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Applications will be accepted for skating rink manager and attendants for the City of Groton until November 20th by 5:00pm. Contact City Finance Office, 397-8422 for an application or print one online at <http://city.grotonsd.gov/>. EOE.

MathCounts at Aberdeen Holgate Middle School, 11:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. for Sixth Graders

FCCLA Food Drive today

**Tomorrow:
Picture retake day**

**Friday
Golden Eagle Cup Debate at Aberdeen Central High School
Veteran's day Program at 2 p.m. at GHS Gym**



"From minor scratches to a complete rebuild . . . we can do it all"

NOW OPEN

Harris

Auto Body ABDN

**225 Brown County Hwy 19 South
Aberdeen: 605/725-4900**

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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Class A Volleyball Sweet 16

[Print Sweet 16](#)

The eight (8) winners of the Sweet 16 contests will be re-seeded for the State Tournament.

#1 SF Christian

Scores: **25 25 25**

Date: 11/7/2017
Time: 7:00 PM CT
Site: Huron Arena

Scores: 7 6 11

#16 Mobridge-Pollock

STATE QUALIFIER

SF Christian

STATE QUALIFIER

Miller

#5 Miller

Scores: **25 25 25**

Date: 11/7/2017
Time: 5:30 PM CT
Site: Pierre

Scores: 19 15 12

#12 RC Christian

#2 Dakota Valley

Scores: **25 25 25**

Date: 11/7/2017
Time: 7:00 PM CT
Site: Beresford

Scores: 18 16 13

#15 Elk Point-Jefferson

STATE QUALIFIER

Dakota Valley

STATE QUALIFIER

Sioux Valley

#6 Sioux Valley

Scores: **25 25 25**

Date: 11/7/2017
Time: 5:30 PM CT
Site: Chamberlain

Scores: 9 13 18

#11 Pine Ridge

Seed School	Seed Pts.
1 SF Christian	45.967
2 Dakota Valley	45.259
3 Belle Fourche	45.129
4 Madison	44.926
5 Miller	44.593
6 Sioux Valley	44.593
7 Parker	43.379
8 McCook Central/Montrose	43.333

Seed School	Seed Pts.
9 Groton Area	43.273
10 Redfield/Doland	43.214
11 Pine Ridge	42.607
12 RC Christian	42.357
13 Dell Rapids	42.296
14 Winner	41.643
15 Elk Point-Jefferson	41.462
16 Mobridge-Pollock	38.692

#3 Belle Fourche

Scores: **25 16 25 18 15**

Date: 11/7/2017
Time: 6:00 PM MT
Site: Wall

Scores: 22 **25** 17 **25** 11

#14 Winner

STATE QUALIFIER

Belle Fourche

STATE QUALIFIER

Parker

#7 Parker

Scores: **26 25 25**

Date: 11/7/2017
Time: 7:30 PM CT
Site: Madison HS

Scores: 24 7 16

#10 Redfield/Doland

#4 Madison

Scores: 19 29 **26 25 15**

Date: 11/7/2017
Time: 7:00 PM CT
Site: Brandon

Scores: **25 31** 24 20 3

#13 Dell Rapids

STATE QUALIFIER

Madison

STATE QUALIFIER

McCook Central/Montrose

McCook #8 Central/Montrose

Scores: 23 **25 25 25**

Date: 11/7/2017
Time: 7:30 PM CT
Site: Watertown Arena

Scores: **25** 16 17 21

#9 Groton Area

Groton Post No. 39 American Legion



Annual



Turkey Party

Saturday, Nov. 11, 2017

Starting at 6:30 p.m.

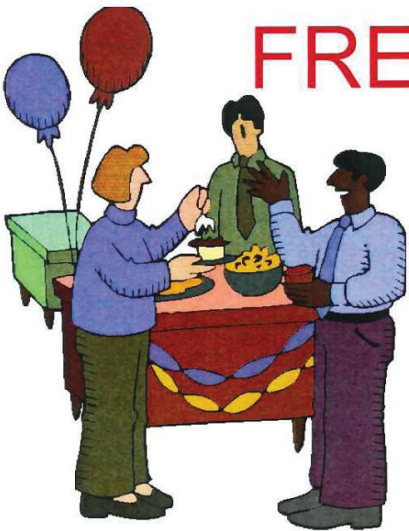
Groton Legion Post Home, 10 N. Main.

Turkey, Ham and Bacon
to be given away

FREE ADMISSION

**DOOR
PRIZE!**

Lunch served
by Auxiliary





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")**

South Dakota Awarded Federal Funds Under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program (Phase 34)

Sioux Falls, SD (November 8, 2017) – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has announced that \$250,000 has been awarded to South Dakota by the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) to supplement food, shelter, rent, mortgage, and utility assistance programs for people with non-disaster related emergencies.

Funding will be allocated to Local Recipient Organizations (LRO's) by the State Set-Aside Committee using a formula based on current unemployment, food insecurity and poverty data from the entire state. The Local Boards of each LRO will then determine how those funds will be distributed to qualified agencies in the counties that they oversee.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must: 1) be non-profit 2) have accounting capabilities 3) practice non-discrimination 4) demonstrate ability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter services 5) convene a voluntary board (if a private entity).

Agencies interested in applying for funding can contact Matt Gassen, the State Set-Aside Committee Chair, at (605) 335-0364 ext 101 for information on where to apply for funding. Current participating LRO's are not required to re-apply for funding during this phase, but should notify the State Set-Aside committee if they are considering changing their status as an LRO.

Dead line for applications is no later than November 17, 2017.

High Number Of Motor Vehicle Fatalities Prompts DPS Safety Message

PIERRE, S.D. – After 29 vehicle fatalities in the last two months, South Dakota Department of Public Safety officials are again stressing the need for driver and passenger safety.

Preliminary numbers include 15 fatalities in September and 14 in October. So far in November, there have been three confirmed fatalities statewide.

The September-October fatalities occurred in 26 fatal crashes –13 reported in each month. Motor vehicle crashes accounted for 23 of the fatalities while the other six involved motorcycles or pedestrians. Of the 23 motor vehicle fatalities, 16 were not wearing seatbelts.

“Too many fatalities, too many families grieving,” says Office of Highway Safety Director Lee Axdahl. “Many of these fatal crashes didn’t have to happen if people paid attention to driving and most importantly wore seatbelts. It is about protecting you and others.”

Statistics indicate that 10 of the fatal crashes occurred when vehicles went off the road and rolled. Nine people died after being ejected from their vehicle; most because they were not wearing seatbelts.

“Until you have to a respond to a scene like that, you don’t understand the devastation such crashes cause,” says Col. Craig Price, superintendent of the South Dakota Highway Patrol. “It is not only traumatic for the families, but also for the first responders who rush to the scene. If you are buckled in, you have a better chance to survive if your vehicle rolls.”

With two months left, the state’s fatality count is still behind last year’s total which was 116, the second lowest in the state’s history. With winter weather and the holidays approaching, Axdahl and Price encourage people to, among other things, slow down, don’t drink and drive, don’t get distracted by electronic devices and wear seatbelts.

“This is all about common sense,” they said. “It is about knowing that when you are driving, the only thing you should be focused on is driving.”

Today in Weather History

November 8, 1985: Heavy snow fell over much of southern South Dakota beginning on the morning of the 8th and continued off and on through the evening of the 10th. Snowfall ranged from 5-10 inches over the area, with amounts up to a foot or more in the Black Hills. The most significant amount was 18 inches in the higher elevations of the Black Hills. Winds gusting to near 40 mph at times, combined with the snowfall, produced near-blizzard conditions during the afternoon of the 9th through the early morning hours on the 10th, in the southwest. Highway 79 from Maverick Junction to Rapid City was closed for

thirteen hours. Many accidents were reported over the entire southern portion of the state. Some storm total snowfall amounts include; 16.0 inches near Presho; 11.5 inches in Kennebec; 9.0 inches in Murdo; and 4.0 inches in Timber Lake and near Onida.

1870: The first storm warning was issued by the U.S. Signal Corps Weather Service. Professor Increase A. Lapham believed that warnings of deadly storms on the Great Lakes could be derived from telegraphed weather observations. A bill was introduced and signed into law to establish a national telegraphic weather service. The Signal Corps began taking observations of November 1, 1870. On this date, Lapham would issue the first storm warning, a cautionary forecast for the Great Lakes.

1943 - An early season snowstorm raged across eastern South Dakota and Minnesota into northern Wisconsin. The storm produced 22 inches of snow at Fairbult and Marshall MN, 20 inches at Redwood Falls MN, and 10.1 inches at Minneapolis. Drifts fifteen feet high were reported in Cottonwood County MN. The storm produced up to two feet of snow in South Dakota smothering a million Thanksgiving day turkeys. (6th-8th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1953 - Residents of New York City suffered through ten days of smog resulting in 200 deaths. (The Weather Channel)

1966 - The temperature in downtown San Francisco reached a November record of 86 degrees. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms over Texas produced locally heavy rains in the Hill Country, with 3.50 inches reported at Lakeway, and 3.72 inches reported at Anderson Mill. Thunderstorms over Louisiana produced hail an inch in diameter at Clay and at Provencal. Blustery northwest winds, ushering cold air into western Kansas and into northwest Texas, gusted to 46 mph at Hill City KS. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1994: The twelfth and final tropical cyclone of the Atlantic hurricane season formed on this day in the southwestern Caribbean. While Hurricane Gordon was only a Category 1, it still killed 1,149 individuals, including 1,122 in Haiti.

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.

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Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Veterans Day
						
Partly Sunny	Slight Chance Snow then Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy and Breezy	Mostly Cloudy	Slight Chance Rain/Snow
High: 31 °F	Low: 9 °F	High: 22 °F	Low: 12 °F	High: 32 °F	Low: 22 °F	High: 39 °F

Cooler than Normal Through Friday



Today:

Low Chc Light Snow Far Northeast SD, Highs Mid 20s North, Mid 40s far South



Thursday:

Dry and Cold, Highs in the 20s.



Friday:

Dry and Warmer, Highs 28F-49F



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD
www.weather.gov/abr

Weekend Outlook:
Mixed Precip Possible Saturday, Dry Sunday.
Highs 35 to 45F

11/8/2017 3:53 AM

Published on: 11/08/2017 at 3:55AM

A weak system may bring light snow to far northeastern South Dakota this afternoon and evening, otherwise it should be dry through Friday. Temperatures will be on a roller coaster ride, with the coldest temperatures expected on Thursday.

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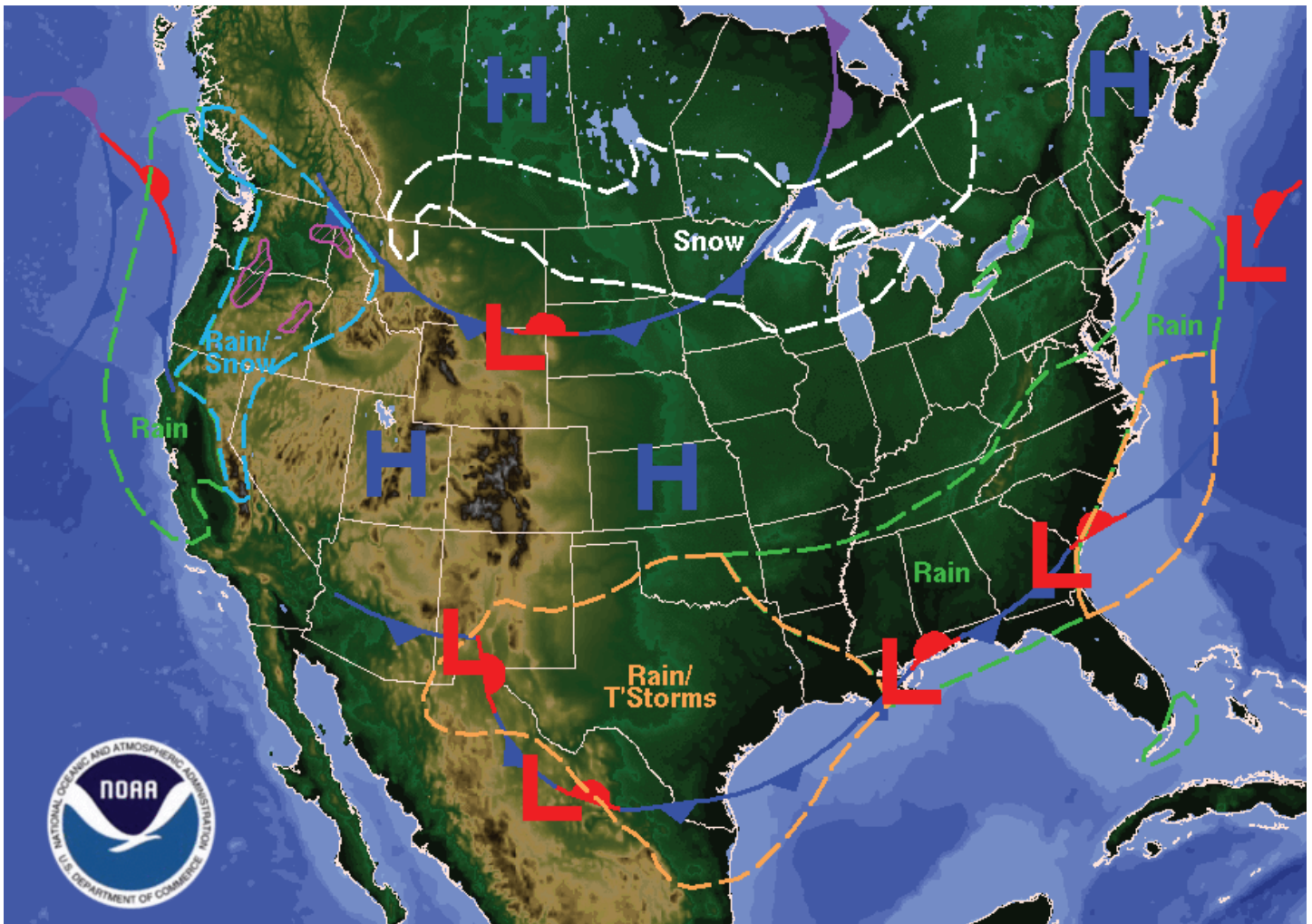
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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 31.8
Low Outside Temp: 16.8
High Gust: 19
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 77° in 1999
Record Low: -3° in 1936
Average High: 44°F
Average Low: 23°F
Average Precip in Nov: .24
Precip to date in Nov: 0.00
Average Precip to date: 20.71
Precip Year to Date: 13.47
Sunset Tonight: 5:11 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:24 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Nov 08, 2017, issued 4:00 AM EST
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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DAILY DELIVERANCE

