the American League Championship Series.

Today's Birthdays: Classical pianist Gary Graffman is 89. Movie director Carroll Ballard is 80. Former White House counsel John W. Dean III is 79. Country singer Melba Montgomery is 80. Fashion designer Ralph Lauren is 78. Singer Sir Cliff Richard is 77. Singer-musician Justin Hayward (The Moody Blues) is 71. Actor Harry Anderson is 65. Actor Greg Evigan is 64. TV personality Arleen Sorkin is 62. World Golf Hall of Famer Beth Daniel is 61. Singer-musician Thomas Dolby is 59. Actress Lori Petty is 54. MLB manager Joe Girardi is 53. Actor Steve Coogan is 52. Singer Karyn White is 52. Actor Edward Kerr is 51. Actor Jon Seda is 47. Country musician Doug Virden is 47. Country singer Natalie Maines (The Dixie Chicks) is 43. Actress-singer Shaznay Lewis (All Saints) is 42. Singer Usher is 39. TV personality Stacy Keibler is 38. Actor Ben Whishaw is 37. Actor Jordan Brower is 36. Director Benh Zeitlin is 35. Actress Skyler Shaye is 31. Actor-comedian Jay Pharoah is 30.

Thought for Today: "To think is to speak low. To speak is to think aloud." — F. Max Mueller, German philologist (1823-1900).