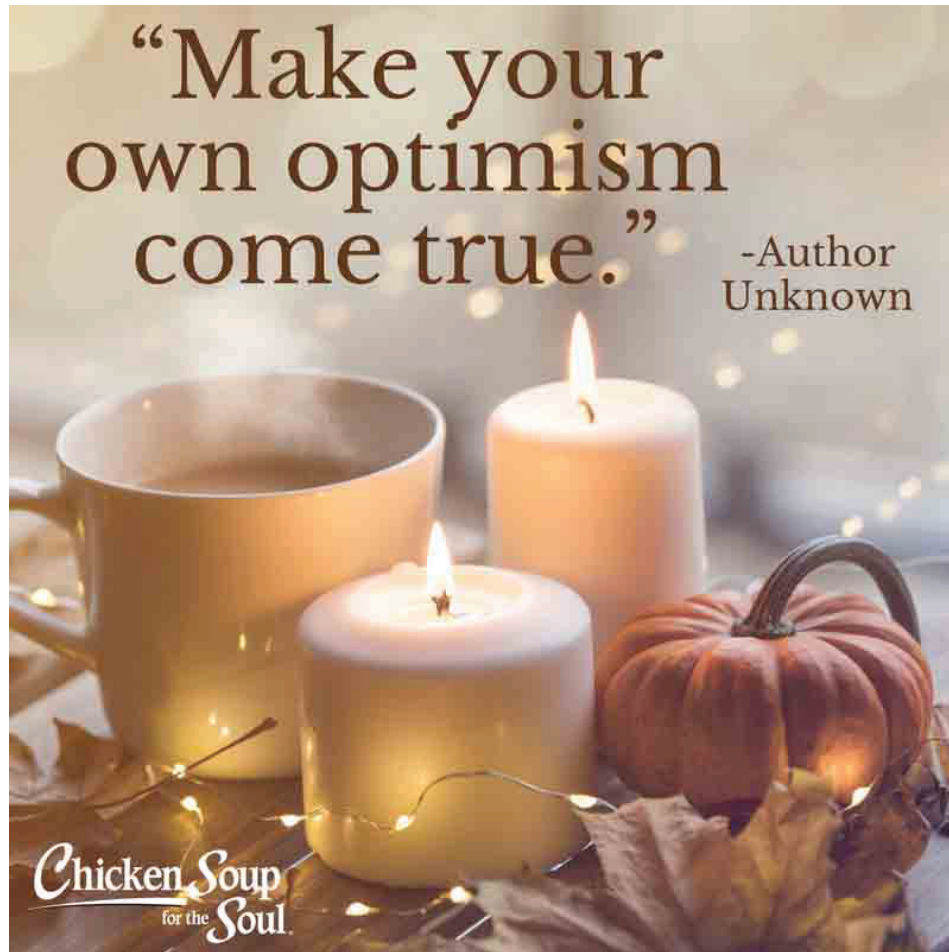


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“Make your own optimism come true.”

-Author Unknown

Chicken Soup
for the Soul



McKIVER COLLISION
Lifetime Warranty on all Collision Work!
13556 400th Ave., Groton SD 57445
Allen McKiver, Owner ~ 605/397-4404

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

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

© 2017 Groton Daily Independent

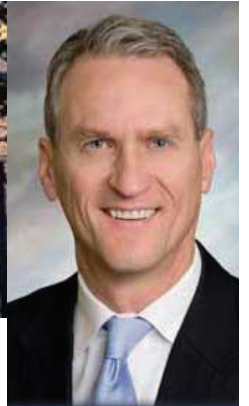
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South Dakota Governor
Dennis Daugaard



"Soldier Who Stands Alone"

Sixty-nine years ago, a young man named Philip left his home in South Dakota to serve his country. Philip J. Iyotte was a Rosebud Sioux Tribe member who lived in White River and became a sergeant in the 8th Army and a member of Company E's 21st Infantry Regiment and 24th Infantry Division.

Sgt. Iyotte's battalion was one of the first sent into battle at the commencement of the Korean War. The sergeant was first wounded in 1950, but returned to the front lines less than three weeks later.

While fighting in Operation Thunderbolt on Feb. 9, 1951, Iyotte was taken by Chinese forces and was later moved to a camp at Changsong. Fellow prisoners of war have said that though Iyotte was wounded while in captivity and could not walk, he sang the Lakota honor song for his fellow soldiers. Iyotte is believed to have passed away after seven months in captivity. He was 21 years old.

Sgt. Iyotte's story is fresh upon many of our minds, as he was finally brought home and laid to rest just a few weeks ago. Over these many years, Philip's family never gave up on their efforts to find him. They kept hope and they endured in their work to bring him home. Upon his return, South Dakotans of all ages and walks of life honored this family's devotion and the sergeant's sacrifices by lining the streets for the procession and packing the White River gymnasium for the memorial ceremony.

This Veterans Day, I'm reminded of the immense sacrifice Sgt. Iyotte made at such a young age, and also of the price so many have paid to keep us free – some of whom were taken prisoner and never made it home. According to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, more than 82,000 Americans who served in conflicts dating back to World War II are still unaccounted for. The agency estimates that three-quarters of the missing are within the Asia-Pacific and half were lost at sea.

Thousands of families throughout the nation are still without answers. For them, questions still exist - how loved ones lost their lives or where they are buried. I hope you will keep those families in your prayers this Veterans Day, and remember the POW/MIAs who never made it home. I hope you will also take time to thank the veterans in your life for keeping us free.

I am told Sgt. Iyotte's Lakota name was "Akicita Isnala Najin," which translates to "Soldier Who Stands Alone." But since the day he was finally brought home and laid to rest, the name is no longer fitting. Philip no longer stands alone, and no veteran should.

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Honoring Native American Heritage

The rich and vibrant history of Native Americans is deeply woven into the fabric of America, especially in South Dakota. I believe we should celebrate our diversity. To honor their culture and the countless contributions Native Americans have made to our society, President Trump recently designated November as National Native American Heritage Month.

Native Americans called South Dakota home long before Europeans settled in the West. South Dakota was originally a part of the vast territory of the Dakota, Lakota and Nakota people. A number of other tribal nations include the Dakota Territory in their histories as well.

Today, our state is home to nine sovereign tribal governments, comprising more than 70,000 enrolled members. I have appreciated the opportunity to work closely with tribal government leaders on a number of initiatives both during my time as governor and now as a senator.

One priority of mine has been to improve the quality of care at Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities in South Dakota. It is well-known that IHS has failed to live up to its trust responsibility to provide health care services to Native Americans, particularly in the Great Plains Region which includes our state. Decades of mismanagement and poor leadership at IHS have resulted in a health care crisis created by government bureaucrats.

The IHS facilities within the Great Plains Region have the worst health care outcomes of any of the 12 regions nationwide, including the lowest life expectancy, highest diabetes death rate, highest tuberculosis death rate and the highest overall age-adjusted death rate. This is unacceptable.

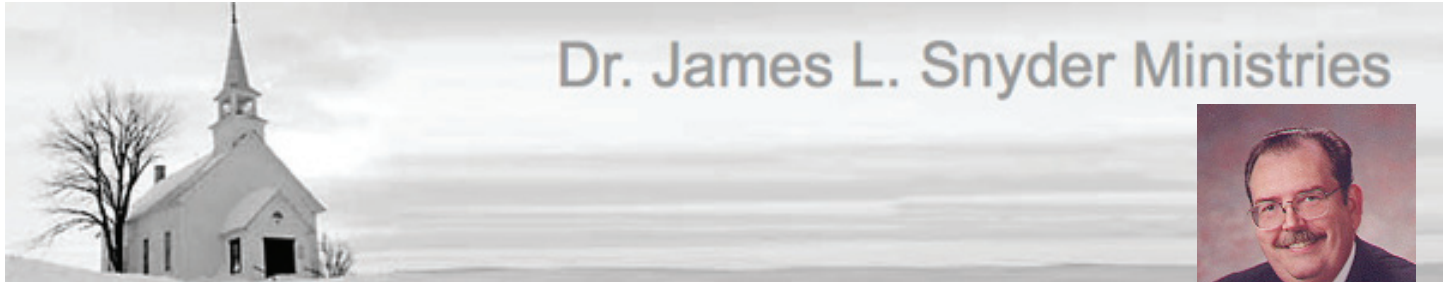
I have repeatedly said that the first step to fixing the crisis is to understand where the problems lie within the agency itself. For this reason, I introduced a bill that calls for an outside assessment of IHS. My bill would require an in-depth look at the overall financial structure, organizational structure and quality of care at the agency. The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs recently held a legislative hearing on our bill. The hearing was productive, and the testimony from Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Chairman Dave Flute in support of our IHS assessment bill was helpful in educating committee members about the severity of the problems at Great Plains Region IHS facilities.

Our proposal is now moving forward in the Senate. The problems at IHS are at a crisis level, and our bill is a first step toward getting the agency back on track. The federal government must live up to its trust and treaty responsibility to provide quality health care to Native American citizens.

This month, as we honor the culture of our Native American friends and neighbors, I encourage South Dakotans to also acknowledge the hardships they have faced throughout history and those they continue to face today. The health care crisis at IHS is just one example of how the government has failed to follow through on its obligations to tribal members, and I will continue fighting to fix this problem.

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries



As The Cookie Crumbles, So Do My Excuses

Several weeks ago, I was at home alone when the doorbell rang. I answered the door to find representatives from a local Girl Scout troop doing what they do so well; selling Girl Scout cookies.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was not home so danger was not lurking behind the living room curtains. When Girl Scouts come selling cookies, I am cookie dough in their fund-raising hands.

"Hello, mister," they chimed, "We're selling cookies to raise money for" I immediately interrupted and exclaimed, "Yes, yes, I'll take all you have!"

When the passion of the moment passed, I did not need a fortune cookie to know I was going to be in big trouble with the wife, one tough cookie. Catching me with my hand in the cookie jar is serious business with her.

After all, 27 boxes of Girl Scout cookies are rather difficult to conceal, let alone explain. I was about to toss my cookies when an idea presented itself. What I needed was a good surefire excuse.

Excuses, which are a way of life for many people, have been around as long as mankind. In fact, it was the first man, Adam, who invented the pass-the-buck phenomenon for the benefit of all those who would follow him.

It occurred in the Garden of Eden, if you remember your Bible stories, just after Eve encountered the serpent, enticing her to eat of the forbidden fruit. Eve immediately baked an apple pie a la mode for Adam.

When God confronted Adam with the situation, Adam immediately said, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat." This, then, was the beginning of excuse-making to get out of a difficult situation.

Although a man may have invented excuse-making, it took a woman to develop it into an art form. Men, you see, are too literal and unsophisticated to develop a series of plausible excuses.

For example, a man will say, "Bob, my wife won't let me go fishing with you next Sunday," and it stops there. Nothing needs to be added, Bob knows exactly what the score is. After all, he has been there with his own wife.

Women feel compelled to introduce the element of emotion into every situation. Why is it that women are more gifted than men when it comes to making believable excuses? I certainly don't know the answer, and that's the only excuse I can think of at the moment.

Getting back to those Girl Scout cookies, I knew I needed to come up with some excuse or better yet, several excuses to explain why I bought 27 boxes of cookies when I'm not supposed to eat cookies.

Because I'm just a man, the only excuse I could come up with was "the Devil made me do it."

Unfortunately, my wife did not accept that excuse and I immediately knew I was in trouble. Exasperated, my wife decided to help me come up with a list of viable excuses to use the next time Girl Scouts with cookies knock on the parsonage door.

Reasons I can't buy cookies:

- * My mother made me eat cookies when I was young.
- * I only eat cookies at Christmas and Easter.
- * I don't believe in eating packaged cookies.
- * I'm satisfied with watching people on TV eat cookies.

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- * I'm too busy to eat cookies. Try another time.
- * I don't have any good clothing to wear while eating cookies.
- * I'm too old and cookies really are for the young.
- * I don't believe cookies really exist.
- * I don't eat cookies. I prefer donuts.
- * I'm afraid the roof will fall in if I eat cookies.
- * My wife and I cannot agree on which cookie we like.

To put it mildly, I was impressed with the growing list of excuses my wife was able to come up with in such a short period. It showed she had practiced this art form for many years. I never could have come up with such a list on my own.

As I studied my new list, I was certain I could face any Girl Scout in the future. My wife does not share my confidence and no longer permits me to answer the door when the Girl Scouts are on the prowl. She is worried any preconceived excuse would quickly dissolve at the first sight of those cookies.

What is an excuse? An excuse is a lie at both ends, held together by the glue of convenience.

For some people, a bad excuse is better than no excuse at all. These people spend their whole lives justifying everything they do or don't do.

After this experience, I began to understand all the excuses people have given me over the years for not attending church. Whenever I approached the subject, they seemed ready with some excuse and usually backed by plenty of others if needed.

I now see they spent quality time devising these excuses that, to their thinking, got them off the hook.

All excuses seem quite ridiculous in light of what the Bible says. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Hebrews 10:25).

Not all the excuses in the world will stand the test of eternity. That is just the way the cookie crumbles.

Free Assistance During Medicare Open Enrollment Still Available

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Senior Health Information and Insurance Education (SHIINE) program would like to remind all seniors there is still time to receive free assistance during the Medicare open enrollment period.

