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Thursday

2nd Round football playoffs: Groton Area at S.F Christian at 7 p.m.

Friday

No School - Teacher Inservice

Fresh flowers, silks, home decor



Olde Bank Floral @ 

& so much more

101 N. Main St., Groton ~ 397-8650
www.oldebankfloral.com



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

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

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Chicken Soup
for the Soul

*“True friendship
comes when the
silence between
two people is
comfortable.”*

-David Tyson



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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. 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
Housekeeping.

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

0913.1006

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Groton High School Class of 1968 celebrated their 49th reunion September 22, 2017. Pictured are back row: Greg Tullis, Marjorie (Clocksene) Overacker, Richard Karnopp, Linda (Weismantel) Baule, Joan (Fliehs), Johnson, Lynette (Daly) Fransen, Bonnie (Bahr) Nierman, Diane (Daly) Herman, Diane (Schornack) Swenson, Ruth Karlen, and Terry Thompson. Seated in the front are Clinton Jacobson, Charlotte Erdmann, Oryn Wagner, Dana Jones, Bob Bohner, Terry Walter, Larry Fransen, Barbara (Craig) Morrissey, Marilyn (Olson) Jacob, Peggy Abeln, Bill Sundermeyer, and Lynn Weismantel. Not pictured but attended were Alfred Tastad, Larry Dunker, Ilene (Wellman) Helmer, Kathy (Westby) Knudsen.

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Region 1A Volleyball Tournament

#1 Groton Area

Scores:

Date: Thursday, Nov 2nd
Time: 7pm
Site: Groton

SWEET 16 QUALIFIER

#4 Milbank

Scores:

Date: Tuesday, Oct 31st
Time: 7pm
Site: Milbank

Scores:

Scores:

#5 Webster Area

#2 Redfield/Doland

Scores:

Date: Tuesday, Oct 31st
Time: 6:30pm
Site: Redfield

Scores:

Scores:

#7 Tiospa Zina

Date: Thursday, Nov 2nd
Time: 7pm
Site: High Seed

SWEET 16 QUALIFIER

#3 Aberdeen Roncalli

Scores:

Date: Tuesday, Oct 31st
Time: 7pm
Site: Aberdeen

Scores:

Scores:

#6 Sisseton

School	Seed Pts.
Groton Area	43.273
Redfield/Doland	43.214
Aberdeen Roncalli	42.125
Milbank	38.708
Webster Area	37.423
Sisseton	36.923
Tiospa Zina	36.261

ROSLYN, SOUTH DAKOTA

4-PLEX FOR SALE

The following real estate is for sale:

Lots Seven (7), Eight (8) and Nine (9), Block Twenty-two (22), Original Plat, Roslyn, Day County, South Dakota;

A/k/a 716 1st Street, Roslyn, South Dakota; st Consisting of lots and 4-plex apartment house, currently unoccupied and has been for five (5) years. Property is to be sold "AS IS". Apartment units have electric baseboard heat and electric hot water heaters. Apartment units also include electric ranges, refrigerators, and washers/dryers.

No warranties are being offered on the appliances ("AS IS").

Interested parties should submit sealed bids to Law Office of Danny R. Smeins, P.C., 506 Main Street, Webster, SD 57274, or hand delivered to the same address prior to 5:00 p.m. on the 14th day of November, 2017. Bids will be opened after the bid deadline, and Seller will identify the bidders that will be invited to raise their bid on the 17 day of November, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at the Law Office of Danny R. Smeins, P.C. in Webster, South Dakota. Not all bidders will be invited to raise their bid.

Successful bidder will be required to execute a standard Purchase Agreement and make an earnest money deposit.

SELLER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS.

Direct all inquiries, questions or requests for real estate information to Danny R. Smeins, Attorney at Law, at (605) 345-4875 or (605) 448-5964 or Ray Lardy, Roslyn Homes, Inc., at (605) 228-1597 or Richard Galbraith at (605) 229-0180.

2 day Day Dog Obedience Training



Seminar

**Friday October 27th 6-pm -9p.m.
Saturday October 28th 9am -11 am**

Held at (A & S Hardware Hank and Rental)

Junction Hwy 12-25 in Webster, SD

K-9 Classics Dog Obedience hosting

Friday: Basic: Sit, Stay, Come & Down.

Saturday: Behavioral Issues

Why does my dog do that?

Q&A

Great information, Great fun

\$100 per dog

Pre register-A&S Hardware Hank and Rental

345-3821 K-9 Classics 880-1779

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Northeast Conference Champions

The Groton Area volleyball team posed for a photo after the match Monday night with Milbank. The Groton Area win gave Groton Area a share of the conference title, sharing it with Redfield/Doland and Aberdeen Roncalli. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

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Today in Weather History

October 26, 1919: Record cold occurred across the area on this day in 1919. Temperatures fell below zero at many locations across central and northeast South Dakota and into west central Minnesota. The record lows were 3 degrees below zero at Aberdeen, 4 degrees below zero at Wheaton, 5 degrees below zero at Kennebec, 8 degrees below zero at McIntosh, and a much below normal low of 10 degrees below zero at Miller.

October 26, 1996: A rare and significant late season tornado outbreak took place as a low-pressure system trekked across the North-Central US. A series of low-topped supercells during the morning and afternoon hours produced a total of 26 tornadoes; 3 in Nebraska, 9 in northeastern South Dakota, and 14 across west central and central Minnesota. Five of these were rated F2, and while no fatalities resulted, 15 people were injured, and there was a good deal of property damage. To help put the extraordinary timing of this event in perspective, in the 66 years of record keeping from 1950-2015 Minnesota has only recorded 15 other October tornadoes, and South Dakota 9.

October 26, 2010: A record breaking surface low-pressure area moved across the Northern Plains and brought high winds to all of central and northeast South Dakota from the early morning of the 26th into the early evening of the 27th. Sustained northwest winds of 40 to 50 mph with gusts to 60 to 75 mph caused scattered property damage across the region along with blowing several vehicles off the road. Along with the high winds came snowfall of 1 to 5 inches which resulted in treacherous driving conditions. Several schools started late on the 27th due to the slippery roads and strong winds. The high winds, combined with slick roads at times, blew several semis and other vehicles off the road on Interstate-29 and at several other locations across the region. Only minor injuries occurred with these incidents. The high winds damaged many traffic signs and signals, downed many power lines and poles, along with downing branches and several trees. As a result, several hundred customers were without power for a time across the area. The high winds caused roof and siding damage to many buildings along with damaging some fences. A shed was also destroyed near Sisseton.

1952: There have been thousands of weather reconnaissance and research flights into hurricanes in the Atlantic and Pacific since the mid-1940s. There have been several close calls, but only four flights have been lost. A B-29 Super-fortress flight into Super Typhoon Wilma 350 miles east of Leyte in the Philippines disappeared on this date. No trace was ever found of the plane or crew. At last report, the flight was in the Super typhoon's strongest winds, which were around 160 mph.

1997: An autumn snowstorm pummeled central and south central Nebraska with record early season snows. Wind driven snowfall amounts totaled as much as two feet by storms' end. Several highways were closed, including Interstate 80, as near blizzard conditions developed. Once the snow subsided, the record early season snow totals were tallied. Guide Rock measured twenty-four inches of snow, Clay Center twenty-three inches and Hastings seventeen inches. A fifty-mile wide swath of snow more than fifteen inches fell from near Alma to York. Amounts further north averaged from four to eight inches. The heavy, wet snow was responsible for many power outages in the area as tree limbs broke and fell on power lines. At one point, the town of Hardy had no power, and could not be accessed by vehicle due to the snow. Numerous schools and businesses remained closed several days following the storm. Many highways, including Interstate 80, were closed at the height of the storm. On Highway 136 east of Alma, road crews worked for ten hours carving through a ten-foot drift which covered the road. Record cold accompanied the snow as temperatures dropped to the single digits the morning of the 26th.

1998: Hurricane Mitch, the second deadliest hurricane in the Atlantic Ocean, reached Category 5 strength on this day.

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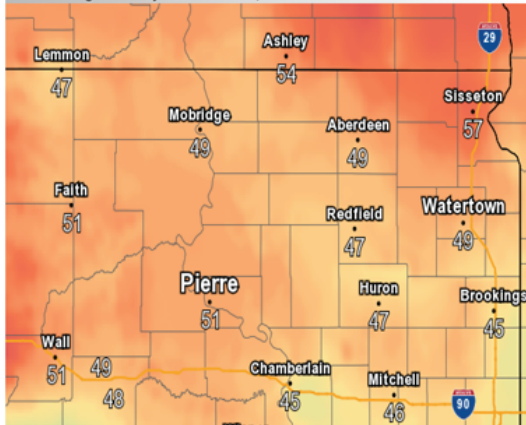
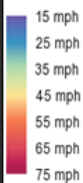
Wind Advisory		Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
		20%	20%					40%
		Windy. Mostly Cloudy then Slight Chance Rain	Slight Chance Snow and Windy then Cloudy and Blustery	Decreasing Clouds and Breezy	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny then Chance Rain
		High: 47 °F ↓	Low: 25 °F	High: 41 °F	Low: 14 °F	High: 47 °F	Low: 27 °F	High: 53 °F

Strong Winds and Snow

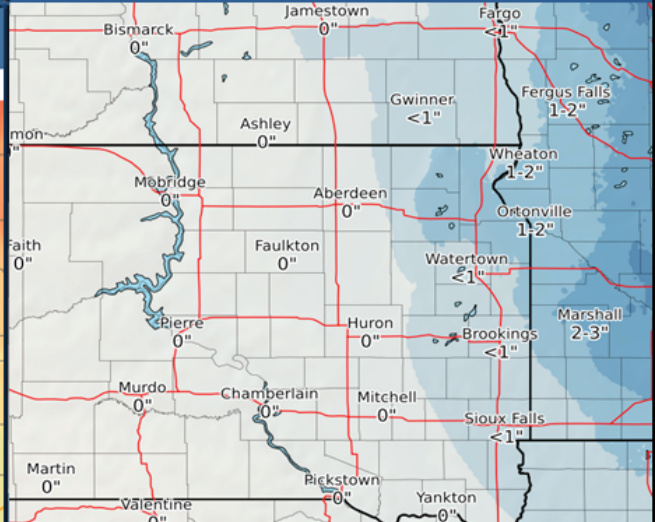
Possible Wind Gusts

Maximum Forecast Wind Gusts

Valid Ending Saturday October 28th, 2017 at 7 PM CDT



Snowfall Amounts



- Strong winds for all locations today with gusts of 50-55 mph
- Snow possible in eastern SD and western MN by this afternoon.
- Snow + winds will cause reduced visibility at times.

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 10/26/2017 5:29 AM Central

Published on: 10/26/2017 at 5:36AM

A low pressure system will bring cold temperatures and very strong winds into the region today through tonight. This system will produce wind gusts of 50 to 55 mph for all locations. Snow is also expected to spread south into northeast South Dakota and Minnesota by this afternoon with reduced visibility at time due to falling snow and strong winds.

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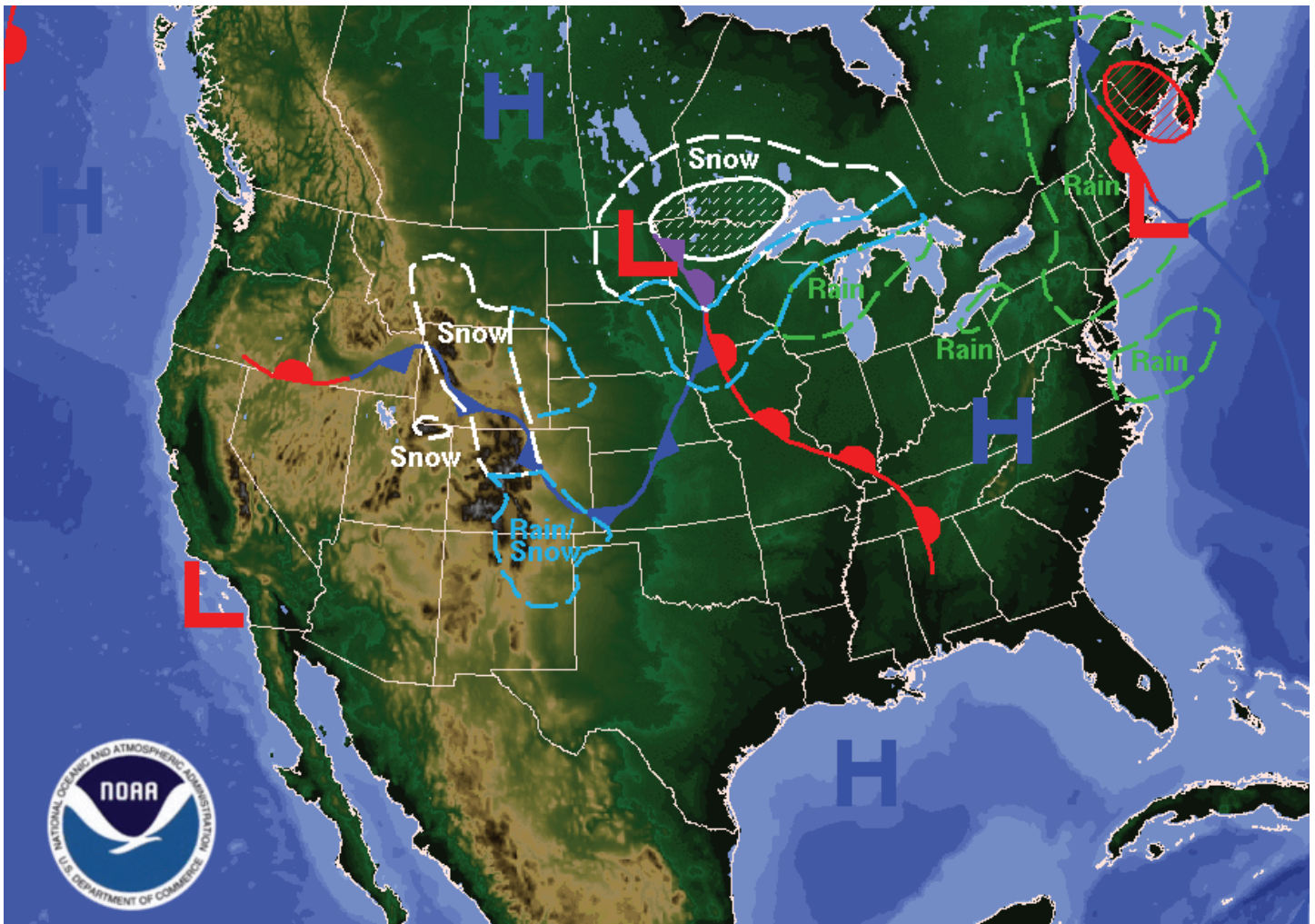
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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 63.3 at 3:32 PM
Low Outside Temp: 41.3 at 12:33 AM
High Gust: 18 at 2:02 AM
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 83° in 1922
Record Low: -3° in 1919
Average High: 52°F
Average Low: 29°F
Average Precip in Oct: 1.77
Precip to date in Oct: 0.67
Average Precip to date: 20.25
Precip Year to Date: 13.47
Sunset Tonight: 6:29 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:06 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Oct 26, 2017, issued 4:58 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

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

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THE SATISFIED SOUL

Saint Augustine is well known for his oft quoted saying, "You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in You." His only desire was to know God intimately and worship Him faithfully.

