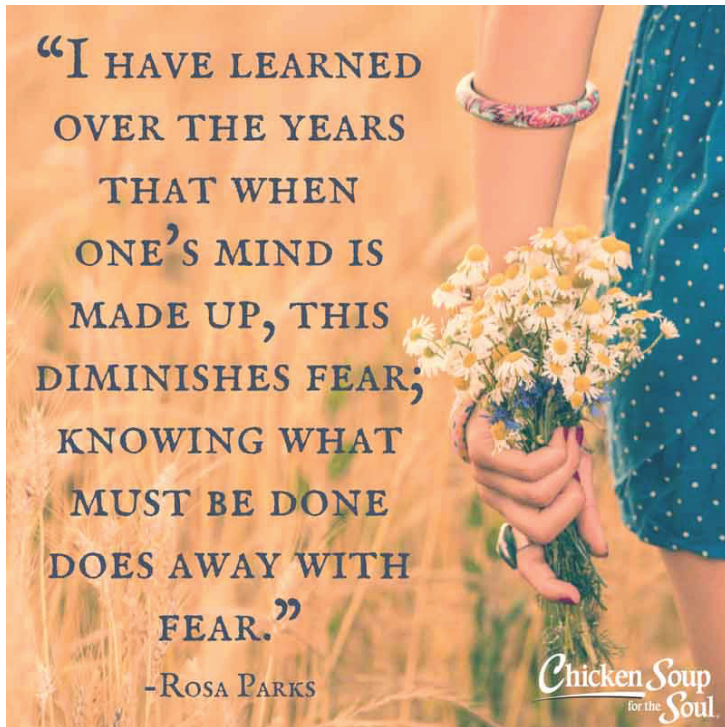


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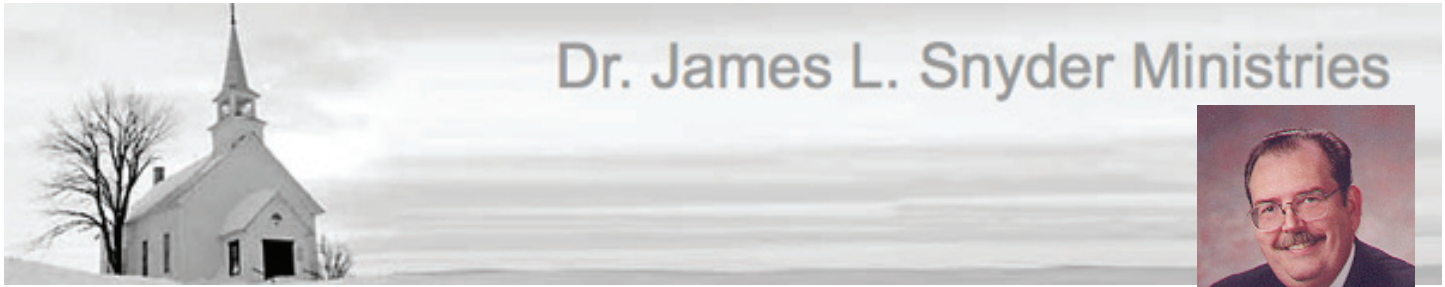
- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Kristi Peterson Bookkeeping
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- Rev. Snyder's Column
- 2- Robert Whitmyre for Dist. 1
- 2- Groton Care & Rehab
- 3- Joan Kjellsen's 80th Birthday
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- 6- What's Happening in State Government June 2 – 8, 2018
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- 13- Today's Weather Almanac
- 14- Daily Devotional
- 15- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 16- News from the Associated Press

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

Kristi Peterson Bookkeeping
Simple Solutions for YOU
605/216-4474 ~ peterson4@nvc.net

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries



A Merry Heart Doeth Good

With all the sad news in our country today, it is about time for some good news. However, the way things are going I am not going to hold my breath.

We just finished supper and the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I was watching a little bit of television. We like to try to catch up on the news after a day of working.

I well remember the time when the "world news" was only broadcast for 30 minutes, which was broken up by commercials. It is hard to get all the news that is worth hearing together for 30 minutes. Back in "the day," the commentators were able to do it. At least we did not hear about all the news of the day, which was a blessing.

It is a different story today. We hear news from around the world all day long. In fact, some television channels are devoted exclusively to news 24/7. The problem with that is 99.9% of the news is bad news. Good news does not have much of a place on television. We are too busy these days to listen to good news.

We had just settled down to catch up and some of the news and I was not paying too much attention. The way I am, I can watch the news and not hear anything they are saying. My wife, on the other side of the room, hears every word the news commentators are talking about.

We were relaxing, enjoying some coffee while watching the TV. I was drifting off into Whatever Land and just chilling. It was then that I heard from across the room some gasping.

"What is wrong with people?" And, "Don't they know to do any better?" And, "What does all that violence solve?"

I looked over at my wife and saw her grimacing at the TV. Every once in a while she would shake her

Robert Whitmyre

Democrat for District 1

House of Representatives



I would like to be a new voice in Pierre to work for our rural areas, the needs and rights of our citizens, and improve the opportunities for our young people that want to make South Dakota their home.

I ask for your vote in the June 5th primary.

- Lifelong Day County Ag Producer
- 30 Years in Manufacturing Industry
 - WEB Water Board of Directors
- National Farmers Union Policy Committee
 - Odin Lodge Sons of Norway President
 - Webster High School Graduate
- BS in Mechanical Engineering from SDSU

Authorized and Paid for by

Whitmyre for District 1 House Committee, |
David Sigdestad Treasurer - 42449 133rd St. -
Pierpont, SD 57468

Groton Job Opportunities

C.N.A.s ~ Nurses

Part-Time Cook

Contact Brynn Pickrel or Nellie Hatfield at 605-397-2365 or apply in person.

EOE/AA/M/F/V/D-Drug Free Workplace



GROTON
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

1106 N. 2nd Street, Groton

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head and make some kind of a moaning sound.

I knew not to interrupt her Grimacing Moment and allowed her to have her space. After all, everybody needs a little bit of personal space.

"I can't believe," she said most disgustingly, "that he actually said that! What is wrong with that person?"

I did not need to tell her that we live in a very crazy world. A world that has lost all sense of sanity. Unless you are insane these days, you are not going to get along with anybody.

At this point in the evening, I certainly did not want to get into a discussion about how crazy our world was. I have ridden in this rodeo before and I am not ready for another ride.

My wife and I agree on many things and this is one of them. Anger, hatred and violence never solve anything. What we need today is a little more laughter.

Even there the world has gone crazy. The so-called "comedians" are just as bad if not worse than the average insane person in our country. They have a platform to make people laugh, but they use it to vent their anger and wrath toward somebody.

I knew I had to pull my wife out of this cesspool of lunacy. Then a thought came to me. If you want to get your wife to laugh, remind her of something about her great-grandson. It works all the time.

"I was wondering," I said, trying to direct her attention away from the television, "what our great-grandson was doing today. I wonder if he's having fun?"

It worked beautifully. She looked at me and changed that hard grimace look into a hilarious laughter.

"You know," she said, "I was just thinking about him today. I wonder what he's doing today."

Then she was off talking about her great-grandson and some very happy moments she had with him. Of course, I cannot be sure of this, but some of what she said was a little bit exaggerated. Believe me, I am not the only one in the family that exaggerates.

However, it worked. It got her away from the heaviness of the insane world around us to the hilarious world of great-grandsons. Nothing is funnier than a great-grandson.

There is a song out in the world that says, "What this world needs is love, sweet love." I am not sure who sang it, but there is a message to that. I think it goes much further than that. If I was a songwriter or a singer (don't worry, I'm not going to sing) I would write a song called "What the world needs is laughter, hilarious laughter."

Love can be rather complicated but laughter opens all the flood-gates of real joy.

After a half-hour of laughing about her great-grandson, my wife was back to her normal, jolly self. Laughter makes all the difference in the world. You can tell a lot about a person by what it takes to make him or her laugh.

Solomon understood this better than anyone when he wrote, "All the days of the afflicted are evil: but he that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast" (Proverbs 15:15). And, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones" (Proverbs 17:22).

If I were a doctor, this would be my prescription. Laugh three times, and then call me in the morning with a new joke.

80th Birthday . . .



Joan Kjellsen

Joan will be celebrating her 80th Birthday on Tuesday, June 12, 2018. Her family requests a card shower in her honor.

Greetings may be sent to:
Joan Kjellsen
208 Hillview Rd
Sisseton, SD 57262

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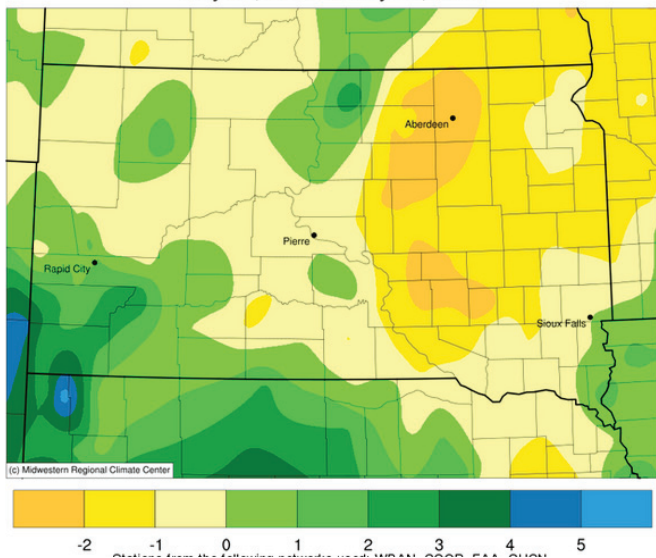
May 2018 Climate Summary

May 2018 was either very wet or very dry, depending on your location. While a generally active pattern brought several opportunities for precipitation, Aberdeen recorded their 7th driest May on record with just 0.52" of moisture (1900 holds the record at 0.25"). This is 0.13" less than was recorded in May 2017. However, 2017 was drier than 2018 from January 1st to May 31st in Aberdeen by 0.58" (3.76" below normal vs 3.18" below normal respectively). On the contrary, an exceptionally heavy rainfall event took place across portions of north central South Dakota on May 17th. Training thunderstorms, those which develop and pass over the same areas over extended periods of time, led to extreme rainfall reports including 13.15" four miles northwest of Long Lake, SD. These measurements are being vetted to determine if they meet standards necessary to qualify as South Dakota's state 24 hour precipitation record (currently held by Groton, SD with 8.74" recorded on May 6th, 2007). This heavy rainfall contributed to the failure of the Hiddenwood Lake Dam about 4 miles north of Selby, SD on the morning of May 18th. Several area roadways were submerged as a result. More information on the May 17th event can be found here: https://www.weather.gov/abr/2018May17_18_severe_flooding

May 2018 was very warm across the board, May 24-27th in particular. The following were record daily high temperatures: Watertown reached 96° on the 27th, Sisseton reached 90° on the 24th, 93° on the 25th, and 95° on the 26th, and Aberdeen reached 94° on the 25th, 97° on the 26th and 101° on the 27th. This is only the 4th year on record in Aberdeen when a May day reached at least 100° (once in 2018, 1959 and 1931, and 7 times in 1934). This was the 3rd warmest May on record in Aberdeen (64.5° average temperature vs 1st place 69° in 1934), the 3rd warmest May on record in Sisseton (64.3° average temperature vs 1st place 70.3° in 1934), the 3rd warmest May on record in Wheaton (64.8° vs 1st place 67.1° in 1977, the 4th warmest in Timber Lake, 7th in Pierre and Watertown, and 8th warmest in Kennebec. This is an abrupt turn-around from just a month ago. Amazingly, Aberdeen recorded their 2nd coldest April on record this year, and both Sisseton and Wheaton recorded their 3rd coldest April on record this year. "Normal" weather is just the average of extremes in the Northern Plains after all.

