

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 1 of 52



- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Groton Chiropractic Clinic Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- School Board Agenda
- 3- Weekly Vikings Roundup
- 4- Blood Drive Ad
- 5- Groton Red U12 wins Saturday's Round Robin
- 6- Groton Blue U10 wins Saturday's Round Robin
- 7- Yard of the Week
- 8- Today in Weather History
- 9- Today's Forecast
- 10- Yesterday's Weather
- 10- National Weather map
- 10- Today's Weather Almanac
- 11- Daily Devotional
- 12- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 13- News from the Associated Press

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

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C.
1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 2 of 52

GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #06-6

School Board Meeting June 25, 2018 – 7:00 PM – GHS Conference Room

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order with members present. Approve agenda as proposed or amended.

POTENTIAL CONFLICTS DISCLOSURE PURSUANT SDCL 23-3

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of year ending District bills.

2. Approval of North Central Special Education Co-Op (NCSEC) agenda items...as fiscal agent.

3. Approval of year ending North Central Education Co-Op bills.

OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. Open Forum for Public Participation...in accordance with Board Policy & Guidelines.

2. School Board Committee Reports:

a. Building, Grounds, & Transportation: Clint Fjelstad, Merle Harder

b. Personnel, Policy, & Curriculum: Deb Gengerke, Kara Pharis

c. Negotiations: Steve Smith, Grant Rix, Marty Weismantel

3. 2nd Reading and Adoption of Recommended Changes to MS/HS Handbook

4. Cast official ballot for election run off of SDHSAA Division IV Representative.

5. Cast official ballot for election run off of SDHSAA Division II Representative.

6. Administrative Reports: (a) Superintendent's Report; (b) Principal's Reports; (c) Business Manager Report

NEW BUSINESS

1. Authorize Business Manager to make necessary Contingency Fund transfers to cover year-ending deficit accounts in General Fund.

2. Adopt Supplemental Budget for Capital Outlay and Special Education in accordance with SDCL13-11-3.2.

3. Approve budget amendment to Capital Outlay Fund in accordance with SDCL13-16-6.

4. Open and approve fuel oil, diesel/gas quotes.

5. Open and approve newspaper quotes and designate official newspaper for FY2019.

6. Approve resignation of Anna Schwan, as all-school play director.

7. Approve open enrollment #19-12 (grade 10) from Doland School District.

8. Other items, as may be appropriate or as deemed necessary.

ADJOURN

Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

Since it's the offseason and there isn't a lot of news coming out about the Minnesota Vikings, we're going through the roster with a breakdown of each position. Today we cover the offensive line, which will be the final breakdown of the offensive side of the ball.

The offensive line has been the Achilles heel for the Vikings for many years now. The team spent a lot of money to bring in new pieces last offseason, and while the results were better than previous seasons, the unit as a whole needs to be better if the team wants to hoist the Lombardi Trophy. In March, Pro Football Focus ranked the offensive lines around the NFL from the 2017 season, and the Vikings ranked 22nd. The article mentioned that although the Vikings allowed the third-fewest sacks last year (11), that was mostly due to Case Keenum's ability to avoid sacks rather than the offensive line actually being a good blocking unit.

Projected Starters

The Vikings spent big money on Riley Reiff last offseason, and he will undoubtedly get another chance to protect the quarterback's blindside at left tackle. Reiff, a former first-round pick, was ranked 59th out of all qualifying tackles with a grade of 48.6 according to PFF.

The Vikings will likely start Nick Easton at left guard again. Easton started 12 games last season but ended the year on injured reserves after undergoing ankle surgery. He was given a player grade of 41.5 by PFF, ranking him as the 58th best guard in the NFL last year.

Entering his second year, Pat Elflein will once again be the starting center for the Vikings. Elflein only missed two games last year after being drafted in the third round. He was ranked by PFF as the 31st best center in the NFL with a player grade of 43.2. Although he had several highlight plays last year, there were too many times he missed an assignment or whiffed on his block. He will need to take a big step forward this season, but he has the tools to make that happen.

Right guard is really the only position that is an unknown at this point. My money is on Mike Remmers, who was signed by the Vikings to play right tackle but ended up moving to guard during the season. Although he was graded as a tackle because he played more snaps there than at guard, Remmers finished the season with a 69.6 player grade, easily the best of any Vikings' offensive lineman.

If Remmers wins the starting guard spot, Rashod Hill will likely be the team's starting right tackle for 2018. Hill started seven games at tackle last season and finished with a player grade of 43.6, ranking him as the 68th best tackle in the NFL. The Vikings think Hill has potential to be a solid tackle, we just have to hope he realizes that potential sooner rather than later.

The Vikings have 16 offensive linemen on the current roster, but they will likely cut that number down to eight or nine entering the regular season. That leaves 11 players battling it out for the remaining three or four roster spots, creating the most important training camp battles for the team heading into the new season.

Josh Andrews – guard/center. Andrews was on the Eagles practice squad since 2014 before the Vikings signed him this offseason. Making the team will be a tall task for Andrews.

Aviante Collins – guard. Collins was an undrafted player who the Vikings signed last year. He appeared in three games last season, so the Vikings obviously like what they see in him. He is a strong practice squad candidate.

Tom Compton – guard. Compton was signed by the Vikings this offseason to fill Joe Berger's role as the utility player who can be plugged in where needed. Compton has an inside track to a roster spot.

Cornelius Edison – center. He bounced around practice squads the last couple years, and will be hard pressed to make the team this year with so much competition.

Chris Gonzalez – guard. He was an undrafted rookie who was brought in to compete for a practice squad spot. I have to assume he will be hard-pressed to make the roster.

Colby Gossett – guard. The Vikings drafted him in the sixth-round of the most recent draft. He has the size and strength to become a good offensive lineman but will need to really work on his technique. The Vikings will likely try to stash him on the PS.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 4 of 52

Danny Isidora – guard. A fifth-round pick by the Vikings in 2017, Isidora played in seven games and started one last year. He will be in contention for a spot on the Vikings' final 53-man roster.

Dieugot Joseph – tackle. Joseph is a former defensive end who switched to offensive tackle at Florida International University. He has potential but needs lots of work on his technique. He could be a practice squad candidate.

Cedrick Lang – tackle. Lang was a tight end in college but moved to offensive tackle in order to make it in the NFL. He has bounced around practice squads since entering the league in 2016, but likely won't be offered a spot on the Vikings' PS.

Storm Norton – tackle. Norton, like a lot of players on this list, has bounced around NFL practice squads since entering the league in 2017 as an undrafted rookie. The 53-man roster is unlikely but the PS remains a possibility.

Brian O'Neill – tackle. He was drafted by the Vikings in the second-round, so he will be given every chance to make the final roster. He needs to improve his strength and fix some technique issues, so he probably won't see the field this year.

Don't miss next week's article, where we shift the focus to the defensive side of the ball! Skoll!

Find the **HERO** in you.
Give blood 3 times a year!

Groton Blood Drive
Thurs., June 28th 11:45am-6pm
Groton Community Center

To schedule an appointment:
Contact Stacy Oliver @397-2323
or go to www.bloodhero.com
select Donate Blood & enter
"groton" as the sponsor code.

**Sponsored by James Valley
Telecommunications.** All donors
entered to win a \$100 JVT credit.



Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 5 of 52



Groton Red U12 Wins Saturday's Round Robin

U12-Back-Coach Jared Flihs, Caden McInerney, Ryan Groeblichhoff, Colby Dunker, Braden Althoff, Kaleb Antonsen, Jacob Zak, Coach Craig Dunker. Front-Brevin Flihs, Christian Ehresmann, Korbin Kucker, Braxton Imrie, Lane Tietz, Teylor Diegel. (Photos courtesy of Groton Baseball/Softball Foundation Facebook page)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 6 of 52



Groton Blue U10 Wins Saturday's Round Robin

U10-Coaches Matt Groeblichhoff and Eric Moody (not pictured Pat Krause)

Back-Gavin Englund, Ryder Johnson, Carter Simon, Karter Moody, Ben Hoeft, Keegan Tracy, Jarrett Erdmann, Karsten Flihs. Front-Kellen Antonsen, Keegan Harry, Blake Lord, Isaiah Scepaniak, Gavin Kroll, Brody Lord, Nicholas Groeblichhoff, JD Schwan, Lincoln Krause. (Photos

courtesy of Groton Baseball/Softball Foundation Facebook page)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 7 of 52



Yard of the Week

The Alan Strom and Shelly Lerew home at 402 E. 16th Ave. has been chosen by the members of the Groton Garden Club as this week's Yard of the Week. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 8 of 52

Today in Weather History

June 25, 1914: An estimated F2 tornado moved east from 6 miles southeast of Isabel in Dewey County. Three small homes and two barns were destroyed. Twelve tons of hay was said to have vanished.

June 25, 1969: On the northeast side of Groton, an F2 to near F3 tornado destroyed a large grain elevator and uprooted huge trees. Four people were hospitalized. Estimated property damage was a quarter million dollars. Also, locally heavy rains caused flash flooding in Sully and Hughes Counties. A bridge near Harrold was washed out. Some rainfall amounts include; 5.34 inches at 23N of Highmore; 4.24 at 2N of Onaka; 4.14 at 12SSW of Harrold; 3.90 at 1NW of Faulkton; and 3.73 inches at Ipswich. Unofficial reports of 6 inches fell in and around Harrold.

1957: Hurricane Audrey moved northward, slowly strengthening until the 26th. At that time, a strong upper-level trough led to its acceleration and the hurricane deepened rapidly on its final approach to the Texas/Louisiana border. Audrey became the strongest hurricane on record for June upon landfall, as it reached category four strength. Its acceleration was unanticipated, and despite hurricane warnings in place, 418 people perished in the storm, mainly across southwest Louisiana.

1967: Three, F3 tornadoes crossed the Netherlands on this day. The first tornado touched down at 4:17 PM in Oostmalle. This storm destroyed the church and the center of the village. More than half of the 900 homes in the community were damaged with 135 completely gone. The second tornado touched down near Ulicoten and tracked northward through woodlands area. This storm killed two people at a camping site near Chaam, Netherlands. The third tornado destroyed 50 houses in Tricht, killing five and injuring 32 others.

1749 - A general fast was called on account of drought in Massachusetts. It was the year of the famous dry spring in which fields and villages burned. (David Ludlum)

1925 - The mercury hit 101 degrees at Portland, OR, their earliest 100 degree reading of record. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders)

1953 - The temperature at Anchorage soared to 86 degrees, their hottest reading of record. (The Weather Channel)








1987 - Afternoon highs of 97 degrees at Miami, FL, 107 degrees at Medford, OR, and 111 degrees at Redding CA were new records for the date. It was the third of six straight days of record heat for Miami. Thunderstorms produced wind gusts to 70 mph at Austin, and gusts to 75 mph at Tulsa OK. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Fifty-two cities in the central and eastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Highs of 100 degrees at Erie, PA, and 104 degrees at Cleveland OH established all-time records for those two locations. Highs of 101 degrees at Flint, MI, 105 degrees at Chicago, IL, and 106 degrees at Fort Wayne, IN, equalled all-time records. Thunderstorms in Idaho produced wind gusts to 100 mph west of Bliss and north of Crouch, injuring 29 persons. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

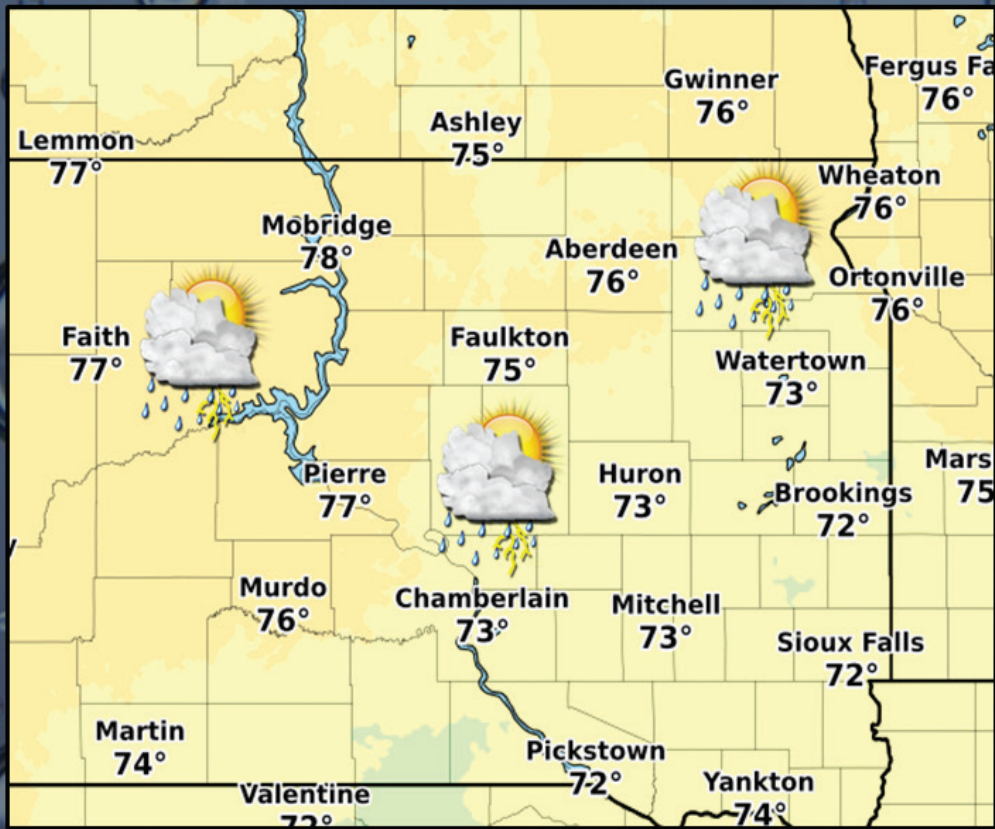
1989 - Tropical depression Allison, the remnants of what was earlier Cosme (a hurricane over the Pacific Ocean which dissipated as it crossed northern Mexico), began to spread heavy rain into southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana. (The National Weather Summary)

Broton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 9 of 52

Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
						
30%	30% 20%			30%	20%	
Chance T-storms	Chance Showers then Slight Chance T-storms	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Chance T-storms	Partly Cloudy then Slight Chance T-storms	Hot
High: 76 °F	Low: 62 °F	High: 83 °F	Low: 61 °F	High: 85 °F	Low: 62 °F	High: 94 °F

Scattered Showers and Storms Again Today, Highs in the 70s



Published on: 06/25/2018 at 4:30AM

Low pressure will move northeast across the plains today and spread scattered showers and thunderstorms northward into the region. Some areas could receive moderate to heavy rainfall across eastern South Dakota and west central Minnesota. Overall, the severe storm threat is low, but a strong storm or two cannot be ruled out. Highs for most locations will top out in the 70s with humid conditions.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 10 of 52

Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 80.8 F at 6:01 PM

Low Outside Temp: 63.7 F at 6:46 AM

Wind Chill:

High Gust: 19.0 Mph at 1:56 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 106° in 1936

Record Low: 41° in 1961

Average High: 80°F

Average Low: 56°F

Average Precip in June: 3.09

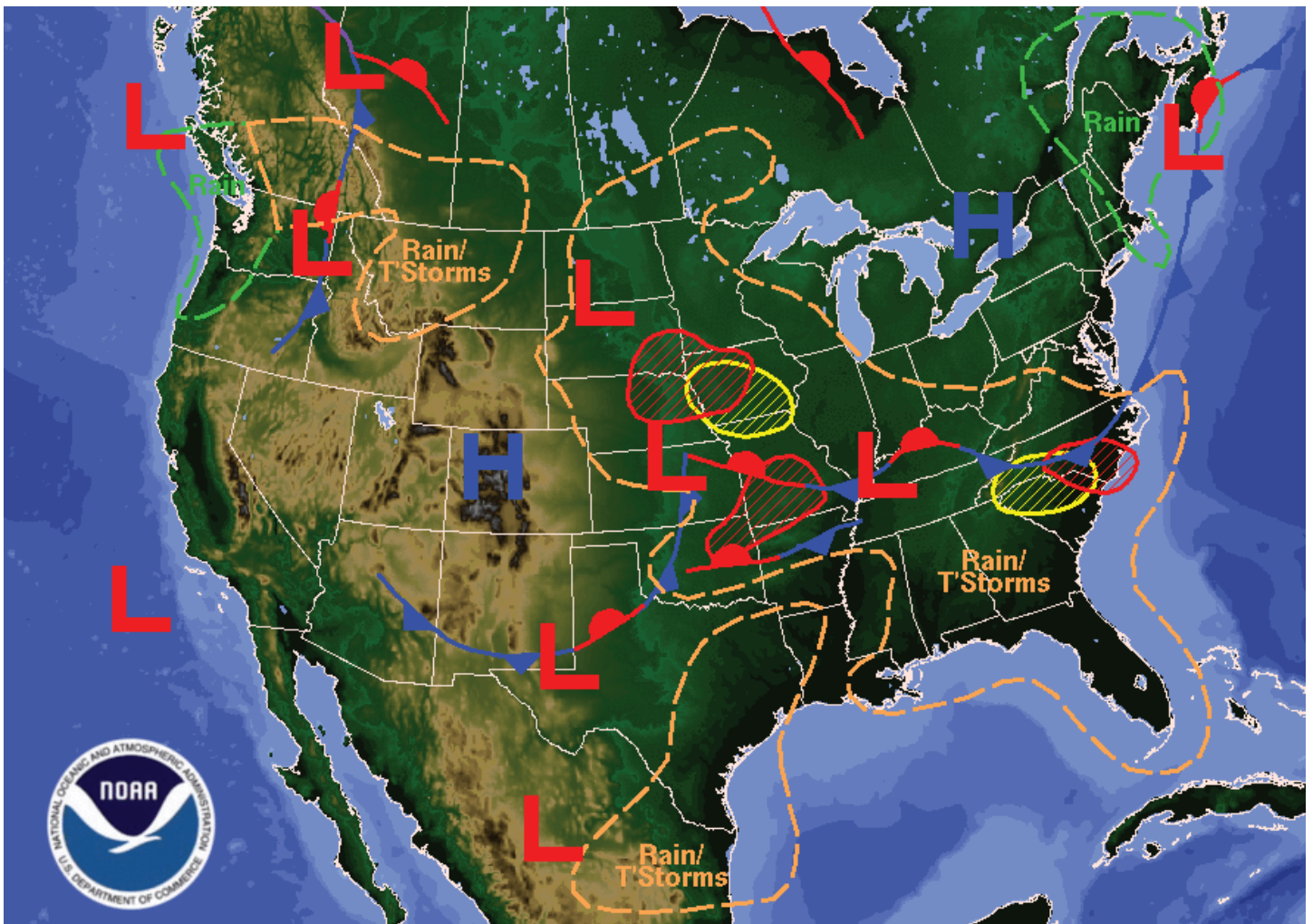
Precip to date in June: 1.52

Average Precip to date: 10.23

Precip Year to Date: 5.82

Sunset Tonight: 9:26 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:46 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Mon, Jun 25, 2018, issued 4:31 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

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

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 11 of 52



WHAT'S IN YOUR NAME?

