

# Groton Daily Independent

Tuesday, July 10, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 001 ~ 1 of 40



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

- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Dakota Outdoors Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- Roy Hope to be at Buffalo Lake Lutheran Church
- 2- Westby's 30th Anniversary
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**Dakota Outdoors**

**Erik Dean**

402 N Main St  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
605.229.0123

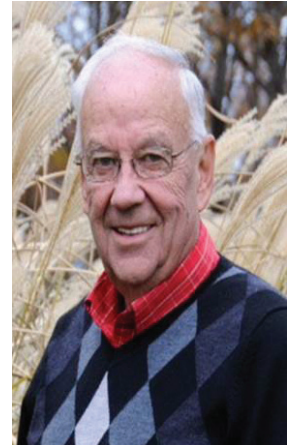
dakoutdoors@midconetwork.com

## Roy Hope to be at Buffalo Lake Lutheran Church

Roy Hope will be having a special patriotic program on Sunday, July 22, 2018, at Buffalo Lake Lutheran Church, rural Eden. The event will be held at 7 p.m. Regular church service will still be held at 10:30 a.m. that Sunday, as it is every Sunday.

Roy Hope has been sharing a unique blend of hymns, contemporary gospel songs and adds a touch of country western flavor to his varied repertoire. Now in his 47th year of ministry, Hope will be putting on a special patriotic program at Buffalo Lake. The event is open to the public and there is no charge. There will be a free will donation that will be used for an outside lite cross and sign project that is in the works. Refreshments will be served after the event. (and yes, the church is air conditioned!)

You can find directions to the church at [hbm.church](http://hbm.church), click on Buffalo Lake, then Where We Are for the Google Map.



## Westby's 30th Anniversary

Ron and Lori Westby will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary on Monday, July 16th, 2018. Greetings may be sent to 1103 N 2nd St Groton, SD 57445. No gifts please.

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## Gas Prices on the Rise as Demand Remains Strong

July 9, 2018 - The national gas price average is \$2.87, which is a penny more expensive on the week. Pump prices in nearly 30 states are seeing a jump of as much as eight cents, a dozen states saw prices drop and another dozen states' gas price averages remain stable from last Monday.

"Demand for gasoline this summer remains very strong week-over-week, driving gas prices higher alongside rising crude prices," said Marilyn Buskohl, AAA spokesperson. "Today motorists are seeing gas for \$2.76 or more at 56 percent of gas stations across the country."

Today's national gas price average is six-cents cheaper than last month, but 61-cents more expensive than at the same time last year.

### South Dakota Average Gas Prices:

Current Avg. \$2.866  
Yesterday Avg. \$2.864  
Week Ago Avg. \$2.875  
Month Ago Avg. \$2.904  
Year Ago Avg. \$2.258

### Quick Stats

The nation's top 10 largest weekly changes are: Delaware (+8 cents), Michigan (-7 cents), Ohio (+6 cents), Indiana (+5 cents), Maryland (+4 cents), New Mexico (-3 cents), Pennsylvania (+3 cents), Georgia (+3 cents), Kentucky (+3 cents) and Oklahoma (+3 cents).

The nation's top 10 least expensive markets are: South Carolina (\$2.53), Alabama (\$2.53), Mississippi (\$2.55), Louisiana (\$2.58), Arkansas (\$2.60), Missouri (\$2.61), Tennessee (\$2.61), Oklahoma (\$2.62), Virginia (\$2.62) and Kansas (\$2.66).

### Great Lakes and Central

Gas prices are volatile on the week in the Great Lakes and Central region with gas prices anywhere from seven cents cheaper to six cents more expensive. A handful of states' gas price averages remain stable on the week. Four states from these regions land on this week's largest gas price changes list: Michigan (-7 cents), Ohio (+6 cents), Indiana (+5 cents) and Kentucky (+3 cents).

At \$2.95, Illinois has the most expensive gas prices in the region followed by Michigan (\$2.92). At \$2.61, Missouri is the cheapest.

### Oil market dynamics

At the close of Friday's formal trading session on the NYMEX, WTI increased 86 cents to settle at \$73.80. Crude prices trended lower last week following EIA's report that showed U.S. crude oil inventories increased by a total of 1.3 million bbl last week.

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## Shirley Wells appointed to fill council vacancy

The council appointed Shirley Wells to fill the vacant spot left by the death of Eddy Opp. She will represent Ward 2 and will be sworn in at the next council meeting. Wells will fill the term until next year.

Terry Herron reported that the city went through double the amount of asphalt this year compared to last year. Many of the streets are breaking up which has led to Herron making a new chip seal project map for this year to help preserve those streets. The chip seal project is estimated to cost \$100,903.

Herron also reported on the condition of the airport, which is good.. He said the gopher population has been eradicated at the airport.

Twenty-one trees have died over the winter and will be replaced this fall. Most of them have been Bur Oak.

Dwight Zerr said he is starting the sweeping project for the whole town. Work on the Aspen Avenue lift station, which is the main one south of Groton, will begin next week. He reported that one of the pumps in that lift station went out and the city crew replaced it. The wet well will be revamped at the Aspen Lift Station. He reported that the impellers at the Hanlon Lift Station are shot and new pumps at the park will be installed later this summer. The pumps from the park will then be moved to Hanlon Lift Station.

The tree trimming ordinance was revised. The city would have the right to now trim a tree at the customer's request if it is not a safety issue with the power lines or the right of way. Also, homeowners need to notify the city if they see an issue with trees potentially falling on electric lines.

Jerry Bjerke reported that the air conditioner in the old Tahoe is not working well and may need some repair.

City Attorney Drew Johnson reported on the 1999 annexation. He said there were a number of mistakes in the legal descriptions and a typo in the resolution. Johnson also reported that Doug Abeln is satisfied with what he found out about the annexation and hopes the city will maintain the infrastructure if he develops it

The Dakota Press was appointed as the official newspaper as the council accepted the low quote. The council was concerned that the Dakota Press has not submitted a bill to the city since October 2017 and

Finance Officer Hope Block said it does mess with the budget when the bills are not submitted on a timely manner. Dakota Press Publisher Kathy Sundermeyer said she is still looking for a bookkeeper. It was the same reason she gave last year. She did say she would have the bills submitted by the next council meeting. The low quote was offered to the Groton Independent as well, but the publisher decided not to accept the low quote.

First State Bank of Claremont, Wells Fargo Bank and South Dakota Public Funds Investment Trust were designated as official depositories.

Funds of \$530 was transferred from contingency to the skating rink as it was over budget with the extended season this past year.

Councilman Burt Glover presented a proposal from the pool managers about painting a mural on the wall of the counter at the pool. The managers were given the okay to proceed and to present a design that the council can approve.

Hope Block, Karyn Babcock, Burt Glover and Paul Kosel were approved to attend the FEMA meeting July 17 in Aberdeen.



**Sun Dial Manor in Bristol  
is accepting applications for  
full time and part time CNA's.  
12 hr. shifts - days and nights  
(SIGN ON BONUS OFFERED)  
DIETARY OPENINGS  
Full time cook, 8 hr. shifts  
(WITH SIGN ON BONUS)**

**For more information,  
Call 605/492-3615**

## The Life of Douglas Bahr



The funeral for Douglas Bahr, 68, of Groton, was held Monday, July 9, 2018 at the United Methodist Church, Groton. Pastor Brandon Dunham officiated. Burial followed in Union Cemetery, Groton, under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Doug passed away July 5, 2018 at Avera St. Lukes Hospital, Aberdeen.

Douglas Barry Bahr was born in Aberdeen on August 14, 1949 to Orville and Donna (Craig) Bahr. He attended school in Groton, graduating in 1967. On June 14, 1969 he was united in marriage to Pamela Kay Rix and together they were blessed with four boys. Doug farmed for several years and was then employed at McGannon Plumbing and Heating. He later worked for the Groton Area School for eleven years before his retirement.

Doug was a member of the United Methodist Church, Groton. He enjoyed hunting, trapping, fishing and gardening. Each year he raised a large garden of pumpkins and tomatoes. He was an avid Minnesota Twins and Vikings fan and also enjoyed attending local basketball games. Doug loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Celebrating his life are his children, Troy (Jennifer) Bahr of Parker, Colorado, Brian Bahr and fiancé Elizabeth Dinger of Groton, Damian (Erin) Bahr of Groton, Dion (Samantha) Bahr of Groton, 14 grandchildren: Hunter, Ashtyn, Jackson, Alexandra "Lexi", Madilyn "Madi", London, Nolan, Jase, Beau, Roman, Raven, Jackson, Gretchen and Ari and his siblings, Jim (Linda) Bahr, Bonnie (Alan) Nierman, Patty (Wayne) Hein, Loren Bahr, Tammy (Vern) Heilman, Lonny (Brenda) Bahr.

Preceding him in death were his parents, his brother, Larry and the love of his life, Pam.

Honorary Casketbearers were his grandchildren.

Casketbearers were Troy Bahr, Brian Bahr, Damian Bahr, Dion Bahr, Dwight Strom and Chad Nierman.

[www.paetznick-garness.com](http://www.paetznick-garness.com)

## Century Club Announces Oldest Living South Dakotan



SIOUX FALLS, SD (July 9, 2018) The South Dakota Health Care Association's Century Club, along with KELOLAND Television, is pleased to announce Vivian Grover as the 2018 Centenarian of the Year! Born in February of 1911, Vivian is 107 years old, and the oldest member of the Century Club!

"Congratulations to Vivian on being honored as our Centenarian of the Year," said LuAnn Severson, Century Club Coordinator. "Her lifetime of experience is an inspiration for all of us."

Vivian grew up on a farm outside of Dover, Minnesota, getting up early every morning to milk cows and do other chores, before walking a mile to school. She moved into town and lived with her aunt to attend high school.

She met the man who would become her husband, Harry Grover, while visiting her brother in Rapid City. They were married November 30, 1931. Together, they worked a ranch, then later owned Grover's store in Keystone, and worked for Donaldson's department store in Rapid City. Vivian also was a deputy clerk for the magistrate court, an especially notable achievement because Vivian's formal education ended after two years of high school. She remains very proud of her service with the court. Vivian's husband passed away in 1987. She currently resides at Fountain Springs Healthcare in Rapid City.

Vivian helped raise her husband's three children in a blended family, and has 10 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, 57 great-great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great-great grandchildren.

Throughout her life, Vivian has loved to travel, including visits to England and France, as well as bus trips around the country, cruises, and fishing trips. She went whitewater rafting in Colorado when she was 83 and hiked Black Elk Peak every year until she was 84 years old. She believes that her active lifestyle has been one of the reasons she has lived so long.

"Do what you want to do," is Vivian's advice to others. "I'm just thankful I am here today, and that I can drink coffee, eat, and have a good night's sleep."

The Century Club was created by the South Dakota Health Care Association to recognize South Dakotans age 100 or older, both for their longevity and their contributions to our state. Over 1,200 South Dakotans have been inducted into the Century Club since its founding in 1997. The Century Club is, as its name states, a club. Therefore, there may be older people in the state that have not yet been inducted by a family member or loved one into the Century Club.

The Century Club is open to any resident of South Dakota upon the celebration of his or her 100th birthday. There are no dues and each inductee receives a specially designed certificate and membership card. Once a year, the current oldest living Century Club Member is recognized as the "Centenarian of the Year." Submit names for the Century Club by visiting [www.sdhca.org](http://www.sdhca.org) and downloading a Century Club application or call LuAnn Severson, Century Club Coordinator, at 1-800-952-3052.



## Wells looking forward to serving on council

Shirley Wells will become the newly appointed councilman for Ward 2. Wells works in the shipping and receiving department of Harry Implement in Ferney. She has two grown sons, Cody and Nick Monson.

Wells said that Mayor Scott Hanlon had approached her with the idea of finishing out Eddy Opp's term on the council until April 2019. At first, she said she was a little nervous about it and asked what it all entailed. She said, "I'm a taxpayer and I would like to know how my taxpayer dollars are being used. I've learned over the years that you would like to please everybody, but you know that's not possible. So many things change and prices continue to go up. It has opened my eyes and I want to be more involved in the community."

Wells has lived in Groton for about 20 years. Her hobbies are camping, spending time with family and working with her flowers around the house.

Prior to working at Harry Implement, she worked at Aman Collections in Aberdeen.