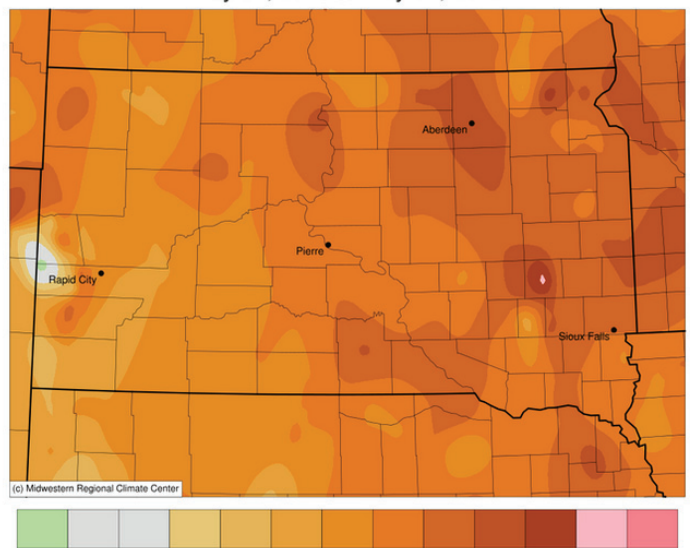
Accumulated Precipitation (in): Departure from 1981-2010 Normal:

May 01, 2018 to May 31, 2018



Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals

May 01, 2018 to May 31, 2018



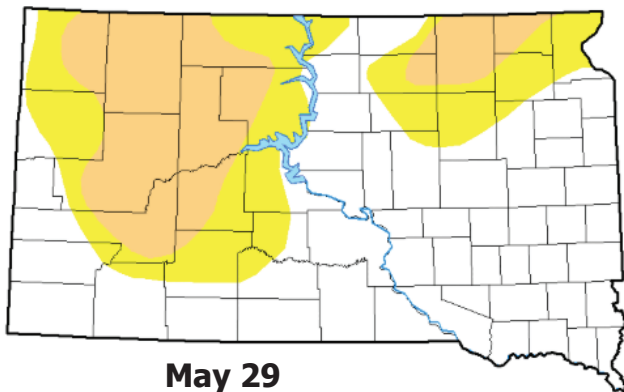
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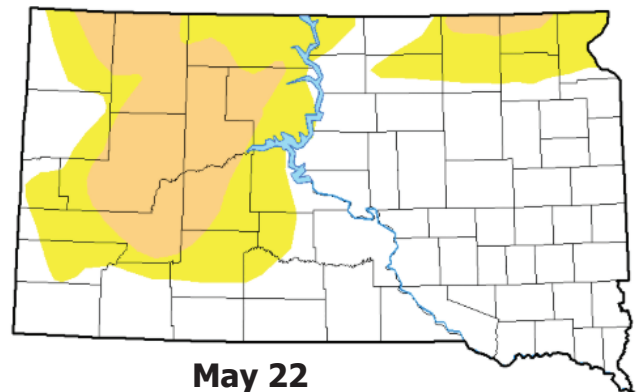
Drought Monitor

Drought Classification

None D0 (Abnormally Dry) D1 (Moderate Drought) D2 (Severe Drought) D3 (Extreme Drought) D4 (Exceptional Drought)



May 29



May 22

In south-central and southeastern Nebraska, recent triple-digit heat and dryness has been an issue, especially for pastures and alfalfa. Where 90-day SPIs were less than -1.5, moderate drought (D1) was introduced. This included a small area south of Omaha, which was linked to the D1 area in nearby Iowa. Moderate drought (D1) was also expanded across northern Fillmore and northwest Saline counties. Incidentally, Omaha matched or set four days of high temperature records during the long Memorial Day weekend (Friday through Monday). The highs ranged between 97 and 101 degrees F. Across northwest Kansas, widespread heavy rain (3 inches or greater, with some isolated CoCoRaHS totals of about 9 inches) warranted a one-category improvement in the depiction. Next week, once the rainwater has a chance to either percolate into the soil or run off into streams, additional alteration of the Kansas depiction may be needed. Across the Dakotas, D0, D1, and D2 categorical areas were generally expanded in coverage, due mostly to recent precipitation deficits. There was one area of improvement (D0 was removed) in the Black Hills of South Dakota due to rainfall this past week.

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What's Happening in State Government June 2 – 8, 2018

Gov. Dennis Daugaard's Public Commitments; Public Meetings:

Monday, June 4, 1 p.m. CDT, Sioux Falls, University Center – Gov. Dennis Daugaard will join local leaders for a Discovery District project announcement.

Tuesday, June 5, to Thursday, June 7, Boston, Massachusetts – Gov. Dennis Daugaard will attend the 2018 BIO International Convention.

Friday, June 8, 10 a.m. MDT, Rushmore Plaza Civic Center Theater – Lt. Gov. Matt Michels will speak at the Detachment 1, Company B, 935th Support Battalion activation ceremony.

Monday, June 4, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota Board of Barber Examiners will hold a meeting to conduct practical examinations at the Dakota Barbers Barbershop, 122 E. Sioux Ave., Suite C. The full agenda is available online at <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=11>. For more information or to request accommodations for the meeting, contact Professional Licensing at 605-642-1600.

Monday, June 4, 1 – 5 p.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota Board of Barber Examiners will hold a meeting at the Governors Inn, 700 W. Sioux Ave., in the Kneip Room. The full agenda is available online at <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=11>. For more information or to request accommodations for the meeting, contact Professional Licensing at 605-642-1600.

Tuesday, June 5, 9 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The REDI (Revolving Economic Development and Initiative) Credit Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, June 5, at 9 a.m. CDT at 711 E. Wells Ave. Please contact Cassie Stoeser, GOED finance director, at 605-773-GOED (4633) for more information. <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=31>.

Tuesday, June 5, 9 a.m. CDT – The 9-1-1 Coordination Board meets via teleconference. A draft agenda will be listed at <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=2>. For more information, contact Shawnie Rechtenbaugh at 605-773-8145.

Wednesday, June 6, 6 – 9 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – DENR will host a meeting to discuss and accept public input to develop and implement South Dakota's Volkswagen Beneficiary Mitigation Plan. The meeting will be held from 6-9 p.m. MDT at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center, 2111 N. LaCrosse, in Rapid City. For more information, visit <http://denr.sd.gov/des/aaVW.aspx> or contact Barb Regynski, DENR, at 605-773-3151.

Wednesday, June 6, 3 p.m. CDT, Springfield – The Corrections Commission will meet at the Mike Durfee State Prison, 1412 Wood Street, in Springfield. For a proposed agenda and more information, go to <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=17>.

Wednesday, June 6, 9 – 10:30 a.m. CDT – The Board of Accountancy will hold a meeting via conference call. To participate in the meeting via telephone, please use the call-in number 1-844-833-2684 and access code 0689670#. To view the meeting agenda and other materials, visit <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=4>. For more information, call Nicole at 605-367-5770.

Wednesday, June 6, 1 – 5 p.m. CDT, and Thursday, June 7, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. CDT, Aberdeen – The South Dakota Board of Vocational Rehabilitation will hold its quarterly meeting at the Best Western Ramkota in Aberdeen. For more information contact Eric Weiss at 605-773-3195.

Wednesday, June 6, 8:30 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota Special Education Advisory Panel will meet in the Library Commons of the MacKay Building, 800 Governors Drive. An agenda is posted at <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=16>. The meeting will also be livestreamed at <http://www.sd.net/home/>.

Thursday, June 7, 9 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota Veterinary Medical Examining Board will be holding a meeting at the Animal industry Board conference room, 411 South Fort Street. A full agenda can be found at <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=103>. For more information, please contact the office at 605-773-3321.

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Thursday, June 7, 9 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota Lottery Commission will hold its quarterly meeting in LRC room 412 at the Capitol Building in Pierre. The meeting's agenda can be viewed at <https://lottery.sd.gov/about/commission/>, and audio will be streamed live at <http://www.sd.net/room412/>. For more information, contact Wade LaRoche, 605-773-5869.

Friday, June 8, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CDT, Fort Pierre – The Department of Social Services' Board of Social Work Examiners will hold a teleconference board meeting at the Holiday Inn, 110 E. Stanley Road. For more information and to view the agenda, please visit <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=91>.

Friday, June 8, 1 – 3 p.m. CDT, Pierre – The Department of Social Services' Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee will hold a meeting at 500 E. Capitol, Capitol Building DDN, Rm. CAP A. For more information and to view the agenda, please visit <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=204>.

You Might Also Be Interested To Know:

Monday, June 4, to Thursday, June 7: The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Field Service Officers will be at the following County and Tribal Veterans Service Offices to assist with veteran related claims, issues and questions.

Monday, June 4:

- 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Burke – 221 E. 8th St. 605-280-4306
- 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. MDT, Dupree – 501 S. Main St. 605-280-4308
- 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – 725 N. LaCrosse St. #200 605-280-4307

Wednesday, June 6:

- 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT, Rapid City - 725 N. LaCrosse St. #200 605-280-4307
- 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CDT, Roscoe – 210 S. Mitchell St. 605-280-4308
- 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Wessington Springs – 205 Wallace Ave. S. 605-280-4306

Thursday, June 7:

- 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT, Dupree – 501 S. Main St. 605-280-4308
- 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – 725 N. LaCrosse St. #200 605-280-4307

Monday, June 4, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT, Phillip – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available in Phillip. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

Monday, June 4, to Thursday, June 7 – The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation will host Job Search Assistance Programs (JSAP). JSAP is a workshop for people recovering from job loss or enhancing their job search skills. Trained instructors speak on modern-day techniques used to successfully find employment. Topics covered include resume and cover letter writing, interviewing etiquette, networking effectively, using social media and much more. JSAP will be offered at the following locations:

Monday June 4, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CDT, Sioux Falls – at 811 E. 10th St. Registration required. For more information or to register, call 605-367-5300.

• Tuesday, June 5, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – at 2330 N. Maple Ave. For more information, call 605-394-2296 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Wednesday, June 6, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT, Pierre – at 116 W. Missouri Ave. For more information, call 605-773-3372 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Thursday, June 7, 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Aberdeen – at 420 S. Roosevelt St. Parties interested in attending should register by calling 605-626-2340 prior to 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 6. For more information, visit www.sdjobs.org.

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Tuesday, June 5, to Wednesday, June 7 – The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation will hold itinerant office hours. Both job seekers and employers interested in receiving employment and career services at no cost may visit or call during these office hours. More information on programs and services is available at www.sdjobs.org. Itinerant office hours will be held at the following locations:

- Tuesday, June 5, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, De Smet – at the Kingsbury County Courthouse, 101 2nd St. SE. For more information during these hours, call 605-854-3309 or 605-688-4350 at any other time. Additional information at www.sdjobs.org.

- Tuesday, June 5, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. MDT, Sturgis – at 1401 Lazelle St., Meade Room, or call 605-641-0965 during these office hours and 605-642-6900 at any other time. Additional information at www.sdjobs.org.

- Tuesday, June 5, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. CDT, Wagner – at the Bureau of Indian Affairs, 29775 Main Ave. For more information, call 605-487-7607, ext. 207 or 212, or visit www.sdjobs.org.

- Wednesday, June 6, 12 – 3 p.m. CDT, Mobridge – at the Mobridge Economic Development office, 205 2nd St. E., Suite 1. For more information during office hours, call 605-380-8930 and 605-626-2340 at any other time. Additional information at www.sdjobs.org.

- Thursday, June 7, 1 – 3 p.m. CDT, Britton – at Marshall County Community Hall. For more information during these hours, call 605-380-8930 and 605-626-2340 at any other time. Additional information at www.sdjobs.org.

Tuesday, June 5 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

- Kyle, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT
- Canton, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT
- Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT
- Webster, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Timber Lake, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT
- Desmet, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Fort Thompson, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Howard, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Miller, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT
- Wagner, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT

Wednesday, June 6 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

- Wanblee, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT
- Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT
- Salem, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Britton, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT
- Faulkton, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Dupree, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MDT

Thursday, June 7 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

- Canton, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. CDT
- Kyle, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT
- Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT
- Lemmon, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT
- Armour, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT
- Plankinton, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Lower Brule, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT

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SOCIAL SECURITY SUPPORTS PEOPLE BATTLING CANCER

By: Patty Hoffman

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

In 2018, more than a million people will be diagnosed with cancer around the world. This alarming statistic affects people and families everywhere. On June 3, 2018, we observe National Cancer Survivors Day in the United States. In support of this day, Social Security encourages getting checkups to provide early detection, raise awareness through education, and recognize the survivors who have gone through this battle or are still living with the disease.

Social Security supports people who are fighting cancer. We offer support to patients dealing with this disease through our disability program. People with certain cancers may be eligible for a Compassionate Allowance. Compassionate Allowances are cases where individuals have medical conditions so severe they obviously meet Social Security's disability standards, allowing us to process the cases quickly with minimal medical information.

There's no special application or form you need to submit for Compassionate Allowances. Simply apply for disability benefits using the standard Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) application. Once we identify you as having a Compassionate Allowance condition, we'll expedite your disability application.

Social Security establishes Compassionate Allowance conditions using information received at public outreach hearings, from the Social Security and Disability Determination Services communities, from medical and scientific experts, and from data based on our research. For more information about Compassionate Allowances, including the list of eligible conditions, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances.

Some illnesses are more disabling than others and Social Security tries to treat everyone with equal compassion relative to their condition. If you think you qualify for disability benefits based on a Compassionate Allowances condition, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov to apply for benefits.

Patty Hoffman is the Public Affairs Specialist for ND, SD and Western MN. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 4207 Boulder Ridge Road, Ste. 100, Bismarck ND 58503 or via email at patty.hoffman@ssa.gov.