One of God's greatest gifts is the incompleteness we feel until we allow Him to make us complete in Christ. The emptiness we feel and the desire we have for "something more" seems to come with every beat of our hearts.

Often this longing is never realized unless God forces us into a corner or shuts us in a dark room. Recently a friend said, "The best thing that ever happened to me was to be diagnosed with cancer. It stopped me short and made me realize that everything I thought would bring me peace and satisfaction was an illusion. None of my accomplishments mattered any more nor could any of the wealth I accumulated purchase any peace. My cancer made me realize that everything I had could not be exchanged for one simple heart beat or a breath of fresh air.

Often it takes a serious illness or other tragedy in life to force us to face the reality of our helplessness, hopeless and emptiness. Many times we think that our "business" in church activities will bring us peace when we face the uncertainties of life. Not so!

When David faced a spiritual collapse he knew exactly what to do and where to go and Who had the solution: "My soul thirsts for You; my body longs for You."

Prayer: How grateful we are, Father, that You care for us so much that You give us no rest till we rest in You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 63:1b You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.

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

News from the Associated Press

Kansas community fights becoming a 'chicken town' and wins

By JOHN HANNA, Associated Press

TONGANOXIE, Kan. (AP) — When Shannon Reischman takes in the sweeping view from the big hill behind her in-laws' farmhouse outside the northeastern Kansas town of Tonganoxie, she sees a rural oasis that's an easy commute to Kansas City-area jobs.

Tyson Foods Inc. looked at the bedroom community of about 5,300 people and saw a good place to build a \$320 million chicken-processing plant. And when the Springdale, Arkansas-based agribusiness giant announced its plans in early September, residents such as Reischman were quick to mobilize. But they weren't on social media to court the company. They used their posts to organize protests to drive Tyson away.

Two weeks after the announcement, local officials withdrew their support and Tyson started looking elsewhere.

Industry and state officials are a bit mystified that any community would turn away 1,600 jobs. Kansas is still trying to attract the plant, but in another town.

"We don't want to be a chicken town," said Reischman, a 36-year-old mother of four who lives on a 10-acre (4-hectare) farm.

She and her neighbors see their already growing community as economically stable enough. They didn't want it overcome by environmental problems, newly crowded schools and heavy truck traffic.

Reischman said she was sure that from the big hill with the countryside view, her family would be able to smell the Tyson operation, but, "That's honestly the least of our concerns."

The lesson for Tyson, state officials and the meat-processing industry was that they haven't been active enough in recent years in defending the industry and the economic benefits of value-added agricultural development. They said the internet gives opponents of projects easy access to negative information and an ability to spread it much more quickly than in the past.

"Oftentimes, we allow the activists to dictate the playing field, and then we kind of react to it," said Chris Young, executive director of the American Association of Meat Processors.

Tyson says it's looking to build its first chicken-processing plant in more than 20 years to keep up with consumer demand. Company and state officials believed thousands of workers in the area would find the starting pay of \$13 to \$15 an hour attractive and say critics are overstating the potential environmental and community problems.

While Tyson doesn't have a chicken-processing plant in Kansas, it has operations in six communities in the state with about 5,700 workers. They include a distribution center in Olathe and a food-processing plant in Kansas City, Kansas, both within 30 miles (50 kilometers) of Tonganoxie.

Tonganoxie's opposition followed similar resistance last year to a proposed Prestage Farms hog-processing plant in Mason City in north-central Iowa, and a Lincoln Premium Poultry chicken-processing plant in Nickerson, Nebraska, outside Omaha. In those cases, each company chose a new location in the same region after resident protests.

A big part of the problem in Tonganoxie was the secrecy surrounding Tyson's plans, which bred skepticism and increased residents' anger. Reischman and others said they found out about the project on TV the night before the announcement.

Tyson and state and local officials had been quietly working together for weeks on what was code-named "Project Sunset." State Department of Agriculture spokeswoman Heather Lansdowne said state officials assumed that local leaders being receptive to the project reflected residents' view.

Gov. Sam Brownback and Lt. Gov. Jeff Colyer were involved in efforts to attract the plant to Kansas at least by mid-June, their office calendars show.

Tonganoxie-area resident Jen Peak, a leader of the anti-Tyson group, questioned whether Tyson and state officials grasped that the community is economically strong enough to be selective about development.

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It is home to an orthopedic shoe manufacturer, a firm that helps develop medical devices and an outdoor paving-stone maker.

"The entire community was just underestimated," the 40-year-old Peak said. "I guess this is a lesson to them, going forward, to know the area that you're trying to move into."

Nondisclosure agreements during negotiations with local and state officials are common for a publicly traded company such as Tyson, company spokesman Worth Sparkman said.

Brownback has since acknowledged that leaders of any Kansas community wanting to attract the plant moving forward "need to step up publicly."

"I think that's a better way to go at it," the Republican said.

Tyson is now eyeing three potential sites — in Sedgwick County in the Wichita area, in Cloud County in north-central Kansas, and in the southeastern Kansas town of Coffeyville. All are at least 130 miles (210 kilometers) from Tonganoxie.

Local leaders in those communities have publicly confirmed they're pursuing the plant. There's opposition in Sedgwick County, where residents have mobilized through a Facebook group.

The Tonganoxie project's opponents mobilized quickly through social media. Within two days of the plant announcement, an anti-Tyson group on Facebook had 3,400 members — several hundred more people than the total registered voters inside the city. Between 2,000 and 3,000 people attended a town hall meeting that prompted area legislators to announce their opposition.

Opponents said because Tonganoxie is a Kansas City-area bedroom community, it's not desperate for jobs paying \$13 to \$15 an hour. Leavenworth County's median household income of nearly \$64,000 is about 22 percent higher than the state's.

Tonganoxie's population has nearly doubled since 2000.

"Professionals live out here that have their jobs and their companies and their careers," said Kirk Sours, longtime manager of the Red Angus cattle-raising Tailgate Ranch outside Tonganoxie. "This location is a perfect commuting distance for those folks."

While the possibility that immigrants would fill the jobs fueled opposition in the Nebraska chicken-processing plant fight, critics of the Tonganoxie project said they weren't concerned about who would do the work but whether their pay would be enough to justify the potential problems.

"If someone was going to come in and build a factory and pay 30 bucks an hour, I don't think you'd have much resistance," said Eric Thompson, director of the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Follow John Hanna on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/apjdhanna> .

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

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash

11-15-21-26-29

(eleven, fifteen, twenty-one, twenty-six, twenty-nine)

Estimated jackpot: \$22,000

Hot Lotto

02-03-19-21-36, Hot Ball: 11

(two, three, nineteen, twenty-one, thirty-six; Hot Ball: eleven)

Estimated jackpot: \$12.02 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$30 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$191 million

Trump opposes massive California water project

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The Trump administration pulled support Wednesday from Gov. Jerry Brown's ambitious plan to build California's biggest water project in decades, casting the current form of the \$16 billion proposal to build two giant tunnels as another unwanted legacy from the Obama era.

The comments from a U.S. Department of the Interior spokesman marked the first public statements by the Trump administration on the initiative and signaled the latest setback for the project that California's 79-year-old leader had hoped to see launched before he leaves office next year.

The Obama administration gave millions of dollars for planning the tunnels, but "the Trump administration did not fund the project and chose to not move forward with it," Russell Newell, deputy communications director for the U.S. Interior Department, said in an email.

Asked in an email exchange if his statement meant the Department of Interior "isn't going to be moving forward with California's tunnels project, is that right? The Trump administration has ruled that out?" Newell responded, "Yes."

Newell later softened the statement, saying the Interior Department shared California's goals for a more reliable and environmentally friendly water supply but "does not expect to participate in the construction or funding" of the project in its current form.

Interior officials "will continue to work with the state and stakeholders as the project is further developed," Newell said.

While the plan is a state initiative that was never slated to draw upon federal financing, it would intersect with existing state and federal water projects and would require approval from the Interior Department to move ahead.

Brown wants California water agencies to pay to plan and build two, 35-mile-long tunnels to divert part of the state's largest river, the Sacramento, to supply water to the San Francisco Bay Area and central and Southern California.

But the plan has hit its biggest obstacles yet in recent weeks, when two key water districts opted not to help fund it. In another setback, the Interior Department's inspector-general last month challenged the \$84 million that the federal agency had contributed to the project under Obama, calling it an improper use of taxpayer funds.

As a presidential candidate, Donald Trump called broadly for more projects to bring water to farmers in California, the country's leading agricultural state.

Lisa Lien-Mager, a spokeswoman for the state Natural Resources Agency, said the statement Wednesday from the Interior Department was good news for the project.

"The statement provided by the DOI confirms what the state and its water project partners already knew; while the federal government does not intend to fund the construction costs of the project they will continue working with the state and stakeholders to facilitate and permit WaterFix," she wrote in an email, using the state's term for the tunnel project.

Trump's administration had not previously taken a stand on the tunnels project pushed by California's Democratic governor, though federal wildlife agencies gave the green light in June. They found that the plan would not mean extinction for endangered and threatened native species, including native salmon.

The Trump administration has targeted a number of projects supported by Obama, from immigration

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initiatives to international trade deals.

Trump's policies also are at odds with many of those backed by Brown, who has referred to the president's supporters as cave-dwellers and called Trump's actions in office "stupid and dangerous and silly." Until now, however, Brown had avoided most public rifts with the Trump administration over federal decisions dealing with California.

Brown's administration and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, with Brown one of the project's main backers, argued the two tunnels — each the width of a three-lane highway — would make for more reliable water supplies, especially for the more arid south.

Supporters and opponents disagree on the effect on struggling native species. Opponents say the tunnels could be used to drain much of the water from the West Coast's largest estuary — the San Francisco Bay and adjoining rivers.

"At a minimum, this announcement certainly complicates the state's chances of ever funding and permitting the massive twin tunnels project," said Doug Obegi, a senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, which opposes the plan. "It's yet another reason for the state to transparently work with all stakeholders to reconsider this proposal."

Newell, with the Interior Department, made his statements in response to a request Tuesday by California's Democratic members of Congress for a new probe of U.S. spending on the project under Obama.

Five Democrats, including opponents of the tunnels, asked the U.S. General Accountability Office to determine whether the planning payments were illegal.

"The \$84 million spent in taxpayers' money without disclosure to Congress and kept hidden from the public were decisions driven and executed by the Obama administration and that team," Newell said.

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke "believes that using tax dollars wisely and ethically is a big responsibility and is at the heart of good government," Newell said.

Federal and state authorities were discussing cooperation on the project since at least 2008, when George W. Bush was in office. Obama's administration pushed for the tunnels, including funding planning costs.

Study: More evidence links earthquakes to energy waste wells

By DAN ELLIOTT, Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Scientists say they have more evidence that an increase in earthquakes on the Colorado-New Mexico border since 2001 has been caused by wells that inject wastewater from oil and gas production back underground, similar to human-caused quakes in Oklahoma and other states.

A paper published last week by researchers at the University of Colorado concluded that the wastewater caused a big enough increase in underground pressure to make rock formations slip along fault lines.

"You find that the pressure changes at a given depth are enough to trigger earthquakes," said Jenny Nakai, the paper's lead author and a doctoral student at the university.

The paper, published in the *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth*, is the latest to link wastewater injection wells to earthquakes.

Most oil and gas wells produce at least some wastewater that is too salty to use, so regulators allow energy companies to pump it back underground to get rid of it. Researchers have linked earthquakes in Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas to wastewater injection.

Oklahoma had only a few dozen earthquakes of magnitude-3.0 or greater in 2012 but had more than 900 in 2015. The number dropped to closer to 600 last year after state regulators directed energy companies to close some injection wells or reduce the volume of water they inject.

In the Raton Basin of northern New Mexico and southern Colorado, earthquakes began to increase in 2001, about two years after large-scale wastewater injection began, the U.S. Geological Survey said. The wastewater comes from wells that extract natural gas from underground coal beds.

The biggest quake in the basin since 2001 was magnitude-5.3 in 2011. It caused minor damage to buildings in Trinidad, Colorado, about 15 miles from the epicenter.

A 2014 paper by the Geological Survey blamed injection wells for the area's quakes. The new University

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of Colorado study went further, using computer models and records of wastewater injection to conclude that enough pressure built up to cause the quakes.

