

# Groton Daily Independent

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

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



**Virginia Abeln will be celebrating her 90th birthday on June 16, 2018. Help her celebrate by sending birthday wishes to: 407 North Garfield, Apt.11, Groton, SD, 57445**

## Another 10 years of pool payments Not so fast!

Yesterday's article about the pool payments going for another 10 years drew the attention of former city finance officer, Anita Lowary. There is some confusion on the time frame of the property tax opt-out.

Lowary responded to the Independent with the following information:

I understand there is a misunderstanding regarding the swimming pool financing. Let me remind you of the plans and revisions in the pool financing.

When the swimming pool planning started in 2006, the City Council planned to replace our swimming pool for \$2,000,000 which would be repaid with an opt out on property taxes for 20 years. It passed by the City Council and although not mandated it was also approved by the voters with a large majority. The first set of plans with everything came to well over \$3,200,000 and the grant applications we had counted on were all refused.

The swimming pool committee cut out most of the features and reduced some of the sizes to reduce the cost by about \$800,000. The Council added another \$70,000 to the first year's original budget to cover taking out the old pool and change out of the foundation soils. The pool committee and the community came together to raise over \$1,200,000 and add a few features back in. What a wonderful community we live in!

This left \$1,000,000 to be paid by the Opt Out. The Council decided it would be better received by the citizens to do \$130,000 per year for 10 years in the Opt Out, rather than \$65,000 over 20 years. Many had promised a 10 year payback with all the donations.

With the the sewer repairs and street were rebuilt rather than just repaired caused by the 2007 flooding and only 1/16 of the street repairs were covered by FEMA. Some electrical upgrades could not be postponed, but the water tower grant was refused and the project postponed. All reserves were used up. So in 2015 the City refinanced all the sewer bonds (including the balance on the sewer lagoon reconstruction and all the smaller sewer projects), the curb & gutter and street projects, and the balance of the pool bond. All 16 of these bonds were rolled into 1 bond for repayment in 20 years. The City postponed several street projects and continued collecting the original sewer rates, pool opt outs, assessed curb & gutter which has been committed to the payment of the 2015 bond.

If the City continues to do only the smaller projects and stays within the state tax freeze for the next 8 to 12 years, the City should be back on normal reserves and larger construction projects as they have been for years. Or the Council could decide to do another Property Tax Opt Out for a portion of the refinance payment and do larger projects sooner.

A lot of good information; however the auditors, who dot the I's and cross the T's told current Finance Officer Hope Block that the opt-out is set for 20 years. So in doing research through the archives of the Independent, we have come up with the following information:

The minutes from February 4, 2008, state that the council would opt out for \$130,000 for 10 years; however in the resolution that followed, the term set was from 2008 to 2028. The coverage of the meeting in the Independent indicated that it would be a 10-year payback.

The sample ballot show a 20-year payback.

The Pool Lease resolution that was passed on November 17, 2008, stated the length of the lease shall not exceed 10 years.

SO what does this mean? Well, Lowary said, "You can end an opt out at any time. You just can NOT extend it." But the question remains, when is the end? The auditors say 20 years, Lowary says 10 years.

If the auditors are right, the council could continue to collect the \$130,000 opt-out monies for another 10 years. If Lowary is right, city taxpayers will see a reduction in their property taxes next year as the opt-out has now ended.

## Projected Cases for 2018 for West Nile Disease



**The State Department of Health summarizes all the indicators they have for 2018. It is still very early in the season and they do not yet have many of the pieces of data they will use to create our predictions for the year. At the moment, the weather data they have seems to indicate an average year for WNV, which still means hundreds of cases.**

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## Groton City Council Meeting Agenda

June 18, 2018 – 7:00pm

Groton Community Center

1. Doug Abeln – Property Boundaries
2. Minutes
3. Bills
4. May Finance Report
5. Groton Area Business Scramble Golf Tournament – June 22nd @ 12:00pm
6. July meeting date
7. Pool shelter Bids
8. First Reading Tree Trimming Ordinance #719
9. Revise Resolution #99-45; former Resolution filed April 16, 1999; Approved June 4th 2018
10. Pool paint
11. Council seat vacancy
12. Pumpkin fest insurance - \$338.90
13. Heartland Summer Conference – July 10th
14. Public Comments - pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1

(Public Comments will offer the opportunity for anyone not listed on the agenda to speak to the council. Speaking time will be limited to 3 minutes. No action will be taken on questions or items not on the agenda.)

15. Executive session personnel & legal 1-25-2 (1) & (3)
16. Hire baseball groundskeeper
17. Adjournment

## 2018 Groton U8 Tournament

Saturday, June 16, 2018

- Game 1: 10 a.m.: Warner vs. Groton Red, Falk Field  
Game 2: 11:15 a.m.: Britton Red vs. Britton Black, Falk Field  
Game 3: 10 a.m.: Groton Blue vs. Britton Blue, Nelson Field  
Game 4: 11:15 a.m.: Hannigan vs. Borge, Nelson Field  
Game 5: 12:45 p.m.: Losers of Games 1 and 2, Falk Field  
Game 6: 12:45 p.m.: Losers of Games 3 and 4, Nelson Field  
Game 7: 2 p.m.: Winners of Games 1 and 2, Falk Field  
Game 8: 2 p.m.: Winners of Games 3 and 4, Nelson Field  
7th Place Game: 3:15 p.m.: Losers of Games 5 and 6, Falk Field  
5th Place Game: 3:15 p.m.: Winners of Games 5 and 6, Nelson Field  
Third Place Game: 4:30 p.m.: Losers of Games 7 and 8, Falk Field  
Championship Game: 4:30 p.m.: Winners of Games 7 and 8, Nelson Field



## Two-way Traffic Begins on I-29

WATERTOWN, S.D. – Traffic on Interstate 29 between the Peever Exit (Exit 224) and North of Sisseton (MRM 239) will change to two-way traffic starting Saturday, June 16, 2018.

Depending on weather conditions, construction crews will change traffic to two-way on the northbound lanes so they can begin reconstructing the southbound lanes. During construction, the speed limit is reduced to 65 mph. A 12-foot width restriction will be in place during two-way operations. Vehicles over 12 feet wide must use the signed over-width detour route.

Work on this section includes overlaying the existing pavement and improving bridge decks and guardrails. The \$15 million project is scheduled to be finished by November.

For complete road construction information, visit [www.safetravelusa.com](http://www.safetravelusa.com) or dial 511.

## Student Loan Counsels Available at Reduced Fee

Thanks to temporary funding, student loan appointments available at \$30

Research continues to indicate that student loans are a major contributing factor for those carrying student loan debts. Impacting credit scores, loan availability, even housing choices, proper management of student loan debt is crucial in overall financial success.

Due to the temporary availability of additional funding, LSS Center for Financial Resources (CFR) is able to reduce the fee for a student loan counseling appointment while the funding is available. With a normal fee of \$150, the appointment is currently available for a fee of \$30.

Student loan counsels include helping clients identify student loan debt, consider payment and consolidation options, rehabbing of delinquent debt, and managing student loan debt in the context of their larger financial situation.

Appointments are available in-person, by phone, or online. Those interested can begin the process by submitting their information through the online portal at [www.studentloans.LssSD.org](http://www.studentloans.LssSD.org).

Lutheran Social Services is a private non-profit social service agency. Last year, 61,144 lives were touched through a variety of services offered through LSS statewide.

Core services offered by LSS include adoption, pregnancy counseling, foster care, kinship services, childcare & education, disaster response, mental health counseling, re-entry services, Center for Financial Resources, residential services for children & youth, alternatives to detention, independent living services for young adults, mentoring, Better Together and Center for New Americans. LSS serves people of all ages, races, faiths and economic levels with professional, confidential and affordable services.

LSS services are licensed by the State of South Dakota and accredited by the Council on Accreditation. LSS is a United Way agency.

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## High school GPA will factor into NSU WolfPACT Scholarship awards in 2019

ABERDEEN, S.D. – Starting in 2019, Northern State University will consider high school GPA as well as ACT score when awarding the WolfPACT Scholarship.

The WolfPACT is already the highest guaranteed scholarship in the region, and this change will provide a fairer, more accurate way of measuring student success.

“Research shows, nationally, that the best single predictor of college success is high school GPA,” said NSU Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs Dr. Jeremy Reed. “But the most powerful predictor is both used together.”

The changes lower the minimum ACT score to 20 and add a minimum GPA requirement of 3.25. That’s based on a study by Dr. Brenda Mammenga, NSU director of Institutional Research and Assessment, which found that a 3.2 GPA in high school was the best predictor of a 3.0 GPA at Northern.

The new WolfPACT model is as follows:

### **ACT score of 28-36 (SAT of 1320 or above)**

Award total over four years; 3.0 GPA required for renewal

HS GPA 3.75-4.00: \$12,000

HS GPA 3.50-3.74: \$11,000

HS GPA 3.25-3.49: \$10,000

### **ACT score of 24-27 (SAT of 1180-1310)**

Award total over four years; 3.0 GPA required for renewal

HS GPA 3.75-4.00: \$9,000

HS GPA 3.50-3.74: \$8,000

HS GPA 3.25-3.49: \$7,000

### **ACT score of 20-23 (SAT of 1070-1170)**

Award total over four years; 3.0 GPA required for renewal

HS GPA 3.75-4.00: \$6,000

HS GPA 3.50-3.74: \$5,000

HS GPA 3.25-3.49: \$4,000

Reed said the WolfPACT changes are aimed at recognizing students for their entire high school performance.

“It makes sense to look at four years of academic history versus one test,” he said.

For example, under the current model, a student with an ACT score of 22 and GPA of 2.4 would qualify. However, a student who has a 4.0 but an ACT score of 20 would not.

“Next year, that will flip,” Reed said.

It levels the playing field in various ways, as research shows that the ACT is written in a way that makes it more difficult for first-generation students and minority students to succeed, he said.

Disbursement will also change so that it’s a flat, per year amount, with a 3.0 requirement for renewal—it’s simpler to understand, and easier for the NSU Financial Aid Office to manage, Reed said.

Right now, about 50 percent of NSU students receive the WolfPACT. Reed said calculations with the new system show that 53 percent will qualify for it in 2019.

“We’ve built a predictive model to determine how much money will be needed for the WolfPACT for the next several years,” said NSU President Dr. Tim Downs. “We’re building it so we have resources to meet the demand; meeting our projected growth in enrollments at NSU.”

Raising funds for scholarships remains a top priority for Northern.

“Even though we’re in the midst of a capital campaign, we know that scholarships are as important as ever to students. Our alumni, friends and community partners understand this as well,” said NSU Foundation President and CEO Todd Jordre. “We’re thankful for the support our students receive and are proud to expand the greatest scholarship offering in the region.”

For questions about the WolfPACT, contact the NSU Admissions Department at 605-626-2544 or admissions@northern.edu.

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## What's going on next week in State Government

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

Tuesday, June 19, 2 p.m. CDT, Pierre – Gov. Dennis Daugaard will be a guest on 1240 AM KCCR with Zach Nelson.

Monday, June 18, 9:30 a.m. CDT, Pierre, Capitol Building, Room 414 – The State Board of Internal Control will meet. For more information, go to <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=164>.

Monday, June 18, 1 p.m. CDT, Sioux Falls – The Board of SBVI will hold its quarterly meeting at the South Dakota Rehabilitation Center for the Blind located at 2900 W. 11th St., Suite 101 in Sioux Falls. For more information or to request accommodations for the meeting, please contact Gaye Mattke at 605-773-4644.

Tuesday, June 19, 1 – 4:30 p.m. CDT, and Wednesday, June 20, 8:15 – 11:30 a.m. CDT, Sioux Falls – The Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its quarterly meeting at the South Dakota Rehabilitation Center for the Blind located at 2900 W. 11th St., Suite 101 in Sioux Falls. For more information contact Eric Weiss at 605-773-3195.

Tuesday, June 19, 11 a.m. CDT, Mitchell, Mitchell Technical Institute, Conference Room Campus Center Room 146 – The Council of Juvenile Services will meet. For more information, go to <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=59>.

Tuesday, June 19, 10 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota Professional Teachers Practices and Standards Commission will meet at the MacKay Building, on the first floor in Conference Room 1, 800 Governors Drive. A proposed agenda may be found at <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=79>

Wednesday, June 20, 10 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The Teacher Compensation Review Board will meet in the Governor's Large Conference Room, State Capitol, 500 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre. View the agenda here: <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=222>.

Wednesday, June 20, 9 a.m. MDT, Deadwood – The South Dakota Commission on Gaming will hold its quarterly meeting. The meeting will be held in the city commission chambers of Deadwood City Hall, located at 102 Sherman St. For a meeting agenda and more information, visit <http://dor.sd.gov/Gaming/>.

Wednesday, June 20, 1:30 – 4 p.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota Unemployment Insurance Advisory Council will meet at the Missouri River Plaza, 123 W. Missouri Ave., in the Sharpe Conference Room. DDN sites are scheduled at the following locations:

- Aberdeen, Department of Labor and Regulation, 420 S. Roosevelt St.
- Rapid City, Department of Labor and Regulation, 2330 N. Maple Ave., Suite 1
- Sioux Falls, Department of Human Services, 811 E. 10th St.
- Watertown, Department of Human Services, 2001 9th Ave. SW, Suite 200

Meeting agenda and materials can be viewed at <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=99>. Questions may be directed to Unemployment Insurance Division Director Pauline Heier at 605-626-2310.

Thursday, June 21, 12 – 4 p.m. CDT, Pierre – The Department of Social Services' Behavioral Health Advisory Council will hold a meeting at RedRossa Italian Grille. For more information, or to view the agenda, please visit <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=55>.

### You Might Also Be Interested To Know:

Monday, June 18, to Thursday, June 21: 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 18:

- 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Burke – 221 E. 8th St. 605-280-4306
- 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. CDT, Gettysburg – 205 W. Commercial #103 605-280-4308
- 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – 725 N. LaCrosse St. #200 605-280-4307

Tuesday, June 19:

- 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m. CDT, Highmore – 116 1st St. SW 605-280-4308
- 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. MDT, Hot Springs (Fall River) - 906 N. River St. 605-280-4307
- 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. MDT, Hot Springs (Vets Home) - 2500 Minnekahta Ave. 605-280-4307

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- 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. CDT, Kennebec – 300 S. Main St. 605-280-4308
- 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. CDT, Milbank – 210 E. 5th Ave. 605-360-7819
- 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. CDT, Miller - 415 W. 1st Ave. 605-280-4306
- 12:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. – CDT, Watertown – 16 1st Ave. SE 605-360-7819

Wednesday, June 20:

- 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT, Canton – 104 N. Main 605-360-7819
- 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – 725 N. LaCrosse St. #200 605-280-4307
- 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. CDT, Redfield – 210 E. 7th Ave. 605-280-4306
- 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CDT, Winner – 200 E. Third St. 605-280-4308

Thursday, June 21:

- 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Chamberlain – 300 Courtland St. #102 605-280-4306
- 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. MDT, Ft. Yates, ND – Standing Rock Tribal Ofc. 605-280-4307
- 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CDT, Mitchell – 1420 N. Main St. 605-360-7819
- 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. CDT, Rosebud – Veterans Affairs Bldg. 605-280-4308

Tuesday, June 19, to Thursday, June 21 – 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:

- Tuesday, June 19, 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](http://www.sdjobs.org).

Wednesday June 20, 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.

- Wednesday, June 20, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Sisseton – at 10 E. Hickory St., Suite 3. For more information, call 605-698-3964 or visit [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).

- Wednesday, June 20, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT, Spearfish – at 1300 North Ave. For more information, call 605-642-6900 or visit [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).

Wednesday, June 20, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Wagner – at 106 SE Sheridan Ave. For more information, call 605-487-7607 Ext. 207 or 212, or visit [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).

Thursday, June 21, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT, Brookings – at 1310 Main Ave. S., Suite 103. For more information or to register, call 605-688-4350.

Thursday, June 21, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT, Mitchell – at 1321 N. Main St. For more information, call 605-995-8060 or visit [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).

Tuesday, June 19, to Wednesday, June 20 – 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](http://www.sdjobs.org). Itinerant office hours will be held at the following locations:

- Tuesday, June 19, 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](http://www.sdjobs.org).

- Wednesday, June 20, 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](http://www.sdjobs.org).

Tuesday, June 19, to Thursday, June 21 – Bring Your 'A' Game to Work encompasses seven different skills including Appreciation, Attitude, Attendance, Appearance, Ambition, Accountability and Acceptance. These soft skills and a willingness to take direction are generally more desired by employers than the specific skills a particular job requires. This workshop will be offered at the following locations:

- Tuesday, June 19, and Thursday, June 21, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT, Pierre – at The Right Turn, 115 E. Sioux Ave. This is a two-day workshop. Call 605-773-4755 to register by Wednesday, June 13. Any classes without three people registered by the previous Wednesday will be canceled.



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· Tuesday, June 19, through Thursday, June 21, 6 – 9 p.m. CDT, Pierre – at The Right Turn, 115 E. Sioux Ave. This is a three-day workshop. Call 605-773-4755 to register by Wednesday, June 13. Any classes without three people registered by the previous Wednesday will be canceled.

Tuesday, June 19, 10 – 11 a.m. CDT – The Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) and the South Dakota Retailers Association (SDRA) Will host "Youth Employment Laws: What You Need to Know," a free webinar to help employers navigate federal and state youth employment laws. DLR Deputy Secretary Tom Hart will cover topics including how many hours 14- through 17-year-olds can work, what occupations are deemed hazardous, workers' compensation coverage, and exceptions, plus more you didn't know you needed to know about youth employment laws. Register for this webinar at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3358712642095168515>.

Tuesday, June 19 – 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
- Timber Lake, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT
- Webster, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Desmet, 9 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 20, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT, Aberdeen – The South Dakota Department of Revenue will host a North Dakota/South Dakota sales tax seminar. The seminar will take place at the Department of Revenue's Aberdeen office, located at 14 S. Main St., Ste. 102. To register for this free seminar, visit <http://dor.sd.gov> then click on the Education tab. For more information, contact Courtney Dosch at 605-773-3311

Wednesday, June 20, 1 – 4 p.m. CDT, Aberdeen – The South Dakota Department of Revenue will host a North Dakota/South Dakota construction contractors tax seminar. The seminar will take place at the Department of Revenue's Aberdeen office, located at 14 S. Main St., Ste. 102. To register for this free seminar, visit <http://dor.sd.gov> then click on the Education tab. For more information, contact Courtney Dosch at 605-773-3311.

Wednesday, June 20 – 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
- Salem, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT
- Dupree, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MDT

Wednesday, June 20, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT, Yankton – General Education Development (GED) testing will take place at the Yankton Job Service, 3113 Spruce St., Suite 124. For more information, call 605-668-2900 or visit [www.GED.com](http://www.GED.com).

Thursday, June 21 – 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. – 4:30 p.m. CDT
- Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT
- Plankinton, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT
- Kyle, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT
- Lemmon, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT

Thursday, June 21, 8:30 – 11:45 a.m. CDT, Sioux Falls – Dollar Tree will be conducting walk-in interviews at the Sioux Falls Job Service Office, 811 E. 10th St. Positions available are assistant managers and store managers. For more information, call 605-367-5300 or visit [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).

Thursday, June 21, 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT, Yankton – General Education Development (GED) testing will take place at the Yankton Job Service, 3113 Spruce St., Suite 124. For more information, call 605-668-2900 or visit [www.GED.com](http://www.GED.com).

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**EARTHTALK** ™  
*Questions & Answers About Our Environment*

From the Editors of E - The Environmental Magazine

**Dear EarthTalk: What can I do to help bees back from massive die-offs in recent years?**

-- Bill Gorman, Albuquerque, NM

Major declines in populations of bees in North America and beyond is a big problem for farmers who depend on this free natural pollinator to help fertilize their crops that end up as food on our tables. According to the non-profit Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), \$15 billion a year in U.S. crops—including apples, berries, cantaloupes, cucumbers, alfalfa, and almonds among others—are pollinated by bees. Meanwhile, U.S. honey bees produce some \$150 million in honey annually.

Simply put, fewer bees means less food on our shelves and a major economic hit to the agricultural sector. "The global economic cost of bee decline, including lower crop yields and increased production costs, has been estimated at as high as \$5.7 billion per year," reports NRDC.

While we still aren't 100 percent certain what is causing the decline across the board for bees, most researchers believe a class of pesticides called neonics (short for neonicotinoids) are at least partially to blame. Designed to eliminate insect pests that most commonly afflict agricultural crops, neonics—which are now genetically engineered right into the crop seeds themselves—are wreaking havoc on so-called "non-target insects" like bees as well. And the shifting habitat zones and crazy weather that has accompanied global warming is only exacerbating the bees' survival issues.

But NRDC remains optimistic that we can bring back bee populations if we each do our part to create pollinator-friendly habitat. For starters, you can welcome bees to your backyard by laying off the intense landscaping and letting things go a little wild. A greater variety of plants—especially native ones—will encourage bees to set up shop nearby.

Researchers at Michigan State University (MSU) Extension report that bees especially love to forage on purple, blue, white, yellow, mauve or violet flowers that direct them via markings and patterns unseen by the human eye to a "landing pad" where they can get pollinating. Find more regionally appropriate plants that will work to attract bees and other pollinators by downloading the free Bee Smart Pollinator Gardener app, which helps users select pollinator-friendly native plants to use in landscaping projects large and small based on location, project scope, flower color and other options.

You can also encourage bees to move right in by creating habitats tailor-made for them. "Revisit how you approach a fallen tree or a dead limb: it's not an eyesore; it's a potential bee nest!" counsels NRDC. "Drill bee-inviting holes in that dead wood, build nest blocks, or simply buy a premade bee box."

And be careful about the plants you bring home from the garden store. A 2014 report by the non-profit Friends of the Earth (FOE) found that more than half of plant samples purchased at top garden stores across North America contained neonics. NRDC advises to only buy plants or seeds that aren't pretreated with pesticides, and to read the fine print on the label: "If a plant is marked 'protected,' that may mean it's chemically treated." Patronizing smaller, organic plant nurseries is the best way to avoid neonics.

CONTACTS: NRDC, [www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org); FOE, [www.foe.org](http://www.foe.org); MSU's "Gardening for Pollinators," [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/gardening\\_for\\_pollinators\\_choosing\\_smart\\_plants\\_to\\_support\\_pollinators](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/gardening_for_pollinators_choosing_smart_plants_to_support_pollinators); Bee Smart Pollinator Gardener App, [pollinator.org/bee-smart-app](http://pollinator.org/bee-smart-app).

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. To donate, visit [www.earthtalk.org](http://www.earthtalk.org). Send questions to: [question@earthtalk.org](mailto:question@earthtalk.org).

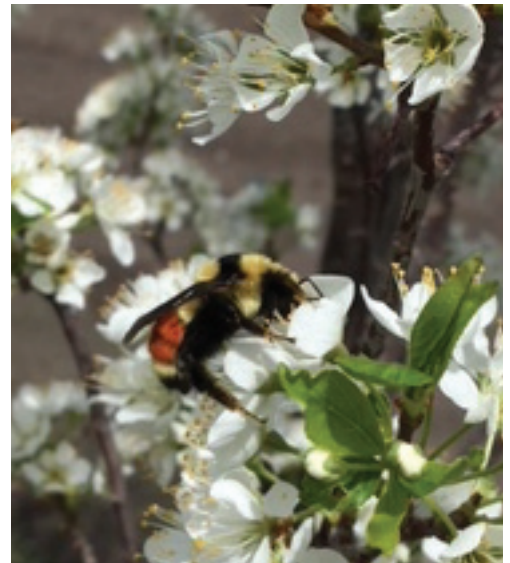


Photo by Paul Kosel

## Gov. Daugaard Requests Presidential Disaster Declaration For Spring Flooding

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard has requested a Presidential Disaster Declaration to help three northern South Dakota counties recover from spring flooding that did more than \$3.1 million in damage to public property.

