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

Dakota Brush Brooms, Brushes, Mops, Can Liners, Paper Products. Get Ready for Spring With Wash Brushes & Squeegees 397-9337 104 N. Main, Groton

Janitor Wanted

The Groton Area School District has immediate openings for a full or part-time custodian. Position includes great benefits package. Apply at the Groton Area School District Office – 406 N 2nd Street. (0808.0823)



- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Dakota Brush Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 1- Dairy Queen Help Wanted
- 1- School Help Wanted
- 2- Weekly Vikings Roundup
- 3- Thinking About Health
- 4- Gov. Daugaard's Weekly Column
- 4- Vold Consignment Auction Ad
- 5- Sen. Rounds' Weekly Column
- 6- Groton Care School Supply Drive
- 7- Today in Weather History
- 8- Today's Forecast
- 9- Yesterday's Weather
- 9- National Weather map
- 9- Today's Weather Almanac
- 10- Daily Devotional
- 11-2018 Groton Community Events
- 12- News from the Associated Press



Help Wanted

Dairy Queen in Groton has openings for part-time team members – day hours during the school year and can be year round, if desired. Flexible scheduling. Stop in to apply. 11 East Hwy 12, Groton, SD.

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Weekly Vikings Roundup By Jordan Wright

The Minnesota Vikings are undefeated to begin the 2018 NFL season! Ok, it might have just been preseason, and the starters might have only played one drive, but it was still great to see the Vikings pick up the 42-28 win over the Denver Broncos.

The Broncos, led by former Viking Case Keenum, got the ball first – but the Vikings' defense held them to a three-and-out. After the Broncos' punt, it was time for the world to catch their first glimpse of the Vikings' newest quarterback: Kirk Cousins.

Cousins and the rest of the Vikings' first-team offense proceeded to march down the field, chewing up 75-yards on eight plays before making it into the endzone for the game's first touchdown. The highlight of the drive was the connection between Cousins and Stefon Diggs, with the two players connecting on three passes for 35 yards and a touchdown. One of those passes was a 28-yard bomb that was perfectly placed by Cousins and perfectly played by Diggs. It was the type of throw that Cousins should be making on a routine basis, and shows why he is an upgrade over Case Keenum.

The other highlight from the first-team offense was the running game. Reports out of training camp have raved about the Vikings ground game, but it's always hard to take those at face value because the defense rarely goes full-out and tackles to the ground in practice. However, Vikings fans should have plenty to be excited about, because even with electric running back Dalvin Cook sitting this game out, Latavius Murray picked up the slack. His first two runs went for gains of 21 and 20 yards, which was especially impressive as it was against Denver's first-team defense.

As a whole, the Vikings played an excellent game. The three quarterbacks – Kirk Cousins, Trevor Siemian, and Kyle Sloter – combined to complete 24 of 32 passes (75%) for 259 yards, four touchdowns and only one interception. The Vikings were just as effective on the ground, with 37 rushes for 147 yards and a touchdown.

Offensive player of the game: Roc Thomas

Running back Roc Thomas, an undrafted rookie out of Jacksonville State who is battling for a roster spot, was the most electric player on the field Saturday night. He had eight carries for 29-yards on the ground, but where he did the most damage was in the passing game. Roc only caught three passes, but he went for 102 yards and two touchdowns. He is clearly a home-run threat every time he touches the ball, and after Saturday's performance the Vikings will be hard pressed to sneak him onto the practice squad.

Defensive player of the game: Jack Tocho

Cornerback Jack Tocho, entering his second season after being drafted by the Vikings in the 7th round of the 2017 draft, seems to have made progress from his rookie season. Against the Broncos, Tocho had four tackles, one tackle for a loss, three passes blocked, and one interception. Because of the wealth of talent the Vikings have in the secondary, Tocho is unlikely to make the 53-man roster – but if he continues to play like he did on Saturday, he has a chance to make another team, or at the very least the Vikings' practice squad again.

Looking ahead, the Vikings will return home and take on the Jacksonville Jaguars this Saturday, August 18. The game will be at noon central time. Last season, the Jaguars won the AFC South with a 10-6 record. They made it all the way to the AFC Championship game where they lost to the New England Patriots. Jacksonville has the second-best defense in the league and possibly the best cornerback duo in the league, so this game will be a real test to the Vikings new offense. The starters will likely play into the second quarter this game and it will be the team's first home game this preseason, so it should be an exciting one to watch. Skol!

If you have any questions or comments, reach out to me on Twitter (@JordanWrightNFL)

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THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

Headlines About Medical Studies May Be More Enthusiastic Than Accurate

By Trudy Lieberman, Rural Health News Service

"Lowering Your Blood Pressure Could Stave Off Dementia," heralded the headline from Bloomberg, which was not alone in delivering the "good" news.

Time advised, "There May Finally Be Something You Can Do to Lower Your Risk of Dementia."

Reuters' headline was even more definitive. "Lowering Blood Pressure Cuts Risk of Memory Decline: US Study."

Readers can be forgiven if they rushed to their doctors to discuss more aggressive blood pressure treatment. Who wouldn't want to escape the scourge of dementia? But alas, most of the news stories beneath the headlines were as misleading as the headlines themselves.

This column is not intended to give advice on lowering blood pressure. Only doctors do that. Instead its goal is to tell readers that media stories sometimes misrepresent the results from scientific papers presented at medical meetings and how that can sometimes mislead the public. It's also intended to help readers become more skeptical and cautious when they hear glowing reports about new medical treatments.

In discussing this study, the media mixed up mild cognitive impairment with dementia. According to the press release from the Alzheimer's Association International Conference where the study was recently presented, mild cognitive impairment (MCI) causes a slight but noticeable and measurable decline in cognitive abilities including memory and thinking skills, but the decline is not severe enough to interfere with daily life. People with this kind of impairment may have an elevated risk for developing Alzheimer's disease and other dementia later on, but they won't necessarily develop those diseases.

In other words, mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease are two different animals, but the news reports didn't make that clear.

Dr. Michael Joyce is a writer-producer with Health News Review.org, the site that examines medical studies and tries to keep the media honest. He said "not a single major news outlet we came across noticed that the study did not achieve what's called in scientific circles its "primary end point." That is, news reports failed to explain that the study did not prove that tightly controlling blood pressure prevented dementia, which was the main result researchers were looking for.

Furthermore, Joyce said of the stories Health News Review examined, only one, from the Wall Street Journal, correctly reported that the absolute reduction in risk of getting dementia was just over one percentage point when blood pressure was tightly controlled so that the first number – or systolic pressure – in blood pressure measurement is equal to or less than 120. Simply put, the absolute risk reduction is the difference in the rate of contracting the disease between the group that got the treatment and a comparison group that didn't.

Instead of reporting the absolute risk reduction, most media reported something called the relative risk, which measures the probability of an event occurring in one group compared to the probability of the event occurring in the comparison group. News outlets reported that of the 9,000 adults with increased

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cardiovascular risk (but no known diabetes, dementia, or stroke), those who were being aggressively treated for high blood pressure were 19 percent less likely to develop mild cognitive impairment than those being treated less intensely.

Which sounds better: 1 percentage point or 19 percent? So you see why news outlets like to trumpet the relative risk reduction. It's usually a larger number and grabs readers' attention. But it can give the wrong impression. "Intentionally highlighting the more dramatic relative numbers, rather than the more accurate absolute numbers, can badly mislead readers," Joyce said.

This story had yet another problem. Media made almost no mention of the potential harms from aggressively lowering blood pressure. They are not insignificant. Dr. Preeti Malani, a professor of medicine at the University of Michigan, says the decisions regarding a blood pressure goal are very nuanced and individualized. She said that although data from this study "may be encouraging, I'd like to see something more definitive before calling this an effective means to 'stave off dementia.' That's overstated based on this abstract."

Next time you see a story about a medical study, consider these tips from Health News Review for evaluating what you see and hear.

* See if the absolute risk reduction is reported. That's the number that counts. Pay little attention to the relative risk reduction, which may be a bigger number.

* Are potential harms from a new treatment adequately explored? There's almost always a tradeoff between harms and benefits of any new treatment.

* See if someone other than the study author is quoted. Independent sources should be used to confirm or refute the findings.

* Beware of news reports based on research presented at medical meetings. "Very, very rarely do such meeting abstracts contain breakthroughs, paradigm shifts or unassailable information that will immediately change patient care," Joyce said.

What has been your experience with overhyped medical studies? Write to Trudy at trudy.lieberman@gmail.com.

CONSIGNMENT AUCTION Sat. Aug. 18, 2018 10:00 am

Location: Trucks-N-Tractors, 14069 434th Ave., Webster, SD 57274

Now taking Consignments – Watch Website & Next Week's Forum for Sale Bill. Tractors, Combines/Heads, Payloaders/ Skidsteers, Semis/Trailers, Vehicles/ATVs, Planting/Haying/ Spraying/Augers, Construction Equipment, Fencing.

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VOLD AUCTIONEERS & REALTY voldrealty.com voldauctions@ag4bid.com

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South Dakota Ag Community: Stability is Crucial as we do our Part to Feed and Fuel the World

In South Dakota and across the Midwest, harvest time is nearly upon us. Farmers are preparing to market their crop, and for many of them prices remain low. Low commodity prices and trade instability are having an impact on the ag industry in our state. Livestock producers are feeling the impact of tariffs as



they work to market their products. To hear more about the issues farmers and ranchers are facing right now, I recently held an ag roundtable in Sioux Falls. We invited more than 20 ag leaders to participate and share their concerns about the economic climate for producers heading into the 2018 harvest.

Trade instability remains a top concern. I heard many ag leaders confirm what I've been hearing throughout the summer – that farmers and ranchers support President Trump's desire to negotiate better trade deals for U.S. producers, but they acknowledged that time is running out to finalize deals. This is a message I've shared with the administration multiple times over the past months. I've repeatedly said that I support the president in his efforts to negotiate better trade deals, but we must make certain the tariffs are strategic and targeted, not reckless and a threat to the long-term health of the American economy.

The recent announcement from the administration about the \$12 billion 'trade aid' proposal is a sign that they're recognizing the negative impact that tariffs are having on ag producers, but it's a short-term, partial band-aid. As we discussed at the roundtable, the sooner we can get trade deals completed and the market under control, the better off we'll be. Farmers and ranchers understand that trade pacts are not only important to this year's market, but are vital to the long-term viability of their industry.

Current trade instability is already causing chaos for South Dakota soybean producers, who market over 60 percent of their product overseas—primarily to Asia. At the roundtable, we heard reports that China has stopped bidding on U.S. soybeans. This further increases the already high basis that South Dakota producers face because local elevators lack the capacity to hold all the grain that is expected to be produced this year, so products will have to be shipped to other parts of the country where transportation costs are more expensive.

Another topic of concern among those at the roundtable was the farm bill. They said they'd like to see it finalized soon so they have some certainty when planning for next season. I agree, and I also shared with them my desire for the farm bill to include an increase on the cap of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres. By increasing the cap to target marginal production acres, we have the ability to lock in land for conservation for 10 years at 2018 land values while saving money for the federal crop insurance program by getting the more marginal acres out of production.

We also talked about the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) decision to issue a number of Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) waivers to small refineries, which has reduced the amount of ethanol required under the RFS and thus reduced the demand for corn and corn ethanol. As I said to Acting EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler at a recent congressional hearing, corn ethanol production has created thousands of jobs for the people of my state and has increased American energy independence. He shared with me at that hearing that he will work to be more transparent with EPA's decision-making processes related to RFS waivers.

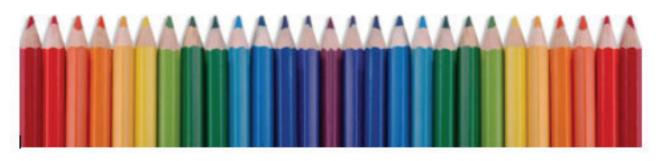
Lastly, at our roundtable we talked about the benefits of year-round E-15 sales. An open marketplace with more fuel options for consumers encourages competition and brings down fuel costs. This is an issue I've been pushing with the EPA, and I'll continue to do so.

I appreciated hearing firsthand from South Dakota's ag industry about their concerns, and I continue working to address them in the Senate.



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SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE



GROTON CARE AND REHABILITATION CENTER HAS BACK TO SCHOOL SPIRIT! STARTING AUGUST 1ST THRU AUGUST 20TH WE WILL BE COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES AT THE FACILITY TO GIVE TO THE GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT.