One of the greatest musicians to ever lead any band was John Phillips Sousa. He followed the musical legacy of his father and achieved world acclaim as both a musician and writer of band music. Most people who have ever played in a band have played one of the many marches he wrote many of them becoming favorites of people around the world. Eventually he became known as the "March King" and when his marches were played people could identify him as the composer.

Names were once used to identify a person's place of origin or their vocation or occupation. They had a great deal of significance because they gave away so much information about a person. Today they have little significance and tell us little, if anything, important.

In the Bible, however, names had meaning and purpose and were selected very carefully. For example, when we read the different names that were given to God we soon realize that they were given to Him as a title to describe or recognize what He was doing for His children or something that He wanted to do for His own.

A beautiful example of this is found in Psalm 119:55. One of His very own had a very particular need and he needed help immediately! So, he prayed, "In the night, Lord, I remember Your name." When we read the word "night" in the Bible it usually refers to a "time of distress." Not wanting to be overcome by defeat he knew that his God was with him at that moment and that His power was available to keep him from defeat.

Prayer: Thank You, Father, that Your presence and power are available in nights of distress or days of delight. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 119:54 Your decrees are the theme of my song wherever I lodge.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 12 of 52

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

New hog nursery opens in South Dakota

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF, Yankton Press and Dakotan

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — Before welcoming their first shipment of pigs, Louie and Josh Johnson welcomed visitors to their new hog nursery.

In the process, the rural Volin father and son hoped their open house would dispel misconceptions about large-scale pork production, the Yankton Press and Dakotan reported.

Johnson Family Pork LLC hosted the three-hour event, which drew an estimated 300 people despite rainy, muddy conditions. The hog nursery represents the latest addition to the family farm dating back to 1894.

"With this nursery, the hogs arrive weighing 10 to 12 pounds and leave when they weigh around 55 pounds," Louie said. "This is a 2,400-head facility, where we can hold 1,200 hogs on each side."

The elder Johnson said the open house allowed the general public to tour the barn and see the inner workings. Hopefully, the visitors gained a greater understanding of large-scale pork production, he said.

"There's a lot of misunderstanding about these operations," Louie said. "We have a lot of farmers here today, but we're hoping to reach the people who live in town. We had a lot of 'city' people already visit."

The open house came amidst ongoing controversy over the construction of more concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) in Yankton County. The visitors included Yankton City Commission members as well as Yankton County Commission members and candidates.

Louie pointed out the features of his family's hog facility, including odor control and the collection of runoff for later use as fertilizer.

"You hear these horror stories from other states about problems with their pork operations. You hear about lagoons flooding," he said. "But we don't use lagoons here on our farm. We have holding pits under the building."

In addition, Johnson noted his hog nursery seeks to control odor, manure and other problems that many opponents say are found in CAFOs. He pointed out that he and his family would literally live with such problems.

"This is our family farm," he said, noting much has changed since his ancestors' arrival to the area nearly 125 years ago.

Once they entered the barn, visitors could roam throughout the building. They witnessed the white pens and various features for odor control and cleanliness.

The open house was held before the hogs arrived for sanitary reasons.

Jon Gunderson, who lives northwest of the Johnson farm, said the hog nursery would receive a thorough cleaning before the pigs' arrival.

"If you look up at the ceiling, you'll see what looks like a shower," he said. "This place will get a real scrub-down, and they'll use power washers."

Gunderson said he realizes a number of Yankton County residents hold strong opposition to CAFOs. However, he urged the general public to learn more about today's large-scale livestock operations. Technology has changed greatly through the years, he said.

In particular, he pointed to the change in manure collection and usage. "Manure is extremely valuable. This barn could meet 75 percent of the farm's fertilizer needs," he said.

The Johnson Family Pork facility drew the interest of state and national officials in attendance.

Centerville farmer Craig Andersen holds the double role of South Dakota Pork Producers Council first vice president and National Pork Producers Council board member.

He commended the open house as a way for the general public to gain a greater understanding of large-scale pork production.

Through the open house, visitors could learn that agriculture represents a huge financial investment, Andersen said. In turn, the producer needs to protect his livestock and investment with proper manage-

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 14 of 52

ment and production practices, he said.

Today's hog operations can make use of improved ventilation systems and pit additives, Andersen said.

"These people (who raise hogs) are watching out for the safety and health concerns of their pigs," he said. "These facilities are environmentally controlled."

Besides environmental advances, the CAFOs are driven by the economics of today's agriculture, Andersen said. Today's producers are working on thin profit margins which require larger operations in order to survive, he said.

In turn, agricultural methods have progressed to meet the demands of larger operations, he said.

"Things have changed greatly," he said. "Your grandpa may have used horses, and now you have all of this new machinery."

The elder Johnson acknowledged his hog nursery isn't the same as some CAFOs. However, he has expanded his operation through the years — much of it out of necessity.

"Technology has allowed us to do so much more," he said. "And you're seeing most livestock operations getting bigger and bigger."

The growth comes from the need for great efficiency, Louie said. In addition, U.S. pork producers are seeing a growing domestic and foreign demand.

"If there wasn't a demand (for pork), they wouldn't be building these barns," he said.

Louie pointed to dramatic changes worldwide, noting that China has exploded as a market for U.S. pork.

"Their (Chinese) economy has improved, and their diet has improved. They're demanding more protein," he said.

However, American consumers are also buying more pork products both at home and when dining out, Louie said. "You're seeing a huge demand for bacon on everything, like bacon cheeseburgers," he said.

Agriculture's economic impact isn't limited to the farmer, Andersen said. "You have the ag multiplier effect, where each dollar spent by the producer turns over six or seven times," he said.

The role of agri-business was seen throughout the open house, sponsored by ECL, Parkston-Kaylor Grain & Feed, South Dakota Pork Producer Council and MDS Manufacturing

Brad Hohn of MDS Manufacturing said his Parkston-based business worked with the design of the Johnson hog nursery. The business also produced the white pens and worked with installation of equipment.

Other regional business provided equipment and services for the Johnson operation, which rolled through the economy and helped to create and retain jobs, Hohn said. Farmers want quality material for their operations, he added.

"They don't want cheap — they want to do it right," he said.

In turn, agriculture allows rural communities to survive and thrive, Hohn said. The impact is felt across the state, both in terms of consumer spending and the resulting tax collections, he added.

For Louie Johnson, large-scale pork production has made it possible for his farm to remain in operation. It also ensures future opportunities that might not otherwise be available if his son had to start his own farm from scratch.

"We're Johnson Family Pork LLC, so it can stay in the family if Josh wants to take it all over someday, or if some other family member wants to," Louie said.

"This is about the future. It's about my future, and it's about my kids' future."

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

South Dakota man opens new five-and-dime shop

By VICTORIA LUSK, Aberdeen American News

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — Time after time, throughout an entire decade or so, Sam Pitzl, 44, would drive down Main Street in Eden and notice how time had changed the scenery.

The once-busy street in the rural Marshall County town wasn't as busy as it once was.

"Main Streets are dying in these small towns," Pitzl told Aberdeen American News .

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 15 of 52

That's why he decided to give purpose to a building so old that it was moved in when railroads in small towns throughout the Dakotas went under. It served its purpose as an old bar and barbershop until it closed and sat empty for 10 years or so.

At least that's how he remembers it.

After renovations, the building now houses one of his businesses, Sam's Five & Dime, as well as Country Cuts & More and an office for Western Agency insurance.

There's one thing that Eden (and surrounding area) residents crave all year long, and that's the wings at the Club Eden next door. But come summer that meal can be followed by ice cream from South Dakota State University at Sam's Five & Dime.

Wing Wednesdays are just one of the two days the shop is open every week Memorial Day through Labor Day. The other is Saturday.

In all, the open hours total just nine every week, Pitzl said.

The inside of Sam's Five & Dime is reminiscent of the times when nickel and dime stores were a thing, Pitzl said. And that's where the name came from.

"I just wanted to go back to (a simpler time). Everything's big now that I wanted to go back to when things weren't so corporate," he said.

Pitzl has been a collector of antiques for at least the last few years. And if there's something old he can salvage from a nearby town — like an old jukebox that came from Claire City — he will.

He's pulled tin and wood from old, abandoned buildings, and later used them to complete the interior's rustic look.

According to John Haberkorn, SDSU dairy plant manager in Brookings, not much of the university's ice cream makes it to northeastern South Dakota.

"We don't go too far because the students deliver everything," he said. That's one way the ice cream is unique.

"The students do all the work," he said.

Pitzl picks up his ice cream, he said.

In addition to his full-time job and ice cream gig, Pitzl also hand-crafts custom wood decor.

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

1st trial looms in theft scandal exposed by family's deaths

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A former business employee at a Platte-based educational cooperative charged in an embezzlement scheme that helped spark a South Dakota scandal is heading to trial on theft charges.

Jury selection starts Monday in Sioux Falls for Stephanie Hubers, a onetime Mid-Central Educational Cooperative staffer accused of getting more than \$50,000 to keep quiet about embezzlement by Mid-Central's business manager and his wife before their deaths in 2015.

Here's a look at key information about the trial:

THE CASE

The trial comes more than two years after authorities launched a financial investigation because Mid-Central business manager, Scott Westerhuis, killed his wife and children in a murder-suicide.

The investigation spurred felony charges in 2016 against Hubers, 45, of Geddes, and two others who allegedly helped in the couple's embezzlement scheme.

Court records say Scott Westerhuis and his wife Nicole took money from Mid-Central's bank account without authorization to fund payroll at a nonprofit with which they had ties. Hubers is accused of getting more than \$50,000 from the nonprofit, called the American Indian Institute for Innovation, from 2009 to 2014 that she wasn't entitled to or that she knew had been stolen.

Hubers told authorities that Scott Westerhuis paid her extra money from the nonprofit beyond her Mid-

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 16 of 52

Central salary to perform duties such as research. She said the additional duties quickly stopped, but the extra money kept coming, according to a state Division of Criminal Investigation agent's court affidavit.

The agent says in the affidavit that Hubers admitted the money Westerhuis paid her wasn't right.

THE BACKGROUND

Investigators believe the total amount that Scott and Nicole Westerhuis stole surpassed \$1 million. The case exploded into public view after Westerhuis in 2015 shot his wife and their four children, then set fire to their home and killed himself.

The couple initially tried to hide the alleged illegal activity that started as early as 2010, but became more brazen near the time of the September 2015 fire, according to the affidavit. They spent at least part of the money on home improvement projects, Attorney General Marty Jackley has said.

The case has been the subject of extensive hearings, spurred new state laws and become a topic of political campaigns.

"I'm not sure that a jury trial or verdict can bring closure to a tragedy such as this," Jackley told the Argus Leader ahead of the proceedings.

THE LEGALESE

Hubers pleaded not guilty to one count of grand theft and two counts of grand theft by deception and three alternative receiving stolen property counts. She faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and fines for each count.

Her attorney, Clint Sargent, declined to comment to The Associated Press. Jury instructions proposed by Hubers' side say the crimes require the intent to steal, defraud or receive property knowing it's been stolen — suggesting a legal strategy that argues they don't fit what Hubers is accused of doing.

THE OTHERS

Two others charged in the case, former Mid-Central Director Dan Guericke and consultant Stacy Phelps, are to face trial later.

Guericke and Phelps are accused of backdating two contracts between Mid-Central and the American Indian Institute for Innovation in August 2015 before they were made available to the state Department of Legislative Audit. Investigators say in the court records they believe the contract changes were an attempt to avoid a potential audit of the Institute.

Guericke is also accused of conspiring with Scott and Nicole Westerhuis to backdate contracts with other people.

Guericke has been charged with six felony counts for falsifying evidence and conspiring to offer forged or fraudulent evidence. Phelps, who previously served as chief executive of the American Indian Institute for Innovation, is charged with four felony counts for those alleged crimes.

Sioux Falls to create more parks

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls officials are looking to create more parks after failing to keep up with a city guideline to have at least one park within a half-mile of every residential home.

The city's growing population has pushed city limits outward over the last decade or more, the Argus Leader reported. The annual Comprehensive Annual Finance Report released last month by City Hall shows Sioux Falls hasn't added any parks or park acres to its inventory since 2015.

City officials said they're still committed to keeping parks accessible to every neighborhood in town.

Mike Cooper is the director of the Sioux Falls Planning and Zoning Department. He said that in recent years the department has been focusing on "maintaining what we currently have, retrofitting some the parks we already have."

At least 14 park locations have been identified in the city's long range plan, including near George McGovern Middle School and a future Brandon School District facility in southeast Sioux Falls. Parks Director Don Kearney said the city will soon develop a new park called Whispering Woods.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 17 of 52

But the selected sites might not include play equipment, picnic shelters and drinking fountains until homes are filled in around them, said Mike Patten, Sioux Falls Park Development Specialist.

"We won't construct the park with typical park amenities ... until the surrounding neighborhood fills in with houses and the need for a neighborhood park is justified," he said.

The city has 80 parks and 3,178 acres (1,286 hectares) of park land.

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

South Dakota coach speaks out about distracted driving

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls high school basketball coach has been speaking to students across the state about distracted driving ever since his cousin was killed four years ago.

Tim Weidenbach has given more than 100 presentations, traveled throughout four states and reached more than 10,000 people, the Argus Leader reported. The assistant coach at O'Gorman Catholic High School runs the nonprofit Higher Power Sports, which aims to address youth issues such as distracted driving, cyber bullying and social exclusion.

Weidenbach makes his presentations personal, as he did recently while speaking to Vermillion High School students. He shared the story of his cousin, Andrea Boeve, who was killed by a distracted driver while riding her bicycle.

"The other thing I want say about this accident, this day, is that it was 100 percent preventable," he said at the Vermillion school.

Driver's Education Teacher Jim Trett hired Weidenbach to speak about distracted driving to his students at Washington High School in Sioux Falls.

"It's a huge problem in this country right now, as bad as drunk driving," Trett said.

Weidenbach is good at making students aware that picking up their "phone and causing an accident is not just something that bad people do," he said. "This is something that can happen to anyone."

Weidenbach said he becomes emotional every time he gives a speech.

"I never want to come out and talk to kids with some kind of canned deal," he said. "I was probably on the verge of crying 25 times today. Some people might call that a curse, but like Jim Valvano said, if you laugh and you cry, that's a full day. That's my life."

Weidenbach has traveled throughout South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska as part of the non-profit.

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

Corps reminds public: Missouri River sandbars closed to use

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says sandbars along part of the Missouri River are again closed to protect the nests of endangered bird species.

The Corps says endangered interior least terns and threatened piping plovers nest on sandbars between Ft. Peck Dam in Montana and Ponca State Park in Nebraska. The birds use the sandbars to lay their eggs and hatch chicks.

The number of sandbars on the Missouri River is limited this year because the water level is higher than normal.

The nesting season runs from mid-May through August.

Some boosters want South Dakota's Augustana on bigger stage

By DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

Perhaps the biggest proponent of taking a small private university in South Dakota into the realm of big-time college athletics is a longtime hospital administrator who thinks as big as his 6-foot-6 frame.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 18 of 52

Sanford CEO Kelby Krabbenhoft, who has raised hundreds of millions of dollars and schmoozed with billionaires T. Denny Sanford, the hospital namesake, and Microsoft founder Bill Gates, would be a key player in helping Augustana University find the money to move from Division II to Division I athletics. Now he's calling publicly for the Sioux Falls school to take another look at moving from Division II to Division I.

University President Stephanie Herseth Sandlin declined to be interviewed about such a move, but issued a statement saying it's "time to revisit the Division I topic."

Krabbenhoft believes the decision is more about academics than athletics. He called sports "just the front porch" to expanding research departments and professional schools that would attract students, including some who could become doctors and nurses for his organization.

"The dynamic question is: What does Augie want to become? Not in terms of history or reputation, but size," Krabbenhoft said. "Do they want to become kind of a Notre Dame-ish organization, or a Creighton? As a private school in this arena, those are kind of the icons or the trailblazers they should try to emulate. And then it's possible."

The Lutheran-affiliated school with about 2,000 students recently hired Herseth Sandlin, as well new athletic director Josh Morton, both of whom have experience on a big stage.

Herseth Sandlin is a former Democratic U.S. congresswoman in a Republican-dominated state. Morton helped the University of North Dakota in its jump to Division I, then was assistant athletic director at Michigan State.

Herseth Sandlin's statement said revisiting a move on athletics is appropriate as part of a larger discussion on Augustana's long-term goals. Morton, who also declined to be interviewed, told the Sioux Falls Argus Leader that going Division I was not a significant topic when he interviewed for the job.