The request covers public assistance for Campbell, McPherson and Walworth counties. The flooding occurred May 17-18, 2018.

In a letter to President Donald Trump, Gov. Daugaard says more than 13 inches of rain fell along a line from Selby to Long Lake, South Dakota. The heavy rain resulted in flooded roads and the wind gusts between 60 and 80 miles per hour caused additional damage. Lake Hiddenwood Dam at Hiddenwood State Park in Walworth County was breached due to the heavy rains, according to the Governor.

“The entire reservoir at Lake Hiddenwood was drained and water from the dam flowed for miles toward Sand Lake near the Walworth/Campbell county borders,” Gov. Daugaard wrote the President. “This resulted in significant overland flooding and many county and secondary roads went underwater and had to be barricaded by local officials.”

Earlier this month, Gov. Daugaard had requested that FEMA do a joint federal, state and local preliminary damage assessment of the impacted areas for public assistance damage. That assessment was done this week. The Governor says the assessment confirmed that the three counties had suffered “severe impacts” to public infrastructure.

Gov. Daugaard stated in his letter that the state has responded to seven previous Presidential Disaster Declarations since 2013. The Governor said the state still is working through the recovery process from four of those disasters with FEMA. The three counties involved in this request also were part of the presidential disaster request approved for the 2016 Christmas day blizzard.

“As you understand, recovery from disasters takes years after the initial event to fully recover physically, emotionally and financially,” Gov. Daugaard says in this latest assistance request letter. “The costs associated with this disaster combined with the last seven declarations increases the state’s financial stress if federal assistance is not provided.”

The request is necessary for federal disaster funds to be made available to South Dakota. If the President grants the declaration, up to 75 percent of eligible costs could be reimbursed by the government. The Governor’s request does not guarantee that funding will be made available to South Dakota.

The South Dakota Office of Emergency Management will coordinate the state’s role in the request. The Office of Emergency Management is part of the Department of Public Safety.

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## Today in Weather History

June 16, 1915: A tornado swept over a narrow path in Hughes, Hyde, and Hand counties during the afternoon hours. This tornado caused several thousands of dollars in property damage and seriously injured many people. Luckily there were no fatalities reported.

June 16, 1992: An F3 tornado caused significant destruction as it moved northeast across the north-western side of Ft. Thompson. The tornado virtually destroyed the Lake Sharpe Visitor Center. In Ft. Thompson, the tornado destroyed at least four homes and 15 mobile homes were damaged, leaving about 55 persons homeless. Eight people were injured, two of them seriously. The storm also destroyed other buildings, six 50,000 bushel grain bins, and four high voltage towers from Big Bend Dam. At the Shady Bend Campground, 19 campers and several boats were destroyed.

Also, heavy rains fell over a three-day period beginning on the 15th. The hardest hit area was in Clear Lake where the three-day total was 11.53 inches. As a result, a wall of water up to 15 feet high swept down creeks in the Clear Lake area. The resultant flash flooding went through first floors of many houses and even filled basements of houses on hills. The wave of water hit a car that was occupied by a woman and her son. The water spun them around as they floated about 200 yards. The car finally grounded without any reported injuries. All roads into Clear Lake were cut off as the town became surrounded by water. Officials in Deuel County estimated at least 37 bridges and culverts were destroyed. Other three-day rainfall totals include; 6.35 inches in Conde; 5.99 in Castlewood; 4.91 inches 2NW of Big Stone City; 4.90 in Redfield; and 4.65 inches at Artichoke Lake.

June 16, 2009: An upper low-pressure area brought several supercell thunderstorms which produced severe weather across parts of central and northeast South Dakota. Large hail up to 2 inches in diameter, several tornadoes, along with flash flooding occurred with these storms. Slow moving thunderstorms brought very heavy rains of 2 to 4 inches in and around Aberdeen causing extensive road flooding throughout the city. Dozens of basements were flooded and damaged along with some sewer backups. Many vehicles became stalled with the police sent out to direct traffic. There were also some power outages. A tornado touched down briefly northwest of Lebanon in Potter County with no damage occurring. A tornado touched down southeast of Polo in Hand County, in an open field. No damage occurred. Heavy rains of 3 to over 5 inches caused flash flooding of several roads and crops in north-central and northeast Spink County. Torrential rains from 3 to 6 inches fell across southeast Brown County bringing flash flooding. Many roads were flooded and damaged along with many acres of cropland. A tornado touched down in southeastern Hand County and remained on the ground for nearly 15 minutes before lifting. No damage occurred with this tornado as it stayed in the open country.

June 16, 2010: Very strong winds were observed during the evening hours in Dewey County, South Dakota. Three weather stations near Lantry observed winds from 101 to 142 mph. One station had recorded a 101 mph wind before it was destroyed. The other two stations recorded 131 mph and 142 mph winds. The winds destroyed an airplane hangar and severely damaged another one. Several semi-trailers were also tipped over and damaged by the very high winds.








1806: Great American total solar eclipse occurred from California to Massachusetts with nearly five-minute in duration.

1896: A tsunami ravages the coast of Japan killing between 22,000 and 27,000 people.



# Groton Daily Independent

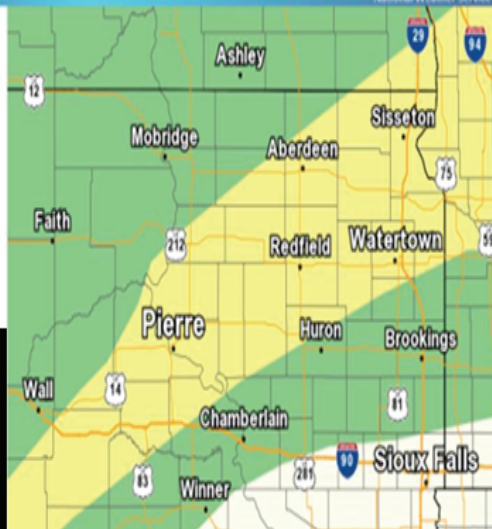
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Today	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
						
30%	70%	60%	40%	30%	20%	
Severe Thunderstorms	Severe Thunderstorms	T-storms Likely	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Slight Chance T-storms	Mostly Sunny
High: 84 °F	Low: 60 °F	High: 70 °F	Low: 57 °F	High: 73 °F	Low: 55 °F	High: 79 °F

## Severe Weather/Heavy Rainfall Possible Today/Tonight

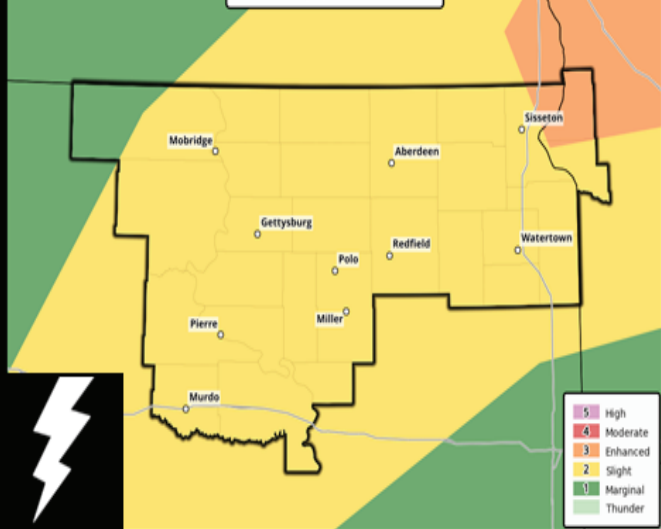
### Day One Excessive Rainfall Outlook

- Marginal
- Slight
- Moderate
- High



### Severe Weather Outlook Saturday, June 16, 2018

Last updated: Jun 16, 2018 12:41 AM CDT  
Valid until: Jun 17, 2018 07:00 AM CDT



A frontal zone will be the focus for showers and thunderstorms today and tonight. With abundant moisture and instability, severe weather along with heavy rain will be possible, particularly in the yellow and orange shaded areas.



[weather.gov/Aberdeen](http://weather.gov/Aberdeen)



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 6/16/2018 5:00 AM Central

Published on: 06/16/2018 at 5:06AM

A couple rounds of thunderstorm are expected today and tonight. Strong to severe thunderstorms are possible. And, some storms will likely produce torrential rainfall.

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 86.7 F at 4:11 PM**

**Low Outside Temp: 74.2 F at 7:15 AM**

**Wind Chill:**

**High Gust: 23.0 Mph at 4:25 PM**

**Precip: 0.00**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 109° in 1933**

**Record Low: 34° in 1903**

**Average High: 78°F**

**Average Low: 54°F**

**Average Precip in June: 1.94**

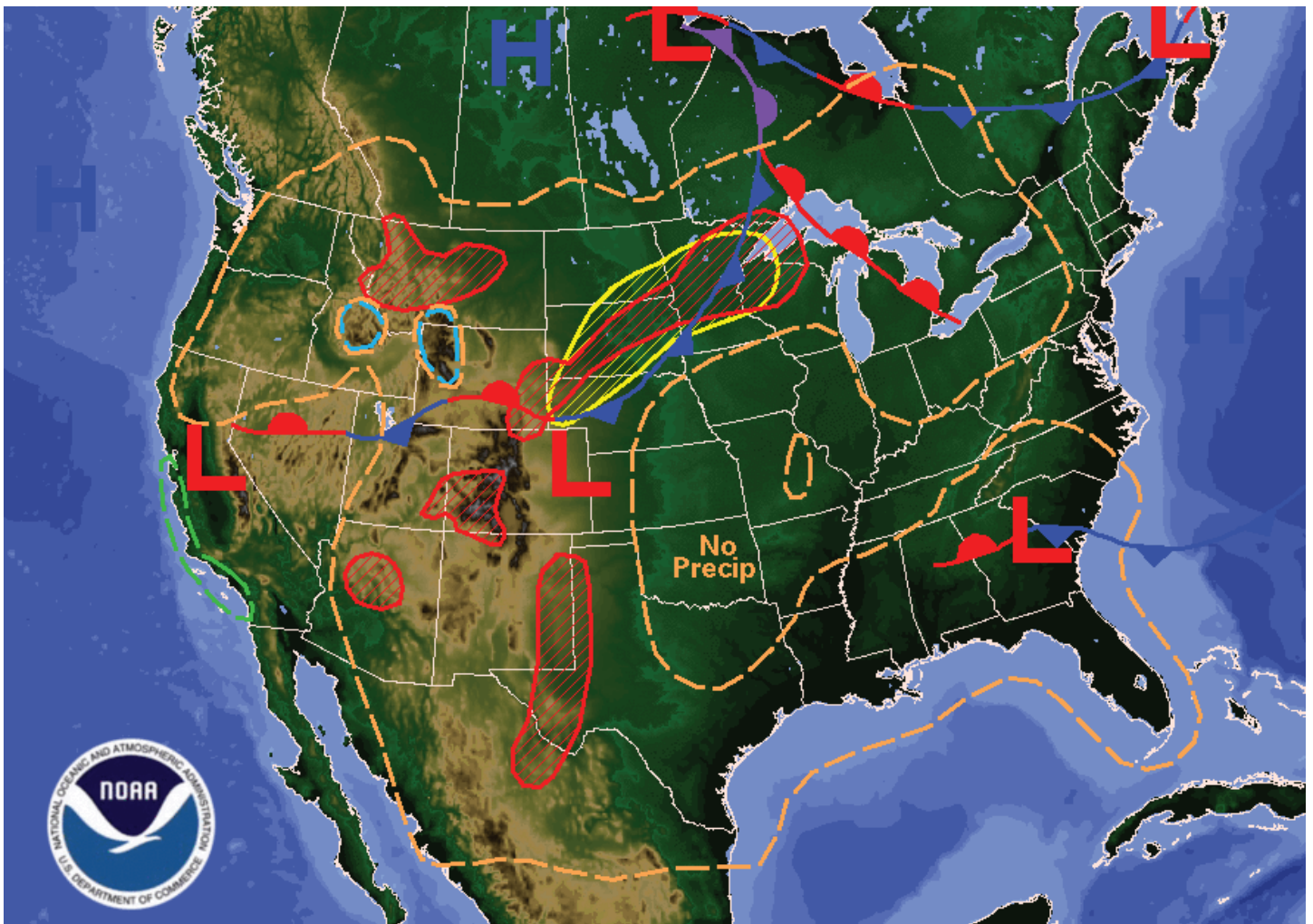
**Precip to date in June: 0.89**

**Average Precip to date: 9.08**

**Precip Year to Date: 5.19**

**Sunset Tonight: 9:24 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:44 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sat, Jun 16, 2018, issued 4:47 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain

Rain and T'Storms

Rain and Snow

Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)

Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)

Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)

Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

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## A SIMPLE WAY OUT?

It often seems that the simplest way out of an uncomfortable situation or the easiest solution to a big problem is a little "deception." Deception, or lies, have become part of most peoples every day conversations.

For example, "I'm really sorry but my husband has suddenly developed a migraine headache and we'll have to cancel our plans for dinner."

Or "You know, I really appreciate the invitation to go to prayer meeting but I have to make a report to my boss first thing in the morning and I'll be working on it most of the night it's so important."

Then there's the "I'm sorry but the manager is away from his desk right now" when he's hiding behind his door.

And we've all heard the familiar phrase, "Well, I gave him the message and I'm sure he tried to get back to you" when the message was immediately discarded.

Unfortunately, the first lie needs a crutch to stand on and then the second requires a brace and the third a wheelchair and the fourth a gurney. A lie just can't stand by itself. It is easy to tell a lie but one is rarely enough. One lie can't stand by itself. It needs the help and support of other lies.

"Keep me from deceitful ways," wrote the wise Psalmist. But that is not enough for Christians. So he continued, "Be gracious to me and teach me Your law."

God's law also emphasizes the fact that we must speak the truth even when it may cause us problems.

Prayer: Lord, give us courage to keep any lie from leaving our lips and to be bold when the truth hurts. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 119:29 Remove from me the way of lying, And grant me Your law graciously.

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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



## News from the Associated Press

### **Advocate: White lions are as predatory as any tawny lion**

**By ALEX PORTAL, Black Hills Pioneer**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Tracy Barrett, who graduated from Lead-Deadwood High School in 1979, developed a love for Africa and lions when she was 5 years old.

"It was at the Homestake Theater, my mother took me to 'Born Free' the movie, and as soon as I saw the landscape of Africa and the lions, I would not sit down," she recalled. "I just had this unbelievable connectedness to this incredible animal that I did not understand."

After graduating from the University of South Dakota with a master's degree in speech pathology, Barrett spent time studying Jungian psychology in Chicago where she met Jason Turner, lion ecologist and senior scientific adviser for the Global White Lion Protection Trust. It was then that she learned about the white lions of Africa and the efforts being made to protect them, and in March of 2017, she traveled to the sanctuary to see the work being done.

Barrett explained that it's a misconception that white lions are albino, which can carry with it misconceptions about the white lion's ability to hunt.

"People have a misnomer that they are weaker lions, that it's a deformity in the wild, and that's absolutely untrue," she told the Black Hills Pioneer. "They are as predatory as any tawny lion, they're as successful in the wild, and they do have a type of camouflage."

Instead, their white pigmentation is the result of a genetic mutation, and much like the white bison of the Great Plains, or white moose of Canada, is revered by the indigenous people. White lions are only native to the greater Timbavati/Kruger Park region of Africa, and the oral records of the African elders in those areas say that white lions have been around since the last ice age and have been guiding and protecting the tribes in the region since mankind first appeared.

The earliest noted record of a white lion sighting was in 1938; since that time, white lions have been hunted, captured, and raised in so-called "canned hunting facilities" with the explicit purpose of being hunted. The heads and paws of the white lion are of particular interest to trophy hunters.

In 2002, author and conservationist Linda Tucker founded the White Lion Trust with the sole purpose of finding, saving, and protecting white lions from captivity and returning them to their ancestral homeland in Timbavati. It's estimated that there are fewer than 500 white lions alive in the world, with the vast majority of them are living in captivity waiting to be hunted for sport. Tucker and her team have only managed to rescue 12 white lions and return them to a 4,400-acre area of protected endemic bushveld.

The specific location of the White Lion Trust conservation area is largely kept a secret, and photography of the lions is strictly prohibited in order to ensure the safety and anonymity of the animals; however her time there is something Barrett says has changed her life forever.

"When you meet them, it's a heart-awakening experience," she said. "I'd never felt as much peace as I did with those beings. I do intend to continue working (toward) their safety and their security."

Barrett is planning another trip to visit the white lions of Timbavati and hopes to become a much more active advocate for them here in the states.

"It is my intent to continue my connection to the lions," she said. "By becoming a guide to bring others on this sacred journey."

## Schools prep for shootings with first-aid training

By SHELLY CONLON, Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Amy Gage, the Harrisburg School District nursing supervisor, was one of the first on the scene when her former principal took a bullet to his arm in September 2015, after a student brought a gun to Harrisburg High School.

The student had more than 50 bullets on him at the time of the shooting. When his firearm malfunctioned, he was stopped by two other administrators before the situation escalated to something worse.

"I was in the building, and I was a first-responder to the situation," Gage said. "We had just an amazing support system, both during the situation and the time after."

In the days that followed, rattled parents and students echoed sentiments often found in a small, quiet town. They said things like, "That kind of thing doesn't happen here," or "It's a wake-up call."

Three years later, that wake-up call has now transformed into a statewide effort by the Sioux Falls Emergency Management Department and other community stakeholders to "Stop the Bleed," a national campaign by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the American College of Surgeons focused on training as many people as possible on how to use tourniquets in critical situations, the Argus Leader reported.

Gage is one of nine nurses in the district who recently received training or a refresher in how to tie tourniquets in case of an active shooter situation, or another incident occurs on campus.

Her staff will be one of hundreds of school employees, including teachers, who will soon join in the statewide effort, said Lynn DeYoung, the Emergency Management Department director.

"Anytime you have more tools in your toolbox, it's a positive thing," Gage said. "This is a new thing, but we also have a mass casualty trauma kit if we have to vacate the property or go and supply aide to somebody. ... We try to be as prepared as we can in those situations, and this is just another tool to assist that."

The national campaign started after the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Colorado in 2012, which left 26 dead, DeYoung said.

And 2018 school shootings in other small towns (like the Parkland, Florida shooting in February, which left 17 dead, and the Santa Fe, Texas shooting in May, which left 10 dead) has been pause enough for concern, DeYoung said.

"In South Dakota, most of the places we see tourniquet usage would be for farm accidents, industrial accidents or motorcycle accidents," he said. "But because of the time we're in, that also crosses over to shooting incidents and other things."

Since the Columbine High School shooting 19 years ago, more than 215,000 students have been exposed to gun violence at school, according to the Washington Post in May.

If school district officials were trained to use a tourniquet in a situation similar to Harrisburg or elsewhere, the chances of survival can increase for 30 percent of victims, DeYoung said.

"That may not seem like a lot, but it is," DeYoung said. "If you're one of the 30 percent, you're going to want your neighbor, your buddy or your friend to know how to do this."

The goal for DeYoung's department is to put one "Stop the Bleed" kit at each of the 877 schools under the South Dakota Department of Education at no cost to public school districts, DeYoung said.

The kits come with at least five tourniquets, and DeYoung wants to eventually expand the effort out to have at least one tourniquet in each of South Dakota's 6,500 classrooms, he said.

Local stakeholders for the program want each school trained and equipped by Jan. 1, 2019, he said.

So far, training has been done in Harrisburg and the Tri-Valley school districts, and the emergency management department has plans to train Sioux Falls School District teachers later this summer and fall, DeYoung said.

But getting the supplies into schools won't happen quickly if fundraisers can't raise the nearly \$400,000 needed to accomplish their goal, DeYoung said.

His department is working closely with the Avera Health, Sanford Health and the South Dakota Advanced Trauma Life Support Task Force and seven other state and local agencies to raise the funds, he said. The

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group has raised about \$60,000 so far, including a \$30,000 grant from the South Dakota Office of Homeland Security, DeYoung said.

"Victims can quickly die from uncontrolled bleeding, within five or 10 minutes," said Dr. Gary Timmerman, a Sioux Falls-based regent for the American College of Surgeons, in a signed letter by other South Dakota doctors about the initiative. "Similar to how the general public learns and performs CPR, the public must learn proper bleeding control techniques, including how to use their hands, dressing and tourniquets. Anyone at the scene can act as an immediate responder and save lives if they knew how to stop the bleed."

While only nurses in Harrisburg have gone through the training so far, in the Sioux Falls School District, teachers taking on role of saving someone's life in a critical situation is just another layer to care they already provide, the district's Community Relations Supervisor DeeAnn Konrad said.

Sioux Falls School District employees will have the chance to go through tourniquet training at the third annual Teacher Swap Meet on July 27, and again during in-service and professional development days this fall, she said.

The district has about 3,400 employees for 21,000 students, and all of the district's nurses have already gone through the training, she said.

"I don't think any of us ever thought we would be at this point, but it's a necessary conversation," Konrad said. "It's a necessary skill. The skills that come through this program are skills any person at any time could need.

"The thought of needing those during the school day is unsettling, but we have to be realists in today's world. We've seen things like this play out, and the Sioux Falls School District has been extremely forward thinking in its safety practices."

Pushing the initiative statewide just makes sense, Konrad said. While the district and other surrounding districts have partnerships with law enforcement and other emergency personnel, a concern still exists about how quickly those agencies can respond, she said.

"If there was a situation, I know that teacher, that custodian, that lunch lady or clerical person would want to help and want to do the right thing," Konrad said. "This affords us the opportunity to learn a skill we hope we never have to use, but it's a skill everyone should know how to use. The schools are a great place to push that out."

The training isn't only in case of active shooter situations, echoed DeYoung. With South Dakota's reliance on farming and industrial work, he wants school district employees to have the skills necessary to handle any kind of major wound, he said.

And similar to the state's mandated CPR training for students to graduate, which passed in 2017, DeYoung would like to eventually see children learning the same tourniquet training in school health classes, he said. But that may be a ways down the road.

Back in the Harrisburg School District, where students regularly take welding or wood shop course, Gage said the kits will bring another level and security for the "what if's" that could happen in those hands-on courses.

"It's that umbrella you hope you never need," Gage said. "But if you do, it's a really valuable tool to have."

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

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

01-11-37-47-51, Mega Ball: 6, Megaplier: 2

(one, eleven, thirty-seven, forty-seven, fifty-one; Mega Ball: six; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$161 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$137 million

## Democrats choose Randy Seiler as attorney general candidate

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Democrats on Friday chose former U.S. Attorney Randy Seiler to be their candidate for state attorney general in November, but the longtime federal prosecutor won't know his Republican opponent for another week.

The attorney general contest decided in Seiler's favor was the top event for delegates at the state Democratic party convention in Sioux Falls. He won out over former Oglala Sioux Tribe Attorney General Tatewin Means for the party's nomination.

Republicans are set to choose their candidate at a state party convention in Pierre on June 23. Lawrence County State's Attorney John Fitzgerald, Yankton lawyer Jason Ravnsborg and state Sen. Lance Russell are the Republicans seeking the office.

Seiler, 71, has emphasized his experience and dominated in fundraising as he casts himself as Democrats' best hope of ending Republicans' decades-long grip on the attorney general's office. Seiler served as South Dakota's U.S. attorney from 2015 through 2017, leaving after more than two decades at the office.

