

Groton Daily Independent

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“If you put yourself in a position where you have to stretch outside your comfort zone, then you are forced to expand your consciousness.”

-Les Brown

Riddle:

What is always coming but never arrives?

Answer at end of AP News

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Today's Events

Girls' Basketball at Northwestern: C game at 5:15 p.m. followed by junior varsity and then the varsity game.

Junior High Boys' Basketball hosts Redfield-Doland with 7th grade at 6 p.m. and 8th grade at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Boys' Basketball hosts Langford Area with 7th grade game at 5 p.m., junior varsity at 6:30 p.m. followed by the varsity game.

Thursday, Feb. 1

Boys' Basketball at Tiospa Zina: C game at 5:15 p.m. followed by the junior varsity game and then the varsity game.

Friday, Feb. 2

Girls' Basketball hosts Tiospa Zina: Junior varsity game at 6:30 p.m. followed by the varsity game.

Saturday, Feb. 3

MathCounts at SDSU
Robotics at Chamberlain High School
Wrestling at Stanley County, 10 a.m.
GBB at Madison. NEC vs. DAK12 Classic. 2:15 p.m.: Groton Area vs. Sioux Falls Christian in the auxiliary gym.

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Jasmine Schinkel, daughter of Marjae and Dan Schinkel, was crowned the 2018 Carnival of Silver Skates Queen.

Weekly Vikings Roundup: Pro Bowl Edition

By Jordan Wright

The Minnesota Vikings' season might be over, but there were some players who were able to extend their season one more week by playing in the Pro Bowl. The NFL Pro Bowl was played on Sunday, January 28 in Orlando, Florida and featured five Vikings players: Linval Joseph, Xavier Rhodes, Kyle Rudolph, Harrison Smith, and Adam Thielen. Two others – Anthony Barr and Everson Griffen – were selected to the Pro Bowl but didn't attend because of injury reasons.

The Pro Bowl is filled with all star players who do everything they can to avoid injury – which would cost them millions in missed salary – so the game is usually slow paced and lacking in action. Last year, 7.4 million people tuned in to the game making it by far the most viewed program on cable. However, that number is significantly lower when compared to the viewership during the season (the playoffs this season averaged 30.7 million people per game). So, if you are one of the millions who elected to forgo the game, fear not, because I watched it from whistle to whistle and am here to tell you how the players from your favorite team did!

The AFC beat the NFC 24-23, which resulted in a player from that team being named Pro Bowl MVP, but if the NFC had won there is a good chance a Viking would have taken home the honor. Adam Thielen scored the first touchdown (and only NFC receiving touchdown) of the game on a pass thrown from Drew Brees, and he finished with 3 catches for 25 yards – good for fourth best on the team. This was Thielen's first Pro Bowl

The second touchdown of the game was also by a Viking, but it wasn't Thielen or Rudolph. It was safety Harrison Smith, who intercepted a Ben Roethlisberger pass and returned it 79-yards for the score (the longest pick-six in Pro Bowl history). Smith finished the game with two pass breakups to go along with the INT and was a force to be reckoned with – probably because he was still mad he was only playing in the Pro Bowl as an alternate. This was Smith's third Pro Bowl, and I'm sure it won't be his last.

Kyle Rudolph led the NFC in receptions and receiving yards (7 catches 70 yards), making a case that he should have won his second Pro Bowl MVP award. When Rudolph won the Pro Bowl MVP in 2013, he caught 5 catches for 122 yards and a touchdown. His stats weren't nearly as great this year, obviously, but it's still impressive that he led the team in both receiving categories. This was Rudolph's second Pro Bowl.

Xavier Rhodes seemed to be in his element, going against the best receivers in the NFL. Rhodes finished the game with four tackles and one very impressive pass breakup against Antonio Brown. I was surprised to see Rhodes play in his second Pro Bowl, but then again, he is the ultimate competitor and certainly didn't want to turn down the opportunity to get into opposing receiver's heads.

Linval Joseph played a good amount in the game, but the Pro Bowl is not designed for defensive linemen to thrive. He was only credited with one tackle, but he laid a big hit in the first quarter which was his way of saying he wasn't going to be taking it easy on anybody. This was also Linval's second Pro Bowl.

It's a shame Everson Griffen couldn't play in the Pro Bowl, because he always seems to have so much fun when he's there. Anthony Barr would have been fun to watch as well, since he really plays better when going against the best of the best. Both Griffen and Barr were elected to their third Pro Bowl.

Have any questions or comments? Reach out to me on Facebook ([facebook.com/SkolJWright](https://www.facebook.com/SkolJWright)) or on Twitter (@SkolJWright)

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Lana's Annals

**Lana
Greenfield
District 2
State
Representative**

Another week has come and gone in our capitol. We have seen very few bills in my local government committee so far, but that is going to change this week. I have been hearing from many people about HB1092, which addresses what is seen as forcible annexation into a city. I will be listening carefully to testimony when this comes before us. This week also my commerce committee will be looking at HB1070; this is a 60+ page bill addressing alcohol laws.

On the House floor, we passed HB1058, removing the requirement for the superintendent of the South Dakota School for the Visually Handicapped to be proficient in sign language. Our current superintendent will be retiring soon, and while she is

versed in sign language, it is the consensus that the possible pool of qualified candidates would be very small if mandating proficiency and licensure in sign language. Understand; this bill has nothing to do with dropping qualified, licensed instructors from the program. Rather it is about listening qualifications for hiring. This bill passed.

HB1081 was another debated bill. It calls for expanding the sunset clause to 2021 on the non-meandered water issue. An amendment was introduced by Rep. Hawley asking for the sunset clause to be lifted. We passed the amendment and then the bill. Now it gets sent to the Senate to see what the consensus is there.

HB1100, introduced by Rep. Wismer, would require not only a written name but also a printed name to verify what the actual name is. It was pointed out how easy it is to get a fraudulent name on a piece of legislation. This bill passed resoundingly in the House.

HB1093 is a bill allowing insurance policies to be written other languages other than English. I was concerned about the cost to the company, and if the cost would passed along to all of the customers. The response was that cost will be a factor. I was not sure this was a necessary bill. I doubt that South Dakota DMV offers such a service when taking the driving test. I realize, however, that insurance companies have to put protections in place to avoid misunderstandings which could create lawsuits. In fact that is why laws are made in many cases. As it will cost a lot of money to do so, I also worry about large companies being able to do this while small companies cannot.

HJR (house joint resolution) addresses legislative salary. It calls for a Constitutional Amendment to amend our pay to one-fifth the median income. Understand this: the legislature has not had a raise in salary for 20 years. Prior to this, members have raised their own salaries. We are paid 6000 dollars per year plus a per diem which is used for lodging and food. Actually, this would not go into effect until 2020 if passed. This passed overwhelmingly in the House and will be sent to the chamber.

Those were some highlights on legislation in the House for the week. Please get in touch with questions or comments you have about any legislation forthcoming. I hope you have a wonderful, productive week.

Sincerely, Rep. Lana Greenfield

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)



Yesterday was not one of my more glamorous moments in GDLIVE.COM history. It just proves that our technology remains undependable.

I got all my equipment set up ready for livestreaming the Carnival of Sliver Skates. I didn't even look at the signal strength - it has always been five bars in town.

I started the test stream just to make sure it works, as I always do. My speed was pathetic at

best. I looked at my equipment trying to figure out what was wrong. Then I looked at the signal strength. Two bars. What?! Two bars?! How is that possible with the cell tower just half a mile away and in line of site?

Well, we did attempt to livestream it even at reduced speed, but it was hopeless. In addition, during the afternoon performance, the FM radio was not working; thus, we couldn't hear anything either.

I recorded the afternoon performance. After the performance, I went into the skating house to find out what was wrong with the sound. Cody Hanten and I dug into the wiring and we ended up finding that the wrong wire was hooked into FM transmitter. All was well now.

I got back home and uploaded the afternoon performance. I was not happy at all with the recording, so I decided to go back and try it again in the evening performance. It was actually the first time I had ever been to the night performance. It was actually awesome. The costumes were brilliant and bright. The sound was great. I parked at a different angle and used the remote control for zooming purposes. I was happy with the evening recording. I got back home and uploaded them as well.

All I can say is that we try our best and sometimes, things happen that are beyond our control.



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Today in Weather History

January 29, 2008: Arctic air combined with strong northwest winds of 20 to 40 mph to bring extreme wind chills to much of north central and northeast South Dakota. The extreme wind chills began in the morning hours of January 29th across all of the area. The wind chills improved across north central South Dakota by the evening and improved across northeast South Dakota during the morning hours of January 30th. The extreme wind chills ranged from 35 to 50 degrees below zero across the area. The extreme cold caused school delays and activity cancellations along with much discomfort to people and livestock. On Monday January 28th, the day before the extreme cold, a southerly flow brought very mild temperatures with some record highs set at several locations. Highs were in the 40s to the mid-50s across central and northeast South Dakota. When the Arctic front came through on January 28th, temperatures fell dramatically through the evening and early morning with below zero temperatures by Tuesday morning, January 29th. In fact, most locations across the area had a 40 to 55 degree temperature change from the 28th to the 29th.

1921: A small but intense windstorm resulted in the "Great Olympic Blowdown" in the Pacific Northwest. Hurricane force winds, funneled along the mountains, downed vast expanses of Douglas fir trees, and the storm destroyed eight billion board feet of timber. Winds at North Head WA gusted to 113 mph. On January 31, 1921, the International News Services reported from Aberdeen, Washington, "It is reported that thousands of dollars in damage was done to buildings and storms in Aberdeen and Hoquiam. The wind velocity was estimated at from 125 to 150 miles an hour. Four steel smokestack reaching almost 200 feet into the air were the first to collapse before the terrific onslaught of the gale. The giant chimneys crashed down on dwellings crushing them like houses of cardboard." Click [HERE](#) for more information from the Office of the Washington State Climatologist.








1947: On this date through the 30th, a fierce winter storm buried southern Wisconsin under two feet of snow. Strong northeasterly winds piled drifts up to 10 feet high in the Milwaukee area, shutting down the city for two days.

2002: A major three-day winter storm blasted parts of Kansas and Missouri. A catastrophic ice storm occurred south of the snow area, with two inches of ice and snow accumulating in the Kansas City, Missouri area. Thousands of trees were felled by the storm, blocking roads, felling utility lines and causing fires. Two "Bicentennial Trees" which were estimated at being over 200 years old were badly damaged from this storm. After the 31st, 325,000 people were reportedly without power in Kansas City alone. Click [HERE](#) for picture of this winter storm from Fox4kc.com.

2008: A sharp cold front moved across Illinois during the day, producing a drastic temperature drop. Temperatures fell 20 to 40 degrees in just a couple hours, with areas from Springfield, Illinois to St. Louis, Missouri seeing temperatures fall as much as 50 degrees between noon and 6 pm. Temperatures in the mid-60s in central Illinois at midday on the 29th had fallen to near zero by the next morning.