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Random Photos



Emma Donley is concentrating on her project as she was painting images on the door at the pool on Saturday. The fruit of her labor can be seen above. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



A trio of young foxes were seen east of Andover on the short cut road going to Pierpont. (Photos by Paul Kosel)



A mother duck and your ducklings were walking down Second Avenue West before heading into a yard. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

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Today in Weather History

June 3, 1898: A violent windstorm passed over Aberdeen between 1 AM and 2 AM. Damage was confined to awnings, roofs of buildings, and plate glass windows.

June 3, 1933: This estimated F2 tornado moved ENE from 6 miles southwest of Wilmot, passing 3 miles south of town and dissipating at Big Stone Lake. A child was killed in a barn. Roof, barn, and church debris was scattered for miles, and over a dozen farms were heavily damaged. This tornado was estimated to be on the ground for about 15 miles.

June 3, 1975: Severe thunderstorms erupted across central sections of South Dakota. During the evening hours, the storms stretched from the southern border to the North Dakota state line and were packing high winds and large hail. In several areas, including Mobridge, hail as large as baseballs did damage to crops, homes, and vehicles and in some regions piled up to two feet deep. Strong thunderstorm winds also uprooted trees and damaged numerous farm buildings. Multiple funnels and small tornadoes were observed, including three in Charles Mix County.

June 3, 1997: Heavy rains of 2 to 4 inches through the early morning hours resulted in the flooding of some roads, fields, and creeks across parts of Jones and Lyman counties. In particular, the KOA campgrounds near Presho were heavily flooded. The KOA office and home had three and a half feet of water in them. Also, several homes near or in Presho received water and were heavily damaged. The Medicine and Stoney Butte creeks set record highs.

1860: Iowa's infamous Camanche Tornado, likely an F5 storm, kills 92 and injures 200. Every home and business were destroyed. It was one of the most damaging families of tornadoes ever to strike the US and resulted in more farm fatalities than any other tornado except for the Tri-State tornado.

1921 - A cloudburst near Pikes Peak CO killed 120 people. Pueblo CO was flooded by a twenty-five foot crest of the Arkansas River, killing 70 persons. Fourteen inches of rain was reported at Boggs Flat, where a hard surface road through nearly level country was washed out to a depth of seven feet. (The Weather Channel)

1959 - Thunderstorms in northwestern Kansas produced up to eighteen inches of hail near Salden during the early evening. Crops were completely destroyed, and total damage from the storm was about half a million dollars. Hail fell for a record eighty-five minutes. The temperature dropped from near 80 degrees prior to the storm to 38 degrees at the height of the storm. (David Ludlum)

1993: Early morning severe thunderstorms dumped huge hailstones across northern Oklahoma. Hail, up to 6 inches in diameter in Enid, went through roofs of homes, damaged three jets at Vance Air Force Base, and did \$500,000 in damage at a car dealership. Winds gusts reached 70 mph at Vance Air Force Base as well. Hail damage to the wheat crop was estimated at 70 million dollars.

1997: It was a chilly day in the East. The high temperature at Philadelphia International Airport was only 59 degrees, tying a record-low maximum for the date set back in 1881. The temperature at Middletown, Pennsylvania rose to 58 degrees, breaking the record-low maximum for the date of 59 degrees set back in 1915. Washington, DC only reached 58 degrees, breaking the old record-low maximum of 59 set back in 1915. Central Park in New York City only reached 61 degrees.








1987 - Six days of flooding in South Texas culminated with five to six inch rains from Bexar County to Bandera County, and five to nine inches rains in Gonzalez and Wilson Counties. Total crop damage was estimated at 500 million dollars. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Early morning thunderstorms in southern Texas produced wind gusts to 86 mph at Port Isabel, and wind gusts to 83 mph at South Padre Island. Unseasonably hot weather prevailed from the Southern Plateau Region to the Northern High Plains. Fourteen cities reported record high temperatures for the date. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms developing over the Southern Plains Region during the afternoon hours produced severe weather into the night. Thunderstorms spawned eleven tornadoes, and there were 169 reports of large hail and damaging winds. Thunderstorm winds gusted to 80 mph at Newcastle, OK, and Wilson, OK. Softball size hail was reported at Monahans, Childress and Groesbeck TX. Monahans TX reported six million dollars damage. Five inches of rain deluged Geronimo OK. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
						
Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Hot	Chance Showers	Mostly Sunny
High: 79 °F	Low: 50 °F	High: 88 °F	Low: 61 °F	High: 95 °F	Low: 66 °F	High: 87 °F

Breezy Across Eastern SD and Western MN

Mostly sunny skies

Highs in the lower 80s and upper 70s



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD

Updated: 6/3/2018 5:07 AM Central

Published on: 06/03/2018 at 5:15AM

Above average temperatures for early June continue, but it'll be cool today compared to what's ahead... Monday's highs will be right back into the mid 80s to low 90s, and Tuesday may see low to mid 90's.

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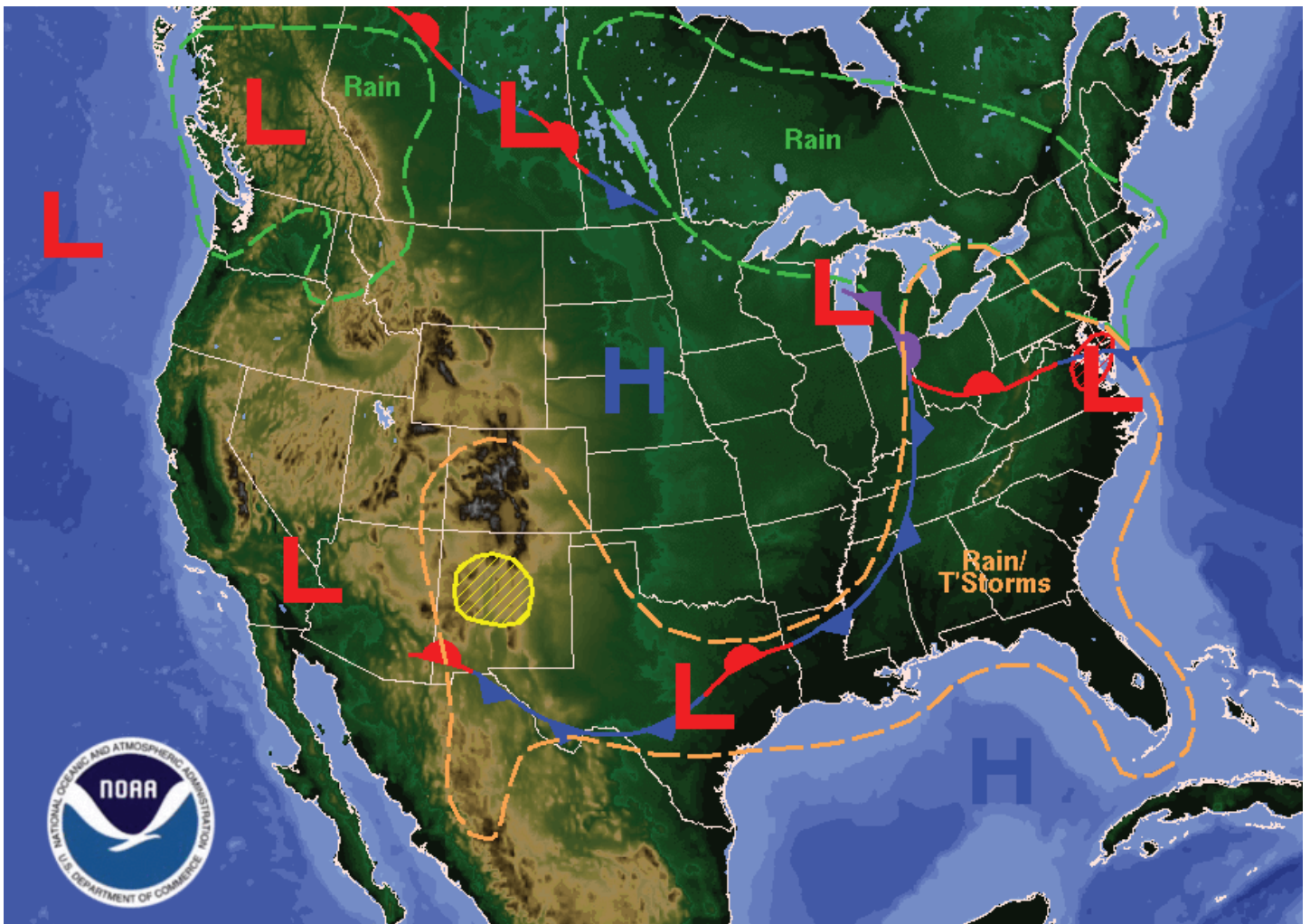
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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 72.3 F at 4:49 PM
Low Outside Temp: 57.8 F at 10:48 PM
Wind Chill:
High Gust: 36.0 Mph at 3:37 PM
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 100° in 1933
Record Low: 34° in 1950
Average High: 74°F
Average Low: 50°F
Average Precip in June: 0.34
Precip to date in June: 0.04
Average Precip to date: 7.48
Precip Year to Date: 4.34
Sunset Tonight: 9:16 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:47 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Jun 03, 2018, issued 3:31 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Hamrick 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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IN THE NAME OF THE LORD - PEACE



Bee researchers have discovered that there are more than 20,000 species of bees. Each species of bee has its own colony or community and bees can be found in most parts of the world. Each species has three types of bees: the queen bee, the worker bee and the drone. Bees can see all colors but red and have a strong sense of smell that helps them find flowers to gather pollen that produces honey. The honey that bees produce has been prized for years because it is a source of sweetness and energy. Recently, however, honey has been identified as a resource that may be helpful to contribute to certain types of healing.

While information about bees may be interesting to some, most of us care only about their honey or the fear that we might be stung by one. At least that was the attitude of the Psalmist. When surrounded by his enemies he said, "They

swarmed around me like bees, but they were consumed as quickly as burning thorns." Obviously, he was terribly threatened by those who would destroy him, but his faith and trust in God put him at ease. "In the name of the Lord I cut them - my enemies - down."

Each day we face many "enemies." They come at us from every direction. Whether our "enemies" are doubts or fears, a life threatening disease or the loss of a loved one, financial woes or being abandoned - you name it - enemies come in all sizes and shapes and from every direction.

No one is immune from the "sting" of an enemy. But, thank God, when we Christians are besieged by the hurts that come from the "stings" of life, the Lord will heal them.

Prayer: How grateful we are Lord, to know that when we are "swarmed" by the "bees" of life, You will rescue us! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 118:12 They swarmed around me like bees, but they were consumed as quickly as burning thorns; in the name of the Lord I cut them down.

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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)
- 1/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 4/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/4/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/27/2019 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)
- 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party

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

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News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash
05-09-11-20-21
(five, nine, eleven, twenty, twenty-one)
Estimated jackpot: \$48,000

Lotto America
05-13-14-44-50, Star Ball: 2, ASB: 2
(five, thirteen, fourteen, forty-four, fifty; Star Ball: two; ASB: two)
Estimated jackpot: \$3.15 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$110 million

Powerball
23-25-37-44-64, Powerball: 7, Power Play: 4
(twenty-three, twenty-five, thirty-seven, forty-four, sixty-four; Powerball: seven; Power Play: four)
Estimated jackpot: \$74 million

Man, woman who died in utility vehicle crash are identified

KENNEBEC, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have released the names of the man and woman who died in a utility vehicle crash last month.

Authorities say 79-year-old James Schaefer of Kennebec and 80-year-old Lois Zickrick of Sioux Falls died when the side-by-side ATV they were riding in crashed into a car on Tuesday. The three people in the car suffered minor injuries.

Authorities say both Schaefer and Zickrick were thrown from the ATV and were pronounced dead on the scene. Their vehicle was heading northbound on state Highway 273 when it failed to stop at a stop sign and was hit by the car.

It's still not clear who was driving the utility vehicle.

Demolition explosives found at Sioux Falls construction site

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Sioux Falls police bomb squad was called to a construction site after some old demolition explosives were unearthed.

Authorities got a call about suspicious devices on Friday in a construction zone northeast of Interstate 229 and East 26th Street.

Authorities determined the devices were old construction demolition explosives. The bomb squad detonated them early Saturday, making a loud noise, but there was no other damage.

Police say several roads were temporarily shut down but have since reopened.

China warns US trade deals off if tariffs go ahead

By JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — China warned Sunday after another round of talks on a sprawling trade dispute with Washington that any deals they produce “will not take effect” if President Donald Trump’s threatened tariff hike on Chinese goods goes ahead.

The warning came after delegations led by U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and China’s top economic official, Vice Premier Liu He, wrapped up a meeting on Beijing’s pledge to narrow its trade surplus. Ross said at the start of the event they had discussed specific American exports China might purchase, but the talks ended with no joint statement and neither side released details.