"I have spent most of my professional career preparing to stand before you today," Seiler told delegates ahead of the vote. "I am confident that I am the most qualified candidate in this race. I'm confident that I can win this race."

If elected, Seiler said he would review the lawsuits the state is engaged in and look at "smart justice" initiatives. Seiler said drug dealers deserve to go to jail, but said he wants to work across party lines and agencies to try to address problems with drug treatment.

"People in crisis who turn to drugs don't deserve to go to the penitentiary," Seiler said. "They should be able to seek other options and seek treatment."

Jean Magnuson, a Seiler campaign chair, said she became a delegate for the first time because Seiler was running. The 56-year-old preschool teacher and business owner from Sioux Falls said she hasn't felt this excited about politics in years.

"I can't put it into words," she said.

After Seiler won the nod, Means wished him luck outside the convention hall. She could have been the first Native American woman nationwide to hold a state attorney general post.

Means had touted that she was the only candidate in the race who has previously been an attorney general.

"The time has come for a new generation of leaders," she told convention attendees.

A Democrat hasn't held the attorney general's office in South Dakota since the 1970s, and the party last fielded a candidate for the position in 2010.

Democrats on Friday nominated gubernatorial hopeful Billie Sutton's choice for lieutenant governor, Sioux Falls businesswoman Michelle Lavalley, to run alongside him.

Delegates also chose former Rosebud Sioux Tribal Council member Wayne Frederick to run for Public Utilities Commission, Beresford real estate agent Woody Houser for commissioner of School and Public Lands, former legislative candidate Tom Cool for state auditor and party communications director Aaron Matson for state treasurer.

## Rapid City man charged in fatal shooting in Keystone

KEYSTONE, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have charged a man in a fatal shooting in Keystone and identified the person who died.

The Pennington County Sheriff's Office says 19-year-old Ty Scott of Keystone died from a single gunshot wound Wednesday. The incident happened at a residence.

Eighteen-year-old Rapid City resident Maxton Pfeiffer (FY'fur) faces a first-degree manslaughter charge that carries a maximum punishment of life in prison. The Rapid City Journal reports his bond was set at \$10,000 cash Friday.

Defense lawyer Dana Hanna says the shooting was accidental.



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Police say a group of people were passing around a handgun when Pfeiffer allegedly picked up another handgun, pointed it at his companions, and the gun went off.

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

## Deputy fired after winning election offered temporary job

TYNDALL, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota sheriff's deputy who was fired by his boss after defeating him in a primary race has been offered another county job until he assumes the sheriff's role.

Bon Homme County Sheriff Lenny Gramkow fired Deputy Mark Maggs after Maggs beat him in the election last week.

With no other candidates filing for November's general election, Maggs will win a four-year term that starts Jan. 1.

County commissioners on Thursday voted to offer Maggs another job to tide him over until he takes office, the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan reported. It's not yet known what the job entails or whether Maggs will accept it.

The Bon Homme County State's Attorney and Maggs will negotiate which job he'll be offered, according to the motion.

The sheriff's office was inundated with negative phone calls that hindered emergency responses after the firing. Gramkow said he has no regrets.

"These people don't know me. They don't know my family. They don't know my department, and they don't know the whole story," Gramkow said of the negative comments. "Right now, it's all one-sided."

He acknowledged that he was disappointed after learning that Maggs chose to run against him.

"During the last five years (Maggs was with the department), I was always there for him," Gramkow said. "I was going to run for one more term and then hand it over to him. But he didn't want to wait."

He's begun accepting applications for Maggs' newly vacant position.

An earlier version of this story was corrected to reflect that the election happened June 5, not last Tuesday.

Information from: Yankton Press and Dakotan, <http://www.yankton.net/>

## Trump asked to declare disaster for 3 South Dakota counties

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard is asking President Donald Trump to declare a disaster for three northern South Dakota counties to help with recovery from spring flooding.

Daugaard says the flooding May 17-18 caused more than \$3.1 million in damage to public property in Campbell, McPherson and Walworth counties, including a dam at Hiddenwood State Park in Walworth County.

A presidential disaster declaration would pave the way for federal aid to help rebuild public infrastructure.

## Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press

### Rapid City Journal, Rapid City, June 10

State, county need to clean up election 'mess'

"It was a mess, and I apologize to the candidates, to election workers, and, most importantly, to voters." — Pennington County Auditor Julie Pearson

Apologies — while always nice — just aren't enough sometimes.

On Tuesday, the Pennington County Auditor's Office and the Secretary of State's Office presided over an election that was marred by enough mistakes to shake the confidence of a public that can only wonder

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how it was handled so poorly.

It started first thing in the morning. Due to difficulties with relatively new technology and exacerbated by the absence of a back-up plan, poor communication, and toothless support from the state, voters were turned away in Rapid City and told to come back later.

The initial culprit was the new e-poll book made by BPro, an electronic software company from Pierre. It failed to work properly in the eight counties it was used, including in Pennington where the election stumbled out of the gate.

While voting officials in the seven other counties were able to overcome the issues with the e-poll books, it was a different story here. Election workers were unprepared for the technology problems and unable to respond to puzzled voters who in some cases were told to call the county auditor's office for help. Media outlets quickly learned, however, that those calls would shed little light on the developing situation.

A call to the Secretary of State's Office about whether the voters should be issued provisional ballots added another layer of confusion, something that may have been averted if Secretary of State Shantel Krebs wasn't busy with her own election, a failed bid to win the Republican nomination for the U.S. House.

The delays and confusion could have been averted, however, if the auditor's office had provided printouts of registered voters to back up the e-poll books, which were being used for only the second time in the county. The initial use was for the special election on water rates, which had an extremely low voter turnout.

Later, the auditor's office told the Journal that it decided to save money by not printing out voter registration rolls. It later would rush to print them out, but by then voters had already been turned away. The Secretary of State's Office, meanwhile, said it could only recommend that counties using the new e-poll books print out voters rolls as a backup.

As the evening approached and after voting hours were extended, the results on the Secretary of State's website did not reflect the numbers totaled by the county auditor's office. According to the county, many of the problems that occurred later in the day were attributed to human error.

The problems that happened on Election Day can all be attributed to human error if preparation is considered. It's clear no Plan B was in place in the event the e-poll books malfunctioned and that no plan was prepared to notify the public of problems. The failure of the Secretary of State's to be more helpful and its confusion on the use of provisional ballots contributed to an inexcusable disenfranchisement of voters.

The time to correct these problems should start now as the general election is just five months away. Krebs needs to meet with county auditors and develop a policy that will prevent these problems in November. It should start with the guarantee that every county using e-poll books will have printed voter registrations at each precinct and a communication plan.

It would be the first step toward restoring faith in the state's elections, which is essential. What happened on Tuesday was a mess that needs to be cleaned up.

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## American News, Aberdeen, June 12

### Red Rooster Coffee House is a city hub, and deserves real support

After 21 years in the same familiar location, an Aberdeen icon is looking for a new place to call home.

The owners of the Red Rooster Coffee House are planning a move from their familiar roost, 202 S. Main St., because of repairs to the henhouse — or, the Citizens Building.

In a variety of ways, the Red Rooster has given the community a home of its own and unique things to do. The business's service goes beyond great coffee, a soft couch and a good read.

That's just one reason why ensuring the Rooster stays in business and stays where it's viable, sought out and loved is something that can and should be backed by the city and community members.

The Rooster serves as an anchor downtown Aberdeen. People know where it is, and they know they can go there for just about anything. It's an oasis for people of all kinds, shapes, sizes, ages and demographics.

The Red Rooster is a community within a community — and just saying that is an understatement.

That should be rewarded.

The Red Rooster has long supported the community, and a downtown whose residents don't always

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have a place to call "home" when they aren't at home.

A quick look at what the Red Rooster does for the community — its annual Art and Bike Spectacle, the various bands, performers, speakers, comedians, solo musicians and others it gives a stage to, the Fallout Creative Community, its support of the Fischgaard Film Festival and the Better Ride band, to name just a few Rooster-based projects — and it's easy to see what a hole our city and its culture would have without that Main Street coffee shop.

But Citizens Building owner Travis Kiefer said he needs to remodel the space in order to get everything up to code, including wiring, plumbing, and all the behind-the-sheetrock things. He's been remodeling the entire building piece by piece, floor by floor, since he purchased it in 2015.

The Red Rooster would likely stay put if its owners — Dan Cleberg and Kileen Cleberg Limvere — felt that was an option. But those planned renovations to the Citizens Building would change its look and feel, among other things.

Sure, there are other buildings downtown, waiting to be rented. But those, too, would require some updates — and maybe a little more to get that eclectic Red Rooster feel that makes everyone comfortable and welcome.

Those buildings also come at a cost.

Let's put a bit of perspective on this.

Every June, the Aberdeen City Council reviews requests for the promotion fund, which is comprised of revenue from the city's 1 percent bed, board and booze tax. Local groups and agencies apply for money from the promotion fund.

Those groups often deserve help for the good work they do.

Meanwhile, a business such as the Red Rooster is clearly a quality-of-life driver for the Hub City. We believe that, just by doing its job and doing it well, the Rooster has been a motivator for those transplants to Aberdeen.

That's promoting our city.

While the Rooster has not asked for any help, at least as far as we know, someone — anyone — should recognize the important need this business fills.

Dan Cleberg said since announcing that a move was imminent the business had received a lot of support, surrounded by a feeling of sadness.

We feel that too.

It's time to rally behind the Rooster by throwing whatever kind of real support we can behind it — as a community and a city.

The one thing that should never be an option is losing the Red Rooster Coffee House, and all that it stands for, all together.

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## The Public Opinion, Watertown, June 15

### Thumbs up, thumbs down

Weekly papers win open meetings complaint - Thumbs Up

As members of the media, we strongly believe in transparency and rules in order to keep the general public informed when it comes to important decisions being made.

Two weekly newspapers did their part recently to ensure organizations are following those rules.

Andy Wilcox of the Canton Sioux Valley News and Molly McRoberts of the Gettysburg Potter County News each won court cases last week. Both editors had their cases heard before the South Dakota Open Meetings Commission.

Wilcox had filed a complaint against the Canton City Commission for conducting official business via email outside of the requirements of the open meetings law.

McRoberts had filed a complaint against the Potter County Commission for conducting business after it had adjourned a meeting.

We say good job to the two newspapers for shedding a light on some misbehavior.

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Looking at Lake Kampeska's future - Thumbs Up

Most citizens of Watertown and the surrounding community will agree that Lake Kampeska is an asset to be treasured. With that in mind, it was pleasant to see a public input meeting held Friday night for anyone wishing to express their desires when it comes to a master plan for the lake's future.

The lake has been a priority for Mayor Sarah Caron and Upper Big Sioux River Watershed Project Coordinator Roger Foote and plans involving the lake shouldn't be taken lightly. Opinions may vary greatly about what's the best route to take when it comes to improving the lake but we feel the more opinions offered, the better.

Bald eagles get second chance - Thumbs Up

Thanks to the staff at Bramble Park Zoo, two bald eagles may get a second chance at life. The eagles have been receiving treatment at the zoo's raptor rehabilitation center for lead poisoning, which is cause for fatality in 60 to 80 percent of poisoned birds.

Zookeeper John Gilman has worked with numerous eagles suffering from lead poisoning and has high hopes for the two most recent birds. Last year, the center was able to release four bald eagles and a number of hawks and owls.

Operating for more than 25 years, the center plays a key role in helping birds get back to the wild in good health. The Public Opinion is hoping to be there later this summer for what we hope will be another successful release.

Taking shots at Trudeau, Canada - Thumbs Down

U.S. President Donald Trump took several shots at Canada and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau over trade issues earlier this week following the conclusion of the Group of Seven meeting of industrial nations in Canada earlier.

While we won't know for some time whether the proposed U.S. trade measures end up helping or hurting the American economy, what we do know is there is a right way and wrong way of doing business.

Insulting a country and its prime minister through numerous tweets is not the right way. We would rather see civilized discussion and compromise when it comes to negotiating trade policies. We can all have differing opinions but name calling doesn't help get anything done.

## Accused county worker sentenced to jail on drug charge

IPSWICH, S.D. (AP) — An Edmunds County Highway Department worker caught dumping drug paraphernalia at a county gravel pit has been sentenced to 30 days in jail.

The American News reports that 33-year-old David Becker, of Northville, received credit Thursday for 17 days he's already served behind bars. He was placed on probation for two years and fined \$864.

Authorities say Becker hauled the drug paraphernalia to the gravel pit in a county vehicle and a personal vehicle in February. Two other county workers reported suspicious activity at the pit.

Becker pleaded guilty last month to drug possession, and several other charges were dismissed.

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

## Pollock man gets 5 years for crash that killed passenger

MOUNT CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Pollock man has been sentenced to five years in prison for a vehicle crash that killed a passenger in his pickup truck.

The American News reports that 24-year-old Davis Hanson pleaded guilty to felony manslaughter in the November 2016 crash that killed 29-year-old Bain Weisbeck, of Herreid.

Authorities say Hanson failed to negotiate a curve and rolled his pickup.

In exchange for Hanson's guilty plea, prosecutors dismissed charges of vehicular homicide and vehicular battery.

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



## Edmunds County resident sues over turkey facility permit

IPSWICH, S.D. (AP) — A turkey dispute in Edmunds County is now in the courts.

The American News reports that resident Mary Curtis has sued the county, asking a judge whether the approval of a building permit for a pod of seven turkey barns followed the proper procedures. The judge is expected to rule next month.

Curtis lives within a half-mile of the facility planned by a company created by Hendrix Genetics. She says she's worried about odors and a decrease in her property value.

Sixty-one county residents earlier signed a petition calling on commissioners to retract the permit.

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

## 168 people become US citizens in Mount Rushmore ceremony

KEYSTONE, S.D. (AP) — Nearly 170 people from other countries gathered at Mount Rushmore National Memorial to swear an oath of allegiance to the U.S.

The U.S. District Court of South Dakota held a naturalization ceremony Thursday at the national landmark symbolizing American freedom and the nation's history.

Thursday was Flag Day, in honor of June 14, 1777, when the Second Continental Congress adopted the Stars and Stripes as the young nation's flag.

The 168 new citizens sworn in by U.S. Magistrate Judge Daneta Wollmann represent 41 countries, with the most coming from Bhutan and Burma.

## Republicans risking conservative backlash over immigration

By STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The push toward immigration votes in the House is intensifying the divide among Republicans on one of the party's most animating issues and fueling concerns that a voter backlash could cost the GOP control of the House in November.

To many conservatives, the compromise immigration proposal released this past week by House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., is little more than "amnesty."

One tea party group described the Republican plan as "the final betrayal." Fox Business host Lou Dobbs, who is close to President Donald Trump, tweeted Friday that Ryan is "trying to open our borders even more and give illegal immigrants the biggest amnesty in American history."

The tension threatens to exacerbate the GOP's political challenges this fall, when their majorities in the House and Senate could be at risk.

Passage of the bill could alienate conservatives and depress turnout at a time when enthusiasm among Democrats is high. Yet scuttling the bill could turn off independent voters, an especially important bloc for House Republicans competing in dozens of districts that Democrat Hillary Clinton won in the 2016 presidential election.

"The GOP's in a tough spot," said Republican pollster Frank Luntz. "The hardcore Trump voter has a different point of view than the ever-important independent voter, and there doesn't seem to be a middle ground."

The draft legislation, resulting from intense negotiations between moderates and conservatives, includes a path to citizenship for an estimated 1.8 million young immigrants in the country illegally. The plan includes \$25 billion for a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border and other security measures sought by the White House.

"While the bill contains some positive provisions, including full funding for the border wall and closing loopholes in current law that sustain illegal border surges, it is still a mass amnesty," said RJ Hauman, of the conservative Federation for American Immigration Reform.

"This bill hardly fulfills President Trump's bold promise to fix immigration, and sure isn't a winning message for the GOP in the midterms," Hauman said.

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Republicans had trumpeted Trump's support for the plan, yet he told reporters early Friday he would not sign it if it reached his desk. Later in the day, the White House said he was confused by a reporter's question and clarified his support.

Skittish conservative lawmakers have indicated there's little chance they would support the current plan unless Trump were to give it a full embrace — a tall order, given the confusion Friday about the president's position.

"House Republicans are not going to take on immigration without the support and endorsement of President Trump," said Rep. Patrick McHenry, R-N.C., the GOP's chief deputy vote counter.

The politics of the immigration debate have grown more heated since the administration adopted a "zero tolerance" approach at the Southern border. The policy is leading to an increase in the number of detained immigrants being separated from their children.

Trump has tried to blame Democrats for his own administration's policy, tweeting Saturday that they "can fix their forced family breakup at the Border by working with Republicans on new legislation, for a change!"

Facing a national uproar, House GOP leaders included a provision in the immigration proposal that would require families to be kept together for as long as they are in the custody of the Homeland Security Department.

The proposed fix won approval from moderate House Republicans locked in difficult re-election battles, but not from Republican Senate candidates running competitive races in GOP-leaning states. None spoke in support of the bill.

"We're studying the proposal," said Arizona Rep. Martha McSally, who is viewed as the GOP establishment's favorite in one of the top Senate races. "I try not get swayed by what the emotions are or the pressure. I really try to look at the policy issues."

Kelli Ward, one of McSally's main opponents in the Arizona Senate primary on Aug. 28, was more scathing in her assessment.

"Compromising on the rule of law to grant amnesty to millions of illegal immigrants is the wrong path to take," she said of the House plan. "Congress should focus on border security and stop talking about amnesty as a solution."

In Pennsylvania, Rep. Lou Barletta, the Republican nominee against Democratic Sen. Bob Casey took an equally aggressive approach against his own party's immigration plan.

"I hate it," he told The Associated Press. "What does it accomplish? It's amnesty."

Barletta said he has compassion for the children caught up in the immigration debate. But he said he wouldn't support an immigration bill unless it also blocked employers from hiring immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally, eliminated "sanctuary cities" and ended family-based migration.



**The Capitol is seen in Washington, Friday, June 15, 2018. The push toward immigration votes in the House is intensifying the divide among Republicans on one of the party's most animating issues \_\_\_ and fueling concerns that a voter backlash could cost the party control of the House in November. To many conservatives, the compromise immigration proposal released by House Speaker Paul Ryan with the White House's apparent blessing is little more than "amnesty."** (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Barletta said his party should “absolutely” fear a political backlash from its base this fall should Republicans push through the current compromise.

Other high-profile Republican candidates avoided questions about the immigration plan altogether, highlighting the political sensitivity of the issue.

The Republicans who declined to comment or ignored AP questions included Senate candidates Patrick Morrisey of West Virginia, Josh Hawley of Missouri, Mike Braun of Indiana and Matt Rosendale of Montana.

In an election year in which Democrats appear to have an advantage on voter enthusiasm, Republicans can ill afford to alienate any voters this fall, particularly their most passionate supporters.

Former White House counselor Steve Bannon lobbied against the compromise in private meetings with House conservatives earlier this past week.

He warned that Republicans “will lose the House and Trump will be impeached” if the House backs the new measure, according to Iowa Rep. Steve King, an immigration hard-liner who was in attendance.

## Fighting rages around airport in Yemen port city of Hodeida

By AHMED AL-HAJ, Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Saudi-led forces fought to retake the international airport of Yemen’s rebel-held port city of Hodeida from the Shiite Houthi rebels, Yemeni officials and witnesses said on Saturday, as combat intensified for the starving nation’s main gateway for food shipments.

With battles raging at the southern side of al-Hodeida International Airport, the military of Yemen’s exiled government said it had entirely seized the facility, and that engineers were working to clear mines from nearby areas just south of the city of some 600,000 people on the Red Sea.

“The armed forces which are supported by the Arab coalition have freed the al-Hodeida International Airport from the Houthi militias and the engineering teams have started to clean the airport and its surroundings from mines and bombs,” the military said on its official Twitter account.

Other government officials and witnesses later said coalition forces had not yet fully taken control of the airport. They said fighting was heavy just outside the airport gates.

Sadek Dawad, spokesman of the Republican Guards force loyal to the Saudis, said government forces had battled onto the airport grounds.

Dawad also said the southern gate of Hodeida city was captured by pro-coalition forces.

“The military operations to liberate the city of Hodeida will not be stopped until we secure the city and its strategic port and that won’t last too long,” he told The Associated Press.



**In this Feb. 12, 2018, photo, women walk past Saudi-led coalition backed forces, leading the campaign to take over Hodeida, as they patrol Mocha, a port city on the Red Sea coast of Yemen. Violence, famine and disease have ravished the country of some 28 million, which was already the Arab world’s poorest before the conflict began. The conflict pits a U.S.-backed, Saudi-led coalition supporting the internationally recognized government, which has nominally relocated to Aden but largely lives in exile, against rebels known as Houthis.** (AP Photo/Nariman El-Mofty)



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Yemen's Shiite rebels known as Houthis, who hold the country's capital of Sanaa, did not immediately acknowledge losing the airport.

The Houthi-run Al Masirah satellite news channel aired footage it described as being from near Hodeida showing a burned-out truck, corpses of irregular fighters and a damaged Emirati armored vehicle. The Iranian-aligned fighters rifled through a military ledger from the vehicle before chanting their slogan: "Death to America, death to Israel, damn the Jews, victory to Islam!"

Yemeni officials and witnesses said forces from the United Arab Emirates-backed Amaleqa brigades, backed by air cover from the Saudi-led coalition, were heading to eastern Hodeida province to attempt to cut off the main road that links it with the capital, Sanaa.

The officials said if government forces capture the Kilo 16 Road they will trap the rebels in Hodeida and the western coast and prevent them from receiving supplies from the capital. The rebels are then expected to have no choice but to head to the northern province of Hajjah.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief media and the witnesses for fear of reprisals.

The Norwegian Refugee Council said humanitarian agencies cannot reach the southern part of Hodeida as fighting escalated. It said in a statement that heavy airstrikes by the Saudi-led coalition have moved confrontation lines deeper to the south.

United Nations special envoy Martin Griffiths, meanwhile arrived in Sanaa in an effort to broker a cease-fire.

The Saudi-led coalition began its assault Wednesday on Hodeida, the main entry for food into a country already on the brink of famine. Emirati forces are leading ground forces mixed with their own troops, irregular militiamen and soldiers backing Yemen's exiled government. Saudi Arabia has provided air support, with targeting guidance and refueling coming from the U.S.

International aid groups and the UN cautioned the Saudi-led coalition from launching the assault. Their fear is that a protracted fight could force a shutdown of Hodeida's port at a time when a halt in aid risks tipping millions into starvation. Some 70 percent of Yemen's food enters via the port, as well as the bulk of humanitarian aid and fuel supplies. Around two-thirds of the country's population of 27 million relies on aid and 8.4 million are already at risk of starving.

For its part, the Saudi-led coalition says it had no choice but to launch the assault as the port provided millions of dollars for the Houthis through customs controls. They also accuse the Houthis of using the port to smuggle weapons through, something a U.N. panels of experts described in January as "unlikely" as incoming ships require U.N. permission and are subject to random searches.

The U.N. and Western nations say Iran has supplied the Houthis with weapons, from assault rifles to the ballistic missiles they have fired deep into Saudi Arabia, including at the capital, Riyadh.

The coalition has blocked most ports, letting supplies into Hodeida in coordination with the U.N. The air campaign and fighting have disrupted other supply lines, causing an economic crisis that makes food too expensive for many to afford.

Aid agencies and the U.N. evacuated international staff from the city ahead of the offensive. Some of the wounded able to flee are driving onto Aden, some 315 kilometers (195 miles) away, after being stabilized at a hospital in Mocha on the way, the aid group Doctors Without Borders said. The local hospital in Hodeida already is struggling to help the wounded, the group said.