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Mon Jan 29	Tue Jan 30	Wed Jan 31	Thu Feb 1	Fri Feb 2	Sat Feb 3	Sun Feb 4
						
19°F 12°F	38°F 22°F	32°F -1°F	12°F -3°F	22°F 2°F	14°F -4°F	12°F -7°F
SE 6 MPH	SSE 18 MPH Precip 10%	W 22 MPH	NNW 11 MPH	S 7 MPH Precip 10%	NNE 10 MPH Precip 40%	NW 10 MPH Precip 20%

**Continued Chilly Today
Highs: Teens and 20s**

**Tuesday – Breezy & Mild
Highs: 30s & 40s**



www.weather.gov/abr

GRAPHIC CREATED:
1/29/2018 4:43 AM

Published on: 01/29/2018 at 4:53AM

We will continue to see chilly temperatures today with a mix of sun and clouds. Mild air will make a brief return to the region Tuesday with some breezy winds, but this will be short lived as temperatures start falling Wednesday. Not much moisture is in the forecast either.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 12.8 F at 12:00 AM

Low Outside Temp: 1.2 F at 11:15 PM

Wind Chill: -

High Gust: 18.0 Mph at 12:11 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 58° in 1931

Record Low: -32° in 1951

Average High: 24°F

Average Low: 2°F

Average Precip in Jan: 0.44

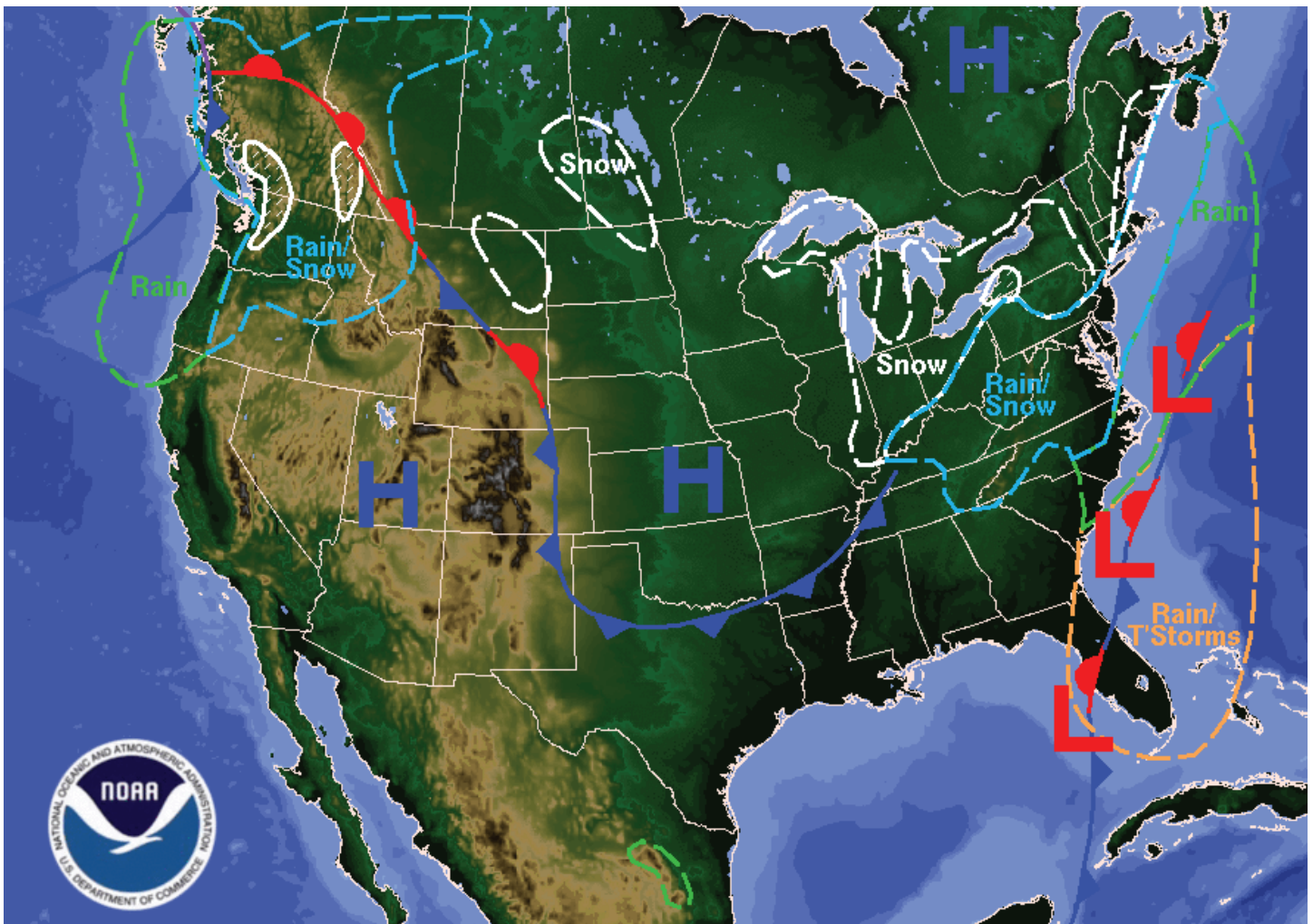
Precip to date in Jan: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 0.44

Precip Year to Date: 0.00

Sunset Tonight: 5:36 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:56 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Mon, Jan 29, 2018, issued 3:45 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

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

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A BIRTH CERTIFICATE FROM GOD

Not long ago I lost my billfold and all of its contents. It was simple to call the bank that issued me my credit card and ask them to cancel it. But when I went to get a new driver's license it took much more than a phone call. I had to produce three different documents – including my birth certificate. Fortunately, I was able to locate them with no difficulty. However our birth certificate is the most important of all when it comes to proving our identity.

But a birth certificate that says we are heaven-born and heaven-bound is certainly the most important. In Psalm 87:6 we read that "The Lord will write in the register of the peoples this one was born in Zion" – referring to the community of believers – which for us is Heaven.

One night after dark a religious leader named Nicodemus went to visit Jesus. As their conversation unfolded Jesus said, "No one can see the Kingdom of God unless he is born again."

"Nicodemus," Jesus said, "your earthly birth record will not allow you to enter heaven. You need a birth certificate that has been issued by God!"

At birth, we are born into an "earthly family" because we have an "earthly father." However, when we accept Christ as our Savior, we are born a "second time" – we are "born again" – and God becomes our "Heavenly Father." Then we become a member of God's family and enjoy the benefits and blessings of God as our Heavenly Father. Jesus said, "I am the WAY" – the only way there is – to be born again and have the honor of calling God our Heavenly Father.

Prayer: Thank You, Lord, for inviting us into Your Kingdom. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 87:6 The Lord will record, When He registers the peoples: "This one was born there."

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2018 Groton SD Community Events

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

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

News from the Associated Press

Lamb Chop Ministry feeds Rapid City residents in need

By TANYA MANUS, Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Lea Patterson vividly remembers days when her children were young and food and money were in short supply. Sometimes, Patterson would drink a cup of hot water, tell her children she wasn't hungry and give them the last food in the house.

It's an experience she wants to spare other families from encountering. Patterson now oversees Lamb Chop Ministries, which serves working families and people on fixed incomes who struggle to make ends meet.

Lamb Chop Ministries is an outreach program of Freedom Motorcycle Church in Rapid City. Patterson, 71, has run the program for four years. Every month, it assists as many as 20 families and individuals by providing fresh and canned food for at least three meals. Currently, most families who turn to Lamb Chop have pre-teen and teenage children. The ministry also serves an increasing number of single elderly or disabled adults who, too often, choose between spending their Social Security income on medicine or food, Patterson said.

"It's kind of word of mouth. ... They call me, and I find out how many people are in the family. ... I make sure you've got enough food to get you through a few days until you get your paycheck or your Social Security," she said.

The food boxes vary depending on each individual's or family's needs but typically include milk, eggs, bread, butter, meat, lunch meat, canned vegetables, potatoes, fresh fruit and vegetables, tuna and soup.

An avid home cook and former caterer, Patterson sometimes provides simple, hearty recipes for recipients with limited cooking skills.

"I'll give them two pounds of hamburger and say, 'You can make a really good hamburger gravy with mashed potatoes and vegetables and a salad,' and I give them all that stuff to make a meal, so they have a complete meal," Patterson said. "I like to make sure there isn't a lot of non-healthy foods."

Lamb Chop Ministries obtains meat, bread and sometimes other food from Feeding South Dakota, the Rapid City Journal reported. However, the ministry relies heavily on donations of food and money year-round, said Linda Hilgemann, associate pastor of Freedom Motorcycle Church. Her husband, Brett Hilgemann, is the lead pastor. The church provides a designated room stocked with two freezers and shelving where meat and canned goods for Lamb Chop Ministries are stored.

Freedom Motorcycle Church members have a passion for giving to the community and actively contribute to Lamb Chop Ministries, Hilgemann said. Community support helps as well. Requests for food rise at Easter, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas, Patterson said. In November, Patterson's insurance agent, Doug Markworth Jr., and his wife, Shelby, bought turkeys, yams, stuffing and pies so Lamb Chop Ministries could provide Thanksgiving dinner for 68 people in 16 families.

Patterson empathizes with the people she helps. For three years after she and her husband divorced, Patterson was a single working mother who was going to school and raising two children. Those were the years she sometimes went without food so her children could eat.

"I was working two jobs, and I just didn't have enough to feed my kids," Patterson said. "I understand what it's like to work and not have enough."

According to the National Center for Children in Poverty, 38 percent of families in South Dakota are considered low income; 17 percent of those are considered poor, having an income lower than the poverty threshold. In 2017, the federal poverty threshold for a family of four with two children was \$24,600.

A family that runs out of money — and potentially food — before their next paycheck arrives is considered "food insecure," meaning their access to nutritious food is limited or uncertain. They might be able to feed themselves and their families adequately sometimes, but not all the time. And according to Feeding South Dakota, individuals and families who suffer from food insecurity don't always meet the requirements for

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state or federal programs that could assist them.

Lamb Chop Ministries helps bridge the gap for people in need who perhaps can't or won't seek help elsewhere. The community has services to help the homeless, Patterson said, but other people in the area who face food insecurity can be harder to reach.

"People are proud here, and I understand that. Word gets around, and I have people that call me," Patterson said. "The dynamics here in the Hills are different. People are more self-sufficient. They're not as visibly needy, and it's harder to feed people here. ... So many elderly can't get around, and they're too proud to say anything."

Lamb Chop Ministries, like many charitable programs, sees a drop in donations in January after the holidays are over. Patterson welcomes donations, especially of food. "I would rather have canned goods or meat than money," she said.

Chicken, roasts, hamburger, ham steaks, lunch meat and even venison that can be frozen can be donated. Canned goods also are needed, including canned fruit in light or unsweetened syrup, Spam, tuna, vegetables, soups, spaghetti sauce and ravioli. To donate food, or if you need food, contact Freedom Motorcycle Church or Lamb Chop Ministries' Facebook page.

The Hilgemanns said Patterson embodies the joy of the Lord when she has the opportunity to give away food.

"She just gets so happy. She's an example to all of us on giving," Linda Hilgemann said. "She just makes things happen. She's always unloading food or packing food up. But because it's such a passion, she's just constantly moving the food through."

For Patterson, who also volunteers at Meals on Wheels, making sure people are well-fed is simply fun. "The Lord has really blessed it. I love it because it's more fun to give than anything else," she said, laughing.