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## **"Believe in the Journey"**

**Ladies Luncheon & Program**

**Wednesday, July 18 at Noon**

**Bethesda Lutheran Church, Bristol**

**Silent Auction at 11:00 AM - Door Prizes**

**Dee Dee Raap - speaker**

**Advance tickets please: \$10**

**Call Kay Espeland 492-3507 or**

**Alice Jean Peterson 492-3351**

*Thank You*

***Groton Care and Rehab would like to sincerely thank the community for your unending support!***

***We remain to be a strong and caring facility, focusing on quality of life. We will continue to be an integral part of the Groton Community.***

Our staff continues to provide the greatest care to our residents.

***Come visit us to learn about the new opportunities!!***

**We Are Hiring!**



**GROTON**  
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

1106 N 2nd Street ~ Groton, SD ~ 605-397-2365

We are an equal employment opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status or any other characteristic protected by law.



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## Groton Lions Club Presents our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **SUMMER FEST**

Sunday, July 22, 2018

10:00am - 4:00pm

Groton City Park



Car Show, Music, Vendors,  
Bounce Houses, Food, Drink  
Vendors include: dōTERRA,  
LuLaRoe, LipSense, and many more

*\$25 vendor fee can be mailed to  
PO Box 373, Groton, SD 57445*

*Any questions, contact Topper at 397-7337  
or email [grotonlions@nvc.net](mailto:grotonlions@nvc.net)*



welcome

Christian & Missionary Alliance

Groton, South Dakota

### **The Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance Church**

will hold a Church Service at  
Groton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Summer Fest

**July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9am  
Groton City Park**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!**  
(bring a blanket or lawn chair)

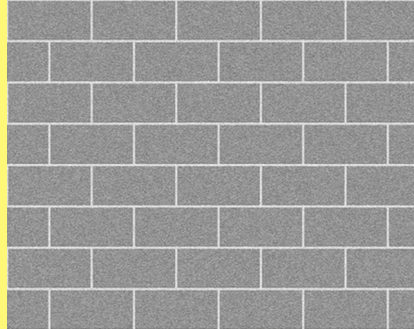
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## MIDWEST MASONRY & CONCRETE PUMPING



**NEW OR REPLACED  
SIDEWALK**



**BLOCK WALLS**



**EGRESS WINDOWS**



**DRIVEWAY**

**BASEMENT FLOORS**

**STONE AND BRICK**

**WORK**



**GARAGE FLOORS**

**Call for a free quote**

**605/397-8383**



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## Today in Weather History

July 10, 1998: Flash flooding occurred from Keldron, in Corson County, and areas south, during the late afternoon and evening as a result of up seven inches of rain that had fallen from slow moving thunderstorms. Willow Creek and several small tributaries went out of their banks causing the inundation of low areas and county roads. Many county roads were damaged with one farmer losing several pigs and cows as a result of the flooding.

1887: A dam breaks in Zug, Switzerland, killing 70 people in their homes and destroying a large section of the town.

1911: The mercury hit 105 degrees at North Bridgton, Maine the hottest reading of record for Maine. North Bridgton also reached 105 degrees on the 4th of July in 1911.

1913: The mercury hit 134 degrees at Greenland Ranch in Death Valley, California, the hottest reading of record for the World. Sandstorm conditions accompanied the heat.

1926: At the Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey, lightning struck one of the explosives storage structures during a thunderstorm and started a fire. As a result, several million pounds of explosives detonated over a period of 2–3 days. This explosion not only structural devastation, 187 of 200 buildings destroyed but military and civilian casualties as well. Close to one hundred are injured as explosion spreads havoc within a radius of 15 miles in New Jersey. Otto Dowling was in charge at the time and received a Distinguished Service Cross for his handling of the situation.

1936 - Afternoon highs of 112 degrees at Martinsburg, WV, 109 degrees at Cumberland, MD, and Frederick, MD, 110 degrees at Runyon, NJ, and 111 degrees at Phoenixville, PA, established all-time record highs for those four states. It was the hottest day of record for the Middle Atlantic Coast Region. (The Weather Channel)

1979 - The temperature at El Paso, TX, hit 112 degrees, an all-time record for that location. The next day was 110 degrees. (The Weather Channel)

1980 - The temperature in downtown Kansas City, MO, hit 109 degrees, following a sultry overnight low of 89 degrees. The daily low of 89 degrees was the warmest of record for Kansas City, and overall it was the hottest July day of record. It was the seventh of a record seventeen consecutive days of 100 degree heat, and the mean temperature for the month of 90.2 degrees was also an all-time record for Kansas City.

1987 - An early morning thunderstorm in Minnesota produced wind gusts to 91 mph at Waseca. Later that day, thunderstorms in South Dakota produced wind gusts to 81 mph at Ipswitch, and baseball size hail near Hayes and Capa. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)




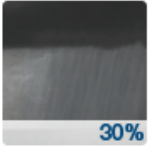



1988 - Thunderstorms brought welcome rains to parts of the central U.S., but produced severe weather along the New England coast, in the Great Lakes Region, in North Carolina, and in the Southern Plateau Region. Strong thunderstorm winds gusting to 80 mph at Bullfrog, UT, sank three boats on Lake Powell. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Severe thunderstorms spawned seventeen tornadoes in the northeastern U.S. A powerful (F-4) tornado struck Hamden CT and New Haven, CT, causing 100 million dollars damage at Hamden, and another 20 million dollars damage around New Haven. Forty persons were injured in the tornado. Seventy persons were injured in a tornado which traveled from Watertown, CT, to Waterbury, CT, and another powerful (F-4) tornado touched down near Ames NY injuring twenty persons along its 43.5 mile track. It was the strongest tornado of record for eastern New York State. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)




2005 - Hurricane Dennis landed near Pensacola, Florida as a category 3 storm. Maximum sustained winds at the time of landfall were near 120 mph. There were nine hurricane-related fatalities in the U.S. and preliminary estimates of insured losses ranged from \$1 to \$1.5 billion.

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| Today   | Tonight   | Wednesday   | Wednesday Night   | Thursday   | Thursday Night  | Friday  |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Heavy Rain then Mostly Sunny  | Partly Cloudy   | Hot   | Chance Showers  | Partly Sunny   | Mostly Clear  | Sunny   |
| High: 94 °F   | Low: 73 °F  | High: 95 °F   | Low: 67 °F  | High: 85 °F  | Low: 63 °F  | High: 89 °F   |

## Mid-week Forecast

|   | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday                          |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|
|  |  |  |                                   |
|   | H highs: 85-95 F   | Lows: 70-75 F<br>H highs: 85-95 F   | Lows: 65-70 F<br>H highs: 80-90 F |

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

Created: 7/9/2018 6:00 PM

 [www.weather.gov/abr](http://www.weather.gov/abr)  
 US National Weather Service Aberdeen SD  
 @NWSAberdeen

Published on: 07/09/2018 at 6:01PM

Slight chance for some rain showers or storms early Tuesday morning for the northern counties of SD. Nothing severe expected.

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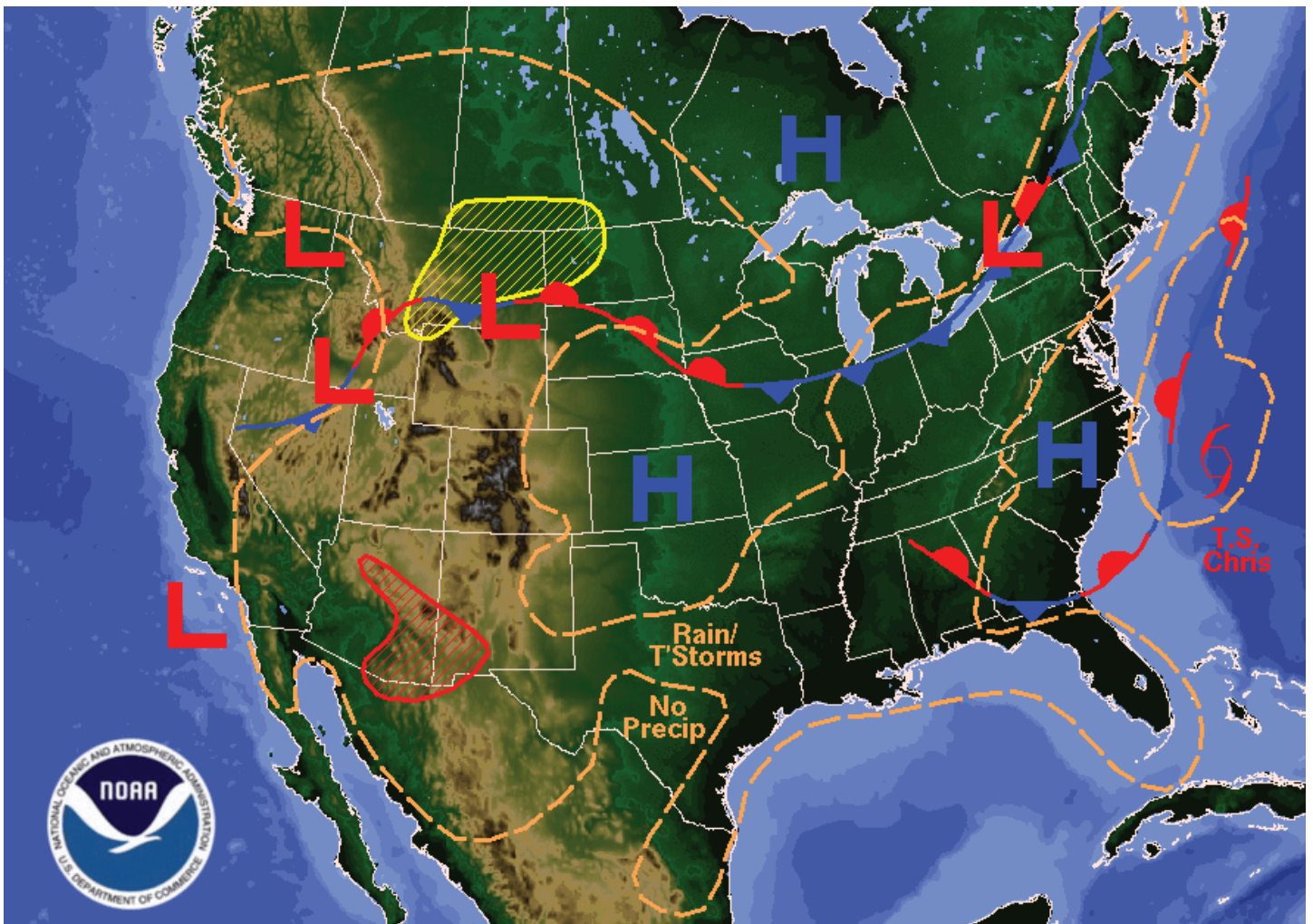
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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 87.9 F at 3:36 PM**  
**Heat Index: 94 at 3:07 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 68.6 F at 6:53 AM**  
**High Gust: 15.0 Mph at 12:06 AM**  
**Precip: 0.00**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 114° in 1936**  
**Record Low: 42° in 1945**  
**Average High: 83°F**  
**Average Low: 59°F**  
**Average Precip in July: 0.85**  
**Precip to date in July: 1.82**  
**Average Precip to date: 11.70**  
**Precip Year to Date: 7.64**  
**Sunset Tonight: 9:22 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:56 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Tue, Jul 10, 2018, issued 4:32 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)      |

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## ONE - YET EVERYONE

There is an ongoing argument in society that is contradictory, even confusing. There are those who say, "One size fits all. We are all the same." In other words there are no differences in our needs. What affects me affects everyone else and what matters to me matters to everyone else.

The others say, "I'm different and cannot be compared to anyone else and no one can understand me or my needs but me. So, don't try to force me into someone else's box!"

Who's right? Both. Each of us is different from everyone else, yet in the eyes of God we all have the same needs.

The Psalmist cried, "May Your unfailing love come to me, Lord, Your salvation according to Your promises." There can be little doubt that when he looked at his life and his particular issues he wanted God to recognize him. Perhaps he saw his sins as being more hideous and harmful than everyone else's and the problems he created for himself as more difficult to solve and more painful than anyone else's. So, he singled himself out and wanted the Lord to be sure that His "unfailing love" would include even Him.

And of course it did. When Jesus said that "God so loved the world," He was as much a part of that world as anyone else. We sometimes forget that the cross of Christ is the great "leveler" of mankind. No one is above His cross and certainly no one is beyond it.

Prayer: Thank You, Father, for a love that has no limits or favorites. Thank You for including each of us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 119:41 May your unfailing love come to me, Lord, your salvation, according to your promise;

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## 2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- 11/18/2017-3/31/2018 Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meat- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
- 1/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 4/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/4/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/27/2019 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
- 6/14/2018 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- 6/15/2018 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/16/2018 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2018 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/22/2018 Summer Fest (4th Sunday in July)
- 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party
  
- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events



## News from the Associated Press

### **Tribal judge fired after child's death files lawsuit**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A former Oglala Sioux Tribal Court judge is suing tribal leaders for her termination over the custody case of a toddler who was killed by his mother two months after being returned to her care.