Thousands remain besieged in the city and around the airport due to the fighting.

"Families are trapped inside and it is difficult leaving as they are coming under airstrikes and bombardment by both parties of the war," relief worker Saber Wasel told The Associated Press. "It was a hard night for citizens because of the intensity of the strikes and gunfire."

The Houthis seized control of Sanaa in September 2014, later pushing south toward the port city of Aden. The Saudi-led coalition entered the conflict in March 2015 and has faced criticism for a campaign of airstrikes killing civilians and destroying hospitals and markets.

The Houthis meanwhile have laid land mines killing and wounding civilians, targeted religious minorities and imprisoned opponents.



Associated Press writers Maggie Michael and Samy Magdy in Cairo contributed to this report.

## Ex-Trump campaign chairman Manafort jailed ahead of trial

By CHAD DAY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Onetime Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort has been sent to jail after a federal judge revoked his house arrest over allegations of witness tampering in special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation.

The order Friday by U.S. District Judge Amy Berman Jackson adds to the pressure on Manafort in connection with the federal interference into the 2016 election and possible coordination with Trump aides.

Manafort, 69, now loses the relative freedom he enjoyed while preparing for two criminal trials. He faces the possibility, if tried and convicted, of spending the rest of his life in prison. Still, it's unclear whether the move will push Manafort to cooperate with prosecutors.



**Paul Manafort arrives at federal court, Friday, June 15, 2018, in Washington.** (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

Manafort witnessed several key episodes under investigation by Mueller's team. But he has not shown a willingness to help investigators, maintaining his innocence and attacking his prosecution as illegitimate. Prosecutors have given no indication they are pursuing a plea deal or consider his testimony essential to the probe given the amount of evidence — and other cooperators — they've amassed in the last year.

No one on the campaign, including Manafort, has been charged with a crime directly related to Russian attempts to sway the election.

President Donald Trump criticized Jackson's decision, even as he sought to distance himself from Manafort by saying the former chairman worked for other prominent Republicans and worked for his campaign for only "49 days or something? A very short period of time." In fact, Manafort served there for nearly five months.

Trump also tweeted with sarcasm that he "didn't know Manafort was the head of the Mob" and asked: "What about Comey and Crooked Hillary and all of the others? Very unfair!" Those were references to James Comey, whom Trump fired as FBI director, and Hillary Clinton, the 2016 Democratic presidential nominee.

The president incorrectly referred to Manafort's pretrial detention as a "tough sentence." Manafort hasn't been convicted of any crimes or sentenced.

In issuing her ruling, Jackson said she had struggled with the decision to jail Manafort while he awaits trial and considered alternatives.

But she couldn't "turn a blind eye" to his conduct or ensure he would abide by her orders if he remained on house arrest.

"You have abused the trust placed in you six months ago," she said.

Jackson's ruling came in response to an indictment handed up last week charging Manafort, and longtime associate Konstantin Kilimnik, with obstruction of justice and conspiracy to obstruct justice, adding to the multiple felony counts he already faced.

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Manafort pleaded not guilty to the latest indictment on Friday. Kilimnik, who prosecutors say lives in Russia, did not appear in court or respond to an email seeking comment Friday. Mueller's team has said that Kilimnik has ties to Russian intelligence agencies, a claim he has denied.

Prosecutors say the two men tried to get two witnesses to say that lobbying work on behalf of Ukraine and carried out by clandestinely paid former politicians occurred only in Europe and not the U.S., a contention the witnesses said they knew was false.

The distinction matters because unregistered foreign lobbying in the U.S. is a crime, while lobbying solely in Europe would be outside the special counsel's jurisdiction.

Manafort's lawyers have accused prosecutors of conjuring a "sinister plot" out of "innocuous" contacts. They filed a memo written by one of the witnesses for Manafort that his attorneys say shows the work of the group, known as the Hapsburg group, was European-focused.

In response, prosecutors filed additional documents showing extensive lobbying contacts by the group in the U.S., which they said showed "the falsity of his representation." One document was a 2013 memo from Manafort to former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich. It described how Manafort had designed a program that used the Hapsburg members to lobby U.S. lawmakers and influence American public opinion including meetings on Capitol Hill.

Manafort lawyer Richard Westling said his client had "largely" complied with Jackson's orders. And he argued that Manafort could not have known the men he contacted were witnesses.

Westling did not propose adding any conditions to Manafort's house arrest, only asking that the judge clarify whom he was or wasn't allowed to contact. He also asked the judge to consider the burden it would place on Manafort to prepare for two criminal trials from jail.

Prosecutor Greg Andres said it was "inconceivable" that Manafort didn't know the men were potential witnesses, noting that he had specifically reached out to them to discuss allegations made in an indictment against him.

Andres said Manafort had carried out a "sustained campaign" over five weeks to influence the witnesses' testimony, which he said was part of Manafort's "history of deception in this case."

For example, he said, the government had discovered Manafort was trying to hide his communications by using a technique called "foldering" in which multiple people have access to the same email account and communicate by saving messages in a drafts folder rather than sending them.

Jackson said she was "very troubled" by Manafort's contacts with witnesses. She also refused to lay out which witnesses were off-limits.

"This is not middle school. I can't take his cellphone," she said, noting that if she listed 56 witnesses, she couldn't be certain he wouldn't contact the 57th.

Manafort will remain in jail while he awaits trial in both Washington and Virginia over the next few months. He faces several felony charges — including tax evasion, bank fraud, money-laundering conspiracy and acting as an unregistered foreign agent — related to his Ukrainian political work, money he funneled through offshore accounts and loans he took out on property in the U.S.

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Associated Press writer Ken Thomas contributed to this report.

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Follow Chad Day on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ChadSDay>

## Figures show about 2,000 minors separated from families

By COLLEEN LONG, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly 2,000 minors have been separated from their families at the U.S. border over a six-week period during a crackdown on illegal entries, according to Department of Homeland Security figures obtained by The Associated Press.

The figures show that 1,995 minors were separated from 1,940 adults from April 19 through May 31. The separations were not broken down by age, and they included separations for illegal entry, immigration

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violations or possible criminal conduct by the adult.

Under a "zero tolerance" policy announced by Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Homeland Security officials are now referring all cases of illegal entry for criminal prosecution. U.S. protocol prohibits detaining children with their parents because the children are not charged with a crime and the parents are.

Sessions announced the effort April 6, and Homeland Security began stepping up referrals in early May, effectively putting the policy into action.

Since then, stories of weeping children torn from the arms of their frightened parents have flooded the media and the policy has been widely criticized by church groups, politicians and children's advocates who say it is inhumane. A battle in Congress is brewing in part over the issue.

Some immigrant advocates have said women were being separated from their infants; Homeland Security and Justice Department denied it. They also said the children were being well cared for and disputed reports of disorder and mistreatment at the border.

On Thursday, Sessions cited the Bible in defending the policy, arguing the recent criticisms were not "fair or logical and some are contrary to law."

"I would cite you to the Apostle Paul and his clear and wise command in Romans 13, to obey the laws of the government because God has ordained them for the purpose of order," he said.

The International Rescue Committee, a humanitarian aid group, said in response that "a policy of willing cruelty to those people, and using young sons and daughters as pawns, shatters America's strong foundation of humanitarian sensibility and family values."

The new figures are for people who tried to enter the U.S. between official border crossings. Asylum-seekers who go directly to official crossings are not separated from their families, except in specific circumstances, such as if officials can't confirm the relationship between the minors and adults, if the safety of the children is in question, or if the adult is being prosecuted.

There were an additional 38 minors separated at ports of entry in May through June 6. There were more than 55 in April and a high of 64 in March, according to the figures.



**Jonathan Wilson, 33, of Scranton, Pa., holds a sign outside of a Lackawanna College where U.S. Attorney Jeff Sessions spoke on immigration policy and law enforcement actions, Friday, June 15, 2018, in Scranton, Pa. Attendees who took part in listening to the speech cross the street at right.** (Butch Comegys/The Times-Tribune via AP)

## Trump grumbles that North Korea deal not earning wide praise

By ZEKE MILLER and CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump says his deal with North Korea's Kim Jong Un will save tens of millions of people from a potential nuclear war. Now he just has to get everyone else on board.

Frustrated with lukewarm backing from congressional Republicans, criticism from Democratic opponents and skepticism from allies and the media, Trump made a stop on the North Lawn of the White House to promote his agreement with Kim and challenge the blowback that it's vague and lacking in clear objectives.

The surprise appearance Friday on "Fox & Friends," followed by a combative round of questions with



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reporters, came days after Trump returned from the Singapore summit expecting a hero's welcome and tweeting that the world now could "sleep well."

Trump, who prides himself as a master deal-maker, feels the agreement represents a major step toward solving an intractable foreign policy problem. He has been grumbling that not everyone agrees.

Trump's frustrations are all the more notable now during the honeymoon phase of the deal, when goodwill has yet to be tempered by reality. The U.S. goal of complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization, even in the most optimistic case, probably will take years — and that's assuming North Korea won't violate the accord, as it has every previous nuclear agreement.

The president is facing questions about his public embrace of Kim and the North Korean's autocratic leadership style, including what Trump said was a joke about the obedience of the autocratic Kim's advisers. Trump said he was doing what is necessary for peace.

"I don't want to see a nuclear weapon destroy you and your family," Trump told reporters. He added: "If you're fair, when I came in, people thought we were probably going to war with North Korea. ... If we did, millions of people would have been killed."

The joint statement signed this past week by Trump and Kim promises they will work toward a denuclearized Korean Peninsula, but includes no details on how or when weapons might be eliminated or even reduced. The summit marked the first meeting between a U.S. and North Korean leader in six decades of hostility and did mark a reduction in tensions from last fall, when Trump and Kim were trading insults that raised the specter of war.

Trump emerged from the meeting convinced that he could sell the vaguely worded deal, as evidenced by his hour-plus new conference in Singapore immediately after their session. Since then, he has sent out tweets and messages, peaking with his Friday visit to the White House driveway for the impromptu press availability.

"He's his own communications director. Once again his press team is trying to catch up to him," said GOP consultant Alex Conant. "He's focused more on the optics than the policy, which is a trend we've seen throughout this presidency."

In a video message Friday defending the nuclear agreement, Trump said the U.S. must seize the chance to avert nuclear conflict "at all costs."

"Our world has seen more than enough conflict. If there's a chance at peace, if there's a chance to end the horrible threat of nuclear conflict, then we must pursue it at all costs," he said.



**In this June 12, 2018, photo, President Donald Trump meets with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on Sentosa Island in Singapore. Trump credits his accord with North Korea's Kim Jong Un with saving tens of millions from nuclear war. Now he just has to get everyone else on board. Frustrated with lukewarm backing from congressional Republicans, criticism from Democratic opponents, and skepticism from allies and the media, President Donald Trump made an extraordinary stop on the North Lawn of the White House Friday to promote the nuclear deal that critics have decried as a vague and lacking in clear objectives.** (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)



Trump believes President Barack Obama would have gotten a different reception. And Trump thinks he should receive credit for making an agreement on an issue where Obama was unable to make progress.

Trump has called lawmakers to express enthusiasm for the agreement, but also complained that he has not had more robust support from GOP lawmakers, said a person with knowledge of those calls, who spoke on condition of anonymity to share internal conversations.

Among Trump's most vocal supporters is Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, who led negotiations to set up the summit and will hold talks with the North to work out details of the deal.

The challenge of defending the agreement became apparent this past week when Pompeo lashed out at a reporter who asked how the U.S. would verify the North's compliance with the deal.

"I find that question insulting and ridiculous and, frankly, ludicrous," Pompeo said in Seoul, where he was seeking to reassure U.S. ally South Korea about Trump's negotiation, including a surprise halt to joint military exercises involving the U.S. and South Korea.

Trump's press strategy comes after a bare-bones messaging plan around the summit, when White House officials seemed unable to answer questions about the broadly worded joint statement. Trump's announcement that he would halt the exercises appeared to catch Pentagon officials unaware.

White House staff said Trump's seat-of-the-pants changes on the day of the summit undercut their plans to roll out the agreement. Those plans included trying to change the time of his news conference to deciding he personally wanted to reveal the contents of the deal live. He changed his mind after news photographs showing the signed agreement text appeared on television.

Associated Press writer Josh Lederman in Seoul, South Korea, contributed to this report.

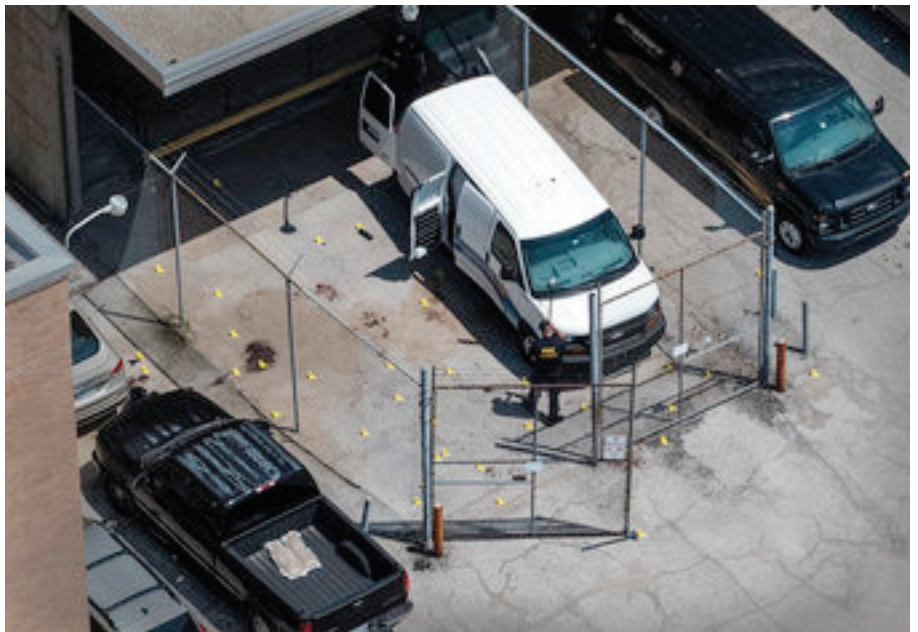
## Police: 2nd Kansas sheriff's deputy dies after shooting

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — A second sheriff's deputy died early Saturday from injuries suffered when an inmate who was being transported in Kansas City overpowered two officers and may have used one of their guns to shoot them.

Kansas City, Kansas, police confirmed on their Facebook page that Deputy Theresa King, 44, died just after midnight following the shooting on Friday. Officer Patrick Rohrer, 35, died earlier.

The inmate was also shot during the confrontation in a gated area near the Wyandotte County Courthouse and was taken to a hospital. His condition was not known. Investigators said the inmate may have grabbed a weapon from one of the deputies during a struggle after he got out of a van late Friday morning.

"It is very possible that with their own firearm, they were both shot," Wyandotte County sheriff's Maj. Kelli Bailiff said during a news conference



**Evidence markers dot the pavement just outside the Wyandotte County courthouse, Friday, June 16, 2018, in Kansas City, Kan. Authorities say one sheriff's deputy is dead and another is critically wounded after they were overcome by an inmate while driving a transport vehicle near the courthouse.** (The Kansas City Star via AP)

Friday at the University of Kansas Hospital.

Rohrer had been with the department for seven years and King for 13 years.

Bailiff said the inmate was being taken across the street from the jail, to the services building, for a court hearing. The inmate was taken in a van to a gated area behind the building, and when he got out of the van, he somehow overpowered and shot the deputies, Bailiff said.

Bailiff said investigators do not believe the public is in any danger. Video from the scene showed the courthouse surrounded by yellow police tape, several police vehicles parked in the street and numerous uniformed law enforcement officers walking the grounds.

Kansas City, Kansas has dealt with other officer shootings in the recent years.

Two Kansas City officers were shot and killed within less than three months in 2016. Capt. Robert Melton was slain in July while searching for a suspect in a drive-by shooting. Melton was part of the police honor guard for Det. Brad Lancaster, who was fatally shot earlier in 2016 near the Kansas Speedway.

In 2015, Wyandotte County Deputy Scott Wood was shot seven times but survived.

## Justifiable! Racing gets 13th Triple Crown with Justify

By BETH HARRIS, AP Racing Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Justify defied all the odds on his way to achieving Triple Crown immortality.

The late bloomer won the Belmont Stakes by 1¾ lengths on Saturday, giving the sport its 13th Triple Crown champion. American Pharoah ended a 37-year drought in 2015 and now just four years later, racing is celebrating another sweep of the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont.

Justify began his racing career on Feb. 18, a scant 77 days before the Derby. He won his first three races by a combined 19 lengths, making trainer Bob Baffert a believer.

The big chestnut colt with the appetite to match burst onto the national scene with a 2½-length victory on a sloppy track in the Derby. Two weeks later, he survived a challenge in the fog-shrouded Preakness, winning by a half-length, again in the slop to set up a Triple Crown try.

"The raw talent is there," Baffert said. "He just came on there and broke every curse there was. It was meant to be."

On a cloudy 80-degree day at Belmont Park, Justify proved a cool customer.

He didn't flinch when greeted by 90,327 roaring fans as he walked onto the track. He stood so quietly in the starting gate that jockey Mike Smith wondered if he'd respond when it sprang open.

Did he ever.

Justify led all the way in achieving one of the sports world's toughest feats 45 years to the day that Secretariat won the Belmont by a record 31 lengths. Baffert called Justify one of the all-time greats.

"I think he's the greatest of all time," Smith said. "I just won the Triple Crown, man. He's my champion." Justify accomplished a lot in a very short time.

At 6-0, he joins Seattle Slew in 1977 as the only two undefeated Triple Crown winners; he's the first to



**Justify (1), with jockey Mike Smith up, crosses the finish line to win the 150th running of the Belmont Stakes horse race, Saturday, June 9, 2018, in Elmont, N.Y.** (AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

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sweep the series without racing at age 2 (because of a pulled muscle); and he's the only horse to beat nine rivals in the Belmont with a Triple try on the line. Slew also was a wire-to-wire Belmont winner.

Justify's human handlers also made history.

Baffert became the second trainer to win the Triple Crown twice, having overseen American Pharoah. James "Sunny Jim" Fitzsimmons guided Gallant Fox in 1930 and Omaha in 1935.

"It never gets old," Baffert said. "American Pharoah, he'll always be my first love."

At 52, Smith became the oldest jockey to win the Triple Crown. He celebrated by grabbing white carnations from the winner's blanket and tossing them in the air.

"He just puts an old man out there to sit still, who stays out of the way and lets a good horse be a good horse," Smith said, crediting Baffert for using him.

Smith and Justify took a curtain call before entering the winner's circle. Back in New York where he dominated in the 1990s, Smith took Justify on a walk past the packed grandstand, soaking in the cheers and giving the crowd a closer look at racing's newest hero.

Justify's victory gives racing its second Triple Crown winner of the decade. The last time there were two Triple Crown champions in the same decade was the 1970s, which produced Secretariat, Seattle Slew and Affirmed.

Purchased for \$500,000, Justify earned \$800,000 for his Belmont win, giving him \$3,798,000 in his brief career.

The powerful colt with the blaze running the length of his face showed no signs that the rigors of running a compressed schedule had gotten to him.

On a fast, dry track, Justify was just as good in his third race in five weeks at his third different track.

Sent off as the 4-5 favorite, Justify ran 1½ miles — the longest race of the series — in 2:28.18 and paid \$3.60, \$3.50 and \$2.80.

"This horse ran a tremendous race, he's so gifted," Smith said. "He's sent from heaven. I tell you, it's just amazing."

Baffert had fretted after Justify drew the No. 1 post, a spot he detests for his horses. But Smith turned it into an advantage, gunning Justify to the lead and defying any horse to challenge.

Restoring Hope, also trained by Baffert, ran interference for the champion while traveling second and deterring any threats by forcing them to go extremely wide. Nobody did.

Smith got the colt into a relaxed rhythm under a moderate pace heading into the backstretch, and he had an easy trip from there.

"You can't doubt him now, there's no way," said Bill Mott, trainer of third-place Hofburg. "He did it right up on the pace, and everybody had an opportunity to take their shot. They didn't do it. They let it go too easy."

There were mild bids turning for home. Vino Rosso made the most serious move to get within a length but never threatened. Justify pulled away down the 1,097-yard stretch in front of screaming fans with only 24-1 shot Gronkowski picking off a half-dozen rivals in taking up the chase down the lane.

"My thought turning for home was that he had a shot to get him if Justify was vulnerable at mile and a half," said Chad Brown, who trains Gronkowski. "I thought maybe, because I could see Gronkowski flying, but he just couldn't get to that horse."

Gronkowski, named for and partly owned by New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski, returned \$13.80 and \$7 in his U.S. debut after arriving from England.

Hofburg paid \$3.70 to show.

Vino Rosso finished fourth, followed by Tenfold, Bravazo, Free Drop Billy, Restoring Hope, Blended Citizen and Noble Indy.

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For more Belmont coverage: <https://apnews.com/tag/Horseracing>



## #MeToo crisis jolts Southern Baptists ahead of key gathering

By DAVID CRARY, AP National Writer

The Southern Baptists are facing their own #MeToo crisis as the biggest Protestant denomination in the U.S. heads into its annual meeting next week.

A series of sexual misconduct cases has prompted the Southern Baptist Convention's socially conservative, all-male leadership to seek forgiveness for the ill treatment of women and vow to combat it. Hoping for more than rhetoric, women and some male allies plan a protest rally in Dallas when the two-day meeting opens on Tuesday.

"The past two months have been tough for our convention," SBC President Steve Gaines wrote this week. "I believe God has allowed all of this to happen to drive us to our knees."

Illustrating the SBC's predicament, the central figure in the most prominent of the #MeToo cases, Paige Patterson, had been scheduled to deliver the featured sermon at the gathering. However, Patterson withdrew from that role Friday, heeding a request from Gaines and other leaders.

Patterson was recently dismissed as president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Texas because of his response to two rape allegations made years apart by students.

In a 2015 case, according to the seminary's board chairman, Patterson told a campus security official that he wanted to meet alone with a student who had reported being raped, to "break her down."

Patterson also was accused of making improper remarks about a teenage girl's body and contending that abused women should almost always stay with their husbands.

Baptist Press, the SBC's official news service, has reported on other cases, including the resignations of one seminary professor who acknowledged "a personal moral failing" and another who cited "personal and spiritual issues."

SBC leaders say there are many more cases — adding up to a humiliating debacle for the 15.2-million-member denomination.

"The avalanche of sexual misconduct that has come to light in recent weeks is almost too much to bear," wrote the Rev. Albert Mohler, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, in a recent blog post. "These grievous revelations of sin have occurred in churches, in denominational ministries, and even in our seminaries."

Mohler acknowledged that the crisis might raise questions about the SBC's doctrine of "complementari-



**FILE - In this Oct. 12, 2010, file photo, former Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary President Paige Patterson poses for a photo in Fort Worth, Texas. The Southern Baptist Convention, the largest Protestant denomination in the U.S., heads into its annual meeting next week facing what one senior leader calls a "horrifying #MeToo moment." A series of sexual misconduct cases within the SBC has prompted its socially conservative, all-male leadership to seek forgiveness for the ill-treatment of women. Illustrating the SBC's predicament, the featured sermon at next week's meeting is scheduled to be delivered by Patterson, the central figure in the most prominent of the troubling #MeToo cases.** (Paul Moseley/Star-Telegram via AP, File)



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anism" — which espouses male leadership in the home and in the church and says a wife "is to submit herself graciously to the servant leadership of her husband."