Justin Rubinstein, a geophysicist with the Geological Survey who was the lead author of the 2014 paper, said the computer models have been used in other locations but not in the Raton Basin before now.

Rubinstein was not involved in the University of Colorado study and said he was not familiar with all its details but that the general conclusions made sense.

"It's consistent with what my research has shown," he said.

The University of Colorado study also found that the Raton Basin earthquakes were more widespread than previously thought, said Nakai, the lead author.

Earlier studies focused on the Colorado portion of the basin because that was the site of a 2001 swarm of 12 quakes — the strongest was magnitude-4.6 — as well as the 5.3 quake in 2011.

But seismometers recorded 1,881 quakes in the area between 2008 and 2010, and 1,442 of them were in New Mexico, Nakai said. The strongest was magnitude-3.8.

The 2008-2010 data came from a temporary deployment of seismometers as part of two other research projects funded by the National Science Foundation, Nakai said.

Follow Dan Elliott at <http://twitter.com/DanElliottAP> . His work can be found at <https://apnews.com/search/dan%20elliott> .

This story has been corrected to show that the U.S. Geological Survey was misidentified as the U.S. Geological Service.

BIA fatally shoots suspect on Standing Rock Reservation

FORT YATES, N.D. (AP) — The FBI says a suspect was shot dead after a confrontation with officers of the Bureau of Indian Affairs on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation.

The FBI's Minneapolis Division says BIA officers assigned to the reservation responded to a call of shots fired at a gas station Monday. After a short vehicle chase, BIA officers tried to take the suspect into custody. During the incident, the BIA shot and killed the suspect.

FBI agents were called to the scene. No other details were released.

An investigation is pending. The Standing Rock Reservation straddles the North Dakota and South Dakota border.

Just in time for Thanksgiving dinner: traceable turkeys

By ROXANA HEGEMAN, Associated Press

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Turkey farmer Darrell Glaser buys his Thanksgiving bird at the local grocery store, just like most folks.

But this Thanksgiving season, the Texas producer will be able to find out where the Honeysuckle White turkey he puts into his shopping cart was raised — and even know if it is one of the birds from his own Milam County farm.

Turkey buyers in select Texas markets will be able to either text or enter on the Honeysuckle White website the code found on the tag on the packaged bird to find out where it was raised and get information about the farm's location, view farm photos and read the farmer's message.

"What traceability does is just allow us to connect with the consumer," Glaser said. "And I think over time there has been a disconnect. People have kind of lost where their food comes from and this is a way to re-establish that line of communication."

Glaser is an independent farmer who raises about 600,000 birds a year for Cargill's Honeysuckle White brand, and is among four Texas farmers participating in the market test. The traceable turkeys in the pilot project won't cost more than untagged birds, and after the test the Minneapolis-based Cargill Inc. and its Honeysuckle White brand says it will assess its effectiveness and value to determine further implementa-

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tion of the digital technology and any price adjustments.

The pilot project marks the agribusiness giant's entry into a burgeoning farm-to-table movement driven by people who want to know where their food comes from and how it was produced. It is also a sign of the success driven by sustainable food advocates who have been promoting such connections as a way for farmers to market locally grown and raised foods.

"When the big companies see that success, they are going to jump in and try to make money off it," said Mary Fund, executive director of the Kansas Rural Center, an advocacy organization that promotes ecologically and socially responsible food systems.

Big agribusiness companies like Cargill and Tyson were instrumental in concentrating poultry production on farms and processing entities — eliminating the infrastructure that used to be there to support smaller local producers, Fund said. Now Cargill is in a sense "turning back to that model" by trying to tap into the desire that consumers have for an identifiable product.

"It is a tough thing because the local and regional food production and marketing system is not really able to satisfy the demand that is out there," Fund said. "So we are not naive in thinking that you are going to be able to grow enough turkeys or poultry at a real local level and feed everybody."

Cargill is the nation's third largest turkey producer, and is among the top five companies that collectively raise 65 percent of U.S. turkey production, said Simon Shane, an industry consultant and adjunct professor at North Carolina State University.

"Will it influence the rest of the industry? Only in respect to branded items, there is no point in doing it for generics," Shane said. "But the industry is moving over to brands."

The pilot project will inform the company as to the value of supply chain transparency to consumers and its impact on sales, said Deborah Socha, Honeysuckle Brand manager. Based on those findings, Cargill will develop its digital supply chain in the United States and globally.

Cargill's turkey brand is its first within the company to experiment with blockchain technology, a transparent cloud-based system that allows multiple people to contribute, but not otherwise change, the supply chain record, said Deb Bauler, Cargill's chief information officer. It is the same secure technology created for the digital currency bitcoin.

Honeysuckle White touts an internal 2014 study of turkey consumers which found 44 percent thought it was important for companies to be transparent, and a 2016 study from Nielsen Global Ingredients that found 73 percent of consumers feel positively about companies that are transparent about how its food products are made.

"Honeysuckle White has been listening to what the consumers have said and found that when it came to feeding their family, they really want to feel confident in knowing where and how the food is raised," Socha said.

This story has been corrected to show that Cargill is the nation's third largest turkey producer, not its Honeysuckle White brand.

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Michigan middle school clear of waste chemicals after tests

ROCKFORD, Mich. (AP) — Drinking water tested at a western Michigan middle school has shown no signs of hazardous chemicals from a decades-old tannery waste dump site.

Rockford Public Schools turned off drinking fountains at East Rockford Middle School two weeks ago as a precaution after leather and rubber scraps were found near the school, the Grand Rapids Press reported.

The district said the school's drinking water shows no presence of perfluorinated chemicals from the Wolverine World Wide dump site.

Wolverine also announced that well test results showed no presence of chemical contamination at the

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dump site near the school.

"The waste at the property on Ramsdell Drive was primarily construction debris with a few leather and rubber scraps, and PFAS (perfluorinated chemicals) were not detected in the wells," said Chris Hufnagel, senior vice president of strategy for Wolverine. "Based on our review we confirmed this waste was disposed of in the 1970s with the permission of the landowner at the time."

The school testing was sparked by reported evidence of historical waste disposal on land off Ramsdell. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality inspected the property and found leather scraps. The property owner had documents indicating a previous owner allowed Wolverine to use the land as a disposal area.

This year, chemicals from industrial waste Wolverine dumped decades ago were detected in private residential drinking water wells. The department confirmed Tuesday that two neighborhoods near Rockford High School were on bottled water after credible accounts of historical sludge dumping in the area surfaced.

The department is overseeing Wolverine's investigation into groundwater contamination by perfluorinated chemicals from the tannery demolished in 2010. The chemicals were in Scotchgard, which Wolverine used to waterproof shoes.

The middle school is one of four buildings in the Rockford school district that draw its drinking water from the wells that were tested.

The district Superintendent Michael Shibler said the district will turn the water back on at East Rockford Middle School on Wednesday.

Information from: The Grand Rapids Press, <http://www.mlive.com/grand-rapids>

Nebraska AG to drop charges against shuttered beer stores

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska attorney general's office says it is dropping charges against four Whiteclay beer stores now that the establishments have lost their liquor licenses.

A spokeswoman said Wednesday the citations are being dismissed. Authorities had accused the stores of selling to bootleggers and failing to cooperate with investigators, among other liquor law violations.

State regulators effectively closed the stores in April when they voted not to renew their licenses. The stores sold the equivalent of about 3.5 million cans of beer annually in the unincorporated village with nine residents. The Nebraska Supreme Court rejected the stores' appeal last month.

Whiteclay sits next to South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, which is plagued by a litany of alcohol-related problems. Critics say the stores contributed to the problems.

South Dakota farmers report damage by dicamba

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota farmers have reported about 57,000 acres of crops damaged by an herbicide called dicamba.

Dicamba is an herbicide widely used to kill weeds in soybeans genetically modified to be resistant to the herbicide, the Pierre Capital Journal reported.

The report comes from the state Department of Agriculture's online survey distributed in August to farmers asking them to report any damage from dicamba, said Tom Gere, the department's agronomy services manager.

More than 220 farmers have responded so far and their reports of acres damaged total about 57,000, according to Gere.

He said nearly all the reports were about soybean fields. Some residents also reported damage to gardens, fruit trees and vineyards.

Gere said he didn't expect to see so many damage reports this year. He said reports of such damage have increased in recent years because dicamba can drift over to nearby field or gardens that are vulnerable to it.

"In meetings last winter in regards to that product, I thought maybe we would have a few complaints in

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regard to drift or whatever the case may be," Gere said. "But I didn't by any means, in my wildest dreams, think it was going to turn out the way it did."

Inspectors from the Agriculture Department checked on 39,000 acres of soybeans, separately from the online survey, after hearing complaints from farmers. Those inspections led to a "70 percent detection" over those acres, Gere said.

He expects to get better data on dicamba damage as the last 20 percent of the state's soybeans get harvested within the next two weeks.

Information from: Pierre Capital Journal, <http://www.capjournal.com>

Spirit Lake Nation petitioners seek to amend alcohol laws

FORT TOTTEN, N.D. (AP) — Residents of a Native American reservation in North Dakota are seeking to change their alcohol sales laws.

Alcohol sales haven't been allowed on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation since the 1960s, The Devils Lake Journal reported.

A team of petition gatherers on the reservation are looking into softening the law to allow the legalized sale of alcohol in restaurants and for special events such as wedding receptions and pool tournaments at the Spirit Lake Casino and Resort.

Peter Owlboy Jr. believes amending the law would increase revenues for the tribe. He said anyone over the age of 18 who has lived on the reservation for more than one year can sign the petition.

"The majority of the people are pretty welcoming," Owlboy said.

Owlboy said he encourages people who oppose alcohol sales to also sign the petition "so as a tribe we can dialogue about this issue."

The petition needs signatures from 20 percent of all eligible voters. Owlboy is hoping to get more than the required amount, because he said some signatures are denied once the verification process begins.

The tribal council will have seven days to verify the signatures and bring it to residents in a special election, Owlboy said. He hopes to have the petition turned in time for the General Assembly, which takes place next week.

Information from: Devils Lake Journal, <http://www.devilslakejournal.com>

Fishing tournament winners belatedly receive their millions

OCEAN CITY, Md. (AP) — The organizers of a multimillion dollar fishing tournament held more than two months ago say they will now pay the winners their prize money after an investigation that included lie-detector tests.

The Daily Times reports (<http://delmarvane.ws/2iBOvC4>) the Ocean City-based White Marlin Open, billed as the world's largest billfish tournament, released a statement Tuesday confirming winners had been validated.

Tournament winners had required to undergo polygraph tests to safeguard against cheating. After the August tournament, directors said one prizewinner failed a polygraph test and that further investigation was continuing.

That came after the tournament declined to pay the 2016 winner after a failed polygraph test.

The top prizewinner in 2017 won \$1.6 million after catching a 96-pound (43-kilogram) marlin. Tournament officials said winner Glen Frost didn't fail his polygraph.

DNR board OKs process to drop elk hunt population quota

By TODD RICHMOND, Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' board authorized the agency

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Wednesday to start working toward dropping population restrictions barring an elk hunt.

The DNR has been importing elk from Kentucky for the past three years in an effort to bolster a herd in Ashland County and establish a second herd in Jackson County. The agency's ultimate goal is to establish a population large enough to sustain a hunting season.

DNR regulations in place since 2003 prohibit elk hunting until the Ashland County herd grows to at least 200 animals and the Jackson County herd grows to at least 150 animals. Hunting permits would be limited to 5 percent of the total population.

Right now, the Ashland County herd stands at around 180 and the Jackson County herd at around 60 animals.

DNR officials said in a memo to the board they want to drop the population minimums and permit limit, saying the minimum animal requirement is arbitrary and they can manage the herds using science. Starting a hunting season sooner would generate license revenue and hunter spending that could be used to help the elk reintroduction effort, they added.

Kevin Wallenfang, a DNR deer and elk ecologist, told the board Wednesday that he doesn't know when a hunt might occur. The population could conceivably exceed the minimums before they're eliminated from the regulations, he said.

He insisted that no one is pressuring the DNR to start a hunt quickly. He did mention, however, that some believe the reintroduction effort won't be valid until a hunt takes place and the population minimums have "inhibited" the agency's ability to initiate a hunt.

"The intention is to use science to let us decide when a hunt can start," he said.

The board unanimously approved starting the process to drop the population minimums and permit limitations from the regulations and authorized the DNR to set up public hearings on the plan.

Follow Todd Richmond on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/trichmond1>

Agriculture Secretary Perdue to travel to South Dakota

TIMBER LAKE, S.D. (AP) — U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue will visit South Dakota to tour the prairie pothole region and meet with an intertribal agriculture group.

The Agriculture Department says Perdue will travel to South Dakota on Thursday. Perdue is set to tour the prairie pothole landscape in northeast South Dakota and then meet with the Intertribal Agriculture Council.

The federal agency says Perdue will discuss the importance of Native American agricultural production and how the department can strengthen its partnership with the Intertribal Agriculture Council to serve Indian Country better.

The Agriculture Department says its support for the council's technical assistance network helps inform Native American producers about the department's programs. A spokeswoman for the council didn't immediately return a request for comment from The Associated Press.

Minnesota looks to restore Mississippi River island

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Work on a \$6.7 million construction project to restore an island on the Mississippi River in northeast Minneapolis is set to begin next month.

Hall's Island will get a natural habitat and a 3,000-foot-long channel for kayaking and boating between the island and the river bank, Minnesota Public Radio reported .

"For residents of north and northeast Minneapolis, that's really important because we don't have the bodies of water in those sections of the city. People have been cut off from the river," said Jayne Miller, superintendent of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. "So just providing great destination parks and access to water is really important."

The project aims to improve access to the river and restore the island's ecosystem, which was damaged by industrial activity, said Stephanie Johnson, of the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization.