Krabbenhoft co-chaired a committee that in 2005 explored whether Augustana should jump to Division I. The Vikings decided to stay put in large part because they thought they could be more successful in Division II. They won a national basketball title in 2016 and national baseball title this year.

In the meantime, former longtime Interstate 29 rivals South Dakota State, North Dakota State, South Dakota and North Dakota all moved up to Division I, which in most cases has brought in millions of dollars for athletic programs and helped attract students from a wider area. Enrollment has gone up more than 20 percent at South Dakota State and North Dakota State since those schools made plans to go Division I.

NDSU President Dean Bresciani said it also has brought the school a national audience.

"The football program becomes the trigger to looking at the athletics program, which becomes the trigger to looking at the academic program, which becomes the trigger to looking at North Dakota very differently," Bresciani said.

The results have been impressive on the fields and courts. NDSU has won six national football titles. SDSU has made the men's basketball tournament three straight years. Last year, NDSU, South Dakota and SDSU finished 1-2-3 for the Summit League's Commissioner's Cup, for the school that has the most combined points in relationship to placement in league-sponsored men's and women's sports.

Proponents of Augustana moving up to Division I point out that Sioux Falls has also been growing. It's approaching 200,000 people, about a 30 percent increase since the school first looked at moving up. It's projected to be the size of Des Moines, Iowa, by 2025. Business is booming. The city has a new basketball arena, and Augustana has a new football stadium, practice facilities and weight rooms, among other amenities.

"I think it's time for them to be a D-I," said Nate White, a onetime captain of the Augustana basketball team and Sanford executive vice president who runs the Fargo hospital. "I think the thought of renewing old rivalries with the North Dakota and South Dakota schools excites the heck out of alumni."

White said some boosters are skeptical whether the money is there for more scholarships, more coaches at higher salaries, staff and travel. Augustana's athletic budget is about \$10 million, compared with more than \$20 million for SDSU, NDSU and UND.

Krabbenhoft isn't fazed by the prospect.

"You're talking to a guy who found a way to raise \$400 million and then nearly \$1 billion. And that's just one guy," Krabbenhoft said. "I'm not just naively optimistic. I believe we live in a region and a community

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 19 of 52

up and down I-29 that wants to see these universities succeed — and not just because they are driven by things that bounce and sweat.”

Anita Baker, H.E.R., Meek Mill shine at BET Awards

By MESFIN FEKADU, AP Music Writer

The 2018 BET Awards barely handed out any trophies with big stars like Cardi B, Drake and Kendrick Lamar absent, but the show included superior performances by rising singer H.E.R., rapper Meek Mill and gospel artist Yolanda Adams, who paid tribute to Anita Baker and nearly brought her to tears.

Baker, an eight-time Grammy winner who dominated the R&B charts from the early '80s to mid-90s, earned the Lifetime Achievement Award on Sunday at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

The 60-year-old used her speech to encourage the artists in the room to keep music alive.

“I would ask that the music be allowed to play, that singers are allowed to sing, and rappers are allowed to rap, and poets are allowed to rhyme,” said Baker, who also was honored by host Jamie Foxx, Ledisi and Marsha Ambrosius.

H.E.R., whose real name is Gabi Wilson, was impressive as she sang the R&B hit “Focus,” played the electric guitar like a rock star and sang softly during the sweet love song “Best Part,” where she was joined by Daniel Caesar.

Meek Mill, who was released from prison in April, rapped the song “Stay Woke” on a stage transformed into a street corner, featuring hustlers, children and police officers. A mother screams as her child is shot during the powerful performance, and an officer lays an American flag over the body.

Meek Mill also made a statement by wearing a hoodie featuring the face of XXXTentacion, the 20-year-old rapper-singer who died after being shot last week.

“We can’t get used to these types of things. We’re too used to young people getting killed,” Foxx said when speaking about XXXTentacion later in the show.

The Oscar winner told the audience to “try to sneak a message in” their music.

“We got to figure something out,” he said.

Snoop Dogg celebrated 25 years in music, performing the classic songs “What’s My Name” and “Next Episode.” The rapper also performed songs from his recently released gospel album, wearing a choir robe on a stage that looked like a church.

Childish Gambino, whose song and music video “This Is America” tackles racism and gun violence and became a viral hit last month, gave a short, impromptu performance of the song when Foxx brought him onstage.

“Everybody begged me to do a joke about that song. I said that song should not be joked about,” Foxx said.

Foxx kicked off the show rejoicing in the uber success of “Black Panther,” namedropping the records the film has broken and even pulled Michael B. Jordan onstage to recite a line from the film.

“We don’t need a president right now because we got our king,” Foxx said of T’Challa. “(Director) Ryan Coogler gave us our king.”

Foxx entered the arena with a stuffed black panther toy — with a gold chain around its neck — which he handed to Jordan. The film won best movie.

“The film is about our experiences being African-Americans and also captures the experiences of being African,” Coogler said. “It was about tapping into the voice that tells us to be proud of who we are.”

At the end of his speech he told the audience to travel to Africa and learn more about the continent’s history.

SZA, who was the most nominated woman at this year’s Grammys, won best new artist and said she’s “never won anything in front of other people.”

She dedicated the award to those “lost in the world,” saying: “Follow your passion ... believe in yourself.”

After the show, BET announced that Kendrick Lamar had won best album for “DAMN.” and best male hip-hop artist. Beyonce won best female pop/R&B artist, while Bruno Mars was named the best male

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 20 of 52

pop/R&B artist.

"Girls Trip" star and comedian Tiffany Haddish, who won best actress and gave her speech in a taped video, also said encouraging words.

"You can achieve anything you want in life," she said.

DJ Khaled was the leading nominee with six and picked up the first award of the night — best collaboration — for "Wild Thoughts" with Rihanna and Bryson Tiller. He was holding his son on his hip onstage and also used his speech to highlight young people.

"All of y'all are leaders and all of y'all are kings and queens — the future," he said.

Migos won best group and gave a fun performance that even had Adams reciting the lyrics. J. Cole, Nicki Minaj, Janelle Monae, Miguel, YG, 2 Chainz and Big Sean also performed.

The BET Awards normally hands its Humanitarian Award to one person, but six individuals received the honor Sunday. Dubbed "Humanitarian Heroes," the network gave awards to James Shaw Jr., who wrestled an assault-style rifle away from a gunman in a Tennessee Waffle House in April; Anthony Borges, the 15-year-old student who was shot five times and is credited with saving the lives of at least 20 other students during February massacre in Florida; Mamoudou Gassama, who scaled an apartment building to save a child dangling from a balcony last month in Paris; Naomi Wadler, an 11-year-old who gave a memorable and influential speech at March for Our Lives; Justin Blackman, the only student to walk out of his high school in North Carolina during the nationwide student walkout to protest gun violence in March; and journalist and activist Shaun King.

Debra Lee, who stepped down as chairman and CEO of BET last month after 32 years at the network, earned the Ultimate Icon Award.

"The power of black culture is unmatched. It's beautiful. It's amazing. It's everything. It's us," she said.

She ended her speech quoting former U.S. President Barack Obama, calling him "our commander in chief," which drew loud applause.

"And, it's Debra Lee, out," she said as she dropped her imaginary microphone.

Online:

<https://www.bet.com/shows/bet-awards.html>

Turkey's victorious Erdogan set to assume sweeping powers

By SUZAN FRASER, Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who has dominated Turkish politics for the past 15 years, was set on Monday to extend his rule and take on sweeping new powers after winning landmark presidential and parliamentary elections.

Turkey's High Electoral Board declared Erdogan, 64, the winner of Sunday's polls, which usher in a new executive presidential system that was approved in a referendum last year. Under the system, the office of the prime minister is eliminated and executive powers are transferred to the president, who can rule with only limited checks and balances.

The Turkish leader, who is accused by critics of adopting increasingly authoritarian tactics but is loved by supporters for bringing prosperity and stability, may be facing rough times ahead, however. Analysts predict an economic downturn amid rising inflation and a struggling currency.

His win could deepen Turkey's rift with Western allies, who are already concerned by setbacks in democracy and human rights as well as Turkey's closer ties with Russia.

Still, Turkey's currency, the lira, rallied on Monday over Erdogan's victory, which allows the country to avoid instability in the short-term.

In his victory speech, Erdogan said he would work toward achieving his goal of making Turkey one of the world's top 10 economies by 2023, when the Turkish Republic marks its centenary.

He also pledged a more "determined" fight against outlawed Kurdish rebels and alleged members of a movement led by U.S.-based cleric Fethullah Gulen, whom he accuses of orchestrating a 2016 failed coup

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 21 of 52

against his government. Gulen denies involvement.

"Turkey made its choice in favor of a more determined fight against the PKK (Kurdistan Workers Party) and (Gulenists)," Erdogan said. "We will go after terror organizations with stronger determination."

Under the new system, Erdogan will appoint ministers, vice presidents and high-level bureaucrats, issue decrees, prepare the budget and decide on security policies.

According to unofficial results that have yet to be confirmed by the electoral board, Erdogan garnered 52.5 percent of the votes, while his ruling Justice and Development Party, or AKP, won 42.5 percent in the parliamentary vote. Erdogan's closest contender, Muharrem Ince of the main opposition Republican People's Party, won 30.7 percent.

Erdogan's AKP fell short of a parliamentary majority but a better-than-expected performance by its nationalist ally should allow the party to control the 600-seat legislature.

Ince, who complained of unfair elections, accepted Erdogan's victory during a news conference on Monday.

"There are no significant differences between our records and the Supreme Election Council's records," Ince told reporters. "I accept the results of the elections."

The politician, who led a robust campaign against Erdogan, called on him to end his divisive policies.

"Be the president of 81 million (Turks), embrace everyone," he said. "That's what I would have done if I had won."

The 54-year-old politician criticized Turkey's new system, saying: "Turkey has cut off its ties with democratic values... (Turkey) has transitioned to a one-man regime in the fullest sense."

The pro-Kurdish People's Democratic Party, whose presidential candidate Selahattin Demirtas was forced to campaign from jail, received the more than 10 percent of votes required to win seats in parliament, spilling thousands of its supporters into the streets in celebration.

Koreas discuss removing North's artillery from tense border

By HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The rival Koreas are discussing the possible relocation of North Korea's long-range artillery guns away from the tense Korean border, South Korea's prime minister said Monday, as the countries forge ahead with steps to lower tensions and extend a recent detente.

If realized, it would be yet another conciliatory step by North Korea since it entered talks on giving up its nuclear weapons earlier this year. But some experts say it might be a tactic to push Seoul and Washington to withdraw their more sophisticated artillery systems from front-line areas in return for pulling back its outdated conventional weapons.

In a speech marking the 68th anniversary of the start of the 1950-53 Korean War, Prime Minister Lee Nak-yeon said that "moving (North Korea's) long-range artillery to the rear is under discussion," as he explained what types of goodwill steps between the Koreas have been taken in recent months.

Lee's comments appeared to be Seoul's first official confirmation of media reports that South Korea demanded that North Korea reposition its forward-deployed artillery pieces during inter-Korean military talks on June 14. Seoul's Defense Ministry, which has denied those reports, said it had no immediate comment on Lee's speech.

North Korea has deployed an estimated 1,000 artillery pieces and rockets along the 248-kilometer (155-mile) border, putting the Seoul metropolitan area within its striking distance. Seoul, a capital city with 10 million people, is about 40-50 kilometers (25-30 miles) from the border.

Many experts have called the North Korean artillery threats "significant" because it can inflict massive casualties and devastate much of Seoul in the initial hours of a war before the much-better-equipped U.S. and South Korean militaries could fully respond.

But there are also views that such an assessment may be an exaggeration as the North's artillery guns in general have poor accuracy and cannot destroy hard concrete structures. During a North Korean artillery strike on a South Korean border island in 2010 that killed four people, 90 of the 170 shells fired by

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 22 of 52

the North fell into the sea while 30 of the 80 shells that reached the island didn't explode, according to military commentator Lee Illwoo.

North Korea's pullout of its artillery would be "meaningless" or a symbolic "gesture for peace," Lee said.

South Korean media speculated that during the June 14 military talks, North Korea likely demanded that South Korea and the United States withdraw their own artillery systems from the border as a reciprocal measure. Local media reports said North Korea also proposed the two Koreas and the United States stop flying surveillance and other aircraft near the border.

Shin Won-sik, a retired three-star South Korean general, said in a newspaper column last week that the South may not be able to find any place to reposition its artillery assets in densely populated rear areas if it pulls them from the border.

North Korea has said it's willing to give up its nuclear program if it's provided a reliable security assurance from the United States. But it hasn't taken any serious steps toward disarmament while repeating a vague pledge to achieve "complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," a phrase it has used in the past when it requested the United States to withdraw its 28,500 troops from South Korea and stop military exercises with the South.

North Korea's outreach to Seoul and Washington has still produced a temporary detente on the Korean Peninsula, with U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un holding a landmark summit on June 12.

South Korea and the United States recently announced the suspension of their annual military exercises called Ulchi Freedom Guardian and two other small-scale drills in part of efforts to increase the chances of successful nuclear diplomacy with North Korea. Some experts say the drills' suspension could weaken the allies' combined defense posture against North Korea.

On Monday, military officers of the two Koreas met and agreed to fully restore their military hotline communication channels, the South's Defense Ministry said.

The U.S. military said Saturday it moved 100 wooden coffins to the inter-Korean border to prepare for North Korea's return of the remains of American soldiers who have been missing since the 1950-53 Korean War. The two Koreas last week also agreed to restart temporary reunions of families separated by the war in August.

Indonesia identifies likely location of sunken ferry

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Indonesia has identified the suspected location of an overcrowded ferry that sank last week in a deep volcanic crater lake but will need international help to recover the wreck, the chief of the national search and rescue agency said Monday.

The ferry had some 200 people on board — about five times its capacity — but only 18, including the boat's captain, survived the sinking in rough weather June 17 on Lake Toba. Few bodies have been recovered and officials have said many of the dead are likely trapped inside the vessel.

The search agency chief, Muhammad Syaugi, said in a television interview that an object that was located at a depth of 490 meters (1,607 feet) was about 20 meters (66 feet) long and 5 meters (16 feet) wide, consistent with the boat's dimensions.

Sonar equipment from Indonesia's navy was deployed on Friday. Divers could reach depths of only 50 meters (164 feet) in the lake's cold and dark waters.

Anguished relatives have criticized the search effort, but Syaugi defended it, saying there had been an "all out" effort.

"We will do our best to salvage this wreck," he said. "Because we do not have robots, we are trying to find from other countries, but most of them have tools to lift a vessel from just 100 meters depth and the wreck must be cut first."

"For us, the most important thing is to get as many victims as possible," Syaugi said.

North Sumatra police chief Paulus Waterpau told Indonesian TV that the boat's captain and three regional transport officials were arrested on suspicion of negligence that led to the sinking.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 23 of 52

Ferry tragedies are common in Indonesia, an archipelago of more than 17,000 islands, with weak enforcement of safety regulations often to blame.

Lake Toba, formed out of an ancient super volcano, is a popular sightseeing destination on the island of Sumatra and among the destinations that Indonesia's government is promoting as a magnet for domestic and foreign tourists.

This story has been corrected to show that the search agency chief's name is Muhammad Syaugi, not just the single name Syaugi.

In sign of detente, North Korea skips annual anti-US rally

By **CHA SONG HO** and **ERIC TALMADGE**, Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — In another sign of detente following the summit between leader Kim Jong Un and U.S. President Donald Trump, North Korea has decided to skip one of the most symbolic and politically charged events of its calendar: the annual "anti-U.S. imperialism" rally marking the start of the Korean War.

Fist-pumping, flag-waving and slogan-shouting masses of Pyongyang residents normally assemble each year for the rally to kick off a month of anti-U.S., Korean War-focused events designed to strengthen nationalism and unity. It all culminates on July 27, which North Korea celebrates as a national holiday called the day of "Victory in the Fatherland Liberation War."

Last year's event was held on Kim Il Sung Square with a reported 100,000 people attending. North Korea even issued special anti-U.S. postage stamps.

Officials had no on-the-record comment on the decision not to hold the event this year. But Associated Press staff in the North Korean capital confirmed Monday it would not be held.

North Korea has noticeably toned down its anti-Washington rhetoric over the past several months to create a more conciliatory atmosphere for the summit and avoid souring attempts by both sides to reduce tensions and increase dialogue.

North Korea's state media were filled with reports, photos and video of the June 12 meeting between Trump and Kim in Singapore.

A 42-minute documentary-style news special was aired on the state television network two days after the summit and has been repeated frequently since, meaning that by now there are probably few North Koreans who are unaware of the changes in the air. For many North Koreans, the program was also quite likely the first time they had ever seen what Trump looks like.

Still, North Korea's handling of the changes and how it presents them to its people remains highly nuanced.

So far, it hasn't said much about what Washington is interested in the most — denuclearization. But it has made significantly fewer references to its need to have nuclear weapons than it was making last year, when Kim was test-launching long-range missiles at a record pace and tensions with Washington neared the boiling point.

North Korea's decidedly less strident posture these days underscores the delicate position it finds itself in after decades of touting the United States as its archenemy.

State media referred to Trump quite deferentially in their reports of the summit, calling him by his full name and adding the title of president of the United States of America — itself a somewhat jarring contrast to the way it normally spits out merely the surname of U.S. officials, with no titles.

Considering how its relations with Washington could quickly slip back into acrimony if the difficult process of negotiating denuclearization and the lifting of trade sanctions breaks down, it remains unclear how much, or if at all, North Korea intends to recalibrate its other propaganda and indoctrination efforts.

Getting rid of all the anti-American propaganda would be a Herculean task.

The 1950-53 Korean War, and the devastation the country suffered at the hands of the U.S. and its allies, remain a major part of every North Korean's education.

