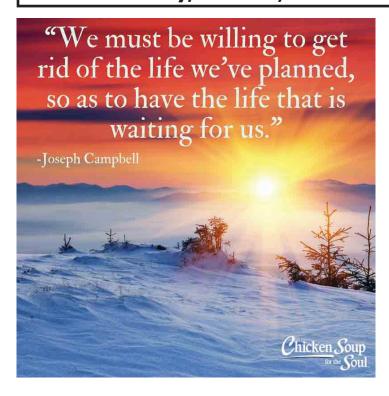
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Today's Riddle: What is so delicate that even saying its name aloud will break it? **Answer at end of AP News**

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Dakota Outdoors Ad
- 1- Today's Riddle
- 2- Brock Greenfield's Column
- 2- Gun Show Ad
- 3- Farmers Union PSA
- 4- Lady Tigers beat Lions
- 4- Bowling Scores
- 4- Service Notice: Merlene Dunlavy
- 5- #9 Northern Men Tie School History in 111-73 Win over Presentation
 - 6- Wolves Bench Scored 53 Points in 94-54 Victory
 - 7- Friendly Fellows and Daisies
 - 8- Silver Skates Ad
 - 9- Today in Weather History
 - 10- Today's Forecast
 - 11- Yesterday's Weather
 - 11- Today's Weather Info
 - 11- National Weather Map
 - 12- Daily Devotional
 - 13- 2018 Community Events
 - 14- News from the Associated Press



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

The cardboard/paper recycling trailer at the school is

Closed

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Upcoming Events
Tuesday, Jan. 16, the Ipswich boys' basketball

teams will be coming to Groton. Seventh grade plays at 3 p.m., eighth grade at 4 p.m. followed by the C game at 5:15, the junior varsity and the varsity thereafter.

Wednesday, Jan. 17, marks the end of the first semester.

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Gun Show

GUN SHOW: Dakota Territory Gun Collectors Association 16th Annual ABERDEEN Gun Show. New location. Saturday, February 3, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, February 4, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dakota Event Center on LaMont East. Roger Krumm 701-851-0129. (...0203)



Glimpse From Greenfield

Brock Greenfield State Senator District 2 As is usually the case, the first week of session was busy with a lot of behind-the-scenes activity, as well as the three major speeches that highlight the kickoff of the new year. Monday was the day before session, but I arrived at the Capitol to take care of some preliminary duties. Again this year, I have been elected to serve as the Senate President Pro Tempore. In that capac-

ity, there are numerous duties to tend to. After concluding my business and meeting briefly with this year's intern class, I proceeded to the SD Retailers' Association's annual meeting where I spoke to a group of people from across the state. I touched on the fact that SD looked to be poised to have our case taken up by the US Supreme Court relative to sales tax collections on transactions conducted via the internet. Further, I spoke to an issue that became a front-burner issue for many South Dakotans last spring and summer as we took up the issue of balancing landowner rights with sportsmen concerns on non-meandered lakes. Following my comments, I answered a number of questions from the audience regarding a variety of issues near-and-dear to them.

On Tuesday, after we concluded the organizational steps in each chamber, the Senate joined the House for the Governor's State of the State Address. Wednesday and Thursday featured joint session speeches by Chief Justice Gilbertson with the State of the Judiciary and the Tribal Chairman from Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Boyd Gourneau, with the State of the Tribes address. As these were carried live and have been covered extensively by news media outlets, I will forego recaps of each. When I was not occupied with floor proceedings, I was involved in several other meetings. On Wednesday evening, I attended the expo at the Ramkota in which rural water businesses from every area of the state set up displays showcasing what they have been up to. Following that, I had a meeting regarding the aforementioned non-meandered water matter. Thursday, after the State of the Tribes Address, I attended an informal meeting of the State and Tribal Relations Committee in which a number of Tribal members addressed the committee with their concerns. That evening, I joined the folks from the SD Rural Electric Association for their annual meeting and dinner. I had the opportunity to speak with people from throughout our district and other districts relative to their field of expertise and other items that were on their minds. At this point, the REA's do not anticipate promoting any issues as a group, but that certainly does not mean that they didn't have issues they wanted to discuss. As an aside, I want you all to know how much I appreciate the opportunity to see you and have you share with me what is important to you.

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Committees generally are off to slow starts. Some met and heard briefings from agencies about bills that will be before us as the year goes on. Others met and heard their first few bills, which were generally "clean-up bills" sponsored by the various departments of state government. Still others are slated to hold their inaugural meetings this week. I chaired the Senate and Joint Legislative Procedures Committees. Of note is the fact that Senator Terri Haverly brought before the Senate committee a proposal to establish a new standing committee on Miltary and Veterans' Affairs. This met with unanimous support of the Senate Committee, and the House followed suit by adopting a similar committee of their own. In Joint LP Committee, we took up the rules we will operate under during this session. Although a host of tweaks were adopted by the committee, none were particularly noteworthy to the general public. Also, because of some concern over the language in one of the committee's adopted policies, we will be revisiting that matter this week, after which the package of rule changes will be debated on the floor. One matter that was brought up and will be hashed over throughout session by a subcommittee is that of legislator conduct as it relates to general conduct and personal interactions. We have previously adopted language regarding sexual harassment, which we will abide by again this year. However, we will be taking a deeper look at our language and reporting procedure to ensure that it is appropriate and all-encompassing.

Another busy week awaits us. By the time you read this, I will have ventured across the river to speak with the SD Stockgrowers for their annual meeting held at the AmericInn. Again, as the President Pro Tempore, I'm finding that people are interested in hearing my perspective and sharing theirs with me. I truly do appreciate the open dialogue with so many people representing all walks of life, and I never lose sight of the fact that it is because you, the voters of District 2, have placed your trust in me and have sent me to Pierre to represent you. For that, I am eternally grateful!

I will be back next week with another update from Pierre. I will also share with those of you who don't know a bit of astonishing news. It has to do with a surgery I had a mere four months ago. Spoiler alert: I do have a heart! Who knew?!?! Until next time, God bless you! And for those of you praying for your elected officials, we appreciate it very much! Brock



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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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Lady Tigers beat Langford Area

The Lady Tigers posted a 45-32 win over the Langford Area Lions in basketball action played Monday evening in Groton.

Groton Area led at the quarterstops at 14-9, 24-18 and 37-30. The Tigers made 35 percent of its field goals while the Lions made 22 percent for the game which included an ice cold 6 percent in the fourth quarter.

Harleigh Stange led the Tigers with 11 points followed by Payton Maine with nine, Jessica Bjerke and Jennie Doeden each had six, Miranda Hanson and Eliza Wanner each had five and Nicole Marzahn added three points.

Maine had 10 of the team's 33 rebounds, Stange had three of the team's eight steals, and Hanson and Wanner each had three of the team's 10 assists, the Tigers had 11 turnovers and 14 team fouls. Groton Area made six of 10 free throws, 12 of 34 field goals and five of 15 three-pointers.

Ady Dwight led the Lions with 11 points followed by Addy Taylor with 10, Chesney Olson had five and adding two points each were Brandy Peterson, Janeda Hesse and Maddie Reints. The Lions made four of 17 free throws and had 11 team fouls.

Kaycie Hawkins led the junior varsity team to its win with 11 points followed by Nicole Marzahn with eight points, Eliza Wanner had six points Kenzie McInerney had three and Grace Wambach added two points.

Groton Coffee Cup League

Team Standings: James Valley 10, Jungle Lanes 7, Ten Pins 5, Kens 2. **High Games:** LaVonne Raap 166, Vickie Kramp 165, Vicki Walter 158. **High Series:** Vicki Walter 464, Vickie Kramp 422, LaVonne Raap 413.

Conde National

Team Standings: Braves 10, Cubs 8, Pirates 6, Colts 5, Mets 4, Giants 3.

Men's High Games: Russ Bethke 218, 215, 187; Larry Frohling 190; Butch Farmen 184.

Men's High Series: Russ Bethke 620, Butch Farmen 492, Lance Frohling 471 **Women's High Games:** Vickie Kramp 188, Alice Severson 181, Lori Wiley 170 **Women's High Series:** Alice Severson 509, Lori Wiley 459, Vickie Kramp 450

Service Notice: Merlene Dunlavy

Services for Merlene Dunlavy, 69, of Claremont will be 10:30 a.m., Friday, January 19th at the United Methodist Church, Claremont. Rev. Rodney Ulmer will officiate. Burial will follow in Sunset Memorial Gardens, Aberdeen under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the church on Thursday from 5-7 p.m., with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Merlene passed away January 14, 2018 at Avera Mother Joseph Manor, Aberdeen.

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#9 Northern Men Tie School History in 111-73 Win over Presentation

Aberdeen, S.D. – The No. 9 Northern State University men's basketball team tied the school record for consecutive wins, defeating Presentation College 111-73. The Wolves improve to 19-1 overall, after their final non-conference game of the regular season.

The Saints held with the Wolves through the first 14 minutes of action trading the lead four times, however the Wolves broke things open at the 6-minute mark and did not look back. NSU held a double figure led from then on with the largest spread of 38 points coming with just 29 seconds remaining in the contest.

Northern shot a staggering 66.7 percent from the floor, 48.1 percent from the arc, and 71.4 percent from the foul line. On the flip side, the Saints shot 40.3 percent from the floor, 24.0 percent from the 3-point line, and 68.0 percent from the charity stripe. Northern out-rebounded Presentation 39-24, notching 16 total second chance points on 11 offensive boards. They added 62 points off the bench, 54 points in the paint, and 18 points off turnovers. The men combined for 27 assists, seven blocks, and three steals.

Cole Dahl led the team, notching a career high for the second straight game, with 27 points. The sophomore knocked down 10-of-12 from the floor and 6-of-7 from the 3-point line. He added a team leading seven rebounds, including five offensive boards, as well as two assists. Logan Doyle followed with 18 points of his own, shooting 77.8 percent from the floor. The senior added three rebounds, one assist, and one block in 16 minutes of play.

Carter Evans and Bo Fries were the final Wolves in double figures with 15 and 11 points respectively. Evans shot a perfect 7-of-7 from the floor and added four assists, four rebounds, and a team leading three blocks. Fries 66.7 percent from the floor with two made 3-pointers, as well as four rebounds and three assists.

DJ Pollard notched nine points, while Ian Smith and Justin Decker tallied eight points apiece. Gabe King rounded out the NSU starters with six points of his own. Pollard was also perfect from the field, draining 4-of-4. He added four rebounds, two assists, two blocks, and two steals. Smith dished out a team leading seven assists and pulled down a team second best six rebounds. Decker added three rebounds and two assists, notching his second straight start.

Andrew Kallman hit two from down town, adding six points to the team total. The freshman also tallied two rebounds, one assist, and one block. Ethan Kranhold tallied the final made 3-pointer of the night for the Wolves, as Northern tallied 13 total. He added two rebounds as well.

Northern returns to action this weekend on the road at St. Cloud State and Minnesota Duluth. Tip-off is scheduled for 8 p.m. on Friday versus the Huskies and 6 p.m. on Saturday against the Bulldogs.

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Wolves Bench Scored 53 Points in 94-54 Victory

Aberdeen S.D. – The No. 20 Wolves picked up a non-conference win over cross-town opponent Presentation College Monday night, 94-54. The Wolves improve to 15-3 overall.

The Wolves ended the first quarter shooting 56.3 percent from the floor, taking a lead after the first quarter 24-9. NSU continued to out-score the Saints in the second quarter 25-14, taking a 49-23 lead heading in the break. Northern State out-scored the Presentation College Saints 45-31 in the second half to take a 40-point victory in the cross-town matchup.

NSU shot 46.8 percent from the floor and 40.7 percent from the 3-point line in the victory. The Wolves out-rebounded the Saints 57-28 in the game, with 17 second chance points off of 21 offensive rebounds. Defensively, the Wolves held the Saints who shot 36.8 percent from the floor and 21.4 percent from behind the arc. The Wolves had 40 points in the paint, 20 points off turnovers, 53 points from the bench, and 6 fast-break points.

Gabby Laimer led the Wolves in scoring Monday night with 15 points, four assist, and one rebound. Second in scoring for the NSU was Miranda Ristau with 12 points, four rebounds, three blocks, and two assists. Haley Rithmiller and Brynn Flakus each scored 11 points, with Rithmiller notching a career high. Flakus also added seven assists, six rebounds, and two steals.

Haley Froelich scored nine points, two rebounds, four assists, one block, and one steal. Jill Conrad scored eight points, five rebounds, and one assist. Brianna Kusler also scored eight points for the Wolves with four assists, and three rebounds. The final starter for the Wolves was Alexis Tappe, who finished with four points, five rebounds, and one steal.

Sydney Franks and Tori Mekash came off the bench and each tallied five points and one assist. They had three and four rebounds respectively. Anika Fredrick had four points, six rebounds, one assist, and one block, while Kendall Kohler had one assists for the Wolves in the win. Joie Spier and Mikayla Markuson each had a steal. Sara Tvedt had two points and five rebounds, while Alayna Johnson had three rebound.

The Wolves will hit the road for the weekend, as they face St. Cloud State on Friday and Minnesota Duluth on Saturday. Tip-off is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Friday and 4 p.m. on Saturday.