The tribal council fired Chief Judge Kimberly Craven and two other judges in 2016 following complaints about their handling of Kylan Shangreaux's custody case. The 2-year-old boy was beaten to death two years ago by his mother, Katrina Shangreaux, who pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in March. She awaits sentencing.

Craven filed a lawsuit in Oglala Sioux Tribal Court in May, alleging she was illegally terminated, the Rapid City Journal reported. Craven seeks \$500,000 in damages or to be reinstated and paid for lost wages, benefits and attorney fees.

Tribal leaders asked the court last week to dismiss her case. The defendants allege that Craven had waived her right to sue the tribe and its officials under settlement agreements signed last year.

Craven also requested that the U.S. Attorney's Office, which is prosecuting Katrina Shangreaux, consider charges against two tribal employees in relation to Kylan's death. Craven said in a letter to the U.S. Attorney's Office that a Child Protective Services worker didn't investigate conditions at Shangreaux's home. Craven also alleges that the same worker was Shangreaux's friend but didn't recuse herself from the case.

The office declined to comment on the letter, which was sent days after Craven filed the lawsuit.

"I want the blame and potential criminal liability to be placed where it rightfully belongs," Craven said. "I am tired of being called a baby murderer in the press and on Facebook."

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

### **Driver in 5-fatality crash had long list of driving offenses**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls man who authorities say caused a crash that killed himself and four others had convictions for motor vehicle offenses dating back more than a decade.

Court documents show 29-year-old Michael Worlie had 10 convictions between February 2010 and this past May for driving with no license, an invalid license or a suspended license.

He also had convictions beginning in April 2007 for speeding, reckless driving, driving under the influence, motor vehicle burglary and grand theft.

The Highway Patrol says Worlie fled from a Yankton police officer Wednesday and his car crossed into the oncoming lanes of state Highway 50, hitting another car. He and another Sioux Falls man riding in his vehicle died.

Three Yankton residents in the other car died, and a 12-year-old Yankton girl suffered life-threatening injuries.

### **Charges filed in fatal Pine Ridge reservation shooting**

KYLE, S.D. (AP) — A 19-year-old man has been charged in a fatal shooting on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Palani Bull Bear-Gardipe is accused of killing 19-year-old Bryce Red Owl last month in Kyle during a confrontation. A court filing by the FBI says Red Owl was found June 27 with three gunshot wounds to the chest, wrist and back. The defendant was arrested the following day.

Red Owl's horse suffered serious wounds in the shooting and had to be euthanized.

Bull Bear-Gardipe is scheduled for a July 18 preliminary hearing.

## Sioux Falls man pleads not guilty in kidnapping case

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls man has pleaded not guilty to kidnapping and assault after he allegedly kept a woman captive in his apartment for several days.

Fifty-nine-year-old Kermit Lewis is accused of second-degree kidnapping and four counts of assault. State's Attorney Audie Murphy says Lewis abused the woman, including beating her with a brush.

The victim also told police she had been sexually assaulted. Officers are still investigating and no sexual assault charge has been filed yet.

The woman told police she met Lewis at a bar on June 29, but said he wouldn't let her leave his residence until Thursday morning.

## County candidate who lost election challenge going to court

BELLE FOURCHE, S.D. (AP) — The loser of a Butte County commissioner race is going to court after falling short in a ballot recount by one vote.

Unofficial results of the June 5 primary showed James Ager winning the District 1 commissioner's seat by two votes over Karen Wagner. Wagner requested a recount, but she was still determined to be the loser — this time by just one vote.

The Black Hills Pioneer reports Wagner is appealing, alleging the recount board appointed by a Fourth Circuit Court judge didn't follow proper procedure. Ager says he disagrees with that contention.

Information from: Black Hills Pioneer, <http://www.bhpioneer.com>

## 9th boy rescued from flooded cave in northern Thailand

By **KAWEEWIT KAEWJINDA** and **STEPHEN WRIGHT**, Associated Press

MAE SAI, Thailand (AP) — A ninth boy was rescued from a flooded cave in northern Thailand on Tuesday as divers were carrying out what they hope is a final mission to save the youngsters and their soccer coach trapped for more than two weeks.

Thailand's Navy SEALs said on their Facebook page that "the 9th Wild Boar was out of the cave at 4:06 p.m.," referring to the name of the soccer team they are all members of.

Eight of the 12 trapped boys were brought out of the cave by divers in the past two days. The third day of the intricate and high-risk mission aims to rescue the remaining boys and their coach and also bring out a medic and three Thai Navy SEALs who have stayed with the teenagers in their dark refuge deep within the sprawling cave.

Chiang Rai Gov. Narongsak Osatanakorn, who is heading the rescue effort, said earlier that Tuesday's operation began just after 10 a.m. and involved 19 divers.

"We expect that if there is no unusual condition ... the four boys, one coach, the doctor, and three SEALs who have been with the boys since the first day will come out today," he told a news conference to loud cheering.

Narongsak said this phase may take longer than the previous two rescue missions. The first and longest mission took 11 hours.

The eight boys brought out by divers over the previous two days are in "high spirits" and have strong immune systems because they are soccer players, a senior health official said.

Doctors were being cautious because of the infection risk and were isolating the boys in the hospital. They did get a treat, however: bread with chocolate spread that they'd requested.

The plight of the boys and their coach has riveted Thailand and much of the world - from the heart-sinking news they were missing to the first flickering video of the huddle of anxious yet smiling boys when they were found 10 days later by a pair of British divers. They were trapped in the Tham Luan Nang Non cave that became flooded by monsoon rains while they were exploring it after a soccer practice on June 23.

At a news conference, Jedsada Chokdumrongsuk, permanent secretary at the Public Health Ministry,

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said the first four boys rescued, aged 12 to 16, are now able to eat normal food, though they can't yet take the spicy dishes favored by many Thais.

Two of the boys possibly have a lung infection but all eight are generally "healthy and smiling," he said. "The kids are footballers so they have high immune systems," Jedsada said. "Everyone is in high spirits and are happy to get out. But we will have a psychiatrist to evaluate them."

It could be at least seven days before they can be released from hospital, Jedsada told a news conference. Family members have seen at least some of the boys from behind a glass isolation barrier, and Jedsada said doctors may let the boys walk around their beds Tuesday.

It was clear doctors were taking a cautious approach. Jedsada said they were uncertain what type of infections the boys could face "because we have never experienced this kind of issue from a deep cave."

If medical tests show no dangers, after another two days parents will be able to enter the isolation area dressed in sterilized clothing and staying 2 meters away from the boys, said Tosthep Bunthong, Chiang Rai Public Health Chief.

The second group of four rescued on Monday are aged 12 to 14.

At least nine ambulances and a convoy of other vehicles were at the cave site Tuesday.

Heavy rains in the morning cleared during the day, a reassuring sign for rescuers who have feared monsoon rains could imperil the rescue.

Officials scotched any chance of using tech billionaire Elon Musk's mini sub made of rocket parts to rescue the remaining boys.

Narongsak said he was grateful for Musk's support but the equipment was impractical for the rescue mission.

Musk on Tuesday visited the cave and posted pictures and videos online. He said he left the equipment there in case rescuers could use it in the future.

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This story has been updated with correct title and first name of health ministry official.

## Dozens of immigrant children will be reunited with parents

By ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Dozens of immigrant children will be released from detention centers and reunited with their parents Tuesday.

A government lawyer said Monday at least 54 children under the age of 5 would join their parents by a court-ordered deadline, only about half the 100 or so children covered by the order. The Trump administration was working on final background checks for another five children ahead of Tuesday's deadline.

Parents in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement custody "for the most part" are being taken to locations near their children and the families will be released, Justice Department attorney Sarah Fabian said in court. She said locations would not be publicly disclosed, but children have been sent to shelters across the country.

More than 2,000 children were separated from their parents by U.S. immigration authorities at the border this spring before President Donald Trump reversed course on June 20 amid an international outcry. Last week, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said there were "under 3,000" separated children in all.

Late last month, U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw in San Diego set a 14-day deadline to reunite children under 5 with their parents and a 30-day deadline for older children. The 30-day deadline is up July 26.

American Civil Liberties Union attorney Lee Gelernt sought assurances from the government Monday that advocates would be in position to guide parents when they are released in a foreign land. The parents will be free while their cases wind through immigration court, which can take years, and may be required to wear ankle monitors.

On Monday, a federal judge in Los Angeles rejected the Trump administration's efforts to detain immigrant families in long-term facilities, calling it a "cynical attempt to undo a longstanding court settlement."

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U.S. District Judge Dolly Gee said the government had failed to present new evidence to support revising a court order that limits the detention of children who crossed the border illegally.

The Department of Justice asked Gee to alter a 1997 settlement, which provides the framework for how to handle detained immigrant children, so it could detain families together for longer periods.

Three years ago, Gee rejected a similar effort by the Obama administration. She ruled at the time that immigrant children generally can't be held longer than 20 days.

Devin O'Malley, a Justice Department spokesman, said the department disagreed with Gee's Monday ruling and continued to review it.

ICE has three family detention centers with room for about 3,000 people in all, and the places are already at or near capacity. The Trump administration is trying to line up thousands of more beds at military bases.

Some attorneys and advocates prepared for Tuesday's reunions with little information.

The Annunciation House shelter in El Paso, Texas, was assisting four parents of children under 5 after their release from immigration detention, none of whom had reunited with their children as of Monday evening, said Taylor Levy, legal coordinator. Levy said that one mother of a 4-year-old was told by federal authorities to find a larger apartment if she wanted her son back.

Abril Valdez of the ACLU of Michigan said the government was "vague" on the time and place of the reunifications that could come Tuesday for two Honduran men he represents. Their 3-year-old sons were in temporary foster care in Grand Rapids while they were in a jail in Battle Creek.

Under-5 children who will remain separated for now include parents have already been released into the U.S., have been deported, or are behind bars on criminal charges.

Sabraw, an appointee of Republican President George W. Bush, said Monday that he was "very encouraged" by the efforts to reunite families by his deadline, calling it "real progress." He ordered both sides back in court on Tuesday to give another update and for him rule on differences over protocols to follow when reuniting the remaining children.

The two sides revealed in a filing late Monday that they are far apart on protocols for reunification, with the government arguing its practices are necessary under federal law to ensure child safety and the ACLU contending that many are too cumbersome under the circumstances. One area of disagreement is DNA testing on parents and children, with the government saying it should be the general rule and the ACLU saying it should be done only when no other evidence is available to prove parentage.

Other areas of disagreement include whether fingerprint checks should be run on other adult members of the household and parent participation a legal orientation program should be required before release.

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Associated Press writers Brian Melley in Los Angeles, Nomaan Merchant in Houston, Morgan Lee in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Corey Williams in Detroit contributed to this report.

## Trump to open trip by meeting with nervous NATO leaders

By JILL COLVIN and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's four-nation European tour has allies fretting over the risk of damage he could do to the decades-old NATO alliance. They're also worried about his potential embrace of Russia's Vladimir Putin during a summit in Helsinki.

The trip that begins Tuesday in Brussels will also take Trump to London, where Prime Minister Theresa May's government is in turmoil over her plans for exiting the European Union.

Trump has been pressing NATO countries to fulfill their goal of spending 2 percent of their gross domestic products on defense by 2024. During his presidential campaign, he suggested he might only come to the defense of NATO nations that fulfilled their obligation. He continues to criticize NATO countries for not paying their fair share.

NATO estimates that 15 members, or just over half, will meet the benchmark by 2024 based on current trends.

"The United States is spending far more on NATO than any other Country. This is not fair, nor is it ac-

ceptable," Trump tweeted Monday, insisting that NATO benefits Europe "far more than it does the U.S."  
"On top of this the European Union has a Trade Surplus of \$151 Million with the U.S., with big Trade Barriers on U.S. goods. NO!" he protested.

Trump, who has compared the Brexit vote to leave the EU to his own election, will be making his maiden presidential trip to Britain at a fraught time for May. Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson and Brexit Secretary David Davis resigned within hours of each other in protest of her plan.

Trump's visit is expected to attract large protests in London and elsewhere in Britain.

Trump's weeklong trip to Europe will continue with a stop in Scotland before ending with a sit-down in Helsinki with Putin, whose country the U.S. intelligence community has concluded interfered in the 2016 election to help Trump win.

The meeting will be closely watched to see whether Trump will rebuke or embrace Putin, who has repeatedly denied the allegations of election meddling, in spite of evidence to the contrary.