Negative portrayals of Americans as big-nosed goblins are a common sight at elementary schools and

kindergartens and exhortations to beware of American aggression, deceit and brutality are a staple message of textbooks and at “class education” centers around the country. Anti-American slogans can also still be seen in Pyongyang and throughout the countryside, though they are not that numerous.

And while softening its criticism of the current U.S. administration, North Korea has stepped up its attacks on “capitalist values” in general — an oblique warning that its diplomatic outreach to the world should not be taken to mean it’s ready to throw away its socialist ideals anytime soon.

Talmadge, the AP’s Pyongyang bureau chief, reported from Tokyo. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram: @EricTalmadge

Donations, volunteering surge at border asylum-seeker center

By MANUEL VALDES, Associated Press

MCALLEN, Texas (AP) — One by one, around Father’s Day, the surge of Amazon boxes containing shirts, pants, underwear and many other items began arriving at an asylum-seeker rest center in the border town of McAllen, Texas.

Included in the packages were notes of support. One read: “As someone who has a dad who would do anything for their child I hope this helps a few of the dads that come through your doors with the same ideas.”

The boxes started arriving as people across the country began to learn about President Donald Trump’s policy of separating children from their families.

“All of the sudden they started getting like a thousand boxes a day and then more and then more. And they had to come and secure space here and that filled up and they got another space and that filled up,” said Natalie Montelongo, a native of nearby Brownsville who flew in from Washington, D.C., to volunteer at the center. She set up an Amazon wish list with items needed by the shelter and posted the link on social media.

Now, the immigrant respite center run by Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley has received so many boxes that it had to rent additional storage space.

“I feel like each one of these boxes represents one person that wishes they were here and is following the issue and that cares,” Montelongo said.

But donations also came the old fashioned way, too. Local residents stopping by and dropping off what they could and caravans of volunteers from around the country who made the journey to McAllen in Texas Rio Grande Valley packed with donations and cash.

Every day, busloads of migrants are transferred from federal facilities to a central station in McAllen. There, volunteers from the respite shelter help find the right buses and purchase bus tickets. As a group, they then walk to the shelter three blocks away, where they can shower, eat, and pick up new clothes, medicine and hygiene products.

Colorado librarian Wyne Cler saw a Facebook post from a friend’s friend asking for volunteers to help. Even with her limited Spanish, she jumped at the chance, raised \$4,000 in one day and brought her daughter. She spent hours trying her best to help migrants at the center and trying to cheer up their day with hearty hugs and laughter. Cler and her family fled Vietnam as the war ended, she said.

“This is not my America. When we came in ’75 we were welcomed with open arms. And we were not separated. My entire family got here safely,” Cler said.

On a typical day, more than 100 asylum-seekers are released from McAllen-area holding facilities, clutching their belongings in clear plastic bags stamped with Department of Homeland Security logos, said Norma Pimentel, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley.

Now, Pimentel is trying to channel some of the help into cash donations so they can construct a new building by their church. The rest center currently rents its space.

The center also needs more volunteers to keep up with the flow of people and donations, and it needs additional medicine for babies. Montelongo said the center has seen several babies arriving sick.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 25 of 52

"I'm so devoted to this respite because I think it's the first glimpse of what we all think the U.S. stands for," Montelongo said.

On the web: Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley donation page: <https://www.facebook.com/donate/2052979071443386/>

Texas group takes in about 30 parents separated from kids

By COLLEEN LONG, WILL WEISSERT and JOHN L. MONE, Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A Texas charitable organization says 32 immigrant parents separated from their children after crossing the U.S.-Mexico border were freed into its care, but they don't know where their kids are or when they might see them again despite government assurances that family reunification would be well organized.

The release on Sunday is believed to be the first, large one of its kind since President Donald Trump signed an executive order Wednesday that preserved a "zero-tolerance" policy for entering the country illegally but ended the practice of separating immigrant parents and children. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement offered no immediate comment.

Ruben Garcia, director of Annunciation House in El Paso, said the group of both mothers and fathers includes some from Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras who arrived to his group after federal authorities withdrew criminal charges for illegal entry. He didn't release names or personal details to protect the parents' privacy, and Homeland Security officials said they needed more specifics in order to check out their cases.

A Saturday night fact sheet by the Department of Homeland Security and other agencies said authorities know the location of all children in custody after separating them from their families at the border and are working to reunite them. It called the reunification process "well coordinated."

It also said parents must request that their child be deported with them. In the past, the fact sheet says, many parents elected to be deported without their children. That may be a reflection of violence or persecution they face in their home countries.

It doesn't state how long it might take to reunite families. Texas' Port Isabel Service Processing Center has been set up as the staging ground for the families to be reunited prior to deportation.

How the government would reunite families has been unclear because they are first stopped by U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, with children taken into custody by the Department of Health and Human Services and adults detained through ICE, which is under the Department of Homeland Security. Children have been sent to far-flung shelters around the country, raising alarm that parents might never know where their children can be found.

At least 2,053 minors who were separated at the border were being cared for in HHS-funded facilities, the fact sheet said.

The chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee hedged Sunday when pressed on whether he was confident the Trump administration knows where all the children are and will be able to reunite them with their parents.

"That is what they're claiming," Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., said on CNN's "State of the Union."

The fact sheet states that ICE has implemented an identification mechanism to ensure ongoing tracking of linked family members throughout the detention and removal process; designated detention locations for separated parents and will enhance current processes to ensure communication with children in HHS custody; worked closely with foreign consulates to ensure that travel documents are issued for both the parent and child at time of removal; and coordinated with HHS for the reuniting of the child prior to the parents' departure from the U.S.

As part of the effort, ICE officials have posted notices in all its facilities advising detained parents who are trying to find or communicate with their children to call a hotline staffed 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 26 of 52

A parent or guardian trying to determine if a child is in the custody of HHS should contact the Office of Refugee Resettlement National Call Center at 1-800-203-7001, or via email at information@ORRNCC.com. Information will be collected and sent to an HHS-funded facility where a minor is located.

But it's unclear whether detained parents have access to computers to send an email, or how their phone systems work to call out. Attorneys at the border have said they have been frantically trying to locate information about the children on behalf of their clients.

Garcia, the Annunciation House director, said his experience has been that telephone contact doesn't provide any information.

"If we bring in 30 cellphones, they're going to call that number, they're not going to reach 30 children," said Garcia, whose organization has been working with federal authorities to assist immigrants for 40 years. "Actually (they're) not going to be able to give them any information on what to expect."

Customs and Border Patrol said it had reunited 522 children and that some were never taken into custody by Health and Human Services because their parents' criminal cases were processed too quickly. Officials have said as many as 2,300 children had been separated from the time the policy began until June 9. It's not clear if any of the 2,000 remaining children were taken into custody after June 9.

The "zero-tolerance policy" of criminally prosecuting anyone caught illegally crossing the border remains in effect, officials have said, despite confusion on the ground on how to carry out Trump's order. Justice Department officials asked a federal judge to amend a class-action settlement that governs how children are treated in immigration custody. Right now, children can only be detained with their families for 20 days; Trump officials are seeking to detain them together indefinitely as their cases progress. Advocates say family detention does not solve the problem.

Online:

HHS zero-tolerance prosecution and family reunification fact sheet:

<http://apne.ws/qjYtmJR>

Office of Refugee Resettlement National Call Center:

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/resource/orr-national-call-center>

Thousands flee as flames race across dry rural California

CLEARLAKE OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Wind-driven wildfires destroyed buildings and threatened hundreds of others as they raced across dry brush in rural Northern California.

The Pawnee Fire, which broke out Saturday near the community of Clearlake Oaks, has destroyed 12 buildings and threatened an additional 600. As of Sunday, there was no containment and it burned across about 12 square miles (31 sq. kilometers). Authorities ordered people to evacuate all homes in the Spring Valley area, where about 3,000 people live.

"What we're stressing is that people, when they get the evacuation order, they heed it immediately and get out and stay out until it is safe to return," state Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Battalion Chief Jonathan Cox said. "This is one of four large fires burning in Northern California. It's a good reminder that fire season is upon us."

Erratic wind and heat gripping a swath of California from San Jose to the Oregon border drove the flames, which were north of the wine country region where devastating wildfires killed 44 people and destroyed thousands of homes and businesses last October.

Farther north, a fire spanning about three-quarters of a mile in Tehama County destroyed "multiple residential and commercial buildings," Cal Fire said. But firefighters appeared to be making good progress — the Stoll Fire was halfway contained and some evacuees were allowed to return home, authorities said.

A second fire in Tehama County consumed 5.5 square miles (14 square kilometers), but no buildings were reported burned. The so-called Lane Fire threatened 200 structures and some homes had been evacuated, Cox said. It was 10 percent contained.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 27 of 52

A fire in neighboring Shasta County grew to 1.6 square miles (4.14 sq. kilometers) and was 20 percent contained. The so-called Creek Fire had damaged no structures but did prompt evacuations.

The cause of each blaze was under investigation Sunday. No one was reported hurt.

More than 230 firefighters using helicopters, bulldozers and other equipment were battling the Pawnee Fire in a rugged area that made it difficult to get equipment up close.

"It's kind of the worst possible combination," Cox said.

Matthew Henderson, who was in the area taking photographs, said he saw the fire jump a road at one point, briefly cutting off access to part of Spring Valley until firefighters pushed it back.

In Texas, Trump's steel tariff stirs uncertainty and concern

By RICHARD LARDNER, Associated Press

BAYTOWN, Texas (AP) — Joel Johnson examines the shipping labels on 35-ton coils of American-made steel that will be unspooled, bent and welded into rounded sections of pipe.

One's from Nucor, a mill in Arkansas. Another's from Steel Dynamics in Mississippi. But much harder to spot in the sprawling factory yard is the imported steel that's put his company in the crosshairs of President Donald Trump's bitter trade dispute with America's allies and adversaries.

Trump says his tariffs on steel, aluminum and other goods will put U.S. companies and workers on stronger footing by winding back the clock of globalization with protectionist trade policies. But the steel tariff — essentially a 25 percent tax — may backfire on the very people the president is aiming to help. The Commerce Department has been deluged with requests from 20,000 companies seeking exemptions.

Johnson is the CEO of Borusan Mannesmann Pipe US, a company with Turkish roots that manufactures the welded pipe used by energy companies to pull oil and natural gas out of the earth. He has been fighting an uphill battle to get a two-year exemption from Trump's tariff on steel imports.

Without a waiver, Johnson said, Borusan faces levies of up to \$30 million a year — a staggering sum for a business with plans to expand.

"We don't have any proof we're being heard," Johnson said.

Eighty miles southwest, in Bay City, global steel giant Tenaris also is seeking an exemption from the tariffs. The company churns out steel pipe in a \$1.8 billion state-of-the-art facility that began operating late last year, using solid rods of steel called billets that are made in its mills in Mexico, Romania, Italy and Argentina. Of the four, only Argentina has agreed to limit steel shipments to the U.S. in exchange for being spared the tariff.

"The decision is out of our hands," said Luca Zanotti, president of Tenaris's U.S. operations, while expressing confidence its request would be approved. If it's not? "We'll adapt," he said.

Steelworkers, meanwhile, are cheering the tariff even as they remain skeptical of Trump's pledge to empower blue-collar Americans. They also worry about the possibility of too many exemptions.

"You put these tariffs (in place) but now you're going to exclude everybody so they're kind of pointless," said Durwin Royal, president of United Steelworkers' Local 4134 in Lone Star, Texas.

The diverse views illustrate the complexity, confusion and concern lurking behind Trump's "America First" pledge.

Pipe mills are numerous in Texas, which leads the country in oil and natural gas production. Factories that use imported steel typically do so when they can't get the exact type or quantity they need from U.S. producers. Many of them are among the thousands of companies that have filed exclusion requests to avoid being hit by the steel tariff.

Most of them are in the dark, unsure if their applications will be approved as the Commerce Department struggles to process a dramatically higher number of requests than it expected to receive.

A denial may torpedo plans to expand a factory. Or a company may have to lay off employees. The stakes are especially high in Texas: Economists Joseph Francois and Laura Baughman have estimated the Trump steel tariff and separate 10 percent tariff on imported aluminum will trigger the loss of more than 40,000 jobs.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 28 of 52

There's no playbook to guide companies through an exemption process Johnson described as chaotic and unpredictable. He's hired a lobbyist, former New York Gov. George Pataki. He's fending off opposition from competitors, including a Tenaris-owned business, who want Borusan's request denied.

On a sweltering afternoon earlier this month, Johnson assembled dozens of his employees in an air-conditioned room for what amounted to a Hail Mary pass. After lunching on sandwiches from Chick-fil-A, Borusan workers wrote personal messages on oversized postcards to be sent to Trump and other senior officials in Washington and Austin, the Texas capital, pleading for their help in securing the tariff exemption.

"I don't know what motivates politicians besides votes," Johnson said. "That's why we're doing this crazy exercise."

UNION BLUE

Royal is in his third term as the president of Local 4134.

He and the local's vice president, Trey Green, are union Democrats in the heart of Trump country. Lone Star is in Morris County, Texas, where Trump received nearly 70 percent of the vote in the 2016 presidential election. Royal and Green initially backed independent Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders before casting their votes for Democrat Hillary Clinton.

Their union hall is a mile and a half from the U.S. Steel factory that manufactures welded pipe made from metal produced in the company's mills in Indiana and Illinois. Like the union, U.S. Steel backed Trump's tariff, declaring that his action would "level the playing field" by blocking other countries from dumping inexpensive steel in the United States. Much of it comes from China.

Although Royal and Green were heartened by the steel tariff, they said they're under no illusion Trump is a friend to organized labor. Nor are they convinced his tough talk on trade will lead to a rebuilt U.S. steel industry with more and better jobs. Echoing Sanders, they called for a broader strategy to prevent corporations from sending American jobs to low-wage countries.

"I don't know that putting tariffs on just one or two particular items are going to be the mainstay that helps us in the future," Green said.

Royal and Green said they're still waiting for Trump to follow through on his pledge to empower working-class Americans that he said were "forgotten" by Washington.

"So much money is in politics now it's kind of drowning people like us out," Royal said. "We're not going to take (a congressman) to dinner and buy him a new set of golf clubs or give \$250,000 toward his campaign. You can tell who's got the loudest voice there."

COST OF DOING BUSINESS

The Tenaris factory is a massive, modern facility just off the highway leading into Bay City, 21 miles from the Gulf of Mexico. About 640 people work here, but only a handful come into direct contact with the 50,000 tons of pipe the 1.2 million-square-foot factory is able to manufacture each month. The process is almost entirely automated, watched over by employees huddled in front of computer screens.

The company manufactures seam-free pipe typically used in offshore energy production or for transporting highly corrosive gas.

Tenaris began construction of the Bay City plant five years ago, long before anyone anticipated an American president would slap a tariff on steel. Zanotti declined to say how much Tenaris may have to pay, but he downplayed the expense as a cost of doing business on a global scale. Tenaris operates in 16 countries, including Nigeria, which ranks 145 out of 190 countries on the World Bank's "ease of doing business" index.

"Of course we don't like it," Zanotti said of the tariff.

But, he added, "we're used to dealing with moving parts. This is another moving part."

The company doesn't have a registered lobbyist in Washington, let alone an office. But Tenaris has deep pockets and is in the U.S. for the long haul.

Zanotti said the company has spent \$8 billion over the last decade to expand its foothold in America, a figure he doesn't think the Commerce Department should overlook. The investment includes the Bay City

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 29 of 52

factory and the acquisition of the Maverick Tube Corporation, based in Houston. Like Borusan and U.S. Steel, Maverick makes pipe with a welded seam.

"We're positive we're going to get a good conclusion," Zanotti said.

LET'S MAKE A DEAL

Johnson said he has a proposition for a president who prides himself on being a master dealmaker.

About 60 percent of Borusan's welded pipe is manufactured with American-made steel. The rest is shipped from Turkey already in tube form; it's heat-treated, threaded and inspected in Baytown. Johnson is proposing that Borusan be allowed to bring in 135,000 tons of Turkish pipe each year for the next two years, tariff-free. In return, the company will build a new factory, right next to its existing plant.

That's a \$75 million investment that will allow Borusan to hire 170 new employees, augmenting its existing workforce of 267, according to Johnson. The expanded capacity also will allow Borusan to wean itself from the Turkish imports. He said he's gotten no reply to his pitch.

The company brought ex-Gov. Pataki, a Republican, on board in March and has paid him \$75,000 to drum up support in Washington. But Johnson said he's unsure if Pataki's made a difference.

"We're not politicians. We make pipe," he said. "We felt like that was a move we had to make because we are so far out of our element."

Johnson said he had for weeks unsuccessfully sought support from GOP Rep. Brian Babin, whose district includes Baytown. Babin wrote to Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross on Thursday, expressing his strong support for Borusan's request and urging Ross to give it "your highest consideration."

"Finally," Johnson said.

The Commerce Department has been posting the thousands of requests for tariff exemptions online to allow third parties to offer comments and objections — even competitors who have an interest in seeing a rival's request denied. Several of them, including U.S. Steel and Tenaris-owned Maverick Tube, objected to Borusan's bid, saying the Turkish pipe it imports is readily available from American suppliers. They added that Turkey has been cited by the Commerce Department for dumping steel pipe in the U.S.

But Johnson said the objections are aimed at undercutting Borusan. He said no U.S. pipe mill is serious about selling to him because he'd want very detailed information about their products — such as the composition of the steel and a history of customer complaints.

"They just don't want to see another factory go up here," Johnson said. "They don't want to see a competitor grow."

Contact Richard Lardner on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/rplardner>

Mattis focusing on strategic security issues in China talks

By LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska (AP) — Defense Secretary Jim Mattis laid out plans for a less contentious, more open dialogue with Chinese leaders as he travels to Asia, less than a month after he slammed Beijing at an international conference for its militarization of islands in the South China Sea.