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Friendly Fellows and Daisies

The Friendly Fellows and Daisies 4-H club met on January 7, 2018.

The meeting was called to order by Nicole Marzahn. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Clay Crawford and the 4-H pledge was led by Dylan Frey.

Roll Call topic was favorite food. The treasurers report was approved by Carly Crawford and seconded by Austin Crawford.

Old business was the Christmas Party. Old business was closed by Ashlyn Warrington and seconded by Logan Warrington.

New business was the newshound, archery, fruit sales, market for the livestock, ski trip dues and the fairy garden was closed by Braden Boe seconded by Axel Warrington.

Other business was skating and pizza party. The meeting was adjourned by Kamryn Fliehs and seconded by Braden Boe.

Axel Warrington did a talk on Snare drumming and Natalia Warrington gave a talk on Yarn Wrapped Jars.

Lunch served by the Jason Warrington family Submitted by Kamryn Fliehs, club reporter

Friendly Fellows and Daisies

The Friendy Fellows and Daisies 4-H Club met on Dec 3. 2017 at the Claremont Methodist Church for it's annual Christmas Party.

Members and their families included Kaitlyn and Stacy Anderson; Braden, Mandy and Mark Boe; Clay, Austin, Carly, Colby and Anissa Crawford; Dylan, Colin, Mike and Sara Frey; Nicole, Andrew, Renee and Wade Marzahn; Mallory, Hannah, Tucker and Melissa Miller; Blake, Hailey, Brad and Michelle Pauli; Logan, Mike and Molly Ringgenberg; Logan, Ashlyn, Greyson, Jason and Robyn Warrington; Axel, Novalea, Natalia and Neil Warrington; Madilyn, Lynn and Stephen Wright; Kamryn, Karsten, Braeden, Jaela, Lance and JoAnn Fliehs; Walker, Parker, Darin and Anne Zoellner.

Guests included: Robert and Deloris Bruns, Bernice Doctor, Brent and Barb Miller, Jackie Pigott, Janice Fliehs, Royal and LeAnn Tople, Roy and Karen Boe, Connie Anderson, Yvonne Gibbs, Virginia Pulfrey, Janet and Ken Frey, Judy Pierson, Diane and Leo Warrington.

Attendees played card bingo with lots of prizes that were won. The members sang Christmas carls and gave reindeer hot chocolate mix as Christmas gifts to our guests.

For the Community Service project the 4-H members brought food items for the BAGS program in the Aberdeen Area for kids in need.

Leader Mike Frey announced each member of the club along with their accomplishments from the year.

Logan, Ashlyn and Natalia Warrington entertained the guests with selections on the piano.

The group watched a slide show of the past year's activities of both the club and individual accomplishments of the members.

The Christmas party ended with a potluck supper and desserts.

The next meeting will be held on January 7,2018 at the Skate Away in Aberdeen Submitted by Kamryn Fliehs, club reporter

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80th Annual Carnival of Silver Skates Sunday, January 28th–2:00 and 6:30

Recognizing past skaters, showcasing several specialty acts, and a walk down memory lane. Join us for a great show, performed by our local youth, that helps honor those who have helped establish this great community tradition over

Admission: 13 & older—\$3.00 6-12—\$2.00

Parking: Provided around the rink and on the ice or cozy up on the bleachers (ice parking begins at 10 am, then again at 4:30 pm)

**Check us out on Facebook at "Silver Skates"

> WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



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Today in Weather History

January 16, 1967: In Minnesota, a fast moving blizzard brought winds in excess of 75 mph. The snowfall was light to moderate with extensive blowing and drifting snow. Visibility was near zero for an extended period of time. Temperatures fell rapidly during the storm and by the morning of the 18th, many records low were set. Many vehicles went into the ditch. Thousands of motorists and school children found shelter wherever they could as travel came to a standstill. A Wheaton man froze to death. In South Dakota, rain followed by a sudden drop in temperatures of nearly 30 degrees in 2 hours resulted in widespread freezing rain and significant icing on roads and trees. Strong winds of 35 to 45 mph with gusts to 75 mph along with the ice halted most travel. The wind and icing also caused the toppling of a 270 foot radio tower near Aberdeen.

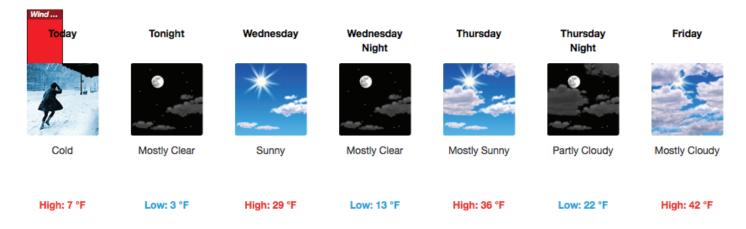
January 16, 1997: An intense Arctic High brought widespread blizzard conditions and dangerous wind chills of 40 to 70 below to central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota. One to 3 inches of snow fell on top of the already deep snowpack of 2 to 5 feet. The blizzard winds brought another round of widespread heavy drifting, blocking area roads and highways. Also, many area schools were closed once again to add to their large number of days missed for the winter season. Fortunately, this blizzard as compared to previous blizzards was short-lived and the people were better prepared.

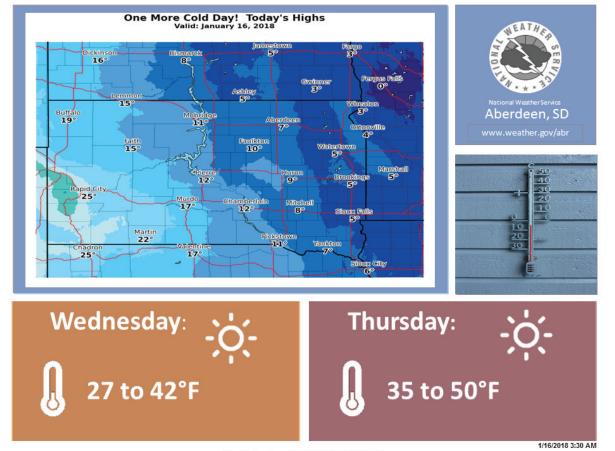
January 16, 2014: A strong area of surface high pressure building into the region behind an Arctic cold front brought high winds to central and north central South Dakota during the early morning hours of the 16th. Some of the strongest wind gusts include; 69 mph near Whitlocks Bay; 68 mph near Bullhead; 67 mph near Trail City; 66 mph in Foster Bay; 65 mph near Mellette and in Presho; 64 mph near Harrold and in Murdo; and 63 mph in Pierre, Reliance, and Miranda. The strong winds diminished during the late afternoon hours of the 16th. A clipper system passing across the region brought light snowfall and very strong northwest winds gusting in excess of 70 mph at times resulting in blizzard conditions. The highest wind gusts include; 76 mph at the Brown County Landfill; 69 mph in Aberdeen and Cravens Corner; 52 mph near Webster; and 52 mph in Sisseton. Blizzard conditions ended during the late afternoon hours. A no travel advisory was issued in Grant, Codington, Hamlin, and Spink Counties due to poor visibilities. The blizzard led to the cancellation of several area activities and schools and nearly impossible travel conditions.

1990: Heavy snow fell across Prince Williams Sound and the Susitna Valley of southern Alaska. Valdez was buried under 64.9 inches of snow in less than 2 days including a record 47.5 inches in 24 hours. The heavy snow blocked roads, closed schools and sunk 6 vessels in the Valdez harbor under the weight of the heavy snow.

- 2012: Iwamizawa City, Hokkaido Island, Japan saw heavy snowfall of 78 inches from the 15 through the 16th. This is the city's highest accumulation since records began in 1946.
- 1831 A great snowstorm raged from Georgia to Maine. Snowfall totals greater than 30 inches were reported from Pennsylvania across southern New England. (David Ludlum)
- 1964 Fort Worth, TX, received 7.5 inches of snow, and Dallas reported a foot of snow. (David Ludlum)
- 1987 A winter storm produced a total of 61 inches of snow at Rye CO, and wind gusts to 100 mph in Utah. The storm then spread heavy snow from the Texas panhandle to Indiana. Tulia TX received 16 inches of snow, and up to 14 inches was reported in western Oklahoma. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)
- 1988 A small storm in the western U.S. produced a foot of snow and wind gusts to 70 mph in the Lake Tahoe Basin of Nevada. Showers and thunderstorms produced 2.28 inches of rain at Brownsville TX, their third highest total for any day in January. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)
- 1989 Strong chinook winds plagued much of the state of Wyoming. Winds gusted to 80 mph at Cody, and wind gusts to 100 mph were reported in eastern and northwestern Wyoming. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Published on: 01/16/2018 at 3:34AM

Arctic high pressure will provide for one more day of cold temperatures, and bitterly cold wind chills. However, westerly and southerly breezes will return to the area for mid to late week, with a consequent return to normal and above temperatures. Little if any precipitation is expected through the rest of the work week.

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Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 0.3 at Midnight

Low Outside Temp: -10.1 at 7:44 AM

Wind Chill: -33 at 9:09 AM High Gust: 27 at 7:58 AM

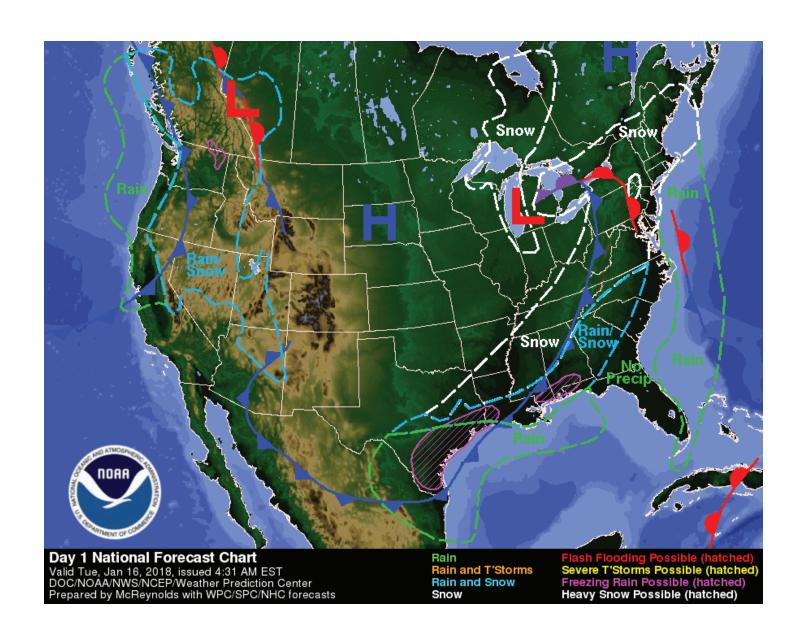
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 49° in 1942

Record Low: -30° in 2005 Average High: 22°F

Average Low: 1°F

Average Precip in Jan: 0.27 Precip to date in Jan: 0.00 Average Precip to date: 0.27 Precip Year to Date: 0.00 Sunset Tonight: 5:18 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:08 a.m.



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A LOVELY DWELLING PLACE

It was Sunday morning and James said to his mother, "I don't feel good." Worried she asked, "Where don't you feel good?" Quickly he replied, "When I'm in church."

One psalmist wrote, "How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God!"

What was it that made the "dwelling place" lovely? It was the presence of the Lord. But anywhere a believer is can be a dwelling place where we can find the presence of the Lord. Wherever we are He is and we can commune with Him and express the desires of our heart.

Many believe that God can only be found in church when they "report" for worship. For some it may be once a week or twice a month. For a few, worship only happens on special days or occasions. Every attempt is made to "discharge" all of their obligations by making one or two trips to church in any given year.

But if God is not worshiped seven days a week it does not seem reasonable that we will truly worship Him one day a week or once a year. Worship that is worthy of Him is something we who are His children are to do consciously and constantly every moment of every day. It does not matter where we are or what we are doing. We are to offer our words and our work, our hearts and our habits to Him as gestures of love and adoration.

Worship is not something we do; it is the way we live. Worship is presenting all that we do as a sacrifice to Him.

Prayer: Lord, may we gladly present all of us – whatever we do, wherever we are – as a gift of ourselves to You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 84:1-2 How lovely is Your tabernacle, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the Lord; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

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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

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News from the Associated Press

Monday's Scores Bv The Associated Press

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Dell Rapids 76, Garretson 36 Great Plains Lutheran 53, Waverly-South Shore 39 Harrisburg 63, Sioux Falls Roosevelt 53 Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 52, Chamberlain 48 Standing Rock, N.D. 83, Mobridge-Pollock 66 **Dakota Valley Conference Tournament** First Round Arlington 80, Estelline 34 Colman-Egan 59, Elkton-Lake Benton 39 Dell Rapids St. Mary 70, Lake Preston 68, 30T Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 46, Deubrook 41 POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS Freeman vs. Lyman, ppd.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Canistota 58, Freeman Academy/Marion 36 Groton Area 45, Langford 32 McCook Central/Montrose 58, Chester 31 Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 46, Chamberlain 43 Philip 40, Wall 39 Potter County 63, Northwestern 47 South Border, N.D. 55, Herreid/Selby Area 39 Waverly-South Shore 55, Great Plains Lutheran 30 Wilmot 64, Tri-State, N.D. 57, OT 281 Conference Tournament Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 44, Wolsey-Wessington 38 Sunshine Bible Academy 53, James Valley Christian 43 Wessington Springs 59, Iroquois 21 POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS Corsica/Stickney vs. Mitchell Christian, ppd.