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Today in Weather History

August 13, 2000: A thunderstorm set numerous prairie fires in Harding County. Over a thousand acres burned by the end of the day.

1831: The Great Barbados Hurricane was an intense Category 4 hurricane that left cataclysmic damage across the Caribbean and Louisiana in 1831. From August 11 through the 13, Bermudians were amazed to see the sun with a decidedly blue appearance, giving off an eerie blue light when it shone into rooms and other enclosed places. Ships at sea as far west as Cape Hatteras reported that "their white sails appeared a light blue colour." A month later it was learned that the astounding blue sunlight had coincided with a terrible hurricane that caused 1,477 people to lose their lives. It was assumed that the hurricane was intensive enough to cause an unusual disturbance in the higher atmospheric strata, and refraction, diffraction or absorption of light rays, to produce the blue reflection. Because the sun appeared bluish-green, Nat Turner took this as the final signal and began a slave rebellion a week later on August 21.

1987: A succession of thunderstorms produced rainfall that was unprecedented in 116 years of precipitation records at Chicago, Illinois during an 18 hour period from the evening of the 13th to the early afternoon of the 14th. The resulting flash flood was the worst ever to strike the Chicago metropolitan area, causing three deaths and water damage that amounted to 221 million dollars. O'Hare International Airport received an event total of 9.35 inches of rain in 18 hours, shattering the previous 24-hour record of 6.24 inches. For about 24 hours, the airport was only accessible from the air as all roads were blocked by high water, including the Kennedy Expressway.

1991: Stockton, California received 0.05 inch of rainfall on this day. Since 1949, this is the only measured rainfall in Stockton on August 13th.

2003: A string of days in Paris France with temperatures from the 4th to the 12th above 95°F ends when the day's high drops to 90°F. During the long, hot summer which began 25 July and has registered several days above 100°F, an estimated 14,800 have died from heat-related causes, the French government admits.

2014: An official, New York State 24 hour precipitation record was set at Islip, NY on August 12-13 when 13.57" of rain fell.

1919 - High winds and heavy rain struck the Middle Atlantic Coast Region. In New Jersey, winds gusted to 60 mph at Atlantic City, and nine inches of rain fell at Tuckerton. The wind and rain leveled crops and stripped trees of fruit causing several million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1980 - The afternoon high at New York City was just 89 degrees. But there were fifteen days of 90 degree heat during the month, their hottest August of record. (The Weather Channel)

1985 - Hail larger than golf balls, driven by 70 mph winds, moved down crops, stripped trees, and broke windows, near Logan KS. Road graders cleared three foot drifts of hail on Kansas Highway 9 east of Logan. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms deluged the Central Gulf Coast States with torrential rains. Thunderstorms in Mississippi drenched Marion County with up to 15 inches of rain during the morning hours, with 12.2 inches reported at Columbia. Floodwaters swept cars away in the Lakeview subdivision of Columbia when the the Lakeview Dam broke. Flash flooding caused more than three million dollars damage in Marion County. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - A dozen cities in the northeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Lansing MI reported a record 35 days of 90 degree weather for the year, Detroit MI reported a record 37 days of 90 degree heat for the year, and Williamsport PA reported a record 38 days of 90 degree weather for the year. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms developing in a tropical airmass over the northeastern U.S. soaked Connecticut and Massachusetts with four to eight inches of rain over the weekend, between the 11th and 13th of the month. Hartford CT received 7.70 inches of rain. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

Groton Daily Independent Monday, Aug. 13, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 035 ~ 8 of 37 Today Tonight Tuesday Tuesday Wednesday Night 40% 30% 30% Patchy Smoke Areas Smoke Chance Mostly Clear Sunny then Chance T-storms then T-storms Chance Showers High: 96 °F Low: 58 °F High: 76 °F Low: 52 °F High: 82 °F Today Tonight Tuesday Northeastern SD Scattered Storms - 100 Lows: Low 60s ning Storms Haze/Smoke Increasing Clouds From West LOW NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE Updated: 8/13/2018 4:39 AM Central

Published on: 08/13/2018 at 4:50AM

Another hot and dry one ahead of a front that moves across the Dakotas today and tonight. This feature will provide the focus for weak storms overnight into early Tuesday from the James valley east. Storms sink southwards with the front Tuesday, with Canadian high pressure ushering in cooler air.

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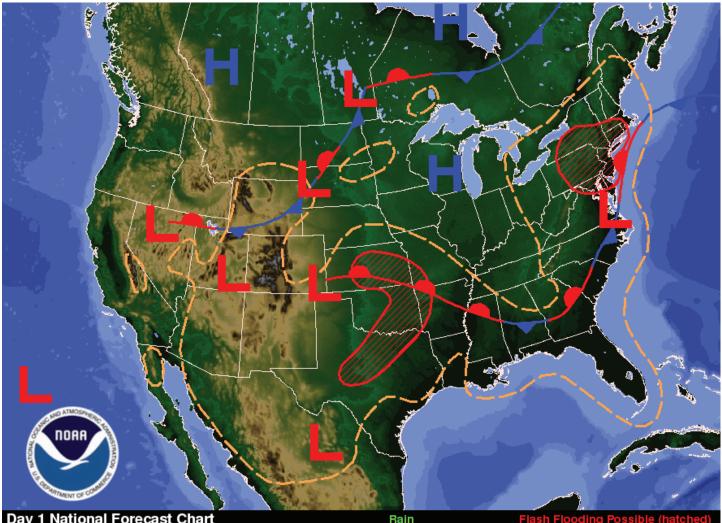
Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 94.0 F at 2:56 PM

High Outside Temp: 94.0 F at 2:56 PN Heat Index: 103 at 3:32 PM Low Outside Temp: 70.2 F at 6:46 AM High Gust: 23.0 Mph at 4:24 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 112° in 1965

Record High: 112° in 1965 Record Low: 35° in 1964 Average High: 83°F Average Low: 57°F Average Precip in Aug: 0.94 Precip to date in Aug: 0.25 Average Precip to date: 14.80 Precip Year to Date: 10.14 Sunset Tonight: 8:44 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:33 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart Valid Mon, Aug 13, 2018, issued 4:52 AM EDT DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center Prepared by Mcreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

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



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UNSHAKEN!

Watching the occasional stories of the construction of the new World Trade Center in New York was a fascinating experience. Did you notice, however, that before they could go up, they had to go down - way down? It is an obvious law of gravity as well as one of construction: The only way to assure that a build-ing will survive an earthquake or strong winds during a storm is to build it on a foundation that is firm. And, only a life that has a firm foundation will be able to withstand the storms and tests of time and life.

Many of us, unfortunately, give little thought to this critical fact of life. We put all of our time and treasures into the visible parts of our life and neglect and ignore our foundation.

But, storms and tests come to everyone. They are inevitable. They come in the form of troubles and tragedies, suffering and sickness, loss and grief. Regardless of the amount we invest in the superstructure, life will collapse without a firm foundation.

So we all face the same question: What is essential for the foundation of a life that will survive the storms and tests of life? A wise builder put it in one sentence: Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever!

Those who put their trust in the Lord are not only secure and safe but guarded and grounded in the One who created Mount Zion. In emphasizing this fact, the Psalmist continued his explanation of this by adding, As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people both now and always.

What an incredible picture: The God who pushed mountains from the floor of the earth to surround and protect His children in Jerusalem is waiting to surround and protect us from the disasters of life. If we want a solid foundation, we have it: For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid: Christ Jesus!

Prayer: Thank You, Lord, for the assurance of Your protection, presence, and power that guarantee our safety throughout life. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 125:1 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever!

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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)
 - 7/4/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
 - 7/14/2019 Summer Fest
 - 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
 - 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
 - 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
 - 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
 - 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
 - 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party
 - Best Ball Golf Tourney
 - SDSU Golf Tourney
 - Sunflower Golf Tourney
 - Santa Claus Day
 - Fireman's Stag
 - Tour of Homes
 - Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
 - School Events

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News from the Associated Press

Court, regulators clash over uranium project in South Dakota By SETH TUPPER, Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Federal regulators recently abandoned a proposed survey of Native American cultural resources at a planned uranium mine site in the southwest part South Dakota, just days before a judge decided the survey is required by federal law.

The contradictory actions could further complicate and prolong a regulatory review process that is already nearly a decade old, the Rapid City Journal reported.

Powertech (USA) Inc., a subsidiary of Canada-based Azarga Uranium, wants to develop a mine 13 miles northwest of Edgemont, on the remote southwestern edge of the Black Hills. The project is named "Dewey-Burdock," for two old town sites in the area.

The uranium would be mined by the "in situ" method, which involves drilling dozens of wells across a wide area. A liquid solution is pumped underground to dissolve the uranium and bring it to the surface, so it can be processed for use in nuclear power plants.

Contention over the potential presence of Native American burial sites, artifacts and other cultural resources within the 17-square-mile area of the proposed mine has been ongoing since Powertech applied to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a license in 2009. Nevertheless, the commission granted the license in 2014, even as a dispute about the lack of an adequate cultural resources survey was still pending before the commission's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board.

In 2015, the board acknowledged the lack of an adequate cultural resources survey and directed the staff of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to remedy the problem. The board and the commission also decided to leave Powertech's license in effect while a remedy was sought (mining has never commenced, because Powertech still needs several additional licenses and permits from other federal and state agencies).

The main agitator for a cultural resources survey has been the Oglala Sioux Tribe, of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The proposed mine site is about 50 miles west of the reservation but is part of the tribe's traditional homelands.

Talks among Powertech, the tribe and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission about the potential methodology and scope of a cultural resources survey had been progressing for the past couple of years. But those talks broke down during meetings between commission staffers and tribal officials in June on the reservation.

On July 2, members of the commission staff told the tribe that efforts to conduct a cultural resources survey would be discontinued, because of fundamental incompatibilities in the approaches proposed by each side.

Then, on July 19, the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board set August and September deadlines for motions to potentially resolve the survey dispute without a new survey (some data on cultural resources is available from past field investigations that turned up dozens of archaeological sites within the boundaries of the proposed mine area).

While the survey talks were grinding toward their eventual breakdown over the past couple of years, there was also a court battle in progress, resulting from the tribe's petition to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. In the petition, the tribe sought a review of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's decision to leave Powertech's license in effect.

On July 20, just 18 days after the Nuclear Regulatory Commission abandoned its effort to conduct a cultural resources survey, the appeals court's three-judge panel issued an opinion. The opinion was filed by Chief Judge Merrick Garland — the would-be U.S. Supreme Court justice who was nominated during the waning days of the Obama administration.

Garland's opinion said the Nuclear Regulatory Commission violated the National Environmental Policy Act — which is known by the acronym "NEPA" — when the commission decided to leave Powertech's li-

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cense in effect after acknowledging the lack of an adequate cultural resources survey. The opinion further noted that the commission's decision in the Powertech matter had not been a "one-off" but appeared to be "settled practice."

"The agency's decision in this case and its apparent practice are contrary to NEPA," Garland's opinion said. "The statute's requirement that a detailed environmental impact statement be made for a 'proposed' action makes clear that agencies must take the required hard look before taking that action."

Elsewhere in the 34-page opinion, Garland noted that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's decision to leave Powertech's license in effect was grounded in the tribe's inability to show that irreparable harm would result. Garland referred to the situation as a "classic Catch-22" for the tribe.

"But without an adequate survey of the cultural and historical resources at the site," Garland wrote, "such a showing may well be impossible. Of course, if the project does go forward and such resources are damaged, the Tribe will then be able to show irreparable harm. By then, however, it will be too late."

The court declined to vacate Powertech's license, because of concerns about "disruptive consequences" — including a potential plummeting of the stock price of Powertech's parent entity, Azarga Uranium. Rather than vacate the license, the court remanded the case back to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission "for further proceedings consistent with this opinion."

But the recent trajectory of those regulatory proceedings — toward a resolution of the survey dispute, possibly without a new survey — could be at odds with the court opinion. And if the tribe is unsatisfied with the outcome of the survey dispute, the tribe could ultimately go back to court.

For now, the factions in the dispute disagree about the potential impact of the recent court decision and regulatory actions.

The tribe's lawyer, Jeffrey Parsons, of the Western Mining Action Project in Lyons, Colorado, sees no resolution in the near future.

"This process could go on for a long time," he said.

Blake Steele, president and CEO of Azarga Uranium, issued a written statement describing the recent developments as "an opportunity to resolve the only remaining contention for the Company's Dewey-Burdock NRC License in an expedited manner."

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

South Dakota baseball teams take pride in unique nicknames By RYAN DEAL, The Daily Republic

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — In the late 1980s, the Platte amateur baseball team ditched its green and yellow uniforms for bright red ones.