Speaking to reporters on his plane Sunday en route to a stop in Alaska, Mattis avoided any of the sharp criticism of China that he had voiced recently. Instead, he insisted that he is going into the talks with Chinese leaders without any preconceived notions, and wants to focus on larger, more strategic security issues.

According to officials, a key topic of the discussions later this week will be the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the role China can play, considering its longstanding friendship with North Korea.

"I want to go in right now without basically poisoning the well at this point. I'm going there to have a conversation," said Mattis. "I do not want to immediately go in with a certain preset expectation of what they are going to say. I want to go in and do a lot of listening."

Mattis' more diplomatic tack reflects the U.S. administration's recognition of China's crucial influence on Korea as negotiations move ahead to get North Korea to abandon its nuclear program.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 30 of 52

One senior U.S. official said that while Mattis will willingly lay out America's position on China's military buildup in the South China Sea and other points of contention, the Pentagon chief doesn't want to open the conversations with "the irritants." Instead, the goal is to have higher quality talks about the two countries' military relationship, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations on the trip.

Last month, however, Mattis abruptly disinvited China from a multinational exercise in the Pacific that will begin in a few days, in retribution for Beijing putting weapons systems on manmade islands in the South China Sea. And days later he publicly threatened "much larger consequences in the future" if the militarization continued.

China recently has deployed anti-ship missiles, surface-to-air missiles, electronic jammers and other equipment on the Spratly Islands, and landed a bomber aircraft at Woody Island. China says it is within its rights to build up defenses on islands in the South China Sea that it believes are its sovereign territory.

Many nations fear that Beijing will use the construction on the islands to extend its military reach and potentially try to restrict navigation in the South China Sea.

It's all but certain the Chinese will raise those issues with Mattis, as well as Beijing's long-held opposition to increasing U.S. contacts with Taiwan. China claims the self-ruled island as its territory.

For the U.S., however, North Korea will be a primary topic in the talks with senior Chinese leaders. And while the U.S. would like to see China use its influence to reinforce the denuclearization negotiations with North Korea, it also wants Beijing to remain committed to enforcing sanctions against the North, as part of the pressure campaign.

China also is likely pleased that the U.S. has suspended any major military exercises with South Korea as part of the nuclear negotiations.

Mattis said Sunday that the Pentagon cancelled two Marine military exchanges as well as the larger Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise this fall, because the defense department considered them consistent with what President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un had agreed on at the summit about two weeks ago.

The U.S. has also long been frustrated that China doesn't share much information about any war scenarios or other contingencies it has in place in the event of a conflict on the Korean peninsula or the collapse of the North Korean government.

By improving its relationship with Beijing, Washington believes it could better prepare for any problems and be able to coordinate more effectively with China.

This is Mattis' first trip to China, both personally and as defense secretary. He said he has been in Hong Kong several times. The last Pentagon chief to visit China was Chuck Hagel in April 2014.

But both Mattis and his immediate predecessor, Ash Carter, have spent a great deal of time in Asia, in the wake of the much-vaunted U.S. increased emphasis on the Indo-Pacific region. Mattis has traveled to Asia seven times during his 17-month tenure as defense secretary, and this marks his third visit so far this year.

During his stop in Alaska, Mattis will visit a key element of the America's missile defense system at Fort Greely, the strategic missile interceptors. Sen. Dan Sullivan, R-Alaska, flew with Mattis from Washington and is expected to go to Fort Greely with him.

The Pentagon budget calls for increasing the number of interceptors from 44 to 64, and that additional 20 will be located at Fort Greely. Critics question the reliability of the interceptors, arguing that years of testing has yet to prove them to be sufficiently effective against a sophisticated threat.

In addition, Mattis will travel to South Korea and Japan to meet with his defense counterparts as well as other national leaders.

Trump says people from Mexico 'invade' US

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump compares people entering the U.S. from Mexico to invaders and says they should be immediately sent back without appearing before a judge.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 31 of 52

The American Civil Liberties Union said in response that such a step would be illegal and violate the Constitution that Trump swore to uphold.

"We cannot allow all of these people to invade our Country," the president said on Twitter as he was being driven to his private golf club in Northern Virginia. "When somebody comes in, we must immediately, with no Judges or Court Cases, bring them back from where they came. Our system is a mockery to good immigration policy and Law and Order."

"Most children come without parents ... Our Immigration policy, laughed at all over the world, is very unfair to all of those people who have gone through the system legally and are waiting on line for years!" he continued. "Immigration must be based on merit - we need people who will help to Make America Great Again!"

"What President Trump has suggested here is both illegal and unconstitutional," said Omar Jadwat, director of the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project. "Any official who has sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution and laws should disavow it unequivocally."

Trump has been criticizing immigration judges for weeks, both exaggerating the number currently hearing cases and saying that hiring more — as some members of Congress have proposed — would be unnecessary.

Trump made his anti-illegal immigration stance a centerpiece of his presidential campaign and he has pushed for strict policies since taking office. He said during a campaign appearance Saturday in Las Vegas that being for "strong borders, no crime" is a winning issue for Republicans to run on in November's congressional elections.

But he bowed to public pressure last week and reversed a policy of separating adults and children who enter the U.S. illegally together at the border with Mexico, though his "zero-tolerance" policy of criminally prosecuting all illegal border-crossers remains.

The House is expected to vote on immigration legislation this week, though its fate is uncertain.

Trump told House Republicans last week that he was "100 percent" behind the effort but tweeted days later that they were "wasting their time" voting before the midterm elections.

About a dozen protesters gathered at the entrance to Trump's club Sunday afternoon as he prepared to leave, including a woman holding a sign that said "Trump Should Be Caged" and a man wrapped in a Mylar blanket. Some of the separated children were seen using the blankets on government-distributed video of their holding conditions.

Further up the road, a lone man stood with a sign with Trump's headshot and the words "Thank You."

Follow Darlene Superville on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/dsupervilleap>

Trump tells Jimmy Fallon to 'be a man' over hair-mussing

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is telling "Tonight Show" host Jimmy Fallon to "be a man" and stop "whimpering" about the personal anguish he felt over the backlash he received after messing up Trump's hair during a 2016 campaign appearance on Fallon's late-night talk show.

Fallon recently told The Hollywood Reporter that he "made a mistake" on the Sept. 15, 2016, episode and would do it differently.

The comments didn't appear to sit well with Trump.

The president tweeted Sunday: ".@jimmyfallon is now whimpering to all that he did the famous 'hair show' with me (where he seriously messed up my hair), & that he would have now done it differently because it is said to have 'humanized' me-he is taking heat. He called & said 'monster ratings.' Be a man Jimmy!"

Fallon responded on Twitter with a nod to the plight of young immigrants caught up in administration policies.

"In honor of the President's tweet I'll be making a donation to RAICES in his name," Fallon said, referring to a nonprofit organization that provides free and low-cost legal services to immigrant children, families and refugees in Texas.

Mattis seeks less contentious visit with Chinese

By LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska (AP) — Defense Secretary Jim Mattis laid out plans for a less contentious, more open dialogue with Chinese leaders as he travels to Asia, less than a month after he slammed Beijing at an international conference for its militarization of islands in the South China Sea.

Speaking to reporters on his plane Sunday en route to a stop in Alaska, Mattis avoided any of the sharp criticism of China that he had voiced recently. Instead, he insisted that he is going into the talks with Chinese leaders without any preconceived notions, and wants to focus on larger, more strategic security issues.

According to officials, a key topic of the discussions later this week will be the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the role China can play, considering its longstanding friendship with North Korea.

"I want to go in right now without basically poisoning the well at this point. I'm going there to have a conversation," said Mattis. "I do not want to immediately go in with a certain preset expectation of what they are going to say. I want to go in and do a lot of listening."

Mattis' more diplomatic tack reflects the U.S. administration's recognition of China's crucial influence on Korea as negotiations move ahead to get North Korea to abandon its nuclear program.

One senior U.S. official said that while Mattis will willingly lay out America's position on China's military buildup in the South China Sea and other points of contention, the Pentagon chief doesn't want to open the conversations with "the irritants." Instead, the goal is to have higher quality talks about the two countries' military relationship, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations on the trip.

Last month, however, Mattis abruptly disinvited China from a multinational exercise in the Pacific that will begin in a few days, in retribution for Beijing putting weapons systems on manmade islands in the South China Sea. And days later he publicly threatened "much larger consequences in the future" if the militarization continued.

China recently has deployed anti-ship missiles, surface-to-air missiles, electronic jammers and other equipment on the Spratly Islands, and landed a bomber aircraft at Woody Island. China says it is within its rights to build up defenses on islands in the South China Sea that it believes are its sovereign territory.

Many nations fear that Beijing will use the construction on the islands to extend its military reach and potentially try to restrict navigation in the South China Sea.

It's all but certain the Chinese will raise those issues with Mattis, as well as Beijing's long-held opposition to increasing U.S. contacts with Taiwan. China claims the self-ruled island as its territory.

For the U.S., however, North Korea will be a primary topic in the talks with senior Chinese leaders. And while the U.S. would like to see China use its influence to reinforce the denuclearization negotiations with North Korea, it also wants Beijing to remain committed to enforcing sanctions against the North, as part of the pressure campaign.

China also is likely pleased that the U.S. has suspended any major military exercises with South Korea as part of the nuclear negotiations.

Mattis said Sunday that the Pentagon cancelled two Marine military exchanges as well as the larger Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercise this fall, because the defense department considered them consistent with what President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un had agreed on at the summit about two weeks ago.

The U.S. has also long been frustrated that China doesn't share much information about any war scenarios or other contingencies it has in place in the event of a conflict on the Korean peninsula or the collapse of the North Korean government.

By improving its relationship with Beijing, Washington believes it could better prepare for any problems and be able to coordinate more effectively with China.

This is Mattis' first trip to China, both personally and as defense secretary. He said he has been in Hong Kong several times. The last Pentagon chief to visit China was Chuck Hagel in April 2014.

But both Mattis and his immediate predecessor, Ash Carter, have spent a great deal of time in Asia, in

the wake of the much-vaunted U.S. increased emphasis on the Indo-Pacific region. Mattis has traveled to Asia seven times during his 17-month tenure as defense secretary, and this marks his third visit so far this year.

During his stop in Alaska, Mattis will visit a key element of the America's missile defense system at Fort Greely, the strategic missile interceptors. Sen. Dan Sullivan, R-Alaska, flew with Mattis from Washington and is expected to go to Fort Greely with him.

The Pentagon budget calls for increasing the number of interceptors from 44 to 64, and that additional 20 will be located at Fort Greely. Critics question the reliability of the interceptors, arguing that years of testing has yet to prove them to be sufficiently effective against a sophisticated threat.

In addition, Mattis will travel to South Korea and Japan to meet with his defense counterparts as well as other national leaders.

Reunification prospects unclear for freed immigrant parents

By COLLEEN LONG, WILL WEISSERT and JOHN L. MONE, Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A Texas charitable organization says 32 immigrant parents separated from their children after crossing the U.S.-Mexico border were freed into its care Sunday, but they don't know where their kids are or when they might see them again despite government assurances that family reunification would be well organized.

The release is believed to be the first, large one of its kind since President Donald Trump signed an executive order Wednesday that preserved a "zero-tolerance" policy for entering the country illegally but ended the practice of separating immigrant parents and children. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement offered no immediate comment.

Ruben Garcia, director of Annunciation House in El Paso, said the group of both mothers and fathers includes some from Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras who arrived to his group after federal authorities withdrew criminal charges for illegal entry. He didn't release names or personal details to protect the parents' privacy, and Homeland Security officials said they needed more specifics in order to check out their cases.

A Saturday night fact sheet by the Department of Homeland Security and other agencies said authorities know the location of all children in custody after separating them from their families at the border and are working to reunite them. It called the reunification process "well coordinated."

It also said parents must request that their child be deported with them. In the past, the fact sheet says, many parents elected to be deported without their children. That may be a reflection of violence or persecution they face in their home countries.

It doesn't state how long it might take to reunite families. Texas' Port Isabel Service Processing Center has been set up as the staging ground for the families to be reunited prior to deportation.

How the government would reunite families has been unclear because they are first stopped by U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, with children taken into custody by the Department of Health and Human Services and adults detained through ICE, which is under the Department of Homeland Security. Children have been sent to far-flung shelters around the country, raising alarm that parents might never know where their children can be found.

At least 2,053 minors who were separated at the border were being cared for in HHS-funded facilities, the fact sheet said.

The chairman of the Senate Homeland Security Committee hedged Sunday when pressed on whether he was confident the Trump administration knows where all the children are and will be able to reunite them with their parents.

"That is what they're claiming," Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., said on CNN's "State of the Union."

The fact sheet states that ICE has implemented an identification mechanism to ensure ongoing tracking of linked family members throughout the detention and removal process; designated detention locations for separated parents and will enhance current processes to ensure communication with children in HHS

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 34 of 52

custody; worked closely with foreign consulates to ensure that travel documents are issued for both the parent and child at time of removal; and coordinated with HHS for the reuniting of the child prior to the parents' departure from the U.S.

As part of the effort, ICE officials have posted notices in all its facilities advising detained parents who are trying to find or communicate with their children to call a hotline staffed 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday.

A parent or guardian trying to determine if a child is in the custody of HHS should contact the Office of Refugee Resettlement National Call Center at 1-800-203-7001, or via email at information@ORRNCC.com. Information will be collected and sent to an HHS-funded facility where a minor is located.

But it's unclear whether detained parents have access to computers to send an email, or how their phone systems work to call out. Attorneys at the border have said they have been frantically trying to locate information about the children on behalf of their clients.

Garcia, the Annunciation House director, said his experience has been that telephone contact doesn't provide any information.

"If we bring in 30 cellphones, they're going to call that number, they're not going to reach 30 children," said Garcia, whose organization has been working with federal authorities to assist immigrants for 40 years. "Actually (they're) not going to be able to give them any information on what to expect."

Customs and Border Patrol said it had reunited 522 children and that some were never taken into custody by Health and Human Services because their parents' criminal cases were processed too quickly. Officials have said as many as 2,300 children had been separated from the time the policy began until June 9. It's not clear if any of the 2,000 remaining children were taken into custody after June 9.

The "zero-tolerance policy" of criminally prosecuting anyone caught illegally crossing the border remains in effect, officials have said, despite confusion on the ground on how to carry out Trump's order. Justice Department officials asked a federal judge to amend a class-action settlement that governs how children are treated in immigration custody. Right now, children can only be detained with their families for 20 days; Trump officials are seeking to detain them together indefinitely as their cases progress. Advocates say family detention does not solve the problem.

Online:

HHS zero-tolerance prosecution and family reunification fact sheet:

<http://apne.ws/qjYtmJR>

Office of Refugee Resettlement National Call Center:

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/orr/resource/orr-national-call-center>

Pentagon says 2 bases to house immigrants

By LOLITA C. BALDOR, Associated Press

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska (AP) — The Pentagon is preparing to build temporary camps for immigrants at two military bases, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said Sunday.

He did not name the two bases, but said the details are being worked out, including how much capacity is needed. The Pentagon had initially talked about four potential bases, but Mattis indicated the number is now two.

The Pentagon last week said it would make space available on military bases for as many as 20,000 unaccompanied migrant children detained after illegally crossing the U.S.-Mexico border. It wasn't clear Sunday if the housing would be limited strictly to children or if it would also involve families.

Speaking to reporters traveling with him to Asia on Sunday, Mattis said the military has housed people in the past, including Vietnamese fleeing their country as well as Americans needing shelter in the wake of natural disasters.

"We consider that to be a logistics function that's quite appropriate" for the department, Mattis said.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 35 of 52

The request for temporary shelter — amid a growing political battle over detained migrants — was made by the Department of Health and Human Services and accepted by the Defense Department.

HHS has assessed facilities on four military bases: Little Rock Air Force Base in Arkansas, plus three bases in Texas: Dyess Air Force Base, Goodfellow Air Force Base and Fort Bliss.

The Pentagon has said it will have no role in operating the temporary shelters, which would be controlled by HHS.

A Pentagon memo to members of Congress, obtained by The Associated Press, said it has been asked to have the facilities available as early as July, through the end of the year.

Erdogan proclaimed winner of Turkey's presidential election

By ZEYNEP BILGINSOY, ELENA BECATOROS and SUZAN FRASER, Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was proclaimed the winner early Monday of a landmark election that ushers in a government system granting the president sweeping new powers and which critics say will cement what they call a one-man rule.

The presidential vote and a parliamentary election, both held more than a year early, completed NATO-member Turkey's transition from a parliamentary system to a presidential one, a process started with a voter referendum last year.

"The nation has entrusted to me the responsibility of the presidency and the executive duty," Erdogan said in televised remarks from Istanbul after a near-complete count carried by the state-run Anadolu news agency gave him the majority needed to avoid a runoff.

The head of Turkey's Supreme Election Council, Sadi Guven, declared Erdogan the winner early Monday after 97.7 of votes had been counted. The electoral board plans to announce final official results on June 29.

Based on unofficial results, five parties passed the 10 percent support threshold required for parties to enter parliament, Guven said.

"This election's victor is democracy, this election's victory is national will," Erdogan told a cheering crowd outside his party headquarters in Ankara early Monday, adding that Turkey "will look at its future with so much more trust than it did this morning."

Earlier, cheering Erdogan supporters waving Turkish flags gathered outside his official residence in Istanbul, chanting "Here's the president, here's the commander."

"Justice has been served!" said Cihan Yigici, one of those in the crowd.

Thousands of jubilant supporters of the pro-Kurdish Peoples' Democratic Party, or HDP, also spilled into the streets of the predominantly Kurdish southeastern city of Diyarbakir after unofficial results from Anadolu showed the party surpassing the 10 percent threshold and coming in third with 11.5 percent of the parliamentary vote.