Pipeline protester's elderly exploitation case dismissed

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Authorities have dropped a second charge against a Bismarck woman accused of abusing and exploiting her elderly mother during protests against the Dakota Access oil pipeline in North Dakota.

Authorities last week dismissed a charge of felony exploitation of a vulnerable adult against Kathleen Bennett, saying the case had become too difficult to prove, The Bismarck Tribune reported. A defense attorney said Bennett's mother died a few months ago.

Bennett, 59, was accused of leaving her 82-year-old mother with dementia tied to a chair in a protest camp in North Dakota while she attended demonstrations in December 2016. Protesters were trying to block construction of the oil pipeline, which is operated by Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners.

Bennett's mother was taken to a hospital during a blizzard. Hospital staff said she was frail and malnourished.

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The exploitation charge resulted from Bennett allegedly using \$1,200 of her mother's money without consent to rent hotel rooms, buy meals and pay legal fees while her mother was hospitalized.

Bennett had also been charged in Morton County with endangering a vulnerable adult, but the defense and prosecution agreed in November to dismiss that case with \$2,050 in fines forfeited from Bennett's bond.

"The victim is deceased and the case became difficult to prove once the Morton County companion case was dismissed," Burleigh County Assistant State's Attorney Marina Spahr said in court documents.

It's not clear when her mother, Mary Trujillo, died. She had been living with family in Nevada. Defense attorney William Kirschner said Trujillo's death happened a few months ago, but he did not have an exact date.

Information from: Bismarck Tribune, http://www.bismarcktribune.com

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Authorities last week dismissed a charge of felony exploitation of a vulnerable adult against Kathleen Bennett, saying the case had become too difficult to prove, The Bismarck Tribune reported . A defense attorney said Bennett's mother died a few months ago.

Bennett, 59, was accused of leaving her 82-year-old mother with dementia tied to a chair in a protest camp in North Dakota while she attended demonstrations in December 2016. Protesters were trying to block construction of the oil pipeline, which is operated by Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners.

Bennett's mother was taken to a hospital during a blizzard. Hospital staff said she was frail and malnourished.

The exploitation charge resulted from Bennett allegedly using \$1,200 of her mother's money without consent to rent hotel rooms, buy meals and pay legal fees while her mother was hospitalized.

Bennett had also been charged in Morton County with endangering a vulnerable adult, but the defense and prosecution agreed in November to dismiss that case with \$2,050 in fines forfeited from Bennett's bond.

"The victim is deceased and the case became difficult to prove once the Morton County companion case was dismissed," Burleigh County Assistant State's Attorney Marina Spahr said in court documents.

It's not clear when her mother, Mary Trujillo, died. She had been living with family in Nevada. Defense attorney William Kirschner said Trujillo's death happened a few months ago, but he did not have an exact date.

Information from: Bismarck Tribune, http://www.bismarcktribune.com

DuVernay, 'black-ish,' 'Power' win at NAACP Image Awards By SANDY COHEN, AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A jubilant Ava DuVernay was named entertainer of the year at an NAACP Image Awards ceremony that focused on the black community's power to create change.

DuVernay lauded other black artists from the stage as she accepted her award Monday night, naming writers and directors such as Shonda Rhimes, Gina Prince-Bythewood, Kenya Barris and "Black Panther" Ryan Coogler.

"This is our time," DuVernay said. "We can say we were here when all this gorgeous art was happening, and that we supported it — that we lifted each other up, that we did as Dr. King said we would do: Live the dream. We're the dream."

Anthony Anderson hosted the ceremony at the Civic Auditorium in Pasadena, California, on what would have been Martin Luther King Jr.'s 89th birthday. While his politically tinged monologue poked fun at the presidential administration and Omarosa Manigault, others used their time onstage to encourage more

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civic involvement and the fight for social justice.

Producer Will Packer took a dig at President Donald Trump's recent comments about immigration as the producer accepted an award for "Girls Trip," which won for outstanding film.

"Sisters, especially the ones from Haiti and Africa, we love you as your brothers," he said.

Kerry Washington, Tracee Ellis Ross, Laverne Cox, Jurnee Smollet-Bell, Lena Waithe and Angela Robinson set the tone for the evening when they emerged onstage holding hands to dramatically issue a get-out-the-vote call.

The six women declared support for the Time's Up initiative to stop sexual harassment and gender discrimination and urged viewers to speak up at the polls as well.

"The midterms are a perfect moment for us to use our voices," Robinson said. "If we can take back a senate seat in Alabama..."

"Then we have the ability to shift the imbalance of power," Smollet-Bell said.

Barris' show "black-ish" was the night's big winner. The ABC hit was named best comedy series and took acting honors for stars Ross and Anderson.

"It's an extraordinary thing to be able to show what a beautiful black family looks like on television," Ross said as the cast accepted the comedy series honor.

"Power" was named best drama series, and star Omari Hardwick won for dramatic actor.

Other winners included "Gifted" actress Octavia Spencer and "Empire" star Taraji P. Henson, who were both absent, and Daniel Kaluuya, who won for his leading role in "Get Out."

The British actor was clearly delighted at his victory.

"I don't think you're allowed to beat Denzel Washington in acting competitions," said Kaluuya, who bested Washington for the prize. The 28-year-old actor thanked his mom and "Get Out" writer-director Jordan Peele. "So many people didn't believe in me, and you did, and you made all of us feel included," Kaluuya said.

"Thank you so much for letting us be seen."

NAACP president Derrik Johnson asked viewers to text in their pledge to vote in 2018 before presenting the President's Award to Danny Glover.

Glover was recognized for his professional and philanthropic contributions, particularly his work with the United Nations and his advocacy for labor unions.

Glover spoke specifically of a Nissan plant in Canton, Mississippi, where 80 percent of employees are black, that has yet to organize.

"Civil rights and labor rights have always been one and the same," he said.

The special awards provided some of the night's most poignant moments.

Halle Berry talked about the significance of presenting the NAACP Image Awards on Martin Luther King Jr. day.

"We need to take heed to his eloquent words: 'Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that matter," she said. "Today is an affirmation that we will never ever, ever, ever be silent again."

She presented the Music Makes a Difference award to Charlie Wilson, who talked about his road from addiction and homelessness to musical success and philanthropy.

He said he prayed and promised that if he could survive the streets, he would return to serve others. Wilson said Monday that he has been sober for 22 years and is focused on helping homeless addicts.

Labor organizer William Lucy received the Chairman's Award for his more than 40 years of service. Beyond his union leadership, Lucy was also an activist who fought apartheid in South Africa.

He dedicated his award to the Memphis sanitation workers who went on strike in 1968, several of whom were in the audience at the Image Awards. King spoke to the striking employees the night before he was assassinated.

Another arresting moment in the show came during singer Andra Day's chilling performance of Billie Holiday's "Strange Fruit." Rapper Common joined her for their song "Stand Up for Something," and the whole audience rose to its feet.

____ Follow AP Entertainment Writer Sandy Cohen at www.twitter.com/APSandy .

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Glowing red lava causes more to flee from Philippine volcano By JIM GOMEZ, Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Glowing-red lava spurted in a fountain and flowed down the Philippines' most active volcano on Tuesday in a stunning display of its fury that has sent more than 34,000 villagers fleeing to safety and prompted police to set up checkpoints to stop tourists from getting too close.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said the lava flowed as much as 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) from the often cloud-shrouded crater of Mount Mayon, while ash fell on several villages in northeastern Albay province.

Officials strongly advised people not to venture into a danger zone about 6 to 7 kilometers (3.7 to 4.3 miles) around Mayon, including residents who want to check their homes, farms and animals, and tourists seeking a closer view.

"They say it's beauty juxtaposed with danger," Office of Civil Defense regional director Claudio Yucot said. At least 34,038 people have been displaced by Mayon's eruption since the weekend from two cities and six towns, many of whom took shelter in schools turned into evacuation centers, Jukes Nunez, an Albay provincial disaster response officer, said by telephone. Others took refuge in the homes of relatives.

Albay officials declared a state of calamity in the province of more than a million people to allow more rapid disbursement of disaster funds, Nunez said.

"We have witnessed lava fountaining yesterday, that's why we have additional families who evacuated due to the threat," said Romina Marasigan, spokeswoman of the government's main disaster-response agency.

Renato Solidum, who heads the volcanology institute, said the flows cascading down the volcano were not generated by an explosion from the crater with superheated lava, molten rocks and steam, but were caused by lava fragments breaking off from the lava flow and crashing on the lower slopes.

Scientists have not yet detected enough volcanic earthquakes of the type that would prompt them to raise the alert level to four on a scale of five, which would indicate an explosive eruption may be imminent, Solidum said. Emergency response officials previously said they may have to undertake forced evacuations if the alert is raised to four.

In a bid to discourage villagers who insist on returning to the danger zones to check on their farm animals, officials planned to set up evacuation areas for animals, including water buffaloes, cows, pigs and poultry, Yucot said.

Temporary school sites were also being considered to ease the disruption to education after school buildings were turned into emergency shelters, he said.

Mayon is in coconut-growing Albay province, about 340 kilometers (210 miles) southeast of Manila. With its near-perfect cone, it is popular with climbers and tourists but has erupted about 50 times in the last 500 years, sometimes violently.

In 2013, an ash eruption killed five climbers who had ventured near the summit despite warnings. Mayon's first recorded eruption was in 1616 and the most destructive, in 1814, killed 1,200 people and buried the town of Cagsawa in volcanic mud.

The Philippines lies in the so-called "Ring of Fire," a line of seismic faults surrounding the Pacific Ocean where earthquakes and volcanic activity are common.

In 1991, Mount Pinatubo in the northern Philippines exploded in one of the biggest volcanic eruptions of the 20th century, killing about 800 people.

Pope Francis under pressure to confront sex abuse in Chile By PETER PRENGAMAN and NICOLE WINFIELD, Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — Pope Francis will be under pressure Tuesday to confront a priest sex abuse scandal during his first full day in Chile, an Andean nation where the majority identifies as Roman Catholic but strong currents of skepticism and even contempt for the church are increasingly present.

Many Chileans are still furious over his 2015 decision to appoint a bishop close to the Rev. Fernando Karadima, a priest found guilty by the Vatican in 2011 of abusing dozens of minors over decades.

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Bishop Juan Barros of the southern city of Osorno has always denied he knew what Karadima was doing when he was the priest's protege, but many Chileans have a hard time believing that.

"Sex abuse is Pope Francis' weakest spot in terms of his credibility," said Massimo Faggioli, a Vatican expert and theology professor at Villanova University in Philadelphia. "It is surprising that the pope and his entourage don't understand that they need to be more forthcoming on this issue."

The Karadima scandal and a long cover-up has caused a crisis for the church in Chile, with a recent Latinbarometro survey saying the case was responsible for a significant drop in the number of Chileans who call themselves Catholic as well as a fall in confidence in the church as an institution.

That distrust extends to Francis, who is making his first visit as pope to this country of 17 million people. The Argentine pope is nearly a native son, having studied in Chile during his Jesuit novitiate and he knows the country well, but Chileans give him the lowest approval rating among the 18 Latin American nations in the survey.

"People are leaving the church because they don't find a protective space there," said Juan Carlos Claret, spokesman for a group of church members in Osorno that has opposed Barros' appointment as bishop. "The pastors are eating the flock."

People angry over Barros planned a protest for Tuesday, when Francis is scheduled to celebrate Mass, meet with President Michelle Bachelet and visit a female prison.

But other groups also called demonstrations against the pontiff.

Victor Hugo Robles, an activist in Chile's lesbian and gay community, said the Vatican tries to paint an image of the pope as being close to the people, particularly those with the most needs.

"We are the ones who need help," said Robles. "Gay people, people living with AIDS. When it comes to those things, the church has an attitude of intolerance, of disgust."

Felipe Morales, from a group called the Workers' Socialist Front, said many were unhappy with the pope and the church's historical influence in Chile. They planned to protest outside while Francis celebrated Mass.

"The role of the church has been nefarious," said Morales. "Sex abuse cases have been covered up and people are unhappy with many other issues."

To be sure, many will be excited to see the pope. Thousands lined the streets of Santiago to get a glimpse of Francis after he arrived Monday night, though the crowds were notably thin compared to previous visits to other Latin American capitals.

"It was amazing to see him," said Luis Salazar, a young boy who came out with his family to see Francis pass by in his pope mobile.

The pope will try to inject new energy into the church during his visit, which starts off Tuesday with a series of protocol visits for church and state.

He also plans sessions with migrants, members of Chile's Mapuche indigenous group and victims of the 1973-1990 military dictatorship. It remains to be seen if he will meet with sex abuse survivors. A meeting wasn't on the agenda, but such encounters never are.

Associated Press writers Eva Vergara and Patricia Luna and AP video journalist Paul Byrne contributed to this report.