A preacher was complaining to a close friend, "Oh my, I have so many burdens to bear on behalf of others that I am ready to give up!"

"I am so very sorry," replied his friend. "But wait until you hear what I discovered this morning. David left me a note in the Psalms that said, 'Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens.' Why don't you share them with the Lord rather than trying to carry the load by yourself?"

Often we feel crushed with the cares of life. There are times when we dwell on our defeats. We sometimes assume that our grief is so great that it will be with us for a lifetime. We expect to be overwhelmed with the life's obstacles and even want to hang on to past failures and seem to take pride when life is unfair.

Could it be that we take pleasure in thinking we have more problems than anyone else in the world? Do we want to be known for having the longest list of unanswered prayers or for being forgotten and forsaken by God? Is it possible that we might even take great pleasure for what we do not have so we can be constant complainers?

Or do we need to change our view of God?

Remember the words of the Psalmist. "Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior," said David, "who daily bears our burdens!" Peter put it this way: "Cast all your cares upon Him because He cares for You." And Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest." We can "cast or carry" – be "burdened or blest."

Prayer: It's really up to us, Lord. Either we take You at Your Word or reject Your offer to bear our burdens. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 68:19 Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens.

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

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News from the Associated Press

Tuesday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Class A

State Quarterfinal

Belle Fourche def. Winner, 25-22, 16-25, 25-17, 18-25, 15-11

Dakota Valley def. Elk Point-Jefferson, 25-18, 25-16, 25-13

Madison def. Dell Rapids, 19-25, 29-31, 26-24, 25-20, 15-3

McCook Central/Montrose def. Groton Area, 23-25, 25-16, 25-17, 25-21

Miller def. Rapid City Christian, 25-19, 25-15, 25-13

Parker def. Redfield/Doland, 26-24, 25-7, 25-16

Sioux Falls Christian def. Mobridge-Pollock, 25-7, 25-6, 25-11

Sioux Valley def. Pine Ridge, 25-9, 25-13, 25-18

Class B

State Quarterfinal

Burke/South Central def. Arlington, 21-25, 23-25, 25-18, 25-12, 15-11

Chester def. Timber Lake, 25-10, 25-13, 25-16

Deubrook def. Kadoka Area, 25-16, 25-18, 26-24

Faith def. Philip, 25-23, 19-25, 8-25, 25-21, 15-10

Hanson def. Faulkton, 25-22, 20-25, 25-22, 25-15

Herreid/Selby Area def. Kimball/White Lake, 25-17, 25-17, 25-23

Northwestern def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-11, 25-10, 25-11

Warner def. Bridgewater-Emery, 25-13, 25-14, 25-6

Students connect to culture at Grand Teton National Park

By MELISSA CASSUTT, Jackson Hole News And Guide

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — The kids stand in a circle, zipping up jackets and clutching blankets they'd hauled off the school bus that brought them to Grand Teton National Park from the Wind River Reservation.

They're admittedly having a hard time concentrating and have already been warned once by their principal, Mrs. Elberta Monroe, to behave. She repeats the command in Arapaho, "Teitoonhehi."

It's an overcast and rainy September morning, but energy buzzes among the 33 11- and 12-year-olds, most of the sixth-grade class from Arapahoe Middle School. For many it was the first time they had taken the three-hour ride to Jackson, a field trip arranged in part to connect the Northern Arapaho students to the cultural and historical heritage of the park.

Park Ranger Sarin LoMascolo holds up a small display of tools, some made of a glassy black rock, and asks the students if they know what she's holding.

"They're arrowheads!" a few say in unison.

Their first assignment of the three-day trip is to hunt for some of the same in the park, and they split into groups. Teachers are given guides that explain the rocks and shapes the kids hope to discover. They set off on a hunt, plopping down to examine rocks, occasionally shouting out, "Sarin! Mrs. Park Ranger Lady!" when they think they've found something.

Many are disappointed to find they've unearthed broken river rocks. Emily Petty, one of the teachers on the trip, discovers she's picked up a piece of dried scat — eliciting giggles from her students and an eye roll from her.

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A few, like 11-year-old Shawn Bell, find artifacts and show the flakes of obsidian to their classmates. "It was quite an experience for these young kids," teacher Ron Oldman says. "I don't think they'd ever been to a national park before.

"This place has a lot of significance to us."

The trip was a step forward in a burgeoning relationship between the Northern Arapaho tribe and Jackson, a connection the tribe and Jackson Hole Wild have been fostering for the past several years.

Jackson Hole Wild helped arrange a field trip last year as well, welcoming nearly 250 kindergartners through fifth-graders to ScienceFest, a one-day science festival hosted at the Center for the Arts.

"When you start to think about all the opportunities that all the kids in Jackson have it becomes really evident that with a little additional work you can expand that circle to really, really make a difference on a broader level," Executive Director Lisa Samford said.

Based largely on interest from the students, the programming expanded this year to a three-day, two-night field trip for the sixth-grade class at Arapahoe Middle School. The excursion corresponded with the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, bringing students into a few screenings, again opening the doors to ScienceFest, but also adding tours of the recycling center and Vertical Harvest.

The program, Samford said, is a community effort not only to connect the tribe to the resources and learning opportunities in Jackson Hole, but to cultivate enrichment and an connection between Jackson students and the Arapaho students.

"What we're really trying to build together is something that has some staying power over time, and has immense potential for mutual enrichment," she said. "We want to create opportunities for continued relationships that will be built over time, are really built on this notion of mutual respect and engagement. We are all the same."

Thus far the partnership has brought Arapaho students to Jackson twice, but Samford envisions Jackson students making the trip to the reservation one day. She also sees potential for exchanged storytelling or otherwise interacting through the arts, be it dance or theater.

For many of the students — most, the teachers said — the trip to Jackson was the farthest they had traveled from the reservation.

"Many of them haven't even been past 20 miles," Petty said. "It's nice for them to see their history spans farther than Arapahoe and that town."

While LoMascolo led the discussion about arrowheads and tipi rings in the park, tribe elder Mary Ann Duran and Oldman, the Arapaho language and culture teacher, identified animals and geological features in Arapaho, a language both said has been largely lost on the younger generation.

"I've been giving them language classes," Oldman said.

Moose: hinen'ehii. Elk: hiiwox'uhuuu. Grizzly: nonookuneseet.

The students know a few words, some phrases, but none speaks it fluently. Outside of school, few speak it regularly.

"That's why I'm on this trip," Duran said. "(The language) is gone.

"We've taught almost 40 years and we have not even produced a speaker," she said. "Not one speaker at all. We can teach it and teach it and talk it in the schools, but when they get home, their parents don't know it."

But she saw a spark of hope as she watched the kids explore Grand Teton.

"Some of them will be interested," she said.

The teachers work on whipping up a batch of Indian tacos in the kitchen at St. John's Episcopal Church, while Duran waits for the group to calm so she can tell an Arapaho tale she learned as a child.

Despite a 4-mile hike on the National Elk Refuge, the sixth-graders still have a lot of energy.

Eventually the students settle in and listen. She tells them the story of the "Star People."

"A long time ago, storytelling was something that I would really look forward to. That was the only en-

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tainment we had," she says. "I don't want our history to get lost. I don't want our stories to get lost." They listen intently.

The story and the trip to Grand Teton are some of the most poignant parts of the trip, even if the students can't quite put that into words.

"You get to learn new things about how people lived here and how people survived," says Jordan Black, 11, about Grand Teton National Park, a place he had visited before. "It's nice how people want us to come. Some schools don't do things like we do."

"I think a lot of them connected with that," says Keith Spoonhunter Sr., a parent who was on the trip with his daughter, Kylaya. "That's where they seemed to be paying the most attention."

The long-term impact, however, is unlikely to come for years yet.

"I like that there's a connection between the reservation and Jackson," he says. "But for a lot of them, this is their first time here."

Information from: Jackson Hole (Wyo.) News And Guide, <http://www.jhnewsandguide.com>

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

01-54-60-68-69, Mega Ball: 11, Megaplier: 4

(one, fifty-four, sixty, sixty-eight, sixty-nine; Mega Ball: eleven; Megaplier: four)

Estimated jackpot: \$59 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$75 million

Federal judge sides with New Mexico ranchers in water case

By SUSAN MONTROYA BRYAN, Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A U.S. court has sided with a New Mexico ranching family in a decades-long battle over access to water on national forest land, providing more certainty that state law allows for the protection of water rights dating back more than a century.

The case of the Goss family has been closely watched by thousands of ranchers who hold grazing permits across the West. Attorneys and others say the outcome could have ripple effects on ranchers and rural communities that have often complained about federal land managers trampling property rights.

The Goss family claimed the federal government violated its constitutional rights by not providing just compensation after condemning property — in this case water rights that had been established before Lincoln National Forest was created.

U.S. Court of Federal Claims Chief Judge Susan Braden agreed. On Friday, she ordered the family and the U.S. Forest Service to determine whether alternative water sources are available that can allow the family — operating as the Sacramento Grazing Association Inc. — to operate a viable cattle business.

Braden must still determine how much compensation the family is owed.

Regional officials with the U.S. Forest Service declined to comment pending a final judgment.

Michael Van Zandt, a California attorney who represents the family, said Tuesday the family has been working for the past few years with the U.S. Forest Service to find alternative sources of water but those efforts have not always been successful.

The grazing operation was forced to decrease its herd as forest officials fenced off more areas over the years due to habitat concerns and endangered species.

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"It's been a huge financial burden to the Gosses," Van Zandt said, noting that his clients were ecstatic about the ruling.

Ranchers around New Mexico said they were excited but cautious given their somewhat tumultuous history with federal land managers. Hispanic ranchers in the north have often complained that federal officials have discriminated against them despite policies that recognize their cultural and traditional ties to the land. Some families have worked the land since the Spanish colonized what is now New Mexico hundreds of years ago.

Braden's ruling made reference to several dozen ranchers who unsuccessfully attempted to find common ground with environmental groups and officials from Oregon's Malheur National Wildlife Refuge for over a decade.

The ruling noted that in January 2016, the ranchers decided to take up arms to protest federal policy and regulations that prioritize water habitat for migrating birds by limiting the number of cattle that historically grazed and used water in the area.

Rather than take up arms, the Sacramento Grazing Association filed a complaint in federal claims court to affirm its right to the beneficial use of stock water on the grazing allotment in Lincoln forest — a right that predated federal control, the ruling said.

The judge found that the Forest Service has responsibility for managing national forests, including the habitat of endangered species, but that a small, family-owned cattle ranch should not be forced to bear the entire financial burden of the agency's management choices where they interfere with property rights recognized by state law.

The Office of the State Engineer, which handles water rights issues, said the ruling recognizes that over the past 110 years, New Mexico has lived under the doctrine that beneficial use of water makes for the establishment of a water right.

"The decision affirms this doctrine and gives certainty to ranchers in the state that protects their water rights and the way they have been ranching in New Mexico since before statehood," water agency spokeswoman Melissa Doshier-Smith said.

SD Mines' alum to return to campus as school president

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A graduate of South Dakota School of Mines and Technology has been named the school's 19th president.