The players received new uniforms at practice and as the players were rummaging through their new gear, the Platte Killer Tomatoes were born.

"We are all kind of proud about these nice bright red tops and nice white pants and somebody said, 'Good Lord, we look like tomatoes," former Platte player Kevin Kuiper said. "And Sam Nachtigal — the way I remember it — coined the phrase, 'We are not just tomatoes, we are Killer Tomatoes,' and it stuck like glue."

Nachtigal took the name from "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes!" — a 1978 film that was equal parts musical, comedy and horror — about a group of scientists that band together to save the world from mutated killer tomatoes, The Daily Republic reported. Nachtigal was watching Siskel & Ebert's 10 worst movies of all-time list and not only did it make the cut, but it sparked one of South Dakota's most unique nicknames.

"They had the 10 worst movies of all-time that they were critiquing and the 'Attack of the Killer Tomatoes!' was one of them and they played the opening song, 'It's the Attack of the Killer Tomatoes!' "Nachtigal said. "It was kind of unique and then when our team uniforms changed to green to red, I just started calling us the Killer Tomatoes and then the name stuck."

When Nachtigal and Kuiper played for Platte, they even ran onto the field with the theme song from the

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movie blaring out of the speakers at the ballpark:

Attack of the killer tomatoes!

Attack of the killer tomatoes!

They'll beat you, bash you,

Squish you, mash you

Chew you up for brunch

And finish you off for dinner or lunch!

Platte, which didn't have a team name prior to the Killer Tomatoes, embraced the new nickname. It designed an angry-looking tomato logo and Platte's American Legion Memorial Field is nicknamed "The Tomato Patch."

"It was just amazing how that caught on and took off," Kuiper said. "We do get a lot of laughs, tongue and cheek comments, but we are pretty d--- proud to be Killer Tomatoes."

The nickname and its origin embody South Dakota amateur baseball, which is dotted with other unique nicknames across the state. The state has two types of frogs: Horned Frogs and Mad Frogs, fish (Mudcats and Slough Sharks), birds (both Bluejays and Bluebirds), horses (both Broncs and Broncos) and dinosaurs (Raptors).

Bankers, Outlaws, Merchants, Cormorants, Traders, Lakers, Flying Squirrels and Rats also represent amateur teams in South Dakota. Pony Hills League member Four Corners doesn't have a nickname but its name comes from its location at the intersection of U.S. Highway 14 and South Dakota Highways 34 and 63.

Cornbelt League member Canova has one of the more distinct names in the state: the Gang.

"It just kind of caught on years ago," Canova manager Dave Gassman said. "We would be playing and everybody would say, 'Come on Gang. Let's go.' We just decided we are the Canova Gang. Pretty simple."

Gassman has been involved with the Canova baseball for 53 years — either as a player or coach — and they've always been the Gang.

"I can't remember us not being called the Gang," Gassman said.

Canova, a die-hard baseball town of around 100 people, has embraced the nickname and its red and yellow team colors. The Gang is not only a traditional amateur baseball power, but the other levels in town go by the name, with the same hats and colors.

"It brings togetherness here and unity," Gassman said. "We are the Gang all the way from the 6 year olds all the way up to the amateur team. I think it just ties the whole program together nicely to make it a fun summer for everybody."

In Milbank, the amateur team sports another unique nickname: the Firechiefs. The name dates back to the early 1950s when nobody would sponsor the local amateur team.

"They were struggling getting people to sponsor them," Milbank coach Scott Hoeke said. "So the fire department basically just started raising the money and feeds and that sort of stuff that sponsored to pay for amateur baseball."

Some of the players were also on the volunteer fire department. After briefly being called the Milbank Royals after Royal Insurance sponsored the team, the Firechiefs came back in the early 1990s and remain in place today. The birthplace of American Legion baseball, Milbank has a strong baseball community and it also embraces the Firechiefs.

"It's unique and it really adds to the mystique around South Dakota amateur baseball," Hoeke said. "Because I don't think there's many states in the U.S. that has the pride of amateur baseball like South Dakota does."

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

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Grass, timber fire threatens structures in SW South Dakota

HOT SPRINGS, S.D. (AP) — A growing grass and timber fire has prompted evacuations and is threatening structures in southwestern South Dakota.

The Rapid City Journal reports the evacuation area was expanded Sunday as the fire east of Hot Springs continued to grow. By Sunday afternoon the fire had grown to 250 acres and was 5 percent contained.

The fire started just off state Highway 18 Saturday afternoon. No injuries were reported or structures burned Sunday.

The number of evacuations and structures threatened was not immediately known Sunday. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Numerous ground resources and multiple air resources were ordered to fight the fire Saturday. Additional resources arrived Sunday.

A red flag warning for the fire area was issued until Sunday night due to low humidity and expected gusty winds.

Sioux Falls police searching for suspects in man's shooting

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police are searching for suspects after a man was shot in the leg. Authorities were approached Saturday night by a man who said he was shot in central Sioux Falls. The Argus Leader reports the man told police he was shot when a gun was fired into the ground. Police say the wound was not life-threatening.

Police say the suspect or suspects left the area in a late model silver or gray sedan.

4 die in crashes during 2018 Sturgis Motorcycle Rally

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota authorities say the number of people killed in crashes during this year's Sturgis Motorcycle Rally was down from last year.

The Department of Public Safety's final tally of fatal crashes as of Sunday morning was four. That compares with eight killed in crashes at last year's rally.

The number of non-fatal accidents also was down this year. Authorities report 56 injury accidents at this year's rally, down from 69 last year, and 50 non-injury accidents this year, compared with 55 last year. The 10-day rally in South Dakota's Black Hills wrapped up Sunday.

Deadwood sees retail sales increase amid gambling decline

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — Deadwood's gambling revenue may have fallen, but the city's retail revenue appears to be booming.

A report by the South Dakota Retailers Association found that Deadwood's sales tax revenue over May 2017-18 increased by more than 25 percent from \$165,525 to \$207,550, the Black Hills Pioneer reported . From April 2017-18, Deadwood's sales tax numbers grew more than 20 percent from about \$234,400 to \$282,700.

Deadwood racked up \$67.4 million in retail sales last year, compared to \$62.6 million in 2016.

"This is in contrast to other towns in the region that showed flat or decreased sales tax numbers," said Julie Koth, who helps run clothing store Madame Peacocks. Koth said her business may experience their best year yet if retail sales tax numbers stay on track in coming months.

Koth said other retailers have been seeing sales increases as well.

"One of them even mentioned they had to check their numbers twice to make sure it was right," she said. Deadwood Finance Officer Mary Jo Nelson said the city's sales tax has increased by 11 percent over the same period in 2017.

"The 20 percent increase in May of 2018 is attributable in part from a dip in returns filed in May of 2017. At that time our sales tax revenue decreased by 17.88 percent," Nelson said. "These types of things may occur from month to month and there are times additional revenue comes our way as a result of an au-

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dit, so it's best to take a step back and focus on the revenue over time. That being said, I am extremely pleased with an 11 percent increase in revenue received from January to June of this year."

Deadwood Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lee Harstad expects even higher tax receipt increases as businesses expand offerings to the city's visitors.

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

Aberdeen studying water source needs

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — Aberdeen is spending more than \$500,000 to conduct two studies on whether it needs another water source.

The studies are examining the city's infrastructure and the underground watershed to see if it will be adequate in the future, the Aberdeen American News reported .

"There's no clear answer on when work will need to be done," said Public Works Director Robin Bobzien. "The alarm comes when we start to see higher demand."

Clark Engineering and Wenck Engineering and Consulting are conducting a two-year, \$250,905 study approved earlier this year. U.S. Geological Survey is also conducting a five-year, \$305,600 study.

Information from the two studies will be combined to predict how quickly well water levels will drop and rebound, said Water Superintendent Bob Braun.

Aberdeen gets its water from wells and from the Elm River. The ratio depends on the season, Braun said. New water sources may not be needed if the city can use existing wells, said City Manager Lynn Lander. The city has 10 wells, but some are inactive, he said.

The city may also decide to tap deeper into existing wells to be more cost-efficient, Bobzien said. New wells would require the city purchase land, dig a new well and install infrastructure, which he said would be substantially more expensive.

The study will also determine the extent of the city's water rights, Lander said.

The water study comes as the city is in the midst of strategic planning.

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

AP Interview: Malaysia's Mahathir aims to scrap China deals By ADAM SCHRECK, Associated Press

PUTRAJAYA, Malaysia (AP) — Malaysia is looking to cancel multibillion-dollar Chinese-backed infrastructure projects signed by the previous scandal-tainted government as it digs itself out of debt, Malaysia's prime minister said Monday during an extensive interview in which he also blasted Myanmar's treatment of Rohingya Muslims as "grossly unjust."

Mahathir Mohamad, at 93 the world's oldest prime minister, spoke with The Associated Press days before he heads to Beijing for his first visit since returning to power in a stunning electoral upset three months ago.

Mahathir said he wants to maintain good relations with China and welcomes its investment, so long as the projects benefit Malaysia. But he took his toughest stance yet on Chinese-backed energy pipelines and a rail project along peninsular Malaysia's eastern coast that were struck by his predecessor, Najib Razak.

The former prime minister, who remains in parliament but is barred from leaving the country, faces trial on multiple charges related to the alleged multibillion-dollar looting of the 1MDB state investment fund. He denies wrongdoing.

"We don't think we need those two projects. We don't think they are viable. So if we can, we would like to just drop the projects," he said from his office in the administrative center of Putrajaya.

During his time in power, Najib drew Malaysia closer to China, which sees the multiethnic Southeast Asian country as a key part of its ambitious One Belt, One Road global trade initiative. The former prime minister reached deals for the 688-kilometer (430-mile) East Coast Rail Link and the two gas pipelines in 2016.

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Malaysia's new government has already suspended work on the projects, being built by Chinese statebacked companies, and called for drastic cuts in their ballooning cost, which it estimates at more than \$22 billion. Some of that money has already been paid and could be difficult to recoup.

If scrapping the projects altogether isn't doable, Malaysia will need to at least put them on hold until the future, Mahathir said.

Mahathir also urged China to respect the free movement of ships throughout the South China Sea and reiterated his call for no warships to be based there.

China and multiple Southeast Asian nations including Malaysia have competing claims on South China Sea islands and reefs — along with the rich fishing grounds and potential fossil fuel deposits around them. "We are all for ships, even warships, passing through, but not stationed here," Mahathir said, adding that

this included U.S. vessels. "It is a warning to everyone. Don't create tension unnecessarily."

China, which considers much of the sea as its own, has built up several man-made islands and equipped them with runways, radar systems and missile stations to defend its claims. It has accused the U.S., which routinely deploys warships and planes to the sea, of meddling in a purely Asian dispute. Chinese ships also patrol the sea.

Mahathir was scathing in his criticism of Myanmar, a country whose inclusion into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations he had pushed for in 1997 despite concerns over human rights abuses and protests by the U.S.

"It is grossly unjust to do what they have done, killing people, mass murder. That's not the way civilized nations behave," he said.

The previous government of predominantly Muslim Malaysia strongly supported the Rohingya, a persecuted minority in Myanmar who have fled by the hundreds of thousands to neighboring Bangladesh after a crackdown last year that some have called ethnic cleansing. Malaysia has said the displacement of Rohingya is no longer a domestic issue for Myanmar, in a rare departure from ASEAN's non-interference policy in each other's affairs.

Mahathir added that he was "very disappointed" in Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi's failure to halt the persecution.

"Obviously she appears to be with the government of the day on how they treat the Rohingya. It's a question of justice and human rights. You can't do that," he said.

He stopped short of committing Malaysia to taking in more Rohingya refugees, however, saying the 7 million legal and undocumented foreigners he said Malaysia already hosts are "far too many."

A doctor by training, Mahathir is a larger-than-life figure in Malaysia. His influence has dominated the country's politics from the Cold War into the new millennium.

His first turn as prime minister stretched for 22 years, coming to an end only in 2003. He rose to prominence by controversially championing the county's indigenous Malays, whom he saw as disadvantaged compared to the country's Chinese minority, and he oversaw the rapid development of his young country while concentrating power under his increasingly autocratic rule.

Mahathir long seemed to relish his role as an antagonist to the West. He frequently criticized the U.S. and its close allies — often with colorful and at times offensive language — while promoting what he saw as Asian values and interests.

A longtime champion of Palestinian causes, he doubled down Monday when asked about his record of comments seen as anti-Semitic, saying that "we should be able to criticize everybody" while assailing laws denying the scale of the Holocaust.