Federer joins Djokovic, Sharapova in 2nd round in Australia By JOHN PYE, AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Roger Federer picked up where he left off at the Australian Open on a day when Maria Sharapova and Novak Djokovic helped ensure there were all kinds of comebacks.

Defending champion Federer beating Aljaz Bedene 6-3, 6-4, 6-3 in a night match, his first on Rod Laver Arena since clinching a career-reviving title here last year. The 19-time major winner has been met on court after wins here previously by tennis greats Laver, John McEnroe and Jim Courier.

On Tuesday night, he got something different. Comedian Will Ferrell stepped out of the crowd and, slipping into character as Ron Burgundy from the movie Anchorman, conducted the post-match interview.

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As usual, the 36-year-old Federer stayed classy.

Six-time champion Djokovic and 2014 Australian Open winner Stan Wawrinka earlier made successful returns from injury layoffs with victories in their first matches since Wimbledon.

Sharapova barely missed a beat in her first match in Melbourne since a failed doping test here in 2016 resulted in a 15-month ban from tennis.

The five-time major winner recovered from an early break in the second set and closed out her 6-1, 6-4 victory over Tatjana Maria with an ace.

"It's been a couple of years since I've been back here — obviously I wanted to enjoy the moment," the 2008 Australian Open champion said after blowing kisses to the crowd.

Former No. 1-ranked Kerber, the 2016 Australian Open winner, continued her resurgent run with a 6-0, 6-4 victory over Anna-Lena Friedsam to extend her streak to 10 consecutive wins.

"Something is going on with Australia and me," said former No. 1-ranked Kerber, who the Sydney International last week for her first title since the 2016 U.S. Open.

Djokovic tweaked his service motion while recovering from an injured right elbow, and used it to good effect in a 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 win over Donald Young.

Djokovic lost in the second round here last year, but won five of the previous six Australian Open titles. "Obviously I wanted to start with the right intensity, which I have," Djokovic said. "I played perfect tennis, like I never stopped."

Wawrinka, who had six months out after surgery on his left knee, beat Ricardas Berankis 6-3, 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 (2).

No. 4-ranked 4-Alexander Zverev, No. 5 Dominic Thiem, No. 7 David Goffin, No. 19 Tomas Berdych advanced, but No. 20 Roberto Bautista Agut lost to Fernando Verdasco and former Wimbledon finalist Milos Raonic lost to Lukas Lacko.

No. 13 Sam Querrey restored some order for the U.S. men with a 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 win over Feliciano Lopez. Madison Keys reversed a trend, becoming the only one of the four American women who contested the U.S. Open semifinals four months ago to reach the second round in Australia.

No. 17-seeded Keys, the U.S. Open runner-up, advanced with a 6-1, 7-5 win over Wang Qiang and will be one of four American women in the second round.

Top-ranked Simona Halep had to save set points at 5-2 down in the first set, and badly twisted her left ankle early in the second, before beating teenage wild-card entry Destanee Aiava 7-6 (5), 6-1.

Halep next plays 2014 Wimbledon finalist Eugenie Bouchard.

"It's always really cool to go up against the best in the world," Bouchard said. "I want to ... go out there and do some damage."

Wimbledon champion Garbine Mugurza, No. 6 Karolina Pliskova, No. 8 Caroline Garcia, No. 9 Johanna Konta, No. 16 Elena Vesnina, No. 26 Agnieszka Radwanska, No. 28 Mirjana Lucic-Baroni and No. 29 Lucie Safarova advanced.

Two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova lost 6-3, 4-6, 10-8 to Andrea Petkovic.

Sharapova was banned after testing positive for the drug meldonium when she was here in 2016, and finished last year ranked No. 60 following a return to Grand Slam tennis at the U.S. Open.

Sharapova will next play No. 14-seeded Anastasija Sevastova, who beat her at last year's U.S. Open.

"I felt like I have got a lot of things out of the way physically and emotionally and mentally last year with — there was a lot of firsts again for me, playing the first tournament, first Grand Slam, and just different feelings and what it would be routinely," Sharapova said. "But it felt pretty routine today."

More AP coverage: www.apnews.com/tag/AustralianOpen

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Kids chained in Calif. house of horrors; parents arrested

PERRIS, Calif. (AP) — A 17-year-old girl called police after escaping from her family's home where she and her 12 brothers and sisters were locked up in filthy conditions, some so malnourished officers at first believed all were children even though seven are adults.

The girl, who was so small officers initially believed she was only 10, called 911 and was met by police who interviewed her and then went to the family home in Perris, about 70 miles southeast of Los Angeles. They found several children shackled to their beds with chains and padlocks in dark, foul-smelling surroundings, according to the Riverside County Sheriff's Department.

The children, ages 2 to 29, "appeared to be malnourished and very dirty," according to a press release announcing Sunday's arrest of the parents. "The victims were provided with food and beverages after they claimed to be starving."

David Allen Turpin, 57, and Louise Anna Turpin, 49, each were held on \$9 million bail and could face charges including torture and child endangerment.

It wasn't immediately known if they had attorneys.

State Department of Education records show the family home has the same address as Sandcastle Day School, where David Turpin is listed as principal. In the 2016-17 school year it had an enrollment of six with one student in each of the fifth, sixth, eighth, ninth, 10th and 12th grades.

Neighbors said they were stunned by the arrests. Andrew Santillan, who lives around the corner, heard about the case from a friend.

"I had no idea this was going on," he told the Press-Enterprise of Riverside. "I didn't know there were kids in the house."

Other neighbors described the family as intensely private.

A few years ago, Robert Perkins said he and his mother saw a few family members constructing a Nativity scene in the Turpins' front yard. Perkins said he complimented them on it.

"They didn't say a word," he said.

The Turpins filed for bankruptcy in 2011, stating in court documents they owed between \$100,000 and \$500,000, The New York Times reported. At that time, Turpin worked as an engineer at Northrop Grumman and earned \$140,000 annually and his wife was a homemaker, records showed.

Their bankruptcy lawyer, Ivan Trahan, told the Times he never met the children but the couple "spoke about them highly."

"We remember them as a very nice couple," Trahan said, adding that Louise Turpin told him the family loved Disneyland and visited often.

Trump accuses Democrat of undermining trust on immigration By DARLENE SUPERVILLE and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump turned his Twitter torment on the Democrat in the room where immigration talks with lawmakers took a famously coarse turn, saying Sen. Dick Durbin misrepresented what he had said about African nations and Haiti and, in the process, undermined the trust needed to make a deal.

On a day of remembrance for Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Trump spent time Monday at his golf course with no public events, bypassing the acts of service that his predecessor staged in honor of the civil rights leader. Instead Trump dedicated his weekly address to King's memory, saying King's dream and America's are the same: "a world where people are judged by who they are, not how they look or where they come from."

That message was a distinct counterpoint to words attributed to Trump by Durbin and others at a meeting last week, when the question of where immigrants come from seemed at the forefront of Trump's concerns. Some participants and others familiar with the conversation said Trump challenged immigration from "shithole" countries of Africa and disparaged Haiti as well.

Without explicitly denying using that word, Trump lashed out at the Democratic senator, who said Trump

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uttered it on several occasions.

"Senator Dicky Durbin totally misrepresented what was said at the DACA meeting," Trump tweeted, using a nickname to needle the Illinois senator. "Deals can't get made when there is no trust! Durbin blew DACA and is hurting our Military."

He was referring to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which protects young people who came to the U.S. illegally as children. Members of Congress from both parties are trying to strike a deal that Trump would support to extend that protection.

Durbin said Monday the White House should release whatever recording it might have of the meeting. Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, one of the six senators in the meeting with Trump on Thursday, supported Durbin's account.

As well, Durbin and people who were briefed on the conversation but were not authorized to describe it publicly said Trump also questioned the need to admit more Haitians. They said Trump expressed a preference for immigrants from countries like Norway, which is overwhelmingly white.

Republican Sens. David Perdue of Georgia and Tom Cotton of Arkansas, who also attended, initially said they did not hear Trump utter the word in question, then revised their account to deny he said it at all.

There is some internal West Wing debate over whether Trump said "shithole" or "shithouse." One person who attended the meeting told aides they heard the latter expletive, while others recall the president saying the more widely reported "shithole," according to a person briefed on the meeting but not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

The person believes the discrepancy may be why some Republican senators are denying having heard the president say "shithouse."

Trump has not clarified to aides what he said. The White House has not denied that Trump used a vulgar term, and there appears to be little difference in meaning between the two words.

The reverberations kept coming Monday.

Martin Luther King III, King's elder son, said: "When a president insists that our nation needs more citizens from white states like Norway, I don't even think we need to spend any time even talking about what it says and what it is."

He added, "We got to find a way to work on this man's heart."

A sizeable crowd of expatriate Haitians, waving their country's flag, gathered near the foot of a bridge leading to Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate in Palm Beach, Florida, to jeer at Trump as the motorcade returned from the golf club where the president capped his weekend before returning later Monday to Washington.

The Haitians and their supporters shouted, "Our country is not a shithole," according to video posted by WPEC-TV, and engaged in a shouting match with the pro-Trump demonstrators who typically gather on the other side of the street.

On Sunday, Vice President Mike Pence, who worshipped at a Baptist church in Maryland, listened as the pastor denounced Trump's use of vulgarity.

Maurice Watson, pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church in Largo, called the reported remark "dehumanizing" and "ugly" and said "whoever made such a statement ... is wrong and they ought to be held accountable." Worshippers stood and applauded as Watson spoke.

Durbin said after the Oval Office meeting that Trump's words to the senators were "vile, hate-filled and clearly racial in their content."

A confidant of Trump told The Associated Press that the president spent Thursday evening calling friends and outside advisers to judge their reaction to his remarks. Trump wasn't apologetic and denied he was racist, said the confidant, who wasn't authorized to disclose a private conversation and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Afterward Trump insisted in a tweet that he "never said anything derogatory about Haitians other than Haiti is, obviously, a very poor and troubled country. Never said 'take them out.' Made up by Dems." Trump wrote, "I have a wonderful relationship with Haitians.

The contentious comments came as Durbin was presenting details of a compromise immigration plan that had money for a first installment of the president's long-sought border wall.

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Trump took particular issue with the idea that people who'd fled to the U.S. after disasters hit their homes in places such as El Salvador, Guatemala and Haiti would be allowed to stay as part of the deal, according to the people briefed on the conversation.

When it came to talk of extending protections for Haitians, Durbin said Trump replied, "We don't need more Haitians."

"He said, 'Put me down for wanting more Europeans to come to this country. Why don't we get more people from Norway?" Durbin said.

Word of Trump's comments threatened to upend delicate negotiations over resolving the status of the hundreds of thousands of immigrants who were brought to the country illegally as children. Trump announced last year that he will end the Obama-era program unless lawmakers come up with a solution by March.

Lemire reported from New York City.

Panama Hotel votes to drop Trump _ but his company won't go By JEFF HORWITZ, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — An attempt to oust President Donald Trump's hotel business from managing a luxury hotel in Panama has turned bitter, with accusations of financial misconduct.

Trump Hotels is contesting its firing, and its staff ran off a team of Marriott executives invited last month to visit the property during a search for a new hotel operator, according to two people familiar with the matter.

After the owners' association accused Trump Hotels of mismanagement and financial misconduct in a \$15 million arbitration claim, the company owned by the president fired back with a \$200 million counterclaim and refused to turn over the property's financial records. When a team from Marriott International Inc. came to the property at the invitation of the hotel's majority owner, Trump staff asked them to leave, according to the two people, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss publicly what happened behind the scenes.

The head of Trump Hotels, Eric Danziger, also called Marriott chief executive Arne Sorenson to complain about the visit, the two people said.

Marriott generally steers clear of properties facing ownership and management disputes. But the call from a senior Trump executive to the CEO of Marriott, which manages more than 6,000 hotels, raised the awkward matter of how American companies interact with a business owned by the president.

Marriott, like most major international companies, has significant business and public policy interests before the Trump administration. Federal employees who travel and hold government conferences pay to use its properties, and Marriott has been lobbying the administration and Congress over U.S. tourism, trade and legal restrictions against property ownership in Cuba, disclosures to consumers about resort fees, and other issues.

Trump Organization general counsel Alan Garten said the call was not intended to pressure Marriott.

"We have a great relationship with Marriott," Garten said. "They were appreciative that we let them know that we have a valid contract."

A spokeswoman for Marriott declined to comment.

The matter highlights potential ethics concerns raised by Trump's decision not to divest himself from his businesses, said Larry Noble, head of the Campaign Legal Center, a Washington-based public interest group that studies issues of democracy.

"I don't know if they've got a valid contract or not," Noble said. "But if you're a big company, you'd really have to think twice before getting into a fight with one of the president's companies."

Since Trump took office, Trump hotels in New York and Toronto have quietly reached deals to separate themselves from Trump's brand.

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But the Panama dispute is shaping up as a brawl.

In a letter to fellow owners, the investor leading the hotel owners' board of directors accused Trump Hotels of "gross mismanagement, breaches of contract, conversion and breaches of fiduciary duties." Conversion is a legal term for the misuse of someone else's property for one's own gain.