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

Mitchell organization offers a teen center for 20 years

By SARA BERTSCH, The Daily Republic

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — "Welcome to level two," a voice rang out as a group of eight teenagers cheered and high-fived their quick success.

The group had just begun an escape room four minutes earlier inside of That Place for Teens at Mitchell's Life Church on Mitchell's Main Street. And though they had an hour to complete their multi-level challenge, tension filled the air of the closed off space.

But tensions quickly turned into laughter as the eight teens moved on to solve the next level. They would have at least 10 more before winning.

The escape room is one of two held at That Place for Teens — an organization in Mitchell that creates a hangout spot for area teenagers on Friday nights. The escape room, called "Gamer's Gold," opened two weeks ago and serves as a fundraiser for the group.

"The goal isn't so much as to raise funds with this but get people into the building who've never seen it before," said Bill Parks, pastor of Mitchell's Life Church. "People come in because they know what escape rooms are about, but they get to see who we are as a teen center and as a church and why it is that we would do something like this."

That Place for Teens began 20 years ago, and is always open Friday nights as a free drop-in center from 7 to 11 p.m. for children in seventh to 12th grades.

Walking inside the large building on Main Street, visitors are greeted by several TVs, a concession-like area, free-play game tables, booths and board games, a stage decked out with a sound and light system, a resource library and everything a teen might need, Parks said.

But it was last fall that the group decided to try something new. In October 2016, That Place opened its first escape room called "The Portico Paradox." An escape room varies from place to place, but provides players with a series of puzzles and riddles to complete in order to escape the room within a set time limit.

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And the idea behind the escape room — providing an outlet for teens to make friends and have fun — defines That Place.

"I wouldn't give my Fridays up for 20 years of my life if I didn't love doing what we're doing," Parks said.

The center began two decades ago when the city was concerned with local teenagers hanging out in parking lots, the Daily Republic reported. Officials held meetings to form a teen center, Parks said, and seeing the initiative "go nowhere," he and a couple of people with the Life Church decided to form the center downtown.

Unsure of what to call the new teen center, they held a contest to name it. On top of the other "goofy names" submitted, the group decided to go with "That Place for Teens."

All volunteer-run, the hours for the center are limited to Friday nights. And to book an appointment for the escape room, "Gamer's Gold," interested parties can go online to thatplaceforteens.org.

And for any teens interested in the center, they are welcome to stop by any Friday night from 7 to 11 p.m., Parks said. The free night welcomes all, and it has seen children stop by from all over South Dakota, including Rapid City and Sioux Falls.

Parks has hoped the center has encouraged others to be more welcoming, he said.

"We wouldn't need places like this if more families said 'Here, come hangout with us.' It'd be a lot easier to maintain a facility like this. Everything costs money. Finding volunteers and adult workers is hard," Parks said. "But anybody's welcome. It's a safe place."

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

Salt, the solution to winter's dangers, threatens US waters

By MICHAEL CASEY, Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — When roads turn into ice rinks, consider trying beet juice, molasses, and even beer or cheese waste to make them safer. So say experts who fear road salt is starting to take a toll on the nation's waterways, putting everything from fish and frogs to microscopic zooplankton at risk.

Tossed onto sidewalks and dumped onto highways, salt for decades has provided the cheapest and most effective way to cut down on traffic accidents and pedestrian falls during winter storms. But researchers cite mounting evidence that those tons of sodium chloride crystals — more than 20 million nationwide each year — are increasing the salinity of hundreds of lakes, especially in the Northeast and Midwest.

"There has been a sense of alarm on the impacts of road salt on organisms and ecosystems," said Victoria Kelly, a road salt expert at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in New York. "We've seen increasing concentrations in river water, lakes, streams. Then, scientists started asking the question: What is going to happen to the organisms living in freshwater bodies and what will happen to the freshwater bodies as a whole?"

Believed to be first used in the 1940s in New Hampshire, salt became the go-to de-icing agent as cities expanded, highways were built and motorists came to expect clear roads. More than a million truckloads a year are deployed in ice-prone climes, most heavily in the Northeast and Midwest.

But many state and local agencies are seeking ways to reduce salt use as its environmental impacts are becoming more apparent.

They have turned to high-tech equipment to spread salt more efficiently, better weather forecasting to time their salting, and liquefied organic additives that help salt stick to pavement. That reduces salt use by preventing it from washing away immediately.

Agencies from New Jersey to North Dakota are using a mixture that includes beet juice; New Hampshire and Maine use one with molasses. Highway departments also have turned to beer waste, pickle brine and, in at least one Wisconsin county, cheese brine.

"Adding salt to the environment does have negative impacts, but for those of us in the Northeast, especially in rural states, where driving is the predominant way of getting around, we need mobility," said Jonathan Rubin, director of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and lead author on a 2010 report on

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the cost and benefits of salting Maine roads.

"In my opinion, we are always going to be using some degree of road salt," he said. "The question is, can we use less?"

Salt corrosion already causes billions of dollars in damage each year to cars, roads and bridges — and now there are growing signs it's making freshwater ecosystems saltier. In the past 50 years, chloride concentrations in some lakes and rivers quadrupled and, in a few, increased a hundredfold.

Last year, a study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences concluded that more than 40 percent of 327 lakes examined had experienced long-term salinization, and that thousands more were at a risk. Researchers also estimated nearly 50 lakes in the study, including small ones in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Rhode Island, could surpass the Environmental Protection Agency's chloride threshold concentration by 2050, potentially harming aquatic life.

Experiments at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute aquatic lab in Troy, New York, have found that higher salt concentrations reduced growth rates in rainbow trout and decreased the abundance of zooplankton 7/8— tiny animals or larvae that are critical to the aquatic food chain and play a role in keeping lakes and streams clean.

Other studies have shown that salinization of lakes and streams reduces the numbers of fish and amphibians, kills off plants, and alters the diversity of these freshwater ecosystems.

"At high road salt concentrations, you can see reductions in growth, reduction in the diversity of species within a system and you can also see effects on reproduction of certain species," said William Hintz, of Rensselaer Polytechnic.

Despite such environmental concerns, Caleb Dobbins, New Hampshire's highway maintenance engineer, doesn't envision salt being replaced anytime soon by substitutes, such as magnesium acetate, which he says are 30 times more expensive and have their own environmental challenges.

"Everybody is looking throughout the world," he said. "Nobody is finding that silver bullet."

Crews contain fire at Bear Butte State Park in South Dakota

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — Crews have contained a grass fire on the north side of Bear Butte State Park in southwestern South Dakota.

The fire was fully contained early Sunday. At last report the fire had grown to 150 acres (61 hectares), but the final size is to be determined.

Local, state and federal firefighters responded. Gusty winds helped spread the fire.

No structures were endangered and no injuries reported. No one had to be evacuated. Crews will continue mopping up the fire for at least the next few days.

Bear Butte State Park is located six miles (10 kilometers) northeast of Sturgis. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

Lawmakers to debate concealed guns, drug-testing themselves

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota lawmakers this week are set to debate bills on concealed handguns, paid sick leave for workers and drug-testing themselves.

Here's a look at the agenda when legislators return to the Capitol on Tuesday:

CONSTITUTIONAL CARRY

Permitless concealed carry is back, but unlikely to become law. Senate Bill 104 would allow people who can legally carry a concealed handgun in South Dakota to do so without a permit. It's scheduled to be debated Tuesday in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Republican Gov. Dennis Daugaard vetoed a similar bill last year, saying that the state's permit process is simple and straightforward.

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SICK LEAVE, WAGES

Some businesses would be required to provide paid sick leave for employees under a measure to be taken up Tuesday in the Senate Commerce and Energy Committee. Senate Bill 120 would mandate that private businesses with 50 or more full-time employees allow workers to earn at least one hour of sick leave for every 30 hours worked, up to 48 hours per year.

The committee also is to consider Senate Bill 121, which would bar employers from seeking out the salary history of prospective employees. Democratic Sen. Reynold Nesiba, the main sponsor of both bills, said South Dakota needs more worker-friendly policies to attract and retain workers and promote wage growth.

DRUGS & ALCOHOL

A bill that would require all state legislators to be drug-tested goes before the House State Affairs Committee on Wednesday. House Bill 1133 would mandate members be tested within two weeks of getting sworn into office and two weeks of legislative session's end. It's sure to be an interesting discussion — and vote — for lawmakers.

The panel is also scheduled to discuss House Bill 1132, which would allow bars and retailers to serve alcohol to 18-year-old active duty, reserve and National Guard service members who show valid military identification cards. Rep. Tim Goodwin, the sponsor, has said that if someone is willing to fight and die for their country, they should be treated as an adult.

Current federal law, passed in 1984, says any state with a drinking age lower than 21 can lose 8 percent of federal highway funding.

CAMPUS FREE SPEECH

Republican Rep. Michael Clark said he hopes his bill about free speech on college campuses gets a hearing Friday. Supporters of House Bill 1073, including South Dakota College Republicans, say universities should be places where debate is open and free. It's slotted to be discussed in the House Judiciary Committee.

The bill dictates that any outdoor area on public college campuses is a public forum. It would also require institutions to make sure that staff — such as faculty, administrators and campus police — understand the proposed law.

Mike Rush, state Board of Regents executive director and CEO, said the legislation is unnecessary.

South Dakota city raises \$2.1M for new hospital in 6 months

EUREKA, S.D. (AP) — A \$1 million campaign to fund a new hospital in South Dakota has raised more than double the goal in just six months.

"Eureka is a very generous community," said Nina Kunz, a chairwoman on the campaign committee. "When there's a need and they can see and feel it, they'll never let you down."

The current hospital in Eureka is 88 years old and has an emergency room on the third floor, the Aberdeen American News reported. Hospital CEO Carmen Weber said that ambulances drop off patients in the basement and are navigated through hallways before getting assistance.

The new hospital will be one level and will include four critical-assess hospital beds, a 10-bed assisted-living center, a clinic with eight exam rooms, a lab and radiology services, a surgical suite, a large therapy area, and a three-stall ambulance garage. The hospital will also have a 24-hour emergency department.

"The option for an ambulance to stop at Eureka's hospital on the way to the next biggest hospital — in order to save your life, well, we all knew how important that was," Kunz said.

Eureka is more than 70 miles (112 kilometers) from Aberdeen.

Construction on the facility is expected to be completed by the summer.

"When something is going on in a small community the word gets around really quickly. Everyone knew that this was for real and it'd make Eureka a better community. All of us stood to gain from a new hospital and everything else that goes with it," Kunz said. "People were anxious to be a part of something that looks like hope."

Information from: Aberdeen American News, <http://www.aberdeennews.com>

Dog abandoned in South Dakota wildlife refuge finds new home

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A dog abandoned in a South Dakota wildlife refuge three weeks ago has found a new home.

The underweight yellow Labrador was rescued from the Sand Lake Wildlife Refuge by two hunters on Jan. 4. The dog, to the hunters' surprise, fetched a pheasant that they had shot down on their hunt.

The Labrador, later named River, was taken to the Aberdeen Area Humane Society, where she recovered after enduring days in the cold without shelter or food. It's also where River found her new caretakers, Anita and Daryl Jung of Warner, the Capital Journal reported .