The White House threw the meeting’s status into doubt Tuesday by renewing a threat to impose 25 percent tariffs on \$50 billion of Chinese high-tech goods in response to complaints Beijing steals or pressures foreign companies to hand over technology. The event went ahead despite that but Beijing said it reserved the right to retaliate.

Tuesday’s announcement revived fears the conflict between the two biggest economies might dampen global growth or encourage other governments to raise their own barriers to imports.

“If the United States introduces trade sanctions including a tariff increase, all the economic and trade achievements negotiated by the two parties will not take effect,” said the Chinese statement, carried by the official Xinhua News Agency.

The negotiating process should be “based on the premise” of not fighting a “trade war,” the statement said.

The American Embassy in Beijing didn’t immediately respond to a request for comment.

Trump is pressing Beijing to narrow its politically volatile trade surplus with the United States, which reached a record \$375.2 billion last year. That comes at the same time Trump has riled some of America’s closest allies with the imposition of tariffs on steel and aluminum imports.

After a three-day meeting of finance ministers from the G7 industrial nations that ended Saturday in Canada, Canadian Finance Minister Bill Morneau issued a summary saying the other six members want Trump to hear their message of “concern and disappointment” over the U.S. trade actions.

Allies including Canada and the European Union are threatening retaliatory tariffs.

Bruno Le Maire, France’s finance and economy minister, was blunt in his assessment of the meeting.

“It has been a tense and tough G7 — I would say it’s been far more a G6 plus one than a G7,” said Le Maire, who called the tariffs unjustified.

“We regret that our common work together at the level of the G7 has been put at risk by the decisions taken by the American administration on trade and on tariffs,” he said

U.S. tensions with China had eased after Beijing promised on May 19 to “significantly increase” purchases of farm goods, energy and other products and services following the last round of talks in Washington. U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said the dispute was “on hold” and the tariff hike would be postponed.

That truce appeared to end with Tuesday’s surprise announcement. It said the White House also will impose curbs on Chinese investment and purchases of U.S. high-tech goods and on visas for Chinese students.

Analysts suggested Trump might be trying to appease critics of his administration’s deal to allow Chinese telecom equipment giant ZTE Corp. to stay in business. They said those political pressures mean the technology-related tariff hikes are likely to go ahead.

Members of Congress criticized the agreement to lift a ban on sales of U.S. components to ZTE, which admitted violating rules on exports to Iran and North Korea. In exchange, the company is to remove its management team, hire American compliance officers and pay a fine.

Trump has threatened to raise tariffs on a total of up to \$150 billion of Chinese goods. Tuesday’s announcement gave no indication whether the other increases might also go ahead.

China has threatened to retaliate by raising import duties on a \$50 billion list of American goods including soybeans, small aircraft, whiskey, electric vehicles and orange juice. It criticized Tuesday’s announcement

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but refrained from repeating its earlier threat.

Beijing has resisted U.S. pressure to commit to a firm target of narrowing its annual surplus with the United States by \$200 billion.

Private sector analysts say while Beijing is willing to compromise on its trade surplus, it will resist changes that might threaten plans to transform China into a global technology competitor.

Ross was accompanied by agriculture, treasury and trade officials for the meeting at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, a leafy compound on Beijing's west side. Liu's delegation included China's central bank governor and commerce minister.

Ross and Liu held a working dinner Saturday ahead of their talks.

"Our meetings so far have been friendly and frank, and covered some useful topics about specific export items," said Ross at the opening of Sunday's meeting.

The U.S. pressure over technology policy reflects growing American concern about China's status as a potential competitor and complaints Beijing improperly subsidizes its fledgling industries and shields them from competition.

Foreign governments and businesses cite strategic plans such as "Made in China 2025," which calls for state-led efforts to create Chinese industry leaders in areas from robots to electric cars to computer chips.

Trade analysts had warned Ross's hand might be weakened by the Trump administration's decision Thursday to go ahead with tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada, Europe and Mexico.

That might alienate allies who share complaints about Chinese technology policy and a flood of low-priced steel, aluminum and other exports they say are the result of improper subsidies and hurt foreign competitors.

End of an era? Tea party class of House Republicans fades

By LISA MASCARO, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republican newcomers stunned Washington back in 2010 when they seized the House majority with bold promises to cut taxes and spending and to roll back what many viewed as Barack Obama's presidential overreach.

But don't call them tea party Republicans any more.

Eight years later, the House Tea Party Caucus is long gone. So, too, are almost half the 87 new House Republicans elected in the biggest GOP wave since the 1920s.

Some, including current Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and White House budget director Mick Mulvaney, joined the executive branch. Other slipped back to private life. Several are senators.

Now, with control of the House again at stake this fall and just three dozen of them seeking re-election, the tea party revolts show the limits of riding a campaign wave into the reality of governing.

Rep. Austin Scott, R-Ga., the class president, objects to the tea party brand that he says was slapped on the group by the media and the Obama administration. It's a label some lawmakers now would rather forget.

"We weren't who you all said we were," Scott said.

He prefers to call it the class of "small-business owners" or those who wanted to "stop the growth of the federal government." Despite all those yellow "Don't Tread on Me" flags and anti-Obama heath law rallies, Scott said the new Republican lawmakers wanted to work with the president, if only Obama would have engaged them. "We didn't come to take over the country," he said.

Yet change Washington they did, with a hard-charging, often unruly governing style that bucked convention, toppled GOP leaders and in many ways set the stage for the rise of Donald Trump.

By some measures, the tea party Republicans have been successful. The "Pledge to America," a 21-page manifesto drafted by House Republican leadership, outlined the promises. Among them: "stop out of control spending," "reform Congress" and "end economic uncertainty."

They forced Congress into making drastic spending cuts, in part by threatening to default on the nation's debt, turning a once-routine vote to raise the U.S. borrowing limit into cudgel during the annual budget

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fight,

Republicans halted environmental, consumer and workplace protection rules, and that rollback continues today.

Perhaps most notably, the GOP majority passed \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts that Trump signed into law, delivering on the tea party slogan penned on so many protest signs: "Taxed Enough Already."

But former Rep. Tim Huelskamp, R-Kan., said the "most egregious failure" was the GOP's inability to undo the Affordable Care Act, Obama's signature domestic achievement.

Huelskamp said the class never really stuck together. When he arrived that first week in Washington in January 2011, he was stunned to find the leadership slate already set with then Rep. John Boehner, R-Ohio, as speaker-in-waiting, facing little resistance.

"That was a sign: The establishment in Washington was happy to have our votes, but not to follow our agenda," said Huelskamp, who lost a primary election in 2016 to a political newcomer and now runs the conservative Heartland Institute. It was "just a clear misunderstanding of what the people wanted."

Over time, budget deals were struck with Democrats, boosting spending back to almost what it was before the revolt. Combined with the tax package, the GOP-led Congress is on track to push annual deficits near \$1 trillion next year, as high as during the Obama administration.

Maya MacGuineas, president at the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, said Republicans talked a good game promising to balance the budget, but with control of Congress — and now the White House — they failed to tackle the tough tax-and-spending challenges needed to get there.

"That's a whole lot of talk and zero follow through," she said.

Other proposals to improve transparency in government — a pledge to "read the bill" and post legislation three days before votes — remain works in progress. House bills are typically made public, but sometimes just before midnight to conform with the three-day rule.

Frustrations within the ranks grew, and the new class splintered. Not all of them had been favorites of their local tea party groups. Some joined other conservatives to form the House Freedom Caucus, which nudged Boehner to early retirement in 2015.

Former Florida Rep. Allen West, among the more prominent class members who lost re-election and is now a Fox News contributor living in Texas, said the challenge for House Republicans heading into the fall election is, "Who are they? What do they stand for?"

House Republicans are wrestling with a midterm message at a pivotal moment for a party that Boehner says no longer exists.

"There is no Republican Party. There's Trump's party," Boehner said at a recent policy conference in Michigan.

Boehner's successor as speaker, Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., also is stepping aside. He was a conservative up-and-comer long before the tea party, but has run into many of the same challenges Boehner faced in managing a fractured majority. He will retire after this term.

In fact, there are an unusually high number of House Republicans retiring this year, including nearly a dozen from the tea party class. Several are running to be governors or senators, though some have already lost in primaries. Others, including Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., another rising star, are simply moving on. Some resigned this year amid ethics scandals.

Jenny Beth Martin, a co-founder of Tea Party Patriots, says every movement "goes through phases." As the group looks to elect the next "Tea Party 100" members of the House, it's seeking "tested and proven" candidates beyond the "citizen legislators" who powered the early days.

Another 2010 leader, South Carolina's Tim Scott, now a senator, says he has no problem with the tea party label that's now etched in history.

But he reminds his colleagues as they campaign to keep the majority they must also eventually govern, and "promises made should be promises kept."

5 years on, US government still counting Snowden leak costs

By DEB RIECHMANN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Whistleblower or traitor, leaker or public hero?

Former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden blew the lid off U.S. government surveillance methods five years ago, but intelligence chiefs complain that revelations from the trove of classified documents he disclosed are still trickling out.

That includes recent reporting on a mass surveillance program run by close U.S. ally Japan, and on how the NSA targeted bitcoin users to gather intelligence to counterterrorism, narcotics and money laundering — both stories published by The Intercept, an investigative publication with access to Snowden documents.

The top U.S. counterintelligence official said journalists have publicly released only about 1 percent taken by the 34-year-old American, now living in exile in Russia, “so we don’t see this issue ending anytime soon.”

“This past year, we had more international, Snowden-related documents and breaches than ever,” Bill Evanina, who directs the National Counterintelligence and Security Center, said at a recent conference. “Since 2013, when Snowden left, there have been thousands of articles around the world with really sensitive stuff that’s been leaked.”

On June 5, 2013, The Guardian in Britain published the first story based on Snowden’s disclosures. It revealed that a secret court order was allowing the U.S. government to get Verizon to share the phone records of millions of Americans. Later stories, including those in The Washington Post, disclosed other snooping and how U.S. and British spy agencies had accessed information from cables carrying the world’s telephone and internet traffic.

Snowden’s defenders maintain that the U.S. government has for years exaggerated the damage his disclosures caused. Glenn Greenwald, a former journalist at The Guardian, said there are “thousands upon thousands of documents” that journalists have chosen not to publish because they would harm peoples’ reputation or privacy rights or because it would expose “legitimate surveillance programs.”

“It’s been almost five years since newspapers around the world began reporting on the Snowden archive and the NSA has offered all kinds of shrill and reckless rhetoric about the ‘damage’ it has caused, but never any evidence of a single case of a life being endangered let alone harmed,” Greenwald said.

U.S. intelligence officials say they are still counting the cost of his disclosures that went beyond actual intelligence collected to how it was collected. Evanina said intelligence agencies are finishing their seventh, classified assessment of the damage.

Joel Melstad, a spokesman for the counterintelligence center, said five U.S. intelligence agencies contributed to the latest damage assessment, which itself is highly classified. Melstad said damage has been observed or verified in five categories of information the U.S. government keeps classified to protect national security.

According to Melstad, Snowden-disclosed documents have put U.S. personnel or facilities at risk around the world, damaged intelligence collection efforts, exposed tools used to amass intelligence, destabilized U.S. partnerships abroad, and exposed U.S. intelligence operations, capabilities and priorities.

“With each additional disclosure, the damage is compounded — providing more detail to what our adversaries have already learned,” Melstad said.

Steven Aftergood, a declassification expert at the Federation of American Scientists, said he thinks intelligence agencies are continuing to do Snowden damage assessments because the disclosures’ relevance to foreign targets might take time to recognize and understand. He said the way that intelligence targets adapt based on information revealed and the impact on how the U.S. collects intelligence could continue for years. But he said that any damage that Snowden caused to U.S. intelligence partners abroad would have been felt immediately after the disclosures began in 2013.

Moscow has resisted U.S. pressure to extradite Snowden, who faces U.S. charges that could land him in prison for up to 30 years. From exile, Snowden often does online public speaking and has been active in developing tools that reporters can use, especially in authoritarian countries, to detect whether they are under surveillance.

Snowden supporters say the government is exaggerating when it claims he took more than 1 million documents and far fewer have actually been disclosed.

"I think the number of NSA documents that have been published is in the hundreds and not the thousands," said Snowden's lawyer, Ben Wizner. He said the government has never produced any public evidence that the released materials have caused "genuine harm" to U.S. national security.

"The mainstream view among intelligence professionals is that every day and every year that has gone by has lessened the value and importance of the Snowden archives," Wizner said. "The idea that information that was current in 2013 — and a lot of it was much older than that — might still alert somebody to anything in 2018 seems like a stretch."