"Anti-Semitic is a term that is invented to prevent people from criticizing the Jews for doing wrong things," he said.

Mahathir's criticism of Western leaders has extended to U.S. President Donald Trump, whom he described as an "erratic man" during an AP interview last year.

His return to office hasn't tempered that opinion.

"So far he has not indicated that I should change my views," he said of Trump on Monday. "He changes his mind within 24 hours. I mean it is difficult to deal with any person whose mind is not made up."

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Still, Malaysia would continue to welcome American investment, particularly in high-tech sectors, he said, as he promised tax breaks and other incentives.

Mahathir was sharp during the interview and looked surprisingly youthful considering his age and history of heart problems.

If his legacy is weighing on him, he didn't let it show.

"Frankly I don't care. I won't be around," he said, chuckling, when asked how history would judge him. "When I am dead, it doesn't matter anymore."

He has previously vowed to hand over power to former foe-turned ally Anwar Ibrahim, who in May was freed from custody over a sodomy conviction he says was politically motivated, within two years.

Mahathir insists he will keep that promise — though he now seems to be giving himself a little wiggle room.

"I expect to be (in office) at least two years," he said Monday. And could he stay longer? "If Anwar agrees."

Associated Press writer Eileen Ng contributed to this report.

Charlottesville anniversary: Peaceful protests, few arrests By ASHRAF KHALIL, MICHAEL KUNZELMAN and SARAH RANKIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of people wanting to send a message that racism is unwelcome in the United States gathered in a park outside the White House to protest a white nationalist rally on the anniversary of the deadly violence in Charlottesville, Virginia.

In the end, fewer than two dozen white nationalists showed up.

The events held in both Charlottesville and Washington, largely peaceful though tense at times, were part of a day of speeches, vigils and marches marking a year since one of the largest gatherings of white nationalists and other far-right extremists in a decade. One person was arrested in Washington on Sunday, and four others were arrested in Charlottesville.

In Charlottesville, the mother of the woman killed at last summer's rally visited the site of the attack, saying the country's racial wounds still have not healed. In Washington, a phalanx of police and a maze of metal barriers separated the small group of white nationalists from shouting counterprotesters within view of the White House.

Jason Kessler, the principal organizer of last year's "Unite the Right" event, led the Sunday gathering he called a white civil rights rally in Lafayette Square. Kessler said in a permit application that he expected 100 to 400 people to participate, but the actual number was far lower: only around 20.

Kessler's group was dogged by jeering crowds from the moment they emerged from the Foggy Bottom Metro station; they marched about a mile to the White House surrounded by uniformed officers and police vehicles. Behind the barricades, in the northern half of Lafayette Park, thousands of counterprotesters struggled to even catch a clear glimpse of the white nationalist rally.

The counterprotesters had gathered hours earlier in Lafayette Park and nearby Freedom Plaza. Makia Green, who represents the Washington branch of Black Lives Matter, told Sunday's crowd in Freedom Plaza: "We know from experience that ignoring white nationalism doesn't work."

After about 90 minutes, the white nationalists were packed into a pair of vans and driven to safety.

President Donald Trump, who further enflamed tensions last year by blaming "both sides" for the violence, wasn't at home this year — he has been at his golf club in New Jersey for more than a week on a working vacation.

Washington Police Chief Peter Newsham credited his forces for successfully avoiding violence and keeping the two sides separated. Newsham called it, "a well-executed plan to safeguard people and property while allowing citizens to express their First Amendment rights."

Earlier in the day in Charlottesville, the mother of Heather Heyer, the 32-year-old killed during last year's rally, said there's still much healing to be done.

Susan Bro laid flowers at a makeshift memorial at the site of the attack in downtown Charlottesville. With

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a crowd gathered around her, she thanked them for coming to remember her daughter but also acknowledged the dozens of others injured and the two state troopers killed when a helicopter crashed that day.

"There's so much healing to do," Bro said. "We have a huge racial problem in our city and in our country. We have got to fix this, or we'll be right back here in no time."

Hundreds of neo-Nazis, skinheads and Ku Klux Klan members and other white nationalists descended on Charlottesville on Aug. 12, 2017, in part to protest over the city's decision to remove a monument to Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee from a park.

Violent fighting broke out between attendees and counterprotesters. Authorities eventually forced the crowd to disperse, but chaos erupted again when the car barreled into the crowd.

James Fields Jr., of Maumee, Ohio, is charged in state court with murder in Heyer's killing and faces separate hate crime charges in federal court. He pleaded not guilty last month to the federal charges.

The day's death toll rose to three when a state police helicopter crashed, killing Lt. Jay Cullen and Trooper-Pilot Berke Bates.

Among the other anniversary events was a Sunday morning community gathering at a park that drew more than 200 people. The group sang and listened to speakers, among them Courtney Commander, a friend of Heyer's who was with her when she was killed.

"She is with me today, too," Commander said.

Law enforcement officials faced blistering criticism after last year's rally for what was perceived as a passive response to the violence that unfolded. A review by a former U.S. attorney found a lack of coordination between state and city police and an operational plan that elevated officer safety over public safety.

The anniversary weekend was marked by a much heavier police presence, which also drew criticism from some activists.

Demonstrators on Sunday marched through Charlottesville chanting, "Cops and Klan go hand in hand," and "Will you protect us?"

After the white nationalists departed, police had a tense standoff with about 150 masked anti-fascist, or antifa, protesters who marched through downtown Washington blocking traffic after the white nationalists left. Police shoved back advancing members of the far-left-leaning militant group, and an officer used pepper spray, but no tear gas was deployed.

The city of Charlottesville said four people were arrested in the downtown area. Two arrests stemmed from a confrontation near the Lee statue where a Spotsylvania, Virginia, man stopped to salute, a Charlottesville woman confronted him and a physical altercation took place, officials said.

Police were also investigating the assault of a Charlottesville police officer who was knocked down during a demonstration related to the rally. The officer was knocked to the ground and swarmed after approaching a man whose face was covered, according to police. The officer wasn't hurt, but the investigation is ongoing.

Kunzelman reported from Charlottesville and Rankin reported from Richmond, Virginia.

For the complete AP coverage marking one year since the rally in Charlottesville, visit https://apnews. com/tag/CharlottesvilleAYearLater

Rival Korea leaders to meet in Pyongyang in September By YOUKYUNG LEE, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The rival Koreas announced Monday that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in will meet in Pyongyang sometime in September, while their envoys also discussed Pyongyang's nuclear disarmament efforts and international sanctions.

The push for what would be the leaders' third summit since April comes amid renewed worries surrounding a nuclear standoff between Washington and Pyongyang.

The announcement released after nearly two hours of talks led by the rivals' chiefs for inter-Korean af-

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fairs was remarkably thin on details. In a three-sentence joint statement, the two sides did not mention an exact date for the summit and provided no details on how to implement past agreements.

Ri Son Gwon, the head of the North Korean delegation, told pool reporters at the end of the talks that officials agreed on a specific date for the summit in Pyongyang sometime within September, but he refused to share the date, saying he wanted to "keep reporters wondering."

The South Korean unification minister, Cho Myoung-gyon, told reporters after the meeting that officials still had some work to do before agreeing on when exactly the summit would happen. He said the two sides will again discuss when the leaders would meet but didn't say when.

It wasn't clear why Ri and Cho differed on the issue of the date, and Cho wouldn't answer a specific question about the discrepancy.

The meeting at a North Korea-controlled building in the border village of Panmunjom comes as the international community waits to see if North Korea will begin abandoning its nuclear weapons program, something officials suggested would happen after Kim's summit with President Donald Trump in June in Singapore.

North Korea is thought to have a growing arsenal of nuclear bombs and long-range missiles and to be closing in on the ability to reliably target anywhere on the U.S. mainland. A string of North Korean weapons tests last year, during which Pyongyang claimed to have completed its nuclear arsenal, had many in Asia worried that Washington and Pyongyang were on the brink of war.

Cho, the chief of the South Korean delegation, said the two sides also "talked a lot" about international sanctions meant to punish the North for its development of nuclear weapons, but he didn't elaborate.

Seoul has been preparing for possible economic collaboration with Pyongyang that could go ahead when sanctions are lifted. Pyongyang has urged Washington to ease the economic punishments, but the United States says that can't happen until the North completely denuclearizes.

The South Korean envoy said he urged Pyongyang to accelerate its current nuclear negotiations with the United States. The North said it was making efforts to disarm, but Cho said there were no new details on those efforts.

Experts say there has been slow progress on those efforts since the Singapore summit.

Pyongyang has urged Washington to reciprocate its goodwill gestures, which include suspending missile and nuclear tests and returning the remains of Americans who fought in the Korean War. Washington, which cancelled an annual joint military exercise with South Korea that had taken place in August in previous years, has refused to ease sanctions until North Korea finally and fully denuclearizes.

Lee can be reached on Twitter: www.twitter.com/YKLeeAP

Security experts, Trump allies alarmed by Omarosa recordings By JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

BRIDGEWATER, N.J. (AP) — Former presidential adviser Omarosa Manigault Newman is drawing fire from President Donald Trump's allies and national security experts for secret recordings she made at the White House, including her firing by chief of staff John Kelly in the high-security Situation Room.

Manigault Newman said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press" that she surreptitiously recorded a number of conversations in the White House for her own protection. Parts of her conversation with Kelly were played on the air. Critics denounced the recordings as a serious breach of ethics and security.

"Who in their right mind thinks it's appropriate to secretly record the White House chief of staff in the Situation Room?" tweeted Ronna McDaniel, chairwoman of the Republican National Committee.

In the recording, which Manigault Newman quotes extensively in her new book, "Unhinged," Kelly can be heard saying that he wants to talk with Manigault Newman about leaving the White House. The Associated Press independently listened to the recording of the conversation.

"It's come to my attention over the last few months that there's been some pretty, in my opinion, sig-

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nificant integrity issues related to you," Kelly is heard saying, citing her use of government vehicles and "money issues and other things" that he compares to offenses that could lead to a court martial in the military.

"If we make this a friendly departure ... you can look at your time here in the White House as a year of service to the nation and then you can go on without any type of difficulty in the future relative to your reputation," he tells Manigault Newman, adding: "There are some serious legal issues that have been violated and you're open to some legal action that we hope, we think, we can control."

Manigault Newman said she viewed the conversation as a "threat" and defended her decision to covertly record it and other White House conversations.

"If I didn't have these recordings, no one in America would believe me," she said.

The response from the White House was stinging. "The very idea a staff member would sneak a recording device into the White House Situation Room, shows a blatant disregard for our national security - and then to brag about it on national television further proves the lack of character and integrity of this disgruntled former White House employee," press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said in a statement.

The Situation Room is a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility, or SCIF, where the nation's most consequential foreign policy decisions are made, and staff are not permitted to bring in cellphones or other recording devices.

"I've never heard of a more serious breach of protocol," said Ned Price, who served as spokesman of the National Security Council in the Obama administration. "Not only is it not typical, something like this is unprecedented."

Price said there is no one checking staffers for devices at the door, but there is a sign outside the room making clear that electronic devices are prohibited.

"The Situation Room is the inner-most sanctum of a secure campus," he said, describing the breach as part of a culture of disregarding security protocols in the Trump White House. He also questioned why Kelly would ever choose to have such a meeting there.

In the book, which will be released Tuesday, Manigault Newman paints a damning picture of Trump, including claiming without evidence that tapes exist of him using the N-word as he filmed his "The Apprentice" reality series, on which she co-starred.

Manigault Newman wrote in the book that she had not personally heard the recording. But she told Chuck Todd on Sunday that she later was able to hear a recording of Trump during a trip to Los Angeles. "I heard his voice as clear as you and I are sitting here," she said on the show.

The White House had previously tried to discredit the book, with Sanders calling it "riddled with lies and false accusations." Trump on Saturday labeled Manigault Newman a "lowlife."

Katrina Pierson, an adviser to Trump's re-election campaign who served as a spokeswoman for his 2016 campaign, said she had never heard Trump use the kind of derogatory language Manigault Newman describes. She said in a statement that she feels "pity for Omarosa as she embarrasses herself by creating salacious lies and distortions just to try to be relevant and enrich herself by selling books at the expense of the truth. 'Unhinged,' indeed."

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway also questioned Manigault Newman's credibility in an interview Sunday on ABC's "This Week."

"The first time I ever heard Omarosa suggest those awful things about this president are in this book," she said, noting Manigault Newman "is somebody who gave a glowing appraisal of Donald Trump the businessman, the star of the 'The Apprentice,' the candidate and, indeed, the president of the United States."