The Jungs adopted River and welcomed her into their home on Tuesday.

Elaine Schaible, manager of the Humane Society, said they received nearly 500 calls of adoption offers for River following news coverage of her rescue. Schaible said Anita Jung applied the first day that River's story appeared in Aberdeen American News .

Daryl Jung is a hunter and figures he can take River out with him once she fully recovers.

Schaible said that River recovered well and is very spry for an older dog.

She said it seems that a hunter either lost or left River to fend for herself. Schaible said that the Humane Society put ads out to try to contact River's past owner before putting her up for adoption.

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

Vermont hopes to bring in new people, reinvigorate economy

By WILSON RING, Associated Press

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) — Vermont officials are hoping a new program that would use cutting-edge, targeted marketing and a host of incentives, both economic and emotional, can attract new people to live in the Green Mountain State, helping to alleviate what is fast becoming a chronic labor shortage caused by a stagnant, aging population.

While similar efforts are underway in a number of states, the push to bring new people to Vermont is part of a broader economic program that would also help train people to fill hundreds of well-paying jobs and encourage people who have left the workforce to go back to work.

The targeted efforts would focus on tourists who have shown an interest in the state, encouraging out-of-state college students to stay after graduation, getting people who have left to return or finding people who are attracted by Vermont's wholesome image.

"We have this interesting confluence of events, where we have the workforce challenge coupled with a state that has unparalleled livability -- safety, education and opportunity -- and a message that has not been well told," said Michael Schirling, of the Agency of Commerce and Community Affairs, who is behind the effort, dubbed the Think Vermont Move initiative.

A portion of the campaign is based on a similar program in South Dakota, which faces some of the same demographic challenges as Vermont. Over the last dozen years, Dakota Roots has managed to attract about one new resident a day, said Marcia Hultman, of the state's labor and regulation department.

Survey results find people who move to South Dakota tend to be in their mid-30s and want a smaller, safer place to raise families.

"From the workforce perspective, they are experienced, but they have a lot of years left in the workforce as well," she said.

South Dakota officials also focus on people who have connections to the state, such as natives who left or those who have visited or have family there, said Hultman. Dakota Roots offers no direct economic incentives, but state officials will work directly with people from out of state who are looking for a job.

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Lorraine Windenburg, 56, from Rapid City, South Dakota, was one of the first success stories of Dakota Roots. She grew up in the state, but left at 19 and was living in Phoenix when, during a visit for a family wedding, a relative told her of the program.

"It's a calmer pace," said Windenburg, whose children were grown by the time she and her husband headed north in 2008. "There's a lot of natives who still live here and believe in South Dakota ideals."

A similar, privately run initiative in Maine, where state officials are also worried that a lack of workers could stymie economic growth, is drawing people to the state.

Nic Gallant, 28, a Maine native who just returned after working and living in San Francisco and Chicago, said the "Live and Work in Maine" program combines the state's natural beauty and slower pace with employment opportunities.

"We didn't have the lifestyle that we truly wanted," said Gallant, who now lives in the coastal town of Harpswell, less than an hour from downtown Portland.

Back in Vermont, the need to attract newcomers and find people to fill hundreds of vacant jobs is becoming an ever-more urgent priority. Since he took office last year, Republican Gov. Phil Scott has repeatedly warned about what he calls his "6, 3, 1": Every day there are six fewer workers in the state, three fewer schoolchildren and one child born addicted to opiates. The opiate challenge is being addressed elsewhere.

Vermont's goal is about 2,200 new workers a year. The nearly \$3.2 million the administration is requesting for the program would pay for technology to identify people who would be most likely to move to Vermont and marketing.

Schirling said that if Vermont could reach South Dakota's success of one new person a day in the first year to 18 months, he would consider the efforts to be a preliminary success, although he'd like more.

"It's going to be eight, 10, 12 different things that yield a few hundred (people) each that will get the ball rolling," he said. "Success begets success."

AP Reporter David Sharp in Portland, Maine, contributed to this report

11 Afghan troops die in IS attack on Kabul military academy

By RAHIM FAIEZ and AMIR SHAH, Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Islamic State militants attacked Afghan soldiers guarding a military academy in the capital of Kabul on Monday, killing at least 11 troops and wounding 16.

The attack was the latest in a wave of relentless violence in Kabul this month unleashed by the Taliban and the rival Islamic State group that has killed scores and left hundreds wounded.

Monday's attack started around 4 a.m., witnesses said, and fighting continued long after daybreak.

A suicide bomber first struck the military unit responsible for providing security for the academy, followed by a gunbattle with the troops, said Dawlat Waziri, spokesman for the Afghan defense ministry.

At least five insurgents were involved in the morning assault, according to Waziri. Two of the attackers were killed in the gunbattle, two detonated their suicide vests and one was arrested by the troops, he said.

All roads leading to the military academy were blocked by police, which only allowed ambulances access to the site to transfer the wounded to hospitals.

After the gunbattle ended, the security forces resumed control of the area. They also confiscated one suicide vest, an AK-47 and some ammunition, Waziri said.

Waziri earlier said that five soldiers were killed but later raised the death toll to 11. He insisted, however that "the attack was against an army unit providing security for the academy and not the academy itself."

Afzal Aman, commander of the city's military garrison, confirmed the attack in the area of the Marshal Fahim academy. Hashmat Faqeri, a resident near the site, told The Associated Press he heard sounds of explosions and a gunbattle.

Hours later, the Islamic State group's affiliate in Afghanistan, known as Khorasan Province, posted its claim of responsibility on the website of its media arm, the Aamaq news agency, saying its fighters targeted the "military academy in Kabul."

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Neighboring Pakistan condemned Monday's attack. Islamabad said it "reiterates its strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, especially the series of heinous attacks within the last week in Afghanistan."

The academy, known as Marshal Fahim National Defense University located on the edge of Kabul at the Camp Qargha military base, is sometimes also called "Sandhurst in the Sand" — a reference to the British academy. Named after Mohammed Fahim, the country's late vice-president and a military commander of the Northern Alliance that fought the Taliban, the academy was inaugurated in 2013 after British forces oversaw building the officers' school and its training program.

The academy was also the site where the highest-ranking U.S. military officer to be lost in the Afghan and Iraqi wars was killed in August 2014. Army Maj Gen. Harold J. Greene, then deputy commander of the transition force in the country, was shot and killed by an Afghan soldiers in a so-called "insider attack" that was later claimed by the Taliban.

The same academy was also attacked in October last year by a suicide bomber who killed 15 officers. The attacker was on foot and detonated his suicide vest as the on-duty officers were leaving the facility, heading home in the evening. That attack was also claimed by the Taliban.

President Ashraf Ghani denounced the attack, saying the "Taliban must choose between Islam and terrorism."

"We appreciate the sympathies extended to us by our international partner nations," Ghani said, speaking a press conference in Kabul alongside visiting Indonesian president, Joko "Jokowi" Widodo. "Thank you for standing with us."

Both the Taliban and IS have stepped up attacks in recent months in Kabul and elsewhere across Afghanistan, including massive bombings staged by militants determined to inflict maximum casualties, instill terror in the population and undermine confidence in Afghan President Ashraf Ghani's government and the country's security forces.

On Saturday, a Taliban attacker drove an ambulance filled with explosives into the heart of the city, killing at least 103 people and wounding as many as 235.

Interior Minister Wais Ahmad Barmak said Sunday that the investigation into the attack indicated that a second ambulance was also involved but had left the area, indicating some would-be attackers may have escaped.

The Taliban claimed the ambulance attack, as well as an attack a week earlier in which militants stormed a hilltop hotel in Kabul, the Intercontinental, killing 22 people, including 14 foreigners, and setting off a 13-hour battle with security forces.

Masoom Stanekzai, the head of Afghanistan's intelligence service, said five suspects have been arrested for their involvement in the hotel attack. A sixth suspect had fled the country, he said.

He also said that four people have been arrested in connection with Saturday's ambulance attack.

The recent brutal attacks have underscored the weaknesses of Afghan security forces, more than 16 years after the U.S.-led invasion toppled the Taliban, and raise questions about President Donald Trump's strategy for winning America's longest war.

The Taliban have been waging an insurgency since they were driven from power by U.S. and Afghan forces after the Sept. 11 attacks. In recent years, they have seized districts across the country and carried out near-daily attacks, mainly targeting Afghan security forces and the U.S.-backed government.

The Islamic State affiliate in Afghanistan emerged in 2014, as the U.S. and NATO were winding down their combat mission and around the time that IS declared its self-styled Islamic caliphate, headquartered in Syria and Iraq. Its followers have clashed with both Afghan forces and the Taliban.

Associated Press writers Maamoun Youssef in Cairo and Patrick Quinn in Beirut contributed to this report.

Can Trump stick to a script beyond the State of the Union?

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — No natural orator, President Donald Trump has nonetheless shown at times that he can deliver a powerful speech that effectively outlines his vision, strikes an emotional chord and moves commentators to declare that he, at last, looks presidential. And then the teleprompter gets turned off.

Time and again, Trump has followed up a well-received, stuck-to-the-script address with moments of wild indiscipline, quickly losing any momentum in a controversy of his own making. His first State of the Union address on Tuesday will be the biggest test yet of his ability to not just deliver a stately speech but also to then stay on track as the White House rolls out policies building on it.

"He has little message discipline," said Ari Fleischer, former press secretary for President George W. Bush. "Virtually every time he moves the ball far down the field, he seems to derail himself with a tweet days later instead of building on the momentum."

The State of the Union is a big set piece for any president, a chance to showcase the accomplishments of the past year while setting the tone for the next one. Every word is meticulously vetted, every presidential guest is carefully chosen and each moment is painstakingly rehearsed. For Trump, dogged by low poll numbers and the persistent Russia probe, the speech carries particular importance.

"It's one of the few events presidents conduct in which 30 to 40 million or more Americans are watching," Fleischer said. "There is hardly another moment of presidential exposure as big as this one, and it's one when the president and his staff have all the control. They are not reacting to events. They are controlling them, and they need to deliver."

Last Feb. 27, Trump indeed delivered when he gave his first address to a joint session of Congress. The speech came amid a period of crisis for the young administration — national security adviser Michael Flynn had been dismissed days earlier — and amid questions about whether Trump had the ability and temperament to lead the nation.

Surprising critics, he sounded a rousing call for unity, declaring that it was time to end an era of "pure unadulterated division" in the wake of a bruising campaign and a tumultuous start to his presidency.

"The time for small thinking is over," Trump said. "The time for trivial fights is behind us. We just need the courage to share the dreams that fill our hearts. The bravery to express the hopes that stir our souls. And the confidence to turn those hopes and those dreams into action."

The speech, which also featured an emotional standing ovation for the widow of a slain Navy SEAL, drew raves from Republicans and grudging respect from many Democrats while prompting a number of observers to wonder if Trump had found his footing and was ready to usher in a new, more responsible chapter of his presidency.

That lasted less than a week.