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Lemire reported from New York.

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

## China frees Nobel widow from house arrest that drew outcry

By GERRY SHIH and YANAN WANG, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China allowed the widow of Chinese Nobel Peace Prize laureate Liu Xiaobo to be freed from house arrest and leave for Berlin on Tuesday, ending an eight-year ordeal that drove the poet into depression and drew intense criticism of Beijing's human rights record.

The release of Liu Xia, who has never been charged with any crime, is the result of years of campaigning by Western governments and activists and comes just days before the one-year anniversary of the death of dissident Liu Xiaobo while he was serving a prison sentence for inciting subversion.

Liu Xia's brother, Liu Hui, wrote on a social media site: "Sister has already left Beijing for Europe at noon to start her new life. Thanks to everyone who has helped and cared for her these few years. I hope from now on her life is peaceful and happy."

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang is visiting Germany, a country that in May said it would welcome the widow after a recording was released of her crying in desperation and indicating she had lost hope of being able to leave China.

Liu's close friends Gao Yu, a veteran journalist in Beijing, and Wu Yangwei, better known by his pen name Ye Du, said Liu Xia was on a Finnair flight to Berlin that left Tuesday morning. Wu said he spoke to Liu Xia's older brother, Liu Tong.

"Liu Xia has been kept isolated for so many years," Wu said by phone from the southern city of Guangzhou. "I hope that being in a free country will allow Liu Xia to heal her long-standing traumas and wounds."

Friends say Liu Xia has expressed a preference for going to Germany, where she has a circle of friends from China's dissident and literary circles. German Chancellor Angela Merkel meets regularly with dissidents during visits to China and has raised Liu Xia's case with Chinese officials, including during a visit in May, people familiar with the matter said.

When Liu Xiaobo died, German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel urged the Chinese government to let Liu Xia and her brother leave the country for Germany.

China sentenced Liu Xiaobo in December 2009 to 11 years in prison on charges of inciting subversion of state power after he helped write a manifesto calling for political and economic liberalization.

Days after the Nobel Committee awarded him the Peace Prize in 2010, infuriating Beijing, Chinese authorities put Liu Xia under house arrest. State security assigned guards around-the-clock outside Liu's Beijing home and restricted her access to the internet and the outside world, allowing her only occasional phone calls with a small circle of friends.

The news of her release was a rare piece of good news for China's beleaguered community of activists,

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who have been at the center of an expansive crackdown on civil society, rights lawyers and other independent groups the administration of President Xi Jinping has deemed a threat to the ruling Communist Party's grip on power. The last time a high-profile political prisoner was allowed to leave China was in 2012, when Beijing permitted the blind activist Chen Guangcheng to fly to New York after he escaped from house arrest and hid for six days in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing.

Several expressed concerns about the fate of Liu's brother, Liu Hui, who has previously been convicted of fraud and sentenced to jail in a case supporters said was a form of retaliation against the attention the Nobel laureate was getting.

"This is fantastic news, something we have all been hoping against hope for a long time," said Hu Jia, a family friend and Beijing-based activist. "But we still fear for Liu Hui, who is being kept in the country as a guarantee so that Liu Xia does not speak out abroad."

A Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman, Hua Chunying, confirmed Tuesday that Liu had left for Germany, saying she was seeking "medical treatment on her own accord."

China has previously criticized calls by Western governments for Liu's release, saying that foreign countries were making "improper remarks" over what Beijing sees as a domestic affair.

Officials have also insisted that Liu Xia was a free citizen — a clear contradiction of the reality on the ground, according to her friends and people who encountered guards blocking their attempts to visit her at her home in Beijing.

Liu's friends in recent months have said her mental condition has steadily deteriorated, particularly since the death of her husband.

"If I can't leave, I'll die in my home," Liu Xia had said during a recent phone call with her close friend Liao Yiwu, a writer who documented their conversation in an essay published in May.

"Xiaobo is gone, and there's nothing in the world for me now," Liu said tearfully. "It's easier to die than live. Using death to defy could not be any simpler for me."

An accomplished artist and poet, Liu told Associated Press reporters during an unexpected visit to her home in 2012 that she had anticipated China would punish her for her husband's Nobel award, but she had not expected to be kept under "Kafkaesque" house arrest.

Rare images of Liu Xia were released by the authorities last year as she cared for Liu Xiaobo in his final days fighting liver cancer in a hospital under police custody.

The pale, bespectacled poet, who had long sported a shaved haircut, appeared gaunt and somber in most of the images. She was depicted attending Liu's closely staged funeral dressed in black and wearing dark sunglasses as she clutched a photograph of her husband.

Her husband was only the second Nobel Peace Prize winner to die in police custody, a fact pointed to by human rights groups as an indication of the ruling party's increasingly hard line against its critics. The first, Carl von Ossietzky, died from tuberculosis in Germany in 1938 while serving a sentence for opposing Adolf Hitler's Nazi regime.

Frances Eve, a researcher for Chinese Human Rights Defenders, said Liu Xia's "long-awaited" release was an "easy win" likely intended to stem the criticism around the upcoming anniversary of Liu's death in custody.

"I think the government wanted to try and save face, and make it seem as though it is a country ruled according to law when everything about her case has shown demonstrably that it is not," Eve said. "She has been an unwilling symbol of the brutality of China's treatment of human rights activists."

Associated Press writer Christopher Bodeen contributed to this report.

## Trump picks Kavanaugh, a GOP favorite, for Supreme Court

By CATHERINE LUCEY, ZEKE MILLER and MARK SHERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump chose Brett Kavanaugh, a solidly conservative, politically connected judge, for the Supreme Court, setting up a ferocious confirmation battle with Democrats as he

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seeks to shift the nation's highest court ever further to the right.

A favorite of the Republican legal establishment in Washington, Kavanaugh, 53, is a former law clerk for retiring Justice Anthony Kennedy. Like Trump's first nominee last year, Justice Neil Gorsuch, Kavanaugh would be a young addition who could help remake the court for decades to come with rulings that could restrict abortion, expand gun rights and roll back key parts of Obamacare.

"He is a brilliant jurist, with a clear and effective writing style, universally regarded as one of the finest and sharpest legal minds of our time," Trump said in his prime-time televised White House announcement Monday. He added: "There is no one in America more qualified for this position, and no one more deserving."

With Kavanaugh, Trump is replacing a swing vote on the nine-member court with a staunch conservative. Kavanaugh, who serves on the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, is expected to be less receptive to abortion and gay rights than Kennedy was. He also has taken an expansive view of executive power and has favored limits on investigating the president.

Speaking at the White House, Kavanaugh pledged to preserve the Constitution and said that "a judge must be independent and must interpret the law, not make the law. A judge must interpret the Constitution as written."

A senior White House official said Trump made his final decision on the nomination Sunday evening, then phoned Kavanaugh to inform him. The official said Trump decided on Kavanaugh because of his large body of jurisprudence cited by other courts, describing him as a judge that other judges read.

On Monday, Trump phoned retiring Justice Kennedy to inform him that his former law clerk would be nominated to fill his seat. Trump signed Kavanaugh's nomination papers Monday evening in the White House residence.

Top contenders had included federal appeals judges Raymond Kethledge, Amy Coney Barrett and Thomas Hardiman.

Some conservatives have expressed concerns about Kavanaugh, questioning his commitment to social issues like abortion and noting his time serving under President George W. Bush as evidence he is a more establishment choice. But his supporters have cited his experience and wide range of legal opinions.

With Democrats determined to vigorously oppose Trump's choice, the Senate confirmation battle is expected to dominate the months leading up to November's midterm elections. Senate Republicans hold only a 51-49 majority, leaving them hardly any margin if Democrats hold the line. Democratic senators running for re-election in states Trump carried in 2016 will face pressure to back his nominee.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell called Kavanaugh "a superb choice" and said senators would start meeting with him this week.

Some Republican senators had favored other options. Rand Paul of Kentucky had expressed concerns but tweeted that he looked forward to meeting with Kavanaugh "with an open mind."

Democrats and liberal advocacy groups quickly lined up in opposition.

Signaling the fight ahead on abortion rights, Dawn Laguens, executive vice president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, said in a statement: "There's no way to sugarcoat it: With this nomination, the constitutional right to access safe, legal abortion in this country is on the line."

The White House invited a number of senators to attend the Monday night announcement. Democrats who were invited but declined included Sens. Joe Donnelly of Indiana, Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota, Doug Jones of Alabama, Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Dianne Feinstein of California. Feinstein is the ranking Democrat on the Judiciary Committee. The others are Republican targets for the confirmation vote who come from Trump-won states where they face re-election this fall.

Democrats have turned their attention to pressuring two Republicans, Sens. Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, to oppose any nominee who threatens *Roe v. Wade*. The two have supported access to abortion services.

Kavanaugh is likely to be more conservative than Justice Kennedy on a range of social issues. At the top of that list is abortion. A more conservative majority could be more willing to uphold state restrictions on abortion, if not overturn the 45-year-old landmark *Roe v. Wade* decision that established a woman's

constitutional right.

Kennedy's replacement also could be more willing to allow states to carry out executions and could support undoing earlier court holdings in the areas of racial discrimination in housing and the workplace. Kennedy provided a decisive vote in 2015 on an important fair housing case.

Like the other eight justices on the court, Kavanaugh has an Ivy League law degree, spending his undergraduate and law school years at Yale. Since 2006, he has been a judge on the federal appeals court in Washington. He also was a key aide to Kenneth Starr during Starr's investigation of President Bill Clinton, worked on behalf of George W. Bush's campaign during the election recount in 2000 and served in the Bush White House.

Kavanaugh's many written opinions provide insight into his thinking and also will be fodder for Senate Democrats who will seek to block his confirmation. He has written roughly 300 opinions as a judge, authored several law journal articles, regularly taught law school classes and spoken frequently in public.

Kavanaugh's views on presidential power and abortion are expected to draw particular attention in his confirmation hearing. Drawing on his experience working on the Clinton investigation and then in the Bush White House, he wrote in a 2009 law review article that he favored exempting presidents from facing both civil suits and criminal investigations, including indictment, while in office. That view has particular relevance as special counsel Robert Mueller is looking into Russian meddling in the 2016 election and whether the Trump campaign played any role in a foreign interference plot.

On abortion, Kavanaugh voted in October to delay an abortion for a teenage immigrant who was in government custody. The court's ruling in her favor was based on a constitutional principle, he wrote, "as novel as it is wrong: a new right for unlawful immigrant minors in U.S. Government detention to obtain immediate abortion on demand."

Trump's success in confirming conservative judges, as well as a Supreme Court justice, has cheered Republicans amid concerns about his limited policy achievements and chaotic management style. Of the court's liberal justices, Ruth Bader Ginsburg is 85 and Stephen Breyer turns 80 next month, so Trump may well get another opportunity to cement conservative dominance of the court for years to come.

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Associated Press writer Lisa Mascaro contributed to this report.

## **Baby found alive buried under debris in Montana woods**

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) — A 5-month-old infant who miraculously survived more than nine hours being buried under a pile of sticks and debris in the woods of western Montana suffered only minor injuries despite wearing wet and soiled clothes in cold weather, authorities said.

The baby boy is otherwise in good condition, authorities said.

Missoula County Sheriff's deputies were called about 8 p.m. Saturday about a man threatening people in the Lolo Hot Springs area of the Lolo National Forest. Deputies apprehended the man, who indicated that a baby was buried somewhere in the woods.

The sheriff's office hastily put together a search crew of federal, state and local officials that combed the forest outside the hot springs for six hours before a deputy heard a baby's cry at about 2:30 a.m. Sunday.

He found the baby face-down under the pile of sticks and debris, dressed only in a wet and soiled onesie in the 46-degree (8-degree Celsius) weather.

"He suffered some minor scrapes and bruising but overall is in good health," sheriff's spokeswoman Brenda Bassett said in a statement Monday.

The baby was taken to a hospital. Custody of the child has been referred to the state Division of Child and Family Services. Spokesman Chuck Council declined to answer any questions about where the child will be placed or how the baby will be cared for, citing medical privacy.

Francis Crowley, 32, was being held on \$50,000 bail on a charge of criminal endangerment. Additional charges will follow, the sheriff's office said in a statement Sunday.

"For all of us at the sheriff's office, this is what we call a miracle," the statement said. "For the officers



who were present for this event, it's especially hard knowing what this small baby endured in the last 24 hours."

Crowley is from Portland, Oregon, and was previously arrested in June in Missoula on a fugitive warrant from Oregon, the Missoulian reported. Crowley was released when Oregon officials decided not to extradite him, Deputy Missoula County Attorney Jason Marks said.