The HDP's performance was a success, particularly considering it campaigned with nine of its lawmakers, including its presidential candidate Selahattin Demirtas, and thousands of party members in jail. It says more than 350 of its election workers have been detained since April 28.

Revelers waved HDP flags and blared car horns. One party supporter, Nejdet Erke, said he had been "waiting for this emotion" since the morning.

Erdogan, 64, insisted the expanded powers of the Turkish presidency will bring prosperity and stability to the country, especially after a failed military coup attempt in 2016. A state of emergency imposed after the coup remains in place.

Some 50,000 people have been arrested and 110,000 civil servants have been fired under the emergency, which opposition lawmakers say Erdogan has used to stifle dissent.

The new system of government abolished the office of prime minister and empowers the president to take over an executive branch and form the government. He will appoint ministers, vice presidents and high-level bureaucrats, issue decrees, prepare the budget and decide on security policies.

The Turkish Parliament will legislate and have the right to ratify or reject the budget. With Erdogan remaining at the helm of his party, a loyal parliamentary majority could reduce checks and balances on his

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 36 of 52

power unless the opposition can wield an effective challenge.

Erdogan's apparent win comes at a critical time for Turkey. He recently has led a high-stakes foreign affairs gamble, cozying up to Russian President Vladimir Putin with pledges to install a Russian missile defense system in the NATO-member country.

The president's critics have warned that Erdogan's re-election would cement his already firm grip on power and embolden a leader they accuse of showing increasingly autocratic tendencies.

According to Anadolu, the near-complete results showed Erdogan winning an outright majority of 52.5 percent, far ahead of the 30.7 percent received by his main challenger, the secular Muharrem Ince.

The HDP's imprisoned Demirtas was in third place with 8.3 percent according to Anadolu. Demirtas has been jailed pending trial on terrorism-related charges he has called trumped-up and politically motivated.

But Ince said the results carried on Anadolu were not a true reflection of the official vote count by the country's electoral board. The main opposition party that nominated him for the presidency, the CHP, said it was waiting for the commission's official announcement.

Erdogan also declared victory for the People's Alliance, an electoral coalition between his ruling Justice and Development Party and the small Nationalist Movement Party, saying they had a "parliamentary majority" in the 600-member assembly.

The unofficial results for the parliamentary election showed Erdogan's Justice and Development Party, or AKP, losing its majority, with 293 seats in the 600-seat legislature. However, the small nationalist party the AKP was allied with garnered 49 seats.

"Even though we could not reach our goal in parliament, God willing we will be working to solve that with all our efforts in the People's Alliance," Erdogan said.

The president, who has never lost an election and has been in power since 2003, initially as prime minister, had faced a more robust, united opposition than ever before. Opposition candidates had vowed to return Turkey to a parliamentary democracy with strong checks and balances and have decried what they call Erdogan's "one-man rule."

Erdogan enjoys considerable support in the conservative and pious heartland, having empowered previously disenfranchised groups. From a modest background himself, he presided over an infrastructure boom that modernized Turkey and lifted many out of poverty while also raising Islam's profile, for instance by lifting a ban on Islamic headscarves in schools and public offices.

But critics say he became increasingly autocratic and intolerant of dissent. The election campaign was heavily skewed in his favor, with opposition candidates struggling to get their speeches aired on television in a country where Erdogan directly or indirectly controls most of the media.

Ince, a 54-year-old former physics teacher, was backed by the center-left opposition Republican People's Party, or CHP. He wooed crowds with an unexpectedly engaging campaign, drawing massive numbers at his rallies in Turkey's three main cities of Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir.

More than 59 million Turkish citizens, including 3 million expatriates, were eligible to vote.

Fraser reported from Ankara. Bram Janssen in Istanbul, Sinan Yilmaz in Diyarbakir and Mehmet Guzel in Ankara contributed.

Fraser reported from Ankara. Bram Janssen in Istanbul, Sinan Yilmaz in Diyarbakir and Mehmet Guzel in Ankara contributed.

'Ready, fire, aim' - critics see pattern to Trump's approach

By KEN THOMAS and DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Maybe it's not so easy after all. President Donald Trump's struggles to push immigration legislation through Congress and his about-face on breaking up immigrant families are putting a spotlight on his competence in carrying out his policies.

The fallout from Trump's handling of the separation of immigrant children from their families, which led

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 37 of 52

to a sharp reversal from the president, has been reminiscent of the chaos sparked when Trump opened his administration by imposing a travel ban on immigrants entering from majority Muslim countries.

Taken together, the events demonstrate how little Trump appears to have learned or adjusted his approach after that first rocky encounter with governing. From issue to issue, from immigration to health care to trade and more, Trump's pattern has been to outline a plan with scant concern or preparation for its immediate impact or consequences, and to make changes on the fly with the same lack of planning.

The result has often gone far beyond bureaucratic confusion, and has, at times, inflicted painful and unexpected consequences on people's lives.

"It's not something that appreciates these young children and was certainly done in a 'ready, fire, aim' way, obviously," said Republican Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee, describing the administration's immigration policy. "There was no preparation for it."

Trump implemented a major new policy this spring with no apparent plan or new resources to handle the influx of people who would be detained and prosecuted as a result. When a public outcry ensued, the administration could not answer basic questions about it. Trump then changed the way the policy worked — leaving officials within the administration and at the border confused on how to enact the changes. Plus, it took several days for the government to say how it planned to reunite families and where the separated children were located.

Trump's struggles on immigration follow his failure last year to repeal the so-called Obamacare law, a central tenet of GOP orthodoxy since President Barack Obama signed it into law in 2010, and the president's uneven implementation of his travel ban, which will be the subject of a Supreme Court ruling this week. New tariffs have strained relationships with European and North American allies and his Middle East peace plan is still under development amid a standoff with the Palestinians after he said the decades-old problem wouldn't be hard to solve.

Trump has often mused since the 2016 presidential campaign that it would be "so easy" to pass a sweeping immigration law and construct a "big, beautiful" border wall, paid for by Mexico. Earlier this week, he tweeted that his Democratic leadership adversaries in Congress, Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York and Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California, would be "forced to do a real deal, so easy, that solves this long time problem."

But the upcoming week could offer fresh evidence that the reality of governing is much more challenging.

Republicans are seeking to steer an immigration bill through the House despite skepticism among conservatives and uncertainty about Trump's commitment to the plan. The president told House Republicans he was "1,000 percent" behind their effort last week but then suggested just three days later on Twitter that Republicans wait until after the fall midterm elections.

Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Texas, the chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, said he received assurances from the White House during the weekend that Trump was "still 100 percent behind us." But the fate of the bill remains in doubt and it remains unclear if House Republicans could pass a narrower version that would only address the separation of children and their families.

Confusion has lingered over Trump's border policy, meanwhile. After a public uproar over the "zero tolerance" policy that led to more than 2,300 immigrant children being separated from their families near the Mexican border, the president signed an executive order last week for the children to be brought back together with their families. The order seeks to keep families together in detention instead of separating them while their legal cases are heard by the courts.

A 1997 landmark case known as the Flores settlement governs how children are handled in immigration custody and generally prevents the government from keeping them in detention, even with their parents, for more than 20 days. Trump is seeking to amend the agreement to allow for families to be detained indefinitely together. But Justice Department has said the 20-day policy remains in effect until Congress or the courts take action to change that.

That means if Congress fails to pass legislation or the courts decline to change the terms of the settlement, the administration could be forced to again separate the immigrant children from their parents in three weeks.

In the meantime, officials have issued conflicting signals over the state of the administration's policy and

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 38 of 52

some parents have said they don't yet know where their children are.

Trump tweeted Sunday that the U.S. "cannot allow all of these people to invade our Country." He said when someone attempts to enter illegally, "we must immediately, with no Judges or Court Cases, bring them back from where they came. Our system is a mockery to good immigration policy and Law and Order."

The American Civil Liberties Union said that is both illegal and unconstitutional.

Trump also continued to blame Democrats in the Republican-controlled Congress, saying House Republicans could "easily pass" a strong border security bill, but it would still have to pass the Senate "and for that we need 10 Democrat votes, and all they do is RESIST."

Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., a frequent Trump critic, said the problem was larger than a partisan fight.

"When the president says that and calls them clowns and losers, how does he expect the Democrats to sit down and work with Republicans on these issues? And so words matter. What the president says matters. And he ought to knock that off," Flake said.

Paul Light, a professor of public service at New York University, said the federal government is not the "agile instrument" for policy that Trump seems to think it is.

"It's very difficult to make a U-turn, then make another U-turn," Light said, adding that's exactly what Trump did last week in signing the executive order after he and other administration had insisted for days that their hands were tied and that only Congress had the power to step in and do something.

"He sees decisions like ordering at McDonald's. You order, it comes, good-bye," Light said. "That's not the way government works."

Corker spoke on CBS' "Face the Nation," McCaul spoke on "Fox News Sunday" and Flake appeared on ABC's "This Week."

Trump wants those who 'invade' sent right back

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Sunday compared people entering the U.S. from Mexico to invaders and said they should be immediately sent back without appearing before a judge.

The American Civil Liberties Union said in response that such a step would be illegal and violate the Constitution that Trump swore to uphold,

"We cannot allow all of these people to invade our Country," the president said on Twitter as he was being driven to his private golf club in Northern Virginia. "When somebody comes in, we must immediately, with no Judges or Court Cases, bring them back from where they came. Our system is a mockery to good immigration policy and Law and Order."

"Most children come without parents ... Our Immigration policy, laughed at all over the world, is very unfair to all of those people who have gone through the system legally and are waiting on line for years!" he continued. "Immigration must be based on merit - we need people who will help to Make America Great Again!"

"What President Trump has suggested here is both illegal and unconstitutional," said Omar Jadwat, director of the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project. "Any official who has sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution and laws should disavow it unequivocally."

Trump has been criticizing immigration judges for weeks, both exaggerating the number currently hearing cases and saying that hiring more — as some members of Congress have proposed — would be unnecessary.

Trump made his anti-illegal immigration stance a centerpiece of his presidential campaign and he has pushed for strict policies since taking office. He said during a campaign appearance Saturday in Las Vegas that being for "strong borders, no crime" is a winning issue for Republicans to run on in November's congressional elections.

But he bowed to public pressure last week and reversed a policy of separating adults and children who enter the U.S. illegally together at the border with Mexico, though his "zero-tolerance" policy of criminally prosecuting all illegal border-crossers remains.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 39 of 52

The House is expected to vote on immigration legislation this week, though its fate is uncertain. Trump told House Republicans last week that he was "100 percent" behind the effort but tweeted days later that they were "wasting their time" voting before the midterm elections.

About a dozen protesters gathered at the entrance to Trump's club Sunday afternoon as he prepared to leave, including a woman holding a sign that said "Trump Should Be Caged" and a man wrapped in a Mylar blanket. Some of the separated children were seen using the blankets on government-distributed video of their holding conditions.

Further up the road, a lone man stood with a sign with Trump's headshot and the words "Thank You."

Follow Darlene Superville on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/dsupervilleap>

Corporate America increasingly avoids gun-industry business

By LISA MARIE PANE, Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Ga. (AP) — With Gary Ramey's fledgling gun-making business taking off in retail stores, he decided to start offering one of his handguns for sale on his website.

That didn't sit well with the company he used to process payments, and they informed him they were dropping his account. Another credit card processing firm told him the same thing: They wouldn't do business with him.

The reason? His business of making firearms violates their policies.

In the wake of high-profile mass shootings, corporate America has been taking a stand against the firearms industry amid a lack of action by lawmakers on gun control. Payment processing firms are limiting transactions, Bank of America stopped providing financing to companies that make AR-style guns, and retailers like Walmart and Dick's Sporting Goods imposed age restrictions on gun purchases.

The moves are lauded by gun-safety advocates but criticized by the gun industry that views them as a backhanded way of undermining the Second Amendment. Gun industry leaders see the backlash as a real threat to their industry and are coming to the conclusion that they need additional protections in Congress to prevent financial retaliation from banks.

"If a few banks say 'No, we're not going to give loans to gun dealers or gun manufacturers', all of a sudden the industry is threatened and the Second Amendment doesn't mean much if there are no guns around," said Michael Hammond, legal counsel for Gun Owners of America. "If you can't make guns, if you can't sell guns, the Second Amendment doesn't mean much."

The issue has already gotten the attention of the Republican who is chairman of the Senate Banking Committee. Sen. Mike Crapo of Idaho sent letters criticizing Bank of America and Citigroup, which decided to restrict sales of firearms by its business customers, over their new gun rules in the wake of the Florida high school shooting in February.

"We should all be concerned if banks like yours seek to replace legislators and policy makers and attempt to manage social policy by limiting access to credit," Crapo wrote to Citigroup's chief executive.

Honor Defense is a small operation with a handful of employees that include Ramey's son and his wife who work out of a non-descript building in a Georgia office park north of Atlanta. In 2016, its first year, it sold 7,500 firearms. Its products — handcrafted 9mm handguns that come in a variety of colors — can now be found in more than 1,000 stores.

When Ramey noticed that neither Stripe nor Intuit would process payments through his site, he submitted a complaint with Georgia's attorney general's office, counting on help from a state law that prohibits discrimination by financial service firms against the gun industry. But the state rejected it, saying that credit card processing is not considered a financial service under state law.

He views the credit card issue as companies "infusing politics into business."

"We're just a small company trying to survive here," Ramey said. "It's hard enough competing with Smith & Wesson, Ruger and Sig Sauer."

The financial industry actions came amid a broader pushback by corporate America in the aftermath of

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 40 of 52

the Florida shooting. Delta and United Airlines stopped offering discounted fares to NRA members, as did the Hertz, Alamo and National rental car companies. First National Bank of Omaha, one of the nation's largest privately held banks, decided not to renew a co-branded Visa credit card with the NRA.

Walmart and Dick's Sporting Goods both decided they would no longer sell "assault weapons" or firearms to people under age 21. REI, an outdoor-gear shop that doesn't sell firearms, joined in and decided it would stop selling such items as ski goggles, water bottles and bike helmets made by companies whose parent firm, Vista Outdoor, manufactures ammunition and AR-style long guns.

There's been election-year response from some lawmakers, notably in Georgia where Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle, who is running for governor, led a move in the Legislature to kill a tax break on jet fuel to punish Atlanta-based Delta over its NRA actions. The move cost the airline an estimated \$40 million.

Gun-control advocates have applauded the efforts, saying it demonstrates responsible leadership at a time of paralysis in government. Experts say it's a sign that the business world views wading into the gun debate as not at all risky — and, in fact, potentially beneficial to their brand.

"Companies by and large avoid these issues like the plague and they only get involved — whether they're credit card companies or airlines — when they feel like doing nothing is as bad as doing something and they feel completely stuck," said Timothy D. Lytton, professor at Georgia State University's College of Law and author of "Suing the Gun Industry: A Battle at the Crossroads of Gun Control and Mass Torts."

The gun industry acknowledges that there's nothing requiring companies from doing business with gun manufacturers or dealers. Monthly reports from the federal government show background checks to purchase a firearm are up over last year so far, so the early actions apparently have not put a dent in sales.

Still, the industry believes it needs stronger laws against financial retaliation in the future.

"We may have to seek legislation to make sure it can't be done and that you can't discriminate against individuals from lawful exercise of a constitutional right," said Larry Keane, senior vice president and legal counsel for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which represents gunmakers. "Imagine if banks were to say you can't purchase books or certain books aren't acceptable. That would be problematic and I don't think anyone would stand for that kind of activity by the banking industry."

Trump to test his powers in South Carolina runoff

By MEG KINNARD, Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — President Donald Trump's effort to bend the Republican Party to his will faces its next test Tuesday, when South Carolina voters choose between two GOP gubernatorial candidates who both claim to be Trump acolytes.

The president has already made his pick: incumbent Gov. Henry McMaster, a longtime Trump supporter who failed to win the GOP primary outright earlier this month. McMaster is waging a runoff campaign against businessman John Warren, a first-time politico who some see as more like Trump himself.

Like so much in Trump's world, the race is coming down to a question of loyalty. The White House is throwing everything at its disposal into the race to save McMaster, who went out on a political limb for Trump at a crucial point in the 2016 Republican presidential primaries. Trump issued several tweets over the past week praising the governor and noting his loyalty. He dispatched Vice President Mike Pence to the state on Saturday. The president himself will stump for McMaster on Monday afternoon in West Columbia.

Loyalty to Trump is on the minds of South Carolinians as well. Voters in the state's coastal region surprised many political observers this month when they ousted Rep. Mark Sanford, a reliable conservative, but someone who criticized Trump. That critique had prompted Trump to endorse the congressman's opponent, who won the race.

When voters in South Carolina return to the polls Tuesday, they'll be deciding in part which is more meaningful: a Trump endorsement, or a candidate who embodies some of Trump's outsider credentials.

"I think that if anyone supported Donald Trump and they look and truly give an honest assessment of whose resume and whose background is more similar to Donald Trump, they will side with me," Warren told The Associated Press in a recent interview. "It is clear I'm an outsider. I am a businessman. I'm a

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 41 of 52

conservative. The establishment doesn't want me to get elected."

With all the attention coming from the White House, Winthrop University political scientist Scott Huffmon said it's impossible for voters to ignore the factor that the president could play in the race.

"Trump's obviously floating around over all of this. You have one candidate endorsed by Trump, but he's the consummate insider. But then you have a Trump-like candidate," Huffmon said. "When you have Trump's endorsement, but you're running against someone who is very Trump-like, you've got to switch gears and figure out the way you can undermine them."

South Carolina went solidly for Trump in 2016 and remains solid Republican territory. The winner on Tuesday will face Democrat James Smith in the general election.