On March 4, Trump typed out a series of tweets in which he accused President Barack Obama of authorizing a wiretap of Trump Tower, an unsubstantiated claim that Trump punctuated with the assertion that his predecessor was a "bad (or sick) guy!" The resulting furor derailed any momentum Trump had gotten from the speech and put the West Wing back on the defensive.

It's far from the only moment when Trump has squandered a brief era of good feelings. In June, he delivered a somber address to the nation after the shooting at a congressional baseball practice, and then two days later, he took to Twitter to attack his own Justice Department while declaring the Russia probe a "witch hunt."

And the day after he delivered a thunderous address as he accepted his party's nomination for president at the 2016 Republican National Convention, Trump turned what was supposed to be a brief thank you to volunteers into a score-settling screed, relitigating the conspiracy theory that his rival Ted Cruz's father had been involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The White House has spent weeks crafting the State of the Union speech, seeking input from Cabinet heads and agency leaders. Led by policy adviser Stephen Miller and staff secretary Rob Porter, the speech has gone through a number of drafts that have circulated throughout the West Wing, and the president

has added input with handwritten notes.

Trump is expected to highlight immigration and national security issues, outline his hopes for new trade deals and reveal some of his long-awaited infrastructure plans. He then could, as his predecessors did, spend some time traveling the country in support of those ideas.

Odds are that Trump sticks to the script for at least one night. All bets are off after that.

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Victims' families: Jealousy drove car wash shooting suspect

By BRUCE SHIPKOWSKI, Associated Press

A man suspected of gunning down four people at a Pennsylvania car wash was driven by jealousy, according to family members of the shooting victims.

State police said Timothy Smith, 28, was armed with a semi-automatic rifle, a .308-caliber rifle and a handgun and was wearing a body armor carrier without the ballistic panels inserted when he opened fire early Sunday morning at Ed's Car Wash in Saltlick Township, a rural town about 55 miles (89 kilometers) southeast of Pittsburgh.

Twenty-seven-year-old William Porterfield, 25-year-old Chelsie Cline, 23-year-old Courtney Snyder and 21-year-old Seth Cline were all killed.

Smith was on life support Sunday and not expected to survive after suffering a gunshot wound to his head. State police said it was possible that the gunshot wound was self-inflicted.

Authorities would not reveal how Smith knew the victims, but Chelsie Cline's half-sister, Sierra Kolarik, told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review that Smith had developed an obsession with Cline.

Cline shared a meme on her Facebook page last week that read, "After this week, I rlyly (sic) need to get taken out ... on a date or by a sniper either one is fine w me at this point." A Facebook friend of hers named Tim Smith replied, "I could do both."

Porterfield's pregnant wife, Jenna Porterfield, 24, told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette that a state police investigator told her that Smith was a jealous former boyfriend of Cline.

Porterfield said that she was told by family members of other victims that her husband and Cline had spent the past two days together after Cline ended a relationship with Smith. Porterfield said that she and her husband — who were married in November — had been "having some troubles" this month.

"I'm not holding that against Will. We weren't fighting. We were fixing. And if he was with someone else while we were having problems, honestly, I don't care what he did. I'm not going to hold that against him," Porterfield told the newspaper. "I'd give anything to have him back."

State police said Smith was the first person to arrive at the scene and parked his pickup truck on the side of the two-bay car wash. They said he shot Porterfield and Cline when they got out of their car and walked to the side of the car wash.

Snyder and Seth Cline arrived in a pickup truck at the same time and were both shot and killed in their vehicle, state police said. Another unidentified woman in the rear seat took cover in the truck and survived with only minor injuries from broken glass.

Cayleigh Myers said she was friends with Seth Cline, Chelsie Cline's half-sibling, and described the construction worker as "very outgoing, very funny and very smart."

"You always had fun when you were around him," Myers said. "He would give his shirt off his back for you, anything, it didn't matter what it was, what time it was, if you need him, you could call him. He was everything."

Ed Bukovac, who owns the car wash, told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review that a neighbor called him around 4 a.m. Sunday and said something was wrong at his business. Bukovac said police were on the scene by the time he arrived and that he had few other details about what happened.

A man who lives nearby told the newspaper that he heard about 30 gunshots over a span of several minutes.

Bruno Mars crashes rap's big party at the Grammys

By DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Grammy Awards seemed poised to make this a triumphant year for rap at music's showcase event — until Bruno Mars crashed the party.

The song-and-dance man from Hawaii won all six awards he was nominated for on Sunday night, including the three most prestigious Grammys for song ("That's What I Like"), record ("24K Magic") and album of the year. His music also dominated the rhythm and blues categories.

The Grammys on Sunday also saw Kendrick Lamar win five awards, Jay-Z go home empty-handed, some memorable performances by the likes of Lamar, Kesha, Mars and Logic, an odd oversight of singer Lorde and a surprise cameo from Hillary Clinton.

In accepting a trophy for the album "24K Magic," Mars recalled when he was 15 years old and singing shows for tourists. He'd perform hits written by Babyface, Teddy Riley and Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis, and loved looking down from the stage to see people from all over the world who had never met dancing together and toasting one another.

"All I ever wanted to do with this album was that," he said. "These songs were written with nothing but joy."

Mars has won 11 Grammys in his career.

His success, however, instantly became a target for second-guessers, similar to people befuddled last year when Adele won album of the year over Beyonce. Social media filled with commentary about whether Lamar's hard-hitting disc "DAMN" was more deserving. One meme that spread on Twitter showed Houston Rocket James Harden rolling his eyes in supposed "reaction" to the news.

Beyond being a critical favorite, Lamar seemed primed to be the evening's star. He opened the Grammys with a hard-hitting medley that depicted black dancers falling to the floor to symbolize being shot, and won the night's first televised award. His work swept the rap categories, the prime factor in the night's most-nominated artist, Jay-Z, winning nothing.

Lamar paid tribute to Jay-Z ("Jay-Z for president," he said with a smile) and other forebears in accepting a Grammy.

"I thought it was about the accolades and the cars and the clothes," he said. "But it really is about expressing yourself and putting that paint on the canvas for the world to evolve for the next listener, the next generation after that. Hip-hop has done that for me."

Clinton's appearance was the punch line for a skit where host James Corden pretended to cast celebrities for what he thought would be a sure-fire Grammy contender for spoken world performance next year, reading from Michael Wolff's best-seller about the Trump administration, "Fire and Fury." Cher, John Legend and Snoop Dogg left him frustrated, but then Clinton lowered a copy of the opened book in front of her face to reveal herself.

The attempt at humor wasn't a hit with everyone: President Trump's ambassador to the United Nations, Nikki Haley, tweeted that the skit ruined the show for her.

Most of the show's political references — to topics like gun violence, immigration reform and women's rights — were carefully scripted.

Kesha was joined by Cyndi Lauper, Camila Cabello, Julia Michaels, Andra Day and others in a performance of her Grammy-nominated song "Praying," which is about fighting back from abuse. Singer Janelle Monae introduced Kesha and tied the appearance to the current flood of women speaking up about sexual misconduct. Dozens of artists and music industry players also sported white roses in support of the Time's Up and #MeToo movements against sexual abuse and harassment.

"We come in peace but we mean business. To those who would dare try to silence us, we offer two words: Time's Up," Monae said. "It's not just going on in Hollywood. It's not just going on in Washington. It's here in our industry, too."

The show also featured a somber performance of Eric Clapton's "Tears in Heaven" by country artists Maren, Eric Church and the Osborne Brothers. All were on the bill for the Las Vegas show in October that

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was torn apart by a mass shooter.

Social media was curious about the seeming snub of album of the year nominee Lorde. She wasn't among the night's performers, even as classic rockers Sting and U2 made multiple appearances.

"It's hard to have a balanced show and have everybody involved," producer Ken Ehrlich said backstage. "Every year's different. We can't have a performance from every nominee."

The Grammys were also a clear example of rock 'n' roll's decline as a creative force. No rock awards were given during the televised portion of the Grammys. Sting sang a 30-year-old hit and the majority of rock's references were about artists who had died like Chuck Berry, Fats Domino and Tom Petty.

The Rolling Stones, once judged rock's kingpins, won the third Grammy of their career — for best traditional blues recording.

Alessia Cara won the Grammy for best new artist, and remembered the time when she would "win" Grammys in her dreams while singing in the shower.

Chris Stapleton won three Grammys in country categories. Other multiple winners included Ed Sheeran, CeCe Winans, Justin Hurwitz and Jason Isbell.

The late Leonard Cohen won a Grammy for his performance of "You Want it Darker." Actress Carrie Fisher and sound engineer Tom Coyne were other posthumous winners.

As it has in recent years, the Grammys downplayed the awards for performances by the industry's biggest stars. Highlights included Mars and Cardi B dueting on "Finesse"; Rihanna, DJ Khaled and Bryson Tiller on "Wild Thoughts"; and Patti Lupone's Broadway classic "Don't Cry For Me Argentina."

Associated Press correspondents Mesfin Fekadu and Jake Coyle contributed to this report.

Online:

<http://www.grammy.com>

For full coverage of awards season, visit: <https://apnews.com/tag/AwardsSeason>

Bruno Mars has a magical night at Grammys, winning 6 for 6

By MESFIN FEKADU, AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Bruno Mars owned the Grammys with his R&B-inspired album "24K Magic," winning all six awards he was nominated for at a show where hip-hop was expected to have a historical night.

Jay-Z, the leading nominee with eight, walked away empty handed Sunday — a year after his wife lost album of the year to Adele, causing fans and peers to criticize the Recording Academy for not properly rewarding Beyonce's bold "Lemonade" project.

And though Kendrick Lamar won five awards, he lost in the top categories, marking another year where rappers were restricted to wins in the rap categories, instead of earning coveted prizes like album of the year.

Mars picked up album of the year for "24K Magic," record of the year for the title track, and song of the year — shared with seven co-writers — for the No. 1 hit, "That's What I Like."

Jay-Z and Lamar could have become the first rapper to win song or record of the year, and the third rap-based act to win album of the year.

But Mars' win still marked some growth for the Academy: His is one of the few R&B albums to win the top prize. He dedicated his win to songwriters who have made history in R&B music, including Babyface, Teddy Riley, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis.

Lamar's wins at Madison Square Garden in New York City included best rap album, best rap song, best rap performance, best rap/sung performance and best music video. He has a career total of 12 Grammys.

Lamar also won with his performance: He kicked off the Grammys with a powerful and poignant performance featuring video screens displaying a waving American flag behind him, as background dancers dressed as army soldiers marched and moved behind him. At one point, Lamar's background dancers,

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dressed in red, were shot down as he rapped lyrics, later coming back to life as fire burst to end the six-minute performance.

But the night's top performer was Kesha, who was passionate and striking onstage with the help of powerful women behind her, including the Resistance Revival Chorus, Cyndi Lauper, Camila Cabello, Julia Michaels, Andra Day and Bebe Rexha. Dressed in white, they won over the audience while singing Kesha's "Praying" and hugged at the song's end as some audience members cried, including Hailee Steinfeld.

Kesha, who earned her first pair of Grammy nominations this year, has been in a legal war with former producer and mentor Dr. Luke. Janelle Monae introduced the performance with strong words.

"We come in peace but we mean business. To those who would dare try to silence us, we offer two words: Time's Up," Monae said. "It's not just going on in Hollywood. It's not just going on in Washington. It's here in our industry, too."