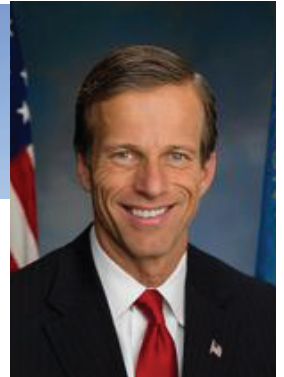
Individuals taking advantage of the free one-on-one counseling should bring their Medicare card and a current list of medications.

To schedule a meeting with a volunteer in your community visit www.shiine.net or contact one of the following regional offices:

- Eastern Region: 1-800-536-8197
- Central Region: 1-877-331-4834
- Western Region: 1-877-286-9072

The Medicare open enrollment period ends on Dec. 7.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



For Many South Dakota Families, Every Day is Veterans Day

For South Dakota families that have a loved one who is either currently serving in the military, has already hung up his or her uniform, or whose beloved servicemember is no longer with us, every day is Veterans Day. These family members are proud of their mom or dad, son or daughter, and every day is an opportunity to celebrate and honor them. Speaking from personal experience, there isn't a day that goes by that I don't think about my dad and his service to the nation during World War II. And as the world has become increasingly complex and dangerous, I am reminded daily of the freedoms and security we enjoy because of the selfless service of our veterans across our state and nation.

For folks without a family connection to a veteran or the military in general, the level of respect is no less. Veterans are an integral part of our community – they're our colleagues, our friends, and our neighbors. No matter the connection, though, every November 11, we all pause to draw special attention to the service and sacrifice made by the men and women in uniform who have served or continue to serve here and around the world.

While Veterans Day is a time for ceremonies and parades, it's also an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the sacrifice America's war heroes have made over the generations and the contributions they've made to the strength of our democracy. It's because of them that we're still able to call America a beacon of hope and opportunity around the world.

This year, for the first time ever, the president has designated the entire month of November as Veterans and Military Families Month. Following the president's proclamation, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Secretary David Shulkin said, "Our veterans and military families are an important part of our lives throughout the year, and by focusing for the first time nationally on a whole month of activities nationwide for Veterans and Military Families Month, we can more fully celebrate and recognize their contributions to the nation." I'm glad to see the administration is focused on this important issue.

Particularly for me as a legislator, an important part of honoring America's veterans is ensuring we've got their back when they leave the front lines of the battlefield and return home to potential challenges with furthering their education, finding a good-paying job, and staying healthy.

This year alone, Congress has sent several critical bills to the president for his signature, including the "Forever GI Bill," which expands veterans' eligibility for GI Bill benefits. We also passed the VA Choice and Quality Employment Act and the Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act, both of which have been signed into law.

I'm especially happy to report that earlier this year, Secretary Shulkin quickly acted on my request to more prominently feature the Veterans Crisis Line on the VA's website, www.VA.gov. The line is open 24 hours per day, seven days per week, and veterans can reach out any time by texting 838255 or calling 1-800-273-8255 and pressing one. I appreciate his responsiveness on this important issue and will continue to engage with him on issues impacting South Dakota veterans.

Let's never forget the reasons why America has so much to celebrate and be thankful for, and let's never compromise in our collective effort to ensure America's veterans have the tools, resources, support, and respect they need and deserve once their military service has ended.

NAFTA Is Good for Us All

By Mike Jaspers, S.D. Secretary of Agriculture



As the South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture, I have had opportunities to expand my knowledge of agriculture on a global scale to help further South Dakota's agricultural opportunities. A few weeks ago, I had one of these opportunities. I attended the Tri-National Agricultural Accord meeting in Denver, Colorado with many of my fellow secretaries of agriculture from states across the United States, as well as agriculture secretaries and ministers from Mexico and Canada. This meeting takes place every year, hosted by one of the three North American countries. I believe, this year especially, this conference was an important opportunity for agriculture officials from these countries to meet and discuss the impact trade has among our three countries.

International trade among the United States, Mexico and Canada is facilitated by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Originally negotiated in the early 1990s, NAFTA resulted in more opportunities for U.S. farmers and ranchers to sell their products to consumers across the continent. Since NAFTA was signed, U.S. exports to Canada and Mexico have grown from less than \$9 billion to \$38 billion, a more than four-fold increase. This has meant money in the pockets of U.S. producers—money that they are able to use to support businesses in towns large and small across the country, bolstering the rural economy.

Mexico and Canada are our top two trading partners here in South Dakota. Together, consumers in those two countries buy 62 percent of all the products we export to foreign countries. Many of these products are agricultural products such as soybeans, corn, beef and pork.

NAFTA is currently being renegotiated by the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Topics open for negotiation include tariffs, which have the potential of making products more expensive if they are not sold in their country of origin, and the rules that allow each country to ensure the products that enter their borders are safe to the plants, animals or people in that country.

While I believe that we should always be looking to improve, I also know how beneficial NAFTA has been for producers right here in South Dakota. It is imperative that we have a trade agreement with our two most important trading partners. Equally important though is ensuring that any newly negotiated NAFTA truly be a step forward for South Dakota agriculture, improving on the many opportunities we currently enjoy under NAFTA.

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")**

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Truen Comes Alive in 62-20 Victory over Minnesota Crookston

Crookston, Minn. – Early and often was the name of the game for the Northern State University football team as they defeated Minnesota Crookston 62-20 in the 2017 regular season finale. The Wolves finish the year with a 6-5 record overall and 5-2 mark in the NSIC North, winning their final three games of the season.

It was a career day for senior running back Nicholas Truen who led the team with five touchdowns. The White Bear Lake native, notched a career high 252 yards rushing, moving his season total to 1,061 yards, making him the first Wolf since 2003 to rush for over 1,000 yards in a season. He averaged 18.0 yards per carry with 14 total in the game. Truen tallied his longest score of the day on a 69 yard in the first quarter. He tallied touchdown on touchdown in the first, two in the second, and two in the third.

Cody Kraft opened the scoring for the Wolves on the first drive of the game, notching a 33 yard reception from Hunter Trautman. The touchdown was Kraft's second of the season and ninth of his career. Cameron Eisenhauer added his third touchdown of the season late in the third quarter, a 17 yard reception from Trautman which gave the Wolves the 21-0 lead.

After Truen's second score of the afternoon, senior Eric Peterson came up with the first of his career. Trautman hit Peterson for an eight yard pass with 5:02 left to play in the first half, giving the Wolves the 35-0 lead. Truen added his third of the afternoon just under two minutes later, however the Wolves weren't done in the first half. Nathan Shaw stepped in for a 37 yard field goal attempt, and sent it right through the uprights for the 29th of his career. Shaw then opened the second half for the Wolves with a 34 yard field goal, and a 48-0 lead on the scoreboard.

Crookston tallied their first touchdown of the afternoon on the following drive, however Truen quickly answered back with his fourth touchdown in the win, a 20 yard rush to the goal line. Truen and the Golden Eagles traded touchdowns in the two following drives leaving the scoreboard reading 62-14 in favor of the Wolves. UMC added their final touchdown with four minutes remaining in regulation however were unable to overcome the first half deficit.

In total the Wolves tallied 24 first downs, 363 yards rushing, 215 yards passing, and 578 yards of total offense, They averaged 8.3 yards per rush and 10.8 yards per completion. Defensively, NSU forced two interceptions including a 65 yard return by Brian Sumption. They tallied six sacks for a total loss of 21 yards, and held the Golden Eagles scoreless in the redzone.

Trautman tallied 215 yards passing with three touchdowns. He completed 20 of his 27 attempts with a 33 yard long to Kraft. The redshirt freshman added 36 yards rushing, for 251 yards of total offense in the game. Riley Frantzen was second on the team with 48 yards rushing, averaging 3.7 yards per carry. Zachery Barber led the receivers with 54 yards and a 29 yard long. Barber averaged 7.7 yards per reception for the Wolves.

Josh Coyle and Joe Gorghuber led the Wolves defense with seven total tackles. Coyle tallied two tackles for a total loss of seven yards, including one solo sack. Brady Thielges was second on the team with six tackles, including five solo stops. Thielges was one of four Wolves to record a sack in the game, notching two tackles for a total loss of eight yards. Marcus Marcellus tallied a sack of his own, while Quest Parham led the team with 1.5 sacks for a total loss of five yards. Logan Shockman, Landon Hoellein, and Zach Mohs each tallied a half a sack.

Sumption and Etienne Ezeff notched the team's two interceptions in the game. AJ Frazier led the team with two pass break-ups, while Noah MacPherson tallied one. A total of 15 Wolves recorded multiple tackles in the victory.

Jacob Wiedrich punted for 104 yards, averaging 26.0 yards per punt with a 32 yard long and one inside the 20. Wiedrich added 90 yards on two kickoffs for the Wolves. Zech Culbreath led the Wolves returners with 34 yards on one kickoff, while Bryce Zawatzke followed with 13.

Nathan Shaw was lights out, going 8-for-8 in PATs and 2-for-2 in field goals. The senior scored 14 total points for the Wolves, finishing his career with 30 field goals and 148 PATs. He tallied 418 yards on eight kickoffs, averaging 52.0 yards per boot.

Northern State seniors Mitch Brockhaus, Austin Nath, Brian Sumption, Nathan Shaw, Nicholas Truen, Cody Braeger, Zachery Barber, Raekwon Robinson, Cameron Eisenhauer, Logan Shockman, Josh Hilgemann, Eric Peterson, Quest Parham, Marcus Marcellus, and Cody Kraft exhausted their eligibility playing the final games of their career for the Wolves.

Today in Weather History

November 12, 1993: A winter storm moved through the area on November 12th and 13th. A wintry mix of precipitation in the form of freezing rain, sleet, and snow began during the afternoon on the 12th in western portions of Minnesota, while heavy snow fell in a swath from southwest South Dakota through central and northeast parts of the state, with generally four to eight inches reported. Freezing rain also preceded the snow in south-central South Dakota. Significant accumulation of ice occurred within about a 70-mile wide area from west central Minnesota into the Arrowhead region. Up to five inches of snow fell

on top of the ice, making travel extremely hazardous. In South Dakota, locally heavier snowfall amounts included 12 inches at Midland and 10 inches central Hughes County. Several schools and other community events were closed due to the ice and snow. In south central South Dakota, trees were damaged by heavy ice, some of which fell on power lines, causing an outage. Other snowfall amounts include; 8.0 inches in Blunt; 7.0 inches in Murdo and near Victor; and 6.0 inches near Onida, Faulkton, Highmore, and Leola.

November 12, 2003: High winds brought down a 70-foot gas station sign in Kennebec. The sign fell onto a shed, causing considerable damage to the shed. A 25-foot radio tower on the Kennebec courthouse was also knocked down by the winds.

1906 - The mercury soared to 106 degrees at Craftonville, CA, a November record for the U.S. (The Weather Channel)

1959 - Between Noon on the 11th and Noon on the 12th, a winter storm buried Helena, MT, under 21.5 inches of snow, which surpassed their previous 24 hour record by seven inches. (The Weather Channel)

1968 - A severe coastal storm produced high winds and record early snows from Georgia to Maine. Winds reached 90 mph in Massachusetts, and ten inches of snow blanketed interior Maine. (David Ludlum)

1970: The deadliest tropical cyclone ever recorded, and one of the deadliest natural disasters in modern times occurred on this day in East Pakistan, now Bangladesh. The Bhola Cyclone first formed over the Bay of Bengal on November 8 and traveled north. This cyclone reached peak intensity, Category 3, on the 11, and made landfall on the coast of East Pakistan the following afternoon. The Bhola Cyclone killed an estimated 500,000 people and caused nearly \$90 million in damage (1970 USD).

1974 - A great Alaska storm in the Bering Sea caused the worst coastal flooding of memory at Nome AK with a tide of 13.2 feet. The flooding caused 12 million dollars damage, however no lives are lost. (David Ludlum)

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.