"It's bringing the benefits of nature back into the city, to the residents of north and northeast Minneapolis," Johnson said. "The benefits of cleaner water, cleaner air, healthier and more diverse plant communities — bringing that all back to the city of Minneapolis.

The island disappeared in 1966 when a lumber business dredged it to accommodate an expansion. The park board purchased the land in 2010 for \$7.7 million.

The project will also provide a place for migrating birds to rest and improve the area's mussel habitat, park board officials said.

Canoeing and kayaking will be available once construction is complete in the spring. The island won't be open to visitors for a year so plants can grow.

Information from: Minnesota Public Radio News, <http://www.mprnews.org>

Database seeks to highlight attacks on energy infrastructure

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — An oil and gas industry group is seeking to highlight what it says is an increase in protester attacks on energy infrastructure such as oil pipelines through an online database cataloging incidents of "eco-terrorism, sabotage, arson, vandalism and violence."

The Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance announced the database through its affiliated Energy Builders coalition Wednesday, two days after a bipartisan group of 84 members of Congress sent a letter to Attorney General Jeff Sessions expressing concern about recent incidents and asking if existing laws are enough to adequately prosecute acts that are criminal.

The mounting pressure comes as protests against energy projects, particularly fossil fuel pipelines, have spread across the country in the wake of last year's large-scale protests in North Dakota against the Dakota Access oil pipeline. Thousands of people took part, camping on federal land for months, with 761 arrests in a six-month span.

"That type of what I would consider egregiously inappropriate activity, protest groups are trying to emulate that across the country," said alliance President and CEO Toby Mack. "That's what we're on guard for."

Many of the Dakota Access opponents maintain they used peaceful methods such as prayer to protest the \$3.8 billion project to move North Dakota oil to Illinois. However, two Iowa women have publicly claimed that they vandalized the pipeline.

Greenpeace, which is being sued by the pipeline's developer for allegedly interfering with its construction, called the Dakota Access protest "a powerful act of united resistance."

"Corporations and their governmental enablers are desperate to silence dissent every way they can," Greenpeace USA Executive Director Annie Leonard said.

She called the new database "more fear-mongering by corporate bullies hoping to see what they can get away with in Trump's America."

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

Oil pipeline opponent uses 'necessity defense' _ What is it?

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON and STEVE KARNOWSKI, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — An American Indian activist and former U.S. congressional candidate in North Dakota accused of inciting a riot during protests against the Dakota Access oil pipeline says he'll seek to present a "necessity defense" — justifying a crime by arguing it prevented a greater harm.

Chase Iron Eyes has pleaded not guilty to inciting a riot and criminal trespassing. He could face more than five years in prison if convicted at trial in February. The pipeline has since begun carrying oil from North Dakota through South Dakota and Iowa to Illinois.

Pipeline protesters who try the necessity defense typically argue that the greater harm is climate change. Iron Eyes, a member of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, says he hopes to show that civil disobedience was

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his only option to resist a pipeline's incursion on his ancestral lands. The prosecutor in the case didn't respond to a request for comment. A judge will hear arguments Nov. 3.

WHAT IS THE NECESSITY DEFENSE?

People who use it are trying to show the harm they caused is justified because a greater harm was avoided as a result.

It dates to the late 1800s in England, when two sailors were charged with murder after they stayed alive by killing and eating a third sailor marooned with them in a lifeboat.

IS IT RECOGNIZED BY THE COURTS?

The U.S. Supreme Court has said it's an "open question" whether federal courts have the authority to recognize a necessity defense not provided by law, according to North Dakota District Court Judge Laurie Fontaine.

Whether the defense is permitted by law in state courts varies, according to University of Mississippi law professor Michael Hoffheimer.

The main argument against the defense is that it gives people who don't like a particular law the chance to break it and then argue it was excusable.

The main argument in its favor is that there might be special circumstances in which there is a justifiable reason for breaking a law.

HOW IS IT USED NOW?

It is used most frequently in criminal cases — such as drunk driving and marijuana use — in which people argue that what they did was necessary to prevent some greater harm.

In one such case, the Minnesota Supreme Court in 2014 ruled against a woman who challenged the revocation of her driver's license after she drove while intoxicated to escape her abusive husband.

Defense attorneys also have tried the necessity defense when people illegally use marijuana, arguing that it was needed to treat a health problem. A 1976 District of Columbia court decision in favor of a person suffering from glaucoma was the first in the country to recognize the defense in a marijuana case, according to the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

The defense also has been used through the years by abortion clinic protesters. In a high-profile case in 2009, a judge ruled against its use in the trial of Scott Roeder, who confessed to killing an abortion-providing doctor in Kansas but argued it was necessary to save unborn children.

It was first attempted in a U.S. environmental case in 2009 when a climate change activist cited necessity in Utah. Alice Cherry, co-founder of the Climate Defense Project, said it has been attempted in similar cases in Washington state, New York, Montana, North Dakota and Minnesota. The Climate Defense Project even offers an educational guide on using the defense and says this area of the law is "developing rapidly."

With pipeline protests, demonstrators often point to climate change and environmental damage as the greater harms. Oil pipelines carry fossil fuels, including oil, which release gases that trap heat and contribute to climate change, they argue.

Iron Eyes' arguments are more complex. He cites an "imminent threat" to his tribe's water supply because the Dakota Access pipeline goes beneath the Lake Oahe reservoir on the Missouri River, from which the tribe draws its drinking water. He also contends there was an effort by industry, private security and public law enforcement to conduct "an anti-terrorist campaign against Native Americans."

WHAT MUST BE PROVEN?

Legal experts agree the necessity defense is a long shot.

To succeed, the defendant generally has to persuade the judge or jury that they had no legal alternative to breaking the law. They also must prove they were trying to prevent some imminent harm, and there must be a direct connection between their breaking the law and preventing the harm. Finally, they must prove that breaking the law is less harmful than what would have happened.

HAS IT SUCCEEDED IN ENVIRONMENTAL CASES?

Not often.

In a Minnesota case, Judge Robert Tiffany is allowing four pipeline protesters to use the defense, but

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he also said they must clear a high legal bar. Tiffany said the defense applies "only in emergency situations where the peril is instant, overwhelming, and leaves no alternative but the conduct in question." That case is still pending.

A judge in Spokane, Washington, is allowing a 77-year-old Lutheran pastor to use a necessity defense in his upcoming trial stemming from a climate change protest last year. The Rev. George Taylor stood on railroad tracks to protest coal and oil trains that pass through Spokane and their contribution to climate change.

Judges in recent pipeline protest trials in North Dakota, Montana and Washington state have rejected the defense. The Montana judge said he didn't want to put U.S. energy policy on trial, and the North Dakota judge said a reasonable person couldn't conclude a direct cause and effect between the defendant's pipeline protest and climate change.

The Montana case is pending. In the Washington and North Dakota cases, the protesters on trial were allowed to tell jurors of their "state of mind" during the offense, but in both cases were still convicted. In the Washington case, the protester received probation and said he was "heartened, knowing that we are bringing these arguments into the jury system."

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

Follow Steve Karnowski at: <https://twitter.com/skarnowski> .

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Retired farmer sues Sioux Falls bank over stolen funds

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — An elderly Iowa man is suing First National Bank in Sioux Falls claiming its employees set up an account that enabled a relative to raid his annuity.

Ninety-four-year-old Harold Wittrock, of Rock Rapids, says a relative established an account by forging Wittrock's signature at the First National Bank and began withdrawing funds beginning in 2009.

The Argus Leader reports the lawsuit says the withdrawals, totaling nearly \$640,000, continued until last December. The retired farmer checked on his account in March and learned the annuity was only worth about \$5,000. The lawsuit says the bank was replaced \$310,000, but had the unauthorized withdrawals not been made, the annuity would be worth more than \$800,000.

First National CEO Bill Baker says he could not comment on pending litigation. The case has been turned over to the FBI.

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

Rollover crash in Minnehaha County kills 35-year-old man

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — One person is dead after a single-vehicle crash in Minnehaha County.

The Highway Patrol says the 35-year-old man lost control of the Suburban he was driving on state Highway 115, and the vehicle went in the ditch and rolled. The man later died of his injuries.

The crash happened about 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, 4 miles north of Sioux Falls. The victim's name wasn't immediately released.

Rapid City eyes changes to allow ride-hailing services

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Rapid City officials are pursuing a change to a city ordinance that would allow ride-hailing services such as Lyft and Uber to operate there.

The Rapid City Journal reports that Councilman Jason Salamun said in a Tuesday tweet that "we will soon have an ordinance before City Council."

City spokesman Darrell Shoemaker says a change that would allow ride-hailing services to get a license in Rapid City could be introduced at the council's Nov. 6 meeting. He says Mayor Steve Allender supports bringing the services to Rapid City.

If it passes a second reading at the council's Nov. 20 meeting, the ordinance could take effect in late December. Lyft started operating in Sioux Falls on Tuesday.

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

Man killed in I-90 crash involving vehicles and cattle ID'd

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified a Spencer man who died after a crash on Interstate 90 in Davison County involving two vehicles and cattle.

The Highway Patrol says 39-year-old Tracy Morehead was driving a car that rear-ended a pickup truck that had stopped on the highway after colliding with six cows. He died of his injuries later at a Mitchell hospital.

The crash happened Saturday night just east of Mitchell. Three people in the pickup were hurt, including a 10-year-old girl who suffered life-threatening injuries and was flown to a Sioux Falls hospital.

The six cows were killed in the incident. The interstate was closed for about two hours.

1 dead as Kenya police, protesters clash during election

By CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA, Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — At least one person was killed as Kenyan police on Thursday fired bullets and tear gas at stone-throwing protesters in some opposition areas during the repeat presidential election, reflecting bitter divisions in a country whose main opposition leader urged his followers to boycott the vote.

Violence erupted in Nairobi's Kibera slum and Kisumu, a major city in the west where protesters set fires and blocked roads, and many polling stations didn't open because of security concerns.

Police said one man shot during protests in Kisumu died at a hospital, while three other people were admitted with gunshot wounds. An Associated Press journalist saw ambulances transporting several people from the protests there.

One Kisumu primary school that saw huge lines of voters when it served as a polling station in the Aug. 8 election was closed this time around, its gates locked.

"We are not going to vote and we are not going to allow it," said Olga Onyanga, an opposition supporter in Kisumu.

Voting proceeded in areas where President Uhuru Kenyatta has support, but fewer voters were turning out in comparison to the August election that the Supreme Court nullified because it found illegalities and irregularities in the election process.

After voting, Kenyatta said 90 percent of the country was calm and said Kenya must remove ethnic loyalties from its politics in order to succeed. The president, who was declared the winner in August with 54 percent of the vote, had said security forces would be deployed nationwide to ensure order on Thursday, and he urged Kenyans to vote while respecting the rights of those who didn't.

Voters lined up before dawn at a polling station in Kenyatta's hometown of Gatundu and electoral workers prepared ballot papers by flashlight after heavy rains knocked out power to the site.

"Our hope for the country is that whoever emerges the winner will be able to unite the country, which is already torn apart by politicians and politics of the day," said Simon Wambirio, a Gatundu resident.

Opposition leader Raila Odinga, who got nearly 45 percent of the vote in August, has said the new election won't be credible because of a lack of electoral reform and accused Kenyatta of moving a country known for relative stability and openness toward authoritarian rule.

Odinga's call for a boycott resonated strongly in Kisumu, Kenya's third-largest city and an opposition stronghold. He has urged followers to stay away from polling stations because of concerns about a crackdown by security forces. Human rights groups said police killed at least 67 people during protests

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after the August vote; authorities confirmed a smaller number of deaths and said they had to take action against rioters.

Odinga has said the opposition coalition, National Super Alliance, will become a resistance movement. On Thursday, he said the movement will constitute a "People's Assembly to guide the country to a fresh free and fair presidential election" as part of a peaceful resistance that will include boycotting goods and services by those who have supported Kenyatta's "lawless grab of the presidency."

Odinga and Kenyatta, who seeks a second term, also faced off in a 2013 election similarly marred by opposition allegations of vote-rigging. The opposition leader also ran unsuccessfully in 2007 — ethnic-fueled animosity after that vote killed more than 1,000 people and forced 600,000 from their homes.

Many observers say Kenya's ethnic-based politics overshadow the promise of its democracy. Kenyatta is a Kikuyu, while Odinga is a Luo.

Associated Press journalists Andrew Drake in Kisumu and Joe Mwhia in Gatundu contributed.

Springer's HR in 11th gives Astros 7-6 win, ties Series 1-1

By RONALD BLUM, AP Baseball Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — George Springer screamed with joy as he circled the bases after hitting a two-run homer in the 11th inning.

Would it be enough? Was this the final plot twist on one of the wildest nights in postseason history?

Yes, it was — barely — and the Houston Astros won a World Series game for the first time in their 56 seasons.

Charlie Culberson hit a two-out homer in the bottom half off Chris Devenski, who then struck out Yasiel Puig in a tense, nine-pitch at-bat for the win. The Astros outlasted the Los Angeles Dodgers 7-6 in a Hollywood thriller Wednesday to tie the Series at one game apiece.

"Wasn't that the best game ever!?" Alex Bregman proclaimed to no one in particular in the Astros clubhouse.

On a night of dramatic swings and a World Series-record eight home runs, Marwin Gonzalez stunned the Dodger Stadium crowd with a solo shot off dominant Los Angeles closer Kenley Jansen on an 0-2 pitch in the ninth that made it 3-all.

Jose Altuve and Carlos Correa hit consecutive home runs against Josh Fields in the 10th to build a 5-3 Astros lead, with Correa flipping his bat to celebrate.

But there was more. Much, much more.

"This is an instant classic and to be part of it is pretty special," Astros starter Justin Verlander said.

Puig homered off Ken Giles starting the bottom of the 10th and Enrique Hernandez knotted the score 5-5 with a two-out RBI single .