The South Dakota Board of Regents announced the appointment Tuesday of Jim Rankin. Rankin grew up in Fort Pierre and graduated from SD Mines in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

He becomes president at the Rapid City campus on Jan. 8. Jan Puszynski (yawn push-IN'-skee) has served as interim president this year since Heather Wilson left the university to become U.S. Air Force secretary.

Rankin worked as vice-provost for research and economic development at the University of Arkansas. During his tenure the university generated more than 50 startup companies.

Rankin also was involved in research and economic development at Ohio University.

New path eyed for high-voltage transmission lines in Idaho

By KEITH RIDLER, Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Federal officials have released their latest analysis on proposed routes for two high-voltage transmission lines in southwestern Idaho intended to modernize the Pacific Northwest's energy grid.

The 183-page draft environmental assessment released by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management late last week covers two segments of the Gateway West project proposed by Idaho Power and Rocky Mountain Power.

The 1,000-mile (1,600-kilometer) Gateway West project is one side of a giant triangle of transmission lines that Rocky Mountain Power says are necessary to meet future demands in the region and improve reliability.

"We are happy with the results of the assessment," David Eskelsen, Rocky Mountain Power spokesman,

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said Tuesday. "And of course we are hopeful we will get the right of way granted sometime next spring."

Heather Feeney, a BLM spokeswoman, said the agency expects to release a decision then. The agency is taking public comments through Dec. 4.

The segment going through Idaho would deliver power from southern Wyoming to points west, potentially tapping into Wyoming's wind energy. Federal officials have already approved the rest of the Gateway West project, but no work has started.

The BLM has been working on the Gateway West portion since 2008, trying to thread the transmission lines through a mixture of private, state and public lands that include key habitat for imperiled sage grouse.

The Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, which experts say has the greatest concentration of nesting raptors in North America, has been a sticking point throughout the environmental review process.

In January, the BLM approved routes for the two 500-kilovolt transmission lines that mostly avoided the conservation area, with less than 10 miles of transmission lines.

Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter asked Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to direct the BLM to reconsider and use more public land.

But then legislation by Idaho Republican U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson signed into law in May by President Donald Trump ended that plan. The legislation mandated segments and altered the national conservation area, removing some land to make way for the transmission lines while adding land to the conservation area elsewhere.

The new plan has about 300 miles of transmission lines crossing over what used to be designated national conservation area.

The Conservation Lands Foundation, which endeavors to protect national conservation areas, worked with Simpson on the legislation. Danielle Murray, spokeswoman for the group, said the bill was a win for conservation areas.

First, it increased the overall size of the Idaho conservation area by 3.5 square miles (9 square kilometers) with what Murray described as key raptor habitat.

Second, it avoided allowing a federal agency to build power lines through a national conservation area without approval from Congress. "We thought that was a dangerous precedent," Murray said.

For Idaho, the legislation eliminated some transmission line segments. So the BLM in its latest analysis is trying to connect remaining portions of the transmission lines with the congressionally mandated segments.

If the companies receive the right of way in the spring, they will have to conduct archaeological surveys. Feeney said the proposed rights of way are wide enough that the lines could bend around specific sites.

The companies say there is currently no timeline for construction.

"The companies will continue evaluating the timing of next steps in the project to best meet our customer and system needs," said Stephanie McCurdy, spokeswoman for Idaho Power.

Judge delays trial start for Bundy, sons in Nevada standoff

By KEN RITTER, Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Trial was postponed at the last minute Tuesday for Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy, two of his sons and a co-defendant accused of leading an armed uprising against government agents in 2014, amid questions about whether federal prosecutors in Las Vegas turned over complete evidence records to defense teams.

In a stunning turn just before a newly empaneled jury began hearing openings, Chief U.S. District Judge Gloria Navarro pushed the start date back to Nov. 14 and set a rapid briefing schedule around hearings Wednesday and Monday.

The central question is whether recordings or written notes show what an FBI agent in a command post trailer observed with a camera placed on a hilltop to monitor activities at the Bundy ranch ahead of the April 2014 standoff that stopped a roundup of Bundy cattle from what is now Gold Butte National Monument.

Prosecutors plan to tell the jury that Bundy, now 71, his adult sons Ryan and Ammon Bundy, and co-

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defendant Ryan Payne of Anaconda, Montana, conspired to enlist a self-styled militia to defy government authority at the point of a gun.

Defense attorneys say the men didn't conspire with anyone, didn't wield weapons and didn't threaten anybody.

Mary Hinson, the chief area National Park Service ranger, acknowledged during questioning in an evidentiary hearing last Friday that video from the camera was fed to a monitor in an incident command post trailer she shared with officials in charge of a court-ordered federal round-up of Bundy cattle, including then-U.S. Bureau of Land Management supervisor Daniel Love.

Hinson denied on the witness stand knowing if any written records had been shredded when federal Bureau of Land Management agents and contract cowboys withdrew following the standoff.

Defense teams have complained that they never received notes or computer records that Love may have kept about heading what federal officials termed a cattle impoundment operation.

The judge also agreed, despite objections from Acting U.S. Attorney Steven Myhre, to hold a hearing Thursday to decide whether the Bundys and Payne should be released from jail during trial.

"It's possible a halfway-house setting could be devised," the judge said, while also recalling that the four men refused to enter pleas and said they didn't recognize federal government authority.

Myhre said magistrate judges determined following their arrests in early 2016 in Oregon that each of the men was a danger to the community and a risk to not follow court orders or return for hearing dates.

The prosecutor also noted that Payne pleaded guilty in Portland, Oregon, to felony conspiracy to prevent federal employees from doing their jobs by occupying a federal wildlife preserve in eastern Oregon

Payne and Ryan and Ammon Bundy were accused of leading the six-week occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. Cliven Bundy never went to the refuge, but was arrested when he arrived in Portland to visit his sons in jail on charges stemming from the Nevada standoff.

A federal court jury in Portland refused to convict the Bundy brothers, and Payne is now fighting to withdraw his Portland plea that is expected to get him a sentence of more than three years in prison.

Ryan Bundy, who is serving as his own lawyer in the Las Vegas case, complained Tuesday that he has had trouble preparing for trial and filing documents while detained in federal custody in jails in rural Pah-rump, Nevada, and a local lockup in Henderson, outside Las Vegas.

The men each face 15 felony charges, including conspiracy, assault and threats against federal officers, firearms counts, obstruction and extortion. Stacked together, convictions on all charges carry the possibility of more than 170 years in prison.

Reservation hospital pulled from federal Medicare program

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) — Recent documents show that the government's decision to cut off Medicare and Medicaid payments to an Indian Health Service hospital in South Dakota was motivated by the case of a patient who the government says died after an inaccurate assessment.

A review by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services said Pine Ridge Hospital inaccurately determined the severity of a patient's condition, which allegedly led to delays in appropriate emergency care and his death.

The patient was transferred to another hospital several hours after being admitted, according to a triage assessment released by Pine Ridge Hospital. The patient underwent surgery at the other hospital the next day, where he was diagnosed with extensive small bowel ischemia and necrosis. The patient died that day.

The department said Friday that the hospital's participation in the federal Medicare program will end Nov. 18. The hospital won't be able to bill the government for services provided to Medicare-enrolled patients. Medicaid payments will also be cut off, the Rapid City Journal reported .

The department's review omitted significant details from the case, said Michael Toedt, chief medical officer for the Indian Health Service.

"The patient's condition was improved on arrival to the tertiary care center due to the actions and treatment initiated at Pine Ridge Hospital," Toedt wrote to the department Monday. "Many factors could contrib-

ute to the patient's outcome, including comorbidities and care in another facility, and it is not possible to draw a direct conclusion from the care received at Pine Ridge Hospital to the patient's ultimate outcome."

Members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe on the Pine Ridge Reservation are provided with health care by the federal government pursuant to longstanding treaties. The Indian Health Service has funding from Congress to provide that care, the service obtains additional funding by enrolling qualifying indigenous patients in Medicare and Medicaid.

The department said in its notice of termination for the hospital that it is "closely monitoring the relocation of Medicare and Medicaid patients to other facilities."

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

Man attacked at party has died of injuries

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police say a man attacked by two teenage girls at a party at his house has died of his injuries.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens says the girls, ages 16 and 17, repeatedly punched the 55-year-old man in the head Friday. Clemens says the three were acquainted, but he doesn't know what motivated the teens to attack the victim.

Neighbors checking on the man Saturday night found him unresponsive. Clemens says the man apparently had bleeding on the brain.

The girls were arrested Sunday on possible charges of aggravated assault and were taken to the Juvenile Detention Center.

The victim's name has not been released.

Sanford Health invests in German hospital

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sanford Health has made its first investment in an international hospital.

The health system's German subsidiary has acquired a minority interest in ISAR Klinik II AG, which includes a hospital in Munich, Germany.

Sanford Health CEO Kelby Krabbenhoft says the investment is a significant step in its goal to advance health care around the world. Krabbenhoft says the hospital's ground-breaking procedures and medical technology are well-known.

Since 2015, Sanford Health has arranged for American patients to travel to the Munich hospital, ISAR Klinikum, to have access to stem cell therapies allowed in Germany. Sanford has also sent 11 physicians to the hospital to better understand the impact of those therapies.

Virginia cotton production to grow 90 percent this year

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (AP) — Virginia officials say cotton production is projected to grow 90 percent this year after last year's yield was hurt by long rains from the remnants of Hurricane Matthew.

The Daily Press reported Monday that the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services projects production to grow to 190,000 bales this year. Producers statewide are expected to harvest 83,000 acres (34,000 hectares), which is 11,000 more acres (4,000 hectares) than in 2016.

Cecil Byrum of Byrum Family Farms in Windsor says rain isn't good when cotton is ready to harvest, and rain came last year right as the cotton was opening.

Gail Moody Milteer with the state Agriculture and Consumer Services department says weather provided good growing conditions this year, and that cotton demand is on par with recent years.

Information from: Daily Press, <http://www.dailypress.com/>

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Pierre man arrested after attacking officer

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Pierre man accused of struggling with police officers and striking one in the head is behind bars.

Police say the 25-year-old man had taken a number of bottles of alcohol from a business early Tuesday. Authorities say when police caught up with him, the man smashed his head into an officer's head and then struggled with officers before he was restrained.

Dakota Radio Group says the officer was taken to Avera St. Mary's Hospital and later released. The suspect was taken to the Hughes County Jail.

Information from: KOLY-AM, <http://www.drgnews.com/>

Virginia rejects 'Trumpism' as Dems score major victories

By STEVE PEOPLES and ALAN SUDERMAN, Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Seizing his party's first major Trump-era victory, Democrat Ralph Northam beat back a charge from Republican Ed Gillespie in the race for Virginia governor, a bruising election that tested the power of President Donald Trump's fiery nationalism against the energy of the Trump resistance.

In Virginia, as in several contests across America on Tuesday, the Trump resistance won. And it wasn't close.

Northam, a pediatric neurologist and Army veteran, led longtime Republican operative Gillespie by several points as the final votes ticked in. "I'm here to let you know that the doctor is in," a smiling Northam told supporters in suburban Washington, D.C. "As long as I'm governor, I will work hard to make sure we're inclusive."

He added, "Virginia has told us to end the divisiveness, that we do not condone hatred and bigotry and to end the politics that have torn this country apart."

Democrats also scored victories in the race for New Jersey governor and in Maine, where voters slapped the state's Republican governor, a Trump ally, by backing a measure to expand Medicaid coverage under former President Barack Obama's health care law. The Democratic mayors of New York and Boston, both vocal Trump critics, also won re-election easily.

And Virginia voters elected the state's first openly-transgender state representative, among more than a dozen state legislative pickups for Democrats.

The resounding victories marked the GOP's most significant day of defeat in the young Trump presidency and a rebuke to the president himself as his party eyes a suddenly more threatening midterm election season next year.

"The Democratic Party is back, my friends," said Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez.

As Democrats celebrated, Republicans pointed fingers.

"Ed Gillespie worked hard but did not embrace me or what I stand for," Trump tweeted Tuesday night as he toured Asia, noting that the GOP won a handful of special elections earlier in the year. "With the economy doing record numbers, we will continue to win, even bigger than before!"

Despite the criticism, Gillespie did, in more ways than one, embrace what Trump stands for, even if he didn't welcome Trump into the state to rally voters on his behalf.

The Republican president played a marginal role in Virginia, largely because Republicans on the ground did not want him there, a state he lost last fall, as his approval ratings hover near record lows. The White House instead dispatched Vice President Mike Pence to help Gillespie, although Trump promised Gillespie would "make America great again" in a recorded phone message that went to voters on the election's final day.

Gillespie, a former aide to President George W. Bush and GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney, largely reinvented himself as Election Day neared by adopting many of Trump's racially-tinged nationalist positions. Gillespie warned of the dangers of the Hispanic street gang, MS-13, and highlighted its motto, "Kill, Rape, Control" in a television ad. The New Jersey native vowed to protect Confederate monuments. And

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he condemned the national anthem protests by NFL players, the vast majority of them black.