Before the performance, Maren Morris, Eric Church and Brothers Osborne performed an emotional rendition of Eric Clapton's "Tears In Heaven" — written after his son died — in honor of the 58 people who died at the Route 91 Harvest Festival in Las Vegas last year. The names of victims were displayed behind them as they performed.

The performances were two of the show's serious moments. Dozens of artists and music industry players also sported white roses in support of the Time's Up and #MeToo movements against sexual abuse and harassment.

"Black is beautiful, hate is ugly," rapper Logic said onstage after performing the suicide prevention anthem "1-800-273-8255." The performance, with best new artist winner Alessia Cara and Khalid, included a group of suicide attempt and loss survivors selected by the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

Sting's performance was somewhat political as he sang his 1987 song, "Englishman in New York," which includes the lyrics, "Oh, I'm an alien, I'm a legal alien, I'm an Englishman in New York."

Chris Stapleton paid tribute to Tom Petty with Emmylou Harris and also won three awards, including best country album, best country song and best country solo performance.

"We always try to make great records ... and I guess this is a testament to that," Stapleton said.

Little Big Town, who beautifully sang their Taylor Swift-penned No. 1 hit "Better Man," won best country duo/group performance with the song.

Others who shined onstage included Lady Gaga, who won over the audience with a rousing performance of the songs "Joanne" and "Million Reasons"; Sam Smith gave a powerful performance of the song "Pray"; and Pink was a vocal powerhouse while she sang "Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken."

During the pre-telecast, The Rolling Stones picked up their third career Grammy — for best traditional blues album for "Blue & Lonesome" — while Ed Sheeran won best pop vocal album. Emmy and Golden Globe winner Childish Gambino, who picked up best traditional R&B performance, gave a smooth and sultry performance of "Terrified" in all-white featuring screeching high notes. Gambino was joined by young singer-actor, JD McCrary, who matched his vocals and sings on the original track.

The show, hosted by James Corden, also featured some comedy. Hillary Clinton, John Legend, Cher, Snoop Dogg, Cardi B, and DJ Khaled won over the audience in a skit when reading lines from Michael Wolff's book, "Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House." Corden said the book could compete for the best spoken word album Grammy next year.

"That's the one," Corden said in the video after Clinton, a 1997 spoken word Grammy winner, spoke. It earned a rousing applause from the crowd.

Dave Chappelle, who was part of Lamar's opening performance, won best comedy album during the televised show.

"I am honored to win an award, finally, and I wanted to thank everyone at Netflix, at 'Saturday Night Live,' at 'The Chappelle Show,'" he said.

Puppies were passed to the losers of best comedy album, including Jerry Seinfeld, Sarah Silverman and Jim Gaffigan.

Posthumous Grammys were awarded to actress Carrie Fisher, singer Leonard Cohen and engineer Tom

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Coyne, who worked on Mars' "24K Magic" album.

Double winners included Jason Isbell, Justin Hurwitz and CeCe Winans.

Online:

<http://www.grammy.com>

For full coverage of awards season, visit: <https://apnews.com/tag/AwardsSeason>

Lindsey Vonn eyes some unfinished business at 2018 Olympics

By HOWARD FENDRICH and PAT GRAHAM, AP Sports Writers

Lindsey Vonn couldn't wiggle her fingers or move her wrist. Understandably, she wanted to be reassured everything would be OK.

The skiing star was worried after a training crash left her screaming, then passing out from the pain, on the side of a Colorado mountain, 15 months ahead of the Pyeongchang Olympics. Just one of series of serious injuries that has interrupted the American's illustrious career, this required delicate surgery to insert a plate and more than a dozen screws into her broken right arm while trying to avoid nerve damage.

"She looked up at me: 'Buddy, you're going to fix this, right? You've got this?'" her longtime sports physical therapist, Lindsay Winger, recalled in a recent telephone interview with The Associated Press. "I confidently said, 'Yes.' But at that point in time, I didn't know if I (could). That was hard from Day One. ... We were putting in almost eight hours a day on that arm, to try and revive the nerve a little bit and get things done as fast as possible. That was a big one."

There have been several big ones for Vonn along the way, no real surprise given that she spends day after day hurtling herself down icy slopes at speeds that can top 75 mph.

"The thing is, everyone asks me if I'm afraid after so many crashes. Do I take my foot off the gas pedal? ... You try to manage risk as much as you want," she said. "But at the end of the day, it's a dangerous sport."

Concussions. Broken fingers. Torn ligaments. A fractured ankle.

The lengthy list includes the ripped-up right knee that held her out of the 2014 Sochi Games and prevented her from defending her downhill gold medal from four years earlier, when she also collected a bronze in the super-G.

"Eight years has been a very long time. Obviously, I was very ... disappointed and devastated and frustrated that I missed Sochi," the 33-year-old Vonn said. "I've been waiting for this for a long time. I'm ready."

So it's only natural that as she looked ahead to the 2018 Winter Games, which open in South Korea on Feb. 9, Vonn voiced one primary concern — and it was not related to making sure her racing would be at its best.

In sum: To get a chance to add to her medal collection, she'll need to be in the starting hut.

"I don't really think about peaking, so much as staying healthy. As long as I'm healthy and confident, then I'll be in a great position when I get to Pyeongchang," Vonn said.

"Getting to February healthy," she said, "is the only thing I should focus on."

As much as she's already done — and won — in a sport she has dominated for stretches, including four World Cup overall titles and seven world championships medals, Vonn still has plenty of unfinished business on her agenda.

There's her lingering bid to break Ingemar Stenmark's career record for most World Cup wins, the most celebrated mark in ski racing. Vonn's count is up to 79, the most for a woman, and only seven behind Stenmark, a Swede who competed in the 1970s and '80s.

It's that chase that prompted Vonn to declare already that she has decided to return to the World Cup circuit next season, saying, "I already put enough pressure on myself to reach that goal, anyway. I want to make sure I give myself a little more time, so I'm not stressed about it."

Then there's her ongoing pursuit of barrier-breaking competition against men, something Vonn has spoken about pursuing for years.

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She views it as something that could be as significant as Billie Jean King's exhibition tennis match against Bobby Riggs in 1973, chronicled in last year's "Battle of the Sexes."

"I want to see what I'm capable of. It would be really great exposure for the sport," Vonn said. "My personal ambitions aside, I think you have to look at it from a broader perspective. What Billie Jean King did all those years ago made a huge and lasting impact. We have to continue to push the envelope and push women forward in sports."

U.S. Ski and Snowboard formally petitioned the International Ski Federation's Alpine executive board in October on behalf of Vonn, with a goal of being allowed to race against men sometime next season.

The proposal was put on hold; it is expected to be considered in May.

"Why not? We train with her," said Vonn's U.S. teammate, Ted Ligety, a two-time Olympic gold medalist. "I'd fully be psyched to see her race against guys."

In case you hadn't noticed, Vonn is not deterred easily.

It's why she never allowed any of those injuries to derail her career for good.

It's why she owned remarks made in an interview with CNN, in which she said she would "absolutely not" visit the White House if the U.S. Olympic team is invited after Pyeongchang and, "I want to represent our country well. I don't think that there are a lot of people currently in our government that do that."

Vonn took some heat on social media after that aired in December, then defended herself by saying at a subsequent World Cup race: "I was asked my opinion and I gave it. I mean, it's not necessarily my place to be sticking my nose in politics, but as an athlete, I do have a voice."

Whatever might get in her way, Vonn presses ahead.

That's why she will be back at the Olympics next month.

And back on World Cup courses next year.

Maybe even racing against men.

"I love going fast. That's why I haven't stopped skiing. I'm 33. I've been injured quite a few times, but my passion for the sport has never changed since I started racing when I was 8 years old," Vonn said. "As long as I'm still enjoying it, and I don't have to use too much duct tape to hold my body together, I'm good. I'm set."

More AP Olympic coverage: <https://wintergames.ap.org/>

In State of Union, Trump to make his case on economy

By KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Seeking to move past the shadow of the Russia investigation, President Donald Trump intends to use his first State of the Union address to cite economic progress under his watch while pushing for bipartisanship with Democrats on issues such as rebuilding roads and bridges.

The White House said Sunday that the president would point to a robust economy and low unemployment during his first year and the benefits of a tax overhaul during Tuesday's address to Congress and the nation. Aides have said Trump, who stayed at the White House over the weekend as he prepared, is expected to set aside his more combative tone for one of compromise and bipartisanship.

"The president is going to talk about how America's back," said White House legislative director Marc Short. "The president is also going to make an appeal to Democrats ... to say we need to rebuild our country. And to make an appeal that to do infrastructure, we need to do it in a bipartisan way."

Short said Trump would urge Democrats to support additional military spending in light of "dramatic threats on the global scene."

White House officials have said the theme of the annual address will be "building a safe, strong and proud America" and that Trump was looking to showcase the accomplishments of his first year while setting the tone for the second.

As Trump looks ahead, special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into possible obstruction of justice and Trump campaign ties to Russian meddling in the 2016 election grinds on.

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It often has distracted from the president's message. For example, Trump's address to financial and global leaders in Davos, Switzerland, last week followed reports that he ordered a top White House lawyer to fire Mueller last June but backed off when the lawyer threatened to resign. Trump called the report "fake news."

On the policy front, immigration is an immediate flashpoint for Trump and Congress. In the prime-time speech Tuesday, the president plans to promote his proposal for \$25 billion for a wall along the Mexican border and for a path to citizenship for nearly 2 million young people brought to the U.S. illegally as children.

Trump's plan includes billions for border security and significant changes to legal immigration long sought by hard-liners within the Republican Party. But some conservatives have warned that the deal would amount to "amnesty" for the young immigrants known as Dreamers, and many Democrats and immigration activists have outright rejected it.

"I think all of us realize that it's going to take a compromise on this issue for us to get something done and to protect the Dreamer population, which is certainly a goal of mine," said Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine. "But I think the president is also right about border security, that we do need to beef up our border security."

Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., called Trump's proposal "a good starting point."

"Let's see if it's something that we can agree on, something we need to adjust, something we can negotiate with," he said.

Part of Trump's goal in the speech is to set the course of the debate as Republicans look to retain their majority in Congress. He is expected to say the tax overhaul will unleash economic growth and he will point to companies that have provided their employees with \$1,000 bonuses and other benefits.

Trump plans to outline a nearly \$2 trillion plan that his administration contends will trigger \$1 trillion or more in public and private spending on roads, bridges and other public works projects.

On trade, Trump will note his preference for one-on-one deals instead of multilateral agreements, building on his speech at the World Economic Forum in Switzerland.

And he will offer an update on the fight against terrorism and his view of international threats, including North Korea. A senior administration official providing a preview of the speech said Trump probably would avoid the taunts of "Little Rocket Man" for Kim Jong Un and "fire and fury" that he used before. The official wasn't authorized to speak publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The address comes at a critical point for the president. He is battling poor approval ratings and is trying to move past the government shutdown that coincided with the anniversary of his inauguration. He's also preparing for a grueling midterm election season that has tripped up other first-term presidents.