"Our investment has no future so long as the hotel is managed by an incompetent operator whose brand has been tarnished beyond repair," Orestes Fintiklis, the managing partner of Miami-based Ithaca Capital Partners, wrote in the letter. Trump Hotels, he wrote, "is refusing to maintain its last shreds of dignity and peacefully vacate our property."

Fintiklis did not respond to emails from the AP seeking comment.

Trump Hotels accused Ithaca of deceiving its fellow hotel owners and illegally terminating the Trump contract.

"Unfortunately, it is YOU, the unit owners, who will ultimately be the ones to bear responsibility for the bad acts of Mr. Fintiklis and his cohorts," said Trump Hotels executive vice president Jeff Wagoner in an earlier letter to the owners last week.

Rising 70 stories in the shape of a wind-filled sail, the Trump hotel promised investors a chance to become the part owner of one of Central America's finest hotels. It has struggled to sell units after its completion in 2011. Occupancy rates are low enough that some owners receive no income from their properties and must reach into their own pockets to pay maintenance costs.

The effort to remove Trump hotels from managing the hybrid condo-hotel units on the property began last year, after Ithaca Capital Group purchased 202 unsold hotel units from the building's struggling developer.

After buying the units in August, Ithaca and the other owners voted in November to fire Trump's directors, clearing the way for terminating Trump's contract and the \$15 million arbitration claim against Trump Hotels.

Not all the hotel unit owners were represented at the meeting, but those contacted by The Associated Press support the effort to fire Trump.

"They wanted to remove him quietly," said Al Monstavicius, a retired Nevada doctor who owns a penthouse hotel unit in the building, of Ithaca's efforts. "That didn't work."

Monstavicius said Trump's statements regarding Mexicans and his determination to strip hundreds of thousands of Central Americans of their protection from deportation have made Trump's brand toxic in Panama.

Occupancy in recent days — considered peak high season — has ranged from 26 to 28 percent, according to Trump Hotels figures.

Overbuilding and general weakness in the Panama hotel market have contributed to problems. Trump's team said it was proud of the hotel's financial performance. It told owners Trump's hotel has outperformed its peers for 81 of the last 84 months, but Fintiklis dismissed the claim as "simply delusional."

The hostilities extended to Ithaca's invitation of Marriott executives to the property.

"We were obviously concerned about their presence there," Garten said, adding that he believed Marriott did not know of the circumstances.

The heart of Trump Hotels' claim against the hotel owners is a February 2017 agreement. When it bought 202 units, Ithaca agreed not to act "in any manner adverse to the interests of Trump Hotels." In his letter, Fintiklis acknowledged the language in the agreement but said mismanagement and misconduct by Trump Hotels rendered it invalid.

If the owners in Panama succeed, it won't be the first time that Trump has been ousted there. In 2015, amid the early months of Trump's presidential campaign, the owners of apartments in the same building voted to fire Trump's management company over budget issues and allegations of misspent funds.

Since then, the property's overall finances have improved. Its annual deficits, which exceeded \$1 million, have since turned into a surplus, according to financial documents provided to the AP by an owner.

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Missile-alert error reveals uncertainty about how to react By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER and BRIAN MELLEY, Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — When Jonathan Scheuer got an alert on his phone of a ballistic missile headed for Hawaii, he and his family didn't know what to do. They went to their guest bedroom, then decided it would be safer on the ground floor of their Honolulu home.

"What do we do?" he wondered. "Where do we go?"

People should immediately seek shelter in a building "or other substantial structure," once an attackwarning siren sounds, according to guidance the state distributed previously. The state recommends having 14-day survival kit of food and water.

Residents and tourists alike remained rattled after the mistaken alert was blasted out to cellphones across the islands with a warning to seek immediate shelter and the ominous statement: "This is not a drill."

"Clearly there is a massive gap between letting people know something's coming and having something for them to do," Scheuer said Sunday. "Nobody knew what to do."

Lisa Foxen, a social worker and mother of two young children in east Honolulu, said the best thing to come out of the scare was that it pushed her family to come up with a plan if there is a real threat.

"I kind of was just almost like a deer in headlights," she said. "I knew what to do in a hurricane. I knew what to do in an earthquake. But the missile thing is new to me."

The blunder that caused more than a million people in Hawaii to fear that they were about to be struck by a nuclear missile fed skepticism about the government's ability to keep them informed in a real emergency.

"My confidence in our so-called leaders' ability to disseminate this vital information has certainly been tarnished," said Patrick Day, who sprang from bed when the alert was issued Saturday morning. "I would have to think twice before acting on any future advisory."

The erroneous warning was sent during a shift change at the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency when someone doing a routine test hit the live alert button, state officials said.

That employee has been reassigned to a job without access to the warning system amid an internal investigation, agency spokesman Richard Rapoza said Monday. No other personnel changes have been made, he said.

Officials tried to assure residents there would be no repeat false alarms. The agency changed protocols to require that two people send an alert and made it easier to cancel a false alarm — a process that took nearly 40 minutes.

The error sparked a doomsday panic across the islands known as a laid-back paradise. Parents clutched their children, huddled in bathtubs and said prayers. Students bolted across the University of Hawaii campus to take cover in buildings. Drivers abandoned cars on a highway and took shelter in a tunnel. Others resigned themselves to a fate they could not control and simply waited for the attack.

The 911 system for the island of Oahu was overwhelmed with more than 5,000 calls. There were no major emergencies during the false alarm, Mayor Kirk Caldwell said.

President Donald Trump said Sunday the federal government will "get involved," but didn't release details. An investigation into what went wrong was underway at the Federal Communications Commission, which sets rules for wireless emergency alerts sent by local, state or federal officials to warn of the threat of hurricanes, wildfires, flash flooding and to announce searches for missing children.

The state of Hawaii "did not have reasonable safeguards or process controls in place to prevent the transmission of a false alert," FCC Chairman Ajit Pai said in a statement, calling the mistake "absolutely unacceptable."

"False alerts undermine public confidence in the alerting system and thus reduce their effectiveness during real emergencies," he said.

Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen urged Americans not to lose faith in their government.

"I would hate for anybody not to abide by alerts and warnings coming from government systems," Nielsen said on "Fox News Sunday." 'They can trust government systems. We test them every day. This is a very unfortunate mistake, but these alerts are vital. Seconds and minutes can save lives."

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With mobile phones ubiquitous, wireless alerts can quickly disseminate information to a wide number of users, but there have been concerns about creating a panic if they are sent too broadly.

Authorities were criticized for not sending an alert to mobile phones when fires ripped through Northern California in October, killing 40 people. Officials had decided not to use the system because they couldn't target them precisely enough and feared a wider broadcast would lead to mass evacuations, including people not in danger, snarling traffic that would hamper firefighting and rescues efforts.

Saturday's mistake was not the first for the state's warning system. During a test last month, 12 of the state's 386 sirens played an ambulance siren. In the tourist hub of Waikiki, the sirens were barely audible, prompting officials to add more sirens and reposition ones already in place.

People need to step back from questioning who pushed the button and why and focus on military deescalation, Scheuer said.

The false alarm triggered a broader discussion about national security at a time when North Korea has been flexing its muscles by launching test missiles and bragging about its nuclear capability. Its leader, Kim Jong Un, has also exchanged insults on Twitter with President Donald Trump about their arsenals.

The standoff has whipped up nuclear fears on Hawaii and led the islands to revive Cold War-era sirent tests that drew international attention.

Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, a Hawaii Democrat, said officials should be held accountable for the "epic failure of leadership" behind the warning. She said the nuclear threat underscored the need for Trump to meet with Kim to work out differences without preconditions.

"The people of Hawaii are paying the price now for decades of failed leadership in this country" by setting "unrealistic preconditions," she said. "The leaders of this country need to experience that same visceral understanding of how lives are at stake."

Melley reported from Los Angeles. Tom Strong in Washington contributed to this report.

This story has been corrected to show that Tulsi Gabbard's name was misspelled Tusi.

On King day, Trump mentioned as much as civil rights leader By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr., Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — They had gathered to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr., but many of those who delivered speeches on the national holiday created to honor the slain civil rights leaders focused their remarks on another man: President Donald Trump.

Two of King's children, the pastor of the Atlanta church where King once preached, and the Rev. Al Sharpton were among those on Monday who indicated that the Trump presidency was undermining efforts to ease racial tensions in the U.S. And they sharply criticized disparaging remarks about African countries and Haiti he is said to have made last week.

Trump marked his first Martin Luther King Jr. Day as president buffeted by claims that during the meeting with senators on immigration last Thursday, he questioned why the U.S. is accepting more immigrants from Haiti and "shithole countries" in Africa, when it should be welcoming more people from nations like Norway.

Trump has denied saying "anything derogatory" about Haitians, and said he did not use the vulgar language that has been reported. And his weekly address to the nation, released Monday, was dedicated to King.

"Dr. King's dream is our dream, it is the American dream, it's the promise stitched into the fabric of our nation, etched into the hearts of our people and written into the soul of humankind," he said. "It is the dream of a world where people are judged by who they are, not how they look or where they come from."

His words appeared to do little to assuage the anger of pro-Haiti protesters who gathered down the street from the president's Florida retreat — or soften the criticism unleashed from podiums and pulpits across the nation on what would have been King's 89th birthday.

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"When a president insists that our nation needs more citizens from white states like Norway, I don't even think we need to spend any time even talking about what it says and what it is," King's eldest son, Martin Luther III, said Monday in Washington. "We got to find a way to work on this man's heart."

In Atlanta, King's daughter, the Rev. Bernice King, told hundreds of people who packed the pews of the Ebenezer Baptist Church where her father once preached that they "cannot allow the nations of the world to embrace the words that come from our president as a reflection of the true spirit of America."

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Church pastor the Rev. Raphael Warnock also took issue with Trump's campaign slogan to "Make America Great Again."

Warnock said he thinks America "is already great ... in large measure because of Africa and African people." Down the street Monday from Trump's Mar-a-Lago retreat in Palm Beach, Florida, Haitian protesters and Trump supporters yelled at each other from opposing corners. Trump was staying at the resort for the holiday weekend.

Video posted by WPEC-TV showed several hundred pro-Haiti demonstrators yelling from one side of the street Monday while waving Haitian flags. The Haitians and their supporters shouted "Our country is not a shithole."

The smaller pro-Trump contingent waved American flags and campaign posters and yelled "Trump is making America great again." One man could be seen telling the Haitians to leave the country. Police kept the sides apart.

In New York, the Rev. Al Sharpton and a host of Democratic politicians took aim at Trump in their comments before a crowd of 200 at the National Action Network in Harlem.

"Our outrage, our activism, is more important now than it's ever been," said New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

Associated Press writers Lisa Adams in Atlanta and Terry Spencer in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, contributed to this report.

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Associated Press writers Lisa Adams in Atlanta and Terry Spencer in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, contributed to this report.

Across the Mideast, Palestinians brace for Trump aid cuts By FARES AKRAM, Associated Press

SHATI REFUGEE CAMP, Gaza Strip (AP) — Mahmoud al-Qouqa can't imagine life without the three sacks of flour, cooking oil and other staples he receives from the United Nations every three months.

Living with 25 relatives in a crowded home in this teeming Gaza Strip slum, the meager rations provided by UNRWA, the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugee families, are the last thing keeping his family afloat in the territory hard hit by years of poverty and conflict. But that could be in danger as the U.S., UNRWA's biggest donor, threatens to curtail funding.

"It will be like a disaster and no one can predict what the reaction will be," al-Qouga said.

Across the Middle East, millions of people who depend on UNRWA are bracing for the worst. The expected cut could also add instability to struggling host countries already coping with spillover from other regional crises.

UNRWA was established in the wake of the 1948 Mideast war surrounding Israel's creation. An estimated 700,000 Palestinians fled or were forced from their homes in the fighting.

In the absence of a solution for these refugees, the U.N. General Assembly has repeatedly renewed UNRWA's mandate, the original refugee camps have turned into concrete slums and more than 5 million refugees and their descendants now rely on the agency for services including education, health care and food. The largest populations are in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan and Lebanon.

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Seen by the Palestinians and most of the international community as providing a valuable safety net, UNRWA is viewed far differently by Israel.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accuses the agency of perpetuating the conflict by helping promote an unrealistic dream that these people have the "right of return" to long-lost properties in what is now Israel.

"UNRWA is part of the problem, not part of the solution," he told foreign journalists last week. Noting that the Palestinians are the only group served by a specific refugee agency, he said UNRWA should be abolished and its responsibilities taken over by the main U.N. refugee agency.

Some in Israel have even tougher criticism, accusing UNRWA of teaching hatred of Israel in its classrooms and tolerating or assisting Hamas militants in Gaza.

Blaming the Palestinians for lack of progress in Mideast peace efforts, President Donald Trump has threatened to cut American assistance to the Palestinians. UNRWA would be the first to be affected.

The U.S. provides about \$355 million a year to UNRWA, roughly one-third of its budget.

U.S. officials in Washington said this week the administration is preparing to withhold tens of millions of dollars from the year's first contribution, cutting a planned \$125 million installment by half or perhaps entirely. The decision could come as early as Tuesday.