In the days before the election, former Trump chief strategist Steve Bannon said Gillespie's embrace of "Trumpism" offered a roadmap for GOP candidates nationwide heading into the 2018 midterm elections. Bannon did not respond to a request for comment late Tuesday.

Liberal activists cheered their successes as evidence of the anti-Trump energy on the ground nationwide they have long insisted was real, despite poor results in special elections in deep-red Montana, Georgia and South Carolina.

"This is the first fair fight we've had. The special elections that we've had so far have been incredibly slanted to the conservative side," said Ezra Levin, co-founder of the liberal group Indivisible, which had hundreds of volunteers and a handful of paid staff on the ground in Virginia. "There is a wave building. And 2018 is just around the corner."

In New Jersey, Democrat Phil Murphy trounced Republican Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno, who served under the term-limited, deeply unpopular GOP Gov. Chris Christie.

New Jersey Democratic Sen. Cory Booker, among several Democrats weighing a presidential bid in 2020, cast his party's gubernatorial victories in New Jersey and Virginia as "the very first statewide rebuttal of the Trump administration."

"We will not succumb to the politics of fear," Booker declared.

The day also exposed deepening regional divisions between America's two major political parties.

Democrats appeared to pick up one state Senate seat in Washington state, which would flip control of the state legislature from Republicans to Democrats. That would mean Democrats now control every governor's office and state legislature on the West Coast. While Democrats also control a cluster of state governments in the Northeast, Republicans, however control state legislatures across the entire South, all but one state in the Midwest and the vast majority of the mountain West.

Excited Democrats hope to flip control of several state houses next year just as state leaders prepare for the once-in-a-decade task of resetting congressional boundaries, a process known as redistricting.

Inside the hotel ballroom where Gillespie gave his concession speech, Republicans Elsa Smith and Mario Leon wondered aloud whether Trump's white nationalist message was the best way forward. Both said the GOP could have won the Virginia contest if the party had attracted a more diverse coalition.

"The Republican Party needs more diversity — more Latinos, more blacks and more young people," said Mario Leon, 70, a satellite systems dealer from Henrico who is of Cuban descent.

Elsa Smith, 66, and the owner of a Spanish translation business who lives in Midlothian, said the party has to do more outreach to succeed: "We are not taking care of the demographics the way we should."

Peoples reported from New York. AP writers Michael Catalini in Asbury Park, New Jersey, Ben Finley in Richmond and Matthew Barakat in Fairfax contributed to this report.

Roy Halladay remembered for his hard work and generosity

By **ROB MAADDI**, AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A fierce competitor on the mound, Roy Halladay was generous and gentle away from the field.

The eight-time All-Star loved his family, baseball and flying.

Halladay's passion for piloting cost him his life Tuesday when his private plane crashed into the Gulf of Mexico. He was 40.

Former teammates, coaches and fans mourned the sudden loss of the beloved former player, who was known for his tireless work ethic. Nearly every memory began with a story about Halladay's legendary workout program and his early morning routine.

Halladay even outworked Chase Utley.

The fan favorites quickly became close friends after Halladay was traded to the Philadelphia Phillies before

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the 2010 season. Utley recalled his introduction to Halladay at the team's practice complex in Clearwater, Florida.

"My heart hurts writing this," Utley wrote on Instagram. "I can still remember the first day we met. It was 5:45am on the first day of spring training when I arrived. He was finishing his breakfast but his clothes were soaking wet. I asked if it was raining when he got in. He laughed and said 'No I just finished my workout.' I knew right then — he was the real deal. Thank you Roy for allowing us to witness what it takes to be the best. We will all miss you."

Former teammate Cole Hamels, currently a Texas Rangers ace, joined Phillies chairman David Montgomery at Philadelphia's ballpark to remember Halladay. Fans left pictures, candles and notes outside the stadium to honor Halladay, who played four years there after spending his first 12 seasons with the Toronto Blue Jays.

"Behind everything he did, he had a purpose," Hamels said. "I think you come to realize that you have very small, short moments in life to do something great so you have to maximize it. You have to make the best of it. And he did. He made us push to a level that sometimes you didn't think you could actually reach. He made everybody better."

Halladay won a Cy Young Award in each league and tossed a perfect game and a no-hitter in his first postseason start in the same year after coming to the Phillies. The 6-foot-6 right-hander was a three-time 20-game winner who finished 203-105 with a 3.38 ERA.

Halladay was a devoted husband to wife Brandy and a loving father to sons Ryan and Braden.

"All-Star pitcher. All-Star person. All-Star father and family man," Montgomery said.

Halladay served as a guest instructor with the Phillies in spring training and had his own office at the complex. He enjoyed working with the organization's young players on the mental aspects of baseball.

"He certainly would have given more to baseball in the future because of his love for the game," Montgomery said. "But his commitment to his family kept him where he was the last few years. We'd had a number of conversations about his potential future in the game. But he just would say, 'I want it, but it's on hold. It's on hold right now because of my family.'"

Halladay was the pitching coach at Calvary Christian High School, and he was coaching another youth team.

For all of his personal accomplishments, Halladay always put the team first and shared the credit. He gave all of his teammates and members of the organization a luxury watch to commemorate his perfect game and had a special bond with former Phillies catcher Carlos Ruiz.

"Roy was one of the greatest pitchers I ever caught, and an even better person and friend," Ruiz said. "I wanted to win more for him than myself. I will miss him very much. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and loved ones and all those, like me, who truly admired him."

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

One year later: For Trump, the 2016 election is ever-present

By JULIE PACE, AP Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump handily won the election a year ago Wednesday. Ask him and he'll tell you about it.

Ten months into his presidency, Trump is still focused — some say fixated — on the election that catapulted him to power. Egged on by longtime friends and cable news, he repeatedly attacks his vanquished opponent, Democrat Hillary Clinton. In public and in private, he still boasts of the size of his victory.

"It was great victory, and a victory that made a lot of people very happy," Trump said Tuesday in Seoul, South Korea, his second stop on a five-country visit to Asia.

The president will spend Wednesday shuttling from Seoul to Beijing for meetings with Chinese President Xi Jinping. He mused to reporters earlier in the week that he'd considered having "a big celebration party" but White House officials said there were no plans for any formal event marking the occasion.

Still, there's no doubt the president remains preoccupied by his election, a fixation friends and advisers

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say is part ego and part defense mechanism. Despite occupying the most powerful position in the world, Trump has told confidants he still doesn't get the credit he deserves for defeating Clinton. And friends say he's well aware of the fact that numerous members of his own Republican Party expected him to lose and still cringe at seeing him in the White House.

"His obsession with the election is the fact that he wasn't ever accepted by the establishment," said Christopher Ruddy, a friend of the president and the CEO of Newsmax. "They have not given him the deference typical of the president."

Trump won the Electoral College vote by a comfortable margin but lost the popular vote by nearly 2.9 million votes to Clinton.

Trump's insecurity about his status has been magnified by Democratic accusations that he won the White House in part because of Russia's interference in the election. The investigations into Russian meddling are now at the West Wing doorstep, with current and former White House officials being summoned to speak with special counsel Bob Mueller and former campaign chairman Paul Manafort indicted last week. The president has responded by calling on Republican lawmakers and the Justice Department to investigate Clinton's potential ties to Russia.

The White House said Trump isn't fixated on his past successes or the investigations shadowing his administration. Spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Trump's focus is on the fact that "the stock market has hit record highs, unemployment has hit a 17-year low, and (the Islamic State) is on the run."

"Over the next seven years, this president plans to keep his promises to the American people and create a more prosperous, free and secure future for all Americans," Sanders said.

Still, the 2016 election arguably remains Trump's most significant political accomplishment. He's struggled in office to fulfill several of his lofty campaign promises, including overhauling President Barack Obama's signature health care law and ripping up the Iran nuclear deal. He faces the very real prospect of ending 2017 without any significant legislative accomplishments, unless Republicans can coalesce around a tax reform package in the next seven weeks.

Some Republicans close to the White House say Trump's obsession with the election isn't quite as overt as it was in the early days of his presidency, when he seemed to turn every news conference, rally or private policy discussion into an opportunity to gloat about his electoral victory. Two Republican congressional aides said Trump still brings the election up on occasion during meetings with lawmakers, but not with the frequency he did earlier in the year. He also appears to have stopped handing out colored copies of the Electoral College map, something he did on occasion during his first few months in office.

The congressional aides, along with five White House officials and outside Trump allies, insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly disclose private discussions.

One election-related attribute that hasn't slowed is Trump's intense focus on Clinton, who no longer holds public office and almost certainly has no plans to run for the presidency a third time. Trump has latched on to revelations that Clinton's campaign paid a research firm that produced a dossier of his unproven ties to Russia and he's seized on a new tell-all book about the 2016 campaign from former Democratic Party chairwoman Donna Brazile.

White House officials say that to Trump, Clinton and her years of political baggage are a reminder of the reasons millions of people voted for him. Trump friends like Roger Stone, a Republican operative who has spent years spinning stories about the former secretary of state and former President Bill Clinton, have also encouraged the president to keep up the attacks on his formal rival. And in an example of Trump's often symbiotic relationship with Fox News, friends say the president gets validation from the cable channel's heavy rotation of Clinton-related news.

As Trump hits the one-year mark of his election victory, a favorite parlor game among Republicans and several of the president's allies is whether the 71-year-old will try to repeat the feat in 2020. His campaign launched work on a re-election bid shortly after the inauguration and White House officials frequently refer to Trump serving two terms. But others in his orbit are less certain.

"He could be a one-term, he could decide to not run again," Ruddy said. "He's the kind of guy that doesn't

psychologically need the presidency.”

Follow Julie Pace at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC>

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. VIRGINIA, OTHER STATES REJECT 'TRUMPISM'

Democrat Ralph Northam beats back a charge from Republican Ed Gillespie in the race for Virginia governor, one of several contests across America where the Trump resistance won.

2. 'DO NOT TRY US'

Trump delivers a sharp warning to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, telling him the weapons he's acquiring "are not making you safer. They are putting your regime in grave danger."

3. WHAT TRUMP SEEMS FIXATED ON

Ten months into his presidency, Trump's focus on the election comes in part from a feeling that the probe into Russia's role in the election is undermining his legitimacy.

4. NEW DETAILS EMERGE ABOUT TEXAS CHURCH GUNMAN

Devin Patrick Kelley briefly escaped from a mental health facility in New Mexico in 2012, police say, and was caught trying to bring guns onto a military base and threatened superior officers there.

5. WHY LAW ENFORCEMENT IS FRUSTRATED

FBI agents are unable to unlock the Texas church gunman's encrypted cellphone to learn what evidence it might hold.

6. 'OBAMACARE' REFERENDUM PASSES IN RURAL STATE

Residents in Maine grappling with a heroin epidemic and an aging population vote to join 31 other states that have expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.

7. GOVERNMENTAL ABUSE REPORTED IN SRI LANKA

An AP investigation finds that the South Asian country's civil war might be over but more than 50 Tamil men say they were raped, branded or tortured under the current government.

8. WHO IS HAVING SUCCESS WITH RIGHT-TO-SHELTER POLICIES

New York, with the nation's largest homeless population, employs an aggressive outreach program that puts most of them in a shelter for the night and connects them to services, AP finds.

9. 'STANDING UP' FOR HEROES

Trump is a familiar target of barbs by comedians John Oliver, Jon Stewart, Trevor Noah and Conan O'Brien during a New York City fundraiser for military veterans.

10. HOW ACE IS BEING REMEMBERED

Star pitcher Roy Halladay, whose private plane crashed into the Gulf of Mexico, was a fierce competitor on the mound but generous and gentle off it.

Trump to push China on trade, North Korea during 2-day visit

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — President Donald Trump will push China on trade and North Korea during a two-day visit in which he will cajole, flatter and scold the rising Asian power.

White House aides view Trump's visit as the centerpiece of his lengthy Asia tour. Trump, who is mired in consistently low approval ratings at home, will encounter newly emboldened Chinese President Xi Jinping, who recently consolidated power in his country, while Trump's every utterance will be studied by allies anxious to see if his inward-looking "America First" mantra could cede power in the region to China.

Before arriving in Beijing on Wednesday, Trump used an address to the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea, to deliver a stern message to China, North Korea's biggest trade partner. Trump urged "re-

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sponsible nations" to unite and stop supporting North Korea.

"You cannot support, you cannot supply, you cannot accept," he said, calling on "every nation, including China and Russia," to fully implement recent U.N. Security Council resolutions on North Korea.

Trump is expected to demand that China curtail its dealings with Pyongyang and expel North Korean workers. Trump has praised China for taking some steps against Pyongyang but urged them to do more, as administration officials believe the border between China and North Korea remains a trade corridor.