Mohler said the SBC will not abandon the doctrine. But "we need to realize there are unbiblical and toxic forms of complementarianism," he said. "We should be honoring women, not abusing them."

The Rev. Russell Moore, president of the SBC's public policy arm, the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, said the #MeToo moment would not trigger a move to ordain women as ministers

"There is, though, a great deal of conversation about how women can have a greater voice in decision-making," he said, suggesting that more women could serve as trustees of seminaries and other institutions.

Moore and Mohler are among dozens of SBC leaders who have co-signed a resolution that will be submitted for approval in Dallas. It calls on the SBC to repudiate any rhetoric or behavior that dishonors women, and denounces those who commit or cover up such actions. It also urges congregations and ministers to abide by all reporting laws.

The resolution's author, Midwestern Seminary president Jason Allen, bristled at the notion that wives should endure abuse to save their marriages.

"We can work against our matrimony-shattering 'no-fault' divorce culture and shore up marriages," he wrote. "But this needed work never means asking women to suffer abuse."

The draft resolution received a mixed review from Ashley Easter, a writer and speaker from Raleigh, North Carolina, who is an advocate for victims of abuse and an organizer of Tuesday's planned protest rally.

She and the others want the SBC to create a database of clergy sex offenders and require all pastors and seminarians to undergo training on how to address domestic abuse and sexual assault.

Easter said she wishes the SBC would change its doctrine about gender roles but doubts that is imminent.

"When you have a patriarchal theology, with one person in power and control of the other, some will use that theology to abuse," she said. "It's unsafe for women not to be in an equal place."

A rally organizer, Texas-based author and speaker Mary DeMuth, commended the draft resolution but expressed dismay that women were given minimal speaking time at the two-day SBC meeting. She said she wishes for an SBC in which women "are no longer dismissed, stereotyped or relegated to subcommittees."

At least one of the scheduled speakers at the rally is a man. Wade Burleson, an author and lead pastor of Emmanuel Enid church in Enid, Oklahoma, is critical of the way many of his fellow ministers restrict women's roles in the church.

"I believe they are misinterpreting the Scriptures big time," he tweeted recently. "I also believe change is coming soon in the SBC to reflect a more biblical approach toward women. The Southern Baptist Convention may even have a female President sooner rather than later."

Follow David Crary on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CraryAP>

## Trump considers pardon for Ali, wants athletes' advice

By JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reveling in his pardon powers, President Donald Trump said Friday he's thinking "very seriously" about pardoning former heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali, whose conviction was already overturned by the Supreme Court in 1971.

It's one of "thousands" of cases the president's team is reviewing, he told reporters as he left the White House en route to a world leaders' summit in Canada. And Trump said he's thinking about soliciting recommendations about other cases to consider from pro football players and other athletes who have protested racial injustice by kneeling during the national anthem — a tactic Trump has fiercely denounced.

Trump said that, "instead of talk," he's "going to ask all of those people to recommend to me — because that's what they're protesting — people that they think were unfairly treated by the justice system."

"I'm going to ask them to recommend to me people that were unfairly treated, friends of theirs or people that they know about and I'm going to take a look at those applications," he said.

Trump has been on a clemency kick of late, using his near-limitless power to pardon a growing list that

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includes a former White House aide, a conservative commentator and a former sheriff convicted of violating a judge's orders who campaigned with Trump in 2016.

Earlier this week, he commuted the life sentence of a woman whose cause was championed by reality television star Kim Kardashian West. Last month he granted a posthumous pardon to boxing's first black heavyweight champion, Jack Johnson. Actor Sylvester Stallone alerted him to that case.

Trump told reporters Friday his team is now "looking at literally thousands" of people who have come to their attention because they've been treated unfairly or their sentences are too long.

"We have 3,000 names. We're looking at them," Trump said, calling the power to pardon "a beautiful thing."

Among them is Ali, who died in 2016.

Born Cassius Clay, Ali changed his name after converting to Islam in the 1960s. He refused to serve in the Vietnam War because of his religious beliefs, declaring himself a conscientious objector. He was stripped of his heavyweight crown in 1967, but his legal fight ended in 1971 when the Supreme Court ruled in his favor and overturned his conviction. He regained the boxing title in 1974.

"I'm thinking about somebody that you all know very well. And he went through a lot. And he wasn't very popular then," Trump said. "He certainly, his memory is very popular now."

Ron Tweel, Ali's lawyer, pointed out that Ali has no criminal record.

"We appreciate President Trump's sentiment, but a pardon is unnecessary," he said.

The White House did not immediately respond to questions about why the president feels one is needed.

Trump said last week also said he's considering commuting the sentence of former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich, who is serving 14 years in prison for corruption, and pardoning celebrity lifestyle guru Martha Stewart, who served about five months on charges connected to an insider trading case. O.J. Simpson, he said in response to a reporter's question, is not on his list.

The president has been operating outside the usual Justice Department clemency protocol, in which submitted cases are carefully considered based on their merits, and recommendations made. Instead, White House officials say, Trump has focused on individual cases that have caught his attention or been brought to him by friends or celebrities. He's been especially drawn to cases in which he feels a person's prosecution has been politically motivated — a situation that may remind him of his own predicament at the center of the special counsel investigation into Russian election meddling.

Trump insisted Friday that he was also interested in clemency for regular people and those without high-profile backers.

He said that, "it's easier and people find it fascinating" to see him pardon the famous, but that he "would get more thrill out of pardoning people that nobody knows."

Yet Trump's suggestion that professional athletes help him identify cases only seemed to fuel concerns



**FILE - In this Nov. 2009 file photo, President Bush presents the Presidential Medal of Freedom to boxer Muhammad Ali in the East Room of the White House. President Donald Trump said he is thinking "very seriously" about pardoning Muhammad Ali, even though the Supreme Court vacated the boxing champion's conviction in 1971. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)**



that those without star advocates will be ignored.

"Well, you know, if you think about it, that's really -- that becomes celebrity advocates. But they know a lot of things that we're not going to know. They've seen a lot of abuse and they've seen a lot of unfairness," he said.

The idea also sparked backlash from the American Civil Liberties Union.

"President Trump has spent much of his first 18 months in office degrading NFL players who protest police brutality and racial injustice. Today, he has tried once again to change the narrative about the work of those and other activists, betraying a fundamental misunderstanding of the cause behind these protests — and using racist dog whistles to do it," said Jeff Robinson, the group's deputy legal director.

The players have been protesting racial injustice and the high numbers of African Americans killed by police.

Follow Colvin on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/colvinj>

## Soggy Alberto triggers mudslides, threatened dam is OK

By JEFFREY COLLINS, Associated Press

Mudslides triggered by the soggy remnants of Alberto forced evacuations below a dam early Wednesday and closed a highway in western North Carolina as the center of the storm lashed the nation's midsection hundreds of miles away.

The National Hurricane Center said Alberto ceased to be a subtropical storm Wednesday afternoon, but was expected to continue to bring wind and rain as it moved across the Great Lakes.

The heavy rains had stopped, at least for the time being in North Carolina, but Gov. Roy Cooper said several other dams could be in danger as rivers continued to rise. He sent a team of state inspectors to check on at least four of them.

The inspections came after about 2,000 people were evacuated for several hours when emergency managers said the Lake Tahoma dam was in danger of "imminent failure" early Wednesday. Heavy rain triggered landslides at the dam and along Interstate 40, which was closed near Asheville.

Engineers inspected the dam further in daylight. McDowell County officials announced in a public alert just after 10 a.m. Wednesday the dam was safe and people could return home.

Cooper declared a state of emergency in western North Carolina as heavy storms were forecast for much of the rest of the week, bringing a possibility of more flooding and mudslides.

"This storm isn't yet over. I'm urging people to keep a close eye on forecasts and flood watches, and asking drivers to use caution especially when travelling in our western counties," Cooper said in a statement.

Some areas of the North Carolina mountains have received up to 20 inches (51 centimeters) of rain in



**Workers clear debris from a parking lot washed out at a restaurant in Black Mountain, N.C., Wednesday, May 30, 2018 after heavy rains from the fringes of Subtropical Storm Alberto caused widespread flooding Tuesday evening.** (AP Photo/Chuck Burton)

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the past 15 days.

A north Georgia town was also dealing with flooding.

Up to 7 inches (18 centimeters) of rain caused flooding in Helen, Georgia, around 10 a.m. Wednesday, the National Weather Service said. Atlanta station WAGA-TV reported that several roads near the downtown area were shut down because of the rising water. No injuries or structural damage had been reported.

The center of a depression that had been Alberto was about 400 miles (640 kilometers) west near Hopkinsville, Kentucky, where high winds and heavy rains gave Sherry Key a fitful night's sleep.

"I have dogs and they're terribly afraid of storms, so they were on top on top me all night," said Key, an airport office manager.

Radar showed rain extended as far south as the Gulf Coast, where the storm came ashore at the Florida Panhandle on Monday, and north to the Great Lakes region.

Forecasters warned the leftovers of the Atlantic hurricane season's first named storm were still capable of causing treacherous flooding as heavy precipitation spreads deeper into the nation's midsection. Flash flood watches and warnings were in effect for parts of several states from Alabama through Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, the Carolinas and Virginia and West Virginia.

In the mountains of western North Carolina, McDowell County Emergency Management deputy director Adrienne Jones said about 200 residents spent the night in three shelters, set up in Marion, Old Fort and Glenwood. She said five minor injuries were reported during water rescues as creeks and streams overflowed their banks and rock slides closed roads.

Two Department of Transportation workers survived a close call when their dump truck was swept away by a mudslide in McDowell County while trying to clean debris from an earlier slide. The men were able to climb from the overturned truck and stand on its side in the Catawba River until they were rescued, the governor said.

A television news anchor and a photojournalist were killed Monday in North Carolina while covering the weather, when a tree became uprooted from rain-soaked ground and toppled onto their SUV, authorities said. WYFF-TV of Greenville, South Carolina, said news anchor Mike McCormick and photojournalist Aaron Smeltzer were killed.

Authorities in Cuba say Alberto left four people dead there as the storm drenched the island in heavy rain. Interior Minister Julio Cesar Gandarilla said late Tuesday they died as a result of "recklessness" during the storm. He gave no details. The deaths occurred as authorities worked to contain an oil spill in central Cuba's Cienfuegos Bay that followed the flooding of nearby oil refinery.

The big, messy storm caused more than 25,000 power outages in Alabama, many of which were triggered by trees rooted in soggy soil falling across utility lines.

"We've had a lot of rain, but we got lucky. It was a constant rain but not a heavy rain," said Regina Myers, emergency management director in Walker County northwest of Birmingham.

Collins reported from Columbia, South Carolina. Associated Press Reporter Jack Jones, also in Columbia, contributed to this story.

## Trump administration explores tariffs on autos, auto parts

By KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration launched an investigation into whether tariffs are needed on the imports of automobiles into the United States, moving swiftly as talks over the North American Free Trade Agreement have stalled. President Donald Trump predicted earlier that U.S. automakers and auto workers would be "very happy" with the outcome of the NAFTA talks.

The White House said in a statement Wednesday that the president had asked Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross to consider whether the imports of automobiles, including trucks, and automotive parts threaten U.S. national security. The president said in the statement that "core industries such as automobiles and automotive parts are critical to our strength as a Nation."



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The U.S. remains far apart on the talks over rewriting the trade pact with Canada and Mexico, with the discussions at an impasse over rules for car production. The initiation of the trade investigation could be seen as an attempt to gain leverage in the talks with the two U.S. neighbors. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin has said that efforts to renegotiate the trade agreement could spill into next year.

Nearly half of the vehicles sold in the U.S. are imported, with many coming from assembly plants in Mexico and Canada. During a meeting with auto executives earlier this month, Trump said he would push for an increase in the production of vehicles built at U.S. plants. He has also criticized European Union auto imports and tariffs and earlier this year threatened a "tax" on European imports.

A person familiar with the discussions said the president has suggested seeking new tariffs of 20 to 25 percent on automobile imports. The person spoke on condition of anonymity and was not authorized to speak about private deliberations.

Trump brought a little-used weapon to his fight to protect auto workers: Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. The provision authorizes the president to restrict imports and impose unlimited tariffs on national security grounds.

The Trump administration used that authority in March to slap tariffs of 25 percent on imported steel and 10 percent on aluminum imports. Until then, the United States had pursued only two such investigations since joining the World Trade Organization in 1995. Both times — in a 1999 case involving oil imports and a 2001 case involving iron ore and steel imports — the Commerce Department refused to recommend sanctions.

Critics fear that other countries will retaliate or use national security as a pretext to impose trade sanctions of their own.

Daniel Ujcz, a trade lawyer with Dickinson Wright PLLC, said the tariff threat is likely meant to pressure Mexico into accepting U.S. demands for NAFTA changes that would shift more auto production to the U.S. from Mexico. But he questioned whether it would work.

"I do not believe that it will have the desired effect," Ujcz said. "Everyone knows that (the investigation) will take too long and has no chance of surviving any legal challenge."

Trump offered a hint about the move earlier in the day on the South Lawn, telling reporters that "you'll be seeing very soon what I'm talking about." He noted that both Mexico and Canada have been "very difficult to deal with" during the negotiations.

"I am not happy with their requests. But I will tell you in the end we win, we will win and will win big," Trump said before departing for New York. He said America's neighbors have been "very spoiled because nobody's done this but I will tell you that what they ask for is not fair. Our auto workers are going to be extremely happy."



**President Donald Trump's hair is ruffled by a breeze as he speaks to the media on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, May 23, 2018, en route to a day trip to New York. Trump will hold a roundtable discussion on Long Island on illegal immigration and gang violence that the White House is calling a "national call to action for legislative policy changes."** (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

Mexico has so far resisted U.S. attempts to get higher regional content rules in the auto industry and move production to higher-wage U.S. and Canadian factories. The U.S. has also sought to change NAFTA's dispute-resolution system, and include a sunset clause that would allow countries to exit after five years.

The Trump administration has already missed an informal deadline that had been set by House Speaker Paul Ryan to get a revamped deal to Congress in time for lawmakers to vote on it in a midterm election year. Mexico, meanwhile, will hold presidential elections on July 1 and Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, the leftist candidate who has led in polls, has said the re-negotiation shouldn't be rushed through and should be left to the winner of the election.

If the negotiators fail to agree to a revamped version of NAFTA, the discussions could be extended into 2019. Trump could also carry out his threat to abandon the agreement that he has long railed against, throwing commerce among the three countries into disarray.

Trump has sought to overhaul NAFTA in an effort to return auto production to the United States and reduce America's trade deficit. The U.S. has been demanding that a percentage of a car's content of auto parts originate in a country — the U.S. or Canada — with average auto worker wages of about \$15 an hour to qualify for NAFTA's duty-free status.

But companies have built supply chains that straddle NAFTA borders and changing the rules could disrupt their operations, raise costs and potentially put them at a competitive disadvantage with manufacturers in Asia and Europe.

AP Business Writer Paul Wiseman contributed to this report.

## Georgia Democrat challenges racial barrier in governor race

By BILL BARROW, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Georgia Democrats gave Atlanta lawyer Stacey Abrams a chance to become the first black female governor in American history on a primary night that ended well for several women seeking office.

Abrams set new historical marks with a primary victory Tuesday that made her the first black nominee and first female nominee for governor of either majority party in Georgia.

Voters also picked nominees in Kentucky, Arkansas and Texas ahead of the November midterms. A closer look at key story lines:

### GEORGIA GOVERNOR'S RACE

Democrats were set to nominate a woman for governor either way, with Stacey Abrams and Stacey Evans battling it out in a pitched primary fight.

But the 44-year-old Abrams stood out in her bid to be the nation's first

African-American woman to lead a state. The former state General Assembly leader was insistent that the way to dent Republican domination in Georgia wasn't by cautiously pursuing the older white voters who had abandoned Democrats over recent decades. Rather, she wanted to widen the electorate by attracting young voters and nonwhites who hadn't been casting ballots.



**Democratic candidate for Georgia Governor Stacey Abrams smiles as she speaks during an election-night watch party Tuesday, May 22, 2018, in Atlanta.** (AP Photo/John

Bazemore)

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She will test her theory as the underdog against either Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle or Secretary of State Brian Kemp, who will meet in Republican runoff in July. Cagle led a five-man Republican field, with Kemp qualifying for the second spot after a campaign that was a sprint to the right on everything from immigration to support for President Donald Trump.

Kemp promised to keep pulling in that direction, with Cagle trying to balance the demands of a conservative primary electorate with his support from the business establishment. The scenario worried some Georgia Republicans who were accustomed to centrist, business-aligned governors who rarely flouted Atlanta-based behemoths like Delta and Coca-Cola.

Some GOP figures worried the GOP gamesmanship on immigration and gay rights, in particular, already had ensured Georgia wouldn't land Amazon's second headquarters.

## TEXAS CONGRESSIONAL RUNOFFS

Texas had three House runoffs that will be key to whether Democrats can flip the minimum 24 GOP-held seats they would need for a majority in next year's Congress. All three were among 25 districts nationally where Trump ran behind Hillary Clinton in 2016. Democrats nominated women in two of the districts and a black man in the third.

Attorney Lizzie Fletcher far outpaced activist Laura Moser in a metro-Houston congressional contest that became a proxy for Democrats' fight between liberals and moderates. National Democrats' campaign committee never endorsed Fletcher, but released opposition research against Moser amid fears that she was too liberal to knock off vulnerable Republican Rep. John Culberson in the fall.

In a San Antonio-Mexican border district, Gina Ortiz Jones, an Air Force veteran and former intelligence officer, got Democrats' nod to face Republican Rep. Will Hurd in November. Jones would be the first openly lesbian congresswoman from her state. Hurd is black.

Former NFL player Colin Allred won a battle of two attorneys and former Obama administration officials in a metro-Dallas House district. Allred, who is black, topped Lillian Salerno and will face Republican Rep. Pete Sessions in November. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee lined up behind Allred after the group's initial favorite failed to make the runoff.

Among Republicans, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz showed off his endorsement muscle, with his former chief of staff, Chip Roy, winning a competitive runoff for a San Antonio-area congressional seat opened by the retirement of Rep. Lamar Smith.

In the governor's race, Democrats tapped former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez to take on Republican incumbent Greg Abbott in November. Valdez is Texas' first openly gay and first Latina nominee for governor.

## DEMS BATTLE IN KENTUCKY

Voters in a central Kentucky congressional district opted for retired Marine officer and fighter pilot Amy McGrath over Lexington Mayor Jim Gray to advance to a fall campaign against Republican Rep. Andy Barr.

National Democrats once touted Gray as one of their best recruits in their efforts for a House majority. They said in recent weeks they'd be happy with McGrath, but the race still shaped up as a battle between rank-and-file activists and the party establishment.

McGrath was making her first bid for public office, among a handful of female Naval Academy graduates running for Congress this year.

Gray also lost a 2016 Senate race.

In eastern Kentucky's Rowan County, voters denied the Democratic nomination to a gay candidate who wanted to challenge the local clerk who denied him and others same-sex marriage licenses.

David Ermold had wanted to face Republican Kim Davis, who went to jail three years ago for denying marriage licenses in the aftermath of an historic U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing same-sex marriage.

## ARKANSAS' HEALTH CARE PREVIEW

While Washington fixates on the daily developments in the Russia election meddling investigation, Demo-



cratic congressional candidates insist they'll win in November arguing about bread-and-butter issues like health care.

Arkansas state Rep. Clarke Tucker captured Democrats' congressional nomination in a Little Rock-based district by telling his story as a cancer survivor. Though he faced a crowded primary field, his real target all along has been Republican Rep. French Hill, who voted many times to repeal the 2010 Affordable Care Act.

The Arkansas district may not be at the top of Democrats' national target list, but it's the kind of district the party might have to win to be assured of regaining House control in November.

The state's Republican governor, Asa Hutchinson, dispatched primary opposition as he sought another term. Democrats nominated former Teach for America executive Jared Henderson.

Follow Barrow on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/BillBarrowAP>

Sign up for "Politics in Focus," a weekly newsletter showcasing the AP's best political reporting from around the country leading up to the midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/3Gzcraw>

This story has been corrected to show that Republican Rep. Will Hurd of Texas is black, not white.

## New CIA director says she'll send more spies to the field

By KEN THOMAS and DEB RIECHMANN, Associated Press



**Incoming Central Intelligence Agency director Gina Haspel participates in a swearing-in ceremony at CIA Headquarters, Monday, May 21, 2018, in Langley, Va.** (AP

Photo/Evan Vucci)

LANGLEY, Va. (AP) — New CIA Director Gina Haspel pledged to send more spies into the field during her swearing-in Monday as President Donald Trump offered up praise for the rank-and-file, who felt snubbed during his first visit to the headquarters of the premier U.S. intelligence agency.

"We must learn from the past, but we cannot dwell in the past," said Haspel, whose ascent from undercover operative to the top job was challenged because of her role in a program to harshly detain and interrogate terror suspects after 9/11.

"We must constantly learn, adjust, improve and strive to be better. We demand it of ourselves and America deserves nothing less," she said, drawing loud applause from her co-workers assembled inside the headquarters at Langley, in northern Virginia.

Haspel, 61, succeeds Mike Pompeo, whom Trump tapped to become secretary of state. Pompeo was present at the swearing-in and the oath was administered by Vice President Mike Pence.

Critics have said Haspel's role in the non-banned program should have disqualified her from becoming CIA director, although she has vowed not to restart it. Her supporters cited her three decades of experience at the spy agency both domestically and at many posts abroad.

Haspel, who has spent 33 years with the CIA, pledged to boost foreign language proficiency, strengthen the CIA's partnerships with intelligence agencies in the U.S. and abroad and deploy more officers to the



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field. She said the CIA also needed to focus on strategic threats to U.S. national security as well as the ongoing one from global terrorism.

As the first female CIA director, Haspel said she was indebted to female intelligence officers who blazed the trail for women in the field. "I stand on the shoulders of heroines who never sought public acclaim, but served as inspirations to the generations that came after them," she said.

She also referenced her rocky confirmation during which lawmakers had called for her mostly classified past career to be open to public scrutiny.

"It has been nearly 50 years since an operations officer rose up through the ranks to become the director, and after the experience of the last two months, I think I know why that is," Haspel joked.

Trump said she showed courage during the Senate confirmation process in the face of "very negative politics."

The president struck a different tone than on his previous visit to CIA headquarters. He hailed the agency rank-and-file, calling them the "most elite intelligence professionals on the planet" and promised them the "the tools, the resources and the support they need."

When Trump visited the CIA headquarters in January 2017, one day after taking office, it was on the back of his repeated criticisms of the U.S. intelligence community over its conclusion that Russian had interfered in the presidential election.

That day, many of his remarks were focused on settling scores with the media. His comments raised the ire of former intelligence officials because he spoke in front of a wall marked with stars representing fallen CIA officers, which was viewed as disrespectful.

This year, he paid tribute to the lost lives, saying "their stories of service and sacrifice and daring will live for all time."

Only hours before Trump visited CIA headquarters, he was promoting criticism of former CIA Director John Brennan. He suggested Brennan was to blame for the investigation into possible collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia.

On Twitter, Trump referenced comments from conservative commentator Dan Bongino on "Fox and Friends," which argued that Brennan "started this entire debacle." Bongino, a former Secret Service agent, also said Brennan had "disgraced the intelligence community."

Brennan became the agency's director in 2013 under President Barack Obama and served until January 2017. He has been a vocal critic of Trump.

On Sunday, Brennan warned Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and House Speaker Paul Ryan, tweeting: "If Mr. Trump continues along this disastrous path, you will bear major responsibility for the harm done to our democracy. You do a great disservice to our Nation & the Republican Party if you continue to enable Mr. Trump's self-serving actions."