Devenski entered and, with Hernandez at second, made a wild pickoff throw that appeared headed toward left-center field before it struck second base umpire Laz Diaz. An incredulous Hernandez put both hands on his helmet, unable to advance, and was stranded when Chris Taylor flied out.

"We were pretty unlucky at the beginning of the game when Taylor dove in center field and (the ball) hit him in the face or head," Astros manager A.J. Hinch said. "I felt like the baseball gods were returning the favor, by having an umpire standing in the way there."

Cameron Maybin, who had entered in the 10th, singled leading off the 11th against losing pitcher Brandon McCarthy, a surprise addition to the Dodgers' World Series roster who was pitching for the first time since Oct. 1. Maybin stole second and Springer hit a drive to right-center for a 7-5 lead, just the third 11th-inning home run in the Series after shots by Kirby Puckett in 1991 and David Freese in 2011.

Springer, an All-Star leadoff man, broke out of his slump with three hits and a walk after going 0 for 4 with four strikeouts in the Series opener Tuesday. His decisive drive made the Astros the first team to hit three extra-inning home runs in a postseason game.

Devenski retired Corey Seager and Justin Turner on lineouts in the bottom half. Puig checked his swing

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on a 2-2 pitch — the Astros jumped when first base umpire Gerry Davis signaled no swing — and Puig fouled off two more. Devenski threw his fifth straight changeup, and Puig swung over it as the Astros ran onto the field to celebrate after finally closing out a back-and-forth game that lasted 4 hours, 19 minutes.

“It was an emotional roller coaster,” said Dodgers manager Dave Roberts, who removed starter Rich Hill after he threw only 60 pitches in four solid innings and struck out seven.

After another steamy night in a Santa Ana heat wave, the series shifts to Texas and resumes Friday night at Houston’s Minute Maid Park, where the retractable roof has not been open for a game since June 9. Lance McCullers Jr. starts for the Astros and Yu Darvish for the Dodgers, who acquired him from Texas at the July 31 trade deadline.

Houston is 2-5 on the road in the postseason but 6-0 at home, where the Astros have outscored the Red Sox and Yankees by a combined 31-7.

“We didn’t expect these guys to lay down. It’s a very good ballclub over there,” Roberts said. “We’ll be ready to go.”

Before Gonzalez’s home run, the Dodgers had an 85 percent chance of winning, according to Fangraphs. After Correa’s long ball, the Astros were a 93 percent favorite.

Verlander, wearing an undershirt, entered the dugout at one point and screamed at his teammates that the game was not over.

“All of a sudden, two runs seemed like it was the Grand Canyon,” he said. “I was just trying to remind these guys two runs is nothing.”

Bregman’s RBI single in the third gave Houston its first lead of the Series, a hit that might have turned into a three-run, inside-the-park homer had the ball not caromed off the bill of Taylor’s cap directly to left fielder Joc Pederson.

Los Angeles had just two hits through seven innings but led 3-1 behind Pederson’s fifth-inning solo homer and Seager’s tiebreaking, two-run drive in the sixth against Verlander. It was Pederson’s first home run since July 26.

Jansen entered with a 3-1 lead trying for his first six-out save in a year after Bregman doubled leading off the eighth against Brandon Morrow, a ball that ticked off the glove of a diving Puig in the right-field corner. Furious that he didn’t make what would have been a sensational catch, Puig slammed his mitt to the ground.

Correa’s RBI single off Jansen ended a record 28-inning postseason scoreless streak by the Dodgers’ bullpen.

Gonzalez, choking up on the bat, seemed an unlikely candidate for a tying homer. He had not driven in a run in his 45 plate appearances since Houston’s playoff opener, and the blown save was just the second for Jansen this year. The Dodgers had been 98-0 in 2017 when leading after eight innings, including the postseason.

“I didn’t make my pitch,” Jansen said. “You can’t beat yourself up about that.”

As the slanting sun illuminated the green hills of Elysian Park behind center field and the ochre-tinted San Gabriel Mountains beyond, retired Dodgers broadcaster Vin Scully took the mound for the ceremonial first pitch. The 89-year-old, who left the booth in 2016 after his 67th season, charmed the crowd when he began “somewhere up in heaven, Duke Snider, Jackie Robinson, Roy Campanella and Gil Hodges are laughing their heads off” at his presence on the mound. He feigned an arm injury and turned the ritual over to Fernando Valenzuela, who helped the Dodgers win their 1981 title.

The game-time temperature was 93 degrees — down 10 degrees from the opener. Celebrities in the sellout crowd of 54,293 included golfers Tiger Woods and Fred Couples, and former NFL quarterback Peyton Manning.

Houston improved to 10-0 in nine starts and one relief appearance by Verlander, the 2011 AL MVP and Cy Young Award winner obtained in a trade from Detroit at the Aug. 31 deadline to be eligible for the Astros’ postseason roster.

Afterward, players were exhausted.

"When that last out is made, you finally breathe," Springer said. "That's an emotional high — emotional high to low to high again. But that's why we play the game. And that's the craziest game that I've ever played in. And it's only Game 2."

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

Police post 'pumpkin lineup' after recovering stolen squash

MARYLAND HEIGHTS, Mo. (AP) — Police who caught three teenagers orange-handed with 48 stolen pumpkins — and one gourd — are asking residents of a St. Louis suburb to view a "pumpkin lineup" online to see if their Halloween squash are among those recovered.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports that pumpkins began vanishing last week from subdivisions of Maryland Heights. Police quickly tracked down the boys and their pumpkin-crammed SUV that Capt. Scott Will says was "top-to-bottom orange."

The next day, officers snapped a picture of the abducted decor and posted it to Facebook . Will says police have been "inundated" with people coming to track down their Halloween pumpkins. About a dozen remained unclaimed Tuesday. None are carved.

Two 18-year-olds are charged with misdemeanor stealing, while a 16-year-old has been referred to juvenile court.

Information from: St. Louis Post-Dispatch, <http://www.stltoday.com>

Explosion, inferno at Indonesia fireworks factory kills 47

By TATAN SYUFLANA, Associated Press

TANGERANG, Indonesia (AP) — An explosion and inferno at a fireworks factory near the Indonesian capital on Thursday killed at least 47 people and injured dozens, police said.

Witnesses said a huge explosion was heard from the factory at about 10 a.m. and then smaller explosions echoed across the neighborhood as orange flames jumped from the building and a column of black smoke billowed from it.

Hary Kurniawan, chief of police in the Jakarta satellite city of Tangerang, said all the bodies recovered so far were found in the remains of the factory and a search of the building is continuing.

The death toll could rise as many of those who escaped have suffered extensive burns, said Nico Afinta, general crimes director at Jakarta police.

"The fire began with a strong explosion like a bomb," Benny, a Tangerang resident who goes by one name, told MetroTV.

He said he saw police and residents smash through a factory wall to help workers out. Some of the victims were burning as they ran out, he said.

The factory is located next to a residential area in Tangerang, a city in Banten province on the western outskirts of Jakarta. A police report said the fire spread after an explosion and that the factory's roof had collapsed.

Kurniawan said more than 40 injured people were being treated at three hospitals.

The factory had been operating for less than two months, he said.

"We are still investigating the cause of the fire and questioning witnesses," Kurniawan told reporters. "Factory owners or anyone who neglects and violates safety rules should be held legally responsible."

Indonesia's MetroTV, quoting a local official, said although the factory had a permit, its proximity to a residential area was against regulations. Safety laws are often inconsistently enforced in Indonesia.

The factory had more than 100 employees, according to Afinta.

APNewsBreak: Georgia election server wiped after suit filed

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By **FRANK BAJAK, Associated Press**

A computer server crucial to a lawsuit against Georgia election officials was quietly wiped clean by its custodians just after the suit was filed, The Associated Press has learned.

The server's data was destroyed July 7 by technicians at the Center for Elections Systems at Kennesaw State University, which runs the state's election system. The data wipe was revealed in an email — sent last week from an assistant state attorney general to plaintiffs in the case — that was obtained by the AP. More emails obtained in a public records request confirmed the wipe.

The lawsuit, filed by a diverse group of election reform advocates, aims to force Georgia to retire its antiquated and heavily criticized election technology. The server in question, which served as a statewide staging location for key election-related data, made national headlines in June after a security expert disclosed a gaping security hole that wasn't fixed six months after he reported it to election authorities.

WIPED OUT

It's not clear who ordered the server's data irretrievably erased.

The Kennesaw election center answers to Georgia's secretary of state, Brian Kemp, a Republican who is running for governor in 2018 and is the main defendant in the suit. A spokeswoman for the secretary of state's office said Wednesday that "we did not have anything to do with this decision," adding that the office also had no advance warning of the move.

The center's director, Michael Barnes, referred questions to the university's press office, which declined comment.

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit, who are mostly Georgia voters, want to scrap the state's 15-year-old vote-management system — particularly its 27,000 AccuVote touchscreen voting machines, hackable devices that don't use paper ballots or keep hardcopy proof of voter intent. The plaintiffs were counting on an independent security review of the Kennesaw server, which held electronic poll book data and ballot definitions for counties, to demonstrate the system's unreliability.

Wiping the server clean "forestalls any forensic investigation at all," said Richard DeMillo, a Georgia Tech computer scientist who has closely followed the case. "People who have nothing to hide don't behave this way."

STATE SECURITY

The server data could have revealed whether Georgia's most recent elections were compromised by malicious hackers. The plaintiffs contend that the results of both last November's election and a special June 20 congressional runoff— won by Kemp's predecessor, Karen Handel — cannot be trusted.

Possible Russian interference in U.S. politics, including attempts to penetrate voting systems, has been an acute national preoccupation since the Obama administration first sounded the alarm more than a year ago.

Kemp and his GOP allies insist Georgia's elections system is secure. But Marilyn Marks, executive director of the Coalition for Good Governance, a plaintiff, believes the server data was erased precisely because the system isn't secure.

"I don't think you could find a voting systems expert who would think the deletion of the server data was anything less than insidious and highly suspicious," she said.

J. Tom Morgan, a former Georgia prosecutor, said destruction of the drive would not be a criminal act unless it was in violation of a protective court order (It appears no such order was requested). But it could seriously damage the defendants' case, he said.

NOW YOU SEE IT, NOW YOU DON'T

It could still be possible to recover relevant information from the server.

The FBI is known to have made an exact data image of the server in March when it investigated the security hole. The email that disclosed the server wipe said the state attorney general's office was "reaching out to the FBI to determine whether they still have the image."

Atlanta FBI spokesman Stephen Emmett, responding to AP questions, would not say whether that image still exists. Nor would he say whether agents examined it to determine whether the server's files might have been altered by unauthorized users.

Other backups also appear to be gone. In the same email to plaintiffs' attorneys, assistant state Attor-

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ney General Cristina Correia wrote that two backup servers were also wiped clean on Aug. 9, just as the lawsuit moved to federal court.

FAILING TO SERVICE THE SERVER

A 140-page collection of Kennesaw State emails, obtained Friday by the Coalition for Good Governments via an open records search, details the destruction of the data on all three servers and a partial and ultimately ineffective effort by Kennesaw State systems engineers to fix the main server's security hole.

As a result of the failed effort, sensitive data on Georgia's 6.7 million voters — including social security numbers, party affiliation and birthdates — as well as passwords used by county officials to access elections management files remained exposed for months.

The problem was first discovered by Atlanta security researcher Logan Lamb, who happened across it while doing online research in August 2016. He informed the election center's director at the time, noting in an email that "there is a strong possibility your site is already compromised."

Based on his review of the emails, Lamb believes that electronic polling books could have been altered in Georgia's biggest counties to add or drop voters or to scramble their data. Malicious hackers could have altered the templates of the memory cards used in voting machines to skew results.

An attacker could even have modified "ballot-building" files to corrupt the count, said Lamb, who works at Atlanta-based Bastille Networks.

But it will be impossible to know for sure unless the FBI provides a copy of the server image for analysis.

Frank Bajak on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/fbajak>

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. HOUSE GOP MOVES TO PASS BUDGET, START TAX DEBATE

House Republicans focus squarely on tax cuts rather than deficit discipline as they look to shoehorn a GOP budget plan through the House.

2. TRUMP COY ON LONG-SECRET JFK ASSASSINATION FILES

The president is caught between students of the killing who want every scrap of information out on that crucible of history and intelligence agencies that are said to be counseling restraint.

3. THAILAND GRIEVES IN FINAL GOODBYE TO MONARCH

Black-clad Thais give a solemn farewell to King Bhumibol Adulyadej, capping a year of mourning with funeral ceremonies steeped in centuries of tradition.

4. BELGIAN DOCTORS CLASH OVER EUTHANASIA FOR MENTALLY ILL

The dispute highlights how difficult it can be to judge whose pain should end in death, as methods for assisted dying become more readily available, documents obtained by AP reveal.

5. KENYAN PRESIDENT REASSURES NATION IN ELECTION DO-OVER

Uhuru Kenyatta votes and deploys security forces across the African country to assure order as the opposition boycotts elections and prevents polling stations from opening in their strongholds.

6. IRAQI PM DISMISSES KURDS' PROPOSAL

Haider al-Abadi dismisses an offer from Kurdish leaders to "freeze" the results of their independence vote last month as skirmishes break out near the border with Turkey.

7. KEY DAY IN STANDOFF BETWEEN SPAIN, CATALONIA REGION

Regardless if the Catalan president formally declares independence, Spain is poised to remove Catalonia's cabinet, a first in four decades of democracy.

8. DEADLY EXPLOSION AT INDONESIA FACTORY

A blast and raging fire at a firecracker factory near Jakarta collapses the roof and kills at least 39 people and injures dozens, police say.

9. TRUMP TO TACKLE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

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The president plans to officially declare the crisis a national emergency and will give his administration the "power to do things that you can't do right now."