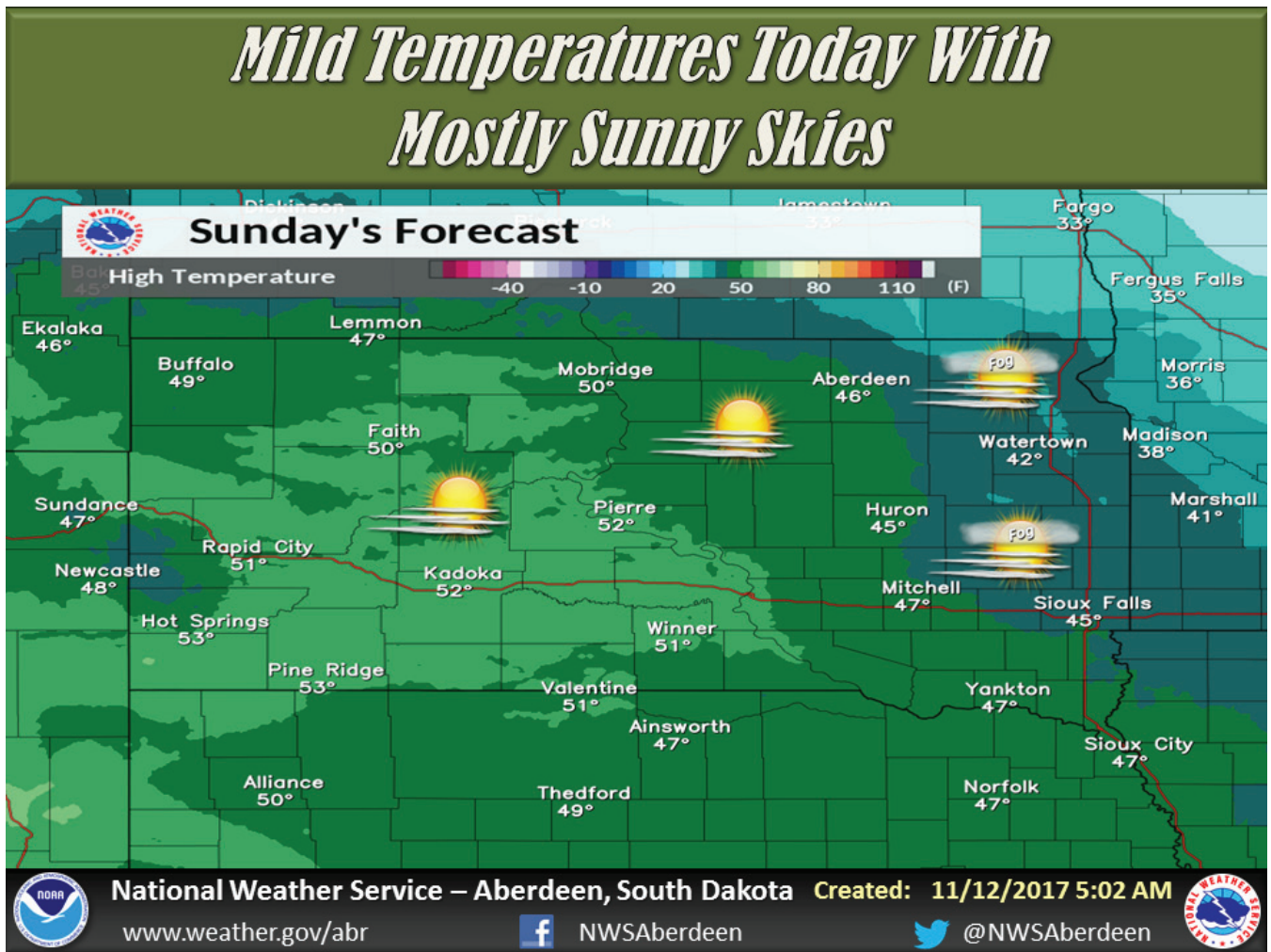
SELLER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS.

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	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
						
Patched Fog then Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny
High: 45 °F	Low: 24 °F	High: 50 °F	Low: 29 °F	High: 48 °F	Low: 26 °F	High: 38 °F



There will be some morning fog and low clouds to contend with across the Glacial Lakes region of northeast South Dakota and on into west central Minnesota. Otherwise, expect mostly sunny skies by later today with temperatures warming into the 40s and low 50s across the forecast area. Even warmer temperatures are forecast on Monday.

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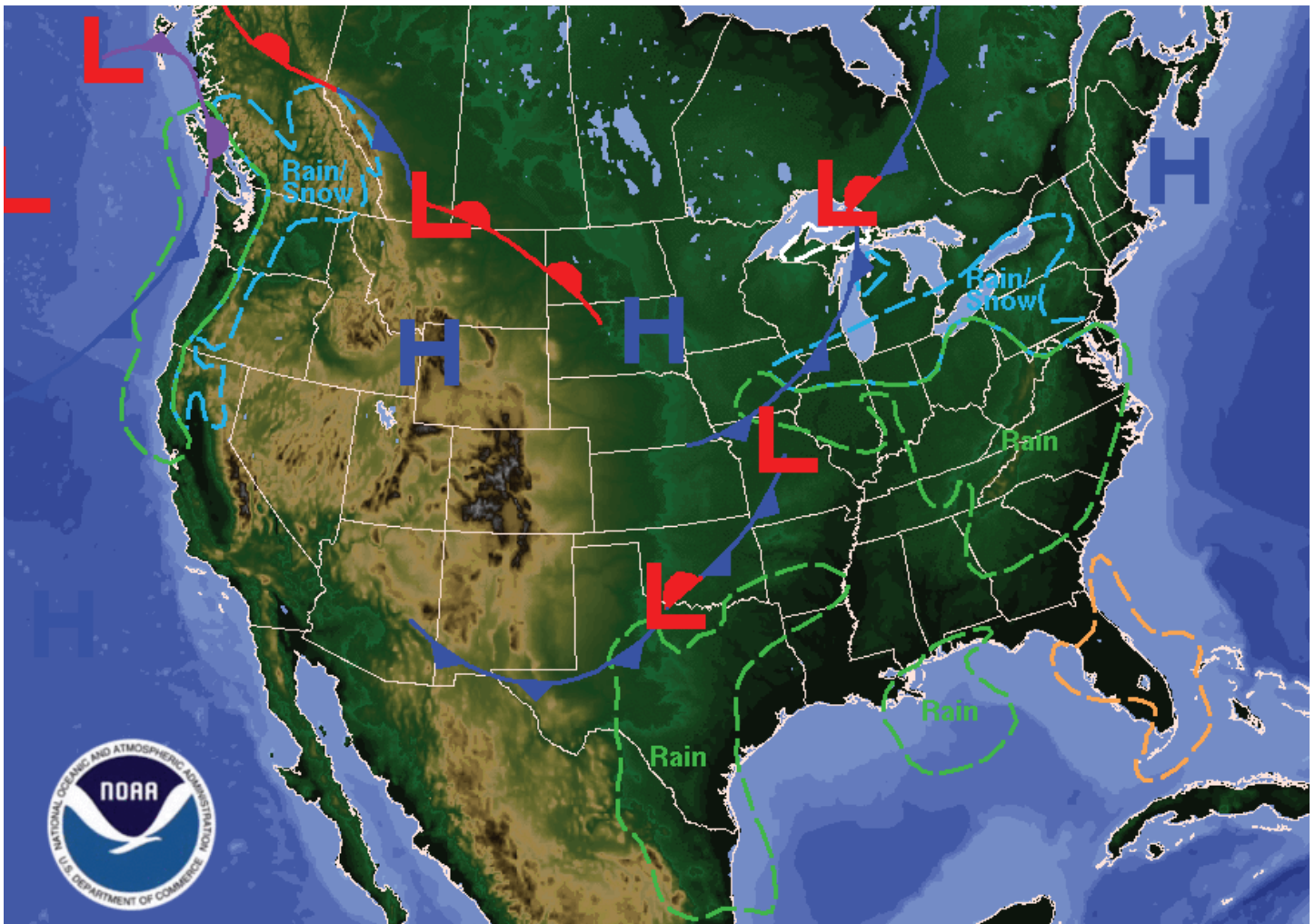
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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 41.2
Low Outside Temp: 17.6
High Gust: 20
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 68° in 1905
Record Low: -14° in 1896
Average High: 42°F
Average Low: 21°F
Average Precip in Nov: .34
Precip to date in Nov: 0.00
Average Precip to date: 20.81
Precip Year to Date: 13.47
Sunset Tonight: 5:06 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:30 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Nov 12, 2017, issued 4:00 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Reinhart 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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GROWING WITH GOD

Miss Sims taught the third grade Sunday school class. One morning she was struggling to teach them the importance of cleanliness – personal cleanliness and Godly cleanliness. She spent a considerable amount of time in her effort to compare germs and bacteria to disobedience and sin.

After going to great lengths to make what she thought was a good comparison she asked her class, "Cleanliness is next to what?"

"Impossible!" shouted Blair.

What an honest answer! So many of us seem to have a difficult time trying to survive the temptations of life. We read God's Word, understand His expectations, and ask Him to keep us from sin. Then, just when we think we have life under control – it happens once again. The power of temptation is greater than our faith in God and we fall into sin. Living a godly life does seem next to impossible.

In Psalm 71 the author writes, "You will restore my life once again." Though we fail He will not forsake us. If we fall He will lift us. Any time and every time. There is no limit to the grace of God for those who love Him, seek His guidance and look to Him for His cleansing.

God offers us the presence and power of the risen Christ to face the temptations of life. And He offers us His strength – which can never be exhausted. He offers us His love – which endures forever. He offers us His salvation – which can never be taken from us. And He offers us His forgiveness – which continually restores us.

Prayer: How grateful we are, Father, that Your mercy does not depend on our goodness but on Your love and grace. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 71 ...Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again; from the depths of the earth you will again bring me up...

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2018 Groton SD Community Events

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

- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events

News from the Associated Press

Iowa farmers use organic crops to get greater profits

By DONNELLE ELLER, The Des Moines Register

ADAIR, Iowa (AP) — Weeds might be the toughest challenge Dustin Farnsworth faces, shifting from growing conventional corn and soybeans to organic row crops.

The Adair farmer battled buttonweed and other unwelcome intruders in his soybeans the first year he moved away from synthetic chemicals.

He's also fielded some unwanted comments.

"My neighbors said, 'Farnsworth, it's a weedy mess. It looks like hell,'" he told The Des Moines Register.

The criticism will be worthwhile, though, when the beginning farmer can get double or triple conventional prices for his crops.

Although still a small piece of Iowa farming, more and more growers are shifting to organic corn, soybeans and other crops to improve their bottom line.

The number of Iowa farms and acres certified as organic have each climbed about 5 percent last year over 2015, U.S. Department of Agriculture surveys show.

Iowa had 732 organic farms with 103,136 acres in 2016. Sales climbed 9 percent to \$131.2 million.

The state ranks fifth nationally for its number of organic farms, although it's less than 1 percent of Iowa's 88,000 farms.

California leads the nation with 2,713 organic farms, pulling in nearly \$2.9 billion.

Total U.S. sales for organic grain, meat, eggs, milk, fruits and vegetables reached nearly \$7.6 billion last year, the USDA data show.

Altogether, the organics industry is closing in on \$50 billion annually.

Kathleen Delate, an Iowa State University horticulture professor, said farmers are attracted to organic crops for many reasons, but a leading one is financial.

"Organic corn is \$8.70 and organic soybeans are \$19," she said. "That's definitely an enticement in an era of low commodity prices."

Conventional corn is selling around \$3 a bushel in Iowa, and soybeans are about \$9. Both are below the cost to produce the crops, based on statewide averages.

Many Iowa farmers face a fourth year of possible losses.

Looking at recent prices, farmers converting their whole operation to organic over five years would average \$206 per acre, said Craig Chase, an ISU Extension local foods specialist.

Conventional farmers would have lost an average of \$33 an acre over that time, based on Chase's models. Even though organic yields are lower, prices are higher and production costs are slimmer.

"If conventional prices stay where they are at, it will be difficult to show any profit if the farmer is paying him or herself" for equipment, land and labor costs, Chase said.

"The organic system, if well-managed, could show a significantly higher profit per acre," he said. "The key to organic profitability is the ability to manage the various risks."

The premium that comes with organic corn and soybeans is the primary reason Farnsworth decided to transition a third of his farm to organic.

"I consider myself a small farmer," Farnsworth said. "Without going out and trying to take land from neighbors, which never pays very well, the best thing to stay fully employed as a farmer is to go organic."

It also fits his personal interest in using fewer chemicals, and relying less on genetics for a good crop.

He shifted to crops that were not genetically modified before moving to organic. "I like the self-reliance that organic system gives me," said Farnsworth, who farms with his wife, Jennifer.

Transitioning from conventional crops to organic takes three years, although the third year can net an organic crop, depending on the last application of prohibited synthetic chemicals.

Some natural substances can be used as herbicides, insecticides and fungicides in organic farming, Delate

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said. "It's a misnomer to say we don't use any pesticides," she said.

"If it's found in nature, it probably can be used in organic farming ... as long as it doesn't cause harm to people and animals," she said.

Growers often move to organic crops because of health concerns for themselves or others, Delate said. Many want to get away from synthetic chemicals.

"Once farmers transition, they see the environmental benefits, too," she said.

Even though organic farmers use more tillage to control weeds, which can cause erosion and deplete fertility, Delate said organic farming practices that include using cover crops, manure, compost and a broader crop rotation builds organic matter, based on ISU's research.

The trick — sometimes an art, Delate said — is to catch weeds before they can overwhelm a field and a farmer.

"Timeliness is critical" between the weather and fast-growing weeds, she said. "Sometimes you only have a four-hour window to rotary hoe," or till a field.

"You have to always be watching. ... If you see weeds, it's already too late," said Farnsworth, who added he's "learning volumes about what's the wrong thing to do."

Delate said it's hard for farmers to live with weeds in their fields — "a single weed can signal that you're a bad farmer."

Over time, organic farmers get more adept at weed control. In fact, Delate said some experienced organic farmers' fields are as clean as neighboring conventional crops.

George Naylor, who has grown conventional crops for about 40 years, is bringing his first organic soybeans off about 80 acres.

Given the weeds, he's happy with the yields.

"The risks you're taking are much greater," said Naylor, who farms with his wife, Patti. "Figuring out how to deal with that can be stressful."

The Churdan farmer hasn't sold his organic soybeans yet. He could get up to \$20 a bushel, if the crop qualifies for food production.

"I'll believe it when I see it — after they cut a check," he said.