## China hikes tariffs on US soybeans, electric cars, fish

By JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — China fired back Saturday in a spiraling trade dispute with President Donald Trump by raising import duties on a \$34 billion list of American goods including soybeans, electric cars and whiskey.

The government said it was responding in "equal scale" to Trump's tariff hike on Chinese goods in a conflict over Beijing's trade surplus and technology policy that companies worry could quickly escalate and chill global economic growth.

China "doesn't want a trade war" but has to "fight back strongly," said a Commerce Ministry statement. It said Beijing also was scrapping agreements to narrow its multibillion-dollar trade surplus with the United States by purchasing more American farm goods, natural gas and other products.

The United States and China have the world's biggest trading relationship but official ties are increasingly strained over complaints Beijing's industry development tactics violate its free-trade pledges and hurt American companies. Europe, Japan and other trading partners raise similar complaints, but Trump has been unusually direct about challenging Beijing and threatening to disrupt such a large volume of exports.

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"In this trade war, it's the U.S. who is playing the role of provocateur, while China plays defense," said the Global Times, a newspaper published by the ruling Communist Party. "China is a powerful guardian and has enough ammunition to defend existing trade rules and fairness."

Beijing will impose an additional 25 percent tariff starting July 6 on 545 products from the United States including soybeans, electric cars, orange juice, whiskey, lobsters, salmon and cigars, according to the Ministry of Finance.

Most are food and other farm goods, hitting Trump's rural supporters hardest.

Beijing appeared to be trying to minimize the impact on its own economy by picking U.S. products that can be replaced by imports from other suppliers such as Brazil or Australia.

Chinese regulators also are considering a tariff hike on an additional 114 products including medical equipment and energy products, the Finance Ministry said. It said a decision would be announced later.

That mirrored the Trump administration's announcement Friday of a tariff hike on \$34 billion of Chinese goods, also due to take effect July 6, and plans to consider widening it to an additional \$16 billion of other products.

China's heavily regulated economy also gives the ruling Communist Party additional options for retaliation by withholding approval for business activity.

Anti-monopoly regulators are believed to have delayed announcing a decision on U.S. tech giant Qualcomm's proposed acquisition of semiconductor maker NXP in part due to the tariff conflict. Other companies say the approval process for licenses has slowed down.

"China's retaliation will remain calibrated and largely reciprocal, with President Xi Jinping ready to counter any move by Trump," said Eurasia Group in a report. "Beijing has a freer hand for informal retaliation, which will now start to increase."

The American Chamber of Commerce had appealed to Washington to avoid a tariff hike but said Trump's threat has prompted Beijing to engage in more intensive negotiations than it had in recent years.

Companies also are watching the fate of ZTE Corp., a Chinese maker of telecoms gear that ran afoul of U.S. regulators after it violated restrictions on exports of American technology to Iran and North Korea.

Washington rescinded a ban on sales of U.S. technology to ZTE after the company agreed to pay a \$1 billion fine and hire American-picked compliance managers. The agreement allows Washington to impose an additional \$400 million fine or other penalties if ZTE violates the deal.

Trump is pressing Beijing to narrow its trade surplus with the United States and roll back its plans for state-led development of Chinese global competitors in technology fields including electric cars, renewable



**Women interact near a robot designed by Chinese robotics company Pangolin at the Consumer Electronics Show Asia 2018 in Shanghai, China on Friday, June 15, 2018. President Donald Trump is hiking the price of Chinese-made forklift trucks and X-ray machines for American buyers. They are part of a \$50 billion list of Chinese exports targeted for a 25 percent tariff hike in response to complaints Beijing steals or pressures foreign companies to hand over technology.** (AP Photo/Sam McNeil)

energy, artificial intelligence and biotech.

The U.S., Europe, Japan and other trading partners complain Beijing's tactics including outright theft of foreign technology and subsidies and protection from competition for fledgling Chinese industries. They say those violate Chinese market-opening commitments under the World Trade Organization.

Tensions eased temporarily after Chinese negotiators agreed at talks in Washington in May to buy more American farm goods, natural gas and other products. American officials said they would suspend threatened tariff increases on up to \$150 billion of Chinese goods.

The dispute revived after the White House renewed its plan for a tariff hike on \$50 billion of Chinese goods as part of the technology dispute. The Chinese government warned after another round of talks June 3 that it would discard those deals if the tariffs went ahead.

Businesspeople and economists say Chinese leaders are less likely to compromise on technology. They view plans for state-led development of companies capable of competing globally in fields including electric cars, renewable energy and biotech as a route to prosperity and to restore China to its rightful role as a world leader.

"There isn't one country who would give up their rights to advance technology and make industrial upgrades," said the Global Times editorial.

Beijing also has announced plans to cut import duties on autos and some consumer goods and to ease limits on foreign ownership in auto manufacturing, insurance and some other industries, though those don't directly address U.S. complaints.

On Thursday, a Commerce Ministry spokesman said some exporters were rushing to fill orders due to concern trade conditions might change, but said they were "not the mainstream."

Online:

Ministry of Finance of China (in Chinese): <http://gss.mof.gov.cn>

## White House: Trump supports GOP leaders' immigration bill

By ALAN FRAM and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump ignited eleventh-hour confusion Friday over Republican efforts to push immigration legislation through the House, saying he wouldn't sign a "moderate" package. The White House later walked back the comments, formally endorsing the measure and saying Trump had been confused.

The campaign-season tumult erupted as GOP leaders put finishing touches on a pair of Republican bills: a hard-right proposal and a middle-ground plan negotiated by the party's conservative and moderate wings, with White House input. Only the compromise bill would open a door to citizenship for young immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally as children, and reduce the separation of children from their parents when fami-



President Donald Trump speaks to reporters at the White House, Friday, June 15, 2018, in Washington. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)



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lies are detained crossing the border — a practice that has drawn bipartisan condemnation in recent days.

"I'm looking at both of them," Trump said when asked about the proposals during an impromptu interview on Fox News' "Fox & Friends," adding: "I certainly wouldn't sign the more moderate one."

The comment prompted widespread confusion on the Hill and jeopardized Republicans' plans for votes on both bills next week. Leaders released a schedule for next week that included "possible consideration" of immigration legislation.

Earlier this week, House Speaker Paul Ryan had told colleagues that Trump supported the middle-ground package. White House aide Stephen Miller, an immigration hard-liner who has been accused of trying to sabotage immigration deals in the past, told conservative lawmakers at a closed-door meeting that the president backed that plan.

But a senior White House official later said Trump had misspoken and believed his Fox interviewer was asking about an effort by GOP moderates — abandoned for now — that would have forced votes on a handful of bills and likely led to House passage of liberal-leaning versions party leaders oppose. The official, who was not authorized to discuss internal conversations by name, spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The interviewer had specifically asked whether Trump supported a conservative bill penned by Rep. Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., or "something more moderate," and asked whether he'd sign "either one."

The White House later put out a statement formally endorsing the measure.

"The President fully supports both the Goodlatte bill and the House leadership bill," said White House spokesman Raj Shah, adding that Trump would sign "either the Goodlatte or the leadership bills."

Trump also weighed in by tweet, writing that any bill "MUST HAVE" provisions financing his proposed wall with Mexico and curbing the existing legal immigration system. Those items are included in the middle-ground package.

"Go for it! WIN!" Trump wrote in a tweet that stopped short of explicitly endorsing the compromise plan.

Despite their policy clashes, both Republican factions have been eager for the votes to be held as a way to show constituents where they stand. In addition, party leaders want to move on from an issue that divides the GOP, complicating their effort to retain House control in November's elections.

The more conservative measure is seen as virtually certain to lose. Party leaders have nurtured hopes that the compromise version could pass, but Trump's backing would be crucial. His opposition would be an embarrassing and likely fatal setback.

Conservatives are leery of legislation protecting from deportation immigrants who arrived illegally, calling it amnesty.

After Trump made his comments on Fox, Rep. Patrick McHenry, R-N.C., the GOP's No. 2 vote counter, told reporters that leaders were seeking "clarity" from the White House. He suggested that plans for votes next week were being reconsidered.

"House Republicans are not going to take on immigration without the support and endorsement of President Trump," McHenry said.

Democrats are expected to solidly oppose both GOP bills, giving Republicans little leeway for losing support.

"When the president says he's not going to sign it, just shows how low his standards are," said House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

The compromise bill would mandate that children with families seized entering the U.S. be kept together for as long as they are in the custody of the Homeland Security Department, which staffs border facilities and enforces immigration laws. Critics say family separation would still be possible because another agency could take parents being prosecuted into custody.

Spotlighting the political sensitivity of the issue, congressional Republicans have distanced themselves from the Trump administration's policy of separating children from their parents at the southern border. The White House has cited the Bible in defending its "zero tolerance" approach to illegal border crossings.

Both the conservative and compromise bills would provide money for Trump's long-sought border wall with Mexico. Each contains other strict border security provisions, and would end a visa lottery and tighten



rules that let U.S. citizens sponsor relatives for legal status.

Both bills, which are still undergoing changes, contain provisions aimed at helping young immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally as children, often called Dreamers.

Hundreds of thousands of them have been protected by the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA. Trump has terminated that program, though federal courts have temporarily kept it functioning. DACA has let the immigrants live and work in the U.S. in renewable two-year increments, but does not give them permanent legal status.

The latest version of the conservative bill would extend DACA protections for renewable six-year periods. They could later apply for permanent residency and eventually citizenship.

An expanded number of children who arrived legally with parents who have obtained work visas would also be covered.

Associated Press reporters Lisa Mascaro, Matthew Daly and Padmananda Rama contributed to this report.

## Pakistan: Killing of Pakistan Taliban chief 'significant'

By AMIR SHAH and MUNIR AHMED, Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Pakistan's caretaker Prime Minister Nasir-ul-Mulk described the killing of Pakistan Taliban chief Mullah Fazlullah in a U.S. drone strike in Afghanistan as a "significant development in the fight against terrorism."

Mulk made the comment in a telephone conversation Friday night with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and thanked him for sharing information about Fazlullah's killing, said a Pakistan government statement.

The call was initiated by Ghani, who tweeted that Fazlullah's killing was "the result of tireless human intel by Afghan security agencies."

A U.S. official said the U.S. believes that it is likely the strike killed Fazlullah, but efforts are ongoing to confirm his death. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss preliminary information.

In his tweet, Ghani said he also called Pakistan's Army Chief Gen. Qamar Javed Bajwa. In both conversations Ghani said he urged Pakistan "to take practical steps to bring Afghan Taliban residing in Pakistan to the negotiation table."

Thursday's drone strike, which reportedly killed Fazlullah and five other insurgents when missiles slammed into the car in which they were driving, occurred just hours before Afghanistan's Taliban began a three-day cease fire.

The cease-fire, which took effect at midnight Thursday, marks the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Fitr, which



**FILE - In this file image made from video broadcast on Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013, undated footage of Mullah Fazlullah is shown on a projector in Pakistan. An Afghan defense ministry official says Friday, June 15, 2018 a US drone strike in northeastern Kunar province killed Pakistan Taliban chief Mullah Fazlullah. Pakistan has been hunting Fazlullah for several years and has repeatedly said he was plotting attacks on Pakistan from safe havens in Afghanistan.** (AP Photo via AP Video, File)

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follows the Muslim holy month of Ramadan when the faithful fast from sunrise to sunset. The Afghan Taliban announced their cease-fire after Ghani unilaterally declared a temporary cease-fire for the holidays on June 7.

In Afghanistan's eastern Logar provincial capital of Pul-e-Alam dozens of unarmed Taliban celebrated the Eid holiday, several greeting Afghan security forces, provincial police chief spokesman Shahpur Ahmadzai said Saturday in a telephone interview.

"We didn't allow them to enter the city with their weapons," said Ahmadzai, adding at least 80 Taliban entered the city in the last two days to visit their families.

The Associated Press spoke to Abdullah Faizani, a Taliban fighter from Logar's Baraki district, who said it has been seven years since he has been to the provincial capital. He said he and 32 friends were in the capital on their motorcycles, many of them festooned with the Afghan flag.

"I am so happy for the cease-fire and it is sad when every day Afghans are killing each other," said Faizani, adding that 15 of his friends died in battles with Afghan security forces in one year. They were all Taliban.

Although he wants an extended cease-fire, he said he would not lay down his weapons permanently until "all the foreign troops leave Afghanistan."

Atta-ul-Rahman Salim, deputy head of Afghanistan's High Peace Council, said Taliban fighters from across the country were reportedly entering into government controlled areas to visit their families "and they were being welcomed by government security forces."

Meanwhile, in his conversation with Ghani, Mulk said that Fazlullah's death would be received throughout Pakistan with relief as Pakistanis had borne the brunt of terrorist attacks by the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, which Fazlullah headed.

The Pakistan government statement also said an "action had finally been taken against an enemy of the people and state of Pakistan."

Fazlullah was killed in Afghanistan's northeastern Kunar province. He had ordered the assassination of Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai.

Afghan Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said in a telephone interview that he could not confirm Fazlullah's death because of the remoteness of the area but also because Afghanistan's Taliban are not present in that area.

Ahmed reported from Islamabad. Associated Press writer Kathy Gannon in Islamabad and Lolita C. Baldor in Washington contributed to this story.

## State appeals court reinstates California's right-to-die law

By JOHN ROGERS, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A state appeals court has reinstated — at least for now — California's law allowing terminally ill people to end their lives.

The Fourth District Court of Appeals in Riverside issued an immediate stay Friday putting the End of Life Option back into effect. The court also gave opponents of its decision until July 2 to file objections.

The law allows adults to obtain a prescription for life-ending drugs if a doctor has determined that they have six months or less to live.

Riverside County Superior Court Judge Daniel Ottolia declared the law unconstitutional last month, stating that it had been adopted illegally because lawmakers passed it during a special Legislative session called to address other matters.

Ottolia didn't address the issue of whether it's proper for people to end their lives.

Right-to-die advocates hailed Friday's action.

"This stay is a huge win for many terminally ill Californians with six months or less to live because it could take years for the courts to resolve this case," Kevin Díaz, national director of legal advocacy for Compassion & Choices, said in a statement.

"Thankfully, this ruling settles the issue for the time being, but we know we have a long fight ahead

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before we prevail.”

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra, who had asked the appeals court to stay Ottolia’s ruling, also praised the decision.

“This ruling provides some relief to California patients, their families, and doctors who have been living in uncertainty while facing difficult health decisions,” Becerra said. “Today’s court ruling is an important step to protect and defend the End of Life Option Act for our families across the state.”

Patients Rights Action Fund, which opposes laws allowing people to take their lives, did not respond to a message placed after business hours Friday. In previously discussing the law, the group’s executive director, Matt Valliere, said, “The people of California, especially the vulnerable, deserve protection and support, not assisted suicide.”

The Life Legal Defense Foundation, American Academy of Medical Ethics and several physicians were among those who sued to have the law overturned.

Their lawsuit, *Ahn vs. Hestrin*, claims the law violates the due process and equal protection guarantees of the U.S. and California constitutions because it fails “to make rational distinctions” between terminally ill adults “and the vast majority of Californians not covered by the act.”

The suit also claims the Legislature did not have authority to pass the law during a special session limited to other issues.

Becerra argued that the law, which took effect in 2016, was legitimately passed during a special legislative session dedicated to health issues.

California health officials reported that 111 terminally ill people took drugs to end their lives in the first six months after the law went into effect June 9, 2016, and made the option legal in the nation’s most populous state.

Oregon was the first to provide the option in 1997. It also is allowed in Washington, Vermont, Colorado, Hawaii and Washington D.C.

## Fierce fighting intensifies outside Yemen’s Hodeida airport

By AHMED AL-HAJ, Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — A Saudi-led coalition and Yemeni fighters backing the country’s government were on the verge of seizing control of the airport of a vital rebel-held port as fighting intensified Friday, with pro-government forces within meters (yards) of the airport gates.

The death toll climbed to at least 280 on the third day of the campaign aimed at driving out the Iranian-backed Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, from the Red Sea port of Hodeida that is the main entry point for food and aid supplies in a country teetering on the brink of famine.

The Saudi-Emirati coalition bombed Houthi positions while rebels said in a statement that they fired a ballistic missile at pro-government forces, but gave no report of casualties.

The fighting comes at a time when Muslims around the world are celebrating the Eid al-Fitr holiday at the end of the holy month of Ramadan. But in Hodeida, people were stockpiling what little food they could for fear of an imminent siege and streets were empty except for beggars and fighters.

Yemeni officials said dozens of pro-government fighters have been killed since the assault began Wednesday, mainly from land mines and roadside bombs disguised as rocks or sacks of wheat. On the rebel side, bodies of Houthi fighters were strewn across the front lines.

Ahmed al-Kawkabani, a Yemeni who leads a pro-government militia known as the Tohama Brigade, told The Associated Press that his forces were positioned in Dawar al-Hodeida, just 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) from the airport. Another Yemeni commander, Abu Zarah al-Mahrami, was quoted by Dubai-based Al-Arabiya TV network as saying that pro-government forces were “within meters” of the airport.

Military officials said preparations were under way for a final push to take the airport and that the ground battles had largely subsided by sunset Friday. They said the assault on the airport would start at dawn on Saturday.

Military commanders said the operation would be complicated because the aim is to protect airport



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facilities, buildings and nearby fighter jets. The Houthis will depend on snipers and land mines to slow down the multi-pronged advance.

Aid workers have warned the assault on Hodeida's port, known as the "mouth of Yemen," could shut down the vital route for some 70 percent of Yemen's food and humanitarian aid. Two-thirds of Yemen's population of 27 million relies on aid and 8.4 million are already at risk of starving.

The Saudi-led coalition accuses the Houthis of using the port to smuggle weapons and missiles from Iran. The rebels have been raining ballistic missiles down on Saudi cities from across the border. The port is also a lucrative source of revenue for the Houthis, who have controlled most of northern Yemen since 2014.

The United Arab Emirates' minister of state for foreign affairs, Anwar Gargash, said that the battle over Hodeida is essential to break a stalemate in the civil war, which otherwise could drag on for years.

Seizing the port "means that the Houthis will no longer be able to impose their will at the barrel of a gun," he said in a post on Twitter. "If they keep Hodeida and its revenues and its strategic location, the war will last a long time and (add to) the suffering of the Yemeni people."

Hodeida, home to nearly 600,000 people, is some 150 kilometers (90 miles) southwest of Sanaa, Yemen's capital, which is under Houthi control.

The Saudi-led coalition has imposed an air, sea, and land embargo on Yemen since March 2015, aiming to dislodge the Houthis from the territory they control, paralyzing trade and access to the country. The coalition air campaign and Houthi bombardment have left more than 10,000 people dead and 2 million displaced, and devastated the country's already fragile infrastructure, including the health sector, which has helped spawn a cholera epidemic.

In a series of tweets, the International Committee of the Red Cross said the people in Hodeida were "bracing for the worst," and tens of thousands were expected to flee in the coming days, some for a second time.

"People live in slums in the outskirts surviving on bread crumbs they find in the garbage. With the little money they do have, they buy cooking oil in plastic bags — just enough to cook 1 meal a day," the group said, citing the accounts of staffers.

Meanwhile, the U.S., which has backed the Saudi-led coalition with intelligence, logistical support and aerial refueling of fighter jets, has not publicly opposed the assault but has urged the coalition to ensure that humanitarian aid deliveries to the port continue.

Washington however rejected three requests by the UAE to increase its support to the coalition with logistics, intelligence, and mine-sweeping operations.

Marine Maj. Adrian Rankine Galloway, a Pentagon spokesman, said the U.S. has continued to provide aerial refueling for coalition aircraft and intelligence assistance. That aid includes information on key civilian sites that should not be targeted in order to avoid civilian casualties.

"We are not directly supporting the coalition offensive on the port of Hodeida," Rankine-Galloway said. "The United States does not command, accompany or participate in counter-Houthi operations or any



**This Feb. 15, 2018, photo shows a sign with Arabic that reads, "danger mines, danger mines" on the highway from Abyan to Aden in Yemen.** (AP Photo/Nariman El-Mofty)



hostilities other than those authorized" against al-Qaida and Islamic State militants in Yemen.

The request for mine sweepers was diverted to France, which said it was considering minesweeping in Hodeida after the end of military operations there.

"Its purpose would be to facilitate the safe transport of humanitarian aid to the city's population," the French Defense Ministry said in a statement.

The rebels have planted thousands of land mines and roadside bombs on the outskirts of the airport that have killed dozens of coalition-backed fighters, Yemeni officials said.

"Nearly 95 percent of the casualties are because of land mines and roadside bombs," said a medical official, who like the others spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak to the press. He shared pictures of land mines and roadside bombs that were disguised as rocks and sacks of wheat.

The Conflict Armament Research Center said earlier that the bombs are similar to those used by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah in southern Lebanon and by insurgents in Iraq and Bahrain.

Human Rights Watch urged the U.N. Security Council on Friday to warn the warring parties that they will face sanctions if they fail to provide civilians access to desperately needed aid.

"The coalition and Houthi forces, now fighting for Hodeida, have atrocious records abiding by the laws of war," said HRW's Sarah Leah Whitson.

In the face of international concerns over the humanitarian situation, the UAE said on Friday that it would begin sending aid by air and sea to Hodeida, the state-run WAM news agency said. At least 10 UAE ships carrying 13,500 tons of food and aid, as well as three flights, were planned for Hodeida, it said.

Associated Press writers Maggie Michael in Cairo and Thomas Adamson in Paris contributed to this report.

## Johnson takes 4-shot lead into weekend at US Open

By DOUG FERGUSON, AP Golf Writer

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. (AP) — Shinnecock Hills is no longer the only challenge at this U.S. Open.

On a course that can cause problems in any weather, where triple bogeys or worse have been recorded on all but six holes, perhaps the most daunting prospect going into the weekend is Dustin Johnson with a four-shot lead.

Johnson played smart on the few occasions he was out of position, holed a 45-foot birdie putt on the par-3 seventh green and endured wind and two hours of rain Friday morning for a 3-under 67.

He was at 4-under 136, the only player still under par going into the weekend. Scott Piercy (71) and Charley Hoffman (69) were at even par.

"You've got to play really good golf if you want to shoot a good score, and I like where par is a good score on every hole, no matter what club you've got in your hand, what hole it



**Dustin Johnson reacts after making a putt for birdie on the fourth green during the second round of the U.S. Open Golf Championship, Friday, June 15, 2018, in Southampton, N.Y.** (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

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is," Johnson said.

Only six other players in the U.S. Open have led by as many as four shots after 36 holes. All but one — Tom McNamara in 1909 — went on to win.

Even so, there's plenty of reminders of how it can all go wrong — some of them from Johnson's own experiences, most of them from the final few hours Friday afternoon in perfect weather from those trying to catch him.

Shinnecock can punish anyone in a New York minute.

"There's a disaster on every single hole," Ian Poulter said moments after he went through one.

Poulter was one shot out of the lead and in the middle of the fairway with two holes to go when one bad shot led to a few more that were just as worse — a bunker shot that sailed over the green, a chunked chip into the hay, a chop short of the green and a triple bogey on No. 8. He made bogey on his last hole for a 72.

"I felt stupid knifing the first one," he said. "I felt even more stupid semi-chunking the next one, and I didn't do much better on the next one, either. So maybe it makes a few people happy out there that, you know, we kind of mess up just as good as everyone else."

Poulter didn't lose sight of being in a tie for fourth, five shots out of the lead.

Hoffman was the only other player under par until he missed the 18th fairway and had to chop it down the fairway and make a 5-foot putt to escape with bogey.