"I want to just say that President Xi -- where we will be tomorrow, China -- has been very helpful. We'll find out how helpful soon," Trump said Tuesday night in Seoul. "But he really has been very, very helpful. So China is out trying very hard to solve the problem with North Korea."

The White House is banking on Trump's personal rapport with Xi to drive the negotiations. Trump has frequently showered praise on Xi, who recently became the nation's most powerful leader in decades, including with a trip to Trump's Florida estate for a summit.

"He's a powerful man. I happen to think he's a very good person. Now with that being said, he represents China, I represent the U.S.A., so, you know, there's going to always be conflict," Trump recently told the Fox Business Network. "People say we have the best relationship of any president-president, because he's called president also. Now some people might call him the king of China. But he's called president."

The president and first lady Melania Trump were greeted at the airport by dozens of children who waved U.S. and Chinese flags and jumped up and down. They sipped tea with Xi and his wife, Peng Liyuan, received a private tour of the Forbidden City, Beijing's ancient imperial palace, including a performance by young opera students before dinner. Trump said afterward that he's "having a great time" in China.

White House officials point to the summit in Florida this spring, an event partly defined by Trump telling his Chinese counterpart about the missile strike he ordered on Syria while the two men dined on chocolate cake. But experts in the region suggest that Xi may be playing Trump.

"Trump keeps portraying his relationship with XI as great pals but that's wildly naive," said Mike Chinoy, an expert on East Asia policy at the U.S.-China Institute at the University of Southern California. "The Chinese have figured out how to play Trump: flatter him. And there's nothing the Chinese do better than wow foreign diplomats."

Trump talked tough during his campaign about fixing American's trade relationship with China and labeling it a "currency manipulator." But he has signaled that he would take it easy on Beijing if it will help with the nuclear threat from North Korea.

"Trump has mortgaged the whole U.S.-China relationship to get the Chinese on board with the North Korea plan," Chinoy said. "He is now coming at it from a position of weakness."

White House officials have said that if Trump were to chide Xi about human rights or democratic reforms he would likely do it privately. Andrew Nathan, a political science professor and China expert at Columbia University, said Trump's "infatuation" with Xi was reminiscent of former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's fascination with Zhou Enlai, the first Premier of the People's Republic of China.

"For Trump, Xi is wish fulfillment: 'I wish I could be as powerful as that guy!'" Nathan said.

One uncertainty for Trump: whether he will be able to use Twitter in China, which has banned the social media platform. Though the United States could enable it to work, the White House declined to comment on whether Trump would tweet from China.

Trump arrived in Beijing after two days in Seoul, where he largely avoided the inflammatory rhetoric — like dubbing North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un "Little Rocket Man" — that has defined his approach to Pyongyang. But he also warned North Korea in his speech to "not underestimate us. And do not try us."

He also sounded an optimistic note while in South Korea, saying confidently, if vaguely, that "ultimately, it'll all work out" while shifting views and expressing hope that diplomacy could resolve the tensions. Trump also underlined U.S. military options, noting that three aircraft carrier groups and a nuclear submarine had been deployed to the region.

But he said "we hope to God we never have to use" the arsenal.

One hoped-for message to Pyongyang went unsent. Though the White House had previously indicated

that Trump would not visit the heavily fortified demilitarized zone separating North and South Korea, plans had been in the works for him to make an unannounced visit Wednesday morning.

Trump boarded the Marine One helicopter and flew to within five minutes of the DMZ when U.S. military pilots and Secret Service agents determined the fog was too thick to safely land. The helicopter returned to Seoul and Trump waited nearly an hour for the weather to clear.

The fog did not lift in time.

Associated Press writers Darlene Superville and Ken Thomas in Washington contributed to this report.

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Maine OKs Medicaid expansion in first-of-its-kind referendum

By **PATRICK WHITTLE, Associated Press**

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — Residents in this rural state grappling with a heroin epidemic and an aging population voted Tuesday to deliver a rebuke to Republican Gov. Paul LePage and join 31 other states that have expanded Medicaid under former President Barack Obama's health care law.

The referendum represents the first time since the law took effect that the question of expansion had been put in front of U.S. voters.

Some 11 million people in the country have gotten coverage through the expansion of Medicaid, a health insurance program for low income people.

LePage vetoed five different attempts by the state Legislature to expand the program. Tuesday's vote follows repeated failures by President Donald Trump, a LePage ally, and his fellow Republicans in Congress to repeal the signature legislation of Obama, a Democrat.

"This is an exciting night in Maine, but also an exciting night for the country," said David Farmer, spokesman for pro-expansion Mainers For Health Care. "Voters have made it clear they want more health care, not less."

For supporters and opponents of "Obamacare," Maine's question took on the form of a referendum on one of the most important pieces of the Affordable Care Act. Votes to expand had a nearly 60 percent edge late Tuesday, with more than three-quarters of precincts reporting.

The contest took place in a politically charged atmosphere with GOP efforts to undermine, or repeal, the health overhaul. Here in the nation's Northeast corner, the issue was personal to many in a rural state that has the nation's oldest population and the region's lowest wages and has suffered from a string of mill closings.

Passage of the proposal means an estimated 70,000 people in Maine can gain health coverage. About 268,000 people currently receive Medicaid in the state.

Maine's governor blamed an earlier Medicaid expansion for increasing state hospital debt, and he opposes giving able-bodied people more access to Medicaid.

LePage often summarizes his argument by saying: "Free is expensive to somebody." He also warned that he would have to divert \$54 million from other programs — for the elderly, disabled and children — to pay for the state's share of the expansion once it's fully implemented.

LePage's office didn't immediately respond to a request for comment. Maine Republican Party Chairwoman Demi Kouzounas said she was "disappointed" by the result and that the party will continue to oppose "more dependence on government."

Mainers For Health Care touted the proposal as a "common sense move" to ensure health care coverage for more people. Maine's hospitals also supported the Medicaid expansion and say charity care costs them over \$100 million annually.

The initiative's supporters have reported spending about \$2 million on their campaign, with hundreds of thousands of dollars coming from out-of-state groups. By comparison, the lead political action committee established to oppose the measure has spent a bit less than \$300,000.

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This may not be the last state vote. Backers of Medicaid expansion in Idaho and Utah have started similar efforts to get the question on the 2018 ballots in their own states.

Trump warns North Korea: 'Do not try us'

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — President Donald Trump delivered a sharp warning to North Korea Wednesday, telling the rogue nation: "Do not underestimate us. And do not try us."

In a speech delivered hours after he aborted a visit to the heavily fortified Korean demilitarized zone due to bad weather, Trump said he had a message for North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

"The weapons you are acquiring are not making you safer, they are putting your regime in grave danger," Trump told an audience of South Korean lawmakers, calling on all nations to join forces "to isolate the brutal regime of North Korea."

"The world cannot tolerate the menace of a rogue regime that threatens with nuclear devastation," he said.

Trump had hoped to underscore his message with an early morning visit to the DMZ, but his plans were thwarted by heavy fog that prevented his helicopter from landing at the heavily fortified border that has separated the North and South for the last 64 years.

The Marine One helicopter left Seoul at daybreak and flew most of the way to the DMZ, but was forced to turn back just five minutes out due to poor weather conditions. Reporters traveling in a separate helicopter as part of the president's envoy saw fog through the windows, and weather reports from near the heavily fortified border showed misting conditions and visibility below one mile. Pilots, officials said, could not see the other helicopters in the air.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the president was disappointed he couldn't make the trip. "I think he's pretty frustrated," she told reporters. "It was obviously something he wanted to do."

Before he left for Asia, a White House official had ruled out a DMZ visit for Trump, claiming the president didn't have time on his schedule and that DMZ visits have become a little cliché.

But Sanders said the visit had been planned well before Trump's departure for Asia. The trip was kept secret for security reasons, she said.

The aborted visit came hours before Trump addressed the South Korean National Assembly as he closed out his two-day visit to the nation and headed to his next stop, Beijing. He arrived in the Chinese capital in time for afternoon tea with Chinese President Xi Jinping and his wife, Peng Liyuan.

In the speech, Trump painted a bleak portrait of life in North Korea, describing citizens as bribing government officials to leave the country just so they can work as slaves. He contrasted the poverty and desperation to thriving South Korea — home to a long list of top-rated golfers, he noted.

"North Korea is not the paradise your grandfather envisioned. It is a hell that no person deserves," Trump said.

He said the U.S. will not allow its cities to be threatened with destruction, adding that that, while America "does not seek conflict or confrontation," it will not run from it, either.

"The regime has interpreted America's past restraint as weakness. This would be a fatal miscalculation?," Trump said. "This is a very different administration than the United States has had in the past."

He also called on all nations to downgrade diplomatic and economic ties with the North and fully implement a series of U.N. Security Council measures, specifically calling out Russia and China, whose leaders he will meet in coming days.

On Tuesday, Trump's first day on the Korean Peninsula, he had signaled a willingness to negotiate as he urged North Korea to "come to the table" and "make a deal" over its nuclear weapons program.

He also said he'd seen "a lot of progress" in dealing with Pyongyang, though he stopped short of saying whether he wanted direct talks.

"It makes sense for North Korea to come to the table and make a deal that is good for the people of

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North Korea and for the world," Trump said at a news conference with South Korea's president, Moon Jae-in. He also sounded an optimistic note on disagreements with the North, saying confidently, if vaguely: "Ultimately, it'll all work out."

It was a striking shift in tone for a president who for months had issued increasingly dire threats to answer any hostile North Korean action with "fire and fury." In a recent speech at the United Nations, Trump said he would "totally destroy" the nation, if necessary, and has derided Kim as "little Rocket Man." North Korea has fired more than a dozen missiles this year but none in nearly two months. Analysts caution against reading too much into the pause.

Ever the showman, Trump had teased that he had a surprise in store, saying at a Tuesday evening banquet that he had an "exciting day" planned Wednesday — "for many reasons that people will find out." He did not elaborate on what turned out to be the aborted trip to the DMZ.

Visiting the border that has become something of a ritual for U.S. presidents trying to demonstrate their resolve against North Korea's ever-escalating aggression. Every American president since Ronald Reagan, save for George H.W. Bush, has made the trip, peering across the barren north through binoculars, hearing broadcast propaganda and reaffirming their commitment to standing with the South.

Visiting the wooded, craggy terrain inside the DMZ is like going back in time to 1953. In July of that year, the Korean War armistice agreement was signed at Panmunjom, the so-called "truce village" bisected by a marker that is the official dividing line between the North and South.

There's no public sign of any diplomatic progress between Washington and Pyongyang. U.S. officials say the back channel between the State Department and the North Korean mission at the United Nations in New York remains intact, but contacts have not been substantive other than achieving the release of American college student Otto Warmbier in June. He died days after his repatriation to the U.S.

Moon, who has been eager to solidify a friendship with Trump, said he hoped the president's visit would be a turning point in the standoff with North Korea.

Associated Press writers Zeke Miller and Matthew Pennington in Washington contributed to this report.

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Trump visits Beijing amid mounting tensions over trade

By **JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer**

BEIJING (AP) — After a brief truce with China to cooperate on North Korea, President Donald Trump arrived in Beijing on Wednesday amid mounting U.S. trade complaints, with limited prospects for progress on market access, technology policy and other sore points.

The strains between the world's two biggest economies are fueling anxiety among global companies and advocates of free trade that they could retreat into protectionism, dragging down growth.

Washington accuses Beijing of backsliding on market-opening promises, and Trump said last week that the U.S. trade deficit with China — \$347 billion last year — is "so bad that it's embarrassing."

"I don't want to embarrass anybody four days before I land in China, but it's horrible," said Trump.

His government has raised import duties on Chinese aluminum foil, stainless steel and plywood, and is investigating whether Beijing improperly pressures foreign companies to hand over technology.

If they discuss trade during the two-day visit, Chinese President Xi Jinping's government is unlikely to offer enough "to appease U.S. negotiators," said John Davies of BMI Research.

That is likely to lead to "more protectionist measures on the part of the U.S.," said Davies.

While Trump is looking to boost sagging public approval ratings, the Chinese leader enters their meeting on a political high.

The ruling Communist Party added Xi's name to its constitution at a twice-a-decade congress last month, giving him status equal to Mao Zedong, founder of the communist government, and Deng Xiaoping, who launched economic reforms in 1979.

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At the congress, Xi promised to open the economy wider but affirmed plans to build up state-owned companies that dominate industries including finance, energy and telecoms. That, along with plans for government-led development of electric cars and other technology, makes foreign companies worry that Beijing is squeezing them out of promising fields.

The chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce in China, William Zarit, expressed concern that Trump appears to have done too little to prepare and said some companies worry his focus on trade in goods will mean he does too little about such "structural issues." Zarit said those include limits on access to finance, health care and other industries.