Information from: The Des Moines Register, <http://www.desmoinesregister.com>

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$82 million

Powerball

04-06-16-30-56, Powerball: 18, Power Play: 2

(four, six, sixteen, thirty, fifty-six; Powerball: eighteen; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$90 million

Saturday's Scores

By The Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL

Class 11AAA Championship: Sioux Falls Washington 20, Sioux Falls Roosevelt 19

Class 11A Championship: Madison 42, Dakota Valley 20

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

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South Dakota pulls away from Mayville State in 87-59 win

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Matt Mooney scored 13 points with 6-for-11 shooting and South Dakota won its season opener 87-59 over NAIA program Mayville State on Saturday night.

Tyler Hagedorn and Tyler Peterson added 11 points each and Brandon Armstrong had 10 for South Dakota, last season's Summit League champion. The Coyotes controlled the boards 53-36 and never trailed.

Late in the opening half, Mayville State closed to within two, 31-29, with a 3-pointer from Gonzalo Munez before South Dakota pulled away with a 13-2 run stretching across both sides of the break. Mooney had a 3-pointer and two jumpers in the breakaway run.

A pair of free throws from Dan Jech with 14:23 left to play extended the advantage to 53-43 and South Dakota led by double figures the rest of the way.

Daniel Lindgren led Mayville State with 18 points, including three 3-pointers.

Boy shot by deputy called 911, gave description of himself

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — An eighth-grade boy who was fatally shot by a sheriff's deputy in northern Wisconsin called 911 to report a man with a knife, but then gave emergency dispatchers a description of himself, investigators said Saturday.

An Ashland County sheriff's deputy shot 14-year-old Jason Pero outside the boy's home on Wednesday after the teenager approached the deputy with a large butcher knife and refused numerous commands to drop it, according to the Wisconsin Department of Justice. The shooting occurred on the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa reservation, a sprawling wooded area about 300 miles (483 kilometers) north of Madison.

Authorities said evidence shows the boy had been despondent in recent days.

Investigators said the boy twice lunged at Deputy Brock Mrdjenovich while the deputy was trying to retreat. Mrdjenovich fired, hitting the boy twice, according to the Justice Department, which is investigating the incident. Mrdjenovich, who has worked for the sheriff's office for about a year, was interviewed by agency officials and is on paid administrative leave.

Investigators had previously released few details about what led up to the shooting, saying only that deputies were responding to a call about a male subject walking down the street with a knife around 11:40 a.m.

Pero's grandparents told The Associated Press on Friday that the boy, who lived with them, had come home from school with the flu Wednesday morning, but they didn't know why he later left the home. Relatives questioned whether he had a knife. Authorities said a knife was found at the shooting scene.

The teen's grandfather, Alan Pero, told the AP that he and his wife had raised the boy since he was a year old. He said his grandson went to school Wednesday morning but came back to the house feeling nauseous. The grandparents weren't home, but Jason's uncle was and said the boy was watching TV. The uncle was downstairs doing laundry when the boy apparently left.

Pero said investigators searched the home, and the family discovered a dull butcher knife was missing. The boy's mother and other relatives have said they're not convinced Jason had a knife. His grandfather said that even if the boy did, "maybe he was carving, maybe he was doing something, but he'd never hurt a fly. Never in his life."

South Dakota State beats Illinois State in OT, 27-24

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Taryn Christion accounted for three touchdowns, Chase Vinatieri kicked a 43-yard field goal in overtime, and South Dakota State improved its FCS playoff chances with a 27-24 victory over Illinois State on Saturday.

South Dakota State (8-2, 5-2 Missouri Valley Conference), ranked sixth in the FCS poll, has won four straight and is a game back of North Dakota State atop the conference standings. The 17th-ranked Redbirds (6-4, 4-3) have lost two in a row.

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Illinois State's James Robinson, who finished with 83 yards rushing and two touchdown runs, bullied up the middle from 5 yards out for a score to tie the game 24-24 with just over two minutes remaining.

In overtime, The Redbirds' Sean Slattery hooked his 41-yard field goal attempt before Vinatieri's kick split the uprights.

Christian threw two touchdown passes in the first half, and ran for an 84-yard score in the fourth quarter. He had 172 yards passing and ran for another 110.

More AP college football: <http://collegefootball.ap.org> and http://www.twitter.com/AP_Top25

North Dakota State rolls to 49-14 win over S. Dakota

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Ty Brooks ran for three touchdowns as North Dakota State rolled to a 49-14 win over South Dakota on Saturday.

Brooks had 152 yards on nine carries for the Bison (9-1, 6-1 Missouri Valley Conference). Easton Stick threw for 307 yards and a score and ran for another touchdown. North Dakota State amassed 647 total yards and held the Coyotes (7-3, 4-3) to 419 yards.

Bruce Anderson ran for a score late in the first quarter to give the Bison a 14-7 advantage and they led the rest of the way. Seth Anderson ran 28 yards for a touchdown early in the second quarter and Brooks went 54 yards for another score and NDSU was up 28-14 at the break.

The victory puts the Bison back on track after losing their first game of the season last week, a 33-21 loss at South Dakota State.

Chris Streveler had 232 yards passing and 93 yards and two touchdowns rushing for the Coyotes.

More AP college football: <http://www.collegefootball.ap.org> and http://www.twitter.com/AP_Top25

US sage grouse policy heading back to square one

By SCOTT SONNER, Associated Press

SPARKS, Nev. (AP) — Federal scientists and land managers who've been crafting strategies to protect a ground-dwelling bird's habitat across the American West for nearly two decades are going back to the drawing board under a new Trump administration edict to reassess existing plans condemned by ranchers, miners and energy developers.

Federal officials are wrapping up a series of public meetings with three sessions starting Tuesday in Utah ahead of a Nov. 27 cutoff for comment on Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's order last month to consider revisions to land management amendments for the greater sage grouse that were adopted under the Obama administration.

Zinke says he wants to make sure the amendments don't harm local economies in 11 western states and allow the states to have maximum control over the efforts within their borders.

Conservationists say it's a thinly veiled attempt to allow more livestock grazing and drilling, similar to Trump's efforts to roll back national monument designations, but on a much larger scale. They warn it could land the hen-sized bird on the endangered species list in 2020 when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is scheduled to review its 2015 decision not to list it.

"They appear to be dismantling the whole land-planning amendment system and starting over," said Patrick Donnelly, the Center for Biological Diversity's Nevada state director.

"It's revisionist history," he told a Fish and Wildlife Service official during a scoping meeting-turned-brainstorming session at a Sparks hotel-casino Wednesday night.

Instead of recording public testimony, agency officials marked up easel pads with lists of criticisms, concerns and suggestions. About 80 participants moved between five breakout groups including "minerals," "livestock grazing," and "wildlife and vegetation."

They treaded familiar ground. Disagreement reigned over the size of protective buffer zones around grouse breeding grounds, states' role in setting federal policy and whether cattle or wild horses cause

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more habitat degradation. There was general agreement that invasive cheat grass is fueling one of the biggest threats - catastrophic wildfires - but little consensus on what to do about it.

"I don't understand why we're starting all over again," shouted a man who briefly disrupted the meeting and refused to provide his name.

Nevada Farm Bureau Vice President Doug Busselman said research increasingly suggests properly regulated grazing reduces fire fuels. But he said existing policy is "taking a restrictive approach ... and then watching massive fires sweep across the landscape, setting up the process for expansion of cheat grass, then more fire."

The U.S. House Natural Resources Committee heard the same thing last month from Idaho House Speaker Scott Bedke, a fifth-generation rancher who blames grazing restrictions for a wildfire that wiped out his family's winter grazing allotment this year.

"In the process of placating anti-grazing activists, federal agencies have made the No. 1 threat to the greater sage grouse in Idaho worse," Bedke said. Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, a Republican, filed one of a series of lawsuits aimed at blocking the Obama plans.

Conversely, Republican Gov. Matt Mead of Wyoming, Democratic Gov. John Hickenlooper of Colorado and Democratic Gov. Steve Bullock of Montana have expressed concern that altering existing plans could undermine efforts to prevent a listing. Nevada GOP Gov. Brian Sandoval also has cautioned against wholesale changes, although he applauded Zinke's recent lifting of a temporary ban on new mining claims across about 15,600 square miles (40,400 square kilometers) adopted under Obama.

Montana Fish and Wildlife Commission Chairman Dan Vermillion said existing protections took a diverse group of stakeholders years to work out.

"Those plans were essential to keeping sage grouse from becoming endangered," he wrote in a Nov. 7 letter to Zinke.

That's the message Karen Boeger delivered in Sparks.

"We all duked it out on these plans," said Boeger, a retired teacher and member of the Nevada Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers who previously served on a Bureau of Land Management advisory board. "We've hardly gotten out of the chute. Let's give it a chance."

The bureau's acting deputy director, John Ruhs, understands the frustration.

"A lot of folks have been engaged in this topic for a long time. Some have been at the table going back 15 years or more," said Ruhs, who's worked for the agency in Nevada, Oregon, Colorado and Idaho.

"We're trying to find the best methods to allow all uses of the land to occur and still ensure protection of habitat," he said. "It's a tall order."

Donnelly, whose Arizona-based group has sued over failure to list hundreds of species, said the intent of the Obama amendments "was very clear: Prevent the listing of the sage grouse." That goal seems to have gotten lost, he said.

"We heard a lot about mineral withdrawals and local collaboration, but all in the name of what?" Donnelly asked. "Are we still committed to conserving sage grouse, or is the intention to mine and drill every acre of the West? If that's the case, we are plunging head-long toward listing the grouse."

4 fire departments in South Dakota suffer unexpected losses

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Four fire departments in South Dakota have recently suffered unexpected losses, leaving voids in their front lines that members say are tough to fill.

The Presho, Salem, Plankinton and Alpena fire departments each reported the death of one member in the past month, the Mitchell Daily Republic reported.

"It's kind of a two-fold situation where it's hard on the department on a personal level due to the amount of time you spend training together," Salem Fire Chief Nathan Olinger said. "And it's difficult because small, community fire departments are struggling in recruitment and retention anyway. It's very difficult and it's a big deal for us."

South Dakota Firefighters Association President Charlie Kludt said an option for the region departments

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as they regroup is to look toward mentoring services to recruit.

Kludt said while the departments are working to fill voids in their departments, members are also dealing with grief, which he says can be more difficult to overcome.

Kludt said that despite the training firefighters and other first responders receive for physical and emotional situations, there's no amount of training that can prepare a person for losing a friend.

"The common action is to honor those responders we lost, by getting out and utilizing our training, knowledge and abilities to help others the best way we know how," Kludt said.

Information from: The Daily Republic, <http://www.mitchellrepublic.com>

Sioux Falls schools see increase in students, diversity

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's largest school district is seeing an increase in students and record diversity.

The Sioux Falls School District saw a jump in diversity at all student levels, but the increase in people of color is largely occurring from the bottom up. Data prepared for the latest school board meeting show about 4 in 10 elementary school students are nonwhite.

White students currently make up just under 64 percent of the district's nearly 24,000 students, the Argus Leader reported.

"The big picture is, we're still growing," said Brian Maher, the district's superintendent. "We're growing in diversity from the bottom up."

Maher is focusing on increasing the number of teachers of color as the district diversifies. He said he's also making sure teachers are trained to work with different cultures.

The district also grew this year by more than 300 students. Those students speak 90 different languages, a record high number for the district, according to the data.

Maher said the increase is slightly above projections, which the district bases on birth rates in the city.

Sioux Falls schools' demographic report also showed that nearly half of students qualify for free or reduced lunches. About 3,500 students also receive special education support.

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

Frustration sets in after coal mine health study suspended

By MICHAEL VIRTANEN, Associated Press

GLEN DANIEL, W.Va. (AP) — Chuck Nelson spent his life in this corner of Appalachia, working for years in the coal mines — a good job in the economically depressed area. But he says the industry that helped him earn a living cost him his health, and his wife's, too.

The 61-year-old Nelson blames his kidney and liver disease on the well water he drank for years, and his wife's more severe asthma on dust and particles from surface mines near their home.

Some of his neighbors agree — and say surface mining in the mountains has been a primary culprit for various health problems. Some studies agreed with them but in the end were inconclusive. A new federal study was supposed to provide the most comprehensive review to date, but the Trump administration — a coal industry advocate — suspended it three months ago, citing budget reasons.

Nelson and his neighbors weren't surprised — a previous federal study was canceled, too. The suspension feeds the mistrust they've long harbored for politicians who routinely side with businesses: If the study "comes out negative against the coal industry, it's swept under the rug, and the funding's stopped by these politicians who cater to the coal industry," Nelson said.

Studies and experts agree on some points: Mountaintop mining can release coal dust into the air that is carried on the wind. Debris from surface mines can harm streams, and the coal slurries from underground mines can seep chemically-treated waste into groundwater. Pollution can increase disease risks, but that's

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complicated by other factors.

"With environmental damage or environmental issues, the problem is that most diseases that we are now concerned about are long-term diseases that take decades to appear," said David Rosner, Columbia professor of sociomedical sciences.

Rosner, a member of the organization overseeing the extensive mining study but not directly involved, said the canceled review would've been crucial. "The science has actually created doubt rather than certainty about cause," he said. "What this becomes in the hands of politicians is an excuse for inaction."

The goal of the scuttled study — by National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine — was a consensus from experts in various fields on potential short- and long-term health effects, focused on West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee.

In May, the West Virginia Coal Association told scientists that large-scale mountaintop mining was mostly a thing of the past. State surface-mining production dropped from about 44 million tons (40 million metric tons) of coal in 2012 to 14 million tons (13 million metric tons) last year, it said.