Greenwald said the journalists were handed some 9,000 to 10,000 secret documents under the condition that they avoid disclosing any information that could harm innocent people, and that they give the NSA a chance to argue against the release of certain classified materials.

"We've honored his request with each document we've released," Greenwald said. "In most cases, we've rejected the NSA's arguments as unsubstantiated, but always gave them the opportunity for input, and will continue to do so."

He said that in 2016, The Intercept announced a program to disclose Snowden documents in bulk and open the collection to journalists and other experts around the world. Greenwald said that since then, hundreds of documents have been disclosed at a time after careful reviews.

Many breast cancer patients can skip chemo, big study finds

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE, AP Chief Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Most women with the most common form of early-stage breast cancer can safely skip chemotherapy without hurting their chances of beating the disease, doctors are reporting from a landmark study that used genetic testing to gauge each patient's risk.

The study is the largest ever done of breast cancer treatment, and the results are expected to spare up to 70,000 patients a year in the United States and many more elsewhere the ordeal and expense of these drugs.

"The impact is tremendous," said the study leader, Dr. Joseph Sparano of Montefiore Medical Center in New York. Most women in this situation don't need treatment beyond surgery and hormone therapy, and "the rest of them are receiving chemotherapy unnecessarily."

The study was funded by the National Cancer Institute, some foundations and proceeds from the U.S. breast cancer postage stamp. Results were discussed Sunday at an American Society of Clinical Oncology conference in Chicago and published by the New England Journal of Medicine. Some study leaders consult for breast cancer drugmakers or for the company that makes the gene test.

MOVING AWAY FROM CHEMO

Cancer care has been evolving away from chemotherapy — older drugs with harsh side effects — in favor of gene-targeting therapies, hormone blockers and immune system treatments. When chemo is used now, it's sometimes for shorter periods or lower doses than it once was.

For example, another study at the conference found that Merck's immunotherapy drug Keytruda worked better than chemo as initial treatment for most people with the most common type of lung cancer, and with far fewer side effects.

The breast cancer study focused on cases where chemo's value increasingly is in doubt: women with early-stage disease that has not spread to lymph nodes, is hormone-positive (meaning its growth is fueled by estrogen or progesterone) and is not the type that the drug Herceptin targets.

The usual treatment is surgery followed by years of a hormone-blocking drug. But many women also are urged to have chemo to help kill any stray cancer cells. Doctors know that most don't need it, but evidence is thin on who can forgo it.

The study gave 10,273 patients a test called Oncotype DX, which uses a biopsy sample to measure the activity of genes involved in cell growth and response to hormone therapy, to estimate the risk that a

cancer will recur.

WHAT THE STUDY FOUND

About 17 percent of women had high-risk scores and were advised to have chemo. The 16 percent with low-risk scores now know they can skip chemo, based on earlier results from this study.

The new results are on the 67 percent of women at intermediate risk. All had surgery and hormone therapy, and half also got chemo.

After nine years, 94 percent of both groups were still alive, and about 84 percent were alive without signs of cancer, so adding chemo made no difference.

Certain women 50 or younger did benefit from chemo; slightly fewer cases of cancer spreading far beyond the breast occurred among some of them given chemo, depending on their risk scores on the gene test.

WILL PEOPLE TRUST THE RESULTS?

All women like those in the study should get gene testing to guide their care, said Dr. Richard Schilsky, chief medical officer of the oncology society. Oncotype DX costs around \$4,000, which Medicare and many insurers cover. Similar tests including one called MammaPrint also are widely used.

Testing solved a big problem of figuring out who needs chemo, said Dr. Harold Burstein of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston. Many women think "if I don't get chemotherapy I'm going to die, and if I get chemo I'm going to be cured," but the results show there's a sliding scale of benefit and sometimes none, he said.

Dr. Lisa Carey, a breast specialist at the University of North Carolina's Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, said she would be very comfortable advising patients to skip chemo if they were like those in the study who did not benefit from it.

Dr. Jennifer Litton at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, agreed, but said, "Risk to one person is not the same thing as risk to another. There are some people who say, 'I don't care what you say, I'm never going to do chemo,'" and won't even have the gene test, she said. Others want chemo for even the smallest chance of benefit.

Adine Usher, 78, who lives in Hartsdale, New York, joined the study 10 years ago at Montefiore and was randomly assigned to the group given chemo.

"I was a little relieved. I sort of viewed chemo as extra insurance," she said. The treatments "weren't pleasant," she concedes. Her hair fell out, she developed an infection and was hospitalized for a low white blood count, "but it was over fairly quickly and I'm really glad I had it."

If doctors had recommended she skip chemo based on the gene test, "I would have accepted that," she said. "I'm a firm believer in medical research."

Marilynn Marchione can be followed at @MMarchioneAP .

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US singled out by G7 allies over steel and aluminum tariffs

WHISTLER, British Columbia (AP) — The United States was singled out by some of its closest allies Saturday over the imposition of tariffs that they warn will undermine open trade and weaken confidence in the global economy.

The dispute over U.S. President Donald Trump's new levies on steel and aluminum imports is driving a wedge in the G7 group of industrial nations.

Following Saturday's conclusion of a three-day meeting of G7 finance ministers, Canadian Finance Minister Bill Morneau issued a summary saying the other six members want Trump to hear their message of "concern and disappointment" over the U.S. trade actions.

Allies including Canada and the European Union are threatening retaliatory tariffs.

The G7 ministers urged U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin to deliver their message before leaders

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of the group's member countries meet next week in Quebec.

Ministers urged the U.S. to abandon the tariffs ahead of the leaders' summit before the move causes deeper divisions within the G7.

"The international community is faced with significant economic and security issues, which are best addressed through a united front from G7 countries," said the summary, which was agreed to by the attending ministers.

"Members continue to make progress on behalf of our citizens, but recognize that this collaboration and co-operation has been put at risk by trade actions against other members," it added.

Bruno Le Maire, France's finance and economy minister, was blunt in his assessment of the Whistler meeting, where ministers confronted Mnuchin.

"It has been a tense and tough G7 — I would say it's been far more a G6 plus one than a G7," said Le Maire, who called the tariffs unjustified.

"We regret that our common work together at the level of the G7 has been put at risk by the decisions taken by the American administration on trade and on tariffs," he said.

Mnuchin disagreed with Le Maire.

"I think there was a comment out there that (this was) the G6 plus one. It was not. ... We believe in the G7, it's an important group," Mnuchin said at his own news conference. "I'm sure that the president looks forward to coming to Canada and meeting all the other leaders with many, many important issues going on throughout the world."

Morneau, who presided at the ministerial meeting in Whistler, said even though the group found common ground on many subjects, G7 members are now forced to do whatever they can to persuade Trump to withdraw the tariffs.

"They actually are destructive. And that's consistently held across the six countries that expressed their point of view to Secretary Mnuchin," Morneau told reporters.

The U.S. president has said the tariffs are needed to protect U.S. steel and aluminum industries vital to the nation's security.

Morneau has called the tariffs "absurd," saying Canadian metal sales are no security risk to the U.S. He warns the measures will destroy jobs on both sides of the border.

Le Maire said it is up to the U.S. to take action to rebuild confidence among G7 members and to avoid any escalation during the leaders' summit next week.

That meeting, which will be hosted by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, will be Trump's first visit to Canada as president.

Report: Trump lawyers' made case to Mueller against subpoena

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's lawyers composed a secret 20-page letter to special counsel Robert Mueller to assert that he cannot be forced to testify while arguing that he could not have committed obstruction because he has absolute authority over all federal investigations.

The existence of the letter, which was first reported and posted by The New York Times on Saturday, was a bold assertion of presidential power and another front on which Trump's lawyers have argued that the president can't be subpoenaed in the special counsel's ongoing investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

The letter is dated January 29 and addressed to Mueller from John Dowd, one of Trump's lawyers at the time who has since resigned from the legal team. In the letter, the Trump's lawyers argue that a charge of illegal obstruction is moot because the Constitution empowers the president to, "if he wished, terminate the inquiry, or even exercise his power to pardon."

Trump weighed in on Saturday on Twitter, asking "Is the Special Counsel/Justice Department leaking my lawyers letters to the Fake News Media?" He added: "When will this very expensive Witch Hunt Hoax ever end? So bad for our Country."

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Mueller has requested an interview with the president to determine whether he had criminal intent to obstruct the investigation into his associates' possible links to Russia's election interference. Trump had previously signaled that he would be willing to sit for an interview, but his legal team, including head lawyer Rudy Giuliani, have privately and publicly expressed concern that the president could risk charges of perjury.

If Trump does not consent to an interview, Mueller will have to decide whether to forge forward with a historic grand jury subpoena. His team raised the possibility in March of subpoenaing the president but it is not clear if it is still under active consideration. Giuliani has told The Associated Press that the president's legal team believes the special counsel does not have the authority to do so.

A court battle is likely if Trump's team argues that the president can't be forced to answer questions or be charged with obstruction of justice. President Bill Clinton was charged with obstruction in 1998 by the House of Representatives as part of his impeachment trial. And one of the articles of impeachment prepared against Richard Nixon in 1974 was for obstruction.

Topics of Mueller's obstruction investigation include the firings of both Comey and former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn, as well Trump's reaction to Attorney General Jeff Sessions' recusal from the Russia investigation.

In addition to the legal battles, Trump's team and allies have waged a public relations campaign against Mueller to discredit the investigation and soften the impact of the special counsel's potential findings. Giuliani said last week that the special counsel probe may be an "entirely illegitimate investigation" and need to be curtailed because, in his estimation, it was based on inappropriately obtained information from an informant and former FBI director James Comey's memos.

In reality, the FBI began a counterintelligence investigation in July 2016 to determine if Trump campaign associates were coordinating with Russia to tip the election. The investigation was opened after the hacking of Democratic emails that intelligence officials later formally attributed to Russia.

Giuliani has said a decision will not be made about a possible presidential interview with the special counsel until after Trump's summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on June 12 in Singapore.

Associated Press writers Chad Day and Eric Tucker contributed reporting.

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Mattis warns of bumpy road to US, North Korea nuclear summit

By **LOLITA C. BALDOR**, Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — It will be a "bumpy road" to the nuclear negotiations with North Korea later this month, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis warned Sunday, telling his South Korean and Japanese counterparts they must maintain a strong defensive stance so the diplomats can negotiate from a position of strength.

Mattis was speaking at the start of a meeting with South Korean Defense Minister Song Young-moo and Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera on the final day of the Shangri-La Dialogue security conference. He said allies must remain vigilant.

"We can anticipate, at best, a bumpy road to the negotiations," Mattis said. "In this moment we are steadfastly committed to strengthening even further our defense cooperation as the best means for preserving the peace."

Plans are moving forward for a nuclear weapons summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on June 12 in Singapore. And Mattis repeated the U.S. position that North Korea will only receive relief from U.N. national security sanctions when it demonstrates "verifiable and irreversible steps" to denuclearization.

Through an interpreter, Song said that this is a great turning point as North Korea takes its first steps toward denuclearization.

"Of course, given North Korea's past, we must be cautious in approaching this," he added that some of North Korea's recent measures "give us reasons to be positive and one can be cautiously optimistic as we move forward."

Police link killings of Phoenix psychiatrist, 2 paralegals

PAUL DAVENPORT, Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — The shooting death of a prominent forensic psychiatrist who assisted in high-profile murder cases including serial killings in Phoenix is connected to the killing of two paralegals, said authorities, who were investigating Saturday whether a fourth homicide was also related.

Police in the Phoenix suburb of Scottsdale said the killings Friday of paralegals Veleria Sharp, 48, and Laura Anderson, 49, were related to the fatal shooting in Phoenix a day earlier of Dr. Steven Pitt.

Scottsdale police spokesman, Sgt. Ben Hoster said investigators are trying to determine what linked the three victims.

"We don't know the relationships or the connections," he said.

Witnesses heard a loud argument and gunfire Thursday outside Pitt's office on the border with Scottsdale. Phoenix police have been investigating the shooting and previously said they had no information on whether the killing was related to Pitt's work.

Sharp and Anderson were shot Friday inside a law office. Police say one of the women managed to walk to an intersection to seek help despite a gunshot wound to her head. She was taken to a hospital where she died.

Officers followed a blood trail back to the office and found the other woman. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police released a sketch of the suspect in the three killings.

Hoster said there was no indication that family members of the victims were in danger.

"We're asking the public to remain vigilant and to call us if they notice anything out of the ordinary," Hoster said.

In the other case, Scottsdale police received a call Saturday about a man found fatally shot inside an office. Hoster did not identify the caller but said the person knew the victim.

The killing occurred in an office park that houses mostly therapists and counselors.

Hoster said it was not yet known if that killing was related to the others.

Pitt, 59, assisted in the investigation of the 1996 death of 6-year-old JonBenet Ramsey, who was found dead at her home in Boulder, Colorado.