Manigault Newman had indeed been a staunch defender of the president for years, including pushing back, as the highest-profile African-American in the White House, on accusations that he was racist.

But Manigault Newman now says she was "used" by Trump, calling him a "con" who "has been masquerading as someone who is actually open to engaging with diverse communities" and is "truly a racist."

"I was complicit with this White House deceiving this nation," she said. "I had a blind spot where it came to Donald Trump."

____ Associated Press writers Darlene Superville and Hope Yen contributed to this report from Washington.

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Toxics from manufacturing turn up in public water systems By ELLEN KNICKMEYER, Associated Press

HORSHAM, Pa. (AP) — Lauren Woeher wonders if her 16-month-old daughter has been harmed by tap water contaminated with toxic industrial compounds used in products like nonstick cookware, carpets and fast-food wrappers. Henry Betz, at 76, rattles around his house alone at night, thinking about the water his family unknowingly drank for years that was tainted by the same contaminants, and the pancreatic cancers that killed wife Betty Jean and two others in his household.

Tim Hagey, manager of a local water utility, recalls how he used to assure people that the local public water was safe. That was before testing showed it had some of the highest levels of the toxic compounds of any public water system in the U.S.

"You all made me out to be a liar," Hagey, general water and sewer manager in the eastern Pennsylvania town of Warminster, told Environmental Protection Agency officials last month.

At "community engagement sessions" like the one in Horsham, residents and state, local and military officials are demanding that the EPA act quickly — and decisively — to clean up local water systems testing positive for dangerous levels of the chemicals, perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS.

The Trump administration called the contamination "a potential public relations nightmare" earlier this year after federal toxicology studies found that some of the compounds are more hazardous than previously acknowledged.

PFAS have been in production since the 1940s, and there are about 3,500 different types. Dumped into water, the air or soil, some forms of the compounds are expected to remain intact for thousands of years; one public-health expert dubbed them "forever chemicals."

EPA testing from 2013 to 2015 found significant amounts of PFAS in public water supplies in 33 U.S. states. The finding helped move PFAS up as a national priority.

So did scientific studies that firmed up the health risks. One, looking at a kind of PFAS once used in making Teflon, found a probable link with kidney and testicular cancer, ulcerative colitis, thyroid disease, hypertension in pregnant women and high cholesterol. Other recent studies point to immune problems in children, among other things.

In 2016, the EPA set advisory limits — without any direct enforcement — for two kinds of PFAS that had recently been phased out of production in the United States. But manufacturers are still producing, and releasing into the air and water, newer versions of the compounds.

Earlier this year, federal toxicologists decided that even the EPA's 2016 advisory levels for the two phasedout versions of the compound were several times too high for safety.

EPA says it will prepare a national management plan for the compounds by the end of the year. But Peter Grevatt, director of the agency's Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, told The Associated Press that there's no deadline for a decision on possible regulatory actions.

Reviews of the data, and studies to gather more, are ongoing.

Even as the Trump administration says it advocates for clean air and water, it is ceding more regulation to the states and putting a hold on some regulations seen as burdensome to business.

In Horsham and surrounding towns in eastern Pennsylvania, and at other sites around the United States, the foams once used routinely in firefighting training at military bases contained PFAS.

"I know that you can't bring back three people that I lost," Betz, a retired airman, told the federal officials at the Horsham meeting. "But they're gone."

State lawmakers complained of "a lack of urgency and incompetency" on the part of EPA.

"It absolutely disgusts me that the federal government would put PR concerns ahead of public health concerns," Republican state Rep. Todd Stephens declared.

After the meeting, Woeher questioned why it took so long to tell the public about the dangers of the compounds.

"They knew they had seeped into the water, and they didn't tell anybody about it until it was revealed and they had to," she said.

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Speaking at her home with her toddler nearby, she asked, "Is this something that, you know, I have to worry? It's in her."

While contamination of drinking water around military bases and factories gets most of the attention, the EPA says 80 percent of human exposure comes from consumer products in the home.

The chemical industry says it believes the versions of the nonstick, stain-resistant compounds in use now are safe, in part because they don't stay in the body as long as older versions.

"As an industry today ... we're very forthcoming meeting any kind of regulatory requirement to disclose any kind of adverse data," said Jessica Bowman, a senior director at the American Chemistry Council trade group.

Independent academics and government regulators say they don't fully share the industry's expressed confidence about the safety of PFAS versions now in use.

While EPA considers its next step, states are taking action to tackle PFAS contamination on their own. In Delaware, National Guard troops handed out water after high levels of PFAS were found in a town's water supply. Michigan last month ordered residents of two towns to stop drinking or cooking with their water, after PFAS was found at 20 times the EPA's 2016 advisory level. In New Jersey, officials urged fishermen to eat some kinds of fish no more than once a year because of PFAS contamination.

Washington became the first state to ban any firefighting foam with the compound.

Given the findings on the compounds, alarm bells "should be ringing four out of five" at the EPA, Kerrigan Clough, a former deputy regional EPA administrator, said in an interview with the AP as he waited for a test for PFAS in the water at his Michigan lake home, which is near a military base that used firefighting foam.

"If the risk appears to be high, and you've got it every place, then you've got a different level" of danger and urgency, Clough said. "It's a serious problem."

Problems with PFAS surfaced partly as a result of a 1999 lawsuit by a farmer who filmed his cattle staggering, frothing and dying in a field near a DuPont disposal site in Parkersburg, West Virginia, for PFAS then used in Teflon.

In 2005, under President George W. Bush, the EPA and DuPont settled an EPA complaint that the chemical company knew at least by the mid-1980s that the early PFAS compound posed a substantial risk to human health.

The EPA in the past "didn't have much of a hammer to come down on a bad existing chemical," said Lynn Goldman, the agency's assistant administrator over toxic substances in the 1990s, now dean of the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University.

But Congress has boosted the agency's authority to regulate problematic chemicals since then. That includes toughening up the federal Toxic Substances Control Act and regulatory mandates for the EPA itself in 2016.

For PFAS, that should include addressing the new versions of the compounds coming into production, not just tackling old forms that companies already agreed to take offline, Goldman said.

"Otherwise it's the game of whack-a-mole," she said. "That's not what you want to do when you're protecting the public health."

Associated Press video journalist Joseph B. Frederick contributed to this report.

Online: EPA site on PFAS: https://www.epa.gov/pfas

Now with power to long rule China, Xi beset by challenges By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — As China's leaders gather for their annual Yellow Sea retreat, the country's political waters are looking choppy.

Chinese President and ruling Communist Party leader Xi Jinping is beset by economic, foreign policy and domestic political challenges just months after clearing his way to rule for as long as he wants as China's

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most dominant leader since Mao Zedong.

Mounting criticism of the Xi administration's policies has exposed the risks he faces from amassing so much power: He's made himself a natural target for blame.

"Having concentrated power, Xi is responsible for all policy setbacks and policy failures," said Joseph Cheng, a retired City University of Hong Kong professor and long-time observer of Chinese politics.

Notably, Xi used to dominate state-run newspapers' front pages and the state broadcaster CCTV's news bulletins on a daily basis but has in recent weeks made fewer public appearances. "He can't shift the blame, so he's responding by taking a lower profile," Cheng said.

The challenges so far aren't seen as a threat to Xi's grip on power, but for many Chinese, the government's credibility is on the line.

Of greatest concern to many is the trade war with the U.S. that threatens higher tariffs on hundreds of billions of dollars of Chinese exports. Critics say they've yet to see a coherent strategy from Beijing that could guide negotiations with Washington and avoid a major blow to the economy. Beijing instead seems to be opting for defiance and retaliatory measures of its own.

Both the stock market and the currency have weakened in response and the Communist Party itself conceded at a meeting last month that external factors were weighing heavily on economic growth.

At the same time, a scandal over vaccines has reignited long-held fears over the integrity of the health care industry and the government's ability to police the sprawling firms that dominate the economy.

"Trust is the most important thing and a loss of public confidence in the government could be devastating," said Zhang Ming, a retired professor of political science in Beijing.

And last week, the authorities mobilized a massive security effort to squelch a planned protest in Beijing over the sudden collapse of hundreds of peer-to-peer borrowing schemes that underscore the government's inability to reform the finance system to cater to small investors.

Meanwhile, Xi's signature project, the trillion-dollar "Belt and Road" initiative to build investment and infrastructure links with 65 nations, is running into headwinds over sticker shock among the countries involved. Some Chinese have also questioned the wisdom of sending vast sums abroad at a time when millions of Chinese remain mired in poverty.

That in part plays into concerns over Xi's abandonment of the highly pragmatic, low-key cautious approach to foreign relations advocated by Deng Xiaoping, the architect of China's economic reforms that laid the groundwork for today's relative prosperity.

Leaders are likely to discuss at least some of these challenges during informal discussions at the Beidaihe resort in Hebei province as part of a tradition begun under Mao. Xi and others generally drop out of sight for two weeks or more during the summer session.

Xi's mildly bombastic brand of Chinese triumphalism "has not been popular with many in the party," leading critics to speak out, said Steve Tsang, director of the China Institute at London's School of Oriental and African Studies.

Some have even called for the sacking of one prominent proponent of the rising China theme, Tsinghua University economist Hu Angang, with 27 graduates of the elite institution signing a letter to that effect.

Resentment lingers also over Xi's moves to consolidate power, including pushing through the removal of presidential term limits in March and establishing a burgeoning cult of personality.

That resentment was given voice in a lengthy jeremiad titled "Imminent Fears, Imminent Hopes" penned by Tsinghua University law professor Xu Zhangrun, who warned that, "Yet again people throughout China ... are feeling a sense of uncertainty, a mounting anxiety in relation both to the direction the country is taking as well as in regard to their personal security."

"These anxieties have generated something of a nationwide panic," Xu continued before listing eight areas of concern including stricter controls over ideology, repression of the intelligentsia, excessive foreign aid and "The End of Reform and the Return of Totalitarianism."

Even more boldly, Xu called for a restoration of presidential term limits and a re-evaluation of the 1989 pro-democracy movement centered on Beijing's Tiananmen Square. The peaceful protests were crushed

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by the military and remain a taboo topic to this day.

Although Xu is reportedly out of the country and has not been officially sanctioned, another longtime critic, retired professor Sun Wenguang, found himself carted off by police in the middle of a radio interview with the Voice of America in which he railed against China's lavish spending abroad.

A sign of the Xi administration's anxieties is a new campaign to promote patriotism among intellectuals — a recurring tactic when public debate is seen as needing a course correction.

The notice of the new campaign, issued July 31, cites "the broad masses of intellectuals" and the "patriotic spirit of struggle," while giving little in the way of specifics.

Much of the discontent with Xi can be traced to his administration's perceived ineffectiveness, said Zhang, the retired academic.

"If you want to be emperor, you must have great achievements," Zhang said. "He hasn't had any, so it's hard to convince the people."

Friendly tone belied desperate acts of Seattle plane thief By GENE JOHNSON, Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — He cracked jokes, complimented the professional demeanor of an air traffic controller and apologized for making a fuss.

But the friendly tone of a 29-year-old airport worker who stole a commercial plane Friday night, performing acrobatic stunts before the fatal plunge into a thick island forest, belied his desperate actions.

"I think I'm going to try to do a barrel roll, and if that goes good I'll go nose down and call it a night," Richard Russell said from the cockpit, according to a recording of his conversation with the controller.

The Pierce County Medical Examiner's Office confirmed Sunday that Russell had died in the fiery wreckage, but whether the crash was deliberate or accidental was one of several topics remaining for investigators.

Others include how, nearly 17 years after the 9/11 attack, someone can simply take a passenger plane from a major U.S. airport without authorization.

The Seattle FBI office said Sunday that it had recovered the flight data recorder and components of the cockpit voice recorder from the Horizon plane. The NTSB is now processing the equipment.

The FBI also said it found human remains among the wreckage.

Tragic as Russell's death was, he could have inflicted vastly more damage had he been so inclined. Potential targets included tens of thousands of fans assembling at Safeco Field, about 12 miles (19 kilometers) away, for a sold-out Pearl Jam concert just as he took off.

"Last night's event is going to push us to learn what we can from this tragedy so that we can ensure this does not happen again at Alaska Air Group or at any other airline," Brad Tilden, CEO of Alaska Airlines, told a news conference Saturday.

The plane was a Bombardier Q400, a turboprop that seats 76 people, owned by Horizon Air, part of Alaska Airlines. It had been parked at a cargo and maintenance area for the night after arriving from Victoria, British Columbia, earlier in the day.