Association Vice President Jason Bostic declined to say whether the study should resume to resolve any remaining questions.

West Virginia's Department of Environmental Protection said it conducts significant surface water quality sampling. Agency officials shared with academy scientists their two-week testing near a mountaintop mine in 2012 that found no conclusive evidence that blasting affected air quality.

Bostic blames higher illnesses rates on poverty: "Bad health in central Appalachia or Appalachia as a whole is not new."

Neither is coal mining.

In late September, Nelson drove an ATV up old logging roads to Alpha Natural Resources' mining operation, where part of Coal River Mountain is gone. The air had a faint grayish hue 100 feet above the mine. Large coal trucks looked like children's toys on the broad, flat landscape below. On the horizon stood the treeless outlines of three other mines. Some houses stood in a distant valley.

Joan Linville, 79, a miner's widow from the hamlet of Van, says she believes her stomach cancer was caused by drinking water polluted by mines. "We did have well water. We used it for everything," she said.

Linville and others hoped the new \$1 million study would erase any doubts. But in canceling it in August, the Interior Department's Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement said officials were reconsidering grants over \$100,000 largely for budget reasons.

Yet academies spokesman William Kearney said the mining study was the only project stopped, with the group having five others underway.

In a 2016 study in the journal *Environmental Science & Policy*, Indiana University professor Michael Hendryx examined data from 1968 to 2014 and found higher death rates in 37 central Appalachian counties with mountaintop mining than those without it, after adjusting for age, poverty, smoking, obesity and available doctors.

In a 2010 study in *Geospatial Health*, Hendryx found that West Virginia residents near mining sites had higher death rates from lung and other cancers after controlling for similar variables. Coal contains known carcinogens, including arsenic, cadmium, chromium, nickel and beryllium, he wrote.

In a 2012 study in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, Yale's Dr. Jonathan Borak found fault with some of Hendryx's studies and concluded the mortality rates in central Appalachia were related to cultural factors: poverty, rural location, education, diet, smoking and obesity, but "not per se" to coal mining pollution.

Borak's work was funded by the National Mining Association, but he said that didn't affect his conclusions. Like Hendryx, he presented his information to the National Academies, whose study he thinks was stopped for political reasons.

"I think the interference with the scientific process for political reasons is lamentable," Borak said.

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Memphis grad traveling to all National Park Service sites

By NANCY DE GENNARO, The Daily News Journal

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — University of Memphis graduate Mikah Meyer is traveling 100,000 miles in a converted cargo van over a three-year period, taking in all 417 sites in the National Park Service system.

The journey to Meyer's epic adventure across the United States began during his freshman year when his 58-year-old father died from cancer. Shortly after the funeral, he took trip to "kind of heal."

"It was such a moving experience for me, I've done one road trip every year since his passing," said Meyer, a Nebraska native and son of a Lutheran campus minister.

Over the decade of yearly trips, Meyer said he learned "tomorrow's not guaranteed, tomorrow might be too late."

"I was always told you grow up, you go to college, you meet your spouse, get a job. And when you turn 65, you'll have about 15 to 20 years to do what you've been dreaming about. ... I saw my dad pass away before retirement and thought, 'That didn't work for him,'" explained Meyer, whose ministry is named Travel Beyond Convention.

It was in his 20s he made a goal to see all national parks once he turned 30.

"I knew I wanted to do something to honor my dad's life. ... So I saved throughout my 20s. My friends would be at a bar on Friday night and while they'd be having beers, I'd have a cup of water instead because I would rather spend that money on two gallons of gas instead," Meyer said.

On April 29, 2016 — the 11th anniversary of his father's death — he embarked. Within 18 months, he'd traveled to nearly 250 sites. A converted cargo van — complete with mini fridge, bed and storage — serves as his home.

Meyer recently passed through his former home state to visit Fort Donelson in Nashville, Stones River National Battlefield in Murfreesboro, and the Great Smoky Mountains and Cumberland Gap in East Tennessee.

The trip hasn't been easy. And planning it was a massive undertaking. "Luckily," Meyer said, a neighbor who traveled to all the parks was instrumental in helping him mapping the trip and the amount of time it would take. He added in days for doing the necessities of life, travel time at the sites and speaking engagements.

On occasion, the adventures can be a little "scary" and there have been some near disasters along the way. His solar power system almost fell prey to the heat of the Texas desert. He almost backed off the edge of a cliff hidden by bushes at Olympic Park in Washington.

It isn't cheap, either. But he has a few avenues to keep him on the road.

Pilot Flying J, a company owned by the family of Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam, sponsored Meyer's fuel expenses. He also relies on the tax-deductible donations from those who visit his website, mikahmeyer.com. And he "sings for his supper," frequently stopping in various towns to perform and speak about his journey.

You can also keep up with Meyer's journey on his website blog as well as on Instagram (@tbcmikah) Twitter (@MikahMey) and Facebook at facebook.com/TBCMikah. In the future, he plans to pen a travel guide to the National Park Service sites.

With nearly 250 sites under his tires, Meyer has garnered some favorites along the way.

"All the sites in the U.S. Virgin Islands are incredible. It's great to learn about my American history in a place that felt so foreign, but was so stunningly beautiful," Meyer said.

Over the summer he traveled to some of the most famous parks, including Grand Canyon, all the Utah parks, Glacier National Park, Badlands and the Rocky Mountain. Parks in California, Arizona and Alaska are still on his list to visit.

When Meyer ends his journey on the 14th anniversary of his father's passing, he'll be the youngest person to experience every park, and the only one to complete the tour in one continuous trip.

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He's also expanding his mission to bring awareness to the LGBT community.

"I'm on a mission to invite people to the outdoors, be a new type of LGBT role model, and share all 417 national parks with the world," Meyer said. "If I can go out and spend time in national parks, then there's no reason you can't. ... I want to use this journey to impart people these national parks are there for them to come and use. There are ways national parks are accessible to them."

Meyer has upcoming engagements in Tennessee. Grace Episcopal Church, 20 Belvoir Ave. in Chattanooga, will host Meyer at the 8 a.m. service on Dec. 3. Then at 10 a.m. Dec. 17, he'll speak and sing some classical Christmas music at Epiphany Lutheran Church, 7887 Poplar Ave. in Memphis. Admission is free and donations are accepted.

Then at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 19 and 20, Meyer will perform Handel's "Messiah" with the Memphis Symphony at Lindenwood Christian Church, 2400 Union Ave. in Memphis. Visit memphissymphony.org for tickets.

Information from: The Daily News Journal, <http://www.dnj.com>

Trump straddles on issue of Russian election meddling

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — President Donald Trump tried to have it both ways Sunday on the issue of Russian interference in last year's presidential race, saying he believes the U.S. intelligence agencies when they say Russia meddled and Russian President Vladimir Putin's sincerity in claiming that his country did not.

"I believe that he feels that he and Russia did not meddle in the election," Trump said of Putin at a news conference in Hanoi with Vietnam's president.

"As to whether I believe it, I'm with our agencies," Trump said. "As currently led by fine people, I believe very much in our intelligence agencies."

The CIA and other U.S. intelligence agencies have concluded that Russia meddled in the 2016 election to help Trump defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton. A special counsel's examination of potential collusion between Moscow and Trump campaign aides so far has led to indictments against Trump's former campaign chairman and another top aide for crimes unrelated to the campaign, and a guilty plea from a Trump foreign policy adviser.

Multiple congressional committees are also investigating.

Trump commented on the Russia election issue for the second straight day Sunday shortly before he arrived in the Philippines, the final stop on a five-country trip to Asia, to attend a pair of international summits. Trump and Duterte were seated together at a gala dinner Sunday in Manila celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, sponsor of one of the summits. The two planned more formal talks on Monday.

Duterte has come under fierce criticism from human rights groups for overseeing a violent drug war complete with extrajudicial killings. Trump has praised Duterte's handling of his nation's drug problems and was not expected to publicly challenge Duterte on human rights.

Questions about whether Trump believes the assessment about Russian election-meddling have trailed him since January, when he said for the first time, shortly before taking office, that he accepted that Russia was behind the election-year hacking of Democrats that roiled the White House race.

Trump told reporters traveling with him to Hanoi on Saturday that Putin had again vehemently denied the allegations. The two spoke during an economic conference in Danang, Vietnam. Trump danced around questions about whether he believed Putin, but stressed Putin's denials.

"Every time he sees me, he says: 'I didn't do that.' And I believe — I really believe — that when he tells me that, he means it," Trump said, arguing that it makes no sense for him to belabor the issue when Russia could help the U.S. on North Korea, Syria and other issues.

Trump said Sunday that he believes Putin believes Russia was not involved.

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"That's very important for somebody to believe," Trump said in Hanoi.

Trump also lashed out Saturday at former heads of U.S. intelligence agencies, claiming there are plenty of reasons to be suspicious of their findings and dismissing them as "political hacks." In a tweet Sunday, he bashed the "haters and fools" he said were questioning his efforts to improve relations with Russia, and accused critics of "playing politics" and hurting the U.S.

Trump's comments Saturday drew strong reactions from some U.S. lawmakers.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., the 2008 Republican presidential nominee, said in a statement that Trump's faith in Putin's denial was "naive."

"There's nothing 'America First' about taking the word of a KGB colonel over that of the American intelligence community," Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said in a statement that referenced Putin's former career in Soviet intelligence and called Trump's faith in Putin "naive."

"Vladimir Putin does not have America's interests at heart," McCain added.

In Hanoi on Sunday, Trump also pointed to sanctions the U.S. has imposed on Russia as punishment for election meddling. "They were sanctioned at a very high level, and that took place very recently," he said. "It's now time to get back to healing a world that is shattered and broken."

Trump was originally slated to depart Manila for Washington on Monday. He added a day to the schedule amid criticism that he would have missed the final summit.

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

Follow Lemire and Colvin on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire> and <http://twitter.com/@colvinj>

Dubai Air Show opens with Emirates' \$15.1B Boeing buy

By AYA BATRAWY and JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The biennial Dubai Air Show opened Sunday with hometown long-haul carrier Emirates making a \$15.1 billion buy of American-made Boeing 787-10 Dreamliners, as the world's biggest defense companies promoted their weapons amid heightened tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Other airlines also are taking part, but missing from the trade show this year is one of the region's largest long-haul carriers, Qatar Airways, amid diplomatic fallout between Qatar and four Arab nations.

The Boeing announcement came after over an hour and a half of delays by Emirates amid rumors of a possible Airbus sale involving its A380 aircraft, a major workhorse for the airline. Journalists asked Emirates CEO and Chairman Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum about Boeing's European competitor Airbus, specifically its A350.

"We were comparing the two apples," he said, but found that the Boeing 787 is "the best option" for Emirates "given its maintenance and so on."

The Boeing 787-10 typically lists for \$312.8 million. Delivery will begin in 2022.

Chicago-based Boeing Co. already has 171 787-10s on order. Among those waiting for the aircraft are Abu Dhabi-based Etihad. Boeing builds the 787 at its plant in North Charleston, South Carolina, which U.S. President Donald Trump visited in February.

Last week, the U.S. plane manufacturer secured an order valued at more than \$37 billion at list price for 300 of its single-aisle and double-aisle planes during Trump's visit to China. Trump also was present for the signing ceremony last month between Boeing and Singapore Airlines for 39 new aircraft, including 19 of the 787 Dreamliner, in a deal worth up to \$14 billion.

Sheikh Ahmed made a point to say the deal will help create more jobs, long a mantra of Trump. The deal was signed in the presence of Dubai's ruler, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, who also serves as the United Arab Emirates' prime minister and vice president.

"The order will take Emirates' total (number of) wide body aircraft of the Boeing to 204 aircrafts, units worth over \$90 billion," Sheikh Ahmed said. "This is a long-term commitment that supports hundreds of

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thousands of jobs, not only at Boeing but also throughout the aviation supply chain.”

The airline’s business has suffered under Trump’s travel bans affecting predominantly Muslim nations, as well as the recent ban on laptops in airplane cabins. Emirates said it slashed 20 percent of its flights to the U.S. in the wake of the restrictions. That’s in turn hurt Dubai International Airport, the home of Emirates and the world’s busiest international travel hub.

Emirates is the world’s largest Boeing 777 operator, with 165 in service today

The air show comes as the Qatar dispute is now in its fifth month with no resolution in sight. Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Bahrain cut ties with Qatar in June over its ties with Iran and its support of Islamist groups, accusing the small Gulf state of supporting extremists, charges it denies. The Arab quartet cut direct flights with Qatar and closed their airspace to Qatari aircraft.

Qatar Airways previously had played a big role in the Dubai Air Show, reserving a large pavilion and displaying its latest aircraft to visitors.

At the start of the air show, Dubai-based Emirates, the Middle East’s largest carrier, unveiled new, state-of-the-art, first class private suites.

In an industry first, passenger suites in the middle aisle without windows will be fitted with “virtual windows” relaying the sky outside via fiber optic cameras on the plane. There’s also a video call feature in the suites that connects passengers to the cabin crew, as well as temperature control and various mood lighting settings.

Emirates President Tim Clark declined to say how much a ticket in the 40 square-foot (3.7-square-meter) private suite will cost. The private suites will be available on the airline’s Boeing 777.