The nature of Crowley's relationship to the baby was not immediately clear. There was no information on whether Crowley had an attorney.

## Wet hot Washington: Stormy Daniels strips near White House

By LAURIE KELLMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As President Donald Trump exercised his power by nominating Brett Kavanaugh Monday night at the White House, adult film star Stormy Daniels exercised hers about a mile away, wearing nothing but black heels.

"She is the one person who could take down Donald Trump," said Diana Lautenberger, 34, who said she works for a nonprofit group.

"We're here to support her," said Jim Simpson, 66, chuckling. "She needs money."

Dollar bills, some real and some fake, rained down on Daniels as she danced around the stage of the Cloakroom, a strip club whose grand opening she headlined Monday night. And yes, at roughly the same time Trump was doing his reveal, Daniels was taking it all off — the pink dress, the gloves, the bracelets and the feathered boa — to songs like "Big Spender" and "Material Girl."

"All Things Revealed," as the 15-minute show is called, is apparently a case of epic timing. Deliberately or not, it's the latest chapter in Daniels' remarkable ability to shadow Trump's presidency.

"The stars aligned," said Cloakroom co-owner Andre DeMoya, who said he first reached out to Daniels' agent, and she accepted. The date had been moved at least once.

Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, has said she had sex with Trump in 2006 when he was married, which Trump has denied. She's suing Trump and his former longtime personal lawyer and fixer Michael Cohen and seeking to invalidate a nondisclosure agreement that she signed days before the 2016 presidential election.

It was unclear how much money the club and Daniels were earning from the event, which charged \$50 and up per seat. The venue, DeMoya said, can seat a couple hundred people, but it was not nearly full on Monday night. A group of nine female bartenders and servers dressed in black bras, bikini bottoms and boots who took photos out front before the show smiled for the cameras and said, "11K!" — the amount of money, one said later, that some of the staff were hoping to make and share.

But Daniels was the star draw, even for the other female dancers.

"I am so stoked to see her," said one performer, Renee, 25, wearing a long red dress and 7-inch heels, adding that she's impressed that Daniels is standing up for herself and children separated from their parents at the U.S. border with Mexico. "I think she's awesome."

Daniels, 39, did not pole dance as other performers did during more than two hours of opening acts. Instead, she emerged in a pinkish-red strapless dress with a silver bow in back, gloves and glittery bracelets, her blonde hair cascading down her back. She circled the room, pushing her breasts into some peoples' faces, then took the stage.

She flung a glove to one audience member, then slid a bracelet across the stage floor to another. Soon, the dress came off and she was down to just the feathery boa. Then that was gone, too. And the only things still covered were her feet, in black dancer's shoes rather than massive platforms worn by other performers.

Daniels danced on the floor at one end of the stage, then the other, accepting dollar bills in a garter or between her breasts. And still, dollar bills cascaded down from the balcony. At one point, she got a bouncer's attention and pointed to all the paper on the stage — a safety hazard, perhaps? — asking him

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to sweep it up. He did, and Daniels moved on.

Then, she was gone, or so it appeared. Soon, Daniels was back in the lobby — in a black halter dress — to sell merchandise and take pictures with supporters.

Keith Swann paid his \$20 and strode past the wristbands, bottle openers and #TeamStormy T-shirts, right up to Stormy Daniels' side.

"I wanted to meet the lady who has a lawsuit against the president," Swann told the adult film actress who had just bared it all during a 15-minute strip tease.

"That would be me," replied Daniels, raising one hand, before turning to the next person in line.

Follow Kellman on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/APLaurieKellman>

## Networks covering Supreme Court pick move to battle stations

By DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Television networks moved swiftly Monday from deciphering a mystery to setting up battle stations in their coverage of President Donald Trump's nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Fox News Channel and MSNBC have become the two most popular networks in cable television with opinionated prime-time lineups. Monday, they assigned their stars Sean Hannity and Rachel Maddow — as opposed to straight news anchors — to quarterback coverage of Trump's announcement, a made-for-TV moment with a big reveal.

"We are moments away from one of the most important and consequential decisions in American history," Hannity said in opening the show.

Fox News Channel is likely to be the outlet where most Americans learned of Trump's decision. Fox News was a close second to CBS last year when Trump nominated Neil Gorsuch in a similar prime-time show, but that was on a winter night when many CBS viewers were probably anticipating a new episode of "NCIS."

Fox's coverage was led by Trump's fiercest defender in the media and a confidant of the president who reportedly speaks to him regularly.

Following Trump's announcement, Hannity spoke to Fox correspondents Shannon Bream, John Roberts and Ed Henry. Henry read a partial quote from a Democratic National Committee statement that said Kavanaugh shouldn't be allowed anywhere near the Supreme Court.

"I'm convinced if the president gave every American five million dollars, the left would still oppose him," Hannity said.

He said Kavanaugh is considered "a brilliant judicial mind" and his selection was the result of a process set by "the most transparent president in history." The reference was to a list of potential Supreme Court nominees that Trump revealed before the presidential election, which included both Gorsuch and Kavanaugh.

Hannity said of another potential Trump choice, Amy Coney Barrett, that "she's next."

"We'll also show you all the ways predictably the Democrats will try to obstruct the president's constitutional duty," Hannity said. "They're already starting the smearing, the besmirching, the fear mongering and the character assassination of Judge Kavanaugh."

Over on MSNBC, Maddow's coverage looked markedly different, with discussions of the successful Republican effort to block a vote on President Barack Obama's last Supreme Court nominee, and the ongoing investigation into the Trump campaign's contact with Russia. She asked viewers to consider "the snapshot" of Trump associates — including Paul Manafort, Michael Flynn and Michael Cohen — under investigation or facing charges.

"We shouldn't lose sight of what a remarkable thing this is that has just happened tonight," she said. "The nomination comes at a time when that choice is fraught and consequential in ways that have never applied to any other U.S. president, ever."

In a discussion with Chris Matthews, Maddow said Kavanaugh appeared to be the only one on Trump's list who is on the record as asserting that a president should be exempt from criminal investigation and

prosecution while in office, other than by Congress.

"Does the phrase 'judge shopping' come to mind?" Matthews said.

With Trump no favorite among liberals, Maddow's audience is likely to be smaller: Fox drew nearly five times as many viewers as MSNBC for Gorsuch's nomination, the Nielsen company said.

Trump worked hard to keep news of Kavanaugh's nomination from leaking, though several news organizations confirmed it in the minutes leading up to the announcement. Even as guests entered the East Room of the White House on Monday night, placards resting on chairs in the front room simply read, "Nominee Family." The teleprompter in the back didn't include Kavanaugh's name.

"I don't think we've gotten this close to an announcement before without it leaking," CNN's Jake Tapper said.

The president "is the producer," said CNN analyst and former Obama aide David Axelrod. "He doesn't want anyone messing up the show."

As Trump approached the podium, Hannity said The Associated Press had reported that Kavanaugh was the choice. Before Trump announced his choice, NBC ran a chyron that said Kavanaugh would be it. ABC and CBS went with messages that Trump was announcing his nominee, and added Kavanaugh's name when the judge joined Trump onstage.

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Associated Press writers Lynn Elber in Los Angeles and Ken Thomas in Washington contributed to this report.

## **US will reunite and release over 50 immigrant children**

**By ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press**

SAN DIEGO (AP) — More than 50 immigrant children under age 5 will be reunited with their parents by Tuesday's court-ordered deadline for action by Trump administration, a government attorney said Monday. The families will be released after they are reunited.

That's only about half of the 100 or so infants and toddlers covered by the order.

At a court hearing, Justice Department lawyer Sarah Fabian acknowledged the government wouldn't meet the deadline for all the children, citing a variety of reasons, including that the parents of some of the youngsters have already been deported.

Fabian said that 54 children will be joined with their parents by the end of Tuesday at locations across the country and that an additional five were undergoing final background checks.

It was the first time the government indicated whether the parents and children would be released or detained together. They will be set free in the U.S. pending the outcome of their immigration cases, which can take several years.

Fabian didn't say why they were being released, but U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has little space to hold families.

ICE has three family detention centers with room for about 3,000 people in all, and the places are already at or near capacity. The Trump administration is trying to line up thousands more beds at military bases.

American Civil Liberties Union attorney Lee Gelernt told reporters he was "both pleased and disappointed" with the government's progress toward meeting the deadline.

"Tomorrow there will hopefully be more than 50 babies and toddlers reunited with their parents, and that is obviously an enormous victory," he said. But he said those who remain split from their parents are "in for a long process."

U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw ordered both sides back in court on Tuesday to give another update and for him rule on differences over protocols to follow when reuniting children.

The two sides revealed in a filing late Monday that they are far apart on protocols for reunification, with the government arguing its practices are necessary under federal law to ensure child safety and the ACLU contending that many are too cumbersome under the circumstances. One area of disagreement is DNA testing on parents and children, with the government saying it should be the general rule and the ACLU

saying it should be done only when no other evidence is available to prove parentage.

Other areas of disagreement include whether fingerprint checks should be run on other adult members of the household and parent participation a legal orientation program should be required before release.

More than 2,000 children in all were separated from their parents by U.S. immigration authorities at the border this spring before President Donald Trump reversed course on June 20 amid an international outcry and said families should remain together.

Late last month, Sabraw, an appointee of Republican President George W. Bush, set a 14-day deadline to reunite children under 5 with their parents and a 30-day deadline for older children. The 30-day deadline is up July 26.

Monday's hearing set the stage for a dramatic day of reunifications on Tuesday across the country, though they are likely to occur largely outside public view. Fabian did not disclose where the reunions would take place.

As for most of the rest of the under-5 children who have yet to reunited with their families, Fabian said that their parents have already been released into the U.S., have been deported, or are behind bars on criminal charges.

One child has not been matched with a parent, Fabian said. The ACLU identified him as a 3-year-old boy.

The hearing followed a feverish weekend of talks between the administration and the ACLU after the judge refused on Friday to grant a blanket extension to the deadline, saying instead that he would only consider certain exceptions.

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Associated Press writer Nomaan Merchant in Houston contributed to this report.

## Judge denies US claim on 2 of 3 California immigration laws

By DON THOMPSON, Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — A judge on Monday dismissed the federal government's claim that U.S. law trumps two California laws intended to protect immigrants who are in the country illegally, affirming his ruling last week that California was within its rights to pass two of its three so-called sanctuary laws.

U.S. District Judge John Mendez rejected the U.S. government's argument on two of the laws that the U.S. Constitution gives the federal government pre-eminent power over states to regulate immigration. The Trump administration argued that California is obstructing its immigration enforcement efforts.

As he did in last week's decision, Mendez ruled Monday that the federal government could proceed with its attempt to block part of a third California sanctuary law, which prohibits employers from allowing immigration officials on their property without warrants.

The twin rulings by Mendez, who was nominated to the federal bench by Republican President George W. Bush, allow California to continue limiting police cooperation with immigration officials and require inspections of detention facilities despite the Trump administration's lawsuit filed in March.

The lawsuit, announced by U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions, is part of the Trump administration's efforts to overturn so-called sanctuary jurisdictions that he said allow criminals to remain free. Supporters of sanctuary laws argue they encourage immigrants to report crimes without fearing deportation.

California's law limiting the sharing of information with federal agents "does not directly conflict" with U.S. law, Mendez wrote in a seven-page decision.

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra, in a statement, called the decision "a victory for our State's ability to safeguard the privacy, safety, and constitutional rights of all of our people. Though the Trump Administration may continue to attack a state like California and its ability to make its own laws, we will continue to protect our constitutional authority to protect our residents and the rule of law."

U.S. Department of Justice spokesman Devin O'Malley did not immediately respond to telephone and email requests for comment after normal East Coast business hours.

As for California's law that requires state inspections of detention facilities where immigrants are held, the judge wrote that he found nothing in the federal statutes saying Congress did not intend for states

to have oversight of detention facilities in their borders.

The law "does not give California a role in determining whether an immigrant should be detained or removed from the country, nor does it place any substantive requirements or burdens on these detention facilities apart from providing access," Mendez wrote.

Mendez ruled last week that California cannot enforce the warrants law, so court proceedings on that portion of the law will continue. Both sides could elect to appeal the judge's decisions on any of the rulings.