"Dustin plays a whole different golf game than I play, so I'm not going to play the guy," Hoffman said. "I'm just going to keep playing my game. You're going to try to hit fairways. Because if you don't hit the fairway, you're not getting to the green."

Tiger Woods won't be around to see how it unfolds, and plenty of star power joined him on the way out of town.

Woods closed with back-to-back birdies to salvage a 72. He still missed the cut in a major for the fifth time in his last eight tries, this time by two shots. Rory McIlroy missed the cut for the third straight year in the U.S. Open, unable to recover from his opening 80. Jason Day opened with a 79 and missed the cut.

Jordan Spieth joined them in the most unlikely fashion. He took three shots to get up the slope and onto the 10th green, making double bogey. He was three shots over the cut line with six holes to play when he ran off four straight birdies to get inside the number — only to three-putt for bogey on the 17th, stub a chip from the collar of a bunker on the 18th and miss the par putt for a 71. He had not missed the cut in a major since the 2014 PGA Championship.

Piercy, a runner-up to Johnson at Oakmont two years ago, had a 71 and will play in the final group with him Saturday. Piercy's day was not without regrets, especially when he three-putted from 4 feet for bogey on the par-5 16th.

Defending champion Brooks Koepka made six birdies over his last 11 holes for a 66, matching Tommy Fleetwood for the low round of the tournament. They were at 141, along with Henrik Stenson and Justin Rose, each with a 70, and Poulter.

Koepka and Johnson are close friends, so he should know as well as anyone what will make it hard to catch him.

"This golf course," Koepka said. "There's not many birdies. There's a disaster around every corner. I mean, all it takes is one shot in the fescue, and you could be in there for a while. But you need a good round tomorrow just to give yourself a chance. Anything within three shots of the lead on the back Sunday, anything can happen."

Rose also was under par until closing with successive bogeys. With 36 holes to play, he wasn't overly concerned about tracking down the No. 1 player in the world.

"You just saw what happened to Ian Poulter five minutes ago. That could happen to DJ," Rose said. "I'm not saying it's going to, but it could. That's the nature of the U.S. Open. So hang around is often the best form of attack."

Johnson knows that all too well.

He had a three-shot lead at Pebble Beach in the 2010 U.S. Open and lost it all on the second hole with a triple bogey, and then compounded mistakes by trying to drive the green on the next two holes. He shot 82. He has endured more than his share of bad luck, bad breaks and bad shots in the majors.

His outlook at Shinnecock Hills has been built on patience and being practical.

"I never want to make doubles," Johnson said. "Around here, it seems like when I do get out of position, I'm just trying to do everything I can to get it back into position, not try to push it, and just give myself a decent look ... something on the green where I can have a look at par.

"I want to make things as easy as possible, even though they don't get any easier."

But this is far from over. Johnson knows that as well as anyone. So does Rose, who overcame an eight-shot deficit against Johnson in the final round in Shanghai last fall at the HSBC Champions.

## Ronaldo scores hat trick, Portugal draws 3-3 with Spain

By TALES AZZONI, AP Sports Writer

SOCHI, Russia (AP) — Cristiano Ronaldo used the World Cup to show everyone he's the GOAT.

Ronaldo rubbed his chin after scoring minutes into Portugal's opener against Spain, implying he is the Greatest of All Time. Then he scored two more goals, including a perfectly placed 88th-minute free kick that gave his team a 3-3 draw Friday.

Spain, the 2010 World Cup champion, dominated much of the match but was unable to contain Ronaldo.

"When I play against a player like Ronaldo, these things can happen," newly appointed Spain coach Fernando Hierro said. "It's very fortunate for whatever team has Cristiano Ronaldo."

Ronaldo had twice given European champion Portugal the lead with first-half goals at Fisht Stadium, but Diego Costa equalized with a goal in each half. Nacho Fernandez then put the Spanish ahead with a one-timer from outside the area in the Group B match.

Ronaldo became the fourth player to score in four World Cups, joining Pele, Miroslav Klose and Uwe Seeler. He also became the first Portuguese player to appear in four World Cups, and at 33 became the oldest player to score a hat trick in tournament history.

He used his first goal to send a message to the world in an apparent reaction to Adidas' "GOAT" promotion with Lionel Messi, featuring the Argentine with a real goat. Ronaldo and Messi have split the last 10 player of the year awards.

"I've said it so many times, Cristiano is the best in the world," Portugal coach Fernando Santos said.

Ronaldo downplayed his sixth international hat trick.

"To me, the most important (thing) is to highlight what the team has done," Ronaldo said.

Spain looked to have successfully overcome its dramatic coaching change one the eve of the tournament but Ronaldo curled a late shot from about 25 meters (yards) over the wall. The ball went into the top corner as Spain goalkeeper David de Gea watched.



**Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo, left, celebrates after scoring the opening goal by penalty during the group B match between Portugal and Spain at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Fisht Stadium in Sochi, Russia, Friday, June 15, 2018.**

(AP Photo/Thanassis Stavrakis)



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The Spanish federation fired coach Julen Lopetegui for accepting a job with Real Madrid without letting it know in advance. Hierro, a former player acting as Spain's sporting director, replaced Lopetegui and was on the bench despite no significant previous coaching experience.

"It wasn't an easy situation. When you have this staff and these young players, they make it much easier," Hierro said.

It was an exciting start to one of the group-stage's most anticipated matches and it didn't take long before Ronaldo struck first.

Ronaldo made a nice stepover move to get past Fernandez, his Real Madrid teammate, and was fouled at the edge of the area. He then calmly sent his shot to the right corner as De Gea went the other way.

As Ronaldo returned to midfield for the restart, he and Fernandez appeared to exchange words, and the Portuguese star smiled.

"It's always great to have somebody wonderful playing like that," Portugal coach Fernando Santos said. "I'm glad he's Portuguese."

Portugal threatened on counterattacks as Spain struggled to get near Rui Patricio's goal, but a great long pass by Sergio Busquets allowed Costa to even the match. The striker collided with Pepe and used several neat moves to clear other defenders before firing a low shot into the corner from inside the area.

Portugal loudly complained Costa had fouled Pepe, and replays showed there was contact by the Spaniard's arm with Pepe's body. Referee Gianluca Rocchi allowed the play to continue.

Portugal wanted the play to be reviewed, and Rocchi at one point put a hand to his ear, apparently indicating the assistant referees didn't see a clear error.

Goal-line technology came into play a few moments later when a Francisco "Isco" Alarcon's shot struck the crossbar and dropped straight down on the goal line. After Isco complained, Rocchi pointed to his watch, which receives goal confirmations.

Ronaldo's second goal came after a blunder by De Gea, who let the ball bounce off his hands and into the net after a routine shot from outside the area just before halftime.

Busquets and Costa combined for Spain's equalizer in the 55th. After a cross by Andres Iniesta, Busquets headed the ball back across the area and Costa touched it into the open net.

Three minutes later, Fernandez redeemed himself for the penalty on Ronaldo with a streaking shot after a ball cleared by the defense got deflected toward him. The ball struck the post before going into the goal.

## GROUP DYNAMICS

The teams arrived in Russia as favorites to share first and second in the group, but the draw leaves them two points behind Iran, which defeated Morocco 1-0 earlier Friday.

Spain, trying to rebound from disappointing eliminations at the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 European Championship, will next face Iran, while Portugal plays Morocco.

## KEY TO SUCCESS

Portugal: The team has been able to succeed recently because of its steady defense, but this time it was not able to hold on to its early leads despite twice getting ahead with goals by Ronaldo. It was the star striker who saved the team from defeat with his late equalizer.

Spain: The Spanish looked lost after conceding the early goal to Ronaldo, but Costa's strike helped Hierro's team settle down and even the match.

Spain struggled to contain Portugal's counterattacks, but it showed it remained a solid team despite Lopetegui's absence.

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More AP World Cup coverage: [www.apnews.com/tag/WorldCup](http://www.apnews.com/tag/WorldCup)

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Tales Azzoni on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/tazzoni>



## Warner Bros. crackdown puts Dark Mark over Potter festivals

By KRISTEN DE GROOT, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Warner Bros. is cracking down on local Harry Potter fan festivals around the country, saying it's necessary to halt unauthorized commercial activity. Fans, however, liken the move to Death Eaters sucking the joy out of homegrown fun, while festival directors say they'll transmogrify the events into generic celebrations of magic.

"It's almost as if Warner Bros. has been taken over by Voldemort, trying to use dark magic to destroy the light of a little town," said Sarah Jo Tucker, a 21-year-old junior at Chestnut Hill College, which hosts a Quidditch tournament that coincides with the annual suburban Philadelphia festival.

Philip Dawson, Chestnut Hill's business district director, said Warner Bros. reached out to his group in May, letting them know new guidelines prohibit festivals' use of any names, places or objects from the series. That ruled out everything from meet-and-greet with Dumbledore and Harry to Defense Against the Dark Arts classes.

"It was very quickly apparent weren't going to be able to hold festival like years past," he said. The late October festival drew about 45,000 fans last year to the historic neighborhood's cobblestone streets. This year, they will instead have a "wands and wizards" family night and pub crawl and other magic-themed events — and people can still dress as their favorite characters.

"We want to make the best of it," he said.

Chestnut Hill isn't the only community to receive cease-and-desist letters from the entertainment company. Festival directors around the country, including in Aurora, Illinois, and Ithaca, New York, were also told the new guidelines would prohibit much of the Potter-themed activities.

It's all about protecting the trademark.

"Warner Bros. is always pleased to learn of the enthusiasm of Harry Potter fans, but we are concerned, and do object, when fan gatherings become a vehicle for unauthorized commercial activity," the company said.

Fans of the Philadelphia festival took to Twitter to try to get J.K. Rowling to help save the festival. A spokeswoman for the author said she has no comment.

Ithaca's "Wizarding Weekend" grew from a small celebration in an alleyway in 2015 to a full-fledged



**In this Oct. 18, 2014, photo, students from Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia wear costumes to attend an annual festival based on the Harry Potter fantasy series conceived by British author J.K. Rowling, including Dan Lemoine, second from right, dressed as the title character; Mollie Durkin, second from left, dressed as the character Hermione Granger; and John Spiewak Jr., left, dressed as the character Ron Weasley, as they arrive at the festival in the Chestnut Hill neighborhood of Philadelphia. In 2018, Warner Bros. notified organizers of Harry Potter fan festivals around the U.S. of new guidelines prohibiting any use of names, places or objects from the fantasy series, in an effort to crack down on unauthorized commercial activity at such events.** (David Swanson/The Philadelphia Inquirer via AP)

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Potter-fest hosting over 20,000 fans last year, said Darlynn Overbaugh, the festival's director. Warner Bros. sent her a letter in February.

She said she understands the company's need to protect the franchise, but she felt like her festival was helping to build it.

"I have a lot of disappointed people because there are certain aspects of festival I'm no longer able to do," she said, like Sorting Hat demonstrations. Her group is committed to still providing a magical experience, she said, even if it is one-that-shall-not-be-named.

"Magic existed before Harry Potter, and you can't put a trademark on enthusiasm and creativity," she said.

The festival crackdown is hardly the first time Warner Bros. has put the Avada Kedavra on Potter-themed fun. A woman in the U.K. was sent a cease-and-desist letter over a 2003 Hogwarts-themed dinner party she planned, with a guest list around 30.

And a Los Angeles bookstore called "Whimsic Alley" was sued by the company over its overtly Hogwartsian wares, from chocolate frogs to Gryffindor scarves. They settled but the store ended up closing last year. The opening of Wizarding World at Universal Studios Hollywood worked as a killing curse for the mom-and-pop shop.

Philadelphia Potter fan Sarah McIntyre thinks it's ridiculous for Warner Bros. to target the festivals.

"They are acting like the Dursleys," said the 34-year-old yoga teacher and bookkeeper. She said they should be encouraging communities to bring Harry Potter to life. "Creating interest in the franchise would increase revenue," she said.

Companies are always concerned about protecting their trademarks, said Gregory Mandel, professor of intellectual property law at Temple University. Warner Bros. has made a business decision to prevent these festivals from having any apparent association with them, and to prevent any possible profiting off the series, he said.

"Obviously one could argue that is the wrong business decision and that by having these informal pop-up festivals, it makes all the Harry Potter fans more enthusiastic and more likely to go to the movies and theme parks," he said.

Lorrie Kim is a member of the Potterdelphia club and huge Snape fan, and said she feels "disappointed and grim" to lose the festival.

"Seeing the throngs of families of all ages enjoying the festival together, all agreeing to suspend their skepticism for the day and believe in magic, is an experience that can't be manufactured," she said.

## Why many Americans aren't benefiting from robust US economy

By JOSH BOAK, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — "The economy," Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell declared this week, "is doing very well."

And it is. Steady hiring has shrunk unemployment to 3.8 percent — the lowest since the 1960's. Consumers are spending. Taxes are down. Inflation is tame. Factories are busy. Demand for homes is strong. Household wealth is up.

Yet the numbers that collectively sketch a picture of a vibrant economy don't reflect reality for a range of Americans who still feel far from financially secure even nine years into an economic expansion.

From drivers paying more for gas and families bearing heavier child care costs to workers still awaiting decent pay raises and couples struggling to afford a home, people throughout the economy are straining to succeed despite the economy's gains.

They are people like Katy Cole, a 33 year-old music teacher from North Creek, New York, who's still repaying her student loans. It took her two years of working a second job to repair her credit and amass enough money to try to buy a home with her boyfriend. She just gave birth last month — the fourth child in her blended family — which means having to take unpaid leave from her school job.

"As far as the numbers saying everyone is working, that's great," Cole said. "But is everybody surviving? I don't think so. In a great economy, everybody is thriving — and not just a certain group."

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When analysts at Oxford Economics recently studied American spending patterns, they found that the bottom 60 percent of earners was essentially drawing on their savings just to maintain their lifestyles. Their incomes weren't enough to cover expenses.

"Many people are still living on a paycheck-to-paycheck basis," said Gregory Daco, head of U.S. economics at Oxford.

Daco and other economists describe the economy as fundamentally healthy, a testament to the durable recovery from the 2008 financial crisis. The job market, in particular, is booming. But even many people who have jobs and are in little danger of losing them feel burdened and uneasy.

Here's a look at the economy from their perspectives:

## COMMUTERS

Even with inflation running at a relatively low 2.4 percent, one particular expense is weighing on anyone idling in traffic: Gasoline prices have surged 24 percent over the past year to a national average of \$2.94 a gallon, according to AAA. That's the highest average since 2014.

Analysts at Morgan Stanley have estimated that the increase this year will likely eat away a third of people's savings from Trump's tax cuts. Gas prices are still below their high reached roughly a decade ago. Yet the increase this year represents an additional financial burden on consumers and businesses compared with a year ago.

## HOMEBUYERS

A strong job market can actually be a curse for would-be homebuyers. With more people drawing paychecks and able to afford a home, demand has intensified. Yet the number of homes listed for sale is flirting with historic lows. The combination of high demand and low supply has driven prices to troubling high levels.

It's not just that home ownership is largely unobtainable in San Francisco or Seattle. The Case-Shiller index shows that home prices are rising more than 6 percent annually in Atlanta and Minneapolis. In the Detroit metro area, they're up nearly 8 percent over the past 12 months. By contrast, average hourly wages have risen just 2.7 percent over the past year.

The real estate brokerage Redfin says the median sales price in the 174 markets it covers has jumped 6.3 percent over the past year to \$305,600. A general rule of thumb is that buyers can afford a home worth roughly three times their income. So the median home sales price far exceeds what a typical U.S. household earning a median \$57,000 income can manage.

On top of that, 30-year fixed-rate mortgages are growing costlier. The average interest rate on these mortgages has jumped to 4.62 percent — from 3.95 percent at the start of the year — according to mortgage buyer Freddie Mac.



**FILE- In this Feb. 14, 2017, file photo, a woman walks on a bridge as heavy traffic moves along the 110 Freeway during rush hour in Los Angeles. From drivers paying more for gas and families bearing heavier child care costs to workers still awaiting decent pay raises to couples struggling to afford a home, people throughout the economy are straining to succeed despite the economy's gains.** (AP Photo/Jae C. Hong, File)



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## THE MIDDLE CLASS

\$100 trillion. That's roughly the net worth of U.S. households and nonprofits, according to the Federal Reserve.

Problem is, America's wealth is increasingly lopsided, with the affluent and the ultra-wealthy amassing rising proportions and everyone else benefiting modestly if at all.

The top 10 percent of the country holds 73 percent of its wealth, a share that has crept steadily up since 1986, according to the World Inequality Database. The most sweeping gains are concentrated among the top 1 percent; this group holds nearly 39 percent of the wealth. And they're arguably poised to become even more prosperous because Trump's tax cuts largely favored the wealthiest slice of individual taxpayers.

Contrast that with the middle 40 percent of the country, a group that would historically be considered middle class. In 1986, they held 36 percent of the country's wealth; now, it's just 27 percent.

Worse off is the bottom 40 percent of Americans: They have a negative net worth and almost no financial cushion in case of an emergency.

Most Americans can't draw on stocks, rental properties, capital gains or significant home equity to generate cash. They depend almost exclusively on wages. And after adjusting for inflation, the government reported that Americans' average hourly earnings haven't budged over the past 12 months.

## HIGH SCHOOL-ONLY GRADS

Employers increasingly favor college graduates over people with only a high school diploma. Out of the 2.6 million jobs added in the past year, the government's job data shows that 70 percent of them went to college graduates. Workers who have graduated only from high school made up less than 1 percent of the job gains.

It wasn't this way in May 2000, when the unemployment rate was nearly as low as today. Back then, only 30 percent of new jobs went to college graduates. Census figures show that only 30 percent of Americans older than 25 have college degrees, which means a majority of the country isn't receiving the full benefit from the sustained job growth.

## COLLEGE GRADS

For all their good fortune as the favored recipients of job growth, there's a major downside for recent college graduates. Obtaining a degree has increasingly coincided with ever-higher student debt loads. Since 2004, total student debt has climbed 540 percent to \$1.4 trillion, according to the New York Federal Reserve. About 60 percent of college graduates from 2016 held debt, with an average of \$28,400, according to the College Board. That figure doesn't include any graduate school debt. The Urban Institute found that advanced degree students borrowed an average of \$18,210 in 2015 — about triple what undergraduates borrowed that academic year.

Mounting student debt could hinder the buying of homes and formation of families that helped growth in previous decades. A survey last year by the National Association of Realtors found that student debt was delaying home ownership by seven years among millennials, a generation it defined as people born between 1980 and 1998.

## ANYONE PAYING FOR CHILD CARE

Children are immensely expensive. For nearly a third of families, the costs of child care swallowed at least 20 percent of their income, according to a survey posted in March by the caregiver jobs site Care.com. Nearly a third of parents said they went into debt to cover child care expenses.

When Care.com assessed how much its members were spending on day care centers for infants yearly, the average cost was \$10,486, and it ranged as high as \$20,209. Nannies were even pricier.

Research also suggests that some women remain outside the workforce because of the comparatively weak family leave and child care policies in the United States relative to those in other developed economies. A result is that families are forgoing income that would otherwise benefit them and the economy.



When the unemployment rate was last around 3.8 percent in 2000, the proportion of women who either had a job or were looking for one was peaking. For women ages 25 to 54, that proportion — called the labor force participation rate — was roughly 77 percent in 2000. It's now 74.8 percent.

If women's labor force participation were to return to 77 percent, there would be 1.4 million more women in the work force.

## AP FACT CHECK: Trump on FBI, phantom law on migrant kids

By CALVIN WOODWARD and HOPE YEN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is claiming exoneration in the Russia matter from a Justice Department report that actually offers him none. He's also branding fired FBI chief James Comey a criminal, though the report in question makes no such accusation.

Fallout from the internal report by the department's inspector general capped a week of diplomacy with North Korea, trade spats on several fronts and growing attention to an immigration policy that is splitting children from parents after their arrests at the border. Trump dropped misrepresentations into the mix at every turn.

A week in review:

TRUMP: "I think that the report yesterday, maybe more importantly than anything, it totally exonerates me. There was no collusion. There was no obstruction. And if you read the report, you'll see that. ... I think that the Mueller investigation has been totally discredited." — remarks to reporters Friday.

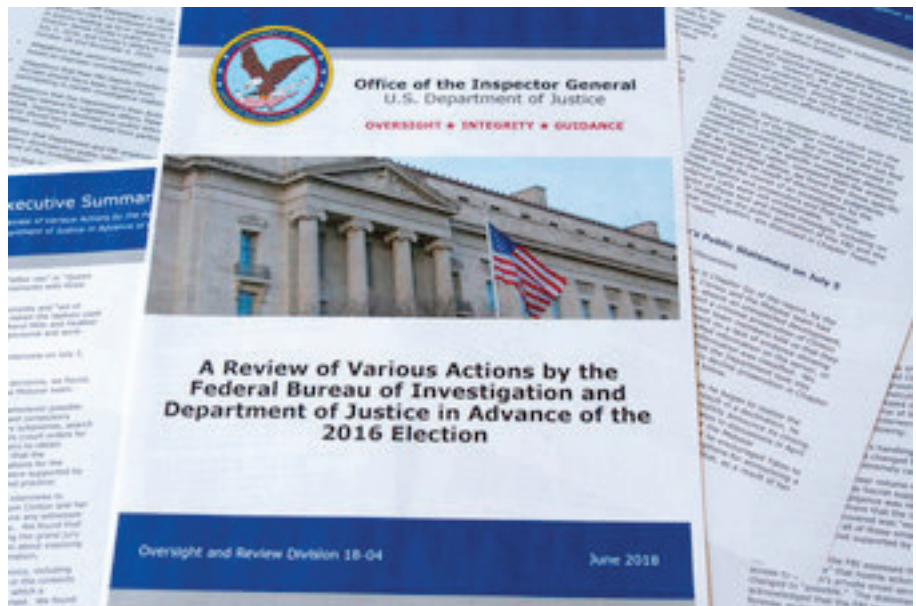
THE FACTS: The report neither exonerated nor implicated Trump. It did not make any findings about collusion with Russia or obstruction of justice. It did not discredit, or give credence to, special counsel Robert Mueller's continuing investigation into Russian interference in the election and ties between the Trump campaign and Russians. The report was about the FBI's investigation of Hillary Clinton's email practices.

TRUMP on Comey: "Certainly he, they just seem like criminal acts to me. What he did was criminal. ... Should he be locked up? Let somebody make a determination." — to Fox News on Friday.

THE FACTS: The report does not substantiate Trump's lock-him-up rhetoric. Comey was roundly faulted by the inspector general for violating FBI practices and for insubordination in making public statements about the Clinton investigation at the height of the presidential campaign. The report also revealed communications among some FBI employees who plainly wanted Trump to lose. But it does not support Trump's complaint that political bias influenced the conduct of the email investigation into his Democratic rival.

Nor does it allege any criminal behavior by Comey, who has been accused by Clinton supporters of taking actions that hurt her election chances.

Trump, on family separations at the border: "The Democrats forced that law upon our nation. I hate it. I hate to see separation of parents and children." And: "I hate the children being taken away. The Demo-



Part of the the Department of Justice Inspector General's report after its release in Washington, Thursday, June 14, 2018. (AP Photo/Jon Elswick)

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crats have to change their law. That's their law." — remarks to reporters Friday.

THE FACTS: It's not their law. There is no law mandating the separation of children and parents at the border.

The separations are a consequence of a Trump administration policy to maximize criminal prosecutions of people caught trying to enter the U.S. illegally. That means more adults are jailed, pending trial, so their children are removed from them. Before the policy, many people who were accused of illegal entry and did not have a criminal record were merely referred for civil deportation proceedings, which generally did not break up families.