In previous years, major Mideast carriers have flexed their spending power at the Dubai Air Show, including \$140 billion in new orders announced in 2013 before the collapse of oil prices. Prices have rebounded recently to around \$60 a barrel.

Regional tensions have spiked further since Lebanon’s Prime Minister Saad Hariri announced his resignation last week in a pre-recorded video on a Saudi television station from Saudi Arabia. His surprise resignation has raised questions about whether the kingdom forced Hariri to resign in order to wreck the government and pressure the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group.

Saudi Arabia also has tightened its blockade on Yemen after Iranian-allied rebels there launched a missile at the Saudi capital, Riyadh, last week. The Saudi-led war in Yemen, which began in March 2015, has killed at least 10,000 civilians and pushed millions to the brink of famine. The United Nations and aid groups warn that the blockade could bring millions of people closer to “starvation and death.”

Trump offers to mediate in protracted South China Sea feud

By JIM GOMEZ, Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — President Donald Trump on Sunday offered to mediate in the South China Sea disputes, while his Chinese counterpart played down concerns over Beijing’s military buildup and the prospects of war in the contested waters.

Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping spoke separately about the territorial rifts ahead of an annual summit of Southeast Asian nations that also includes the U.S., China and other global players. The disputes are expected to get the spotlight at the summit, along with the North Korean nuclear threat and terrorism.

The long-simmering disputes are one issue where the two major powers’ influence, focus and military might have been gauged, with the U.S. and China both calling for a peaceful resolution but taking contrasting positions in most other aspects of the conflict.

Unlike China, the U.S. is not a claimant to the potentially oil-rich and busy waters, but it has declared that it has a national interest in ensuring freedom of navigation and overflight and the peaceful resolution of the disputes. Several nations back an active American military presence in the region to serve as a counterweight to China’s increasingly assertive actions, including the construction of seven man-made islands equipped with military installations.

“I’m a very good mediator and arbitrator,” Trump said at a news conference with Vietnamese President

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Tran Dai Quang in Vietnam's capital, Hanoi, before flying to Manila for the summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Trump's offer faces major obstacles. For one, China has steadfastly opposed what it calls U.S. meddling in the disputes and has balked at the U.S. Navy's incursions into what Beijing considers its territorial waters in the South China Sea.

The Philippines, the head of ASEAN's rotational chairmanship, said member states of the 10-nation ASEAN bloc have to consult each other but thanked Trump for the offer.

"He is the master of the art of the deal but, of course, the claimant countries have to answer as a group or individually ... mediation involves all the claimants and nonclaimants," Philippine Foreign Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano told reporters.

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said Xi, during a meeting in Danang, Vietnam, where they attended the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum this past week, assured him of China's peaceful intentions in the strategic waterway, where Beijing, the Philippines, Vietnam and three other governments have overlapping claims.

When he raised concerns over China's increasing military capability in the South China Sea, Duterte said Xi replied, "No, it's nothing."

"He acknowledged that war cannot be promoted by anybody, (that) it would only mean destruction for all of us," Duterte told reporters after flying back to Manila. "He knows that if he goes to war, everything will blow up."

The Chinese leader, however, would not back down on Beijing's territorial claim, Duterte said, and justified his decision not to immediately demand Chinese compliance with a ruling by a U.N.-linked tribunal that invalidated China's sweeping claims in the South China Sea on historical grounds.

China has dismissed that ruling as a "sham" and did not participate in the arbitration case that the Philippines filed during the administration of Duterte's predecessor. Duterte took steps to thaw frosty relations with China after he won the presidency last year.

"If you go to the negotiating table and you start with the statement that I am here to claim validity of our ownership, you're wasting your time. They will not talk about it," Duterte said of China.

The ASEAN summit opens Monday under extra-tight security at a theater and convention complex by Manila Bay. Duterte will host a gala dinner for nearly 20 world leaders, including Trump, Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Riot police used shields and water hoses Sunday to push back hundreds of left-wing activists who tried to hold a protest at the U.S. Embassy and carried placards that read "Ban Trump." There were no immediate reports of injuries in the brief scuffle and the protesters left after burning a mock U.S. flag.

Associated Press writer Teresa Cerojano contributed to this report.

Texas church members gather for 1st time since attack

By **CLAUDIA LAUER**, Associated Press

SUTHERLAND SPRINGS, Texas (AP) — Hundreds of people will gather in the tiny town of Sutherland Springs, Texas, on Sunday to worship with surviving members of a local church where a shooting rampage left more than two dozen people dead.

Members of the First Baptist Church will hold a church service for the first time since a gunman opened fire inside the small church a week earlier in the worst mass shooting in Texas history.

Initial plans called for gathering at a community center could house a few dozen people. But when organizers realized about 500 people were planning to attend, the service was moved outside to a baseball park.

Church representatives also plan to eventually open a public memorial inside the church, where 26 empty chairs have been placed. Authorities have put the official death toll at 26 victims because one of the 25 people killed was pregnant. Church officials have said the building will likely be demolished.

On Saturday, about 100 people gathered outside the town's community center to commemorate Veterans

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Day and to honor the shooting victims, nearly half of whom had ties to the Air Force.

"Maybe this will start the healing process that will get Sutherland Springs and Wilson County to put this horrific tragedy behind us and look to the future," county Judge Richard Jackson, his voice breaking, told the crowd, which included first responders and law enforcement officers.

Jackson, the county's top administrator, thanked the first responders and others who rushed to First Baptist Church in the aftermath of last Sunday's shooting, which also wounded about 20 people. What they saw there will affect them the rest of their lives, Jackson said.

The gunman, Devin Patrick Kelley, died of what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound after being shot and chased by two men who heard gunfire from the church. Investigators have said the attack appeared to stem from a domestic dispute involving Kelley and his mother-in-law, who sometimes attended services at the church but wasn't there the day of the shooting.

Kelley had a history of domestic violence: He was given a bad conduct discharge from the Air Force after pleading guilty to assaulting his first wife and stepson.

Sutherland Springs is about 30 miles (48 kilometers) southeast of San Antonio and not far from several military posts, including Lackland Air Force Base. The Air Force's chief of staff, Gen. David Goldfein, said 12 of those killed were either members of the Air Force or had family ties to it.

Among them were Scott and Karen Marshall, both 56, who had decided to retire in nearby La Vernia after meeting when they were in the service together more than 30 years ago. On Thursday, a military funeral was held for them at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

On Saturday, two silver hearses carried the bodies another couple, Therese and Richard Rodriguez, to a small cemetery on the edge of Sutherland Springs following a funeral.

Retired Chief Warrant Officer Mike Gonzales, who led Saturday's Veterans Day ceremony, said many veterans choose to live in the San Antonio area because of its deep military ties, and families tend to migrate to the city's surrounding rural areas.

"We come here to enjoy life, to get quiet and to raise our children," he said. "We've been to war zones and seen that tragedy firsthand. Never did we think that tragedy would strike here."

A steady stream of people also visited a makeshift memorial of crosses adorned with flowers, photographs, red hearts and white, purple and pink balloons. Among them was Jackie Lee, who traveled from San Antonio with several friends.

"It was on my heart since it happened," she said. "I needed to come to show the community some support, to show these people some support."

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Trump: 'I'm with our agencies' on Russian election meddling

By JILL COLVIN and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — President Donald Trump on Sunday said he believes U.S. intelligence agencies, which have concluded that Russia meddled in the 2016 U.S. presidential election. But Trump also said he believes Russian President Vladimir Putin is sincere when he says Russia didn't interfere.

"I believe that he feels that he and Russia did not meddle in the election," Trump said of Putin at a news conference with Vietnam's president in Hanoi. "As to whether I believe it, I'm with our agencies."

He added, "As currently led by fine people, I believe very much in our intelligence agencies."

Top U.S. intelligence officials, including those at the CIA, have concluded that Russia interfered in the election to help the Republican Trump defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton. A special counsel and multiple Congressional committees are also investigating potential collusion between Moscow and Trump campaign aides. That probe has so far led to the indictments of Trump's former campaign chairman and another top aide for financial and other crimes unrelated to the campaign, as well as a guilty plea from a Trump foreign policy adviser.

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It's a question that has followed Trump since January, when he said for the first time at a press conference in Trump Tower shortly before taking office that he accepted Russia was behind the election year hacking of Democrats that roiled the White House race.

"As far as hacking, I think it was Russia," Trump said then, quickly adding that "other countries and other people" also hack U.S. interests.

But the issue wasn't settled.

Speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One on Saturday on his way to Hanoi, Trump had said that Putin again vehemently denied the allegations — this time on the sidelines of an economic conference in the seaside city of Danang. Trump danced around questions of whether he believed Putin, but stressed Putin's denials. He also accused Democrats of using the issue to try to sabotage relations between the two countries, putting lives at risk.

"Every time he sees me, he said: 'I didn't do that.' And I believe — I really believe — that when he tells me that, he means it," Trump said, arguing that it made no sense for him to belabor the issue.

"I'd rather have him get out of Syria, to be honest with you. I'd rather have him, you know, work with him on the Ukraine than standing and arguing," he said.

Trump also lashed out at the former heads of the nation's intelligence agencies, claiming there were plenty of reasons to be suspicious of their findings. "I mean, give me a break. They're political hacks," Trump said, citing by name James Clapper, the former director of national intelligence, John Brennan, the former CIA director and his ousted ex-FBI director James Comey, whom Trump said was "proven now to be a liar and he's proven to be a leaker."

In a tweet sent Sunday from Hanoi, Trump bashed the "haters and fools" he said were questioning his efforts to improve relations with Russia and accused critics of "playing politics" and hurting the country.

Trump's Saturday comments sparked criticism from lawmakers with ties to the intelligence community. Rep. Adam Schiff, the California Democrat who is his party's top member on the House's intelligence committee, said in a statement that Trump "fools no one" and that the president understands how the Russians intervened in the election through hacking, social media and television coverage of the presidential race.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., the party's presidential nominee in 2008, said in a statement that Trump's faith in Putin's denial was "naive."

"There's nothing 'America First' about taking the word of a KGB colonel over that of the American intelligence community," McCain wrote, referring to Putin's former career in Soviet intelligence. "Vladimir Putin does not have America's interests at heart."

Trump was in Hanoi for a brief state visit. He was traveling to the Philippines later Sunday — the last stop of his five country trip — for a pair of summits.

In brief remarks after his arrival at Hanoi's presidential palace, Trump offered Vietnam help negotiating with China on disputes over the South China Sea. Beijing's island-building there has drawn criticism from Washington, which argues the U.S. has a national interest in freedom of navigation in sea lanes critical for world trade. U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson earlier this month said China's "provocative actions" challenged international law and norms.

"If I can help mediate or arbitrate, please let me know," Trump offered. "I'm a very good mediator and a very good arbitrator. I've done plenty of it from both sides."

Vietnamese President Tran Dai Quang said he preferred to settle the dispute through "peaceful negotiations" and "with respect for diplomatic and legal process in accordance with international law."

Trump also said he hoped to have more help from Chinese President Xi Jinping as well as Russia, when it comes to isolating North Korea, in an effort to pressure the country to abandon its nuclear weapons program. "President Xi I think is going to be a tremendous help. I hope Russia likewise will be a tremendous help," Trump said. "I think they can make a big difference."

Earlier, Trump had exchanged schools yard taunts with the country's leader Kim Jong-un. "Why would Kim Jong-un insult me by calling me 'old,' when I would NEVER call him 'short and fat?'" Trump tweeted from Vietnam, adding: "Oh well, I try so hard to be his friend - and maybe someday that will happen!"

Asked whether he could really be friends with Kim, Trump said, "I think anything's a possibility. Strange

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things happen in life.”

Trump and Putin did not have a formal meeting while they were in Vietnam for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, but the two spoke informally several times and reached an agreement on a number of principles for the future of war-torn Syria.

Trump’s comments made clear that Trump still does not take the meddling seriously and sees little benefit in punishing a nation accused of undermining the most fundamental tenet of American democracy: free and fair elections. They also suggest that Trump is unlikely to work aggressively to try to prevent future meddling despite repeated warnings from senior intelligence officials that Russia is likely to try to interfere again.

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

Follow Colvin and Lemire on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@colvinj> and <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire>

Indonesia museum removes Hitler display after protests

By **STEPHEN WRIGHT, Associated Press**

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — An Indonesian visual effects museum that encouraged visitors to take selfies with a waxwork of Hitler against a giant image of the Auschwitz extermination camp has removed the exhibit after protests.

The De Mata Trick Eye Museum’s marketing officer said the statue was removed Friday night following an Associated Press story highlighting outrage from Jewish and rights groups.

Human Rights Watch had denounced the exhibit as “sickening” and the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, which campaigns against Holocaust denial and anti-Semitism, had demanded its immediate removal.

The museum, which has waxworks of about 80 famous people, had the Hitler figure on display since 2014. It initially defended the exhibit as “fun” and said it was one of the most popular waxworks with visitors to the infotainment-style museum in the central Java city of Yogyakarta.

On Sunday, the space at the museum occupied by Hitler was empty and the image of Auschwitz, where more than 1 million people were exterminated by the Nazi regime, was gone.

It was not the first time Nazism and its symbols have been normalized or even idealized in Indonesia, the world’s most populous Muslim nation and home to a tiny Jewish community.