Russell, a 3 1/2-year Horizon employee, worked as a ground service agent. His responsibilities included towing and pushing aircraft for takeoff and gate approach, de-icing them, and handling baggage.

Authorities said he used a tractor to rotate the plane 180 degrees, positioning it so that he could taxi toward a runway. They said it's not clear whether he had ever taken flight lessons or used flight simulators, or where he gained the skills to take off. The plane didn't require a key, but it did require buttons and switches to be activated in a particular order.

His 75-minute flight during the golden twilight took him south and west, toward the Olympic Mountains. As a flight controller tried to persuade him to land, he wondered aloud about whether he had enough fuel to make it to the Olympics, talked of the beautiful view, and said he had a lot of people who cared about him, apologizing for what he was doing.

He complimented the controller: "You are very calm, collect, poised," he said.

He said flying was a "blast" and that he didn't need much help: "I've played some video games before."

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"You think if I land this successfully Alaska will give me a job as a pilot?" he joked.

He also told the controller he "wasn't really planning on landing" the aircraft, and he described himself as "just a broken guy."

Authorities sent fighter jets to escort him, and the controller repeatedly tried to direct him to runways. But the plane slammed into tiny Ketron Island, a sparsely populated island southwest of Tacoma.

Russell went by "Beebo" on social media. On his Facebook page, which had limited public access, he said he was from Wasilla, Alaska; lived in Sumner, Washington; and was married in 2012.

In a humorous YouTube video he posted last year, he talked about his job and included videos and photos of his travels.

"I lift a lot of bags. Like a lot of bags. So many bags," he said.

Russell's family said in a statement that they were stunned and heartbroken. They said it's clear Russell didn't intend to harm anyone, and "he was right in saying that there are so many people who loved him."

Associated Press reporters Rachel La Corte in Olympia, Washington, and Keith Ridler in Boise, Idaho, contributed.

Democrats look to longshot territory for midterm gains By DAN SEWELL and BILL BARROW, Associated Press

MASON, Ohio (AP) — As Aftab Pureval campaigns for Congress in southwest Ohio, he sometimes smilingly introduces himself as "a brown dude with a funny name."

The Ohio native is the son of a Tibet-born mother and India-born father. He first upset the Cincinnati political order in 2016, winning the Hamilton County clerk of court's post that had been in Republican hands for a century. Now the 35-year-old attorney-turned-politician wants to unseat veteran Republican Rep. Steve Chabot.

"He's had his chance," Pureval says of the 65-year-old Chabot, a fixture on the Cincinnati-area political landscape for three decades who hasn't had a tough race since seats were redrawn after the 2010 census. "It's our time now."

Their matchup is among dozens of House contests playing out in districts that have largely been afterthoughts in recent elections. It's these kinds of races — beyond the 25 districts that elected a Republican member of Congress in 2016 despite Hillary Clinton defeating Donald Trump there — that could determine whether Democrats gain the 23 seats they need to retake the House.

Pureval is among the Democratic hopefuls looking to reclaim districts that span the nation's small and midsize cities and their surrounding suburbs and small towns — much of it political territory where Democrats were swept away in Republicans' 2010 midterm romp.

Democrats felt encouraged by the tight battle in last week's congressional special election in Ohio. While Trump claimed victory for Republican state Sen. Troy Balderson, the race against Democrat Danny O'Connor was considered too close to call, with a recount possible. The two will have a rematch in November for the seat vacated by Republican Pat Tiberi, who won by 37 points two years ago.

Democrats got a boost in a March special election in Pennsylvania, where Democrat Conor Lamb won a congressional district Trump carried by nearly 20 percent in 2016.

Pureval is among 60-plus names on the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee's "Red to Blue" list of candidates the national party believes are its best shots to flip GOP seats. The list is a mix of Clintonwon districts and the next tier of targets.

Dan Sena, the DCCC's executive director, says the "historic and diverse battlefield" will force tough Republican decisions on "who to defend and who is a lost cause."

Those dynamics mean legitimate House races in districts as varied as Salt Lake City, where Mayor Ben McAdams is aiming to unseat Rep. Mia Love in a district Trump carried by 7 points (Love won in 2016 by 12 points.) to West Virginia coal country, where Democratic state Sen. Richard Ojeda voted for Trump and now is aiming for an open seat in a district the president carried by 50 points. (Outgoing Republican

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Rep. Evan Jenkins last won by 44.)

It's a stunning turn two years removed from just 16 House races coming within 5 points, with an average victory margin of 37 points across all 435 districts.

Democrats are employing a range of candidates across that wide field.

Pureval is the millennial rising star. National Democrats noticed him after he scored the major upset to become Hamilton County clerk. He ran promising to modernize and cut costs, backed with memorable TV ads that highlighted his unusual name with an Aflac duck-like puppet squawking "AF-TAB!"

Pureval shows up at nearly any parade, festival or other large public event in the district and at home gatherings hosted by volunteers. He talks about economic development, helping the middle class and bringing generational change, trying to tap into demographic shifts without delving too much into the daily Trump-driven national narratives.

In conservative West Virginia, Ojeda is the tattooed combat veteran who offers righteous anger about the economic plight and opioid crisis gripping his part of the country. He voted for Trump but says Washington has forgotten about his district.

"When I've got children in my backyard that have it worse than some children I saw in Iraq and Afghanistan, it's time for me to do something about it," Ojeda says, promoting universal health care and other investments he thinks the government should make in West Virginia.

In Omaha, Nebraska, and its surrounding suburbs, Democrat Kara Eastman echoes Ojeda's policy check list — Medicare for all and a \$15 minimum wage — but does it as a nonprofit executive who focuses her efforts on younger, female and first-time voters. She's running against Rep. Don Bacon in a district Trump won by just 2 points but where the GOP has held the House seat for 22 of the last 24 years.

To win, these Democratic candidates will need some combination of voters who typically back Republicans or who haven't been voting at all.

For Pureval, that means coaxing Jeff Sieger, 56, a Republican who met the candidate at a summer festival and came away impressed. Sieger says he's happy with Trump but thinks Congress could use younger members "who know what's going on" with digital-age issues like net neutrality.

It also could mean steering away from hot-button issues, such as abortion, that remind some GOP-leaning voters why they usually don't support Democrats.

"That's going to be an albatross around his neck," Tom Grossmann said of Pureval's support of abortion rights in GOP-dominated Warren County, added to Chabot's district after 2010. Grossmann, a county commissioner and former county GOP chairman, chatted amiably with Pureval while the Democrat worked his way through a music festival crowd in the affluent suburb of Mason.

Chabot already has called Pureval "the most extreme pro-abortion candidate I've ever faced."

Still, Chabot acknowledged in a recent blog post that his opponent "is raising a lot of money" and that some national prognosticators have rated the race a toss-up. Chabot asked "for any help you can give me" to defeat what he calls a "far-left" foe.

Pureval, meanwhile, ran his first campaign commercial last week, opening: "I'm incredibly proud of my name — Aftab. It means 'sunshine."

Barrow reported from Atlanta. Associated Press writer Thomas Beaumont in Des Moines, Iowa, contributed to this report.

Follow Sewell and Barrow on Twitter at https://twitter.com/dansewell and https://twitter.com/BillBarrowAP.

Sign up for "Politics in Focus," a weekly newsletter showcasing the AP's best political reporting from across the United States leading up to the 2018 midterm elections: http://apne.ws/3Gzcraw

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Vigil, marches mark anniversary of deadly far-right protest By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN and SARAH RANKIN, Associated Press

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP) — A year after a deadly gathering of far-right extremists in Charlottesville, less than two dozen white nationalists marched Sunday across from the White House, their numbers dwarfed by thousands of counterprotesters, while the mother of a woman killed at last summer's protest said the country continues to face unhealed racial wounds.

The events, largely peaceful though tense at times in Charlottesville and Washington, were part of a day of speeches, vigils and marches marking the anniversary of one of the largest gatherings of white nationalists and other far-right extremists in a decade.

In Washington, dozens of police in bright yellow vests formed a tight cordon around the small group of white nationalists, separating them from shouting counterprotesters within view of the White House.

President Donald Trump wasn't at home — he has been at his golf club in New Jersey for more than a week on a working vacation.

Jason Kessler, the principal organizer of last year's "Unite the Right" event, led the Sunday gathering he called a white civil rights rally in Lafayette Square. Kessler said in a permit application that he expected 100 to 400 people to participate, but the actual number was far lower: only around 20.

Counterprotesters, who assembled before the rally's scheduled start, vastly outnumbered Kessler's crowd. Thousands showed up to jeer and shout insults at the white nationalists.

Makia Green, who represents the Washington branch of Black Lives Matter, told Sunday's crowd: "We know from experience that ignoring white nationalism doesn't work."

By about 5 p.m., those in Kessler's group packed into a pair of white vans and left, escorted by police. Washington Police Chief Peter Newsham said only one person was arrested all day despite several tense moments, with police essentially shielding the white nationalist demonstrators from several thousand enraged counterprotesters.

Newsham called it "a well-executed plan to safeguard people and property while allowing citizens to express their First Amendment rights."

Earlier this month, Facebook stunned and angered counterprotest organizers when it disabled their Washington event's page, saying it and others had been created by "bad actors" misusing the social media platform. The company said at the time that the page may be linked to an account created by Russia's Internet Research Agency — a troll farm that has sown discord in the U.S. — but counterprotesters said it was an authentic event they worked hard to organize.

Earlier in the day in Charlottesville, the mother of Heather Heyer, a 32-year-old paralegal who was killed when a car plowed into a crowd of counterprotesters during last year's rally, said there's still much healing to be done.

Susan Bro laid flowers at a makeshift memorial at the site of the attack in downtown Charlottesville. With a crowd gathered around her, she thanked them for coming to remember her daughter but also acknowledged the dozens of others injured and the two state troopers killed when a helicopter crashed that day.

"There's so much healing to do," Bro said. "We have a huge racial problem in our city and in our country. We have got to fix this, or we'll be right back here in no time."

Hundreds of neo-Nazis, skinheads and Ku Klux Klan members and other white nationalists descended on Charlottesville last Aug. 12, in part to protest over the city's decision to remove a monument to Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee from a park.

Violent fighting broke out between attendees and counterprotesters. Authorities eventually forced the crowd to disperse, but chaos erupted again when the car barreled into the crowd.

James Fields Jr., 21, of Maumee, Ohio, is charged in state court with murder in Heyer's killing and faces separate hate crime charges in federal court. He pleaded not guilty last month to the federal charges.

The day's death toll rose to three when a state police helicopter crashed, killing Lt. Jay Cullen and Trooper-Pilot Berke Bates.

Among the other anniversary events was a Sunday morning community gathering at a park that drew

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more than 200 people. The group sang and listened to speakers, among them Courtney Commander, a friend of Heyer's who was with her when she was killed.

"She is with me today, too," Commander said.

Law enforcement officials faced blistering criticism after last year's rally for what was perceived as a passive response to the violence that unfolded. A review by a former U.S. attorney found a lack of coordination between state and city police and an operational plan that elevated officer safety over public safety.

The anniversary weekend was marked by a much heavier police presence, which also drew criticism from some activists.

Demonstrators on Sunday marched through Charlottesville chanting, "Cops and Klan go hand in hand," and "Will you protect us?"

The city of Charlottesville said four people were arrested in the downtown area. Two arrests stemmed from a confrontation near the Lee statue where a Spotsylvania, Virginia, man stopped to salute, a Charlottesville woman confronted him and a physical altercation took place, officials said.

Rankin reported from Richmond. Associated Press writer Ashraf Khalil in Washington contributed to this report.

For the complete AP coverage marking one year since the rally in Charlottesville, visit https://apnews. com/tag/CharlottesvilleAYearLater

Cooler weather helps crews fight Southern California fire

LAKE ELSINORE, Calif. (AP) — Aided by slightly cooler temperatures, firefighters made steady progress Sunday in battling a wildfire that destroyed 16 structures as it raged through Southern California's Cleveland National Forest.

The Holy Fire was 41 percent contained Sunday afternoon after burning across 35.5 square miles (92 kilometers) of dry timber and brush, said Lynne Tolmachoff of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

"The weather out here in California seems to be cooling down today and over the next couple days, and that should hopefully help firefighters get even more containment," Tolmachoff said. "They should make better progress over the next couple of days."