10. GAME 2 AN 'INSTANT CLASSIC'

George Springer's two-run homer in the 11th inning — one of a World Series-record eight home runs — lifted the Astros to a 7-6 win over the Dodgers to even the Series at a game apiece.

New screenings begins for passengers on US-bound flights

By JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — New security screenings for all passengers on U.S.-bound flights began on Thursday, with airlines worldwide questioning flyers about their trip and their luggage in the latest Trump administration decision affecting global travel.

However, confusion still remains about the new regulations, which come at the end of a 120-day period following the United States lifting a ban on laptops in airplane cabins affecting 10 Mideast cities. The new regulations cover all the 2,100 flights from around the world entering the U.S. on any given day.

Some airlines said they had received permission to delay implementing the new rules until January.

At Dubai International Airport, the world's busiest for international travel, long-haul carrier Emirates began questioning passengers about their luggage, liquids they were carrying and where they were coming from. Passengers also had to have their carry-on bags searched, along with their electronics.

Emirates declined to discuss the new procedures in detail on Thursday. On Wednesday, it said it would conduct "passenger pre-screening interviews" for those traveling on U.S.-bound flights in concert with other checks on electronics.

Elsewhere, things did not appear to be going so smoothly. In China, an official in the Xiamen Airlines press office, who would only give his surname as Qiu, said that the airlines received a "demand" about the new U.S. regulations and planned "to take some security measures, including security safety interviews from today on."

"We're not going to interview all passengers, but focus on those with a certain degree of risk when checking the passengers' documents on the ground," he said, without elaborating.

An official with the Eastern Airlines publicity department said that she saw media reports about security safety interviews but didn't have immediate details on what her company was doing. An official at the Beijing Airport press center would only say: "We always strictly follow relevant regulations of the Civil Aviation Administration when conducting security checks." Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity under regulations.

At Air China, the country's flag carrier, an official who only gave his surname, Zhang, said it would comply.

"We will meet the demands from the U.S. side, but as for the detailed measures (we will take), it is inconvenient for us to release," he said.

South Korea's Transport Ministry said that the United States agreed to delay implementing the new screening for the country's two biggest carriers, Korean Air Lines Co. and Asiana Airlines Inc., until next year on condition they deploy staff at boarding gates to monitor travelers.

Royal Jordanian, based in Amman, also has said it would introduce the new procedures in mid-January.

Other airlines with U.S.-bound flights at Seoul's Incheon International Airport brought in as many as seven extra staff Thursday to question passengers under the new rules but there were no major delays, airport spokesman Lee Jung-hoon said.

Singapore Airlines passengers may be required to "undergo enhanced security measures" including inspection of personal electronic devices "as well as security questioning during check-in and boarding," the carrier said on its website.

Other carriers who announced the new regulations on Wednesday included Air France, Hong Kong-based Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd., the airlines of Germany's Lufthansa Group and EgyptAir.

In Hong Kong, passengers described some of the questions they were asked.

"They asked me if I packed my own bag, where I packed it from, where I came from, they looked at my

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itinerary, verify where I was, who I was, from where I came from," said Fran Young, who was travelling to Los Angeles.

Some showed displeasure.

"It's a little inconvenient, I kind of just want to get my printed ticket and then just go inside," passenger Gavin Lai said. "I don't want to wait on people to interview me like that. So it's a little annoying."

U.S. carriers also will be affected by the new rules. Delta Air Lines said it was telling passengers traveling to the U.S. to arrive at the airport at least three hours before their flight and allow extra time to get through security. United declined to comment, while American did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

In March, U.S. officials introduced the laptop ban in the cabins of some Mideast airlines over concerns Islamic State fighters and other extremists could hide bombs inside of them. The ban was lifted after those airlines began using devices like CT scanners to examine electronics before passengers boarded planes heading to the U.S. Some also increasingly swab passengers' hands to check for explosive residue.

The laptop ban as well as travel bans affecting predominantly Muslim countries have hurt Mideast airlines. Emirates, the region's biggest, said it slashed 20 percent of its flights to the U.S. in the wake of the restrictions.

Associated Press writers Yu Bing in Beijing, Kelvin Chan and Josie Wong in Hong Kong, Anna Johnson in Phoenix and Youkyung Lee in Seoul contributed to this report.

Follow Jon Gambrell on Twitter at www.twitter.com/jongambrellap . His work can be found at <http://apne.ws/2galNpz> .

Thailand grieves in elaborate final goodbye to King Bhumibol

By TASSANEE VEJPONGSA and STEPHEN WRIGHT, Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — With solemn faces and outright tears, black-clad Thais said farewell to their king and longtime father figure Thursday on Bangkok's streets and at viewing areas around the nation, capping a year of mourning with funeral ceremonies steeped in centuries of tradition.

Three processions involving the royal family, thousands of troops, a golden palanquin, a chariot and a royal gun carriage carried a ceremonial urn representing King Bhumibol Adulyadej's remains from the Dusit Maha Prasad Throne Hall to the newly built crematorium.

The urn, placed under a nine-tiered white umbrella and accompanied by a palace official, was then hoisted into the main chamber of the golden-spired crematorium as monks chanted, traditional instruments wailed and artillery fired in the distance. New King Maha Vajiralongkorn then climbed the red-carpeted steps to light candles and incense in honor of his father.

The ceremony was watched in person by tens of thousands of mourners dressed all in black and millions more around the kingdom in broadcasts aired live on most Thai TV stations and shown at designated viewing areas across the country.

Before dawn, 63-year-old Somnuk Yonsam-Ar sat on a paper mat in a crowd opposite the Grand Palace in Bangkok. Her granddaughter slept in her lap and her husband rested his head against a metal barrier. The family came from the coastal province of Rayong, where they run a food stall.

Somnak waved a fan to cool herself but said she was not tired.

"I feel blessed to be able to sit here, and be part of this," she said. "It's an important day for us."

The funeral for Bhumibol will take place over five days and began Wednesday with his son, King Maha Vajiralongkorn, performing Buddhist merit-making rites before chanting monks and officials in immaculate white uniforms.

Bhumibol will be cremated on Thursday evening within the special crematorium built over a year and representing mystical Mount Meru, where Buddhist and Hindu gods are believed to dwell.

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Deceased Thai royals have traditionally been kept upright in urns during official mourning. But Bhumibol, who spent much of his early life in the West, opted to be put in a coffin, with the royal urn placed next to it for devotional purposes.

The urn was at the center of Thursday's processions, including one led by Vajiralongkorn, Bhumibol's only son, in which the golden container was placed upon the Great Victory Chariot. Built in 1795 and made of gilded and lacquered carved wood, the chariot has been used to carry the urns of royal family members dating to the start of the Chakri dynasty.

As the chariot, pulled by hundreds of men in traditional red uniforms, passed the mourners lining the parade route, they prostrated themselves, pressing their folded hands and head on the ground in a show of reverence for the late monarch.

Bhumibol's death at age 88 on Oct. 13, 2016, after a reign of seven decades sparked a national outpouring of grief. Millions of Thais visited the throne hall at Bangkok's Grand Palace to pay respects.

The adulation Bhumibol inspired was fostered by palace courtiers who worked to rebuild the prestige of a monarchy that lost its mystique and power when a 1932 coup ended centuries of absolute rule by Thai kings.

That effort built a semi-divine aura around Bhumibol, who was protected from criticism by a draconian law that mandates prison of up to 15 years for insulting senior royals.

But he was also genuinely respected for his development projects, personal modesty and as a symbol of stability in a nation frequently rocked by political turmoil, though his influence waned in his final years.

The funeral is by design an intensely somber event, but also rich in history and cultural and spiritual tradition.

Mourners are permitted to prostrate when royal processions pass but must not shout out "Long Live the King" or hold up cellphones to take photos or selfies.

Boonjerd Buasawat, a 61-year-old fruit vendor from the resort island of Phuket, had been waiting near the cremation site since midday Wednesday and slept there overnight.

"I want to be here together with a group of people who dearly love their king," he said. "Our love won't die until we too pass and follow him."

Thais have braved tropical heat and torrential monsoon rains to secure street-side vantage points to witness the funeral. Thousands of police and volunteers are on hand to ensure order and entry into the royal quarter, which has been tightly controlled to eliminate the faint possibility of protest against the monarchy or military government.

An activist had been detained earlier this week after writing on Facebook that he planned to wear red clothing on the day of Bhumibol's cremation, a color associated with support for political movements ousted in recent coups.

Fats Domino dies at 89; gave rock music a New Orleans flavor

By JANET MCCONNAUGHEY and STACEY PLAISANCE, Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The godfather of rock and roll. A performer who always gave all he had. A man who loved his city and his neighborhood. Tributes to Fats Domino are accumulating, in words and in bouquets and Mardi Gras beads left at the yellow house in New Orleans where, after Hurricane Katrina, a fan spray-painted an erroneous RIP.

The amiable rock 'n' roll pioneer, whose steady, pounding piano and easy baritone helped change popular music while honoring the traditions of the Crescent City, is dead at the age of 89.

"He was one of my greatest inspirations. God was tops — but earthly, Fats was it," said singer Little Richard — another founding father of rock and roll — in a telephone interview from Nashville.

Domino died early Tuesday of natural causes, Mark Bone, chief investigator with the Jefferson Parish coroner's office, said Wednesday.

Two people from New Orleans — Domino and jazz great Louis Armstrong — have changed the world's music, said Quint Davis, who produces of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival was a decades-long

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friend of Domino.

Little Richard said he'd known Domino for 60 years and idolized him before that.

"I loved the way he played; I loved the way he was just so wrapped up in his music. He always did a good show." Domino never "slacked and cheated the people out. Every time, he gave his all," the musician said.

Domino stood 5-feet-5 and weighed more than 200 pounds, with a wide, boyish smile and a haircut as flat as an album cover. But he sold more than 110 million records, with hits including "Blueberry Hill," "Ain't That a Shame" — originally titled "Ain't It A Shame"— and other standards of rock 'n' roll.

The Rolling Stone Record Guide likened him to Benjamin Franklin, the beloved old man of a revolutionary movement.

"Fats is the godfather of rock and roll," said Greg Harris, CEO of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, which made Domino one of the first 10 people it honored.

He said the flag outside the hall was at half-staff Wednesday, and Domino's music was playing all day.

At the home where Domino spent most of his life, a steady stream of people showed up Wednesday with flowers, beads and cameras. One man brought a guitar and started in on "Walkin' to New Orleans."

Angelina Cruz brought her three children from suburban Kenner. She said she'd listened to his songs since she was 10 years old, in North Carolina. "I'm bringing my kids up to the old-school music," she said.

Domino's dynamic performance style and warm vocals drew crowds for five decades. One of his show-stopping stunts was playing the piano while standing, throwing his body against it with the beat of the music and bumping the grand piano across the stage.

His 1956 version of "Blueberry Hill" was selected for the Library of Congress' National Recording Registry of historic sound recordings worthy of preservation.

Most people didn't appreciate the breadth of Domino's ability, Little Richard said. "He could play jazz. He could play anything," he said. "He was one of the greatest entertainers that I've ever known."

Domino became a global star but stayed true to his hometown, where his fate was initially unknown after Hurricane Katrina struck in August 2005. It turned out that he and his family had been rescued by boat from his home, where he lost nearly everything he owned, including three pianos and dozens of gold and platinum records.

Many wondered if he would ever return to the stage.

But in May 2007, he was back, performing at Tipitina's music club in New Orleans. Fans cheered — and some cried — as Domino played "I'm Walkin'," "Ain't That a Shame," "Shake, Rattle and Roll," "Blueberry Hill" and a host of other hits.

That performance was a highlight during several rough years. His wife of more than 50 years, Rosemary, died in April 2008.

Domino moved to the New Orleans suburb of Harvey after the storm but often visited his publishing house, an extension of his old home in the Lower 9th Ward, inspiring many with his determination to stay in the city he loved.

"Fats embodies everything good about New Orleans," his friend David Lind said in a 2008 interview. "He's warm, fun-loving, spiritual, creative and humble. You don't get more New Orleans than that."

The son of a violin player, Antoine Domino Jr. was born Feb. 26, 1928, one of nine children. As a youth, he taught himself popular piano styles — ragtime, blues and boogie-woogie.

He quit school at age 14, and worked days in a factory while playing and singing in local juke joints at night. In 1949, Domino was playing at the Hideaway Club for \$3 a week when he was signed by the Imperial record company.

He recorded his first song, "The Fat Man," in the back of a tiny French Quarter recording studio.

"They call me the Fat Man, because I weigh 200 pounds," he sang. "All the girls, they love me, 'cause I know my way around."

In 1955, he broke into the white pop charts with "Ain't it a Shame," covered blandly by Pat Boone as "Ain't That a Shame" and rocked out decades later under that title by Cheap Trick and others. Domino enjoyed a parade of successes through the early 1960s, including "Be My Guest" and "I'm Ready." Another hit, "I'm Walkin,'" became the debut single for Ricky Nelson.

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Domino appeared in the rock 'n' roll film "The Girl Can't Help It" and was among the first black performers featured in popular music shows, starring with Buddy Holly and the Everly Brothers. He also helped bridge rock 'n' roll and other styles — even country/western, recording Hank Williams' "Jambalaya" and Bobby Charles' "Walkin' to New Orleans."

Like many of his peers, Domino's popularity tapered off in the 1960s as British and psychedelic rock held sway.

"I refused to change," he told Ebony magazine. "I had to stick to my own style that I've always used or it just wouldn't be me."

In 1988, all of New Orleans seemed to be talking about him after he reportedly paid cash for two Cadillacs and a \$130,000 Rolls-Royce. When the salesman asked if he wanted to call his bank about financing, Domino smiled and said, "I am the bank."

Ten years later, he became the first purely rock 'n' roll musician to be awarded the National Medal for the Arts. But, citing his age, he didn't make the trip to the White House to get the medal from President Bill Clinton.