In contrast to "advance work" for previous presidential trips to Beijing, "there really hasn't been much of that for this visit, which makes us a bit concerned that there may not be much discussion on the structural issues," said Zarit, a former American diplomat.

A senior administration official who briefed reporters in Washington denied that Trump hasn't adequately prepared.

"We've analyzed this probably more than most administrations," said the official, who spoke on condition that he not be identified further.

The official said Beijing has shifted to "moving away from market-based principles" and Washington wants movement toward a "market-oriented" system.

That echoes complaints by foreign companies that despite a 2013 pledge by the ruling party to give market forces a "decisive role," restrictions on them in some industries are increasing. That led to a 1.2 percent fall in foreign investment in China in the first seven months of this year, breaking a series of annual double-digit gains.

Business groups have warned that Beijing's efforts to shield its fledgling competitors in electric cars, clean power and other fields are fueling a backlash against globalization.

A possible U.S. response might be "closing down certain industry sectors that are now open to Chinese investment," said Zarit. "I know we do not want to see any kind of a tit-for-tat, which could end up in a trade war."

For its part, Beijing is pressing Washington and the European Union to grant "market economy" status to its state-dominated system. That would make it harder for trading partners to bring anti-dumping and other cases against China.

China says that when it joined the World Trade Organization in 2001, it was promised that status would take effect last December. The United States, Europe and Japan reject that and say Beijing has yet to meet market-opening goals to qualify.

Chinese economists argue their country isn't to blame for U.S. problems. They say global companies benefit from low-cost Chinese labor and a growing consumer market.

The loss of American factory jobs is due not to Chinese exports but to U.S. manufacturers moving to lower-wage countries, said Sun Lijian, an economist at Shanghai's Fudan University.

"In the end, it is U.S. companies that have gained large profits," said Sun.

Trump temporarily set aside trade complaints in April after meeting Xi for the first time in Florida and said he hoped Beijing would help discourage North Korea from pursuing nuclear weapons. They issued a "100-Day Plan" under which Beijing agreed to discuss expanding market access for electronic payments and financial services.

Despite renewed criticism on trade, "the U.S. needs continued Chinese cooperation" over North Korea, economist Rajiv Biswas of IHS Markit said in an email.

That means Trump will feel compelled to negotiate instead of using "blunt bilateral trade measures that could endanger the overall bilateral geopolitical relationship," said Biswas.

Potential options for a possible new package of immediate measures include raising Chinese ownership limits in fields including securities, in which foreign firms can own only 49 percent of a venture, said Zarit.

"If you raised it to 51 percent, I think that would be progress," he said.

China criticized Trump's order in September to investigate whether Beijing violates its free-trade commitments by pressing foreign companies to hand over technology in return for market access. They com-

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plained that Trump was jeopardizing the global system by launching the probe under U.S. law instead of the World Trade Organization.

Few American companies have provided evidence for the investigation, possibly due to fear of Chinese retaliation.

The U.S. Commerce Department also is investigating whether Chinese exports including metal tubing, industrial resin and polyester fiber benefit from improper subsidies.

Trade is a smaller share of China's economy than it was a decade ago and the U.S. market is losing importance for its exporters as sales to other developing markets grow. That blunts the potential impact of American tariffs or other sanctions, but the United States still accounts for about one-third of China's trade surplus, and export industries employ millions of workers.

"The U.S. does have leverage to realistically threaten to damage China's economic prospects," said BMI Research's Davies.

A look at the winners and losers of the top US races

By JOSCELYN PAINE, Associated Press

Democrats swept Virginia and New Jersey's governor's races, incumbents came out on top in several big-city mayoral races and voters in Maine said they wanted to join 31 other states in expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.

A rundown of the top races around the country on Tuesday:

TWO GOVERNORS

Voters in two states picked replacements for their term-limited governors — Democrat Terry McAuliffe in Virginia and Republican Chris Christie in New Jersey — in contests seen as an early referendum on the presidency of Donald Trump. In swing state Virginia, Democratic Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam defeated Republican Ed Gillespie. In New Jersey, front-running Democrat Phil Murphy overcame Republican Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno.

The stakes were high as both parties sought momentum ahead of next year's midterm elections. Democrats haven't won any special elections for Congress this year and the next Virginia governor will have a major say in the state's next round of redistricting, when Congressional lines are drawn. Republicans were looking for a boost as their party is beset by intraparty turmoil between Trump and key Republicans in Congress.

BIG-CITY MAYORS

Democrat Bill de Blasio won a second term as mayor of heavily Democratic New York City. He easily defeated Republican state lawmaker Nicole Malliotakis and several third-party candidates.

In Boston, Mayor Marty Walsh won a second four-year term by beating City Councilor Tito Jackson after a low-key campaign.

Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan won a second four-year term by defeating state Sen. Coleman Young II, whose father was the city's first black mayor. Duggan was first elected after a state-appointed manager filed for Detroit's historic bankruptcy.

Two Atlanta city councilwomen, Keisha Lance Bottoms and Mary Norwood, were the top two vote-getters in the city's mayoral race from a field of nearly a dozen candidates and are now headed to a Dec. 5 runoff. The winner will replace term-limited Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed.

In Seattle, former U.S. Attorney Jenny Durkan took a strong early lead in the race for mayor. Voters were choosing between Durkan and urban planner Cary Moon to replace former Mayor Ed Murray, who resigned earlier this year amid sexual abuse allegations. Ballot counting in the all mail-in election will continue over the next several days.

Charlotte, North Carolina, is getting its sixth mayor since 2009. Mayor Pro Tem Vi Lyles, a Democrat, beat Republican City Councilman Kenny Smith.

MEDICAID

Maine voters approved a measure allowing them to join 31 other states in expanding Medicaid under the

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Affordable Care Act. The referendum represented the first time since the signature health bill of former President Barack Obama took effect that the question of expansion was put before U.S. voters. Maine's Republican governor had vetoed five attempts to expand the program.

UTAH'S CONGRESSIONAL SEAT

The Republican mayor of the Mormon stronghold of Provo, Utah, won a special election to replace U.S. Rep. Jason Chaffetz, who resigned earlier this year. In an expected victory in the heavily Republican congressional district, John Curtis beat Democrat Kathryn Allen and third-party candidate Jim Bennett.

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Philadelphia's next district attorney is Larry Krasner, a liberal Democrat who vows to end mass incarceration and the death penalty. He replaces Democrat Seth Williams, who was sentenced to prison last month for accepting a bribe.

CONTROL OF WASHINGTON

Democrat Manka Dhingra took an early lead in a state Senate race that will determine whether the Washington state Senate will remain the only Republican-led legislative chamber on the West Coast. If the seat flips to Democrats, Washington will join Oregon and California with total Democratic rule in both legislative chambers and the governor's office. Under the state's vote-by-mail system, ballots just need to be postmarked or dropped off by Tuesday, which means that final results may not be known for days.

Gunman once fled mental health center, threatened superiors

SUTHERLAND SPRINGS, Texas (AP) — The gunman who killed more than two dozen at a small-town Texas church briefly escaped from a mental health facility in New Mexico in 2012, police reports indicated.

The reports also noted that Devin Patrick Kelley was once caught trying to bring guns onto a military base and threatened superior officers there. Kelley was also named as a suspect in a 2013 sexual assault in New Braunfels, about 35 miles from the scene of Sunday's church attack in Sutherland Springs.

The records that emerged Tuesday add up to at least three missed opportunities that might have offered law enforcement a way to stop Kelley from having access to guns long before he slaughtered much of the congregation in the middle of a service. Authorities said the death toll of 26 included the unborn baby of one of the women killed. Kelley died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound after he was chased by bystanders and crashed his car.

The Air Force confirmed Tuesday that Kelley had been treated in the facility after he was placed under pretrial confinement stemming from a court-martial on charges that he assaulted his then-wife and hit her child hard enough to fracture the boy's skull.

Involuntary commitment to a mental institution would have been grounds to deny him a weapon provided that records of his confinement were submitted to the federal database used to conduct background checks on people who try to purchase guns.

Kelley was also caught trying to bring guns onto Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico when he was stationed there, according to an El Paso, Texas, police report released Tuesday.

While in the military, Kelley, who was 21 at the time, made death threats against superior officers, according to the June 2012 report, which also mentioned the military charges. He was eventually sentenced to 12 months of confinement for the assault.

The Air Force acknowledged Monday that it did not enter Kelley's criminal history into the federal database as required by military rules, another way he could have been denied a weapon.

Had Kelley been convicted of sexual assault, he would likely have been prevented from purchasing a gun because federal guidelines prohibit sales to anyone convicted of a felony punishable by more than one year in prison. The Comal County sheriff said he was reviewing whether his department mishandled the sexual assault investigation.

Authorities recovered a Ruger AR-556 rifle at the church and two handguns from the shooter's vehicle. All three weapons were purchased by Kelley, said Fred Milanowski, the agent in charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in Houston.

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The El Paso report notes that Kelley was committed to a mental health facility in Santa Teresa, New Mexico, but at some point escaped and was later found by police at a bus station in downtown El Paso in June 2012.

Deputies were called to Kelley's home in New Braunfels in June 2013 about the rape case and investigated for three months, Comal County Sheriff Mark Reynolds said. But it appeared that they stopped investigating after they believed Kelley left Texas and moved to Colorado. Reynolds said the case was then listed as inactive.

The sheriff said he was trying to determine how deputies came to believe Kelley had moved and why they did not continue to pursue the case, either in Colorado or after Kelley returned to the area later. Deputies were called to the same house in February 2014 to investigate a domestic violence report involving Kelley and Danielle Shields, his girlfriend at the time, whom he married two months later.

"The last information that we have is the suspect moved to Colorado and then the investigation seems to have tapered off," Reynolds said Tuesday. "That's what we're looking into."

The district attorney for Comal County said in an interview that she became aware of the sexual assault case Monday before the records were released to The Associated Press and other media.

"That case was never presented to our office," Jennifer Tharp said.

The records from Comal County also describe a burglary that Kelley's father, Michael, reported on his property the day after the sexual assault report. Michael Kelley told an officer that someone had taken a laptop computer and hard drive belonging to his son from a barn he had converted into an apartment for Devin Kelley. But Kelley said his son was unavailable to talk to police because he had been in a traffic accident that morning.

None of the documents explains whether there was a connection between the sexual assault report and the burglary report.

Meanwhile at the First Baptist Church in tiny Sutherland Springs, investigators continued analyzing a gruesome crime scene and tried to gain access to the shooter's cellphone, a longstanding challenge for the FBI in thousands of other cases.

Authorities aimed to conclude the crime-scene investigation at the church by Wednesday evening. Investigators have no reason to believe anyone conspired with Kelley, who acted alone, said Texas Department of Public Safety Regional Director Freeman Martin.

Martin repeated earlier statements that the shooting appeared to stem from a domestic dispute involving Kelley and his mother-in-law, who sometimes attended services at the church but was not present on Sunday.

"We don't know what he was thinking or what was in his mind," Martin said. "There was conflict. He was upset with the mother-in-law."

The gunman's phone was flown to an FBI lab for analysis, but agents have yet to access it, said Christopher Combs, who is in charge of the agency's San Antonio division.

The inability to access the shooter's phone highlights a longstanding frustration of the FBI. Director Christopher Wray said last month that in the first 11 months of the fiscal year, agents were unable to access the content inside more than 6,900 mobile devices, an issue he said stymies investigations.

The FBI and other law enforcement officials have long complained about being unable to unlock and recover evidence from cellphones and other devices seized from suspects even if authorities have a warrant. Technology companies have refused to help, insisting they must protect customers' digital privacy.

The long-simmering debate was on display in 2016, when the Justice Department tried to force Apple to unlock an encrypted cellphone used by a gunman in an attack in San Bernardino, California. The department eventually relented after the FBI said it paid an unidentified vendor who provided a tool to unlock the phone and no longer needed Apple's assistance, avoiding a court showdown.

Merchant reported from Houston. Associated Press writers Robert Burns in Washington, John Mone in Sutherland Springs, Diana Heidgerd and Reese Dunklin in Dallas, Paul J. Weber in New Braunfels, and AP

investigative researcher Randy Herschaft in New York contributed to this report.

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

Texas massacre is seized on by both sides in gun debate

By LISA MARIE PANE and MARTHA BELLISLE, Associated Press

Gun-rights supporters have seized on the Texas church massacre as proof of the well-worn saying that the best answer to a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun. Gun-control advocates, meanwhile, say the tragedy shows once more that it is too easy to get a weapon in the U.S.

To no one's surprise, many Americans on opposite sides of the gun debate are using the latest mass shooting to reaffirm their opinions about firearms, drawing very different lessons from the rampage.

The bloodbath is proving to have elements both sides of the gun debate can use: More than two dozen were killed, from babies to the elderly. The slaughter took place in a house of worship. The killer had a history of domestic violence that legally should have prevented him from buying his guns. And a National Rifle Association member pulled out his own rifle and wounded the killer, helping to end the danger.