They'll need to, with temperatures, expected to again reach 100 degrees or more by the end of the week. The Holy Fire — named for Holy Jim Canyon, where it began last Monday — is one of nearly 20 blazes burning across California as the state sees earlier, longer and more destructive wildfire seasons because of drought, warmer weather attributed to climate change and home construction deeper into forests.

With firefighters beginning to get a better handle on the blaze, they began to lift evacuation orders over the weekend for areas previously in its path, said Tolmachoff, who did not have exact numbers. More than 20,000 people were reportedly told to evacuate at one point.

Aircraft have made flight after flight, dumping water and bright pink retardant on the blaze to protect Lake Elsinore and other foothill communities near the flames.

The man accused of deliberately starting the fire appeared in court on Friday, but his arraignment was postponed.

Forrest Clark, 51, made several outbursts, claiming his life was being threatened and saying the arson charge against him was a lie. A court commissioner ordered his bail to remain at \$1 million.

Elsewhere, the largest wildfire ever recorded in California — the Mendocino Complex — burning north of Sacramento destroyed more than 100 homes. It was nearly 70 percent contained. On Sunday, it had covered 525 square miles (1,359 square kilometers).

The two-week-old Carr Fire that killed eight people and burned more than 1,000 homes was more than 50 percent contained on Saturday.

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Against all odds: Democrats pour money into longshot races By PAUL J. WEBER, Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Thara Narasimhan, who hosts an Hindu radio program in Houston, has already given \$1,200 to a Democrat running against Republican U.S. Rep. Pete Olson, who once drove around his solidly conservative Texas district with a "NEVER HILLARY" bumper sticker on his pickup. Her plans to donate even more bewilder friends.

"It's not the question of why I have to support a failing candidate," said Narasimhan, mingling at a fundraiser for Democrat Sri Kulkarni on a sweltering Texas summer night. "Unless you put some faith in it, you're not going to make it work."

The November midterms are on pace to shatter records for political spending. While more than \$1 billion raised so far nationally is helping finance battlegrounds that are poised to decide control of Congress, restless donors aren't stopping there — they're also putting cash into races and places they never have before to help underdog Democrats.

Examples include: a district home to the Dallas Cowboys' stadium and held by the GOP since 1983; the South Carolina district of outgoing U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford; and a reliably Republican Southern California district that President Donald Trump won by 15 points.

All are places where Democrats are outraising their Republicans opponents — a feat that while perhaps not changing the conventional wisdom about their chances, is succeeding in giving their campaigns unusual viability. In Texas, 15 Democratic challengers running in Republican-held districts have so far raised at least \$100,000. In 2014, only one cracked six figures.

The average cost of winning a House seat is more than \$1 million. And in Texas, some candidates still lag substantially behind despite their early hauls in places where Republicans have been invincible.

But driving donors' eagerness to open their wallets to longshot candidates, supporters say, is a mix of anti-Trump enthusiasm and optimism following upsets like Democrat Doug Jones' last year in a Senate race in Alabama. Campaigns, meanwhile, say donors are simply responding to finally having better candidates in historically lopsided districts that previously attracted only fringe contenders who made little effort to professionally fundraise or run hard.

At a crowded house party in suburban Austin for Democrat MJ Hegar, Jana Reeves found a seat on a kitchen bench that was a long way from her own Hill Country home that isn't even in Hegar's congressional district. Hegar has raised more \$1.7 million in large part due to a polished six-minute campaign ad called "Doors" that got attention online and enticed donors like Reeves to give her a hand.

"Even though it's hopeless? You know why?" Reeves said of the giving to Hegar and other Democratic challengers. "Even though maybe my paltry money can't do much, I still want to support these people in the deep red districts, because the Democrats (at party headquarters) aren't going to do it."

In few places is the surge of money more evident than in Texas. At the top of the ticket, Rep. Beto O'Rourke is outraising Republican Sen. Ted Cruz in a state where Democrats have not won a statewide race since 1994. Seven Democrats also outraised their GOP opponents between April and June in districts held by Republicans, bolstered by primary runoffs that forced campaigns to double down on fundraising.

Hegar is among the most successful. The military veteran is running against Republican Rep. John Carter, who was re-elected to an eighth term in 2016 by 20 points over a Democrat who only raised \$16,000 total. Now she has the attention of Trump's campaign team, which last month announced it would financially help Carter along with roughly 100 other Republican House and Senate candidates.

For her part, Hegar doesn't inveigh against Trump while passing the hat: She didn't even mention his name while speaking to a living room of about 50 supporters at the Austin fundraiser. She said afterward that she understands Trump was motivating some of the donors but she preferred to talk to them about other issues.

"They want to fight against racism. They want to fight against bullying and intimidation and things like that. And they're labeling those things with a person's name," Hegar said. "I think it's more effective to fight against those themes."

Near Fort Worth, Democrat Jana Lynne Sanchez has raked in more than \$358,000 and has campaigned

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through summer with more money than her heavily favored Republican opponent, Ronald Wright. They're both running to replace GOP Rep. Joe Barton, who represented the district for more than 30 years but abandoned plans for re-election after a nude photo of him circulated online.

Sanchez bemoaned the "fish fries and pancake breakfasts" that candidates used in the past to raise money and spends six hours a day on the phone, competing with a half-dozen campaigns that she said are "sucking up most of the money" from big donors. On her list of ways to spend that money: hiring a campaign manager who has previous flipped a Republican district.

"People who say, 'Money doesn't vote,' have never run a campaign," Sanchez said.

Follow Paul J. Weber on Twitter: www.twitter.com/pauljweber

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Koepka holds off Woods to win PGA Championship By DOUG FERGUSON, AP Golf Writer

ST. LOUIS (AP) — The roars were unlike anything Brooks Koepka had ever heard, and he knew exactly what they meant.

They got louder for each birdie by Tiger Woods that moved him closer to the lead Sunday in the PGA Championship, and Koepka could hear a ripple effect of noise. First, real time. Seconds later, another burst from patrons watching on TV in chalets. Then, distant cheers from every corner of Bellerive when the score was posted.

"We knew what was going on," he said. "It's pretty obvious when Tiger makes a birdie. Everybody on the golf course cheers for him."

Koepka knew exactly what to do.

Amid relentless pandemonium, Koepka ran off three straight birdies to end the front nine and seize control. When he was tied with Adam Scott through 14 holes, with Woods one shot behind, he delivered back-to-back birdies.

The last one was a laser of a 4-iron from 248 yards that settled 6 feet away, sending him to a dream finish of a year that began with the 28-year-old Floridian wondering if a wrist injury that kept him out four months would ever allow him to compete again.

"That will probably go down as probably one of the best shots I've ever hit under pressure," he said. He closed with a 4-under 66 for a two-shot victory over Woods and took his place among the elite in golf. Koepka became the fifth player to win the U.S. Open and PGA Championship in the same year, joining Woods, Jack Nicklaus, Ben Hogan and Gene Sarazen.

It will be impossible to overlook him now, not with the Wanamaker Trophy to go with his back-to-back U.S. Open titles. Koepka won two of the three majors he played this year, and three of his last six. Not since Woods won four in a row through the 2001 Masters has anyone won majors at such an alarming rate.

And yet it still felt — and certainly sounded — as though he played second billing to Woods.

The crowd was enormous, louder than anything in golf this side of Augusta National or a Ryder Cup, and Woods looked closer than ever to capping his comeback from four back surgeries with another major. Even with two bogeys, Woods shot 64 for his lowest final round in a major. He finished at 266, beating

by three shots his best 72-hole score in a major.

At this major, it wasn't enough.

"I played hard," Woods said. "I made a bit of a run. It looks like I'm going to come up a little short." Koepka was responsible for that.

After wasting one chance to put it away by missing consecutive birdie chances from 7 feet, Koepka kept attacking flags and ran in birdie putts of 10 feet on No. 15 and 7 feet on No. 16 to end the drama.

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He tapped in for par on the final hole to set the PGA Championship scoring record at 264. It also tied the major championship record that Henrik Stenson set at Royal Troon two years ago in the British Open.

He also joined Jordan Spieth, Woods, Nicklaus and Tom Watson as the only players with three majors before turning 30 since World War II.

"Three majors at 28 — it's a cool feeling," said Koepka, who five years ago was toiling in Europe's minor leagues.

Scott hung around by making big putts, just like he hoped, and was tied for the lead until Koepka's birdies. Scott missed a 6-foot birdie putt on the par-5 17th that would have pulled him to within one shot — right after Koepka missed from the same range — and then made bogey on the 18th for a 67 to finish alone in third.

The only knock on Koepka is that he doesn't win enough elsewhere — the Phoenix Open on the PGA Tour, the Turkish Airlines Open on the European Tour, and two victories at the Dunlop Phoenix on the Japan Golf Tour.

"He's won three majors now, so he's definitely winning the right ones," Scott said. "If I was him, I wouldn't change much at the moment. I'd just keep doing what he's doing because he's showing up at the right moments in the biggest events. There's something inside his brain that makes him believe that that's what he's destined to do."

The St. Louis fans waited 17 years to see Woods — he last was at Bellerive when the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks canceled a World Golf Championship — and he delivered a performance that took golf back in time.

Thomas Bjorn might have seen it coming. Earlier in the week, as he was cleaning out his locker after withdrawing with an injury, he thought back to Woods getting into contention at Carnoustie last month at the British Open. "He recognized who that guy was that day," Bjorn said.

Woods was relentless, pumping fists, raising the putter in his left hand, making birdies and charging toward a finish that caused pure pandemonium among one of the largest and noisiest crowds at a major. Without hitting a fairway on the front nine, Woods cut the four-shot deficit to two.

Dialed in on the back nine, he dropped an approach into 4 feet on No. 12, got within one shot with a 10-foot birdie on the par-3 13th and, after a bad drive led to bogey, he answered with another approach that hit a foot from the hole.

That was as good as it got.

Facing the most important drive of the day on the par-5 17th, Woods sent it sailing to the right and it embedded in a hazard along the banks of a creek. He did well to advance it, but had to save par from a bunker. Behind him, Koepka holed his two birdie putts.

Woods and Koepka played nine holes of a practice round Wednesday, and the 14-time major champion knew what he was up against.

"It's tough to beat when the guy hits it 340 down the middle," Woods said. "What he did at Shinnecock, just bombing it, and then he's doing the same thing here. ... And when a guy's doing that and hitting it straight, and as good a putter as he is, it's tough to beat."

Koepka never imagined a year like this. He missed four months at the start of the year when a partially torn tendon in his left wrist, causing him to sit out the Masters. He outlasted good friend Dustin Johnson at Shinnecock Hills to become the first back-to-back U.S. Open champion in 29 years.

And now this.

The only downer is having to wait eight months for the Masters.

`Touch the sun': NASA spacecraft hurtles toward our star By MARCIA DUNN, AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Embarking on a mission that scientists have been dreaming of since the Sputnik era, a NASA spacecraft hurtled Sunday toward the sun on a quest to unlock some of its mysteries by getting closer than any object sent before.

If all goes well, the Parker Solar Probe will fly straight through the wispy edges of the sun's corona, or

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outer atmosphere, in November. In the years ahead, it will gradually get within 3.8 million miles (6 million kilometers) of the surface, its instruments protected from the extreme heat and radiation by a revolutionary new carbon heat shield and other high-tech wizardry.

Altogether, the Parker probe will make 24 close approaches to our star during the seven-year, \$1.5 billion journey.

"Wow, here we go. We're in for some learning over the next several years," said Eugene Parker, the 91-year-old astrophysicist for whom the spacecraft is named.

It was Parker who accurately theorized 60 years ago the existence of solar wind — the supersonic stream of charged particles blasting off the sun and coursing through space, sometimes wreaking havoc on electrical systems on Earth.

This is the first time NASA has named a spacecraft after a living person.

As Parker and thousands of others watched, a Delta IV Heavy rocket carried the probe aloft, thundering into the clear, star-studded sky on three pillars of fire that lit up the middle-of-the-night darkness.

NASA needed the mighty 23-story rocket, plus a third stage, to get the Parker probe — the size of a small car and well under a ton — racing toward the sun, 93 million miles (150 million kilometers) from Earth.

A Saturday morning launch attempt was foiled by last-minute technical trouble. But Sunday gave way to complete success.

It was the first rocket launch ever witnessed by Parker, a retired University of Chicago professor. He said it was like looking at photos of the Taj Mahal for years and then beholding the real thing in India.

"I really have to turn from biting my nails in getting it launched, to thinking about all the interesting things which I don't know yet and which will be made clear, I assume, over the next five or six or seven years," Parker said on NASA TV.