Trump was not expected to embark on an extensive sales pitch around the country after the speech. He plans to address a Republican congressional retreat in West Virginia on Thursday. Vice President Mike Pence will attend a tax overhaul event in West Virginia on Wednesday and speak to the GOP congressional retreat later in the day. Pence will hold events in the Pittsburgh area Friday.

Short spoke on "Fox News Sunday" and CBS' "Face the Nation." Collins spoke on CNN's "State of the Union," and Manchin spoke on CNN's "State of the Union" and NBC's "Meet the Press."

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Kochs warm to Trump policies, not behavior

By STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (AP) — For the Koch brothers and their powerful donor network, the trouble with President Donald Trump isn't what he's doing. It's how he's doing it.

Huddled at a private retreat in the California desert, the conservative movement's elite money men worried aloud this weekend that the Republican president's undisciplined behavior is clouding his achievements — and making it harder for the GOP to protect its grip on Congress heading into the 2018 midterms.

"President Trump is not helping get many Republicans elected," said Tom Shepherd, a Cincinnati-based businessman who joined roughly 550 Koch donors at a private retreat in the California desert this week-

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end. "I think he's doing more harm than good because he's distracting people from the good work which is happening, which is either happening because of him or in spite of him."

The frustration with the unorthodox president comes as the Kochs begin to implement their strategy to protect Republican majorities in the House and Senate this fall.

The GOP has no more powerful ally than the vast political and policy network assembled by the Midwestern industrialist icons, long demonized by the left and revered by the right for their short- and long-term efforts to reshape American politics and culture.

The Koch network's chief lieutenants renewed their vow this weekend to spend up to \$400 million on politics and policy to shape November's midterm elections nationwide.

That's more than the combined resources spent by the Republican National Committee, the National Rifle Association and the Chamber of Commerce in the 2016 election cycle.

The Koch network's 2018 investment includes \$20 million to help sell the recently adopted tax overhaul to a skeptical American public through a series of public rallies, phone banking and paid advertising.

Despite the extraordinary investment, the men and women who filled the luxury resort outside Palm Springs this weekend acknowledged a difficult road ahead.

Some blamed history more than the regular distractions from Trump. The party in the White House traditionally struggles in the first midterm election of a new presidency.

"It's a challenge regardless of the president," said Tim Phillips, president of the Kochs' political arm, a group known as Americans for Prosperity.

But the donors who pledged at least \$100,000 this year to the Koch network — there were an estimated 550 on hand this weekend — were less cautious when asked about the president's leadership

Many opposed his candidacy before the 2016 election. The Kochs refused to endorse Trump, fearing that his style and policies might undermine conservative priorities.

"I didn't support him," said Frank Baxter, a retired investment banker from California who served as the ambassador to Uruguay under former President George W. Bush. "The results are kind of changing my mind."

Like others, he praised the tax overhaul, Trump's judicial appointments and regulatory cuts. He added, "I still don't like what he says or does."

Gary Lynch, whose Iowa livestock business employs roughly 700 people, said he and his business have benefited from the Republican tax overhaul. He said, however, that Trump's behavior "doesn't help" his party promote the benefits of the plan.

"He hasn't got it down yet," Lynch said of the president, noting that he doesn't mind Trump's style personally.

Another former Trump critic, North Carolina-based donor Art Pope, said he's warming to the president as well.

"The policies of this administration have really benefited the American people," Pope said. He's still worried about the political climate heading into the midterms: "It's going to be a tough election."

Democrats need to pick up at least 24 seats nationwide this fall to claim the House majority for the last two years of Trump's first term. Recent Democratic wins in Alabama and Virginia, backed by Trump's low approval ratings, suggest the GOP is in trouble.

When asked about his party's 2018 prospects, Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., among a handful of elected officials who attended the Koch conference, acknowledged that the House majority is at risk.

"I can make the case for losing 18 seats and no more. I can make the case for 28 seats," he said. "It's a long ways off. It depends what we do between now and November."

As the White House and Republicans nationwide work to highlight the strong U.S. economy, Trump intensified a weekend feud with the rapper Jay-Z on Twitter.

The musician said over the weekend the president's recent vulgar comments about African countries and Haiti were "disappointing" and "hurtful."

Trump punched back on Twitter, urging his followers to inform Jay-Z that "because of my policies," unemployment among black Americans is at the "LOWEST RATE EVER RECORDED!"

Back at the Koch retreat, prominent Trump donor Doug Deason said he enjoyed the president's social media habits, which allow him to speak directly to the American people.

"I don't think it helps. I don't think it hurts," Deason said.

He noted that the Koch network would "spend a lot of money" to ensure the benefits of the tax overhaul aren't overshadowed by any distractions.

"Who gives a crap about Jay-Z?" Deason asked. "I don't."

Victims' families: Jealousy drove car wash shooting suspect

By BRUCE SHIPKOWSKI, Associated Press

A man suspected of gunning down four people at a Pennsylvania car wash was driven by jealousy, according to family members of the shooting victims.

State police said Timothy Smith, 28, was armed with a semi-automatic rifle, a .308-caliber rifle and a handgun and was wearing a body armor carrier without the ballistic panels inserted when he opened fire early Sunday morning at Ed's Car Wash in Saltlick Township, a rural town about 55 miles (89 kilometers) southeast of Pittsburgh.

Twenty-seven-year-old William Porterfield, 25-year-old Chelsie Cline, 23-year-old Courtney Snyder and 21-year-old Seth Cline were all killed.

Smith was on life support Sunday and not expected to survive after suffering a gunshot wound to his head. State police said it was possible that the gunshot wound was self-inflicted.

Authorities would not reveal how Smith knew the victims, but Chelsie Cline's half-sister, Sierra Kolarik, told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review that Smith had developed an obsession with Cline.

Cline shared a meme on her Facebook page last week that read, "After this week, I rly (sic) need to get taken out ... on a date or by a sniper either one is fine w me at this point." A Facebook friend of hers named Tim Smith replied, "I could do both."

Porterfield's pregnant wife, Jenna Porterfield, 24, told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette that a state police investigator told her that Smith was a jealous former boyfriend of Cline.

Porterfield said that she was told by family members of other victims that her husband and Cline had spent the past two days together after Cline ended a relationship with Smith. Porterfield said that she and her husband — who were married in November — had been "having some troubles" this month.

"I'm not holding that against Will. We weren't fighting. We were fixing. And if he was with someone else while we were having problems, honestly, I don't care what he did. I'm not going to hold that against him," Porterfield told the newspaper. "I'd give anything to have him back."

State police said Smith was the first person to arrive at the scene and parked his pickup truck on the side of the two-bay car wash. They said he shot Porterfield and Cline when they got out of their car and walked to the side of the car wash.

Snyder and Seth Cline arrived in a pickup truck at the same time and were both shot and killed in their vehicle, state police said. Another unidentified woman in the rear seat took cover in the truck and survived with only minor injuries from broken glass.

Cayleigh Myers said she was friends with Seth Cline, Chelsie Cline's half-sibling, and described the construction worker as "very outgoing, very funny and very smart."

"You always had fun when you were around him," Myers said. "He would give his shirt off his back for you, anything, it didn't matter what it was, what time it was, if you need him, you could call him. He was everything."

Ed Bukovac, who owns the car wash, told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review that a neighbor called him around 4 a.m. Sunday and said something was wrong at his business. Bukovac said police were on the scene by the time he arrived and that he had few other details about what happened.

A man who lives nearby told the newspaper that he heard about 30 gunshots over a span of several minutes.

Russian opposition leader arrested amid election protests

By JIM HEINTZ, Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Protesters gathered across Russia on Sunday to support opposition leader Alexei Navalny's call to boycott the March presidential election, and Navalny himself was arrested while walking to the Moscow demonstration.

Many of the crowds that turned out in generally frigid weather skewed sharply young, apparently reflecting growing discontent among Russians who have lived most or all of their lives under President Vladimir Putin, who came to power on New Year's Eve 1999.

"As long as I've been alive, Putin has always been in. I'm tired of nothing being changed," said 19-year-old Vlad Ivanov, one of about 1,500 protesters who assembled in St. Petersburg.

Navalny, Putin's most prominent foe, organized the protests to urge a boycott of Russia's March 18 presidential election, in which Putin is sure to win a fourth term. He was wrestled to the ground and forced into a police bus as he walked toward the demonstration on Moscow's Pushkin Square.

The anti-corruption campaigner was denied permission to be a presidential candidate because of an embezzlement conviction in a case widely seen as politically motivated.

Late Sunday night, hours after police detained him, Navalny said on Twitter that he had been released before a trial. Russian news reports cited police earlier as saying he was likely to be charged with a public-order violation for calling unauthorized demonstrations.

Independent radio station Ekho Moskvyy reported after his release that Navalny had not yet been presented with a charge.

No figures were available for how many people participated in the protests, but the turnout was clearly smaller than for rallies Navalny organized last year. The size and scope of the earlier protests, which took place in provincial cities regarded as the center of Putin's support, rattled the Kremlin.

Protests were reported in dozens of cities, from the Pacific Coast to the Baltic Sea exclave of Kaliningrad. Navalny's web page showed a small group of protesters in remote Yakutsk, where it was minus 45 Celsius (minus 49 Fahrenheit).

A crowd that police estimated at 1,000 people, but appeared larger, assembled in central Pushkin Square, brandishing placards reading "They've stolen the election from us" and "Elections without Navalny are fake."

After that gathering dispersed, columns of protesters took off in several directions. One group skirted the Kremlin, then headed down the Novy Arbat, a prime shopping and entertainment area, and to the riverside government headquarters building informally called the Russian White House.

Shouting "Putin is a thief," some of the protesters threw handfuls of snow through the high spiked fence surrounding the building. Police did not interfere, a contrast to their typically quick and harsh responses to unauthorized gatherings.

The OVD-Info organization, which monitors political repression, reported that 257 people were arrested in the demonstrations throughout the country.

Hours before the Moscow protest, police raided Navalny's headquarters, where there is a studio for live video transmissions. One broadcaster on the stream said police apparently were using a power grinder tool to get into the studio.

The anchors hosting the feed reported that police said they had come because of an alleged bomb threat.

One anchor, Dmitri Nizovtsev, was detained by police, according to video broadcast from the headquarters. Navalny's Moscow coordinator, Nikolai Lyaskin, also was detained Sunday, the Interfax news agency quoted him as saying.

Several hundred demonstrators assembled in the Pacific port city of Vladivostok, complaining both of Putin's rule and of Navalny's exclusion from the March 18 presidential election.

"They took these elections away from us, they took away our votes. Our candidate was not allowed to run," said Vladivostok demonstrator Dmitri Kutyaev.

Navalny rose to prominence with detailed reports about corruption among top Russian officials, which he popularized on social media to circumvent state control of television.

Irina Titova in St. Petersburg contributed to this report.

GOP senators: Trump needs to show restraint in Russia probe

By HOPE YEN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two Republican senators said Sunday that President Donald Trump would be wise to keep a public silence on an independent investigation into his 2016 campaign's contacts with Russia in the wake of news reports that he sought to fire the special counsel.

The senators, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina and Susan Collins of Maine, also urged special counsel Robert Mueller to review whether Trump tried to fire him last June, an accusation the president has labeled "fake news."