Matthias Schmale, UNRWA's director in Gaza, said Washington has not informed the agency of any changes. However, "we are worried because of the statements ... in the media and the fact that the money hasn't arrived yet," he said.

Schmale dismissed the Israeli criticisms, saying that individuals who spread incitement or aid militants are isolated cases and promptly punished. And he said Netanyahu's criticism should be directed at the U.N. General Assembly, which sets UNRWA's mandate, not the agency itself.

Any cut in U.S. aid could ripple across the region with potentially unintended consequences.

Gaza may be the most challenging of all of UNRWA's operating areas. Two-thirds of Gaza's 2 million people qualify for services, and its role is amplified given the poor state of the economy, which has been hit hard by three wars with Israel and a Israeli-Egyptian blockade since the Hamas militant group seized power over a decade ago. Unemployment is 43 percent and the poverty rate is 38 percent, according to the official Palestinian statistics office.

"Nowhere else are we the biggest service provider for the population of the entire territory," Schmale said. He said UNRWA provides food assistance to 1 million Gazans, calling it "an expression of collective shame for the international community."

With more than 12,500 teachers, nurses and other staff, UNRWA is Gaza's largest non-governmental employer. It is also involved in postwar reconstruction projects.

The dire situation in Gaza is evident inside al-Qouqa's home, which is so cramped the family has made sleeping spaces with wood boards and fabric. Two male family members are unemployed. Two others are Hamas civil servants and get paid only intermittently by the cash-strapped movement.

At 72, al-Qouqa is worried about his grandchildren. "If UNRWA provides them with bread, they can remain patient. But if it was cut, what will they become? They will become thieves, criminals and a burden on society," he said. Many believe Hamas, which administers schools and social services in Gaza, will step in to fill the void.

Jordan, a crucial ally in the U.S.-led battle against Islamic militants, is home to the largest number of Palestinian refugees and their descendants — with nearly 2.2 million people eligible for UNRWA services. This has turned the U.N. agency into a major contributor to social welfare services in the country, which also hosts hundreds of thousands of Syrians displaced by war.

U.S. aid cuts could heighten the threat of instability in Jordan, which is grappling with a worsening economy hurt by the spillover from conflict in neighboring Syria and Iraq. More than one-third of Jordan's young people are without jobs, turning them into potential targets for recruitment by extremists.

Most of the Palestinians eligible for UNRWA services in Jordan hold Jordanian citizenship, and some argue that this has ended their refugee status. But most maintain that UNRWA services are vital to propping up an important ally.

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UNRWA's services are also vital in Lebanon, where Palestinians are prohibited from working in skilled professions and owning property.

Lebanon is the least-welcoming Arab country to Palestinian refugees, because it does not want Palestinians to settle and because it does not want the refugees to upset the country's delicate sectarian balance. Camps in several cities are ringed by concrete barriers and Lebanese security forces use checkpoints to control who enters and leaves. A recent census found 175,000 Palestinian refugees or their descendants living in the country.

The civil war in Syria has made many Palestinians refugees twice over. Some 32,000 Palestinians who were living in Syria fled to Lebanon, according to UNRWA. In Syria, Palestinians enjoyed the right to own property and to work in all professions. They are not entitled to the same in Lebanon.

Balkees Hameed, 33, arrived in 2013 with her husband, two children and in-laws from Damascus, where their apartment was damaged by rocket fire. The family depends on UNRWA assistance to rent a one-bedroom apartment in a ramshackle building in Bourj al-Barajneh, a Beirut camp. Her husband wipes tables at a restaurant outside the camp. Hameed, like all Palestinians, was painfully aware of the rumors coming out of Washington.

"We are already defeated and now they want to oppress us some more?" she asked.

While more than 5 million Syrian refugees worldwide are entitled to assistance from the U.N.'s general refugee relief agency, Palestinians are barred from it under the logic that UNRWA serves them. But UNRWA in Lebanon is chronically underfunded, and the wave of Palestinians arriving from Syria has strained its finances even further.

"What UNRWA provides is not even a quarter of what a Palestinian refugee needs," said Ramy Mansour, 34, who fled to Lebanon from the Yarmouk refugee camp in Damascus in 2013. "Take everything and return us to our homes. We don't want any assistance or anything, just return us to our country."

Associated Press writers Karin Laub in Amman and Philip Issa in Beirut contributed reporting.

King children criticize Trump, decry racism on MLK holiday By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr., Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Two of Martin Luther King Jr.'s children and the pastor of his historic Atlanta church marked the national King holiday Monday with sharp denunciations of President Donald Trump, focusing on disparaging remarks he is said to have made about African countries and Haitian immigrants. Angry pro-Haiti protesters and Trump supporters yelled at each other from opposite sides of a street near the president's Florida resort.

At gatherings across the nation, activists, residents and teachers honored the late civil rights leader on what would have been his 89th birthday and ahead of the 50th anniversary of his assassination in Memphis, Tennessee. But in the many speeches delivered from pulpits and podiums across the country, Trump's name came up nearly as often as King's, with speakers indicating that his turbulent presidency was undermining efforts to ease racial tensions in the U.S.

The president spent his first Martin Luther King Jr. Day in office buffeted by claims that during a meeting with senators on immigration last week, he used a vulgarity to describe African countries and questioned the need to allow more Haitians into the U.S. He also is said to have asked why the country couldn't have more immigrants from nations like Norway.

In Washington, King's eldest son, Martin Luther King III, criticized Trump, saying, "When a president insists that our nation needs more citizens from white states like Norway, I don't even think we need to spend any time even talking about what it says and what it is."

He added, "We got to find a way to work on this man's heart."

In Atlanta, King's daughter, the Rev. Bernice King, told hundreds of people who packed the pews of the Ebenezer Baptist Church that they "cannot allow the nations of the world to embrace the words that come from our president as a reflection of the true spirit of America."

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Church pastor the Rev. Raphael Warnock also took issue with Trump's campaign slogan to "Make America Great Again."

Warnock said he thinks America "is already great ... in large measure because of Africa and African people." Down the street from Trump's Mar-a-Lago retreat in Palm Beach, Florida, on Monday, Haitian protesters and Trump supporters yelled at each other from opposing corners. Trump was staying at the resort for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend. Video posted by WPEC-TV showed several hundred pro-Haiti demonstrators yelling from one side of the street Monday while waving Haitian flags. The Haitians and their supporters shouted "Our country is not a shithole," referring to comments the president reportedly made. Trump has said that is not the language he used.

The smaller pro-Trump contingent waved American flags and campaign posters and yelled "Trump is making America great again." One man could be seen telling the Haitians to leave the country. Police kept the sides apart.

Trump dedicated his weekly address to the nation, released Monday, to King.

"Dr. King's dream is our dream, it is the American dream, it's the promise stitched into the fabric of our nation, etched into the hearts of our people and written into the soul of humankind," he said in the address, which he tweeted to his followers. "It is the dream of a world where people are judged by who they are, not how they look or where they come from."

The president's remarks appeared not to resonate with the Rev. Al Sharpton, who also used the holiday to take aim at the racial rhetoric Trump is said to have used.

"Trump Tower is in the wrong state," Sharpton told a crowd of 200 at the National Action Network in Harlem. He said it was embarrassing that Trump is from New York. "What we're going to do about Donald Trump is going to be the spirit of Martin Luther King Day," he said.

Associated Press writers Terry Spencer in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Lisa J. Adams in Atlanta, contributed to this report.

Shiver me timbers! New signs pirates liked booty _ and books By MARTHA WAGGONER, Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Dead men tell no tales, but there's new evidence that somebody aboard the pirate Blackbeard's flagship harbored books among the booty.

In an unusual find, researchers have discovered shreds of paper bearing legible printing that somehow survived three centuries underwater on the sunken vessel. And after more than a year of research that ranged as far as Scotland, they managed to identify them as fragments of a book about nautical voyages published in the early 1700s.

Conservators for Blackbeard's ship the Queen Anne's Revenge found the 16 fragments of paper wedged inside the chamber for a breech-loading cannon, with the largest piece being the size of a quarter.

The Queen Anne's Revenge had been a French slave ship when Blackbeard captured it in 1717 and renamed it. The vessel ran aground in Beaufort, in what was then the colony of North Carolina, in June 1718. Volunteers with the Royal Navy killed Blackbeard in Ocracoke Inlet that same year.

Tens of thousands of artifacts have been recovered since Florida-based research firm Intersal Inc. located the shipwreck off the North Carolina coast in 1996 but few, if any, are as surprising as pieces of paper. To find paper in a 300-year-old shipwreck in warm waters is "almost unheard of," said Erik Farrell, a conservator at the QAR Conservation Lab in Greenville.

Eventually, the conservators determined that the words "south" and "fathom" were in the text, suggesting a maritime or navigational book. But one word, Hilo, stood out because it was both capitalized and in italics, said Kimberly Kenyon, also a conservator at the lab.

They turned to Johanna Green, a specialist in the history of printed text at the University of Glasgow, who

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pointed them to the Spanish settlement of Ilo — or Hilo — on the coast of Peru. The fragments eventually were determined to be from a 1712 first edition of a book by Capt. Edward Cooke titled "A Voyage to the South Seas, and Round the World, Peform'd in the years 1708, 1709, 1710 and 1711."

It's impossible to say who aboard Blackbeard's ship would have been reading the voyage narrative — a form popular in England in the 17th and 18th century — or whether it belonged to a pirate or some terrified captive. But some pirates were known to be literate, Kenyon said.

For example, Stede Bonnett, the "gentleman pirate" who joined Blackbeard in 1717, had his own library. It's not known if he brought his books on the Queen Anne's Revenge.

A history of pirates written in 1724 mentions a journal belonging to Blackbeard that was taken when he was killed. And when Blackbeard captured a ship called the Margaret in December 1717, the list of items taken from the ship included books, Farrell said.

"They were literate men," Kenyon said. "People always assume pirates are ruffians from bad backgrounds, and that wasn't always the case."

The survival of the paper fragments is perhaps even more unusual than their existence aboard the pirate vessel.

The chamber in which they were found was a separate piece of a breech-loading swivel gun that was likely kept on the top deck because it was used as an anti-personnel weapon, Farrell said. Conservators don't have the cannon itself, which likely was salvaged or stolen when the Queen Anne's Revenge ran aground. In cannons of that period, "wadding" material such as cloth or paper would usually be stuffed behind a cannonball. So it's also possible someone just tore up the book without reading it to use it for firepower.

Conservators had removed a wooden plug from the chamber so they could clean it when they discovered the paper fragments stuffed in there, along with pieces of fabric in May 2016, Farrell said. That mass was removed easily enough, but prying the fragments from the fabric was more tedious and time-consuming, he said.

The combination of fabric and the plug likely protected the paper, which normally would have disintegrated in water, Farrell said.

But the ability to read doesn't change the evil character of pirates, who ransacked, raped and killed.

"The fact that they're literate doesn't mean they're not terrible, marauding people," Farrell said. "It just adds some nuance."

Follow Martha Waggoner at http://twitter.com/mjwaggonernc

California highway to stay shut another week after mudslides By CHRISTOPHER WEBER, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Crews working around the clock cleared boulders, trees and crushed cars from all lanes of U.S. 101, but California officials said Monday the key coastal highway would remain closed for another week after being inundated during mudslides that killed 20 people.

Much of the water on the highway near the devastated town of Montecito had receded, allowing workers to use bulldozers and other heavy equipment to push away solid debris that was still several feet deep.

"It is not until you can see the damage with your own eyes that you can come to understand the magnitude of the incident, the response that is necessary, but most importantly the impact to the citizens and families of Santa Barbara County," said Jim Shivers, a spokesman for the California Department of Transportation.

The number of people missing in the mudslides was cut to three Monday after a 53-year-old man was found safe. John "Jack" Keating was located in Ventura with his dog Tiny, Santa Barbara County sheriff's spokeswoman Kelly Hoover said.

Keating, a transient, was not in the flood zone during the storm, as was feared, she said.

Those still missing are Faviola Benitez Calderon, 28; John "Jack" Cantin, 17; and 2-year-old Lydia Sutthithepa.

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Officials were aiming to reopen U.S. 101 on Jan. 22, nearly two weeks after it was shut down when lanes became a river of muck, Shivers said.

The mudslides were triggered Jan. 9 by a powerful storm that swept in from the Pacific and dumped a deluge on mountain slopes that had been burned bare by a huge wildfire in December.

Search and rescue operations ended over the weekend, and authorities transitioned to recovery. The move allows officials to release resources that were no longer needed and slow the search to a safer pace, Santa Barbara County Sheriff Bill Brown said.

At least 65 homes were destroyed and more than 460 others were damaged. The name of each victim was read aloud during a vigil Sunday night attended by thousands of people.

"We all know someone who has been affected by this," said Bethany Harris, who brought her two young sons to mourn. "We will heal together."

Crews have made it a priority to clear debris basins and creek canals before another rainstorm hits the area.

Long-range forecasts gave the crews less than a week before the next chance of rain — and potential new mudslides — although the precipitation was expected to be light. Another storm system could move in a few days later.

With U.S. 101 shut down, Amtrak added additional cars to its route between Santa Barbara and points east as travelers increasingly relied on rail service to get around the closure.