## **Boris Johnson quits as UK's May faces mounting Brexit crisis**

**By JILL LAWLESS and DANICA KIRKA, Associated Press**

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Theresa May dug in her heels Monday after the resignation of two top government ministers over Brexit negotiations whipped up a storm that threatened to topple her fragile minority government

Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson quit with a resignation letter accusing May of flying "white flags" of surrender in negotiations with the European Union. He said "the Brexit dream is dying, suffocated by needless self doubt "

Johnson followed Brexit Secretary David Davis out the door as a hard-won government consensus on future trade ties with the bloc disintegrated less than three days after it was forged, and nine months before Britain is due to leave the EU.

Davis resigned late Sunday, saying May's plan to maintain close trade and regulatory ties with the EU gave "too much away, too easily."

If Davis's resignation rattled May, Johnson's shook the foundations of her government. The tousle-headed blond Johnson is one of Britain's best-known politicians, and one of the most prominent advocates for Brexit. Some euroskeptic lawmakers dream of replacing May with a staunch Brexiteer such as Johnson, a populist, polarizing figure who has never made a secret of his ambition to be prime minister.

"It is as though we are sending our vanguard into battle with the white flags fluttering above them," Johnson wrote in a letter that underscored his credentials as a champion of full-speed Brexit.

"The government now has a song to sing," he said. "The trouble is that I have practiced the words over the weekend and find that they stick in the throat."

May named one of her most loyal ministers, Jeremy Hunt, to replace Johnson in the job of Britain's top diplomat. Hunt had been health secretary, and is a leading government backer of a compromise "soft Brexit."

May met with Conservative lawmakers in a packed room at Parliament, in a bid to calm the feverish atmosphere in the deeply divided party.

Under Conservative Party rules, a confidence vote in a leader can be triggered if 48 Conservative lawmakers write a letter requesting one. But leading pro-Brexit lawmaker Jacob Rees-Mogg said he didn't think she would face a leadership challenge.

"My concern is about the policy rather than the individual," he said.

With Britain due to leave the 28-nation bloc on March 29, 2019, EU officials have warned Britain repeatedly that time is running out to seal a deal spelling out the terms of the divorce and a post-split relationship.

Two years after Britain voted 52 percent to 48 percent to leave the European Union, May is trying to find a middle way between two starkly differing views — within her party and the country — of the U.K.'s relationship with Europe. Pro-Europeans want to retain close economic ties with the bloc and its market of 500 million people, while some, but not all, Brexit supporters want a clean break to make it possible to strike new trade deals around the world.

The resignations came just days after May announced Friday that she had finally united her quarrelsome government behind a plan for a divorce deal with the EU.

Government unity began to fray within hours. Brexit-supporting lawmakers were angered by the proposals, saying they would keep Britain tethered to the bloc and unable to change its rules to strike new trade deals around the world. They also argued that the proposals breach several of the "red lines" the government had set out, including a commitment to leave the EU's tariff-free customs union.

In his resignation letter, Davis said the "common rule book policy hands control of large swathes of our economy to the EU and is certainly not returning control of our laws in any real sense."

Johnson said in his letter that May's plan to keep close economic ties with the bloc means Britain is heading for a "semi Brexit" that would leave Britain with the "status of a colony" of the EU.

May defended her Brexit plan to lawmakers in the House of Commons on Monday, with Johnson absent from his usual place on the Conservative front bench.

She said she and the two departed ministers "do not agree about the best way of delivering our shared commitment to honoring the result of the referendum" in which U.K. voters opted to leave the EU.

May's plan seeks to keep the U.K. and the EU in a free-trade zone for goods, and commits Britain to maintaining the same rules as the bloc for goods and agricultural products.

May said the plan would deliver frictionless trade with Europe and was the "only way to avoid a hard border" between the U.K.'s Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland. Working out how to keep the currently invisible border free of tariffs and customs checks has been a major stumbling block in negotiations.

Rebuffing claims that her proposals make too many concessions to the EU, May said her "smooth and orderly Brexit" would leave Britain free to make its own laws and trade deals.

Britain and the EU hope to reach broad agreement by October so the national parliaments of the remaining countries can ratify a deal before Britain leaves. The timetable increasingly looks overly optimistic, and EU frustration with British division and chaos is growing.

European Council President Donald Tusk said Monday that "the mess caused by Brexit is the biggest problem in the history of EU-UK relations and it is still very far from being resolved."

Opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn said the government was incapable of delivering Brexit.

"How can anyone have faith in the prime minister getting a good deal with 27 European Union governments when she can't even broker a deal within her own Cabinet?" he asked.

May has hung on to power longer than many expected after she lost her majority in a June 2017 snap election that she had called in hopes of strengthening her hand in Brexit talks.

But May's allies fear more resignations may follow. Steve Baker, a junior Brexit minister, resigned along with Davis. May appointed staunchly pro-Brexit lawmaker Dominic Raab as the country's new Brexit secretary. Many pro-Brexit lawmakers were furious at what they saw as a sell-out of the clean Brexit they desire. Euroskeptic Conservative lawmaker Peter Bone said party activists felt "betrayed" by the government plan.

May was asked by an opposition lawmaker Monday whether she would contest a vote of confidence if one came rather than resign.

"Nice try," she said with a touch of bravado. "But I'm getting on with delivering what the British people want."

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Associated Press writers Lorne Cook and Raf Casert in Brussels contributed to this report.

## Starbucks, citing ocean threat, is ditching plastic straws

By CANDICE CHOI, AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Starbucks will eliminate plastic straws from all of its locations within two years, the coffee chain announced Monday, becoming the largest food and beverage company to do so as calls for businesses and cities to cut waste grow louder.

While the straws account for a small percentage of the pollution that ends up in the ocean, they've become a flashpoint because they're seen as an easy way to reduce waste.

"There are several of these single-use items the public is realizing, hey, we don't actually need these," said Denise Hardesty, a scientist with Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation who studies plastic pollution.

A week after its hometown of Seattle banned plastic drinking straws and utensils, Starbucks said Monday that by 2020, it will use straws made from biodegradable materials such as paper and specially designed lids. The company already offers alternative straws in Seattle.

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Straws often become trash because their small size makes them difficult to recycle.

Other cities, like Fort Myers Beach in Florida, have banned plastic straws, and similar proposals are being considered in New York and San Francisco. The push to ban the straws gained traction after a viral video in 2015 showed rescuers removing a straw from a sea turtle's nose in graphic detail.

The issue of waste more broadly is coming up in company boardrooms.

In February, Dunkin' Donuts said it would eliminate polystyrene foam cups from its stores by 2020.

McDonald's said it would switch to paper straws in the United Kingdom and Ireland by next year and test alternatives to plastic straws in some U.S. locations. The burger chain also said this year it would use only recycled or other environmentally friendly materials for its soda cups, Happy Meal boxes and other packaging by 2025.

Plastic drinking straws make up only about 4 percent of plastic trash by number of pieces, and far less by weight. Straws add up to about 2,000 tons of the nearly 9 million tons of plastic waste that ends up in waters around the globe each year.

Still, the advocacy group 5 Gyres notes that the top five biggest sources of single-use plastic are plastic bags, water bottles, to-go containers, to-go cups and straws.

Other plastic items have also been targeted in recent years.

Several local governments have enacted bans and fees on plastic bags. Reusable water bottles have also gained popularity as a way to reduce use of plastic water bottles, with refilling water stations popping up on college campuses and elsewhere.

One reason big chains say it will take time to change practices may be the difficulty in securing adequate supplies. Imperial Dade, a food service and janitorial supplies distributor based in New Jersey, says it's seen a huge spike in demand for alternative straws in recent months.

"Our biggest challenge is trying to locate alternative sources so we can satisfy the demand," said Laura Craven, the company's director of marketing.

Craven also said she's starting to see more awareness about the need for exemptions for straws that bend, which people with disabilities and others may need. Starbucks says it expects an alternative it has to work in that regard.

The strawless lids will begin to appear in Seattle and Vancouver Starbucks this fall, with phased rollouts within the U.S. and Canada next year. A global rollout of strawless lids will follow, beginning in Europe, where they will be used in some stores in France and the Netherlands, as well as in the United Kingdom.

## Yemen demands Emirates shut down prisons where abuses rife

By AHMED AL-HAJ and MAGGIE MICHAEL, Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Yemen's interior minister on Monday demanded the United Arab Emirates shut down or hand over secret prisons that The Associated Press reported are under the control of the UAE and its allied militias.

At least 80 detainees have been freed from the facilities in recent weeks since an AP investigation detailed sexual abuse and torture at the sites.

It was the first time Interior Minister Ahmed al-Maysari has gone public with the demand in talks with an Emirati official, seeming to contradict the UAE's repeated denials that it has authority over any prisons in Yemen.

The AP first reported in an investigation last year that the UAE and its allied militias were running a network of secret detention facilities around southern Yemen, beyond the control of Yemeni President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi's government.

Former prisoners and security officials described widespread torture at the facilities, which are housed in locations ranging from Emirati-run military bases to a former nightclub run by a UAE-backed security chief and his anti-terrorism squad. Thousands of Yemenis swept up in the U.S.-backed campaign against al-Qaida have been held in the prisons without charges or trials. Some have been interrogated by U.S. personnel inside the facilities, the AP found.

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In June, the AP revealed that hundreds had been subjected to sexual abuse, including one incident in the Beir Ahmed prison in the southern city of Aden, where detainees were lined up naked as guards probed their anal cavities. Sexual abuses were filmed as a way to turn suspects into informants, detainees reported.

On Sunday, Anwar Gargash, the UAE state minister for foreign affairs, dismissed as "fake news" reports that his country controls prisons or has set up a base on the Yemeni island of Socotra.

"In Yemen, the Emiratis have been subjected to an unjust smear campaign because it bears its responsibility toward regional security with courage and boldness," he said.

Al-Maysari, who has come under pressure from families of detainees who have disappeared into the prison network, has previously said he has no authority over the prisons and that he can't even enter the southern city of Aden without Emirati permission.

In Yemen's three-year civil war, the UAE is part of the Saudi-led coalition battling Iranian-backed rebels known as Houthis who have taken over most of northern Yemen.

Ostensibly, the Emiratis and Hadi's government are allies in that fight. But tensions have been high between them. The UAE has built up militias across southern Yemen that government officials say are only loyal only to the Emiratis. Those forces have taken over wide swaths of territory in the south, including towns and cities. The official security forces, by contrast, are fragmented and poorly funded.

On Monday, al-Maysari met in Aden with the UAE's state minister for international cooperation, Reem al-Hashemi, in talks also attended by the top Emirati military commander in Yemen, Brig. Gen. Mohamed al-Hassani.

Al-Maysari stressed the "necessity to shut down the prisons and put them under the authority of the Yemeni judiciary and prosecution," the state-run SABA news agency said.

Al-Maysari visited the Emirates last month for talks that officials said drew up plans to shut down the prisons. His visit came after repeated TV appearances in which he said he has no control over the prisons.

A senior government official told the AP on Monday that "the prisons are still under the Emiratis' full control."

"There are promises by the Emiratis to hand them over. We hope so," he said. "All we have are promises."

Recent weeks have seen several prisoner releases, apparently aimed at easing some of the pressure. So far 80 prisoners have been freed, according to prosecutors and family members.

In the latest release, three people who had been forcibly disappeared returned home to their families three days ago, saying they were freed from the Wadah Nightclub detention facility, their families told the AP.

The Wadah facility was found empty Sunday during a visit by the state-run National Commission to Investigate Alleged Violations in Human Rights, the commission said. It is not clear how many detainees were there or what happened to them. Former detainees say there were several cells, some containing up to 70 people.

In recent weeks, there appears to have been an effort to paper over the conditions at Beir Ahmed. Prisoners say on one occasion, wardens forced detainees to play volleyball and chess in front of cameras, and that TV screens were installed to allow them to watch the World Cup. The prisoners spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals.

Al-Maysari was expected to visit the prison on Sunday, according to three relatives of prisoners who met with him on Wednesday. "He told us he will get in, search for the missing ones, and get a full list of detainees. He will be in charge," a mother of one of the three said.

Ahead of the visit, prisoners were given new clothes and meals, and buildings were painted. But on Sunday, al-Maysari failed to show up. Maj. Gen. Ali Lakhsha, his deputy, arrived instead.

In comments aired on TV during the visit, Lakhsha said there was no evidence of secret prisons outside government control. That prompted an angry protest by families of detainees outside al-Maysari's house the next day, accusing the government of "whitewashing their (UAE) crimes."

Lakhsha's office issued a statement Monday saying that any facilities that had been outside government control were now in the government's hands.

But several security officials told the AP there was no change in control of any facilities and that Beir Ahmed remained under the control of the Security Belt, a militia armed and funded by the UAE. They said



Lakhsha's comments were made to ease tensions with the Emiratis. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the press.

The Associated Press reported this story with help from a grant from the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting.