A decade later, he helped Phoenix police in the Baseline Killer investigation as they sought a man who was later convicted of killing nine people.

The website of Burt/Feldman/Grenier, the law firm that employed Sharp and Anderson, says it practices divorce, child support and other aspects of family law litigation and mediation.

The firm issued a statement saying the women were treasured by co-workers who were mourning their deaths and helping police.

Anderson was described as a grandmother and mother with intellect and passion. Sharp was praised as a wife and mother who cherished music and her faith.

Associated Press writer Jacques Billeaud contributed to this report.

Thousands march across NYC's Brooklyn Bridge in gun protest

NEW YORK (AP) — Thousands of demonstrators have marched across New York's Brooklyn Bridge in a protest against gun violence.

A student-led group called Youth Over Guns organized Saturday's protest. The group formed after the deadly mass shooting in Parkland, Florida, in February.

The protesters marched across the bridge and then rallied in lower Manhattan. Most wore orange to

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show their support for gun violence awareness.

Aalayah Eastmond, a survivor of the shooting at Parkland's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, addressed the crowd. Actresses Julianne Moore and Susan Sarandon also were in attendance.

The march was one of several taking place around the country to protest gun violence and urge lawmakers to pass gun restrictions.

New Italian govt vows to create jobs, deport migrants

By NICOLE WINFIELD, Associated Press

ROME (AP) — Italy's new populist leaders commemorated the founding of the Italian republic by attending a pomp-filled military parade Saturday — and then promised to get to work creating jobs and expelling migrants.

"The free ride is over," League leader Matteo Salvini, Italy's new interior minister, warned migrants at a rally in northern Italy. "It's time to pack your bags."

The pledge of mass deportations to come was a reminder that Italy has a staunchly anti-immigrant, right-wing party in its governing coalition — and that the European Union will face a whole new partner governing its fourth-largest economy.

Earlier, Salvini joined Premier Giuseppe Conte and the rest of the newly sworn-in Cabinet to view the Republic Day parade. Italy's aeronautic acrobatic squad flew low and loud over downtown Rome trailing smoke in the red, white and green of the Italian flag.

The national pride on display is a feature of every Republic Day, but it took on a particular significance this year after Italy on Friday ended three months of political and financial turmoil and swore in a government whose populist and euroskeptic leanings have alarmed Europe.

Conte, a law professor plucked from relative obscurity to head an unlikely governing alliance of the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement and League, said the celebrations Saturday transcended all the tensions of recent days.

"It's the celebration for all of us, of our republic," he said.

Conte's Cabinet was sworn in after a last-minute deal averted the threat of a new election that could have turned into a referendum on whether Italy stayed with the shared European euro currency. The political stability relieved financial markets on Friday but Italy's European neighbors continued to express concerns about the euroskeptic bent and the heavy spending agenda of Italy's new government.

"Italy is destroying itself — and dragging down Europe with it," read the headline of Germany's Der Spiegel magazine, the cover of which featured a forkful of spaghetti with one dangling strand tied up as a noose.

While Spiegel is known for such provocations, another Spiegel article last week drew an official protest from Italy's ambassador to Germany.

On Saturday, German Chancellor Angela Merkel phoned Conte and invited him to visit soon. Merkel's office said both leaders emphasized the importance of continued close bilateral cooperation.

Conte has so far left policy specifics to the drivers of his improbable rise, his two deputies: Salvini and 5-Star leader Luigi Di Maio.

Di Maio, the new economic development minister, reported for work after the parade to his ministry, which would have otherwise been closed for the holiday.

"Starting today, we get to work to create work," Di Maio said in a Facebook video giving Italians a tour of the empty ministry. Di Maio is also the minister for labor, a combination he said made sense since the two ministries must work together.

Offering the new government cautious support was Italy's small, far-right neo-fascist CasaPound party, which held its own Republic Day commemoration on Saturday. Banners featured images of a crossed-out EU flag and "#exIT" written underneath, a reference to calls for Italy to leave the 28-nation bloc.

The 5-Star-League agenda has no such plans, but Conte made clear he was irked by comments this week by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, who said Italy had to stop blaming the EU for its problems and must take responsibility to address the poverty in southern Italy.

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"That means more work, less corruption. Seriousness," Juncker said in comments his spokeswoman later said he regretted.

In an unscripted blast from the parade route, Conte insisted Italy wasn't alone in facing cases of corruption and declared that "we all have to work for legality."

Conte's government faces mandatory confidence votes next week in parliament, where the two governing parties have a slim majority.

Republic Day commemorates the day, June 2, 1946, when Italians voted in a referendum to abolish the monarchy in favor of a republic, Italy's first.

The political upheaval that has created western Europe's first populist government this week has been dubbed the start of Italy's Third Republic.

Associated Press writers Frank Jordans and Karin Laub in Berlin contributed to this report.

Remains of 8 veterans, long unclaimed, buried in San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The remains of eight U.S. military veterans stored for years in the basement of a county courthouse in the Texas Panhandle have been interred as part of a formal ceremony in San Antonio.

The servicemen were buried Friday at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery after their cremated remains had been escorted more than 500 miles (805 kilometers) from the Potter County courthouse in Amarillo.

No family or friend had claimed any of the eight men when they died so their bodies were stored.

The San Antonio Express-News reports that Navy petty officer Coy Washington Black, who died at 67, had been in the basement the longest — 15 years.

Friday's burial was provided by the Missing in America Project, a group that has given final honors to more than 3,500 veterans across the country.

"These veterans that we're locating served our country honorably," said Joyce Earnest, Texas coordinator for the project, which has been locating, identifying and interring the unclaimed remains of America's veterans since 2007. "And they deserve to be treated honorably in their deaths."

Little is known about the men other than their names, birth and death dates.

The other seven are:

Tech Sgt. Dana Dean Milton Jr., 85, served in the Army, Navy and Air Force.

Navy Aviation Recruit George Machoul Aswad II, 58.

Army Pfc. Andrew Benson Bramlett, 61.

Army Pvt. Robert Pete Brunner, 71.

Navy Seaman Everett Earl Criss, 71.

Army Pfc. Don Stewart, 83.

Marine Pfc. Floyd Ray White, 65.

Information from: San Antonio Express-News, <http://www.mysanantonio.com>

Trump's tariffs: What they are and how they would work

By PAUL WISEMAN, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — As a tool of national trade policy, tariffs had long been fading into history, a relic of 19th and early 20th centuries that most experts regarded as mutually harmful to all nations involved. But President Donald Trump has dusted them off in recent months and restored tariffs to a prominent place in his America First approach to the rest of the world.

Trump enraged U.S. allies Canada, Mexico and the European Union last week by slapping tariffs on their steel and aluminum shipments to the United States; most other countries have been paying the tariffs since March.

He has also threatened tariffs on up to \$150 billion in Chinese products to punish Beijing for pressuring

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U.S. companies to turn over technology in exchange for access to the Chinese market. China has vowed to retaliate with tariffs of its own.

Trump has also asked the U.S. Commerce Department to look into imposing tariffs on imported cars, trucks and auto parts, arguing that they somehow pose a threat to U.S. national security.

The president took to Twitter on Saturday to defend his aggressive trade policies. "The United States must, at long last, be treated fairly on Trade," Trump tweeted. "If we charge a country ZERO to sell their goods, and they charge us 25, 50 or even 100 percent to sell ours, it is UNFAIR and can no longer be tolerated. That is not Free or Fair Trade, it is Stupid Trade!"

A look at what tariffs are, how they work, how they've been used in the past and what to expect now:

SO WHAT ARE TARIFFS?

Tariffs are a tax on imports. They're typically charged as a percentage of the transaction price that a buyer pays a foreign seller. Say an American retailer buys 100 garden umbrellas from China for \$5 apiece, or \$500. The U.S. tariff rate for the umbrellas is 6.5 percent for umbrellas. The retailer would have to pay a \$32.50 tariff on the shipment, raising the total price from \$500 to \$532.50.

In the United States, tariffs — also called duties or levies — are collected by Customs and Border Protection agents at 328 ports of entry across the country. Proceeds go to the Treasury. The tariff rates are published by the U.S. International Trade Commission in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule, which lists U.S. tariffs on everything from dried plantains (1.4 percent) to parachutes (3 percent).

Sometimes, the U.S. will impose additional duties on foreign imports that it determines are being sold at unfairly low prices or are being supported by foreign government subsidies. It's not always easy to match a specific product to a specific tariff or to keep up with which products from which countries are facing, say, special anti-dumping duties.

"It's very complicated," says John Brew, a trade lawyer at Crowell & Moring LLP. "The big companies will have staff that this is all they do."

Q: WHAT ARE TARIFFS SUPPOSED TO ACCOMPLISH?

Two things: Raise government revenue and protect domestic industries from foreign competition. Before the establishment of the federal income tax in 1913, tariffs were a big money raiser for the U.S. government. From 1790 to 1860, for example, they produced 90 percent of federal revenue, according to "Clashing Over Commerce: A History of US Trade Policy" by Douglas Irwin, an economist at Dartmouth College. By contrast, last year tariffs accounted for only about 1 percent of federal revenue.

In the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, the U.S. government collected \$34.6 billion in customs duties and fees. The White House Office of Management and Budget expects tariffs to fetch \$40.4 billion this year.

Those tariffs are meant to increase the price of imports or to punish foreign countries for committing unfair trade practices, like subsidizing their exporters and dumping their products at unfairly low prices. Tariffs discourage imports by making them more expensive. They also reduce competitive pressure on domestic competitors and can allow them to raise prices.

Tariffs fell out of favor as global trade expanded after World War II.

The formation of the World Trade Organization and the advent of trade deals like the North American Free Trade Agreement among the U.S., Mexico and Canada reduced tariffs or eliminated them altogether. The average U.S. tariff is now one of the lowest in the world: 1.6 percent, the same as the European Union's, the Pew Research Center reports.

"A lot of products are either free of duty or at a low rate of duty," says Paula Connelly, a trade lawyer in Woburn, Massachusetts.

Q: WHY ARE TARIFFS MAKING A COMEBACK?

After years of trade agreements that bound the countries of the world more closely and erased restrictions on trade, a populist backlash has grown against globalization. This was evident in Trump's 2016 election

and the British vote that year to leave the European Union — both surprise setbacks for the free-trade establishment. Critics note that big corporations in rich countries exploited looser rules to move factories to China and other low-wage countries, then shipped goods back to their wealthy home countries while paying low tariffs or none at all. Since China joined the WTO in 2001, the United States has shed 3.1 million factory jobs, though many economists attribute much of that loss not to trade but to robots and other technologies that replace human workers.

Trump campaigned on a pledge to rewrite trade agreements and crack down on China, Mexico and other countries. He blames what he calls their abusive trade policies for America's persistent trade deficits — \$566 billion last year. By imposing tariffs, he is beginning to turn his hard-line campaign rhetoric into action.

Q: ARE TARIFFS A WISE POLICY?

Most economists — Trump's trade adviser Peter Navarro is a notable exception — say no. The tariffs drive up the cost of imports. And by reducing competitive pressure, they give U.S. producers leeway to raise their prices, too. That's good for those producers — but bad for almost everyone else.

Rising costs especially hurt consumers and companies that rely on imported components. Some U.S. companies that buy steel are complaining that Trump's tariffs put them at a competitive disadvantage. Their foreign rivals can buy steel more cheaply and offer their products at lower prices.

In 2002, the administration of President George W. Bush slapped tariffs on imported steel. A study financed by steel-consuming businesses found that the tariffs cost 200,000 American jobs in 2002.

More broadly, economists say trade restrictions make the economy less efficient. Facing less competition from abroad, domestic companies lose the incentive to increase efficiency or to focus on what they do best.

Animated explainer on trade disputes:
https://youtu.be/qWF5DF_XQYk

Follow Paul Wiseman on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/PaulWisemanAP>

Pushed by voters, GOP moderates rebel on immigration

By ALAN FRAM and NICHOLAS RICCARDI, Associated Press

HOMESTEAD, Fla. (AP) — Cipriano Garza says Rep. Carlos Curbelo is "a decent man, a family man." He lauds the South Florida Republican for defiantly pushing his party to protect young "Dreamer" immigrants from deportation.

Founder of a nonprofit that helps farm workers, Garza happily hosted Curbelo at a reception honoring high school graduates last week at the massive Homestead-Miami Speedway. But his praise came with a warning about this November's elections.

"He better do what's right for the community," said Garza, 70, himself a former migrant laborer. "If not, he can lose."

Across the country — from California's lush Central Valley to suburban Denver to Curbelo's district of strip malls, farms and the laid-back Florida Keys — moderate Republicans like Curbelo are under hefty pressure to buck their party's hardline stance on immigration. After years of watching their conservative colleagues in safe districts refuse to budge, the GOP middle is fighting back — mindful that a softer position may be necessary to save their jobs and GOP control of the House.