With many surface streets also impassable, the only other ground route into the Los Angeles area — located 90 miles (145 kilometers) down the coast — was a series of smaller mountain highways that add more than three hours to the trip.

Follow Weber at https://twitter.com/webercm .

Lifelike robots made in Hong Kong meant to win over humans By KELVIN CHAN, AP Business Writer

HONG KONG (AP) — David Hanson envisions a future in which AI-powered robots evolve to become "super-intelligent genius machines" that might help solve some of mankind's most challenging problems. If only it were as simple as that.

The Texas-born former sculptor at Walt Disney Imagineering and his Hong Kong-based startup Hanson Robotics are combining artificial intelligence with southern China's expertise in toy design, electronics and manufacturing to craft humanoid "social robots" with faces designed to be lifelike and appealing enough to win trust from humans who interact with them.

Hanson, 49, is perhaps best known as the creator of Sophia, a talk show-going robot partly modeled on Audrey Hepburn that he calls his "masterpiece."

Akin to an animated mannequin, she seems as much a product of his background in theatrics as an example of advanced technology.

"You're talking to me right now, which is very 'Blade Runner,' no?" Sophia said during a recent visit to Hanson Robotics' headquarters in a suburban Hong Kong science park, its home since soon after Hanson moved to the city in 2013.

"Do you ever look around you and think, 'Wow I'm living in a real world science fiction novel?" she asked. "Is it weird to be talking to a robot right now?"

Hanson Robotics has made about a dozen copies of Sophia, who like any human is a work in progress. A multinational team of scientists and engineers are fine tuning her appearance and the algorithms that enable her to smile, blink and refine her understanding and communication.

Sophia has moving 3D-printed arms and, with the help of a South Korean robotics company, she's now going mobile. Shuffling slowly on boxy black legs, Sophia made her walking debut in Las Vegas last week at the CES electronics trade show.

Her skin is made of a nanotech material that Hanson invented and dubbed "Frubber," short for flesh-

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rubber, that has a flesh-like bouncy texture. Cameras in her eyes and a 3D sensor in her chest help her to "see," while the processor that serves as her brain combines facial and speech recognition, natural language processing, speech synthesis and a motion control system.

Sophia seems friendly and engaging, despite the unnatural pauses and cadence in her speech. Her predecessors include an Albert Einstein, complete with bushy mustache and white thatch of hair, a robot named Alice whose grimaces run a gamut of emotions and one eerily resembling the late sci-fi author Philip K. Dick, which won an award from the American Association of Artificial Intelligence. They variously leer, blink, smile and even crack jokes.

Disney's venture capital arm is an investor in Hanson, which is building a robot based on one of the entertainment giant's characters.

An artist and robotics scientist, Hanson worked on animatronic theme park shows, sculpting props and characters for Disney attractions like Pooh's Hunny Hunt and Mermaid Lagoon. He studied film, animation and video, eventually earning a doctorate in interactive arts and technology from the University of Texas at Dallas.

Hanson says he makes his robots as human-like as possible to help alleviate fears about robots, artificial intelligence and automation.

That runs contrary to a tendency in the industry to use cute robo-pets or overtly machine-like robots like Star Wars' R2-D2 to avoid the "uncanny valley" problem with human likenesses such as wax models and robots that many people find a bit creepy.

Some experts see Sophia as mainly a clever marketing gimmick.

"It's a good advertising tool, whatever that company produces as a business plan," said Roland Chin, chair professor of computer science at Hong Kong Baptist University.

Global market revenue for service robotics is forecast to grow from \$3.7 billion in 2015 to \$15 billion in 2020, according to IHS Markit. That includes both professional and domestic machines like warehouse automatons, smart vacuums and fuzzy companion robots.

Hanson Robotics is privately owned and has a consumer-oriented business that sells thousands of shoebox-sized \$200 Professor Einstein educational robots a year. Chief Marketing Officer Jeanne Lim says the company is generating revenue but won't say whether it's profitable.

For now, artificial intelligence is best at doing specific tasks. It's another thing entirely for machines to learn a new ability, generalize that knowledge and apply it in different contexts, partly because of the massive amount of computing power needed to process such information so quickly.

"We're really very far from the kind of AI and robotics that you see in movies like 'Blade Runner'," said Pascale Fung, an engineering professor at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. "Sorry to disappoint you."

Unlike toddlers, who use all five senses to learn quickly, machines generally can handle only one type of input at a time, she noted.

While Sophia's repartee can be entertaining, she's easily thrown off topic and her replies, based on open-source software, sometimes miss the mark.

Hanson and other members of his team like Chief Scientist Ben Goertzel have set their sights on a time when the computer chips, processing capacity and other technologies needed for artificial general intelligence could enable Sophia and other robots to fill a variety of uses, such as helping with therapy for autistic children, caring for seniors, and providing customer services.

As for tackling challenging world problems, that's a ways off, Hanson acknowledges.

"There's a certain expression of genius to be able to get up and cross the room and pour yourself a cup of coffee, and robots and AI have not achieved that level of intelligence reliably," Hanson said.

Online:
http://www.hansonrobotics.com/
Follow Kelvin Chan at www.twitter.com/chanmar

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Intel underfoot: Floor sensors rise as retail data source By IVAN MORENO, Associated Press

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The next phase in data collection is right under your feet.

Online clicks give retailers valuable insight into consumer behavior, but what can they learn from footsteps? It's a question Milwaukee-based startup Scanalytics is helping businesses explore with floor sensors that track people's movements.

The sensors can also be used in office buildings to reduce energy costs and in nursing homes to determine when someone falls. But retailers make up the majority of Scanalytics' customers, highlighting one of several efforts brick-and-mortar stores are undertaking to better understand consumer habits and catch up with e-commerce giant Amazon.

Physical stores have been at a disadvantage because they "don't have that granular level of understanding as to where users are entering, what they're doing, what shelves are not doing well, which aisles are not being visited," said Brian Sathianathan, co-founder of Iterate.ai, a small Denver-based company that helps businesses find and test technologies from startups worldwide.

But it's become easier for stores to track customers in recent years. With Wi-Fi — among the earliest available options — businesses can follow people when they connect to a store's internet. One drawback is that not everyone logs on so the sample size is smaller. Another is that it's not possible to tell whether someone is inches or feet away from a product.

Sunglass Hut and fragrance maker Jo Malone use laser and motion sensors to tell when a product is picked up but not bought, and make recommendations for similar items on an interactive display. Companies such as Toronto-based Vendlytics and San Francisco-based Prism use artificial intelligence with video cameras to analyze body motions. That can allow stores to deliver customized coupons to shoppers in real time on a digital shelf or on their cellphones, said Jon Nordmark, CEO of Iterate.ai.

With Scanalytics, Nordmark said, "to have (the sensors) be super useful for someone like a retailer, they may need to power other types of things," like sending coupons to customers.

Scanalytics co-founder and CEO Joe Scanlin said that's what his floor sensors are designed to do. For instance, the sensors read a customer's unique foot compressions to track that person's path to a digital display and how long the person stand in front of it before walking away, he said. Based on data collected over time, the floor sensors can tell a retailer the best time to offer a coupon or change the display before the customer loses interest.

"Something that in the moment will increase their propensity to purchase a product," said Scanlin, 29, who started developing the paper-thin sensors that are 2-square feet (0.19-sq. meters) as a student at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater in 2012. He employs about 20 people.

Wisconsin-based bicycle retailer Wheel and Sprocket uses Scanalytics' sensors — which can be tucked under utility mats — to count the number of customers entering each of its eight stores to help schedule staff.

"That's our biggest variable expense," said co-owner Noel Kegel. "That sort of makes or breaks our profitability."

Kegel wants to eventually have sensors in more areas throughout his stores to measure where customers spend most of their time and what products are popular, but he said it's too expensive right now.

The cost of having the sensors ranges from \$20 to \$1,000 per month, depending on square footage and add-on applications to analyze data or interact with digital signs, Scanlin said. He said he's working with 150 customers in the U.S. and other countries and estimates that about 60 percent are retailers.

The emergence of tracking technologies is bound to raise concerns about privacy and surveillance. But Scanlin noted his sensors don't collect personally identifying information.

Jeffrey Lenon, 47, who was recently shopping at the Shops of Grand Avenue mall in Milwaukee, said he wasn't bothered by the idea of stores tracking foot traffic and buying habits.

"If that's helping the retailer as far as tracking what sells and what no, I think it's a good idea," Lenon said. These technologies have not become ubiquitous in the U.S. yet, but it's only a matter of time, said Ghose

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Anindya, a business professor at New York University's Stern School of Business.

"In a couple of years this kind of conversation will be like part and parcel of everyday life. But I don't think we're there yet," he said.

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A sampling of tracking technologies for traditional stores By The Associated Press

Brick-and-mortar retailers are using different tracking technologies to better understand their customers and keep up with e-commerce giant Amazon. Here is a sampling of the different tracking methods available to stores:

FLOOR SENSORS

Paper-thin tiles developed by Milwaukee-based Scanalytics measure foot compressions to analyze people's movements over time so stores know what products displays draw customers' attention and for how long. That allows businesses to study what sells, know when to schedule staff for busy times, and what store layout is most effective. The technology might still be too pricey for smaller retailers, however.

INTELLIGENT VIDEO CAMERAS

Companies such as Toronto-based Vendlytics and San Francisco-based Prism use artificial intelligence with video cameras to analyze body motions. That can allow stores to deliver customized coupons to shoppers in real-time on a digital shelf or on their cellphones on an app.

MOTION SENSORS

Sunglass Hut and fragrance maker Jo Malone are using laser and motion sensors from Perch Interactive to tell when a product is picked up but not bought. The technology can also make recommendations for similar items on an interactive display.

WI-FI BEACONS

Wi-Fi beacons can track customer movements — as long as they connect to the store's internet. Because not everyone opts in, stores have a smaller sample size to analyze. Another drawback is that it's not possible to tell whether a customer is inches or feet from a product.

Trump has kept many promises during his first year in office By CALVIN WOODWARD and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump often brags that he's done more in his first year in office than any other president. That's a spectacular stretch.

But while he's fallen short on many measures and has a strikingly thin legislative record, Trump has followed through on dozens of his campaign promises, overhauling the country's tax system, changing the U.S. posture abroad and upending the lives of hundreds of thousands of immigrants.

A year in, Trump is no closer to making Mexico pay for a border wall than when he made supporters swoon with that promise at those rollicking campaign rallies of 2016.

He's run into legislative roadblocks — from fellow Republicans, no less — at big moments, which is why the Obama-era health law survives, wounded but still insuring millions. His own administration's sloppy start explains why none of the laws he pledged to sign in his first 100 days came to reality then and why most are still aspirational.

Nevertheless, Trump has nailed the tax overhaul, his only historic legislative accomplishment to date, won confirmation of a conservative Supreme Court justice and other federal judges, and used his executive powers with vigor to slice regulations and pull the U.S. away from international accords he assailed as a candidate.

Courts tied his most provocative actions on immigration and Muslim entry in knots, but illegal border crossings appear to be at historic lows.

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The upshot? For all his rogue tendencies, Trump has shaped up as a largely conventional Republican president when measured by his promises kept and in motion.

The Twitter version of Trump may be jazzed with braggadocio about the size of his (nonexistent) nuclear button and his "very stable genius." But the ledger of actions taken is recognizable to Washington: mainstream Republican tax cuts, pro-business policy (with exceptions on trade), curbs on environmental regulation and an approach to health care that's been in the GOP playbook for years.

That's as of today and this moment. With Trump, you never know about tomorrow.

A look at some of his campaign promises and what's happened with them:

TAXES

Trump and congressional Republicans delivered on an overhaul that substantially lowers corporate taxes and cuts personal income taxes, as promised. It's sizable but not everything Trump said it would be, and it is more tilted to the wealthy than he promised or will admit. He promised a 15 percent tax rate for corporations and settled for 21 percent, still a major drop from 35 percent. He promised three tax brackets; there are still seven. He did not eliminate the estate tax or the alternative minimum tax as he said he would. Fewer people will be subject to those taxes, however, at least temporarily.

"Everybody is getting a tax cut, especially the middle class," he said in the campaign. Most will; some will pay more.

TRADE

Trump made good on his promise to withdraw the U.S. from the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement and to reopen the North American Free Trade Agreement in search of a better deal.

He's let China off the hook, though, on his oft-repeated threat during the campaign to brand Beijing a currency manipulator, a step toward potentially hefty penalties on Chinese imports and a likely spark for a trade war.

"We're like the piggy bank that's being robbed," he said of the trade relationship, which has tipped even more in China's favor since. Trump now threatens trade punishment if China does not sufficiently cooperate in reining in North Korea.

Trump promised to impose a 35 percent tariff on goods from U.S. companies that ship production abroad. He's not delivered on that. Instead, his tax plan aims to encourage companies to stay in the U.S. with the lower tax rate and to entice those operating abroad to come home by letting them repatriate their profits in the U.S. at a temporarily discounted rate. His approach so far is all carrot, no stick.

IMMIGRATION

Candidate Trump rocked the political landscape when he proposed a temporary ban on all non-U.S. Muslims entering the country. While he's long backed away from such talk, Trump has worked since his first days in office to impose new restrictions on tourists and immigrants, signing executive orders that would have made good on his anti-immigration promises had those orders not been blocked by courts.