"Mueller is the best person to look at it," said Graham, describing the allegation as grave if proved true. "I'm sure that there will be an investigation around whether or not President Trump did try to fire Mr. Mueller."

Graham, co-sponsor of legislation that would protect Mueller from being fired without a legal basis, said he would be "glad to pass it tomorrow." But he insisted that Mueller's job appeared to be in no immediate danger, pointing to the political costs if Trump did remove him.

"It's pretty clear to me that everybody in the White House knows it would be the end of President Trump's presidency if he fired Mr. Mueller," he said.

Collins said it would certainly "not hurt" for Congress to approve added protections for Mueller given the recent media reports. But she didn't offer a timeline.

"I think the president would be best served by never discussing the investigation, ever, whether in tweets, except in private conversations with his attorney," she said.

The New York Times and other outlets reported that Trump backed off his attempt to fire Mueller last June only after White House lawyer Don McGahn refused to relay his directive to the Justice Department and threatened to quit if Trump pressed the issue.

According to the reports, Trump argued that Mueller could not be fair because of a dispute over golf club fees that he said Mueller owed at a Trump golf club in Sterling, Virginia. The president also believed Mueller had a conflict of interest because he worked for the same law firm that was representing Trump's son-in-law and adviser, Jared Kushner.

On Sunday, lawmakers praised Mueller's impartiality and expressed confidence that he would be able to conduct a full, wide-ranging investigation.

"I have complete confidence in Mr. Mueller," Graham said. "I haven't yet seen any evidence of collusion between President Trump and the Russians, but the investigation needs to go forward without political interference, and I'm sure it will."

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer indicated that Democrats would try to add legislation to protect Mueller as part of an upcoming spending bill.

"The most important thing Congress can do right now is to ensure that special counsel Mueller's investigation continues uninterrupted and unimpeded," the New York senator said in a statement Sunday. "No one - whether it be Administration officials, Republicans or the president himself - should get in the way and undermine the investigation, and so Democrats will seek to add protections for Mueller in the ongoing budget negotiations."

Defending the president, White House legislative director Marc Short said he didn't know if Trump would sign legislation that would make it harder to fire Mueller. But Short stressed that despite media reports, he was not aware of any conversation in which Trump expressed a desire to fire Mueller.

"I know that the president has been frustrated by this investigation," Short said. "He feels like there's been millions of dollars of taxpayers' dollars spent and no evidence yet of collusion. ...The White House continues to cooperate in every manner providing any document the special counsel has asked for."

Short added that Trump favors releasing a classified memo produced by the House Intelligence Com-

mittee that Republicans say alleges FBI misconduct. Trump's position is in contrast to that of the Justice Department, which has warned that the memo's public release could be "extraordinarily reckless" and has asked to review it.

Some lawmakers said the memo's review instead should be done by impartial third parties "outside of the Republican-led Congress."

"I want somebody who is without a political bias to come in and look at the allegations that I have seen," Graham said.

Graham spoke on ABC's "This Week," Collins appeared on CNN's "State of the Union" and CBS' "Face the Nation," and Short was on "Fox News Sunday" and CBS.

Associated Press writer Ken Thomas contributed to this report.

Police, family say jealous shooter killed 4 at car wash

By BRUCE SHIPKOWSKI, Associated Press

A shooter driven by jealousy opened fire and killed four people at a car wash early Sunday morning in Pennsylvania, while a woman hiding in the back of a pickup truck suffered only minor injuries, according to state police and family of the victims.

Police said Timothy Smith, 28, was on life support and not expected to survive after suffering a gunshot wound to his head during the attack at Ed's Car Wash around 3 a.m. in Saltlick Township, a rural town about 55 miles (89 kilometers) southeast of Pittsburgh. Police said it was possible that the gunshot wound was self-inflicted.

Armed with a semi-automatic rifle, a .308-caliber rifle and a handgun and wearing a body armor carrier without the ballistic panels inserted, police said Smith killed 27-year-old William Porterfield, 25-year-old Chelsie Cline, 23-year-old Courtney Snyder and 21-year-old Seth Cline.

Police would not go into details about how Smith knew the victims, but Chelsie Cline's half-sister, Sierra Kolarik, told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review that Smith had developed an obsession with Cline.

Cline shared a meme on her Facebook page last week that read, "After this week, I rlyly (sic) need to get taken out ... on a date or by a sniper either one is fine w me at this point." A Facebook friend of hers named Tim Smith replied, "I could do both."

Porterfield's pregnant wife, Jenna Porterfield, 24, told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette that a state police investigator told her that Smith was a jealous former boyfriend of Cline.

Porterfield said that she was told by family members of other victims that her husband and Cline had spent the past two days together after Cline ended a relationship with Smith. Porterfield said that she and her husband — who were married in November — had been "having some troubles" this month.

"I'm not holding that against Will. We weren't fighting. We were fixing. And if he was with someone else while we were having problems, honestly, I don't care what he did. I'm not going to hold that against him," Porterfield told the newspaper. "I'd give anything to have him back."

Smith was first to arrive at the scene and was parked on the side of the two-bay car wash when Porterfield and Cline arrived, police said. Smith shot them when they got out and walked to the side of the car wash, they said.

Snyder and Seth Cline arrived at the same time and police said Smith opened fire on them. Another woman in the rear seat of the extended cab pickup truck only suffered injuries from broken glass.

Police said Smith had several magazines for the semi-automatic rifle and the handgun.

Cayleigh Myers said she was friends with Seth Cline, Chelsie Cline's half-sibling, and described the construction worker as "very outgoing, very funny and very smart."

"You always had fun when you were around him," Myers said. "He would give his shirt off his back for you, anything, it didn't matter what it was, what time it was, if you need him, you could call him. He was everything."

Ed Bukovac, who owns the car wash, told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review that a neighbor called him

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around 4 a.m. Sunday and said something was wrong at his business. Bukovac said police were on the scene by the time he arrived and that he had few other details about what happened.

A man who lives nearby told the newspaper that he heard about 30 gunshots over a span of several minutes.

This story has been corrected to change the number of fatalities to four, based on updated information from state police.

Today in History By The Associated Press.

Today in History

Today is Monday, Jan. 29, the 29th day of 2018. There are 336 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 29, 1845, Edgar Allan Poe's famous narrative poem "The Raven" ("Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary...") was first published in the New York Evening Mirror.

On this date:

In 1820, King George III died at Windsor Castle at age 81; he was succeeded by his son, who became King George IV.

In 1843, the 25th president of the United States, William McKinley, was born in Niles, Ohio.

In 1856, Britain's Queen Victoria introduced the Victoria Cross to reward military acts of valor during the Crimean War.

In 1861, Kansas became the 34th state of the Union.

In 1919, the ratification of the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which launched Prohibition, was certified by Acting Secretary of State Frank L. Polk.

In 1936, the first inductees of baseball's Hall of Fame, including Ty Cobb and Babe Ruth, were named in Cooperstown, New York.

In 1958, actors Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward were married in Las Vegas.

In 1963, the first charter members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame were named in Canton, Ohio (they were enshrined when the Hall opened in September 1963). Poet Robert Frost died in Boston at age 88.

In 1964, Stanley Kubrick's nuclear war satire "Dr. Strangelove Or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb" premiered in New York, Toronto and London. The Winter Olympic Games opened in Innsbruck, Austria. Actor Alan Ladd, 50, died in Palm Springs, California.

In 1975, a bomb exploded inside the U.S. State Department in Washington, causing considerable damage, but injuring no one; the radical group Weather Underground claimed responsibility.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan announced in a nationally broadcast message that he and Vice President George H.W. Bush would seek re-election in the fall.

In 1998, a bomb rocked an abortion clinic in Birmingham, Alabama, killing security guard Robert Sanderson and critically injuring nurse Emily Lyons. (The bomber, Eric Rudolph, was captured in May 2003 and is serving a life sentence.)

Ten years ago: John McCain won a breakthrough triumph in the Florida primary, easing past Mitt Romney for his first-ever triumph in a primary open only to Republicans. Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton claimed victory in a campaign-free Florida presidential primary in which all the candidates had signed pledges not to compete. (The national Democratic Party had stripped the state of its delegates as punishment for moving its primary ahead of Feb. 5.) Margaret Truman, the only child of President Harry S. Truman, died in Chicago at age 83. Raymond Jacobs, believed to be the last surviving member of the group of Marines photographed during the first U.S. flag-raising on Iwo Jima, died in Redding, California, at age 82.

Five years ago: BP PLC closed the book on the Justice Department's criminal probe of its role in the 2010 Deepwater Horizon disaster and Gulf of Mexico oil spill, with a U.S. judge agreeing to let the London-based oil giant plead guilty to manslaughter charges for the deaths of 11 rig workers and pay a record \$4 billion

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in penalties. The Senate overwhelmingly confirmed President Barack Obama's choice of five-term Sen. John Kerry to be secretary of state, 94-3. (Kerry voted present.)

One year ago: Six people were killed in a shooting at a Quebec City mosque during evening prayers; a 27-year-old university student was charged with murder and attempted murder. The White House vigorously defended President Donald Trump's immigration restrictions, as protests against the order banning travelers from seven predominantly Muslim countries spread throughout the country. The AFC won a 20-13 victory over the NFC in the Pro Bowl in Orlando, Florida. Roger Federer won his 18th Grand Slam title, defeating Rafael Nadal 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3 at the Australian Open.

Today's Birthdays: Writer-composer-lyricist Leslie Bricusse is 87. Feminist author Germaine Greer is 79. Actress Katharine Ross is 78. Feminist author Robin Morgan is 77. Actor Tom Selleck is 73. Rhythm-and-blues singer Bettye LaVette is 72. Actor Marc Singer is 70. Actress Ann Jillian is 68. Rock musician Louie Perez (Los Lobos) is 65. Rhythm-and-blues/funk singer Charlie Wilson is 65. Talk show host Oprah Winfrey is 64. Actor Terry Kinney is 64. Country singer Irlene Mandrell is 62. Actress Diane Delano is 61. Actress Judy Norton Taylor (TV: "The Waltons") is 60. Rock musician Johnny Spampinato is 59. Olympic gold-medal diver Greg Louganis is 58. Rock musician David Baynton-Power (James) is 57. Rock musician Eddie Jackson (Queensryche) is 57. Actor Nicholas Turturro is 56. Rock singer-musician Roddy Frame (Aztec Camera) is 54. Actor-director Edward Burns is 50. Actor Sam Trammell is 49. Actress Heather Graham is 48. House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., is 48. Actor Sharif Atkins is 43. Actress Sara Gilbert is 43. Actress Kelly Packard is 43. Actor Justin Hartley is 41. Actor Sam Jaeger is 41. Writer and TV personality Jedediah Bila is 39. Actor Andrew Keegan is 39. Actor Jason James Richter is 38. Blues musician Jonny Lang is 37. Pop-rock singer Adam Lambert (TV: "American Idol") is 36. Country singer Eric Paslay is 35.

Thought for Today: "Any idiot can face a crisis — it's this day-to-day living that wears you out." — Anton Chekhov, Russian author and playwright (born this date in 1860, died in 1904).

Riddle Answer: Tomorrow