"Members who have priorities and feel passionate about issues can't sit back and expect leaders" to address them, Curbelo said. "Because it doesn't work."

Curbelo, 38, is seeking a third term from a district that stretches from upscale Miami suburbs to the Everglades and down to eccentric Key West. Seventy percent of his constituents are Hispanic and nearly half are foreign-born. Those are among the highest percentages in the nation, giving many of them a firsthand stake in Congress' immigration fight.

Curbelo and Rep. Jeff Denham, R-Calif., whose Modesto-area district thrives on agriculture powered by

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migrant workers, have launched a petition drive that would force House votes on four immigration bills, ranging from liberal to conservative versions. Twenty-three Republicans have signed on, two shy of the number needed to succeed, assuming all Democrats jump aboard.

Another supporter of the rare rebellion by the usually compliant moderates is Rep. Mike Coffman, R-Colo., a former Marine who learned Spanish when his district was redrawn to include Denver's diverse eastern suburbs. In an interview, Coffman expressed frustration over waiting nearly 18 months for House Speaker Paul Ryan to deliver on assurances that Congress would address the issue.

"He was always telling me, 'It will happen, it will happen.' I never saw it happen," Coffman said. "One cannot argue that those of us who signed onto this discharge petition didn't give leadership time."

The centrists favor legislation that would protect from deportation hundreds of thousands of immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally as children. They back a path to citizenship for these immigrants, who have lived in limbo since President Donald Trump ended the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, called DACA. Federal courts have blocked its termination for now.

Trying to head off the petition, Ryan, R-Wis., and conservatives are negotiating with the centrists in hopes of finding compromise. Roll calls are on track for later this month, but it will be tough to steer legislation through the House that's both liberal enough to survive in the more moderate Senate and restrictive enough for Trump to sign into law.

At the speedway, a local economic anchor since Hurricane Andrew shattered the city in 1992, Curbelo didn't mention his battle in Washington to the graduates. "Our country and our community need you," he told his audience, some of whom Garza said were DACA recipients.

Curbelo's district backed Democrat Hillary Clinton by a whopping 16 percentage points in the 2016 presidential race over Trump, who has fanned immigrants' resentment by repeatedly linking them to crime and job losses. That's left Curbelo facing a competitive re-election, though he's raised far more campaign cash than his likely Democratic challenger, Debbie Mucarsel-Powell.

Of the 23 Republican petition signees, nine represent districts whose Hispanic populations exceed the 18 percent national average. Clinton carried 12 of their districts in 2016, and several are from moderate-leaning suburbs of cities like Philadelphia and Minneapolis and agricultural areas in California and upstate New York that rely on migrant workers.

The centrists' petition echoes the hardball tactics often employed by the hard-right House Freedom Caucus. Its roughly 30 members often band together with demands top Republicans ignore at peril of losing votes in the narrowly divided House.

GOP leaders and Freedom Caucus members fear that under the votes the petition would force, liberal-leaning legislation backed by most Democrats and a few Republicans would prevail. That would infuriate conservative voters who'll be needed at the polls to fend off a Democratic wave threatening GOP House control.

Among those envisioning that scenario is Nicholas Mulick, GOP chairman of Florida's Monroe County, which encompasses the Keys and is the reddest portion of Curbelo's district. "With the greatest respect for the congressman, I don't think it's going to work," Mulick said.

Others reject that argument, saying moderates' worries should be heeded because they must be re-elected for Republicans to retain their majority.

"That sounds like somebody who's never run in a swing district," former Rep. Tom Davis, R-Va., who once led his party's House campaign arm, said of claims that immigration votes would dampen conservative turnout. "Do they want to be in the majority, hold gavels?"

Democrats and local immigration activists say they wish Curbelo's effort well but question his motivation. They say he's reacting to election pressures and simply wants to show voters he's fighting for them.

"It feels very late, opportunistic, theatrical," said Thomas Kennedy, deputy political director for the Florida Immigrant Coalition.

Many at the speedway event, sponsored by Garza's Mexican-American Council, were sympathetic to Curbelo's battle in Washington, signaling the type of support he'll need to be re-elected.

Rosa Castillo, 51, of nearby Florida City, said she knows people who don't get driver's licenses for fear of having their residency challenged. "He's doing an awesome job for our DACA people," said Castillo, a Democrat who said she'll back Curbelo.

"He's aware of our issues in our community," said Pedro Sifuentes, 45, an independent from Homestead.

That sentiment isn't universally shared. Over breakfast at a nearby Cracker Barrel restaurant, retiree and Trump backer Randy Nichols, 73, said he won't support Curbelo.

"If they're illegal, they need to leave. I hate to say that, but even for DACA kids," said Nichols, who lives in Marathon, one of the Keys.

Mucarsel-Powell, Curbelo's likely Democratic challenger, said in an interview that she was glad he'd "finally found some strength" to take on fellow Republicans.

The former state Senate candidate, an immigrant from Ecuador, said Curbelo's challenge to GOP leaders "will obviously bring some positive attention."

She said she hopes Curbelo and his supporters "aren't doing it for political reasons."

Riccardi reported from Denver.

Lobbyist tied to EPA chief's condo tried to influence agency

By MICHAEL BIESECKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Newly filed reports show the Washington lobbyist linked to a bargain-priced Capitol Hill condo leased by Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt had far more contact with the agency than previously disclosed, despite repeated denials by both men.

Powerhouse lobbying firm Williams & Jensen amended its 2017 disclosure filings to show that former chairman J. Steven Hart contacted EPA on behalf of the Coca-Cola Company, pork producer Smithfield Foods and a board overseeing the finances of hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico.

Pruitt has denied that Hart lobbied his agency in 2017, most recently during congressional testimony last month. The firm amended its required federal lobbying disclosures after an extensive review of Hart's emails, calendar entries and other materials.

Hart was forced to retire early as a result of the scandal that erupted following public disclosure of the EPA chief's unusual living arrangements. Pruitt has denied wrongdoing, describing Hart as a personal friend from his home state of Oklahoma.

In a statement, Williams & Jensen said Hart had failed to fully disclose his lobbying activities to his own firm, resulting in prior reports omitting information. Federal law requires lobbyists to file quarterly reports detailing their contacts with government officials, including the clients they were representing, what topics were discussed and how much they were paid.

"Following press reports of a former member of our firm engaging in lobbying activity that had not been disclosed, we engaged outside counsel to conduct a review of relevant filings," the firm's statement said. "Following the completion of that review and the advice of counsel, today the firm filed amendments to several disclosure reports that include information that was not previously disclosed to our firm and therefore not included in the original filings."

Both Pruitt and Hart have publicly denied the lobbyist had conducted any business with EPA in 2017. At a May 16 hearing before a Senate appropriations subcommittee, the embattled EPA chief erroneously insisted that Hart had not lobbied the government last year.

"Steve Hart is someone that was not registered as a lobbyist in 2017," Pruitt testified. "He's a longtime associate and friend."

Records showed that Hart was in fact a registered lobbyist for 35 separate entities in 2017, though at the time it had not yet been formally disclosed that he directly lobbied Pruitt's agency. Federal law makes it a crime to "knowingly and willfully" give materially false statements to Congress.

EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox did not respond to requests for comment about whether Pruitt still stood by his testimony.

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A spokesman for Hart did not respond to phone or email Friday.

Pruitt's connections to Hart have been under intense scrutiny since March, when media reports first revealed that the EPA chief had rented a luxury Capitol Hill condo from a corporation co-owned by Hart's wife for just \$50 a night. Pruitt's daughter, then a White House summer intern, stayed in a second bedroom at the condo at no additional cost.

On Pruitt's 2017 condo lease, a copy of which was reviewed by The Associated Press, Steven Hart's name was originally typed in as "landlord" but was scratched out. The name of his wife, health care lobbyist Vicki Hart, was scribbled in.

The AP and other media outlets reported in April that Pruitt had met in his office last year with Hart on behalf of the philanthropic arm of Smithfield Foods to discuss efforts to preserve the Chesapeake Bay. The world's largest pork producer, Smithfield has been involved with efforts to clean up the bay since EPA fined the company \$12.6 million in 1997 for illegally dumping hog waste into a tributary.

The amended disclosure report filed Friday by Williams & Jensen acknowledges the meeting between Hart and Pruitt constituted lobbying, as did additional communications by the lobbyist with Pruitt's staff to recommend potential candidates for a science advisory board and other positions appointed by the EPA administrator.

In a statement issued by Smithfield, the company said the lobbying was directed by a retired executive and it had been unaware of the contacts made by Hart.

"Smithfield expects its advisors to comply with all applicable laws including those requiring timely public disclosure of lobbying activities," the company's statement said.

The new disclosure report says Hart also lobbied EPA in 2017 on behalf of the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico about water quality and infrastructure in the wake of Hurricane Maria. A spokesman for the oversight board did not immediately respond Friday to an email seeking comment.

The firm also disclosed for the first time that Hart had contact with EPA on behalf of Coca-Cola. According to the reports, Hart lobbied the agency about clean water supplies, water conservation and "environmental issues impacting the beverage industry, including hydrofluorocarbon replacement."

Hydrofluorocarbons are potent greenhouse gases commonly used for refrigeration. Under the Obama administration, EPA had sought to phase out the use of hydrofluorocarbons because they contribute to global warming, but the effort was stymied after industries challenged the proposed ban in court.

In a statement issued Friday, Coca-Cola said the company has severed ties with Williams & Jensen.

"The Coca-Cola Company is committed to the highest level of integrity in all aspects of our business, and we expect our lobbying firms to uphold that same commitment," the statement said.

Follow Associated Press investigative reporter Michael Biesecker at <http://twitter.com/mbieseck>

In NYC, a Republican ex-con fights to return to Congress

By STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Grimm doesn't want to talk about his time in prison. He just wants your vote.

The former Republican congressman from New York City's Staten Island is fighting his party, his president and the stigma of a felony conviction in a no-holds-barred primary June 26.

Just two years out of prison, the amateur boxer with a fiery temper wants his old job back. And he has a legitimate chance to seize the nomination from the incumbent, Dan Donovan.

Just don't ask Grimm about his time behind bars for tax fraud.

"I'm done talking about it," Grimm said in a recent Associated Press interview, blaming his seven-month stay in a federal prison on a politically motivated Justice Department under the Obama administration. "It's a closed chapter in my life. I'm looking to the future."

President Donald Trump spotlighted the race this past week with a Twitter endorsement of Donovan, warning that a Grimm primary victory would risk losing the GOP's only U.S. House seat in the city.

"Remember Alabama," Trump wrote, likening Grimm to Republican Roy Moore, the Alabama Senate

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candidate who was nominated even despite being accused of molesting teenage girls and who lost the general election to a Democrat in the GOP stronghold.

Trump's decision to step into New York's turbulent GOP primary tests the strength of his influence in his hometown's only conservative pocket. The 11th Congressional District covers the quiet streets of Staten Island as well as a slice of southern Brooklyn.

It is truly the heart of New York's Trump country, and is home to many white working-class voters — police officers, firefighters and hairdressers — who have sent a Republican to Washington for most of the past decade.

Donovan, a 61-year-old former public prosecutor, isn't shy about highlighting Grimm's criminal history. "Once you betray the community you don't get a second chance," Donovan told the AP as he toured the district this past week. "This race comes down to integrity: Who can the public trust?"

Grimm, 48, is a former Marine and FBI agent who represented the area from 2011 to 2015. He survived a political firestorm in 2014 after his violent threat against a reporter on Capitol Hill was caught on video. A year later, Grimm was forced to resign after pleading guilty to felony tax fraud involving a restaurant he partially owned before going to Congress.

In an interview, Grimm suggested that Donovan dangled the possibility of a presidential pardon should he abandon his primary challenge. A Donovan spokeswoman denied the claim.

A spokeswoman for Trump, who pardoned one conservative supporter this past week and is contemplating other pardons, did not respond to questions about a possible pardon for Grimm, who insists his harsh sentence was politically motivated.

Does Grimm want a pardon?
"Of course! I don't know of anyone who wouldn't, especially in my circumstances," Grimm told the AP. While Grimm's criminal history is a central issue in the race, so is Trump.

As in other Republican primary contests this year, the New York candidates have sparred over the strength of their loyalty to the Republican president.

Donovan, who has been active in New York City politics for decades, notes that Trump has endorsed him six times over his political career. Yet Donovan has had to explain voting against Trump's tax overhaul and plan to replace President Barack Obama's health care law.

"I vote with Trump 90 percent of the time," Donovan said. "I vote with my constituents 100 percent of the time."

Grimm's campaign released a new TV ad on Friday that says: "Every time it mattered, Dan Donovan voted against President Trump."