Michael reported from Cairo.

## Weinstein lawyer says emails, witnesses show he's innocent

By MICHAEL R. SISKAK, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Moving beyond rote denials, Harvey Weinstein is playing a leading role in shaping what his lawyer said Monday will be an aggressive defense to sexual assault charges that could put him in prison for the rest of his life.

Lawyer Ben Brafman said the movie mogul-turned-#MeToo villain is essentially working as his paralegal and that they're stacking up "overwhelming evidence" from email traffic and witness accounts to refute allegations that, so far, have led to criminal charges involving three of the dozens of women who've accused Weinstein of wrongdoing.

"I can tell you that we are no longer simply relying on Mr. Weinstein's denials," Brafman said outside a New York City courthouse after Weinstein pleaded not guilty to new charges alleging he performed a forcible sex act on a woman in 2006.

"We have corroborative evidence in the form of witnesses, we have corroborative evidence, overwhelming evidence, in the form of email traffic. And the suggestion that Mr. Weinstein raped anyone, just based on what I've seen, just based on the evidence I've seen, is just a preposterous allegation," Brafman said. "So far, everything he has told us to look for we have found. And his denials are in my judgment being confirmed everyday by a lot of evidence we are finding that is independent of Mr. Weinstein."

A judge released Weinstein on the same \$1 million bail he posted at his first arraignment involving two other accusers and was allowed to return to his Westport, Connecticut home. He's due back in court on Sept. 20.

Brafman said he expects more criminal charges to be filed later, but didn't elaborate.

Weinstein previously forfeited his passport and is fitted with an electronic monitoring bracelet. He's also been ordered to stay away from the three women.

Prosecutors, saying the new charges were "significantly more serious," had sought to have Weinstein forced to move to Manhattan and placed on house arrest.

"We fight these battles one day at a time, and today we won this round," Brafman said afterward.

Weinstein, 66, hobbled into the courtroom with his hands cuffed behind his back. He was uncuffed for the proceeding and didn't say much other than entering his plea.

He left court a few minutes later, trailed by a bulky bodyguard. Weinstein suddenly turned back in a panic about the whereabouts of his wallet. Brafman later said he'd found it.

Weinstein's new charges include two counts of predatory sexual assault, which carries a maximum sentence of life in prison upon conviction. Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance Jr. said they are "some of the most serious sexual offenses" that exist under state law.

Attorney Gloria Allred, who is representing the woman whose allegations led to the new charges, said her client will testify if the case goes to trial. She said she doubted Weinstein would do the same.

"Are you really willing to have your client face the jury?" Allred said outside the courthouse. "I doubt that you will take that risk, Mr. Brafman."

Allred and prosecutors wouldn't name the woman.

Brafman identified her in court as a former film production assistant who went public last October with allegations that Weinstein forcibly performed oral sex on her in 2006 at his Manhattan apartment.

The Associated Press generally does not identify people who say they are victims of sexual assault un-

less they consent to being identified publicly. Allred said her client is "not going to be giving any interviews and she'd like to maintain her privacy."

More than 75 women have accused Weinstein of wrongdoing as allegations detailed in Pulitzer Prize-winning stories last October in The New York Times and The New Yorker magazine swelled into the #MeToo movement.

Only three complaints have led to criminal charges so far. In addition to the assault claim that brought him to court Monday, Weinstein is accused of raping an unidentified woman in a hotel room in 2013 and forcing a former actress, Lucia Evans, to perform oral sex at his office in 2004. Evans was one of the first women to accuse Weinstein publicly last fall.

Weinstein, who produced movies including "Pulp Fiction" and "Shakespeare in Love," has denied all allegations of nonconsensual sex, with Brafman challenging the credibility of his accusers and the reporting that led to his downfall.

"If we allow Pulitzer-driven reporters to decide this case, then it could be hopeless," Brafman said. "God help all of us if that's how the criminal justice system is allowed to work."

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## Actor Tab Hunter, star of 'Damn Yankees' movie, dies age 86

By SHAWN MARSH, Associated Press

Tab Hunter, the blond actor and singer who was a heartthrob for millions of teenagers in the 1950s with such films as "Battle Cry" and "Damn Yankees" and received new attention decades later when he revealed that he was gay, has died. He was 86.

Producer and spouse Allan Glaser said Hunter died Sunday of a blood clot in his leg that caused cardiac arrest. Glaser called the death "sudden and unexpected."

Hunter was a star for several years. In addition to his hit movies, his recording of "Young Love" topped the Billboard pop chart in 1957.

But in his 2005 memoir, "Tab Hunter Confidential: The Making of a Movie Star," Hunter recounted the stresses of being a love object to millions of young women when he was, in reality, a gay man.

"I believed, wholeheartedly — still do — that a person's happiness depends on being true to themselves," he wrote. "The dilemma, of course, that was being true to myself — and I'm talking sexually now — was impossible in 1953."

Among those stars honoring Hunter on Monday included Harvey Fierstein, who called Hunter a "gay icon" and a "true gentleman" on Twitter, adding, "We shared some good laughs back in the 80's. I was always fond of this dear man."

Zachary Quinto on Instagram also cheered Hunter's "vital and generous nature" and called him a "pioneer of self-acceptance" who moved through the world "with authenticity as his guide." GLAAD tweeted "Our hearts are with Tab's loved ones."

Born Arthur Andrew Kelm, his screen tab (slang for "name" at the time) was fabricated by Henry Willson, the same talent agent who came up with the names Rock Hudson and Rory Calhoun.

The legend goes that Willson said to the young man: "We've got to find something to tab you with. Do you have any hobbies?" His client answered, "I ride horses. Hunters." Agent: "That's it! We'll call you Tab Hunter."

With no dramatic training, Hunter was cast in a minor role in the 1950 drama, "The Lawless." The fuss over the young actor began two years later when he appeared bare-chested opposite Linda Darnell in the British-made "Island of Desire." Soon his handsome face and muscular build appeared on magazine covers. Warner Bros., alert to the increasingly important youth market, signed him to a contract.

Hunter made a flurry of movies in the latter half of the 1950s, aimed at capitalizing on his popularity with young girls. The films included such war dramas as "Battle Cry" (with Van Heflin) and "Lafayette Escadrille" (Clint Eastwood in a small role). He made the Westerns "The Burning Hills" (Natalie Wood) and "They

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Came to Cordura" (Gary Cooper, Rita Hayworth). And he made romantic comedies like "The Pleasure of His Company" (Fred Astaire, Debbie Reynolds.)

A highlight was the 1958 "Damn Yankees," an adaptation of the hit Broadway musical with Gwen Verdon and Ray Walston in their Tony-winning New York roles and the original director, George Abbott, sharing direction with Stanley Donen. The New York Times' critic noted that Hunter "has the clean, naive look of a lad breaking into the big leagues and into the magical company of a first-rate star."

Besides the movies, he displayed his athletic skills — he had been a figure skater as well as horseman — in a TV special, "Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates."

As with so many pop idols, his fans grew up and a new generation sought other favorites. His slide followed the classic pattern: to a television series ("The Tab Hunter Show," on NBC, 1960-62); European films ("The Golden Arrow") and cheap kid flicks ("Ride the Wild Surf.") In his memoir, he took pains to note that "Ride the Wild Surf" was his only beach-party movie; his "Operation Bikini," despite its title, was "yet another war movie."

Over the years, he also played small roles in "The Loved One," "The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean" and "Grease 2."

In the 1980s, he won new fans by appearing in cult movies with Divine, the 300-pound drag performer, notably John Waters' 1981 "Polyester" and Paul Bartel's 1985 "Lust in the Dust," co-produced by Hunter himself.

Of "Polyester," Hunter wrote: "Everybody got the joke. ... For both John and me, our collaboration paid huge dividends: I'd helped 'legitimize' his brand of movie, and he made me 'hip' overnight."

Hunter appeared on Broadway in 1964 in Tennessee Williams' "The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore" opposite the formidable Tallulah Bankhead. The play closed within days, and he said it was "completely buried under Tallulah's offhanded trademark campiness."

Hunter was born in 1931 in New York City, the second son of a mechanic and his German immigrant wife. His father left the family two years later and the boy took his mother's name, Gelien. Young Arthur Gelien grew up in San Francisco and Long Beach, California, and joined the Coast Guard at 15, lying about his age.

While in New York, he saw Broadway plays and became interested in acting. Back in California, Willson arranged for a two-word role in a small Western, "The Lawless." He got \$500 and a new name.

In his memoir, he said that his career flourished despite some innuendo and smear articles in the scandal sheets — "clear evidence that despite its self-righteous claims, 'Confidential' magazine did not influence the taste and opinions of mainstream America."

Writing the book was difficult, he told The Associated Press in 2005, "because I'm a really private person. I grew up full of denial. I just didn't like any suggestions or questioning of my sexuality."

In 1960, Hunter's boy-next-door reputation did take a hit when he was charged with cruelty for allegedly beating his dog. (He was acquitted.) In recent years, Hunter appeared in dinner theaters and organized film projects. After living on a ranch in New Mexico for a time, he took a home in Montecito in Santa Barbara County with Glaser.

He didn't dwell on his Hollywood career or regret losing it. "I had my fling, and I was very fortunate," he remarked. "But that's all in my past."

The late AP Entertainment Writer Bob Thomas contributed to this report.

## Capital staffer remembered as 'smart, beautiful, talented'

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN, Associated Press

Capital Gazette staffer Rebecca Smith was sweet and quiet, a good person with a beautiful smile. Editor Gerald Fischman, friends said, was a shy but gifted writer who expressed his brilliant intellect through his editorials.

Both victims of the June 28 newsroom shooting that killed five people in Maryland's capital were remembered Sunday for how they lived, not how they died.

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Grieving relatives and colleagues also attended memorial services recently for community reporter and editor Wendi Winters and assistant editor and columnist Rob Hiaasen. A service for sports reporter John McNamara is scheduled for Tuesday on the University of Maryland's campus.

Smith, 34, had joined The Capital as an advertising sales assistant in November.

"Smart, beautiful, talented, everything you want in a daughter," Smith's mother, Beth Rittenour, of Warren, Ohio, said through tears after the visitation in Dundalk, where Smith had lived. After she was born, Rittenour recalled, "I showed her to everybody. She was beautiful. My beautiful baby."

Smith acted in community theater during middle school, her cousin, Tammy Kaskel, told The Baltimore Sun.

"She had such a great voice, was very supportive, and wanted to see others succeed," Kaskel said.

Smith would always accompany her fiance, Dewayne Poling Jr., on trips he took to play softball, including visits to North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida. Over the weekend, Poling's team, Beast Mode, organized a benefit softball tournament in her memory, the Carroll County Times reported.

The team also showed up at Poling's house in T-shirts with Smith's nickname, Becca, printed on the back, according to a Facebook post.

"I literally broke down in tears," Poling wrote. "Happy tears. Tears because through this crazy time I have my blood family who have done EVERYTHING to make this horrible time a little easier, I also have my softball family. This ... This is why Rebecca Smith and I were so into this game. For this family. We miss you baby, and even though this is the toughest time in my life ... I am surrounded by the people we loved."

On Facebook, Smith had called Poling her "softball fiance," and called his daughter from an earlier relationship "the best kid ever."

Bonnie Carson, great-grandmother to Poling's daughter, described Smith as "the sweetest person."

Smith graduated from Villa Julie College with a degree in marketing, becoming the first person in the family to go to college, Kaskel said.

"I found her to be a person of tremendous potential, and it is sad that we will never see her live up to that," Marty Padden, the newspaper's advertising director, told The Baltimore Sun. "We're just heartbroken."

Fischman wrote hundreds of thousands of words for the Capital Gazette during his 26 years at the newspaper's editorial page editor.

The newspaper's editor, Rick Hutzell, wiped away tears Sunday as he read aloud some of Fischman's words for more than 150 relatives, friends and co-workers who gathered for his funeral service and burial at Olney's Judean Memorial Gardens cemetery.

Hutzell said his 61-year-old friend dedicated his life to telling "hard truths," no matter the topic. And the small-town editorial page editor tackled a broad range of subjects, from local politics and civil rights to annual takes on Mother's Day and high school graduations.

"His voice as a writer will be greatly missed. His wisdom cannot be replaced," Hutzell said.

Fischman, a 1979 graduate of the University of Maryland's journalism school, joined the Capital Gazette after 15 years at the Carroll County Times.

Longtime Capital Gazette sportswriter Bill Wagner called Fischman a stickler for accuracy who, instead of emailing colleagues, would print out drafts of his editorials and leave copies on colleagues' desks for them to proofread.