That was typical. Aside from rare appearances in New Orleans, including a 2012 cameo spot in the HBO series "Treme," he dodged the spotlight in his later years, refusing to appear in public or even to give interviews.

His love for his home town was one of the things that stuck with John Jenks, a New Orleans resident who took a photo of himself Wednesday in front of Domino's house. "He stayed right here — as famous as he got, he stayed right in his old neighborhood here in the 9th Ward."

Associated Press writers Kevin McGill in New Orleans and Hillel Italie in New York contributed to this story.

Trump to tackle opioid addiction in White House speech

By CARLA K. JOHNSON and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is poised to deliver a major speech Thursday on fighting the opioid epidemic, the deadliest drug crisis in U.S. history.

"We're going to have a big meeting on opioids tomorrow," Trump told reporters as he left the White House Wednesday en route to Texas. He said his plan to officially declare the crisis a national emergency would give his administration the "power to do things that you can't do right now."

At a congressional hearing Wednesday in Washington, Republicans and Democrats shared frustration as they questioned top administration officials about federal spending to fight a crisis that kills tens of thousands of people each year.

"I don't understand why more resources aren't flowing to help out a rural state like West Virginia," said West Virginia Republican Rep. David McKinley. Rep. Ben Ray Lujan, a New Mexico Democrat, echoed: "People at home don't feel like they're getting help."

During his campaign, Trump had pledged to make fighting addiction a top priority at rallies in some of the hardest-hit states in the nation.

"When I won the New Hampshire primary, I promised the people of New Hampshire that I would stop drugs from pouring into your communities. I am now doubling-down on that promise, and can guarantee you - we will not only stop the drugs from pouring in, but we will help all of those people so seriously addicted get the assistance they need to unchain themselves," he told a crowd in Bangor, Maine weeks before the election.

Once in office, Trump convened a commission to study the problem, chaired by New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie. And he has pledged to declare the crisis an emergency, freeing up additional money and resources. But some advocates worry even that won't make enough difference.

Nearly a year after Congress approved an extraordinary \$1 billion to tackle the opioid crisis, the money that poured into all 50 states is gradually reaching places where it can do some good, but with some setbacks and delays along the way.

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In some locations, people addicted to opioids are starting to get treatment for the first time. In others, bureaucratic hurdles prevent innovation, driving home the point that gaining ground on the epidemic will be difficult. There's one constant: It takes time for government grants to trickle down to real people.

The \$1 billion for states is part of last year's 21st Century Cures Act, which also addressed cancer research and medical innovation. The bipartisan bill was signed by President Barack Obama in December.

"It is a great opportunity, but it comes with a lot of angst," said Tom Hill of the nonprofit National Council for Behavioral Health, which advocates for addiction treatment providers. States have analyzed data, chosen contractors and are "just getting programs up and running right now."

— Alabama used some of its share to recruit 23 treatment providers to start more than 5,300 new patients on medications that block cravings.

— Ohio plans to train enough new doctors to treat at least 25,000 new patients with one of the addiction treatment drugs.

— Michigan is hiring 97 peer recovery coaches, many with histories of addiction themselves.

— Illinois has selected a contractor to run a 24-hour opioid crisis phone line.

But in other places innovation is stalled.

Washington state wants to buy and equip four mobile methadone vans to reach patients in underserved areas. Utah wants to use video to connect rural patients with a Provo-based doctor trained to prescribe buprenorphine, a medication used to treat opioid addiction.

Both efforts are on hold, lacking crucial regulations from the federal Drug Enforcement Administration. DEA spokesman Rusty Payne said agency officials "are well aware of the concerns on both issues and are currently developing rules to address them."

"The clock is ticking," said Richard Nance, director of Utah County Department of Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Treatment.

States got half of their Cures Act grants in April and will get the rest next year. They must spend 80 percent on opioid addiction treatment. That's an incentive for some states to expand access to methadone, the oldest of the treatment drugs.

Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas and Louisiana are among states with plans to do just that. In California, Aegis Treatment Centers, a for-profit company that is the state's largest methadone provider, will get up to \$28.6 million over two years to expand into underserved regions.

Places like Fellowship House in Birmingham, Alabama, are using drugs like Suboxone, a combination of buprenorphine and naloxone, with patients for the first time.

"When I took Suboxone, it was like a miracle," said one Fellowship House patient, 43-year-old John Montesano, a former long-haul truck driver with a 20-year pill addiction, chronic pain and no health insurance. "I'd be dead now" without it, he said. "Or worse, not dead" and still using.

Montesano recently marked six months without a relapse. He attends daily recovery meetings, works at a sandwich shop and plans to reunite with his wife. As long as the money goes for treatment "the way Fellowship House does it," he said, Congress "should release all the money they can spare."

AP Medical Writer Carla K. Johnson reported from Chicago.

Trump coy on what's coming out on JFK assassination

By LAURIE KELLMAN and DEB RIECHMANN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is playing it coy on what people will see from long-secret JFK assassination-era files.

He's been caught between students of the killing who want every scrap of information out on that crucible of history and intelligence agencies that are said to be counseling restraint. How that plays out should be known Thursday, the day set in law 25 years ago for the disclosure of remaining hidden documents on Kennedy's killing on Nov. 22, 1963. Only the president can hold some back.

Trump wasn't tipping his hand on the eve of the release. "The long anticipated release of the #JFKFiles

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will take place tomorrow," was all he said in a tweet. "So interesting!"

Scholars and sleuths say the CIA is pushing Trump to keep some of the materials secret. The spy agency isn't denying that.

"Clearly there are documents, plural, files, plural, being appealed to him," said University of Virginia historian Larry Sabato, an authority on Kennedy. Of the pressure on Trump, Sabato said, "I'm told reliably that it continues and that it has intensified." The historian said documents generated in the 1990s that could contain the names of people who are still alive are of particular concern to those who want files held back.

Whatever details are released, they're not expected to answer the major — and for many, still-lingering — question of whether anyone other than Lee Harvey Oswald was involved in the assassination, including the government. The Warren Commission in 1964 reported that Oswald had been the lone gunman, and another congressional probe in 1979 found no evidence to support the theory that the CIA had been involved. But other interpretations, some more creative than others, have persisted.

For example, Roger Stone, a close Trump ally, advanced the unsubstantiated and widely disdained theory that Lyndon Johnson, who became president upon Kennedy's death, was involved in it.

Stone is not sure key documents will see the light of day. He said that 440 documents related to the assassination, released by the National Archives in July, were so heavily redacted "on the basis of 'national security' that they are useless." Stone said he's lobbied Trump personally to release all remaining materials and believes the CIA is pushing the president to keep some secret.

In 1992, Congress passed the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act, which directed the National Archives to collect all information related to the assassination and release it within 25 years, barring exceptions designated by the president. The deadline is Thursday.

The gunshots that the Warren Commission said killed Kennedy almost immediately inspired theories about whether Oswald had been the lone gunman who, with extraordinary luck by any measure, had hit his target.

As the nation mourned in disbelief, Oswald was shot and killed in police custody by Jack Ruby — forcing Americans to consider whether their government was hiding what it knew of the assassination. The event remains in the nation's living memory for a significant slice of the country. Forty-nine million Americans, or 15 percent of the country, are age 65 and over, according to the Census Bureau. They were around age 11 or older at the time.

The Warren Commission did little to settle the matter. Theories abounded that Oswald's murder was a cover-up for a conspiracy or government ineptitude. The deadly aim of a lonely, alienated gunman seemed hard to fathom.

"A gnat simply does not kill a lion," is how Saul Pett of The Associated Press described what was fueling the search for answers. He wrote the introduction to the book published by the AP that reproduced the Warren Report.

Trump has seen fit to peddle conspiracies when they suit him as part of a broader appeal to supporters who don't trust the government.

During the 2016 presidential campaign, Trump repeatedly quoted a tabloid story that claimed the father of GOP rival Ted Cruz had been photographed with Oswald before the shooting. That's never been confirmed — Trump later said he was only quoting what he'd read. But the release of JFK files this week could provide new details.

Trump also trafficked for years in the baseless theory that President Barack Obama was born outside the U.S. He also falsely accused Democratic rival Hillary Clinton of starting that rumor. The president also, without evidence, accused Obama of wiretapping his office in Trump Tower during the 2016 campaign.

Whatever Trump decides to release, historians expect to comb it for an array of details, particularly on six days Oswald spent in Mexico City just before the assassination. Oswald said he was visiting the Cuban and Soviet Union embassies there to get visas, but much about his time there remains unknown.

They will also look for any mention — or absence — of Cruz's father.

Of key interest are any new details about Oswald, including any government ineptitude or cover-up. The 1992 law allows the president to withhold details that could compromise the government's sources and

methods — but not embarrassments.

"In any release of this size, there always are embarrassing details," said Douglas Brinkley, a professor at Rice University.

Follow Kellman and Riechmann on Twitter at <http://www.Twitter.com/APLaurieKellman> and <http://www.Twitter.com/DebRiechmann>

Senators rally behind Trump and his agenda after mini-revolt

By ERICA WERNER and ALAN FRAM, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — There was no dam break of Republican rancor against Donald Trump, a day after a pair of the party's prominent senators denounced their president and invited colleagues to join them. Instead, most GOP lawmakers rallied around Trump and his agenda Wednesday, with one all but saying "good riddance" to Jeff Flake of Arizona and Bob Corker of Tennessee.

"Maybe we do better by having some of the people who just don't like him leave, and replace them with somebody else," Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma told The Associated Press. "And I think that's what's happening."

Trump heartily agreed, declaring that both men were retiring because they couldn't win re-election, and "I think I'm probably helped greatly in Arizona by what happened with Sen. Flake."

Inhofe went further than most GOP lawmakers, but he had plenty of company in his refusal to echo the criticisms of Flake and Corker. Trump himself proclaimed he was leading a party unified in its pursuit of tax cut legislation.

"There is great unity in the Republican Party," he contended as he left the White House for a hurricane briefing and other events in Texas. Claiming a show of affection at his appearance at a Senate GOP lunch a day earlier, Trump said: "I called it a lovefest. It was almost a lovefest. Maybe it was a lovefest." He said repeatedly that he got multiple standing ovations.

But if the lunch — no outsiders allowed — displayed unity of sorts, the events that preceded and followed it did the opposite. First Corker and then Flake blistered Trump with criticism, accusing him of leading the nation into a moral black hole. Both lawmakers do plan to retire at the end of next year, a semi-bombshell Flake dropped Tuesday, freeing them to speak without fear.

Flake kept it up Wednesday with an opinion piece in The Washington Post. He likened the current moment to the red scare era of the early 1950s when Sen. Joseph McCarthy threw accusations of communism at a wide range of people. McCarthy's career ended in disgrace, his downfall hastened when an Army lawyer, Joseph Welch, confronted him at a hearing with the question: "Have you no sense of decency, Sir, at long last?"

"We face just such a time now. We have again forgotten who we are supposed to be," Flake wrote. "There is a sickness in our system — and it is contagious."

"Nine months of this administration is enough for us to stop pretending that this is somehow normal, and that we are on the verge of some sort of pivot to governing, to stability. Nine months is more than enough for us to say, loudly and clearly: Enough."

Flake has contended in interviews that the Republican Party is at a tipping point, or close to one, and others will start to speak out, too.

There was scant evidence of that Wednesday on Capitol Hill, aside from the few Republicans in the House and Senate who have already made public their grievances with Trump. Nearly everyone else dodged questions on the topic, voiced unqualified support for Trump, or answered by saying that distractions aside, the GOP must remain focused on passing landmark legislation to simplify and reduce taxes.

After a drought of legislative accomplishments so far this year, a tax bill would give Republicans a major victory and a powerful argument for retaining their majorities in next year's midterm elections, something the lawmakers desperately want.

"You know my answer. I'm focused on getting stuff done," said Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio, when asked

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about his colleagues' criticisms of Trump. "He was elected. I disagree with him fairly frequently, and I do so publicly and privately. But I want to work with him to get stuff done."

Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina refused to discuss Trump's standing.

"I am just not going to engage in that conversation at all. There's no benefit to anyone," Scott said. "At the end of the day the goal is for us to keep the focus on the American people and tax reform that will help them keep more of their money."

Sen. David Perdue of Georgia was even more direct. "We're all professionals here. These two guys can say and do what they want to do. But right now, we've got a bigger issue, and the bigger issue is to get this tax bill done," he said.

In addition to their desire to get results on taxes, many GOP lawmakers confront the political reality that despite Trump's relatively low poll numbers nationally, he retains the loyalty of a segment of the party's base that nearly any Republican needs to win re-election. Trump has shown he can turn viciously on critics, and few want to find themselves in his Twitter crosshairs.

Flake and Corker raised the question: Will the GOP ever part ways with its mercurial leader? Certainly not today.

Associated Press writers Catherine Lucey, Richard Lardner, Eileen Putman and Andrew Taylor contributed.

House GOP moves to pass budget, start tax debate

By ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republicans are focusing squarely on tax cuts rather than deficit discipline as they look to shoehorn a GOP budget plan through the House.

Passage of the \$4 trillion budget measure on Thursday would pave the way for Republicans controlling Washington to pass a 10-year, \$1.5 trillion tax cut measure later this year that's the highest priority of President Donald Trump and his allies on Capitol Hill.

But GOP leaders were scrambling to overcome pockets of resistance to the measure from hard-right Republicans unhappy about deficits and lawmakers from New York and New Jersey who fear the subsequent tax bill would take away a deduction for state and local taxes that's especially valuable to their constituents.

"This is a big issue and it has to be resolved," said Rep. Tom MacArthur, R-N.J., who supports the deduction.

Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady says he'll schedule a panel debate and vote once the budget plan is safely passed, and much of the buzz in the Capitol concerned a flurry of horse trading as Republicans struggled to find ways to raise revenues to help finance cuts to individual and corporate tax rates. The goal is a full rewrite of the inefficient, loophole-laden tax code in hopes of lower rates for corporations and other businesses and a spurt of economic growth.