Among the mysteries scientists hope to solve: Why is the corona hundreds of times hotter than the surface, which is 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit (5,500 degrees Celsius)? And why is the sun's atmosphere continually expanding and accelerating, as Parker theorized in 1958?

"The only way we can do that is to finally go up and touch the sun," said project scientist Nicola Fox of Johns Hopkins University. "We've looked at it. We've studied it from missions that are close in, even as close as the planet Mercury. But we have to go there."

A better understanding of the sun's life-giving and sometimes violent nature could also enable earthlings to better protect satellites and astronauts in orbit, along with the power grids so vital to today's technologydependent society, said Thomas Zurbuchen, NASA's science mission chief.

Parker, the probe, will start shattering records this fall. On its very first brush with the sun, it will come within 15.5 million miles (25 million kilometers), easily beating the current record of 27 million miles (43 million kilometers) set by NASA's Helios 2 spacecraft in 1976.

By the time Parker gets to its 22nd, 23rd and 24th orbits of the sun in 2024 and 2025, it will be even deeper into the corona and traveling at a record 430,000 mph (690,000 kilometers per hour). Nothing from planet Earth has ever gone that fast.

Even Fox has difficulty comprehending the mission's derring-do.

"To me, it's still mind-blowing," she said. "Even I still go, 'Really? We're doing that?"

The 8-foot (2.4-meter) heat shield will serve as an umbrella that will shade the spacecraft's scientific instruments, with on-board sensors adjusting the protective cover as necessary so that nothing gets fried.

A mission to get up close and personal with our star has been on NASA's books since 1958. The trick was making the spacecraft compact and light enough to travel at incredible speeds and durable enough to withstand the punishing environment.

"We've had to wait so long for our technology to catch up with our dreams," Fox said.

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Rent control fuels costliest fight on California 2018 ballot By SOPHIA BOLLAG, Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — A Los Angeles-based health care nonprofit known for funding controversial ballot measures is waging an expensive battle with the real estate industry over rent control in California.

The AIDS Healthcare Foundation has poured more than \$12 million into a November initiative it's spearheading to let cities and counties regulate rental fees in buildings that state law currently shields from such control.

A \$10 million contribution the foundation reported Wednesday made the initiative the most expensive on the 2018 ballot so far.

Started in 1987 to provide hospice care to AIDS patients, the AIDS Healthcare Foundation has grown into a global health care organization similar in size to Planned Parenthood. The group also has waded into politics, bankrolling measures ranging from prescription drug pricing to housing policy, as well as lobbying at the state and federal level.

Supporters say the rent control measure will protect low-income people from being priced out of their homes, while opponents argue it will decrease housing supply in a state facing a severe shortage.

Opponents have raised \$22 million, mostly from rental companies and the California Association of Realtors.

The measure would repeal the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act, a law that banned rent control on single-family homes and all housing built after Feb. 1, 1995. Costa-Hawkins also prohibits cities and counties from telling landlords what they can charge new renters. Legislative efforts since to expand rent control, including one this legislative session, have failed.

Real estate industry groups and other rent control opponents spent more than \$10 million lobbying California officials last year on a Costa-Hawkins repeal bill and other issues.

Tenant groups can't afford to challenge the industry alone, so they teamed up with the AIDS Healthcare Foundation to put the rent control measure, Proposition 10, on the ballot, said Christina Livingston, executive director of the Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment Action.

"No matter how much we are able to raise, we are going to be outspent," Livingston said. "We know that without significant funding that we don't have much of a fighting chance."

AIDS Healthcare, which reported nearly \$270 million in net assets at the end of 2016, operates clinics and pharmacies around the world. It also brings in money from thrift stores it runs. Nonprofits like the foundation can spend money on political causes related to their mission.

The housing shortage in the nation's most populous state directly affects people's health, said Michael Weinstein, the foundation's president. A lack of shelter can make people sick and prevent them from accessing care.

"We're in an emergency crisis situation," Weinstein said. "We have to do something to stop the displacement."

The rent control campaign is part of a larger move by the nonprofit health care provider into housing issues.

Last year, it spearheaded an unsuccessful Los Angeles ballot measure to restrict large developments. Weinstein said the goal was to kneecap efforts to build only luxury high-rises.

Opponents said the measure would have decreased LA's housing supply. They also point to the foundation's attempts to block a high-rise development that will overshadow the organization's downtown headquarters, suggesting a personal motivation.

Weinstein said the organization's effort was prompted in part by development in the foundation's Hollywood neighborhood where they could see gentrification firsthand. But he said he has nothing to gain personally from the housing policies the foundation supports.

The foundation was also a driving force behind Proposition 61, the most expensive initiative on the California 2016 ballot. It spent \$19 million on the unsuccessful bid to lower prescription drug prices, which drew fierce opposition from pharmaceutical companies and others. The foundation also mounted a similar

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unsuccessful initiative in Ohio in 2017.

The foundation operates three Los Angeles buildings that house more than 400 low-income people. Most of the units are rented for less than \$400 per person per month, Weinstein said. The foundation also plans to expand its affordable housing efforts to other states.

California has a disproportionately high rate of homelessness, and nearly a third of California renters spend more than half their income on rent, according to the state's housing agency. In recent years, California has produced fewer than half the new units it needs to house its growing population.

"It's a problem that everybody should be attempting to resolve," said Tom Bannon, CEO of the California Apartment Association, which represents rental housing owners and managers and is leading the opposition to Proposition 10. "Instead we have a focus on a policy that we believe does nothing to address the affordable housing shortage that exists in California and is actually counterproductive to building new affordable housing."

The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office says Proposition 10 will lower the value of rental properties.

This will discourage developers from building new homes the state desperately needs and drive small landlords out of business, Bannon said. Reducing developers' profits would slow the building of already scarce affordable housing for low-income people, he said.

Steve Bannon weighs in on UK burqa debate, Boris Johnson By DANICA KIRKA, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Republican strategist Steve Bannon weighed into British politics Sunday in a wide-ranging interview in which he defended former Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson's comments about Muslim face veils and praised a controversial British far-right leader.

The former aide to President Donald Trump said Johnson had "nothing to apologize for" and should not "bow at the altar of political correctness" after he was criticized for saying women who wear burgas look like "letterboxes" and "bank robbers."

Johnson made the comments in a newspaper column that argued against banning full-face veils, as Denmark has done.

"Excuse me, didn't he actually support the wearing of the veil?" Bannon told the Sunday Times. "His entire argument revolves around not wanting to ban the burqa, but arguing that he agrees that it's an oppressive garment and that there is no scriptural basis for it in the Quran, which is true. I think the substance got lost because of his throwaway line."

Johnson has been criticized by Muslim groups and politicians, including Prime Minister Theresa May, who urged Johnson to apologize. Johnson's representatives have said he won't apologize.

"The hysterical mainstream media can never separate the 'signal from the noise'— fortunately, the populists can," Bannon said.

Bannon has said he wants to establish a Europe-wide movement uniting populist and nationalist voters in the European elections next year. He has said he plans to spend 70 percent of his time in Europe following the November midterm election in the United States.

Johnson, a former mayor of London, is one of Britain's best-known politicians and is often cited as a potential candidate for prime minister. He quit May's Conservative government last month in a dispute over the country's departure from the European Union, accusing the prime minister of killing "the Brexit dream" with plans to continue close economic ties with the EU after the U.K. leaves the bloc in March.

Bannon suggested that Johnson need not copy Trump to be successful.

"Boris just needs to be Boris — true to his nature and his calling — and I think he has potential to be a great prime minister, not a good one," he said.

Bannon also praised another controversial U.K. figure — Tommy Robinson, founder of the now-defunct English Defence League. He compared Robinson to rapper Kanye West, describing him as a rising star and a "force of nature."

Robinson, 35, whose real name is Stephen Yaxley-Lennon, is a self-styled commentator who has given

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Britain's far-right media the verve it has lacked. His YouTube channel has accumulated more than 6 million views, including videos purporting to show him fighting migrants in Italy and being attacked by masked men outside a McDonald's restaurant in London.

He was recently freed from prison after an appeals court threw out his conviction for contempt of court and ordered a retrial. The case stems from allegations that Robinson used social media to broadcast details of a trial that was subject to blanket reporting restrictions.

His supporters said he was jailed because of his far-right political beliefs.

"Tommy is not just a guy but a movement," Bannon said. "He represents the working class and channels a lot of the frustration of everyday, blue-collar Britons ... He is a force of nature — like Kanye (West) — not built to be managed."

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, Aug. 13, the 225th day of 2018. There are 140 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 13, 1961, East Germany sealed off the border between Berlin's eastern and western sectors before building a wall that would divide the city for the next 28 years.

On this date:

In 1521, Spanish conqueror Hernando Cortez captured Tenochtitlan (teh-natch-teet-LAHN'), present-day Mexico City, from the Aztecs.

In 1792, French revolutionaries imprisoned the royal family.

In 1846, the American flag was raised for the first time in Los Angeles.

In 1910, Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, died in London at age 90.

In 1932, Adolf Hitler rejected the post of vice chancellor of Germany, saying he was prepared to hold out "for all or nothing."

In 1942, Walt Disney's animated feature "Bambi" had its U.S. premiere at Radio City Music Hall in New York, five days after its world premiere in London.

In 1960, the first two-way telephone conversation by satellite took place with the help of Echo 1. The Central African Republic became totally independent of French rule.

In 1967, the crime caper biopic "Bonnie and Clyde," starring Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway, had its U.S. premiere; the movie, directed by Arthur Penn, was considered shocking as well as innovative for its graphic portrayal of violence.

In 1979, Lou Brock of the St. Louis Cardinals became the 14th player in major league baseball history to reach the 3,000th career hit plateau as his team defeated the Chicago Cubs, 3-2.

In 1981, in a ceremony at his California ranch, President Ronald Reagan signed a historic package of tax and budget reductions.

In 1989, searchers in Ethiopia found the wreckage of a plane which had disappeared almost a week earlier while carrying Rep. Mickey Leland, D-Texas, and 14 other people — there were no survivors.

In 2003, Iraq began pumping crude oil from its northern oil fields for the first time since the start of the war. Libya agreed to set up a \$2.7 billion fund for families of the 270 people killed in the 1988 Pan Am bombing.

Ten years ago: A man barged into the Arkansas Democratic headquarters in Little Rock and opened fire, killing state party chairman Bill Gwatney before speeding off in a pickup. (Police later shot and killed the gunman, Timothy Dale Johnson.) Michael Phelps swam into history as the winningest Olympic athlete ever with his 10th and 11th career gold medals. Phelps won the 200-meter butterfly, then swam the leadoff of a runaway victory by the U.S. 800 freestyle relay team. Sandy Allen, who was recognized as the world's tallest female at 7 feet, 7 inches tall, died in Shelbyville, Ind., at age 53.

Five years ago: Israel released 26 Palestinian inmates, many convicted in grisly killings, on the eve of

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long-stalled peace talks, angering families of those killed by the prisoners. Tompall Glaser, 79, a country music singer, publisher and studio owner best known for his association with the outlaw movement against record labels, died in Nashville.

One year ago: In a statement, the White House said President Donald Trump "very strongly" condemns individual hate groups such as "white supremacists, KKK and neo-Nazis;" the statement followed criticism of Trump for blaming the previous day's deadly violence at a white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, on "many sides." Protesters decrying hatred and racism converged around the country, saying they felt compelled to respond to the white supremacist rally in Virginia. Actor, director and writer Joe Bologna died at the age of 82.

Today's Birthdays: Former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders is 85. Actor Kevin Tighe is 74. Former Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen is 72. Opera singer Kathleen Battle is 70. High wire aerialist Philippe Petit is 69. Hockey Hall of Famer Bobby Clarke is 69. Golf Hall of Famer Betsy King is 63. Movie director Paul Greengrass is 63. Actor Danny Bonaduce is 59. TV weatherman Sam Champion is 57. Actress Dawnn (correct) Lewis is 57. Actor John Slattery is 56. Actress Debi Mazar is 54. Actress Quinn Cummings is 51. Actress Seana Kofoed is 48. Country singer Andy Griggs is 45. Actor Gregory Fitoussi is 42. Country musician Mike Melancon (Emerson Drive) is 40. Actress Kathryn Fiore is 39. White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders is 36. Actor Sebastian Stan is 36. Actor Eme Ikwuakor (IK'-wah-ker) is 34. Pop-rock singer James Morrison is 34. Actress Lennon Stella is 19.

Thought for Today: "The great business of life is to be, to do, to do without, and to depart." — John, Viscount (VY'-kownt) Morley of Blackburn, English journalist (1838-1923).