"His intellect was beyond par," Wagner said. "He was one of the most intelligent people I've encountered in my life."

Wagner said Fischman also used to prefer working overnight shifts, starting after most of his co-workers had gone home.

"He chose to do it that way," Wagner said.

Rabbi Larry Shor, who led the funeral service, was a classmate of Fischman's from kindergarten through high school. Audience members laughed when Shor recalled how his childhood friend would bring an adult briefcase to elementary school.

"Gerald was, as a child, the same person that he was an adult: quiet and introverted but extraordinarily

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highly intelligent," he said. "He marched to the beat of his own drummer and was quite happy to do so."

Fischman is survived by his wife, Saran, and stepdaughter, Uka, who read aloud poems he wrote for her and her mother. Fischman was 50 when he married Saran, an opera singer from Mongolia. She said she learned after the shooting that his last purchase was a birthday card for her.

"I never would have thought that he would leave us so sudden and so soon," she said. "We were so happy together."

Glenn Mazis, one of Fischman's cousins, described him as a talented writer with boundless curiosity, especially about history, politics and music.

"He was fascinated by life," he said. "He met every assignment with enthusiasm and creativity."

Jarrod Ramos remains jailed on five counts of first-degree murder.

## How China could hurt US once it ran out of imports to tax

By **JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer**

BEIJING (AP) — In his trade war with China, President Donald Trump wields one seeming advantage: The United States could ultimately slap tariffs on more than \$500 billion in imported Chinese goods. Beijing has much less to tax: It imported just \$130 billion in U.S. goods last year.

Yet that hardly means China would be powerless to fight back once it ran out of U.S. goods to penalize. It possesses a range of other weapons with which to inflict pain on the U.S. economy.

Indeed, China's Commerce Ministry has warned of "comprehensive measures" it could take against the United States. It has given no details but possible tactics could include harassing automakers, retailers or other American companies that depend on China to drive revenue to selling U.S. government debt or disrupting diplomatic efforts over North Korea.

Some of those steps might harm China's own interests. But Beijing might still be willing to deploy them, at least temporarily, if its trade war with Washington were to drag on.

On Friday, Washington imposed its first tariffs in response to complaints Beijing steals or pressuring companies to hand over technology. China swiftly announced retaliatory tariffs on a similar amount of U.S. goods.

A look at some of China's options:

### TARGET AMERICAN COMPANIES

China's state-dominated and heavily regulated economy gives authorities an arsenal of tools to disrupt U.S. companies by withholding licenses or launching tax, anti-monopoly or other investigations.

Also open to retaliation are services such as engineering and logistics in which the United States runs a trade surplus.

"The U.S. focus is on goods, while China could very well look at services, as well as the operation of U.S. companies in China," said Taimur Baig, chief economist for DBS Group.

In one prominent case, U.S. chipmaker Qualcomm Inc. has waited for months for word on whether Chinese regulators will accept its proposed \$44 billion acquisition of NXP Semiconductors. All other major governments have approved the deal.

China's entirely state-controlled media have encouraged consumer boycotts against Japanese, South Korean and other products during previous disputes with those governments.

Last year, Beijing destroyed Korean retailer Lotte's business in China after the company sold land in South Korea to the Seoul government for an anti-missile system opposed by Chinese leaders.

Beijing closed most of Lotte's 99 supermarkets and other outlets in China. Seoul and Beijing later mended relations, but Lotte gave up and sold its China operations.

### FINANCIAL LEVERAGE

Nationalists point to China's \$1.2 trillion holdings of U.S. government debt as leverage. Beijing might suffer losses if it sold enough to influence U.S. debt financing costs — but such sales might become necessary.

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China's yuan has sagged against the dollar this year, which might require the central bank to intervene in currency markets.

To get the dollars it needs, the People's Bank of China might "become a net seller of U.S. Treasuries," said Carl B. Weinberg of High-Frequency Economics in a report.

"Punishing the U.S. Treasury market is one of the tactics China has available to retaliate against unilateral U.S. tariffs," said Weinberg.

## DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE

Beijing can appeal for support to U.S. allies that are miffed by Trump's "America first" approach and the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris climate pact.

Trump's unilateral actions have allowed China to position itself as a defender of free trade despite its status as the most-closed major economy. That could help Beijing win over governments that have criticized Trump for acting outside the World Trade Organization.

"China could strike a common ground with the EU, Canada, Japan and other economies impacted by the U.S. tariffs," said Citigroup economists Li-Gang Liu, Xiaowen Jin and Xiangrong Yu in a report.

Chinese leaders have tried, so far without success, to recruit European and other governments as allies.

More broadly, Chinese commentators have suggested Beijing also could disrupt diplomatic work over North Korea's nuclear and missile programs or other initiatives. But political analysts say that would risk setting back work Chinese leaders see as a priority.

## Asian markets mirror optimism on Wall Street

By ANNABELLE LIANG, Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — Asian markets were mostly higher on Tuesday as overnight gains on Wall Street and the lack of bad news surrounding U.S.-China tariffs boosted sentiment.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 added 1.0 percent in morning trading to 22,278.51 and South Korea's Kospi gained 0.4 percent to 2,295.54. Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 0.4 percent to 28,796.77, while the Shanghai Composite index was less than 0.1 percent lower at 2,814.00. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 shed 0.3 percent to 6,266.30. Shares were higher in Taiwan and Southeast Asia.

WALL STREET: The S&P 500 index rose 0.9 percent on Monday to 2,784.17. It's the third straight day that the index has climbed at least 0.8 percent. The Dow Jones Industrial Average surged 1.3 percent to 24,776.59. The Nasdaq composite added 0.9 percent to 7,756.20.

U.S. OPTIMISM: U.S. stocks climbed on Monday as investors geared up for buoyant earnings reports in the coming weeks. This added to optimism after a strong jobs report on Friday. The Labor Department said that U.S. employers added 213,000 jobs in June, suggesting that hiring remains brisk although average hourly pay rose just 2.7 percent from a year earlier.

TRADE TARIFFS: On Friday, Washington put in place a 25 percent tax on \$34 billion worth of Chinese imports. Beijing retaliated with an equal amount of tariffs on U.S. products, including soybeans, electric cars and whiskey. The development hardly rattled the markets, as investors had weeks to steady their nerves. The U.S. is currently gathering public comments for taxes on 284 more Chinese imports worth \$16 billion. It is also identifying an additional \$200 billion in Chinese goods for 10 percent tariffs, which the Trump administration has said would take effect if Beijing reacted to higher U.S. taxes.

CHINA INFLATION: China's inflation rate for June, released on Tuesday, rose in line with market expectations. The National Bureau of Statistics announced that the consumer price index was 1.9 percent in June from a year earlier, up from 1.8 percent in May. There was little indication of the impact of rising U.S. tariffs on Chinese products.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "Despite Trump suggesting that there are more tariffs to come, the fact that they've not been put in place gives markets a little bit of relief. The optimism is temporary. But for now, no news is good news," said Vishnu Varathan, head of economics and macro strategy at Mizuho Bank.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude rose 44 cents to \$74.29 a barrel. It gained 5 cents to settle at \$73.85

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per barrel in New York late Monday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, added 49 cents to \$78.56 per barrel.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 111.14 yen from 110.82 yen on Monday. The euro weakened to \$ 1.1743 from \$1.1749.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

### Today in History

Today is Tuesday, July 10, the 191st day of 2018. There are 174 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On July 10, 1940, during World War II, the Battle of Britain began as the Luftwaffe started attacking southern England. (The Royal Air Force was ultimately victorious.)

### On this date:

In 1509, theologian John Calvin, a key figure of the Protestant Reformation, was born in Noyon, Picardy, France.

In 1890, Wyoming became the 44th state.

In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson personally delivered the Treaty of Versailles (vehr-SY') to the Senate and urged its ratification. (However, the Senate rejected it.)

In 1925, jury selection took place in Dayton, Tennessee, in the trial of John T. Scopes, charged with violating the law by teaching Darwin's Theory of Evolution. (Scopes was convicted and fined, but the verdict was overturned on a technicality.)

In 1929, American paper currency was reduced in size as the government began issuing bills that were approximately 25 percent smaller.

In 1951, armistice talks aimed at ending the Korean War began at Kaesong.

In 1962, AT&T's Telstar 1 communications satellite, capable of relaying television signals and telephone calls, was launched by NASA from Cape Canaveral.

In 1973, the Bahamas became fully independent after three centuries of British colonial rule. John Paul Getty III, the teenage grandson of the oil tycoon, was abducted in Rome by kidnappers who cut off his ear when his family was slow to meet their ransom demands; Getty was released in December 1973 for nearly \$3 million.

In 1985, the Greenpeace protest ship Rainbow Warrior was sunk with explosives in Auckland, New Zealand, by French intelligence agents; one activist was killed. Bowing to pressure from irate customers, the Coca-Cola Co. said it would resume selling old-formula Coke, while continuing to sell New Coke.

In 1989, Mel Blanc, the "man of a thousand voices," including such cartoon characters as Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and Porky Pig, died in Los Angeles at age 81.

In 1991, Boris N. Yeltsin took the oath of office as the first elected president of the Russian republic. President George H.W. Bush lifted economic sanctions against South Africa.

In 1999, the United States women's soccer team won the World Cup, beating China 5-4 on penalty kicks after 120 minutes of scoreless play at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California.

In 2004, President George W. Bush said in his weekly radio address that legalizing gay marriage would redefine the most fundamental institution of civilization, and that a constitutional amendment was needed to protect traditional marriage.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush signed a bill overhauling rules about government eavesdropping and granting immunity to telecommunications companies that helped the U.S. spy on Americans in suspected terrorism cases. The Senate handily confirmed Gen. David Petraeus as the top commander in the Middle East. Former White House adviser Karl Rove defied a congressional subpoena, refusing to testify about allegations of political pressure at the Justice Department.

Five years ago: Dzhokhar Tsarnaev (joh-HAHR' tsahr-NEYE'-ehv) pleaded not guilty in the Boston Marathon bombing in a seven-minute proceeding that marked his first appearance in public since his capture in

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mid-April 2013. In a first, the Navy succeeded in landing a drone the size of a fighter jet aboard an aircraft carrier, the USS George H.W. Bush, off the Virginia coast. David Ortiz doubled in his first at-bat to become baseball's career leader in hits as a designated hitter and hit a two-run homer an inning later, leading the Boston Red Sox to an 11-4 victory over Seattle.

One year ago: Donald Trump Jr. acknowledged that he agreed to meet with a Russian lawyer during his father's presidential campaign in the hope that he would receive information about Democrat Hillary Clinton. Fifteen Marines and a Navy corpsman were killed in the crash of a Marine Corps refueling and cargo plane in a soybean field in Mississippi.

Today's Birthdays: Former New York City Mayor David N. Dinkins is 91. Actor William Smithers is 91. Broadway composer Jerry Herman is 87. Director Ivan Passer is 85. Actor Lawrence Pressman is 79. Singer Mavis Staples is 79. Actor Mills Watson is 78. Actor Robert Pine is 77. Rock musician Jerry Miller (Moby Grape) is 75. International Tennis Hall of Famer Virginia Wade is 73. Actress Sue Lyon is 72. Folk singer Arlo Guthrie is 71. Rock musician Dave Smalley is 69. Country-folk singer-songwriter Cheryl Wheeler is 67. Rock singer Neil Tennant (Pet Shop Boys) is 64. Banjo player Bela Fleck is 60. Actress Fiona Shaw is 60. Country musician Shaw Wilson (BR549) is 58. Bluegrass singer-musician Tim Surratt (Balsam Range) is 55. Actor Alec Mapa is 53. Country singer-songwriter Ken Mellons is 53. Rock musician Peter DiStefano (Porno for Pyros) is 53. Actor Gale Harold is 49. Country singer Gary LeVox (leh-VOH') (Rascal Flatts) is 48. Actor Aaron D. Spears is 47. Actress Sofia Vergara is 46. Rockabilly singer Imelda May is 44. Actor Adrian Grenier (grehn-YAY') is 42. Actor Chiwetel Ejiofor (CHOO'-ih-tehl EHJ'-ee-oh-for) is 41. Actress Gwendoline Yeo is 41. Actor Thomas Ian Nicholas is 38. Singer-actress Jessica Simpson is 38. Rock musician John Spiker is 37. Actress Heather Hemmens is 34. Actress Emily Skeggs (TV: "When We Rise") is 28. Rapper/singer Angel Haze is 27. Pop singer Perrie Edwards (Little Mix) is 25.

Thought for Today: "One can pay back the loan of gold, but one dies forever in debt to those who are kind." — Malayan proverb.