"Both sides are following the respective scripts that we have seen many times before," said Robert Spitzer, chairman of political science at the State University of New York at Cortland and an expert on firearms and Second Amendment issues.

On Sunday, Devin Patrick Kelley, 26, traveled to a Baptist church in Sutherland Springs and opened fire with a Ruger AR rifle with a 30-round magazine, going from aisle to aisle as he shot parishioners. He killed himself after being shot and chased down by a church neighbor. Authorities said 26 victims died, including the unborn baby of one of the slain women.

Kelley was able to buy the rifle and three other weapons even though the former Air Force man was convicted at a court-martial of choking his wife and cracking her son's skull and was given a bad-conduct discharge in 2014. It turned out the Air Force did not submit his criminal history to the FBI database that is used to conduct background checks for gun shops.

President Donald Trump, a longtime supporter of the gun lobby and the first president since Ronald Reagan to address the NRA, said the attack was the work of a mentally ill man.

He said that rather than use the shooting as justification to restrict access to firearms, it should be seen as a shining example of the benefits of gun ownership. If the neighbor who confronted the gunman hadn't had a rifle, Trump said, "instead of having 26 dead, you would have had hundreds more dead."

That thought resonated with gun owners around the country.

"There's an old saying: 'The best answer for a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun,'" said Tiffany Teasdale-Causar, owner of Lynnwood Gun and Ammunition in Lynnwood, Washington.

Former Special Forces Col. Jim Patterson in San Antonio said "an armed society is a polite society."

"I get the emotional argument — let's ban all guns — but you're imposing a law on people who disobey the law to begin with," he said. "We are free men and women and we control our destiny. When seconds count, the police are minutes away. What do you do in those minutes? Do you hide under a table or do you retain your right to protect yourself?"

But Stephanie Ervin of Civic Ventures, an advocacy group in Seattle, said having more guns in public settings such as stadiums is "a recipe for tragedy" and increases the risk of something bad happening.

The problem of mass shootings won't be solved "by grandmas bringing guns to church in their handbags," she said. "It will be resolved by introducing and passing more laws that keep people from accessing firearms in a moment of crisis."

Since Trump's election, gun-rights advocates are feeling emboldened for the first time in nearly a decade, while gun-control activists fear the unraveling of restrictions on firearms.

At the top of the gun-rights agenda is winning passage in Congress of "national reciprocity," which would allow concealed-carry gun permits issued in one state to be valid in all others. The gun lobby also wants

an easing of restrictions on silencers.

With each mass shooting, gun-control advocates have seized on the events to point to what they see as failings or loopholes in the law.

When a gunman in Las Vegas slaughtered 58 people last month in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, there was talk of outlawing "bump stocks," the device he used to enable his semiautomatic rifles to fire like fully automatic weapons.

For Sandy Phillips, each mass shooting brings back memories of when her daughter was killed in the 2012 movie theater attack in Aurora, Colorado, that left 12 people dead. Phillips, a gun owner who lives in Texas, bristles at the good-guy-with-a-gun argument.

In the Texas rampage, "they didn't even succeed in killing him. He killed himself," Phillips said. "The bottom line is people are killing people with guns and they're killing them in large numbers because we have easy access to guns."

Bellisile reported from Seattle, Pane from Atlanta.

This story has been corrected to show that the gun store owner's last name is Teasdale-Causser, not Teasdale-Caufer.

Trump and the DMZ: The surprise that wasn't to be

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — It was the big surprise that was not to be.

Donald Trump, America's showman president, hatched a secret plan to visit the Korean Peninsula's demilitarized zone before he ever left Washington last week on a five-nation tour of Asia, the White House said.

Trump teased a show-stopper during a toast at a state dinner being held in his honor in Seoul on Tuesday night, promising: "We're going to have an exciting day tomorrow for many reasons" that "people will find out."

With reporters sworn to secrecy and a beefed-up security retinue in tow, his helicopter took off in the dim early morning light Wednesday bound for the heavily fortified border.

Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders had announced the destination by scrawling the letters "DMZ" on a notepad, saying that was how she was told to communicate the sensitive information.

But plans for the grand reveal were botched by Mother Nature, and Sanders described Trump as disappointed — and "pretty frustrated."

The snafu is a particularly humbling moment for a win-focused president. Trump has employed increasingly tough rhetoric against North Korea over its continued nuclear and ballistic missile programs, but found his DMZ power-play derailed by weather.

Just after daybreak, Trump's motorcade had departed unannounced for Yongsan Garrison, a U.S. Army base in Seoul, where a fleet of military helicopters was standing by for the roughly 35-mile flight to the DMZ. Trump had been scheduled to arrive at Observation Post Ouellette, the closest post to the 1953 armistice line, where he would follow his three direct predecessors in peering into North Korea.

But visibility below one mile and misting conditions determined otherwise. Trump was traveling in a five-helicopter air convoy, consisting of two identical VH-60Ns — Marine One and a decoy — and three Chinooks carrying press, aides, and heavily-armed security.

As they neared the DMZ landing site, the pilots were unable to see the other helicopters around them, Sanders said. Military pilots, in conjunction with the U.S. Secret Service, decided it was unsafe to continue, and the helicopters reversed course and returned to Yongsan.

Undeterred, Trump waited nearly an hour in his armored limousine near the helicopters in hopes of a clearing in the weather, but none was forthcoming. White House staff, including Sanders and chief of staff John Kelly, passed the time making frequent glances at the overcast sky.

Just before 9 a.m., the final call was made: the stop was off. Trump's 11 a.m. address to the South Ko-

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rean National Assembly could not be delayed to accommodate a later trip. Trump had also been scheduled to visit with families of diplomats at the U.S. embassy in Seoul, but first lady Melania Trump filled that engagement.

Trump was set to depart Seoul for Beijing, China after the Assembly address. The elaborately choreographed arrival ceremony there, which has been timed to sunset, meant Trump could not afford to visit the DMZ later Wednesday.

In advance of the 12-day trip, White House officials had publicly dismissed the idea of a visit to the DMZ as "a little bit of a cliché." But behind the scenes, Trump made clear to aides he intended to follow through with the presidential rite of passage.

Shrouded in secrecy and symbolism, presidential visits to American troops stationed in South Korea and the DMZ have become a staple of trips to the peninsula for decades. Every president since Ronald Reagan has visited the 1953 armistice line, except for George H.W. Bush, who visited when he was vice president. The show of bravado and support for one of America's closest military allies has evolved over the years to include binoculars and bomber jackets.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in was set to join Trump at the DMZ, but was diverted as well. The South Korean leader landed at an alternate site about a 20-minute drive from the DMZ, but that was not a possibility for Trump, given the logistics of moving his larger motorcade along streets that hadn't been secured.

"For President Moon and President Trump to go to together would have been historic, it was supposed to be a symbol of the strong alliance," Sanders said once Trump returned to his hotel. "I think the fact that they were both planning shows the importance."

Miller reported from Washington.

Tencent buys 10 percent stake in Snap

NEW YORK (AP) — The Chinese internet company Tencent has acquired a 10 percent stake in Snap, with the social media company struggling to boost user growth.

Tencent runs the WeChat messaging app, as well as online payment platforms and games. Earlier this year, it bought a 5 percent stake in Tesla Inc.

Snap Inc. is the parent company of Snapchat, a camera app that lets people send short videos and images. The company, based in Venice, California, said in a regulatory filing Wednesday that Tencent bought 145.8 million shares.

Snap revealed Tuesday that its loss tripled to \$443.2 million during the third quarter on weak user growth and revenue. The app is getting a redesign to make it easier to use.

Snap faces intense competition from Apple, Facebook's Instagram and WhatsApp, and Google's YouTube. Shares, which had fallen 20 percent before the opening bell, cut those losses in half on news of the Tencent interest.

It's been a busy week in cross-Pacific deal making.

With President Donald Trump meeting in China with President Xi Jinping for the first time, U.S. and Chinese companies signed deals valued at around \$9 billion.

'We still need to eat': Tech boom creates working homeless

By JANIE HAR, Associated Press

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. (AP) — In the same affluent, suburban city where Google built its headquarters, Tes Saldana lives in a crowded but tidy camper she parks on the street.

She concedes it's "not a very nice living situation," but it also is not unusual. Until authorities told them to move, more than a dozen other RVs filled with people who can't afford rent joined Saldana on a tree-lined street in Mountain View, parked between a Target and a luxury apartment complex.

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Homeless advocates and city officials say it's outrageous that in the shadow of a booming tech economy - where young millionaires dine on \$15 wood-grilled avocado and think nothing of paying \$1,000 for an iPhone X - thousands of families can't afford a home. Many of the homeless work regular jobs, in some cases serving the very people whose sky-high net worth is the reason housing has become unaffordable for so many.

Across the street from Saldana's camper, for example, two-bedroom units in the apartment complex start at \$3,840, including concierge service. That's more than she brings home, even in a good month.

Saldana and her three adult sons, who live with her, have looked for less rustic accommodations, but rents are \$3,000 a month or more, and most of the available housing is distant. She said it makes more sense to stay in the camper near their jobs and try to save for a brighter future, even if a recent city crackdown chased them from their parking spot.

"We still need to eat," said Saldana, 51. "I still want to bring my kids, once in a while, to a movie, to eat out."

She cooks and serves food at two hotels in nearby Palo Alto, jobs that keep her going most days from 5 in the morning until 10 at night. Two of her sons, all in their 20s, work at a bakery and pay \$700 toward the RV each month. They're all very much aware of the economic disparity in Silicon Valley.

"How about for us people who are serving these tech people?" Saldana said. "We don't get the same paycheck that they do."

It's all part of a growing crisis along the West Coast, where many cities and counties have seen a surge in the number of people living on the streets over the past two years. Counts taken earlier this year show 168,000 homeless people in California, Oregon and Washington - 20,000 more than were counted just two years ago.

The booming economy, fueled by the tech sector, and decades of under-building have led to an historic shortage of affordable housing. It has upended the stereotypical view of people out on the streets as unemployed: They are retail clerks, plumbers, janitors - even teachers - who go to work, sleep where they can and buy gym memberships for a place to shower.

The surge in homelessness has prompted at least 10 local governments along the West Coast to declare states of emergency, and cities from San Diego to Seattle are struggling to come up with immediate and long-range solutions.

San Francisco is well-known for homeless tent encampments. But the homeless problem has now spread throughout Silicon Valley, where the disparity between the rich and everyone else is glaring.

There is no firm estimate on the number of people who live in vehicles in Silicon Valley, but the problem is pervasive and apparent to anyone who sees RVs lining thoroughfares; not as visible are the cars tucked away at night in parking lots. Advocates for the homeless say it will only get worse unless more affordable housing is built.

The median rent in the San Jose metro area is \$3,500 a month, yet the median wage is \$12 an hour in food service and \$19 an hour in health care support, an amount that won't even cover housing costs. The minimum annual salary needed to live comfortably in San Jose is \$87,000, according to a study by personal finance website GoBankingRates.

So dilapidated RVs line the eastern edge of Stanford University in Palo Alto, and officials in neighboring Mountain View have mapped out more than a dozen areas where campers tend to cluster, some of them about a mile from Google headquarters.

On a recent evening, Benito Hernandez returned to a cramped RV in Mountain View after laying flagstones for a home in Atherton, where Zillow pegs the median value of a house at \$6.5 million. He rents the RV for \$1,000 a month and lives there with his pregnant wife and children.

The family was evicted two years ago from an apartment where the rent kept going up, nearing \$3,000 a month.

"After that, I lost everything," said Hernandez, 33, who works as a landscaper and roofer.

He says his wife "is a little bit sad because she says, 'You're working very hard but don't have credit to get an apartment.' I tell her, 'Just wait, maybe a half-year more, and I'll get my credit back.'"

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The plight of the Hernandez family points out one of the confounding problems of the homeless surge along the West Coast.

"This is not a crisis of unemployment that's leading to poverty around here," said Tom Myers, executive director of Community Services Agency, a nonprofit based in Mountain View. "People are working."

Mountain View, a city of 80,000 which also is home to Mozilla and 23andMe, has committed more than \$1 million over two years for homeless services, including money for an outreach case manager and a police officer to help people who live in vehicles. At last count, there were people living in more than 330 vehicles throughout the city.

Mayor Ken Rosenberg is proud of the city's response to the crisis - focusing not on penalties but on providing services. Yet he's also worried that the peace won't last as RVs crowd into bike lanes and over-taxed streets.

Last week, Mountain View officials posted signs banning vehicles more than 6 feet high on some parts of the street where Saldana, Hernandez and others living in RVs were parked, saying they were creating a traffic hazard. The average RV is well over that height.

That follows similar moves over the summer by Palo Alto, which started cracking down on RVs and other vehicles that exceed the 72-hour limit on a busy stretch of El Camino Real.