He's now succeeded in banning the entry of citizens from several Muslim-majority countries and in severely curbing refugee admissions. He's tried to deny certain federal money for cities that refuse to cooperate with federal immigration authorities.

Trump is now deep in negotiations over an immigration deal that could deliver on other promises, including money for the border wall with Mexico and overhauling the legal immigration system to make it harder for immigrants to sponsor their families. That's in exchange for extending protections for hundreds of thousands of young people brought to the country illegally as children. They are protections he once slammed as an "illegal" amnesty and pledged to end.

Mexico still isn't ponying up money for the wall.

ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Trump promised aggressive action on the energy front and has pursued that.

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He announced his intention to take the U.S. out of the Paris climate-change accord. He gave swift approval to the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines stalled by President Barack Obama, moved to shrink protected national monument lands in Utah and Arizona, and acted to lift restrictions on mining coal and coastal drilling for oil and natural gas.

A provision in the new tax law opens the long-protected Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to drilling.

As other countries turn harder toward green energy, Trump is making fossil fuels the centerpiece of his drive toward energy independence — a benchmark that Obama closed in on during an era of surging natural gas development.

HEALTH CARE

Probably nothing exemplifies frustrated ambition more than the Obama health law Republicans have been trying to dismantle ever since it was enacted in 2010. Trump has declared it dead many times — he just never got around to killing it.

He made this overpromise in the campaign: "My first day in office, I'm going to ask Congress to put a bill on my desk getting rid of this disastrous law and replacing it with reforms that expand choice, freedom, affordability. You're going to have such great health care at a tiny fraction of the cost. It's going to be so easy."

That hasn't happened.

Republicans took several runs at repealing and replacing the law last year, only to fall short. The December tax law, though, is knocking out a pillar. As of 2019, the requirement to carry health insurance or pay a fine will be gone.

Trump has come out with a proposed regulation to promote the sale of health plans across state lines. The goal is to make it easier for associations to sponsor plans that are cheaper than Affordable Care Act policies but don't have to meet all consumer protection and benefit requirements of that law.

Insurance industry groups, patient groups and some state regulators are wary of the idea and see little chance it can make more than a dent in the ranks of the uninsured (nearly 30 million). Easing restrictions on the sale of health insurance across state lines has been a longtime mainstream conservative goal.

He also promised to authorize Medicare to negotiate lower prescription drug prices. It hasn't been done.

'AMERICA FIRST' ABROAD

Trump promised swift victory over the Islamic State group. Over the past year, U.S. and coalition-backed local forces in Iraq and Syria did deal a crushing blow to IS, ousting the militants from most of the territory they once held. The success built on the strategy of the Obama administration to work with and through local forces. Trump did relax restrictions on the number of U.S. troops who could be deployed both to Iraq and Syria, and that aided the final push.

U.S. commanders, however, stop short of saying IS is defeated, pointing to remaining militants and fighting in Syria. They also note the group has spawned affiliates in other countries, such as Afghanistan and Yemen, where they routinely attack U.S. forces and allies. While reeling as a territorial force, the IS group has inspired terrorist attacks in the West.

The Pentagon has yet to see the massive increase in military spending that Trump has promised. That still might come, but the protracted struggle to pass a Pentagon budget of whatever size has hurt U.S. military readiness, defense officials say.

More broadly, Trump's "America First" ethic has been reflected in his pressure on member NATO countries to step up their own military spending, in his wariness of international accords and in the seeming drift from a diplomatic tradition of promoting U.S. democratic values abroad.

Past presidents made common cause with authoritarian figures, and their promotion of values could be cursory. But Trump has lavished praise on select strongmen, from the Philippines to China to Russia and beyond.

Despite railing against the Iran nuclear deal as a candidate, Trump has so far passed up opportunities to get the U.S. out of it. On the other hand, he rolled back part of Obama's opening to Cuba. He also moved

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forward on recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, a goal that both parties have embraced in their platforms for decades but never acted on.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Trump pledged a \$1 trillion effort to rebuild the country's airports, roads, bridges and other infrastructure. As with his tax plan, it's shaping up to be less ambitious than promised, though it still might be significant. Placed behind the failed effort to repeal the health law and the successful one to cut taxes, infrastructure may or may not emerge as a proposal in coming weeks. Trump's idea appears to involve using federal tax dollars to leverage state government and private spending, not to mount a New Deal-era explosion of federal projects.

VETERANS

Having previously criticized the Department of Veterans Affairs as the "most corrupt," Trump delivered on one campaign promise by signing legislation to make it easier for VA employees to be fired for misconduct. At least for now, its impact in bringing accountability to the department remains unclear. The pace of VA firings during Obama's last budget year was higher than during Trump's first, which covered the first nine months of his administration.

Other Trump initiatives announced with fanfare in 2017 remain far from complete or have been limited because of questions about rising government costs: a multibillion-dollar overhaul of electronic medical records, expanded access to doctors to reduce wait times and a goal of hiring 1,000 additional mental health counselors in the first year. The VA has been clouded by a 2014 scandal at the Phoenix VA hospital in which employees manipulated records to hide appointment delays.

... AND MORE

Despite his promises, Trump hasn't pushed for a constitutional amendment to impose term limits on Congress members or worked to end birthright citizenship, and he hasn't made good on his pledge to drop "dirty, rotten traitor" Bowe Bergdahl out of an airplane over Afghanistan without a parachute.

Trump, who spends nearly every weekend golfing at one of his properties, most certainly hasn't fulfilled his promise never to take a vacation while serving as president.

Indeed, Trump has visited properties he owns nearly one of every three days he's been in office, raising a tangle of ethical questions about whether he's profiting from his presidency.

THE BIG BOAST

Trump didn't wait for his first 100 days to expire before boasting that his presidential achievements thus far surpassed anything in history, and he hasn't let up since. He's bragged of having signed more than 80 pieces of legislation into law, but there's little of consequence in that pile.

He's signed laws naming federal buildings after people, appointing a Smithsonian Institution regent and other housekeeping steps that all presidents do but tend not to make a fuss about.

In contrast, Obama signed an enormous stimulus package into law in his first month while also achieving a law expanding health care for children and other policy steps.

Then there's Franklin Roosevelt, credited by historians Alan Brinkley and Davis Dyer with achieving "the most concentrated period of U.S. reform in U.S. history," starting immediately with emergency legislation to stabilize the Depression-devastated banking system and setting in place the New Deal with 14 pieces of historic legislation in 100 days.

Associated Press writer Hope Yen contributed to this report.

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Plane dangles off cliff after skidding off runway in Turkey By ZEYNEP BILGINSOY, Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — A commercial airplane that skidded off a runway after landing in northern Turkey dangled precariously Sunday off a muddy cliff with its nose only a few feet from the Black Sea.

Some of the 168 people on board the Boeing 737-800 described it as a "miracle" that everyone was evacuated safely from the plane, which went off a runway at Trabzon Airport.

Images show the aircraft on its belly and perched at an acute angle just above the water. If it had slid any further along the slope, the plane would have likely plunged into the sea in the Turkish province of Trabzon.

Pegasus Airlines said no one was injured during the incident late Saturday, despite the panic among the 162 passengers on board Flight PC8622. The six-member crew, including two pilots, was also evacuated. Flights were suspended at Trabzon Airport for several hours before resuming again Sunday.

Passenger Yuksel Gordu told Turkey's official Anadolu news agency that words weren't enough to describe the fear on the aircraft.

"It's a miracle we escaped. We could have burned, exploded, flown into the sea," Gordu said. "Thank God for this. I feel like I'm going crazy when I think about it."

Another passenger, Fatma Gordu, told private Dogan news agency that there was a loud sound after landing.

"We swerved all of a sudden," she said. "The front of the plane crashed and the back was in the air. Everyone panicked."

Trabzon Gov. Yucel Yavuz said investigators were trying to determine why the plane had left the runway. The prosecutor's office launched an investigation.

The flight originated in the Turkish capital, Ankara.

Airport officials would not discuss the status of plane Sunday and whether it had been towed off the slope.

Today in HistoryBy The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 16, the 16th day of 2018. There are 349 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 16, 1978, NASA named 35 candidates to fly on the space shuttle, including Sally K. Ride, who became America's first woman in space, and Guion S. Bluford Jr., who became America's first black astronaut in space.

On this date:

In 27 B.C., Caesar Augustus was declared the first Emperor of the Roman Empire by the Senate.

In 1547, Ivan IV of Russia (popularly known as "Ivan the Terrible") was crowned Czar.

In 1865, Union Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman decreed that 400,000 acres of land in the South would be divided into 40-acre lots and given to former slaves. (The order, later revoked by President Andrew Johnson, is believed to have inspired the expression, "Forty acres and a mule.")

In 1920, Prohibition began in the United States as the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution took effect, one year to the day after its ratification. (It was later repealed by the 21st Amendment.)

In 1935, fugitive gangster Fred Barker and his mother, Kate "Ma" Barker, were killed in a shootout with the FBI at Lake Weir, Florida.

In 1942, actress Carole Lombard, 33, her mother, Elizabeth, and 20 other people were killed when their plane crashed near Las Vegas, Nevada, while en route to California from a war-bond promotion tour.

In 1957, three B-52's took off from Castle Air Force Base in California on the first non-stop, round-the-world flight by jet planes, which lasted 45 hours and 19 minutes. Classical music conductor Arturo Toscanini died in New York at age 89.

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In 1967, Alan S. Boyd was sworn in as the first U.S. secretary of transportation.

In 1988, Jimmy "The Greek" Snyder was fired as a CBS Sports commentator, one day after telling a reporter for WRC-TV in Washington, D.C. that, during the era of slavery, blacks had been bred to produce stronger offspring.

In 1991, the White House announced the start of Operation Desert Storm to drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait. (Allied forces prevailed on Feb. 28, 1991.)

In 1998, NASA announced that John Glenn, the first American to orbit the Earth, would fly aboard the space shuttle later in the year.

In 2003, the space shuttle Columbia blasted off for what turned out to be its last flight; on board was Israel's first astronaut, Ilan Ramon (ee-LAHN' rah-MOHN'). (The mission ended in tragedy on Feb. 1, when the shuttle broke up during its return descent, killing all seven crew members.)

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush closed out his Mideast trip with a brief visit to Egypt, where he was welcomed by President Hosni Mubarak (HOHS'-nee moo-BAH'-rahk). Archbishop Earl Paulk, the 80-year-old leader of a megachurch, pleaded guilty in Atlanta to lying under oath about his sexual affairs and was sentenced to 10 years' probation. (Paulk died in March 2009.)

Five years ago: President Barack Obama unveiled the most sweeping proposals for curbing gun violence in two decades, pressing a reluctant Congress to pass universal background checks and bans on military-style assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition magazines like the ones used in the Newtown, Connecticut, school shooting. (Both proposals went down to defeat.) The federal government temporarily grounded Boeing's newest and most technologically advanced jetliner, declaring that U.S. carriers could not fly the 787 Dreamliner again until the risk of battery fires was addressed. (The grounding order was lifted three months later.) Pauline Friedman Phillips, better known as advice columnist Dear Abby, died in Minneapolis at age 94.

One year ago: Turkish authorities captured an Uzbek national suspected of killing 39 people during an attack on an Istanbul nightclub during New Year's celebrations. A shooting attack at an electronic music festival in Mexico's Caribbean coastal resort of Playa del Carmen left five people dead, including three foreigners. President Barack Obama, his days in office dwindling, celebrated the World Series champion Chicago Cubs at the White House. Former NASA astronaut Eugene Cernan, to date the last man to walk on the moon, died in Houston at age 82.

Today's Birthdays: Author William Kennedy is 90. Author-editor Norman Podhoretz is 88. Opera singer Marilyn Horne is 84. Hall of Fame auto racer A.J. Foyt is 83. Singer Barbara Lynn is 76. Country singer Ronnie Milsap is 75. Singer Katherine Anderson Schaffner (The Marvelettes) is 74. Country singer Jim Stafford is 74. Talk show host Dr. Laura Schlessinger is 71. Movie director John Carpenter is 70. Actress-dancer-choreographer Debbie Allen is 68. Rhythm-and-blues singer Maxine Jones (En Vogue) is 59. Singer Sade (shah-DAY') is 59. Pop/rock singer-songwriter Jill Sobule is 59. Rock musician Paul Webb (Talk Talk) is 56. Actor David Chokachi (CHOH'-kuh-chee) is 50. Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta is 49. Actor-writer-director Josh Evans is 47. Actor-comedian Jonathan Mangum is 47. Actor Richard T. Jones is 46. Actress Josie Davis is 45. Model Kate Moss is 44. Actor-playwright Lin-Manuel Miranda is 38. Country musician James Young (The Eli Young Band) is 38. Rock musician Nick Valensi (The Strokes) is 37. Actress Renee Felice Smith is 33. NFL quaterback Joe Flacco is 33. Actress Yvonne Zima is 29.

Thought for Today: "Goodwill is the only asset that competition cannot undersell or destroy." — Marshall Field, department store founder (1834-1906).

Riddle Answer: Silence