A Nazi-themed cafe in the city of Bandung where waiters wore SS uniforms caused anger abroad for several years until reportedly closing its doors at the beginning of this year.

In 2014, a music video made by Indonesian pop stars as a tribute to presidential candidate Prabowo Subianto stirred outrage with its Nazi overtones.

Q&A: US, Saudi Arabia accuse Iran over Yemen missile launch

By **JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press**

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Both Saudi Arabia and the U.S. now accuse Iran of supplying ballistic missiles to Shiite rebels in Yemen, including one that targeted the kingdom’s capital of Riyadh and its international airport.

Here’s what is known:

WHERE IS YEMEN AND WHO IS FIGHTING THERE?

Yemen, the Arab world’s poorest country, sits on the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula, bordering Saudi Arabia and Oman. It looks out onto the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea. Shiite rebels known as Houthis seized the capital, Sanaa, in September 2014. A Saudi-led coalition began battling the Houthis and their allies in September 2015 on behalf of Yemen’s internationally recognized government. The war has killed more than 10,000 civilians and pushed millions of Yemenis to the brink of famine.

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WHAT EVIDENCE DOES THE U.S. POINT TO THAT IRAN OFFERED THE MISSILES?

A top U.S. Air Force general in the Mideast on Friday alleged that missiles fired by the Houthis bore "Iranian markings," without elaborating or offering pictures. Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Culture and Information later sent military briefing material to The Associated Press showing what they allege to be part of a Houthi Burkan, or "Volcano," ballistic missile. Writing on the side matched an image of an Iranian Qiam missile. The markings on the alleged Houthi missile also largely matched an AP photograph of a Qiam missile on display in Iran on Sept. 21, 2012, areas of which read "CLAMP HERE" and "SUPPORT HERE." Another image offered by the Saudis showed the base of the rocket, which resembled that of the Qiam.

The U.S. Air Force's Central Command on Saturday declined to discuss the Saudi military briefing papers, though the image of part of the Burkan bore U.S. declassification codes.

WHAT DOES IRAN SAY?

Iran long has denied offering any arms to the Houthis. It has yet to specifically respond to the U.S. general's comments. However, Mehdi Taeb, an influential hard-line cleric who is a brother to the intelligence chief of the hard-line Revolutionary Guard, said in April that Iran tried three times to send missiles to Yemen, but were stopped by President Hassan Rouhani's administration over fears of disrupting its nuclear deal with world powers. The Guard, answerable only to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, oversees Iran's missile program.

HAS IRAN BEEN ACCUSED OF SENDING ANYTHING ELSE TO YEMEN?

The U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, based in Bahrain, repeatedly has accused Iran of running armaments into Yemen. It points to seizures over a four-week period in early 2016, when coalition warships stopped three dhows, traditional ships that ferry cargo through the Persian Gulf. The dhows carried thousands of Kalashnikov assault rifles, as well as sniper rifles, machine guns, rocket-propelled grenade launchers, anti-tank missiles and other weapons.

One dhow carried 2,000 new assault rifles with serial numbers in sequential order, suggesting they came from a national stockpile, according to the London-based group Conflict Armament Research. The rocket-propelled grenade launchers also bore hallmarks of being manufactured in Iran, the group said.

Conflict Armament Research, with the permission of the United Arab Emirates' elite Presidential Guard, also examined seized drones used by the Houthis and their allies to crash into Patriot missile batteries in Saudi Arabia. Destroying Patriot missile batteries allows the rebels to fire missiles into Saudi Arabia without interference, and costs the kingdom millions of dollars to repair and replace.

While the Houthis say they manufacture the drones themselves, the research group said the drones share "near-identical design and construction characteristics" of Iranian drones.

HOW WOULD IRAN GET THE MISSILES INTO YEMEN?

Saudi military briefing material sent to the AP alleged Iran smuggled weapons into Yemen by boat and truck. The material offered one set of images showing a truck with a false bottom that the Saudis said ferried weapons into the country.

There haven't been any major seizures of arms on the seas since 2016 and the Saudi-led coalition announced it would blockade the country's airspace and ports over the Nov. 4 missile attack on Riyadh. But a U.S. defense official, who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity to discuss intelligence matters, said American forces believed some weapons and materiel being used by the Houthis came from Iran or with the help of Iranian-backed groups.

"It's a difficult problem and we're convinced it's still occurring," the official said. "Weapons that were not in the arsenal of Yemen before the civil war continue to show up there."

WHAT'S THE U.S. ROLE IN ALL THIS?

The U.S. already is involved in the war in Yemen. It has launched drone strikes targeting the local branch

of al-Qaida and a January raid that killed a U.S. Navy SEAL and 30 other people, including women, children and an estimated 14 militants.

The U.S. military has stopped offering targeting information to the Saudi-led coalition as its airstrikes have hit schools, hospitals, and markets, killing thousands of civilians and prompting rights groups to accuse the coalition of committing war crimes. The Air Force refuels Saudi coalition warplanes in the Yemen theater and offers support in managing airspace over the country. The Saudi-led coalition also uses American-made bombs and ordinance in its attacks.

The U.S. has come under attack once amid the Yemen war. In October 2016, the U.S. Navy said the USS Mason came under fire from two missiles launched out of Yemen that were Silkworm variants, a type of coastal defense cruise missile that Iran has been known to use. Neither reached the warship, though the U.S. retaliated with Tomahawk cruise missile strikes on three coastal radar sites in Houthi-controlled territory on Yemen's Red Sea coast.

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

A look at Trump's business associates across Asia

By The Associated Press

President Donald Trump has temporarily put his sons in charge of his company, but the Trump Organization still does business abroad. That has prompted questions about whether that might influence Trump's official decisions.

A look at some of his business partners and contacts in Asia, where he is winding down a five-nation trip:

PHILIPPINES

Trump's partner in a Philippines venture, Jose E.B. Antonio, was named a "special envoy" to the U.S. by Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte on Oct. 28, less than two weeks before the November 2016 U.S. election. Antonio is chairman of Century Properties Group Inc., which partnered with Trump for the branding of the posh Trump Tower in Manila's Makati business district.

The \$150 million, 57-story tower was quietly turned over to unit owners earlier this year. The muted opening contrasted with the project's high-profile 2012 groundbreaking rites, when Trump's sons Donald Jr. and Eric posed for cameras in Manila, smiling and holding shovels.

Antonio rose from modest beginnings but has been listed along with his son Robbie Antonio by Forbes magazine as the Philippines' 28th-richest family, with a combined net worth of over \$400 million in 2017. Paris Hilton, Versace and Armani are among Antonio's other rich and famous business partners. The businessman has said he has known Trump for many years and his son Robbie is described on his company's website as "a good friend of the Trump family."

CHINA

Trump has met plenty of Chinese entrepreneurs, but his biggest friends in China in financial terms are state-owned banks and companies. Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd., the world's No. 1 commercial lender by assets, is among the biggest tenants of Trump Tower in Manhattan. Its lease ends in 2019, which has prompted questions about how a sitting American president's family company will negotiate new terms with a bank controlled by the Chinese Communist Party.

Trump's partners in Trump World Golf Club Dubai in the Persian Gulf awarded a \$32 million contract to China State Construction Engineering Corp. to build the project in a deal reported in September by McClatchy. That prompted questions about whether the Trump Organization was honoring its pledge not to do business with foreign governments.

In the private sector, Jack Ma, founder of Alibaba Group, the world's biggest online commerce company by total sales, was among the stream of Chinese business leaders who visited Trump Tower in Manhattan to meet the president following his election.

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The Kushner Cos., the family company of Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, cut short a sales campaign in China after a Chinese businesswoman, Ding Ying, was linked to an effort to attract investors in exchange for U.S. visas that advertised ties to the "Trump Family."

Anbang Insurance Group Ltd., one of China's biggest insurers, discussed possibly investing in a Manhattan skyscraper owned by Kushner Cos. Those talks ended in March without a deal.

JAPAN

Masayoshi Son, Japan's richest man and the chief executive and founder of Softbank Group Corp., was quick to visit Trump after the 2016 election and to promise \$50 billion for investments in U.S. startups that he said would create 50,000 jobs. After the meeting in Trump Tower, the then-president-elect praised Son as a "great man of industry."

Son, 60, said he had visited Trump to "celebrate his new job," adding, "Because he said he would do a lot of deregulation, I said, 'This is great, the U.S. will become great again.'"

A Japanese of Korean ancestry who graduated from the University of California, Son has won both criticism and accolades as a daring investor who has gathered partners in diverse technology sectors from around the world, and has been likened by some to billionaire investor Warren Buffett.

INDONESIA

Billionaire Hary Tanoesoedibjo founded his own political party and had ambitions to run for Indonesian president in 2019, but now says he'll support current President Joko Widodo. His company is building two resorts in Indonesia — one in Bali and the other in West Java — that Trump's business is involved with through management and licensing deals.

Usually known as Tanoe, the 52-year-old tycoon is the founder of the media and real estate conglomerate MNC. He has been dogged by a criminal investigation this year into accusations that he sent threatening text messages to a deputy attorney general who was investigating a tax case involving an MNC company.

MALAYSIA

Malaysian property developer Tiah Joo Kim, whose father is one of the Southeast Asian country's wealthiest businessmen, licensed the Trump brand for a hotel and condominium tower in Vancouver, Canada, before Trump's political ascent. Trump's sons Donald Jr. and Eric attended the opening in March for the gleaming, 69-story building, where a one-bedroom apartment at 699 square feet (65 square meters) starts at around \$1 million.

In an interview with The Associated Press just before the hotel's opening earlier this year, Joo Kim said he found Trump's statements about Muslims, Mexicans and women "extremely stressful." "I did a lot of soul-searching because people were attacking me for it," he said.

Joo Kim, 37, is the son of tycoon Tony Tiah Thee Kian, a staunch Christian who built his fortune in stockbroking in the 1990s before expanding into real estate. Groomed to inherit the family business, Joo Kim last year was appointed CEO of its property arm TA Global. He also runs the Canadian-based Holborn Group. Raised in Kuala Lumpur, he studied at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and earned a master's degree in international business at Macquarie University in Sydney.

Associated Press writers Elaine Kurtenbach in Tokyo, Teresa Cerojano in Manila, Philippines, Joe McDonald in Beijing, Stephen Wright in Jakarta, Indonesia, and Eileen Ng in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, contributed to this report.

Roy Moore says allegations are intended to derail Senate bid

By JEFF AMY and KIM CHANDLER, Associated Press

VESTAVIA HILLS, Ala. (AP) — A defiant Roy Moore on Saturday insisted the allegations of sexual misconduct decades ago were false and voters in Alabama would “see through this charade.”

The Republican Senate candidate showed no signs of backing down despite the demand of a growing number of Washington Republicans for him to step aside.

Moore made his first public appearance on Saturday since The Washington Post on Thursday published interviews with four women who said Moore had tried to have sexual or romantic relationships with them decades ago - when they were teenagers and Moore was in his 30s and an established attorney.

A wave of national Republican leaders, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, called for Moore to drop out of the race if the allegations are true. Trump, who is in Asia and said he was too busy to keep up with the news about Moore, referred to a prior statement given to reporters that said Trump believes Moore will “do the right thing...” if the allegations are true.

That did not sit well with some Moore supporters.

“I’m really upset at my own party for condemning him so quickly,” said Tom Byars, who came to hear Moore speak at the Mid-Alabama Republican Club at a library in Vestavia Hills, Alabama, on Saturday. “Even with the president, you know, he had some trouble, too, and he’s turned around and tried to condemn Roy Moore to step down?”

Moore’s speech in Vestavia Hills on Saturday was his first public appearance since the report, although he had also denied the story Friday to conservative radio host Sean Hannity. Moore used the occasion to accuse the Post of engaging in a “desperate attempt to stop my political campaign for United States Senate.”

The staunch GOP audience - which included state Supreme Court Justice Glenn Murdock and members of Alabama’s Republican National Committee - gave Moore a standing ovation when he finished speaking.

Moore denied claims in the story that he had provided beer and wine to women too young to buy it themselves, or that he’d had sexual contact with a 14-year-old girl.

“I have not provided alcoholic beverages, beer or anything else, to a minor,” Moore said. “I have not been guilty of sexual misconduct with anyone.”

Moore also said it was “strange” that women would wait 40 years to make such accusations shortly before a general election. Moore is running against Democrat Doug Jones to fill the U.S. Senate seat previously held by U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions.

“That’s not a coincidence. It’s an intentional act to stop the campaign,” Moore said.

But a lawyer for one of the women quoted in the Post report said the women whom Moore victimized were young teenagers while he was a powerful prosecutor.

“They likely feared that he would publicly persecute them ... precisely as he has done this week,” Attorney Paula Cobia said in an email to The Associated Press.

Jones, speaking at an event Saturday in Tuscaloosa, said Moore needed to do more to address the allegations. “These are very serious allegations that he needs to significantly try to address,” Jones said, according to the Tuscaloosa News reported.

Before Moore’s speech, his opponents gathered outside the library, carrying signs and chanting anti-Moore slogans.

A group consisting mostly of women gathered to oppose Moore. Cheryl Knowles, a Vestavia Hills Democrat, held up a sign that said “#NoMoore” outside the library where Moore spoke.

“Please tell the people of America that some of us are so embarrassed,” said Knowles.

Moore also said there would be new “revelations” in connection with the newspaper report that brought allegations of sexual misconduct to light.