Brady, for instance, told reporters on Wednesday morning that he's still looking at curtailing tax-free deposits in 401(k) retirement accounts, a move that could raise revenue in the near term as retirement savings shift to Roth-style accounts that are funded with after-tax earnings. Rep. Carlos Curbelo, R-Fla., said the move would help expand a tax credit in which the government contributes to retirement accounts for low- and middle-income taxpayers.

Trump says he opposes curbing 401(k) donations, however, which tossed a monkey wrench into the process.

"The president will get much of what he wants I think in tax reform, but we are a co-equal branch" said Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa. "And we're going to write it."

Key decisions about tax brackets, including a new bracket for high-income earners, remain up in the air. Outcomes on other provisions are unsettled as well, lending a sense of chaos as GOP leaders rush to fulfill a goal of passing the measure through the House before Thanksgiving.

"To do tax reform, you need money. And right now, even as we speak, they appear to be going wobbly on some of the issues they've raised with great certainty in previous weeks," said top Ways and Means

panel Democrat Richard Neal of Massachusetts. "They've got a revenue problem, a real revenue problem. And you have to make some dramatic changes to benefits that people across America have come to expect and enjoy."

Republicans view passage of the tax measure as a career-defining dream, and its importance has only grown in the wake of the party's debacle on health care. But the tax plan's popularity is not a given with voters.

An Associated Press-NORC poll released Wednesday found most Americans saying Trump's tax plan would benefit the wealthy and corporations, and less than half believing his message that "massive tax cuts" would help middle-class workers.

First comes action on the GOP budget plan, which under Washington's arcane rules is nonbinding but would set up special procedures to pass follow-up tax legislation without the threat of a filibuster by Senate Democrats.

The tax cuts would add up to \$1.5 trillion to the deficit over the coming decade, however, as Republicans have shelved fears about the growing budget deficit in favor of a once-in-a-generation opportunity to rewrite tax laws.

A revered king is put to rest in Thailand: 5 things to know

By GRANT PECK, Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — The funeral for Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej is an elaborate, intricately planned event lasting five days. The ceremonies and processions are steeped in Buddhism, tradition and history and defined by modern and personal touches. Some facts about the events:

PAST AND PRESENT

The crematorium — a representation of mystical Mount Meru, where gods reside according to Buddhist and Hindu legends — is likely to be the most impressively ornate structure most Thais will see built in their country in their lifetimes. But some of their ancestors may have seen grander edifices, such as the 102.75-meter (337-foot) -high crematorium for King Borommakot of the Ayutthaya Kingdom in 1759.

However, 19th century monarch King Chulalongkorn, known for his attempts to modernize the country, thought it was time to downsize.

"It is a waste of human labor and money. Doing such a thing now would not suit changes in the country. It neither entails longer honor nor benefits anyone. This in turn causes trouble for others," Chulalongkorn has been quoted saying.

URN VS. COFFIN

By tradition, the bodies of deceased members of the royal family have been kept upright, in an elaborate urn. But Bhumibol and his late mother and sister, who all spent much of their early lives in the West, opted for their remains to be put in a coffin, with the urn still placed next to it for traditional devotional purposes.

When Bhumibol lay in state at the Grand Palace for the year after his death, the empty urn was placed on its pedestal, with the coffin behind it. Bhumibol's coffin is made of aged teakwood, plated with pure gold and lined with ivory colored silk.

A new gold-plated royal urn, etched with traditional royal patterns was fashioned in 2000 to replace one made in 1900 during the reign of Chulalongkorn. It was first used for the 2008 funeral ceremonies of the king's sister, Princess Galyani Vadhana, and is the one being used for Bhumibol's funeral rituals.

The practice of keeping the body in the urn has not fallen into complete disuse. The remains of Princess Bejaratana Rajasuda, the only child of King Vajiravudh, were kept in an urn for her funeral in 2012.

THE LATE KING'S DOGS

Sculptures of King Bhumibol's favorite dogs have place of pride among the 500 depictions of animals,

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gods and mythical creatures adorning the 50-meter (164-foot) -high crematorium. The 70-centimeter (2.2-foot) -tall painted statues of Tongdaeng and Jo Cho is on the top tier, near the bier for the royal coffin.

Tongdaeng, a stray adopted by the king in 1998, gained fame when the king penned a short book in 2002, "The Story of Tongdaeng," widely seen as parable for how the monarch thought Thai people should continue to hew to tradition in the globalized world of the 21st century.

"Tongdaeng is a respectful dog with proper manners; she is humble and knows protocol," the king wrote. "She would always sit lower than the king; even when he pulls her up to embrace her, Tongdaeng would lower herself down on the floor, her ears in a respectful drooping position, as if she would say, 'I don't dare.'"

SCULPTOR'S GAFFE

It must have seemed like a good idea at the time to sculptor Pitak Chalermhao, who was preparing a 2-meter (6.5-foot) -tall statue of the Garuda, a half-bird-half-human creature in Hindu and Buddhist mythology, for the crematorium.

To show that King Bhumibol was a man of his time, moving the country forward along with contemporary technology, he carved Apple and Google logos on each of the Garuda's wings and a Facebook logo on its belt buckle.

Proud of his idea, he posted photos of his work on Facebook, naturally. Then the slings and arrows started coming, first from netizens who found the concept offensive, or at least inappropriate.

The cremation project's overseer, the government's Fine Arts Department, was just as unhappy, and ordered the social media logos excised. It said they failed to properly honor tradition and the spirit of the occasion.

The abashed sculptor apologized and said he only meant to show that Bhumibol was a man with modern as well as traditional knowledge.

SANDALWOOD AND PAPER

Soon after Bhumibol's death, the Royal Palace sent out an official team, including a Brahmin astrologer, to select sandalwood trees from which appropriate wood could be used for the royal coffin and for the cremation pyre. Four of 19 varieties of the tree were chosen from the traditional venue at Kui Buri National Park in Prachuap Khiri Khan province, blessed for cutting down and transported to Bangkok in a solemn procession.

Hindu and Buddhist funeral ceremonies give great importance to the fragrant wood, which is the preferred fuel for cremations.

At the king's cremation, "flowers" made of sandalwood will be piled around the urn by senior officials and other privileged persons invited to the inner sanctum of the ceremony.

A mass campaign encouraged the public to show royal devotion by making their own flowers out of paper and depositing them at any of the hundreds of designated locations such as temples and schools and pop-up booths in shopping malls and hospitals. Bangkok's city government said it expected to produce 3 million of the flowers.

Public participation does not end there. Replica representations of the Sanam Luang crematorium have been erected in all of the country's 76 provinces, where people can bring their devotional creations.

Twitter toughens abuse rules - and now has to enforce them

By BARBARA ORTUTAY, AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Twitter is enacting new policies around hate, abuse and ads, but creating new rules is only half the battle — the easy half.

The bigger problem is enforcement, and there the company has had some high-profile bungles recently. That includes its much-criticized suspension of actress Rose McGowan while she was speaking out against Harvey Weinstein, and the company's ban, later reversed, of a controversial ad by a Republican Senate

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candidate.

The twists and turns suggest that Twitter doesn't always communicate the intent of its rules to the people enforcing them. The company says it will be clearer about these policies and decisions in the future.

Asia shares drift on Wall St retreat; ECB meeting in focus

By KELVIN CHAN, AP Business Writer

HONG KONG (AP) — Asian shares were drifting Thursday as Wall Street's retreat from recent record highs and a widely awaited European Central Bank meeting gave investors reason to pause.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index edged 0.2 percent higher to 21,740.97 while South Korea's Kospi was flat at 2,492.42. Hong Kong's Hang Seng slipped 0.1 percent to 28,270.70 but the Shanghai Composite in mainland China crept 0.2 percent higher to 3,403.87. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 dipped 0.1 percent to 5,898.60.

ECB: The European Central Bank's policy meeting, where it's expected to sketch out a plan to exit its extraordinary stimulus program, is shaping up to be the day's big market moving event. The euro was rising as investors awaited ECB chief Mario Draghi's blueprint on phasing out its 60 billion euro (\$71 billion) monthly bond purchase program, with attention focused on whether it's going to be withdrawn more quickly or slowly than expected.

QUOTE: "About the only thing that matters today is what Mario Draghi says at the ECB press conference later today," said Rob Carnell, ING's head of Asian research.

FED SHORTLIST: Anticipation is building for President Donald Trump's decision on who should lead the Federal Reserve once current Chair Janet Yellen's term expires in February. His choice is expected before he leaves for an Asia trip on Nov. 3. In a TV interview, he praised Yellen but also acknowledged his conflicting desire to make his own mark. Among the four other candidates, Trump's top economic adviser, Gary Cohn, is now seen as out of the running.

WALL STREET: Major U.S. benchmarks lost ground as a string of poor earnings reports hit investor sentiment. The S&P 500 shed 0.5 percent to 2,557.15. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 0.5 percent to 23,329.46. The Nasdaq composite sank 0.5 percent to 6,563.89.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 113.46 yen from 113.75 yen in late trading Wednesday. The euro edged up to \$1.1829 from \$1.1813.

ENERGY: Oil futures fell. Benchmark U.S. crude shed 9 cents to \$52.09 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract lost 29 cents to settle at \$52.18 a barrel on Wednesday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, sank 10 cents to \$58.34 per barrel in London.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Oct. 26, the 299th day of 2017. There are 66 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On October 26th, 1881, the "Gunfight at the O.K. Corral" took place in Tombstone, Arizona, as Wyatt Earp, his two brothers and "Doc" Holliday confronted Ike Clanton's gang. Three members of Clanton's gang were killed; Earp's brothers and Holliday were wounded.

On this date:

In 1774, the First Continental Congress adjourned in Philadelphia.

In 1825, the Erie Canal opened in upstate New York, connecting Lake Erie and the Hudson River.

In 1861, the legendary Pony Express officially ceased operations, giving way to the transcontinental telegraph. (The last run of the Pony Express was completed the following month.)

In 1921, the Chicago Theatre, billed as "the Wonder Theatre of the World," first opened.

In 1944, the World War II Battle of Leyte Gulf ended in a major Allied victory over Japanese forces,

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whose naval capabilities were badly crippled.

In 1949, President Harry S. Truman signed a measure raising the minimum wage from 40 to 75 cents an hour.

In 1958, Pan American Airways flew its first Boeing 707 jetliner from New York to Paris in 8 hours and 41 minutes.

In 1967, the Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, crowned himself emperor after 26 years on the Peacock Throne.

In 1972, national security adviser Henry Kissinger declared, "Peace is at hand" in Vietnam. Aviation innovator Igor Sikorsky died in Easton, Connecticut, at age 83.

In 1984, "Baby Fae," a newborn with a severe heart defect, was given the heart of a baboon in an experimental transplant in Loma Linda, California. (Baby Fae lived 21 days with the animal heart.)

In 1994, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel and Prime Minister Abdel Salam Majali of Jordan signed a peace treaty during a ceremony at the Israeli-Jordanian border attended by President Bill Clinton.

In 2001, President George W. Bush signed the USA Patriot Act, giving authorities unprecedented ability to search, seize, detain or eavesdrop in their pursuit of possible terrorists.

Ten years ago: A federal jury in Kansas City, Missouri, decided that Lisa Montgomery, convicted of killing expectant mother Bobbie Jo Stinnett and cutting the baby from her womb, should receive the death penalty. (Montgomery remains on death row.) The Georgia Supreme Court freed Genarlow Wilson, saying his 10-year sentence for consensual oral sex with another teenager, a 15-year-old girl, was cruel and unusual punishment. Friedman Paul Erhardt, television's "Chef Tell," died in Upper Black Eddy, Pennsylvania, at age 63.

Five years ago: After leaving nearly five dozen people dead in the Caribbean, Hurricane Sandy headed toward the eastern United States, with forecasters warning that it would merge with two winter storm systems to create a megastorm. The National Hockey League announced that its labor dispute would force the cancellation of all games through the end of November.

One year ago: The Pentagon worked to stave off a public relations nightmare, suspending efforts to force California National Guard troops who served in Iraq and Afghanistan to repay enlistment bonuses that might have been improperly awarded. A pair of strong aftershocks shook central Italy, two months after a powerful earthquake killed nearly 300 people. The Chicago Cubs beat Cleveland 5-1 in Game 2 for their first victory during a World Series since 1945.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Shelley Morrison is 81. Actress Jaclyn Smith is 72. TV host Pat Sajak is 71. Hillary Rodham Clinton is 70. Musician Bootsy Collins is 66. Actor James Pickens Jr. is 65. Rock musician Keith Strickland (The B-52's) is 64. Actor D.W. Moffett is 63. Actress-singer Rita Wilson is 61. The president of Bolivia, Evo Morales, is 58. Actor Patrick Breen is 57. Actor Dylan McDermott is 56. Actor Cary Elwes is 55. Singer Natalie Merchant is 54. Actor Steve Valentine is 51. Country singer Keith Urban is 50. Actor Tom Cavanagh is 49. Actress Rosemarie DeWitt is 46. Actor Anthony Rapp is 46. Writer-producer Seth MacFarlane (TV: "Family Guy") is 44. TV correspondent and co-host Paula Faris (TV: "The View") is 42. Actress Lennon Parham is 42. Actor Hal Ozsan is 41. Actor Jon Heder is 40. Singer Mark Barry (BBMak) is 39. Actor Jonathan Chase is 38. Olympic silver medal figure skater Sasha Cohen is 33. Rapper Schoolboy Q is 31. Actor Beulah Koale (TV: "Hawaii Five-0") is 26.

Thought for Today: "The smallest minority on earth is the individual. Those who deny individual rights, cannot claim to be defenders of minorities." — Ayn Rand, American author (1905-1982).