"Look, if they want a guy like Dan Donovan, who's about as exciting as a wet noodle, to represent them, they already have that," Grimm said in the interview. "I'm a Marine. Guys like me don't charge into combat because we don't have an aggressive personality."

He added: "I'm a fighter in every way."
On Staten Island, voters have strong opinions about Grimm's personality and his baggage.

Outside Tony's Brick Oven pizzeria on Bay Street, 61-year-old Victor Aasen said he's definitely voting for Donovan.

"The other guy is just full of drama," Aasen said, citing Grimm's threat against the reporter in Washington. "He's a hot head."

Later, Dennis Quirk, president of the New York State Court Officers Association, railed against Grimm's background after endorsing Donovan.

"I think it's a disgrace for someone who's a convicted felon to run for office," Quirk said. "He should be ashamed of himself."

Yet evidence of Grimm's appeal across the district is easy to find. His red, white and blue campaign signs are plastered along businesses and homes up and down Staten Island's main streets. Constituents talk openly about his dedication to the district after Superstorm Sandy, which caused damage that's still being repaired in some cases.

Grimm is an aggressive campaigner who insists he can win simply by outworking his opponent.

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At Andrew's Diner, he hugged a boy in a wheelchair and promised to write a letter of recommendation for another who hoped to go to West Point.

"I really feel that he was railroaded," 81-year-old Bob Demarest said of Grimm as he waited for his pancakes. "I want him back."

It's unlikely that the president will visit the district on Donovan's behalf. With far more consequential races across the country this fall, Trump is expected to focus his time and energy attacking vulnerable Democratic Senate candidates in Republican-leaning states.

Grimm, who says he maintains connections in the White House, recommends that Trump stay out of Staten Island.

"If I was legitimately advising the president, which I'm not, but if I was, I would say, 'Stay out of a race like this because I don't see how it would benefit him to get into such a contentious race,'" Grimm said. "By going into the race, he puts himself in a situation where he's going to lose."

Spain's new leader is sworn in, faces Catalan conundrum

By JOSEPH WILSON, Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — New Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez had been barely sworn in Saturday before one of the country's most critical issues facing his fragile government was pressed upon him: ending the Catalan secession crisis.

Less than two hours after Sanchez had taken his oath to uphold the Spanish Constitution, Catalan chief Quim Torra demanded to meet with Sanchez and speak "government to government" regarding the future of the wealthy yet restive northeastern region.

"Pedro Sanchez, let us talk, take risks, both you and I. Let us sit down at a table and talk, government to government," Torra said after swearing in his regional Cabinet in Barcelona on Saturday.

Torra, who was chosen by separatist lawmakers to lead the region last month, said his government "accepts the charge to continue forward with the mandate ... to form an independent state."

Sanchez, the leader of Spain's Socialist Party, came to power after he successfully ousted conservative predecessor Mariano Rajoy, who lost a no-confidence vote in parliament on Friday.

In order to cobble together the support to cast out Rajoy, Sanchez promised to open talks with Torra in order to get the votes he needed from the Catalan pro-secession lawmakers in the national parliament.

Sanchez said Thursday that one of the priorities of his government would be "rebuilding bridges" with the country's regions and "establishing the foundations that allow us to normalize relations and start a dialogue between the Spanish government and the new government in Catalonia."

Sanchez, however, insisted that any solutions for Catalonia must fit within Spain's Constitution, which calls the nation "indivisible" and says national sovereignty resides in the Madrid-based parliament.

Sanchez had been Rajoy's most loyal backer of a government takeover of Catalonia's regional affairs following an illegal and unsuccessful declaration of independence by the region's parliament in October.

That federal takeover came to an end Saturday after Torra formed his Catalan government. Torra's 13 regional ministers took oaths of allegiance to Catalonia while omitting the traditional oath of allegiance to the Spanish Constitution.

Torra, a fervent Catalan nationalist, was hand-picked by former Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont to succeed him. Puigdemont is fighting extradition from Germany to Spain, where he is sought on charges of rebellion and misuse of public funds.

Torra's prior statements in articles social media posts deriding Spaniards have been called xenophobic by critics. He has recently apologized for those views.

Sanchez himself has called Torra "the Spanish Le Pen," aligning him with elements of the European far-right like French nationalist Marine Le Pen.

Besides inheriting Spain's worst political crisis in nearly four decades, Sanchez's government will depend on the support of the far-left Podemos (We Can) party and of a motley crew of regional parties and Catalan secessionists to get anything done in the federal government.

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Spain's parliament voted Friday to replace Rajoy's government with one led by Sanchez after a ruling by the National Court delivered hefty prison sentences to 29 business people and ex-members of Rajoy's Popular Party, including some elected officials, for fraud, money laundering and tax evasion, among other crimes.

Rajoy attended Saturday's ceremony in the royal Zarzuela Palace and shook Sanchez's hand after the new leader was sworn in by King Felipe VI. The two political rivals then posed for a photo with the monarch.

Sanchez has vowed to fight corruption and help those Spaniards affected by years of public spending cuts under Rajoy's government. He also pledged to hold an election soon, while not setting a date.

Unlike the new populist government in Italy, Sanchez and his party are staunch supporters of the European Union and its shared euro currency.

US commerce secretary in Beijing for talks on trade surplus

By JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross arrived in Beijing on Saturday for talks on China's promise to buy more American goods after Washington revived tensions by renewing its threat of tariff hikes on Chinese high-tech exports.

The talks focus on adding details to China's May 19 promise to narrow its politically volatile surplus in trade in goods with the United States, which reached a record \$375.2 billion last year.

President Donald Trump threw the status of the talks into doubt this week by renewing a threat to hike tariffs on \$50 billion of Chinese goods over complaints Beijing steals or pressures foreign companies to hand over technology.

Private sector analysts say that while Beijing is willing to compromise on its trade surplus, it will resist changes that might threaten plans to transform China into a global technology competitor.

The two governments released no schedule for the talks, but China said earlier that Ross was due to be in Beijing through Monday.

Reporters saw Ross outside his hotel at midday Saturday but he didn't respond to their questions before he got in a car and was driven away. Ross was to have a dinner meeting Saturday evening with Vice Premier Liu He at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing.

Ross was scheduled to meet with Liu again on Sunday.

China has promised to "significantly increase" purchases of farm goods, energy and other products and services. Still, Beijing resisted pressure to commit to a specific target of narrowing its annual surplus with the United States by \$200 billion.

Following Beijing's announcement, U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said the dispute was "on hold." But the truce appeared to end with this week's announcement Washington was going ahead with tariff hikes on technology goods and also would impose curbs on Chinese investment and purchases of U.S. high-tech exports.

The move reflects growing American concern about China's status as a potential tech competitor and complaints Beijing improperly subsidizes its fledgling industries and shields them from competition.

Foreign governments and businesses cite strategic plans such as "Made in China 2025," which calls for state-led efforts to create Chinese industry leaders in areas from robots to electric cars to computer chips.

"The U.S. focus on so-called industrially significant technologies heightens the risk of escalation between the two countries," BMI Research said in a report. "Indeed, while China has shown itself willing to compromise in the area of trade deficit reduction, it will not take any actions which threaten its strategically important 'Made in China 2025' program."

Trump also has threatened to raise tariffs on an additional \$100 billion of Chinese goods, but gave no indication this week whether that would go ahead.

Earlier, China responded with a threat to retaliate with higher duties on a \$50 billion list of American goods including soybeans, small aircraft, whiskey, electric vehicles and orange juice. It criticized Trump's

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move this week and said it reserved the right to retaliate but avoided repeating its earlier threat.

Trade analysts warned Ross's hand might be weakened by the Trump administration's decision Thursday to go ahead with tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada, Europe and Mexico.

That might alienate allies who share complaints about Chinese technology policy and a flood of low-priced steel, aluminum and other exports they say are the result of improper subsidies and hurt foreign competitors.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, June 3, the 154th day of 2018. There are 211 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 3, 1968, pop artist Andy Warhol was shot and critically wounded at his New York film studio, known as "The Factory," by Valerie Solanas, an actress and self-styled militant feminist who ended up serving three years in prison for assault.

On this date:

In 1621, the Dutch West India Co. received its charter for a trade monopoly in parts of the Americas and Africa.

In 1781, Capt. Jack Jouett began riding his horse some 40 miles from Louisa County, Virginia, to Charlottesville, where Gov. Thomas Jefferson and other politicians were located, to warn of approaching British troops who intended to take them prisoner.

In 1888, the poem "Casey at the Bat" by Ernest Lawrence Thayer was first published in the San Francisco Daily Examiner.

In 1918, "His Family" by Ernest Poole became the first novel to win the Pulitzer Prize.

In 1937, Edward, The Duke of Windsor, who had abdicated the British throne, married Wallis Simpson in a private ceremony in Monts, France.

In 1943, the "Zoot Suit Riots" began in Los Angeles as white servicemen clashed with young Latinos wearing distinctive-looking zoot suits; the violence ended when military officials declared the city off limits to enlisted personnel.

In 1948, the 200-inch reflecting Hale Telescope at the Palomar Mountain Observatory in California was dedicated.

In 1955, convicted murderer Barbara Graham, 31, was executed in the gas chamber at San Quentin State Prison in California, as were Jack Santo and Emmett Perkins, for the 1953 slaying of Mabel Monahan.

In 1965, astronaut Edward H. White became the first American to "walk" in space during the flight of Gemini 4.

In 1977, the United States and Cuba agreed to set up diplomatic interests sections in each other's countries; Cuba also announced the immediate release of 10 Americans jailed on drug charges.

In 1989, Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, died. Chinese army troops began their sweep of Beijing to crush student-led pro-democracy demonstrations. SkyDome (now called Rogers Centre) opened in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

In 2016, heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali died at a hospital in Scottsdale, Arizona, at age 74.

Ten years ago: Barack Obama claimed the Democratic presidential nomination in a long-time-coming victory speech, speaking in the same St. Paul, Minnesota, arena where Republicans would be holding their national convention in September 2008. Astronauts installed a 37-foot-long Japanese lab named Kibo (KEE'-boh) at the international space station.

Five years ago: The prosecution and defense presented opening statements in the court-martial of U.S. Army Pfc. Bradley (now Chelsea) Manning over the biggest leak of classified material in American history. (Manning was found guilty at Fort Meade, Maryland, of espionage and theft and was sentenced to up to 35 years in prison; her sentence was commuted after seven years by President Barack Obama.) A sharply

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divided Supreme Court cleared the way for police to take a DNA swab from anyone they arrested for a serious crime. A suicide bomber targeting U.S. troops outside an Afghanistan government office killed 9 children and two of the Americans. Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., died at a New York hospital at age 89. Football Hall of Fame defensive end Deacon Jones died in Anaheim Hills, California, at age 74.

One year ago: A white van slammed into pedestrians on London Bridge, killing eight people; the three attackers were shot and killed by police. SpaceX launched its first recycled cargo ship to the International Space Station. Former major leaguer Jimmy Piersall, who bared his soul about his struggles with mental illness in his book "Fear Strikes Out," died in Wheaton, Illinois, at age 87. Albert Pujols (POO'-hohlz) of the Angels hit a grand slam for his 600th homer during the fourth inning of Los Angeles' 7-2 victory over the Minnesota Twins. Edinson Volquez threw the sixth no-hitter in Marlins history, facing the minimum 27 batters and beating the Arizona Diamondbacks 3-0.

(Stations: Single name "Lalaine" is correct)

Today's Birthdays: The former president of Cuba, Raul Castro, is 87. Actress Irma P. Hall is 83. Author Larry McMurtry is 82. Rock singer Ian Hunter (Mott The Hoople) is 79. World Golf Hall of Famer Hale Irwin is 73. Actress Penelope Wilton is 72. Singer Eddie Holman is 72. Actor Tristan Rogers is 72. Musician Too Slim (Riders in the Sky) is 70. Singer Suzi Quatro is 68. Singer Deneice Williams is 68. Singer Dan Hill is 64. Actress Suzie Plakson is 60. Actor Scott Valentine is 60. Rock musician Kerry King (Slayer) is 54. Actor James Purefoy is 54. Rock singer-musician Mike Gordon is 53. TV host Anderson Cooper is 51. Country singer Jamie O'Neal is 50. Writer-director Tate Taylor is 39. Singers Gabriel and Ariel Hernandez (No Mercy) are 47. Actor Vik Sahay is 47. Rhythm and blues singer Lyfe Jennings is 45. Actress Arianne Zucker is 44. Actress Nikki M. James is 37. Tennis player Rafael Nadal is 32. Actor Josh Segarra is 32. Actress-singer Lalaine is 31. Actor Sean Berdy is 25.

Thought for Today: "There are two cardinal sins from which all the others spring: impatience and laziness." — Franz Kafka, Czech-born writer (born 1883, died this date in 1924).