“In the next few days there will be revelations about the motivations and the content of this article that will be brought to the public,” he said. “We fully expect the people of Alabama to see through this charade.”

A spokesman for Moore declined to provide further information about what information those revelations might contain.

In the hours following the Post report Thursday, some Republicans speculated that Alabama Gov. Kay

Ivey would delay the Dec. 12 special election.

However, Ivey spokesman Josh Pendergrass said Saturday that Ivey "is not considering and has no plans to move the special election for U.S. Senate."

Associated Press writer Kim Chandler reported from Montgomery, Alabama.

Drawing Mary and Joseph into Moore controversy raises ire

By CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Alabama state official is citing the Bible to defend the Republican U.S. Senate candidate accused of sexual advances on girls. State auditor Jim Ziegler says "Mary was a teenager and Joseph was an adult carpenter," suggesting that Roy Moore acted in a divine tradition if he in fact made sexual advances toward a 14-year-old girl.

Theologians and pastors, among others, expressed revulsion that Mary and Joseph would be used to counter allegations of sexual misbehavior with a minor. They also said Ziegler got the facts wrong and ignored the cultural context of the time in which Jesus lived.

"If this is evangelicalism, I'm on the wrong team," the evangelical commentator Ed Stetzer wrote in Christianity Today. "But it is not. Christians don't use Joseph and Mary to explain child molesting accusations."

Moore, a 70-year-old former state Supreme Court justice, flatly denied allegations of decades-old sexual advances on girls, published Thursday in a Washington Post story. The accounts by multiple women prompted Republican lawmakers to say he should end his candidacy for the Dec. 12 special election if the allegations are true. "I have never engaged in sexual misconduct," Moore said Friday.

But Ziegler was dismissive about the fuss. "There's just nothing immoral or illegal here," he told the Washington Examiner. "Maybe just a little bit unusual."

Rev. Jim Martin, editor at large of the Jesuit magazine America, tweeted Friday that "comparing the allegations against Roy Moore in any way to Joseph and Mary is disgusting." Martin said: "We have no idea about the exact ages of either the Virgin Mary or St. Joseph at the time of their betrothal or marriage."

The Bible does not state the ages of Joseph and Mary, agrees Margaret M. Mitchell, a professor of early Christian literature and the New Testament at the University of Chicago Divinity School.

Under ancient norms and apparently under first century Roman and Jewish law, she said, it was apparently common for girls 12 and older to be betrothed, though practice varied by region, social class and more.

She said the earliest text to mention Mary's age is "The Infancy Gospel of James," which she describes as "a clearly legendary text that is trying to expand on the gospel accounts." That non-authoritative text placed Mary's age at 12 when she conceived and it cited supposed evidence of her enduring virginity to demonstrate she conceived Jesus without sexual intercourse.

Similarly, Mitchell said by email, "We have no idea how old the historical Joseph was, though a tradition that he was very old developed in the second century and beyond." The point of that, too, was to support the idea of the virgin birth — Joseph perhaps being too old to impregnate Mary.

Such theories were "fanciful expansions on the Gospel narratives," Mitchell said. But they add a "veneer of solemnity ... that may allow a modern Christian like Mr Z (Ziegler) to gloss over what it means for a 12 or 14 year old girl to be viewed as and used as a sexual vessel."

Martin, in tweets, said: "Joseph is often depicted in art as older than Mary, in fact, considerably older, so as to make him seem less 'sexualized,' and to emphasize Mary's virginity. But, in fact, both Mary and Joseph could have been the same age."

Leigh Corfman told the Post she was 14 when Moore first approached her and took her to his home twice, the second time touching her over her bra and panties and having her touch him over his underwear. The Post quoted three other women who said he pursued them when they were 16 to 18 and he was in his early 30s. He denies the women's reports and says he won't quit the race.

If the Bible is not clear on the subject, the law is: Alabama's legal age of consent then and now is 16

and adults cannot touch children sexually or entice them into a home for that purpose.

AP Religion Writer Rachel Zoll contributed to this report.

Lawmakers question whether key CIA nominee misled Congress

By DEB RIECHMANN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two former CIA employees are accusing the Trump administration's choice for CIA chief watchdog of being less than candid when he told Congress he didn't know about any active whistleblower complaints against him.

Members of the Senate Intelligence Committee asked Christopher Sharpley, the current acting inspector general who's in line for the permanent job, about complaints that he and other managers participated in retaliation against CIA workers who alerted congressional committees and other authorities about alleged misconduct.

"I'm unaware of any open investigations on me, the details of any complaints about me," Sharpley testified at his confirmation hearing last month.

He said he might not know because there is a process providing confidentiality to anyone who wants to file a complaint against government officials, who often are individually named in cases against management.

"No action or conclusions of wrongdoing have been made about my career or anything that I've done," Sharpley added.

The committee is still considering Sharpley's nomination.

Sens. Chuck Grassley, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and Sen. Ron Wyden say they find it hard to believe Sharpley didn't know about the complaints when he testified. They said one of the open cases is being investigated by the Department of Homeland Security's internal watchdog.

They say that inspector general's office, which is looking into the CIA matter to avoid a conflict of interest, asked Sharpley in January for documents. The office asked to interview Sharpley on Oct. 12. Sharpley's office said he wouldn't be available until after Oct. 17 — the day he testified to senators.

"How is it possible that he could have been unaware of any open investigations against him at the time he testified?" Grassley, R-Iowa, and Wyden, D-Ore., asked in a letter they wrote to Senate intelligence committee leaders.

GOP Sen. Richard Burr of North Carolina, the Senate Intelligence Committee chairman, had planned a vote on Sharpley's nomination last month. It has been delayed while the committee holds discussions about the whistleblower cases, according to someone familiar with the matter. The person wasn't authorized to discuss the issue and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

CIA spokesman Ryan Trapani defended Sharpley's five-year tenure at the agency as deputy and then acting inspector general. He said Sharpley has 36 years of investigative and law enforcement experience and created two inspectors general offices from scratch within the federal government.

"Whether there are any complaints or investigations regarding Mr. Sharpley is not something we could confirm or comment on," Trapani said. "What we can say is that Mr. Sharpley has had a sterling five-year career at CIA and there have never been any findings of wrongdoing or misconduct of any sort by Mr. Sharpley during his tenure here."

Documents provided to the AP by attorneys representing two former CIA employees challenge Sharpley's testimony.

They point to discord over several years within the CIA's inspector general's office, an independent unit created in 1989 to oversee the spy agency. It's charged with stopping waste, fraud and mismanagement and promoting accountability through audits, inspections, investigations and reviews of CIA programs and operations — overt and covert.

John Tye, executive director of Whistleblower Aid, who is representing two of the complainants alleging retaliation by Sharpley and other senior managers, said some discord in the office stemmed from a case several years ago involving kickbacks from contractors.

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The Justice Department announced in 2013 that three CIA contractors had agreed to pay the United States \$3 million to settle allegations that they provided meals, entertainment, gifts and tickets to sporting events to CIA employees and outside consultants to help get business steered their way.

The criminal case fell apart after intelligence employees discovered that evidence in the case was being fabricated and witness statements were being altered. These employees secretly went around Sharpley and then CIA Inspector General David Buckley and contacted the U.S. attorney's office. Tye said that after learning about the falsified evidence, a guilty plea in the case, which had already been accepted by a judge, was voided at the request of the U.S. attorney.

Afterward, leaders at the CIA inspector's office asked auditors across town at the Federal Housing Finance Agency to look into their in-house matter. It's unclear why that agency — a place where Sharpley previously worked — was chosen to handle the matter. Results of that investigation haven't been revealed.

In an Oct. 30 letter to the Senate Intelligence Committee, Tye said that during the FHFA probe, Sharpley improperly "interrupted witness interviews, walking in special designated conference rooms to learn the names of the whistleblowers within his staff" who reported evidence tampering to outside oversight bodies. Tye said no one within the CIA inspector general's office was prosecuted or disciplined for evidence tampering.

"Sharpley successfully identified some, but not all, of the whistleblowers," Tye said. He said retaliation involved forcing administrative leave, security clearance decisions and other harassment.

One complainant is Jonathan Kaplan, 59, a former special agent and investigator in the CIA's inspector general's office who spent 33 years at the agency. He claims that before he went to talk to staff at the House Intelligence Committee about the contractors case, he queried a computer in his office to refresh his memory on the details.

He later received a formal letter of warning for searching the computer system. That ultimately prevented him from renewing his security clearance, effectively ending his government career. He contacted an inspector general overseeing all 17 U.S. intelligence agencies and received a letter earlier this year acknowledging that office was handling the case.

A second complainant is Andrew Bakaj, 35, who worked in the CIA inspector general's office as a special agent from 2012 to 2015. He was instrumental in developing agency regulations governing whistleblower reprisal investigations.

When some of his colleagues came to him to allege misconduct in the office, he referred them to the same inspector general Kaplan went to. It was an office Bakaj and his colleagues had been told not to cooperate with.

He, too, searched on the office computer on a matter he was questioned about and had worked on as part of an investigation conducted by the inspector general that oversees all U.S. intelligence agencies. Two weeks later, superiors summoned him and put him on paid leave that lasted 15 months. He then resigned.

This story has been corrected to show the issue that was queried on the computer was part of an investigation conducted by the inspector general and wasn't a case involving evidence tampering.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Nov. 12, the 316th day of 2017. There are 49 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 12, 1942, the World War II naval Battle of Guadalcanal began. (The Allies ended up winning a major victory over Japanese forces.)

On this date:

In 1787, severe flooding struck Dublin, Ireland, as the River Liffey rose.

In 1866, Chinese revolutionary Sun Yat-sen, the first provisional president of the Republic of China, was

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born.

In 1927, Josef Stalin became the undisputed ruler of the Soviet Union as Leon Trotsky was expelled from the Communist Party.

In 1936, the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge opened as President Franklin D. Roosevelt pressed a telegraph key in Washington, D.C., giving the green light to traffic.

In 1948, former Japanese premier Hideki Tojo and several other World War II Japanese leaders were sentenced to death by a war crimes tribunal.

In 1969, news of the My Lai (mee ly) Massacre carried out by U.S. forces in South Vietnam in March 1968 was broken by investigative reporter Seymour Hersh.

In 1977, the city of New Orleans elected its first black mayor, Ernest "Dutch" Morial, the winner of a runoff.

In 1984, space shuttle astronauts Dale Gardner and Joe Allen snared a wandering satellite in history's first space salvage; the Palapa B2 satellite was secured in Discovery's cargo bay for return to Earth.

In 1987, the American Medical Association issued a policy statement saying it was unethical for a doctor to refuse to treat someone solely because that person had AIDS or was HIV-positive.

In 1992, the British situation comedy "Absolutely Fabulous," starring Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley, premiered on BBC2 Television.

In 1996, a Saudi Boeing 747 jetliner collided shortly after takeoff from New Delhi, India, with a Kazak Ilyushin-76 cargo plane, killing 349 people.

In 2001, American Airlines Flight 587, an Airbus A300 headed to the Dominican Republic, crashed after takeoff from New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport, killing all 260 people on board and five people on the ground.

Ten years ago: Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto (BEN'-uh-zeer BOO'-toh) was placed under house arrest for the second time in four days ahead of a planned march to protest emergency rule. The Dow Jones industrial average closed below 13,000 for first time since Aug. 2007. Ryan Braun won the NL Rookie of the Year award in one of the closest votes, while Dustin Pedroia ran away with the AL honor. Author Ira Levin, 78, died in New York.

Five years ago: The United States was re-elected to another three-year term on the U.N. Human Rights Council in the only contested election for the organization's top human rights body.

One year ago: Tens of thousands of people marched in streets across the United States, staging the fourth day of protests against Donald Trump's surprise victory as president. Hundreds of thousands of people flooded the streets of Seoul (sohl), South Korea, demanding the resignation of President Park Geun-hye (goon-hay) amid an explosive political scandal.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Brian Hyland is 74. Actor-playwright Wallace Shawn is 74. Rock musician Booker T. Jones (Booker T. & the MGs) is 73. Sportscaster Al Michaels is 73. Singer-songwriter Neil Young is 72. Rock musician Donald "Buck Dharma" Roeser (Blue Oyster Cult) is 70. Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., is 68. Country/gospel singer Barbara Fairchild is 67. Actress Megan Mullally is 59. Actor Vincent Irizarry is 58. Olympic gold medal gymnast Nadia Comaneci (koh-muh-NEECH') is 56. Actor Sam Lloyd is 54. Rock musician David Ellefson is 53. Retired MLB All-Star Sammy Sosa is 49. Figure skater Tonya Harding is 47. Actress Rebecca Wisocky is 46. Actress Radha Mitchell is 44. Actress Lourdes Benedicto is 43. Actress Tamala Jones is 43. Actress Angela Watson is 43. Singer Tevin Campbell is 41. Actress Ashley Williams is 39. Actress Cote de Pablo is 38. Actor Ryan Gosling is 37. Contemporary Christian musician Chris Huffman is 37. Actress Anne Hathaway is 35. Pop singer Omarion is 33. Folk-rock musician Griffin Goldsmith (Dawes) is 27. Actress Macey Cruthird is 25.

Thought for Today: "Were there none who were discontented with what they have, the world would never reach anything better." — Florence Nightingale, English nursing pioneer (1820-1910).