Trump has been stung in some other races into which he's waded. In Alabama's GOP Senate primary last year, the president originally supported Sen. Luther Strange, who lost the nod to Roy Moore. Trump then stuck with Moore in the general election, even after he was hit with multiple allegations of sexual misconduct. Moore lost the race to Democrat Doug Jones. In a Pennsylvania district Trump carried in 2016 by 20 points, Republican Rick Saccone won Trump's endorsement, but lost to Democrat Conor Lamb by a razor-thin margin.

But Trump is exuding confidence following his successful endorsement this month of state Rep. Katie Arrington in race against Sanford. The president took another victory lap last week, calling Sanford a "nasty guy" in a closed-door GOP conference meeting.

Trump's unlikely relationship with McMaster began during the 2016 GOP primaries. McMaster, the lieutenant governor at the time who was seen as an establishment figure, initially backed fellow South Carolinian Lindsey Graham's short-lived candidacy. After it folded, McMaster has said he fielded calls from many other GOP White House hopefuls before settling on putting his support behind Trump.

"He's a man of action," McMaster said at the time. "He speaks in words that everybody understands. It's a delightful thing to see."

That support marked a significant divide between McMaster and then-Gov. Nikki Haley, who had been vocal in her opposition to some of Trump's rhetoric, including a temporary ban on immigrants from some Muslim countries. Haley backed Marco Rubio and then Ted Cruz, only settling on Trump when he became the GOP nominee.

Just weeks after his election, Trump selected Haley ___ seen as a rising GOP star ___ as his ambassador to the United Nations. Her departure cleared the way for McMaster in early 2017 to ascend to the governorship he had sought since losing a bruising primary to none other than Haley seven years earlier.

Now seeking his first full term on his own merit, McMaster is running as an incumbent, pointing toward his efforts to boost South Carolina's economy by growing jobs and proposing tax cuts. McMaster has also used the power of his office to show Trump loyalists he and the president are similarly aligned, directing state agencies not to allocate public money to health care providers affiliated with abortion clinics. He also called for a law requiring municipalities to certify they're not so-called "sanctuary cities," a measure decried by some as political pandering intended to boost McMaster's campaign, given that the issue has not been a problem in the state.

Warren, meanwhile, has positioned himself as the candidate who, despite Trump's actual backing of another candidate in this race, is the choice who more embodies the president himself. Like Trump, he's made millions in business, able to nearly self-fund his entire campaign. And like Trump, he's never before been directly involved in politics, spending his time in the private sector.

But Huffmon, the Winthrop University professor, said Warren will have to find a way to harness the Trump-like energy in his own way if he's to be successful.

"If Warren can bring some new people in and both convince Trump supporters he is more Trump-like, and get a few disaffected, moderate conservatives who don't want to pick the guy Trump's endorsing, ... he can pull that off," he said.

Sign up for "Politics in Focus," a weekly newsletter showcasing the AP's best political reporting from

across the United States leading up to the 2018 midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/3Gzcraw>.

Reach Kinnard at <http://twitter.com/MegKinnardAP>. Read her work at <https://apnews.com/search/meg%20kinnard>.

EU papers over differences after 'frank' migration talks

By **RAF CASERT** and **LORNE COOK**, Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The leaders of 16 countries survived the "frank talk" of an emergency meeting on immigration and emerged with a veneer of common purpose Sunday as the European Union enters a potentially vital week for its unity.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said the meeting produced "a lot of goodwill" to resolve differences over how to manage the refugees and economic migrants who are willing to risk their lives to reach Europe.

The leaders of several more countries joined Italy and France in endorsing the idea of setting up centers in Africa to screen potential asylum-seekers for eligibility before they set out for another continent.

The talks were "frank and open," but "we don't have any concrete consequences or conclusions," Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said.

The prevailing honesty and benevolence on display Sunday barely lower the stakes for a full EU summit opening Thursday. Four member countries in eastern Europe refused to take part in the meeting because of demands that they take in more asylum-seekers to ease the burden elsewhere.

New Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte presented a plan that argues existing EU asylum rules are obsolete and "paradoxical." The current rules effectively mean migrants only can apply for asylum in the country where they first arrive, usually Italy or Greece.

Conte said his 10-point proposal would be a "paradigm shift" in how Europe approaches migration and that he was "decidedly satisfied" with the outcome of Sunday's meeting.

"We have given the right direction for the debate underway. We'll see each other Thursday," he said.

Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron held out little hope they would be able to gather all 28 nations behind a single immigration plan at the upcoming summit.

Merkel, who is battling a domestic political crisis with her coalition partners over migration, said she was seeking "bilateral and trilateral" deals to cope with short-term migration pressures.

EU nations, she said, have to see "how can we help each other without always having to wait for all 28, but by thinking what's important to whom."

The idea of pre-screening Europe-bound asylum-seekers in North Africa gained support from several leaders amid the escalating tensions that threaten to undermine EU cohesion.

Paradoxically, the EU's immigration policies are receiving renewed attention as the number of newcomers reaching Europe has dropped significantly.

The U.N.'s refugee agency forecasts that around 80,000 people will arrive to Europe by sea in 2018 if current trends continue — but the EU's political turmoil over the topic has soared.

Anti-migrant parties — and governments in Hungary and Italy — have been fomenting public fears of foreigners and have won support doing so.

"Some are trying to use the situation in Europe to create political tension and to play with fear," French President Emmanuel Macron said. "We must not give in. When someone has the right to protection and asylum, we should grant it."

A failure to find agreement could threaten the EU's border-free travel area, one of the biggest accomplishments of the bloc's 60-year history.

Despite the different perspectives, Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel said, "progress is possible on Thursday."

Encouraged by a deal with Turkey that has slashed the number of people arriving from there by 97 percent since 2015, the EU appeared ready to greenlight plans to set up screening centers in Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Niger and Tunisia.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 43 of 52

Plans to set up migrant reception centers in Albania are also under discussion.

Macron said "the method that we are going to adopt" would involve "working together vis-a-vis the countries of transit and origin outside the European Union."

He mentioned Libya — the main jumping off point for countries bound for Europe — other African countries and the Balkans.

Noting that migrant arrivals have dropped significantly, Macron said: "it's a political crisis that Europe and the European Union is mostly living today."

Meanwhile, Spain's Sanchez urged his EU partners to help Spain deal with a growing number of arrivals across the Mediterranean Sea.

The UNHCR says around 40,000 people have arrived in Europe by sea so far this year, some 16,000 in Italy, 12,000 in Greece and 12,000 in Spain.

As with everything linked to migration in Europe, even the meeting in Brussels did not please everybody. Four eastern EU countries — the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia — refused to attend and reject taking in migrants in general.

Nicole Winfield in Rome, Barry Hatton in Lisbon and Kirsten Grieshaber in Berlin contributed.

'Jurassic World' sequel stomps its way to \$150 million debut

By JAKE COYLE, AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The dinosaurs still rule the box office.

"Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom" surpassed expectations to open with \$150 million in ticket sales in U.S. and Canada theaters over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. While that total didn't approach the record-breaking \$208.8 million debut of 2015's "Jurassic World," it proved the 25-year-old franchise still roars loudly among moviegoers.

It also gave Hollywood its first back-to-back \$100 million-plus openings in a non-holiday period. After opening with \$182.7 million last week, Pixar's acclaimed sequel "Incredibles 2" slid 56 percent in its second week, with an \$80.9 million haul.

The combined firepower of "Fallen Kingdom" and "Incredibles 2" fueled \$280 million in total ticket sales, making it Hollywood's fourth-biggest overall weekend ever, not accounting for inflation. Business was roughly double what it was the same June weekend last year, according to comScore.

"The normal course of box office is that the two films would cannibalize each other's box office in some way," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore. "This weekend proves that if you have two incredibly appealing movies in the marketplace at the same time, the marketplace will expand. The year-to-date box office jumped 2.5 percent in one weekend, from 6 percent to 8.5 percent."

"Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom" has already tallied hundreds of millions in overseas ticket sales over the past two weeks. Its worldwide total already stands at \$711.5 million.

The film, starring Chris Pratt and Dallas Bryce Howard, moves the action away from an isolated tropical island. In "Fallen Kingdom," directed by J.A. Bayona, the dinosaurs are again threatened with extinction because of a soon-to-explode volcano. But they are trapped by a band of mercenaries, a plot intended to mirror real-life animal poaching.

Like 2015's "Jurassic World," "Fallen Kingdom" was able to shrug off mediocre reviews — something that many other franchises have struggled to do lately. It sits at just 50 percent fresh on Rotten Tomatoes but received an A-minus CinemaScore from audiences.

Universal Pictures, which is planning a third "Jurassic World" film, heavily promoted the \$170 million production. Drawing audiences equally young and old, male and female, and from a diverse array of ethnicities, "Fallen Kingdom" played like a classic crowd-pleaser.

"We're seeing exit polls that indicate all quadrants came out to see this movie," said Jim Orr, Universal's distribution chief. "The majority of the audience was under 25. Obviously, we're playing very broadly, and to families overall, and so thus the result at the very high end of our expectations."

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 44 of 52

The domestic opening is the second-best for the 106-year-old Universal. It only follows "Jurassic World," which went on to make nearly \$1.7 billion for the studio.

After notching the biggest opening ever for an animated release last weekend, Brad Bird's "Incredibles 2" held on strongly considering the family-film competition. Its global gross is now up to \$485 million, including a \$21.2 million debut in China, a Pixar best.

The female-fronted heist film "Ocean's 8," starring Sandra Bullock and Cate Blanchett, crossed \$100 million domestically, with \$11.7 million in its third week. Thanks to drive-in double-features with "Incredibles 2," Ava DuVernay's "A Wrinkle in Time" also cleared the \$100 million milestone, a first for a black female director.

The Fred Rogers documentary "Won't You Be My Neighbor" became the summer's second documentary to crack the top 10. Following the Ruth Bader Ginsberg documentary "RBG," Morgan Neville's hit documentary on the man behind "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" grossed \$1.9 million on 348 screens.

Sony Pictures Classics' "Boundaries," a father-daughter road trip starring Vera Farmiga and Christopher Plummer, made a muted debut with \$29,000 from five theaters.

Peter Fonda, who plays a supporting role in the film, on Wednesday apologized for a tweet in which he suggested 12-year-old Barron Trump, son of President Donald Trump, should be ripped from "his mother's arms and put in a cage with pedophiles" as payback for the policy of separating children from their parents at the Mexican border.

Donald Trump Jr. criticized Sony Pictures Classics for releasing the film. In response, the specialty distributor condemned Fonda's words as "abhorrent and reckless" but said it would go ahead with the film's planned limited release.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday also are included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom," \$150 million (\$106.7 million international).
2. "Incredibles 2," \$80.9 million (\$56.8 million international).
3. "Ocean's 8," \$11.7 million (\$26.9 million international).
4. "Tag," \$8.2 million.
5. "Solo: A Star Wars Story," \$4 million (\$2.6 million international).
6. "Deadpool 2," \$5.3 million (\$5.3 million international).
7. "Hereditary," \$3.8 million (\$3.8 million international).
8. "Superfly," \$3.4 million.
9. "Avengers: Infinity War," \$2.5 million (\$1.4 million international).
10. "Won't You Be My Neighbor," \$1.9 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom," \$106.7 million.
2. "Incredibles 2," \$56.8 million.
3. "Ocean's 8," \$26.9 million.
4. "Lobster Cop," \$6.7 million.
5. "Deadpool 2," \$5.3 million.
6. "The Accidental Detective 2," \$5.3 million.
7. "Hereditary," \$3.8 million.
8. "The Way of the Bug," \$3.6 million.
9. "Solo: A Star Wars Story," \$2.6 million.
10. "A Quiet Place," \$1.7 million.

Follow AP Film Writer Jake Coyle on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/jakecoyleAP>

At hub for border crossings, families spread throughout US

By WILL WEISSERT and ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

MCALLEN, Texas (AP) — Manuel Martinez, who fled Honduras because gangs were trying to recruit his 12-year-old son, was prepared to be separated from his child after paying a smuggler to cross the Rio Grande by boat and getting arrested by the U.S. Border Patrol.

His worst fears never came true.

Martinez pleaded guilty to illegal entry on Wednesday — the day President Donald Trump ordered an end to the separating of families — and, while he wasn't kept under the same roof as his son, they were held in the same compound. They were reunited on Saturday, after five days apart, and were released into the U.S., a tracking device on Martinez's ankle, while he pursues asylum.

"I was very worried even though we were never really separated," he said in McAllen's Greyhound station, as he and his son were about to board a bus to Atlanta to join a friend.

The McAllen station, a hub in the busiest U.S. corridor for illegal crossings, looks much as it did before the administration began enforcing a "zero-tolerance" policy in early May of prosecuting every illegal entry. The policy resulted in the separation of more than 2,300 children before Trump reversed course in the face of an international outcry and said families will remain together.

On a typical day, more than 100 asylum-seekers are released from McAllen-area holding facilities, clutching their belongings in clear plastic bags stamped with Department of Homeland Security logos, said Norma Pimentel, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley.

They are led by volunteers to the charity's headquarters a few blocks away to shower, eat and rest — though volunteers' first order of business is to distribute shoelaces because they are confiscated from immigrants in custody to prevent suicides.

"Every day is like this. It never ends," Pimentel said as children played with toys on the floor while adults in ankle monitors sat in rows of plastic chairs. Federal authorities have for years used electronic monitoring devices to keep track of immigrants released while they await further court proceedings.

Still, McAllen, a city of 130,000 people in Texas' Rio Grande Valley, is just a snapshot of the situation along the border, where Trump's reversal on family separation has sown chaos and uncertainty and there has been little guidance from the administration.

It is not clear how many asylum-seekers are still entering the country, how many are being detained as families, and how many are being released. Nor it is known how long it will take for all parents and guardians to be reunited with their children.

Homeland Security said late Saturday that 522 youngsters have been reunited since they were separated under the zero tolerance policy and that it has established a process to ensure that family members know where their children are and can communicate with them.

It said that 2,000-plus children remain separated but that the government knows where all of them are and is working to reunite them with their families.

Trump vented his frustration over the crisis in a tweet Sunday, saying border crossers shouldn't be entitled to a day in court.

"We cannot allow all of these people to invade our Country," the president wrote. "When somebody comes in, we must immediately, with no Judges or Court Cases, bring them back from where they came. Our system is a mockery to good immigration policy and Law and Order."

Federal authorities are readying a special reunification center at a remote detention center in Port Isabel, about 55 miles (88 kilometers) east of McAllen.

About 70 families arrived at the Catholic Charities' McAllen shelter late Saturday afternoon, and nearly all were gone by the following day, boarding buses to cities across the U.S.

Pimentel said most of Saturday's arrivals were not charged criminally but she didn't believe it signaled a change in the Trump administration's policy of prosecuting every illegal entry.

Authorities have moved to detain more people, even asylum-seekers, but is constrained by lack of detention space, particularly for families. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has a total of about 3,300

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 46 of 52

beds at three family detention centers in Texas and Pennsylvania.

"They have a limit as to how much they can manage, and that's maybe a determining factor in how many are released that day," Pimentel said.

Patricia Lozano, 27, said she fled Honduras to find a higher-paying job and better support her three children, ages 6, 8 and 9. She was not charged criminally and never separated from her children.

She was on a grueling monthlong bus trip through Mexico when she learned that families were being separated, but she decided to take her chances.

"I was already on the journey," she said as she waited for a bus to Los Angeles to join family. "Everything turned out OK walking with God."

Abel, a 40-year-old coffee farmer from Jutiapa, Guatemala, asked for asylum at the U.S. border for himself and his 17-year-old son, Hugo. They were taken into custody Thursday, separated in the same detention center for two days, then reunited and released on Saturday.

He said he left his homeland because gangs were forcing his son to join their ranks. He asked that their last names not be used because he didn't want to endanger his wife and five daughters back home.

Abel said the word is out that families may be separated at the border.

But "necessity always makes you take risks," he said. He added of Trump: "The president says it will stop, but people keep coming."

Associated Press writer Colleen Long in Washington contributed to this report.

DOJ gives Congress new classified documents on Russia probe

By MARY CLARE JALONICK, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department says it has given House Republicans new classified information related to the Russia investigation after lawmakers had threatened to hold officials in contempt of Congress or even impeach them.

A spokeswoman for House Speaker Paul Ryan said Saturday that the department has partially complied with subpoenas from the House Intelligence and Judiciary committees after officials turned over more than a thousand new documents this week. House Republicans had given the Justice Department and FBI a Friday deadline for all documents, most of which are related to the origins of the FBI's Russia investigation and the handling of its probe into Democrat Hillary Clinton's emails. Ryan spokeswoman AshLee Strong said the department asked for more time and they will get it — for now.

"Our efforts have resulted in the committees finally getting access to information that was sought months ago, but some important requests remain to be completed," Strong said in a statement Saturday. "Additional time has been requested for the outstanding items, and based on our understanding of the process we believe that request is reasonable. We expect the department to meet its full obligations to the two committees."

The efforts by the Justice Department over the last week to deliver documents to the House Republicans appear to have at least temporarily diffused a monthlong standoff with Congress. Democrats have criticized the multiple document requests, charging that they are intended to discredit the department and distract from or even undermine special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into the Trump campaign's Russia ties and whether there was obstruction of justice.

In a letter sent to House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes, R-Calif., late Friday, the Justice Department said it had that day provided a classified letter to his panel regarding whether the FBI used "confidential human sources" before it officially began its Russia investigation in 2016. Bolstered by President Donald Trump, Nunes has been pressing the department on an informant who spoke to members of Trump's campaign as the FBI began to explore the campaign's ties to Russia. Trump has called the matter "spygate," though multiple Republicans who have been briefed on the informant have downplayed its significance.

In the letter, the Justice Department's acting assistant director of congressional affairs, Jill Tyson, said

Nunes had also asked for transcripts of conversations between confidential human sources and Trump campaign officials. She said the department had referred that request to National Intelligence Director Dan Coats.