In San Jose, officials recently approved an ordinance pushed by an interfaith group called the Winter Faith Collaborative to allow places of assembly - including gyms and churches - to shelter homeless people year-round.

Ellen Tara James-Penney, a 54-year-old lecturer at San Jose State University, parks her old Volvo at one of those safe haven churches, Grace Baptist Church, and eats in its dining hall. She is paid \$28,000 a year to teach four English classes and is carrying \$143,000 in student debt after earning two degrees.

She grades papers and prepares lessons in the Volvo. At night, she leans back the driver's seat and prepares for sleep, one of two dogs, Hank, by her side. Her husband, Jim, who is too tall for the car, sleeps outside in a tent cot with their other dog, Buddy.

The Bay Area native remembers the time a class was studying John Steinbeck, when another student said that she was sick of hearing about the homeless.

"And I said, 'Watch your mouth. You're looking at one.' Then you could have heard a pin drop," she said. "It's quite easy to judge when you have a house to live in or you have meds when you're depressed and health care."

In response to growing wealth inequities, unions, civil rights groups and community organizations formed Silicon Valley Rising about three years ago. They demand better pay and benefits for the low-income earners who make the region run.

SEIU United Service Workers West, for example, organized roughly 3,000 security guards who work for companies that contract with Facebook, Google and Caltrain, the mass transit system that connects Silicon Valley with San Francisco.

One of those workers is Albert Brown III, a 46-year-old security officer who recently signed a lease for half of a \$3,400 two-bedroom unit in Half Moon Bay, about 13 miles from his job.

He can barely afford the rent on his \$16-an-hour salary, even with overtime, but the car that doubled as his home needed a pricey repair and he found a landlord willing to overlook his lousy credit. Still, Brown worries he won't be able to keep up with his payments.

His feet have been hurting. What if a doctor tells him to rest for a few days or a week?

"I can't miss a minute. If I miss a minute or a shift? No way, man. A week? Forget it, it's over. It's all downhill from there," he said.

"It's a sad choice. I have to decide whether to be homeless or penniless, right?"

Follow Janie Har at <https://twitter.com/search?q=Janie%20Har&src=typd>

Follow AP's complete coverage of the homeless crisis here: <https://apnews.com/tag/HomelessCrisis>

GOP blocks Dem efforts to boost tax benefits for parents

By MARCY GORDON and ERICA WERNER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republicans on Tuesday blocked Democratic efforts to secure bigger tax benefits for parents' costs of raising or adopting children, as they drove toward wrapping up their tax overhaul by week's end.

The daylong debate by the Ways and Means Committee came as the Senate's tax bill started to take shape. That version is expected to completely repeal the federal deduction for state and local taxes, a flashpoint of contention for Republican lawmakers from high-tax states like New York and New Jersey, as well as Democrats. Concessions were made in the House bill with a partial repeal.

The Senate measure also would retain the medical expense deduction, which the House plan eliminates. And the Senate would retain today's seven personal income tax brackets, not collapse them into four like the House bill.

Republicans hope to get Democratic support for their politically necessary legislation, and President Donald Trump's top economic adviser Gary Cohn met with Senate Democrats on Tuesday as Trump phoned in from his Asia trip.

Democrats weren't buying Trump's argument that the emerging GOP tax bill is "terrible for rich people." Ohio Democrat Sen. Sherrod Brown said Trump made that claim during the call.

But Brown said the Democrats adamantly disagree, telling reporters, "This bill is clearly overwhelmingly serving the rich." Brown said Trump likes Democratic ideas such as boosting the earned income and child tax credits for working families, but GOP leaders don't seem interested in them.

The House tax-writing panel voted 23-16 along party lines to reject Democratic amendments affecting parents. In its second marathon day of amendments and votes on the sweeping, nearly \$6 trillion bill, the committee also rolled over other Democratic proposals, including one that would have forced businesses to suffer the same loss of the deduction for state and local taxes as individuals.

The GOP plan calls for repealing the adoption tax credit, a move roundly condemned by Democrats. One of the defeated Democratic proposals would have restored the adoption credit and allowed it to be fully refundable.

The proposal's sponsor, Rep. Danny Davis, D-Ill., said its aim was "so that more families can benefit and more waiting children can be adopted."

Davis said that in 2014, more than 73,000 U.S. households claimed the adoption tax credit, with an average value of \$4,802. However, he added, nearly 60 percent of the credit went to families with annual incomes over \$100,000.

The GOP plan also includes an increase in the child tax credit, to \$1,600 from \$1,000 per child. The amendment by Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Calif., that was defeated would have added a \$3,600 credit for families with children under age 6.

Trump and the Republicans need to show the tax bill — it would be the first major revamp of the tax code in 30 years — as a solid legislative accomplishment after a year of failure. At least one House Republican was blunt about the pressure from campaign-money donors to produce. "My donors are basically saying get it done or don't ever call me again," Rep. Chris Collins, R-N.Y., told reporters.

Collins' comments prompted a pointed retort from a fellow New Yorker, Democratic Rep. Joe Crowley.

"We know who's watching, we know who you're all catering to today," Crowley lectured Republicans on the Ways and Means panel.

Numerous issues were in play, including the precise levels for a mortgage interest deduction and whether the legislation would serve as a vehicle to repeal the "Obamacare" requirement for nearly all Americans to carry health insurance. A repeal would raise more than \$400 billion to help pay for the tax measure, because the government would no longer be paying as much in Medicaid and Affordable Care Act tax credits.

Trump has called for repealing the individual mandate, but after a press conference Tuesday with congressional Republicans, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin brushed aside a question about whether the president would accept a bill that didn't contain that provision.

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"I'm not going to comment on that issue specifically. Again, the president wants to get a deal that will be signed," Mnuchin said. "Nothing is more important to the president's economic agenda than tax reform and tax cuts."

Republicans are working overtime to present their legislation as a boon to the middle class, citing beefed-up child tax credits and overall decreases in the tax burden across all income levels in the next several years. Democrats call it a gift to corporations and the wealthy, and point to a nonpartisan congressional analysis showing taxes would actually go up beginning in 2023 for some 38 million taxpayers, or families, making \$20,000 to \$40,000 a year.

The legislation would add \$1.5 trillion to an already ballooning national debt. It would deliver a major tax cut to corporations and repeal the estate tax, which would benefit a tiny percentage of the wealthiest families in the country.

Associated Press writers Andrew Taylor and Alan Fram contributed to this report.

Asian markets mixed after Wall Street decline

By **JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer**

BEIJING (AP) — Asian stocks were mixed Wednesday after Wall Street declined as President Donald Trump delivered a new warning to North Korea in a speech to South Korean lawmakers.

KEEPING SCORE: The Shanghai Composite Index gained 0.1 percent to 3,417.98 and Japan's Nikkei 225 fell 0.4 percent to 22,853.46. Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 5 points to 28,998.07 and Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 lost 0.5 percent to 8,685.07. Seoul's Kospi gained 0.4 percent to 2,556.82 and Malaysia also advanced. New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan and Jakarta retreated.

WALL STREET: U.S. stocks slipped as smaller companies and banks took their worst losses in a few months as interest rates moved lower. With stock indexes near record highs, investors moved some money into big-dividend stocks like real estate companies. Small, domestically-focused companies had their worst day since mid-August as House Republicans began making changes to their tax bill. The Standard & Poor's 500 index dipped 0.49 points to 2,590.64. The Dow Jones industrial average added 8.81 points to 23,557.23, another record high. The Nasdaq composite fell 0.3 percent to 6,767.78.

TRUMP WATCH: Trump warned North Korea not to "try us" in a speech to South Korea's National Assembly. Trump is on a 12-day Asia tour. Pro- and anti-Trump protesters staged rallies in Seoul ahead of his visit, reflecting a public deeply divided along ideological and age lines. Many South Koreans worry Trump's fiery rhetoric on North Korea raises the risk of war that could cost thousands of South Korean lives. Trump planned to fly to Beijing later in the day.

ANALYST COMMENT: "Markets seem unsure which way to go next — equity markets are largely becalmed, FX is mostly directionless, with a few exceptions, and the same too goes for bond markets," said Rob Carnell of ING in a report. "We still wait more progress on the U.S. tax reform bill," said Carnell. "On foreign policy. President Trump seems to be learning to play a more diplomatic game, as he leaves Seoul today for China on his Asia roadshow and does not appear to have set off any fireworks, either figuratively or literally on the Korean peninsula. First, though, he has to address the Korean National Assembly, where he is not guaranteed a polite and quiet hearing."

CURRENCY: The dollar declined to 113.75 yen from Tuesday's 113.99 yen. The euro edged up to \$1.1598 from \$1.1588.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude declined 14 cents to \$57.06 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract lost 15 cents on Tuesday to close at \$57.20. Brent crude, used to price international oils, shed 4 cents to \$63.65 in London. It lost 58 cents the previous session to close at \$64.27.

Today in History

By The Associated Press

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Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 8, the 312th day of 2017. There are 53 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 8, 2016, Republican Donald Trump was elected America's 45th president, defeating Democrat Hillary Clinton in an astonishing victory for a celebrity businessman and political novice. Republicans kept their majorities in the Senate and House.

On this date:

In 1793, the Louvre began admitting the public, even though the French museum had been officially open since August.

In 1889, Montana became the 41st state.

In 1892, former President Cleveland defeated incumbent Benjamin Harrison, becoming the first (and, to date, only) chief executive to win non-consecutive terms to the White House.

In 1923, Adolf Hitler launched his first attempt at seizing power in Germany with a failed coup in Munich that came to be known as the "Beer-Hall Putsch."

In 1932, New York Democratic Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt defeated incumbent Republican Herbert Hoover for the presidency.

In 1942, Operation Torch, resulting in an Allied victory, began during World War II as U.S. and British forces landed in French North Africa.

In 1950, during the Korean War, the first jet-plane battle took place as U.S. Air Force Lt. Russell J. Brown shot down a North Korean MiG-15.

In 1960, Massachusetts Sen. John F. Kennedy defeated Vice President Richard M. Nixon for the presidency.

In 1974, a federal judge in Cleveland dismissed charges against eight Ohio National Guardsmen accused of violating the civil rights of students who were killed or wounded in the 1970 Kent State shootings.

In 1987, 11 people were killed when an Irish Republican Army bomb exploded as crowds gathered in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, for a ceremony honoring Britain's war dead.

In 1988, Vice President George H.W. Bush won the presidential election, defeating the Democratic nominee, Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis.

In 1994, midterm elections resulted in Republicans winning a majority in the Senate while at the same time gaining control of the House for the first time in 40 years.

Ten years ago: The Senate confirmed President George W. Bush's nomination of Michael Mukasey to be attorney general, 53-40. President Bush suffered the first veto override of his seven-year-old presidency as the Senate enacted, 79-14, a \$23 billion water resources bill despite his protest that it was filled with unnecessary projects. Dominican singer-songwriter Juan Luis Guerra swept the Latin Grammy Awards, taking home five musical honors including album of the year, record of the year and song of the year.

Five years ago: Jared Lee Loughner was sentenced to life in prison without parole for the January 2011 shootings in Tucson, Arizona, that killed six people and wounded 13 others, including Rep. Gabrielle Giffords. Longtime baseball executive and Hall of Famer Lee MacPhail, 95, died in Delray Beach, Florida.

One year ago: Democrat Zena Stephens of Jefferson County made history upon her election as the first black woman sheriff in Texas.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Norman Lloyd is 103. Actress Stephane Audran is 85. Actor Alain Delon is 82. Singer-actress Bonnie Bramlett is 73. Singer Bonnie Raitt is 68. TV personality Mary Hart is 67. Former Playboy Enterprises chairman and chief executive Christie Hefner is 65. Actress Alfre Woodard is 65. Singer-songwriter Rickie Lee Jones is 63. Nobel Prize-winning author Kazuo Ishiguro is 63. Rock musician Porl Thompson (The Cure) is 60. Singer-actor Leif Garrett is 56. Chef and TV personality Gordon Ramsay is 51. Actress Courtney Thorne-Smith is 50. Actress Parker Posey is 49. Rock musician Jimmy Chaney is 48. Actress Roxana Zal is 48. Singer Diana King is 47. Actor Gonzalo Menendez is 46. Rock musician Scott Devendorf (The National) is 45. Actress Gretchen Mol is 44. ABC News anchor David Muir is 44. Actor Matthew Rhys is 43. Actress Tara Reid is 42. Country singer Bucky Covington is 40. Actress Dania Ramirez is

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38. Actress Azura Skye is 36. Actor Chris Rankin is 34. TV personality Jack Osbourne is 32. Actress Jessica Lowndes is 29. Singer-actor Riker Lynch is 26. Country singer Lauren Alaina is 23. Actor Van Crosby (TV: "Splitting Up Together") is 15.

Thought for Today: "One never notices what has been done; one can only see what remains to be done." — Marie Curie (1867-1934).