The policy was announced April 6 and went into effect in May. From April 19 to May 31, 1,995 children were separated from 1,940 adults, according to Homeland Security statistics obtained by The Associated Press. The figures are for people who tried to enter the U.S. between official border crossings.

Trump's repeated, but nonspecific references to a Democratic law appear to involve one enacted in 2008. It passed unanimously in Congress and was signed by Republican President George W. Bush. It was focused on freeing and otherwise helping children who come to the border without a parent or guardian. It does not call for family separation.

TRUMP: "The economy is the best it's ever been with employment being at an all-time high." — tweet Wednesday.

THE FACTS: Thanks largely to population growth, the number of people with jobs is, in fact, at a record high of 155.5 million. But a more relevant measure — the proportion of Americans with jobs — isn't even close to a record.

Last month, 60.4 percent of Americans 16 and older had jobs. That is up from the recession and its aftermath, when many Americans stopped looking for work. It bottomed out at 58.2 percent in July 2011. Both figures are far below the record high of 64.7 percent, which was briefly reached in 2000. At the beginning of the 2008-2009 recession, 62.7 percent of Americans had jobs.

Economists estimate that at least half of the decline reflects ongoing retirements by the huge baby boom generation. For Americans in their prime working years — age 25 through 54 — roughly 79 percent have jobs. That's up substantially from the post-recession low of 74.8 percent in November 2010. But it's below the record of 81.9 percent in April 2000.

TRUMP: "Oil prices are too high, OPEC is at it again. Not good!" — tweet Wednesday.

THE FACTS: He oversimplifies the reasons for increased prices.

OPEC is the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries. Members of the cartel, led by Saudi Arabia, and other big producers including Russia have contributed to reversing the plunge in crude oil prices that started in 2014. They have shown discipline in limiting production since the start of last year, helping push up the benchmark price of international crude.

Prices, however, were already rising on growing demand and expectations that a sharp pullback in new investment by oil companies would reduce the oil supply.

Some estimates put the post-crash reduction in investment by major oil companies such as Exxon Mobil, Chevron and BP at more than \$1 trillion — almost akin to eliminating the fourth-largest oil producer in the world.

Meanwhile, output from Venezuela, a major oil exporter to the U.S., has plunged as the South American country goes through a political and economic crisis.

Then there is Iran, OPEC's third-biggest producer. Iran boosted production after the U.S. lifted sanctions related to Iran's nuclear program in 2016. But analysts expect output to fall when Trump's decision to withdraw from the deal takes full effect later this year.

TRUMP: "Fair Trade is now to be called Fool Trade if it is not Reciprocal. According to a Canada release, they make almost 100 Billion Dollars in Trade with U.S. (guess they were bragging and got caught!). Minimum is 17B. Tax Dairy from us at 270%." — tweet June 10. Two days earlier: "Canada charges the U.S.

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a 270% tariff on Dairy Products! They didn't tell you that, did they? Not fair to our farmers!"

THE FACTS: He's not telling the whole story. While Canadian dairy tariffs average nearly 249 percent, the troubles that U.S. dairy farmers face can't all be blamed on Canada.

Canadian trade policies have had only a "tiny impact" on America's struggling dairy farmers, says Daniel Sumner, an agricultural economist at the University of California, Davis.

Despite Canadian barriers, the United States last year ran a \$474 million trade surplus in dairy with Canada, and exported \$636 million in dairy products to Canada while importing \$162 million, according to the U.S. Agriculture Department.

Dairy is barely a blip — 0.1 percent — in U.S.-Canada trade, which amounted to \$680 billion last year. As a result of the North American Free Trade Agreement, "99 percent of the trade between Canada and the U.S. is tariff-free," said Bruce Heyman, former U.S. ambassador to Canada. Overall, the U.S. ran a nearly \$3 billion surplus in trade with Canada last year.

TRUMP: "Just landed - a long trip, but everybody can now feel much safer than the day I took office. There is no longer a Nuclear Threat from North Korea..." —tweet Wednesday.

THE FACTS: His claim that there is no nuclear threat is an exaggeration. The five-hour nuclear summit gave the two leaders an opportunity to express optimism. But it didn't nail down how and when North Korea might denuclearize.

North Korea is still believed to have a significant nuclear arsenal that could potentially threaten the U.S. Independent experts say the North could have enough fissile material for anywhere between about a dozen and 60 nuclear bombs. Last year, it tested long-range missiles that could range the U.S. mainland although it remains unclear if it has mastered the technology to deliver a nuclear warhead that could re-enter the atmosphere and hit its target.

TRUMP: Before taking office people were assuming that we were going to War with North Korea. President (Barack) Obama said that North Korea was our biggest and most dangerous problem. No longer - sleep well tonight!" — tweet Wednesday.

THE FACTS: Trump is wrong to say there was an assumption before he took office that the United States would go to war. Obama had used sanctions to no avail to try to halt North Korea's nuclear program. But it wasn't until after Trump took office that North Korea's testing of an intercontinental ballistic missile and rhetoric between the two leaders heightened talk of war.

TRUMP: "Chairman Kim and I just signed a joint statement in which he reaffirms his unwavering commitment to complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. We also agreed to vigorous negotiations to implement the agreement as soon as possible, and he wants to do that. This isn't the past. This isn't another administration that never got it started and, therefore, never got it done." — remarks Tuesday at news conference with North Korea leader Kim Jong Un.

THE FACTS: He's wrong in suggesting his administration is the first to start on denuclearization with North Korea. The Bill Clinton and George W. Bush administrations both did so.

Clinton reached an aid-for-disarmament deal in 1994 that halted North Korea's plutonium production for eight years, freezing what was then a very small nuclear arsenal. Bush took a tougher stance toward North Korea, and the 1994 nuclear deal collapsed because of suspicions that the North was running a secret uranium enrichment program. Bush, too, ultimately pursued negotiations. That led to a temporary disabling of some nuclear facilities, but talks fell apart because of differences over verification.

TRUMP: "He actually mentioned the fact that they proceeded down a path in the past and ultimately as you know nothing got done. In one case, they took billions of dollars during the Clinton regime. ... Took billions of dollars and nothing happened." He said of Clinton: "He spent \$3 billion and got nothing." — remarks Tuesday.

THE FACTS: His numbers are incorrect. The Clinton administration, which he calls a "regime," and the



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Bush administration combined provided some \$1.3 billion in assistance from 1995 to 2008, says the Congressional Research Service, a nonpartisan arm of Congress. Slightly more than half was for food aid and 40 percent for energy assistance.

He's also wrong in saying "nothing happened" in return. North Korea stopped producing plutonium for eight years under the 1994 agreement. Just how much was achieved, though, is in question, because of the suspicions that emerged later that North Korea had been secretly seeking to enrich uranium.

TRUMP, on Kim's agreement to work to repatriate the remains of prisoners of the Korean War and those missing in action from the conflict: "He gave us the remains of our great heroes." — remarks to reporters Friday.

THE FACTS: That's false. No remains have been returned since the summit, as of Friday. The last time North Korea turned over remains was in 2007, when Bill Richardson, a former U.N. ambassador and New Mexico governor, secured the return of six sets.

TRUMP: "He's giving us back the remains of probably 7,500 soldiers." — to Fox News on Friday.

TRUMP: "I asked for it today. And we got it. ... So, for the thousands and thousands, I guess way over 6,000 that we know of in terms of the remains, they'll be brought back." — remarks Tuesday.

THE FACTS: Also wrong. About 5,300 U.S. troops are still unaccounted for from North Korea.

Trump is also glossing over the surely impossible odds of locating the remains of all Americans missing from the war, more than six decades later. Several thousand are still missing in South Korea despite its close alliance and history of cooperation with the U.S.

North Korea and the United States remain technically at war because the 1950-53 fighting ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. But between 1996 and 2005, joint U.S.-North Korea military search teams conducted 33 joint recovery operations and recovered 229 sets of American remains.

TRUMP: "I remember a nuclear event took place, 8.8 on the Richter scale, and they announced — I heard it on the radio, they announced that a massive, you know, an earthquake took place somewhere in Asia. And then they said it was in North Korea, and then they found out it was a nuclear test, I said, I never heard of a Richter scale in the high eights." — remarks Tuesday.

THE FACTS: North Korea had no earthquake last year approaching that level of severity. This isn't the first time he has misrepresented the episode.

North Korea tested what it called a hydrogen bomb in September, causing an underground blast so big it registered as a 6.3 magnitude earthquake. Other nuclear tests last year were associated with smaller seismic events.

An 8.8 quake would be 316 times bigger — and release 5,623 times more energy — than a 6.3.

In the past 15 years there have been three earthquakes that were an 8.8 or higher: the 9.1 Fukushima earthquake and tsunami in Japan in 2011 that killed nearly 16,000 people, a 9.1 earthquake and tsunami off northern Sumatra in 2004 that killed about 250,000 people and an 8.8 earthquake off Chile in 2010 that killed 524.

Associated Press writers Christopher Rugaber, Colleen Long, Matthew Pennington, Seth Borenstein and Paul Wiseman in Washington, David Koenig in Dallas and Elliot Spagat in San Francisco contributed to this report.

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## The highest-paid CEOs by state

By The Associated Press

Here are the top-paid CEOs by state for 2017, as calculated by The Associated Press and Equilar, an executive data firm.

The survey considered only publicly traded companies with more than \$1 billion in revenue that filed their proxy statements with federal regulators between Jan. 1 and April 30. Not every state had a publicly traded company headquartered there that was large enough to be included. The survey includes only CEOs who have been in place for at least two years, but it does not limit the survey to companies in the S&P 500, as the AP's general compensation study does.

To calculate CEO pay, Equilar adds salary, bonus, stock awards, stock option awards, deferred compensation and other components that include benefits and perks. For some companies, big raises can occur when CEOs get a stock grant in one year as part of a multi-year grant.

The typical CEO in the Standard & Poor's 500 index made \$11.7 million last year.



**FILE-** In this June 7, 2017, file photo, Michael Rapino, President and CEO of Live Nation Entertainment, speaks during a news conference in Seattle. At \$70.6 million, Rapino was the top-paid CEO in California for 2017, as calculated by The Associated Press and Equilar, an executive data firm. (AP Photo/Ted S. Warren, File)

- Alabama: O. B. Grayson Hall Jr., Regions Financial, \$9.4 million (Hall is stepping down in July.)
- Arkansas: C. Douglas McMillon, Walmart, \$22.8 million
- Arizona: Richard C. Adkerson, Freeport-McMoRan, \$16.2 million
- California: Michael Rapino, Live Nation Entertainment, \$70.6 million
- Colorado: Gregory B. Maffei, Liberty Media & Qurate Retail Group, \$67.6 million
- Connecticut: Mark T. Bertolini, Aetna, \$18.7 million
- Washington, D.C.: Thomas P. Joyce, Danaher, \$14.8 million
- Delaware: Hervé Hoppenot, Incyte, \$16.1 million
- Florida: Brian D. Jellison, Roper Technologies, \$29.2 million
- Georgia: Frank J. Bisignano, First Data, \$102.2 million
- Hawaii: Constance H. Lau, Hawaiian Electric Industries, \$5.4 million
- Iowa: Daniel J. Houston, Principal Financial Group, \$9.4 million
- Idaho: Thomas K. Corrick, Boise Cascade, \$4.1 million
- Illinois: Debra A. Cafaro, Ventas, \$25.3 million
- Indiana: N. Thomas Linebarger, Cummins, \$13.2 million
- Kansas: Michael J. Brown, Euronet Worldwide, \$3.9 million
- Kentucky: Scott L. Thompson, Tempur Sealy International, \$18 million
- Louisiana: Glen F. Post III, CenturyLink, \$14.3 million (Post retired at the company's annual meeting, which was on Wednesday.)
- Massachusetts: Stephen Kaufer, TripAdvisor, \$43.2 million

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Maryland: David M. Zaslav, Discovery Communications, \$42.2 million  
Maine: Melissa D. Smith, WEX, \$10.8 million  
Michigan: Mary T. Barra, General Motors, \$21.9 million  
Minnesota: James M. Cracchiolo, Ameriprise Financial, \$22.4 million  
Missouri: Michael F. Neidorff, Centene, \$25.3 million  
Mississippi: Joe F. Sanderson Jr., Sanderson Farms, \$6.6 million  
North Carolina: Brian T. Moynihan, Bank of America, \$21.4 million  
North Dakota: David L. Goodin, MDU Resources Group, \$3.7 million  
Nebraska: Lance M. Fritz, Union Pacific, \$11.3 million  
New Hampshire: Timothy McGrath, PC Connection, \$1.6 million  
New Jersey: Alex Gorsky, Johnson & Johnson, \$23 million  
New Mexico: Patricia K. Collawn, PNM Resources, \$4.4 million  
Nevada: Stephen A. Wynn, Wynn Resorts, \$34.5 million (Wynn left the CEO position in February.)  
New York: Leslie Moonves, CBS, \$68.4 million  
Ohio: W. Nicholas Howley, TransDigm Group, \$61 million  
Oklahoma: Robert D. Lawler, Chesapeake Energy, \$14.9 million  
Oregon: Bryan B. DeBoer, Lithia Motors, \$5.9 million  
Pennsylvania: Brian L. Roberts, Comcast, \$32.5 million  
Rhode Island: Scott C. Donnelly, Textron, \$13.1 million  
South Carolina: John D. Williams, Domtar, \$7 million  
South Dakota: David R. Emery, Black Hills, \$3.4 million  
Tennessee: Mark J. Costa, Eastman Chemical, \$14 million  
Texas: Randall L. Stephenson, AT&T, \$25.6 million  
Utah: Harris H. Simmons, Zions, \$3.2 million  
Virginia: Phebe N. Novakovic, General Dynamics, \$21.2 million  
Washington: John J. Legere, T-Mobile US, \$23.6 million  
Wisconsin: Jonas Prising, ManpowerGroup Inc., \$12 million

## **Study: Some public pensions funds could run dry in downturn**

**By GEOFF MULVIHILL, Associated Press**

CHERRY HILL, N.J. (AP) — Many pension funds for public workers already owe far more in retirement benefits than they have in the bank, and the problem will only grow worse if the economy slows down, according to a report released Thursday.

The study from The Pew Charitable Trusts found that the New Jersey and Kentucky funds are in such perilous shape that they risk running dry.

“Even after eight years of economic recovery — eight straight years of stock market gains — the public pension plans are more vulnerable than they’ve ever been to the next recession,” researcher Greg Mennis said in an interview.

Governments have been ramping up contributions to the funds to help cover the promises they’ve made to retirees, but that leaves less money to spend on schools, police, parks and other core government services.

Another option is reducing pension benefits. A plan to do that in Kentucky led to teacher walkouts earlier this year.

The Pew study, published by the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government at Harvard University, examines what would happen to pension funds in 10 states under various economic scenarios.

If a fund doesn’t bring in enough money to cover its promised retirement costs, the state would have to make up the difference. In New Jersey, that would mean spending at least \$2 billion more a year.

“These findings don’t come as a surprise and underscore the need to bolster the state’s surplus,” said Jennifer Sciortino, a spokeswoman for the state Treasury Department. She said Gov. Phil Murphy, a Demo-



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crat who took office in January, wants to increase the surplus by 50 percent.

New Jersey is gradually raising its contributions, but the Pew report says getting to full funding will be a challenge for the state.

Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin, a Republican, signed a bill last month reducing some retirement benefits for current and future teachers, but not for those already retired.

On Thursday, Bevin spokeswoman Elizabeth Kuhn said the Pew findings echo warnings from the governor since he took office. She said addressing the pension fund's \$60 billion unfunded liability is his top fiscal priority.

"After years of Kentucky governors underfunding and mismanaging the pension system, the report confirms that Gov. Bevin's commitment to fully fund the system will provide a stronger financial outlook for the state," she said in a statement.

The report said that even with changes, Kentucky could be in a situation similar to Connecticut and Pennsylvania. Both states have increased state pension contributions and might have to keep them high for decades to come, squeezing out funding for other priorities in the state budget.

The report also found that the relatively healthy pension systems in North Carolina and Wisconsin are more likely to weather downturns. Pew also looked at the funds in Colorado, Ohio, South Carolina and Virginia.

Notably absent from the report was California, which has the two largest public pension funds in the nation. They had a combined \$168 billion in unfunded liabilities in 2016, according to another recent Pew report. Mennis said California's funds were not included in the stress test study because they are so large and uniquely structured.

Nevertheless, the issue has been on the mind of California Gov. Jerry Brown, a Democrat who is in his final year in office. Brown suggested earlier this year that when a recession hits, pensions "will be on the chopping block."

\_\_\_ Follow Mulvihill at <http://www.twitter.com/geoffmulvihill>

\_\_\_ This story has been updated to clarify that Kentucky's new law does not cut benefits for retirees.

## How major US stock indexes fared Friday

By The Associated Press

U.S. stocks closed out a whirlwind week with a modest loss Friday as markets gauged how much to fret about the Trump administration's decision to step up the trade dispute between the world's two biggest economies.

The White House announced tariffs on \$50 billion of imports from China, and China's almost-immediate response was a promise to retaliate with its own of the same scale.

On Friday:

The S&P 500 index fell 2.83 points, or 0.1 percent, at 2,779.66.

The Dow Jones industrial average sank 84.83, or 0.3 percent, to 25,090.48.

The Nasdaq composite dropped 14.66, or 0.2 percent, to 7,746.38.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks slipped 0.82, or less than 0.1 percent, to 1,683.91.

For the week:

The S&P 500 is up 0.39 points, or less than 0.1 percent.

The Dow is down 226.05 points, or 0.9 percent.

The Nasdaq is up 100.87 points, or 1.3 percent.

The Russell 2000 is up 11.42 points, or 0.7 percent.

For the year:

The S&P 500 is up 105.81 points, or 4 percent.

The Dow is up 371.26 points, or 1.5 percent.

The Nasdaq is up 842.99 points, or 12.2 percent.

The Russell 2000 is up 148.40 points, or 9.7 percent.

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## Today in History By The Associated Press

### Today in History

Today is Saturday, June 16, the 167th day of 2018. There are 198 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On June 16, 1963, the world's first female space traveler, Valentina Tereshkova (teh-ruhsh-KOH'-vuh), 26, was launched into orbit by the Soviet Union aboard Vostok 6; Tereshkova spent 71 hours in flight, circling the Earth 48 times before returning safely.

### On this date:

In 1567, Mary, Queen of Scots, was imprisoned in Lochleven Castle in Scotland. (She escaped almost a year later but ended up imprisoned again.)

In 1779, the nearly four-year Great Siege of Gibraltar began as Spain declared war on Britain.

In 1858, accepting the Illinois Republican Party's nomination for the U.S. Senate, Abraham Lincoln said the slavery issue had to be resolved, declaring, "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

In 1903, Ford Motor Co. was incorporated.

In 1933, the National Industrial Recovery Act became law with President Franklin D. Roosevelt's signature. (The Act was later struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court.) The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. was founded as President Roosevelt signed the Banking Act of 1933.

In 1943, comedian Charles Chaplin, 54, married his fourth wife, Oona O'Neill, the 18-year-old daughter of playwright Eugene O'Neill, in Carpinteria, California.

In 1944, George Stinney, a 14-year-old black youth, was electrocuted by the state of South Carolina for the murders of two white girls, Betty June Binnicker, 11, and Mary Emma Thames, 7.

In 1958, the Supreme Court, in *Kent v. Dulles*, ruled that artist Rockwell Kent could not be denied a passport because of his communist affiliations. Imre Nagy (IM'-ray nahj), premier of Hungary during the 1956 rebellion, was executed in Budapest for treason.

In 1978, President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos (toh-REE'-ohs) signed the instruments of ratification for the Panama Canal treaties during a ceremony in Panama City.

In 1988, impeached and ousted Arizona Governor Evan Mecham (MEE'-kum) and his brother, Willard, were acquitted by a Phoenix jury of concealing a \$350,000 campaign loan.

In 1996, Russian voters went to the polls in their first independent presidential election; the result was a runoff between President Boris Yeltsin (the eventual winner) and Communist challenger Gennady Zyuganov (geh-NAH'dee zyoo-GAH'-nawf). Sportscaster Mel Allen died in Greenwich, Connecticut, at age 83.

In 2015, real estate mogul Donald Trump launched his successful campaign to become President of the United States with a speech at Trump Tower in Manhattan.

Ten years ago: Former Vice President Al Gore announced his endorsement of fellow Democrat Barack Obama for president. A California Supreme Court ruling that overturned the state's bans on same-sex marriage became final at 5:01 p.m. Pacific time, prompting dozens of gay couples to tie the knot. Tiger Woods, playing on a throbbing injured knee, won an epic U.S. Open after a 19-hole playoff at Torrey Pines with Rocco Mediate (MEE'-dee-ayt).

Five years ago: Riot police firing tear gas and water cannons repelled thousands of anti-government protesters attempting to converge on Istanbul's central Taksim Square while Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan (REH'-jehp TY'-ihp UR'-doh-wahn) defended the crackdown at a rally of his supporters. Justin Rose captured his first major championship and became the first Englishman in 43 years to win the U.S. Open, shooting a closing 70 at Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, for a 1-over 281 total. Connecticut accountant Erin Brady won the Miss USA pageant in Las Vegas.

One year ago: President Donald Trump acknowledged for the first time that he was under federal investigation as part of the expanding probe into Russia's election meddling as he lashed out at a top Justice Department official overseeing the inquiry. A St. Anthony, Minnesota, police officer was acquitted of manslaughter in the fatal shooting of Philando Castile, a black motorist who had just informed the officer

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that he was carrying a gun. A woman who sent her boyfriend a barrage of text messages urging him to kill himself when they were both teenagers was convicted in Taunton, Massachusetts, of involuntary manslaughter in a trial that raised questions about whether words can kill. Former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl died at his home in Ludwigshafen; he was 87. Actor Stephen Furst, who played naive fraternity pledge Flounder in the hit movie "Animal House," died in Moorpark, California, at age 63.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Eileen Atkins is 84. Actor Bill Cobbs is 84. Author Joyce Carol Oates is 80. Country singer Billy "Crash" Craddock is 80. Songwriter Lamont Dozier is 77. Rhythm and blues singer Eddie Levert is 76. Actress Joan Van Ark is 75. Actor Geoff Pierson is 69. Rhythm and blues singer James Smith (The Stylistics) is 68. Boxing Hall of Famer Roberto Duran is 67. Pop singer Gino Vannelli is 66. Actress Laurie Metcalf is 63. Actor Arnold Vosloo is 56. Actor Danny Burstein is 54. Model-actress Jenny Shimizu is 51. Actor James Patrick Stuart is 50. Rapper MC Ren is 49. Actor Clifton Collins Jr. is 48. Golfer Phil Mickelson is 48. Actor John Cho is 46. Actor Eddie Cibrian is 45. Actor Fred Koehler is 43. Actress China (chee-nah) Shavers is 41. Actor Daniel Bruhl is 40. Bluegrass musician Caleb Smith (Balsam Range) is 40. Actress Sibel Kekilli is 38. Actress Missy Peregrym (PEH'-rih-grihm) is 36. Actress Olivia Hack is 35. Singer Diana DeGarmo (TV: "American Idol") is 31. Pop-rock musician Ian Keaggy (Hot Chelle (SHEL)) is 31.

Thought for Today: "We seldom stop to think how many people's lives are entwined with our own. It is a form of selfishness to imagine that every individual can operate on his own or can pull out of the general stream and not be missed." — Ivy Baker Priest, former U.S. Treasurer (1905-1975).