Tyson's letter said the department had also given Nunes materials related to the department's guidelines under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Republicans have for months questioned whether the department abused that act when prosecutors and agents in 2016 applied for and received a secret warrant to monitor the communications of Trump campaign associate Carter Page.

The department is also working to provide outstanding documents related to former British spy Christopher Steele, Tyson said, and the dossier he compiled of anti-Trump research during the presidential campaign. Trump and congressional Republicans have charged that the research in the dossier, paid for by Clinton's campaign and the Democratic National Committee, was used inappropriately to obtain the warrant on Page.

House Speaker Paul Ryan has backed the document requests, and he led a meeting last week with committee chairmen and Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein to try to resolve the issue. In an interview on Fox News Channel two days after that meeting, on June 17, Nunes said if they don't get the documents by this week, "there's going to be hell to pay" and indicated the House could act on contempt or even impeachment. A spokesman for Nunes did not immediately respond to a request for comment Saturday.

Tyson also wrote House Judiciary Committee Chairman Robert Goodlatte, R-Va., and House Oversight and Government Reform Chairman Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., who have requested more than a million documents as part of multiple investigations into the FBI and Justice Department's handling of the Russia and Clinton probes. Tyson said the department has already provided more than 800,000 documents for review and "the FBI produced over 1,400 pages of responsive materials" on Friday, among other documents already sent to the panel.

The letter says FBI is also working to address a request about "proposed, recommended or actual" surveillance on the Clinton Foundation. Tyson said the department was responding in a separate, classified letter, and that the request had proven "difficult to address." She said the department hoped to talk to lawmakers further about it.

In the letters, Tyson said the department had built "new tools" to search top secret documents and had diverted resources from other congressional requests.

Read the letter to Nunes: <http://apne.ws/XBmX2Db>

Read the letter to Goodlatte and Gowdy: <http://apne.ws/WnqLdrO>

Saudi women in driver's seat as longstanding ban is lifted

By AYA BATRAWY, Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Saudi women steered their way through busy city streets on Sunday, driving to work, running errands and relishing a new era in which they are allowed to drive and no longer need to rely on men to move around.

A longstanding ban on women driving was lifted at midnight, ushering in a historic moment for women who have been at the mercy of their husbands, fathers, brothers and drivers for transportation. The ban had relegated women to the backseat, restricting when they could meet friends, where they could spend their time and how they could plan out their day.

"It feels beautiful. It was a dream for us so when it happens in reality, I am between belief and disbelief— between a feeling of joy and astonishment," said Mabkhoutah al-Mari as she pulled up to order a drive-thru coffee on her drive to work.

The 27-year-old mother of two is a driving instructor for women and already had a driver's license from the U.S., where she'd spent time in Tennessee studying. But on this morning, she drove freely in her hometown of Riyadh for the first time.

For most of her life al-Mari relied on drivers hired by her family, and she and her sisters had to coordi-

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 48 of 52

nate drop-offs and pick-ups.

"Now, thanks to God, I can plan out my own schedule and my errands and my daughters' errands," al-Mari said.

Before she got in the car to drive Sunday morning, her older brother sent her off with a kiss on the forehead and a wave. His support, as her male guardian, is key.

Although women do not need male permission to obtain a driver's license, the culture still dictates that fathers, husbands and brothers have final say. A woman's male guardian must give his approval before she can marry or travel.

For nearly three decades, outspoken Saudi women and men had called for women to have the right to drive as a symbol of other changes they said were needed in the deeply conservative kingdom.

While there was never explicitly a law against women driving in Saudi Arabia, a ban was enforced by police and licenses were not issued to women. The ban had been a stain on the country's reputation and hindered women's ability to contribute to the economy.

In 1990, during the first driving campaign by activists, women who drove in Riyadh lost their jobs and were barred from traveling abroad, even as women in other conservative Muslim countries drove freely. Even their husbands faced punishment.

Ultraconservatives in Saudi Arabia had warned against women driving, saying it would lead to sin and expose women to harassment. Ahead of lifting the driving ban, the kingdom passed a law against sexual harassment with up to five years in prison for the most severe cases.

Since King Salman announced that women would be allowed to drive, Saudi clerics have changed their tone. On Sunday, the country's senior council of clerics said women driving was religiously permissible and in the interests of the country.

With unequivocal state-backed support for the change, more Saudis are openly embracing the move as long overdue.

"I'm speechless. I'm so excited it's actually happening," said Hessah al-Ajaji, who drove her family's Lexus in the capital, Riyadh, at the stroke of midnight when the ban came to an end.

As for male drivers on the road, "they were really supportive and cheering and smiling," she said.

The most emphatic supporters of women's right to drive, however, have been silenced. Three of the women who'd taken part in the 1990 protest and several others who campaigned years later for the right to drive were arrested last month. Some have been temporarily released.

Three of those still detained—Aziza al-Yousef, Loujain al-Hathloul and Eman al-Nafjan—are seen as icons of the women's rights movement in Saudi Arabia. The government has accused them of national security crimes, including working with "foreign entities" to harm the interests of the kingdom.

Their stunning arrest has cast a pall on the social openings being pushed by 32-year-old Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who is seen as the force behind reforms reshaping the kingdom.

As she drove through the streets of Riyadh, Ammal Farahat, a mother of two, said the right to drive is more than just a top-down decision.

"It's like they say the ocean is made of little drops of water and that's exactly how I feel today. It's the efforts of everyone, little drops of sweat," Farahat said.

Not all women are driving at once, though. The overwhelming majority of women in Saudi Arabia still don't have licenses. Many haven't had a chance to take the gender-segregated driving courses that were first offered to women only three months ago.

The Interior Ministry says there are four driving schools for women in the country, with two more licensed to start soon. The ministry declined to disclose how many women had received licenses so far, saying the process is still in the early stages.

The limited number of women's driving schools has led to a wait-list of several months, and there are still many cities without courses. The classes also cost several hundred dollars, far more than what men currently pay.

Some women simply prefer to wait and see how the situation on the streets pans out and how male drivers react before they jump in the driver's seat. Others are comfortable being driven by chauffeurs or

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 49 of 52

their husbands and see no need to drive themselves.

But there are a handful of women eagerly awaiting the end of another roadblock: When women can drive motorcycles.

At the Bikers Skills Institute, General Manager Wael bin Huraib says more than 80 women have registered to take the course and five have completed it since he opened it up to females three months ago. The women practice riding in a closed circuit on the outskirts of the capital.

"We all know that culture does change with time," he said. "It has nothing to do with the religion. We all will stick to our beliefs and this is something that is not negotiable ... however, what we want is to have a normal life."

Associated Press writers Fay Abuelgasim and Malak Harb contributed to this report.

Trump tweets, hard-right voters hamper GOP immigration push

By ALAN FRAM, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican apprehension over President Donald Trump's next tweet and fear of riling conservative voters are undermining GOP leaders' election-year struggle to shove an immigration bill through the House this week, leaving their prospects dubious.

Party leaders are trying to finally secure the votes they need for their wide-ranging bill with tweaks they hope will goose support from the GOP's dueling conservative and moderate wings. But more importantly, wavering Republicans want Trump to provide political cover for immigration legislation that's despised by hard-right voters. His recent statements on their bill and history of abruptly flip-flopping on past health care and spending measures have not been reassuring.

Last Tuesday, he privately told House Republicans that he backed their legislation "1,000 percent" and would protect them during their campaigns, lawmakers said. By Friday, he was tweeting that "Republicans should stop wasting their time on Immigration" and wait until after the November elections, when he said the GOP would approve tougher legislation because it will gain strength in Congress. That proposition is dicey at best.

"I think that the best way to pass legislation is to consistently support a position and help move it forward," Rep. Greg Walden of Oregon, a senior House Republican. Asked if Trump was doing that, Walden pivoted toward a door and said, "I'll leave it at that."

Rep. Mike McCaul, R-Texas, the chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, said on "Fox News Sunday" that he talked to the White House on Saturday and "they say the president is still 100 percent behind us."

The bill would make citizenship a possibility for "Dreamer" immigrants brought illegally to the U.S. when young. It would also finance Trump's aspirational \$25 billion wall with Mexico and curb government agencies from wrenching migrant children from detained parents.

The measure is the product of weeks of bargaining between party conservatives and moderates. Even so, the two GOP factions have been unable to resolve their final differences and vote-counters have yet to round up a majority. Republicans are getting no help from Democrats, who uniformly oppose the legislation.

The GOP divisions come at a bad time for the party: Elections are approaching and immigration has riveted public attention for months. Republicans who are battling to retain House control have hoped to focus this fall's campaigns on the economy and tax cuts.

Instead, Republican blockades against ending deportations of young immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally as children were major news earlier this year. In recent days, the focus has shifted to the Trump administration's wrenching of migrant children from their parents.

Neither of those have been good looks for Republicans from swing districts with large numbers of moderate voters — the very incumbents who must be re-elected for the GOP to retain House control.

Lawmakers said leaders wanted to round up GOP votes by adding provisions requiring companies to verify workers' citizenship, which conservatives like. They would also ease restrictions on seasonal migrant

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 50 of 52

workers, a priority for farm-district, moderate Republicans.

Until now, party leaders have hesitated to include those items because they could end up costing votes, not gaining them. Moderate Republicans don't like the citizenship verification requirement and some conservatives don't like helping immigrants stay in the U.S.

Another problem is the two additional provisions don't address the major reason for GOP defections: Conservatives say helping Dreamers stay in the U.S. is handing amnesty to lawbreakers.

"I'm a 'no,'" said Rep. Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., a member of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus. He said he couldn't defend helping the Dreamers "to people waiting in line the right way" to immigrate to the U.S.

The House defeated a more conservative immigration alternative last week.

GOP leaders said the House will vote on its compromise immigration bill despite Trump's flashing red light on the subject.

Top Republicans have wanted to hold the votes, win or lose, partly to defuse an effort by GOP moderates to force the chamber to vote on liberal-leaning bills helping immigrants win citizenship. Those measures could pass the House backed by Democrats and a few Republicans, an outcome that would enrage conservative voters.

In addition, some Republicans are eager for roll calls to show voters back home that they've tried to address the issue.

"I think it's important that the House be able to show we can take the action," said House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif.

AP writer Ken Thomas contributed.

UK euroskeptics urge PM May to prepare for 'no deal' Brexit

By JILL LAWLESS, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Pro-Brexit politicians and business figures have urged British Prime Minister Theresa May to be ready to walk away from the European Union without a trade agreement, despite warnings from major manufacturers that a "no deal" Brexit would be an economic disaster.

In an open letter, 60 lawmakers, economists and business chiefs accused the EU of being "intransigent" in divorce talks and said Britain should threaten to withhold the 39 billion pound (\$52 billion) divorce bill it has already agreed to pay.

The letter released Sunday by Economists for Free Trade was signed by prominent supporters of a "hard Brexit," including ex-U.K. Treasury chief Nigel Lawson, Conservative lawmakers John Redwood and Peter Bone, and Tim Martin, chairman of the Wetherspoons pub chain.

They urged U.K. authorities "to accelerate their preparations for 'no deal' and a move to a World Trade Deal under WTO rules."

That would mean tariffs and other trade barriers between Britain and the EU, and many businesses say it would severely harm the U.K. economy. Airbus, Siemens and BMW have all warned recently that leaving the EU without a free-trade deal would hurt British businesses and cost jobs. Airbus alone employs nearly 14,000 workers in the U.K.

Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt said the warnings from businesses were "inappropriate" and undermined chances of getting a "clean Brexit."

"The more that we undermine Theresa May, the more likely we are to end up with 'a fudge,' which would be an absolute disaster for everyone," he told the BBC.

May's Conservative government is divided between Brexit-backing ministers calling for a clean break so that Britain can strike new trade deals around the world, and those who want to stay closely aligned to the EU, Britain's biggest trading partner.

Hunt urged people to unite behind the prime minister, saying she would mix "cautious pragmatism" with a determination to fulfil voters' decision to leave the EU.

On Saturday, however, tens of thousands of anti-Brexit protesters marched in London to demand a new

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 51 of 52

referendum on leaving the EU as Britain marked the second anniversary of its 2016 vote to quit the bloc. "Brexit is not a done deal. Brexit is not inevitable. Brexit can be stopped," Liberal Democrat leader Vince Cable told the crowd.

Zsa Zsa, the English bulldog, wins World's Ugliest Dog title

PETALUMA, Calif. (AP) — A 9-year-old English bulldog was named the winner of the 2018 World's Ugliest Dog contest in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Zsa Zsa won the title Saturday night at the Sonoma-Marín Sonoma-Marín Fairgrounds in Petaluma.

The dog's owner Megan Brainard of Anoka, Minnesota, will receive \$1,500 for Zsa Zsa's win. Brainard found Zsa Zsa on a pet-finding site, according to the contest bio.

Dogs in the annual competition flaunt their imperfections - some have hairless bodies, others have lolling tongues. The dogs and their handlers walk down a red carpet. The dogs are evaluated by a panel of judges.

The contestants included a blackhead-covered Chinese Crested-Dachshund mutt, a bulldog mix with excess wrinkly skin and a Pekingese named Wild Thang.

Last year's winner was a 125-pound (57-kilogram) gentle giant named Martha — a Neopolitan Mastiff with gas and a droopy face.

The contest is in its 30th year. It is usually held on Friday nights, but organizers moved the competition to Saturday in an effort to draw a bigger audience.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, June 25, the 176th day of 2018. There are 189 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 25, 1868, Congress passed an Omnibus Act allowing for the readmission of Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina to the Union.

On this date:

In 1788, Virginia ratified the U.S. Constitution.

In 1876, Lt. Col. Colonel George A. Custer and his 7th Cavalry were wiped out by Sioux and Cheyenne Indians in the Battle of the Little Bighorn in Montana.

In 1910, President William Howard Taft signed the White-Slave Traffic Act, more popularly known as the Mann Act, which made it illegal to transport women across state lines for "immoral" purposes.

In 1938, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 was enacted.

In 1947, "The Diary of a Young Girl," the personal journal of Anne Frank, a German-born Jewish girl hiding with her family from the Nazis in Amsterdam during World War II, was first published.

In 1950, war broke out in Korea as forces from the communist North invaded the South.

In 1967, the Beatles performed and recorded their new song "All You Need Is Love" during the closing segment of "Our World," the first-ever live international telecast which was carried by satellite from 14 countries.

In 1973, former White House Counsel John W. Dean began testifying before the Senate Watergate Committee, implicating top administration officials, including President Richard Nixon as well as himself, in the Watergate scandal and cover-up.

In 1981, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that male-only draft registration was constitutional.

In 1993, Kim Campbell was sworn in as Canada's 19th prime minister, the first woman to hold the post.

In 1998, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected a line-item veto law as unconstitutional, and ruled that HIV-infected people were protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

In 2009, death claimed Michael Jackson, the "King of Pop," in Los Angeles at age 50 and actress Farrah Fawcett in Santa Monica, California, at age 62.

Ten years ago: A divided U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Louisiana law that allowed capital punish-

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, June 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 346 ~ 52 of 52

ment for people convicted of raping children under 12; the ruling also invalidated laws in five other states that allowed executions for child rape that did not result in the death of the victim. A jury in Woburn, Massachusetts, convicted Neil Entwistle of first-degree murder in the deaths of his wife, Rachel, 27, and their 9-month-old baby, Lillian Rose. (Entwistle was sentenced the next day to two life prison terms without possibility of parole.)

Five years ago: President Barack Obama declared the debate over climate change and its causes obsolete as he announced at Georgetown University a wide-ranging plan to tackle pollution and prepare communities for global warming. Russian President Vladimir Putin confirmed the whereabouts of National Security Agency leaker Edward Snowden at a Moscow airport, but promptly rejected a U.S. plea to turn him over. Democratic Texas State Senator Wendy Davis began a one-woman filibuster to block a GOP-led effort to impose stringent new abortion restrictions across the nation's second-most populous state. (Republicans voted to end the filibuster minutes before midnight, sparking a chaotic scene with demonstrators who succeeded in forcing lawmakers to miss the deadline for passing the bill.)

One year ago: In eastern Pakistan, an overturned oil tanker burst into flames, killing at least 150 people who had rushed to the scene to gather leaking fuel. In the U.S., tens of thousands of people waving rainbow flags lined streets for gay pride parades in coast-to-coast events.

Today's Birthdays: Actress June Lockhart is 93. Civil rights activist James Meredith is 85. Author-activist Larry Kramer is 83. Rhythm and blues singer Eddie Floyd is 81. Actress Barbara Montgomery is 79. Actress Mary Beth Peil (peel) is 78. Basketball Hall of Famer Willis Reed is 76. Singer Carly Simon is 73. Rock musician Ian McDonald (Foreigner; King Crimson) is 72. Actor-comedian Jimmie Walker is 71. Actor-director Michael Lembeck is 70. TV personality Phyllis George is 69. Rock singer Tim Finn is 66. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor is 64. Rock musician David Paich (Toto) is 64. Actor Michael Sabatino is 63. Actor-writer-director Ricky Gervais (jer-VAYZ') is 57. Actor John Benjamin Hickey is 55. Actress Erica Gimpel is 54. Basketball Hall of Famer Dikembe Mutombo (dih-KEHM'-bay moo-TAHM'-boh) is 52. Rapper-producer Richie Rich is 51. Rapper Candyman is 50. Contemporary Christian musician Sean Kelly (Sixpence None the Richer) is 47. Actress Angela Kinsey is 47. Rock musician Mike Kroeger (KROO'-gur) (Nickelback) is 46. Rock musician Mario Calire is 44. Actress Linda Cardellini is 43. Actress Busy Philipps is 39. Jazz musician Joey Alexander is 15.

Thought for Today: "The problem with introspection is that it has no end." — Philip K. Dick, American science-fiction author (1928-1982).