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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.

Midwest Masonry & concrete Pumping

Greg Heilman, owner

405 E 1st Ave., Groton

Greg: 253/929-9137

Mike: 605/492-7041

midwestmasonry1@yahoo.com



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)



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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SD37 Flashing Light Schedule

Monday-Friday during school: 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Flashing lights will not flash when there is no school, which are: Aug. 31, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, Nov. 21-23, Dec. 24-Jan. 2, Feb. 18, March 14-15, April 19-22

On P-T days when school dismisses at 1:30, lights will flash from 1:15 p.m. to 2 p.m. (Oct. 11 and Feb. 7)

For early dismissal at 2 p.m. for Christmas vacation on Dec. 21, lights will flash from 1:45 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

TIMED ONLINE 9445 State Line Road, Frederick, SD 57441

AUCTION

OPENS: TUES., AUG. 21 / CLOSSES: TUES., AUG. 28 2018

TRACTORS 2003 Case STX440 4WD 2005 John Deere 8420 MFWD Allis Chalmers 7040 2WD	GRAIN CART & GRAVITY BOX Brent Avalanche 1084 grain cart Minnesota 260 gravity box	
COMBINE & HEADS 2009 John Deere 9770 STS 2006 John Deere 635 flex head 2009 John Deere 612C chopping corn head	TRUCK 2004 Freightliner Classic XL tri-axle flat top sleeper 60"	
DRILL Great Plains grain drill, 20', 6" spacing, 3 pt., mounted gauge, rubber press wheels	TRAILERS 2013 Featherlite 8270 aluminum livestock trailer 2010 Timpfe hopper bottom trailer 1996 Timpfe hopper bottom trailer 1999 Doonan 502DB14 step deck trailer EZ-Trail 680 header trailer	
FERTILIZER CADDY Pattison CB1600 fertilizer caddy w/pump	LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT 1993 IHC 4900 truck (3) Vern's creep feeders 150 bu. Wheel loader livestock water tank	
DISCS John Deere 235 disc Sunflower disc John Deere 712 disc chisel	ATTACHMENTS MDS pallet forks for John Deere 840 loader Snow/silage bucket John Deere material bucket	
OTHER TILLAGE EQUIPMENT Landoll 7430 VT-Plus vertical tillage John Deere 726 mulch finisher Rite Way landroller, 42'		

PREVIEW: August 13-28 from 8AM-5PM
LOADOUT: Thursday, August 30 from 8AM-5PM

TIRES & PARTS
(4) Skid steer loader tires
Landoll disc blades & bearings
John Deere grill guard
(10) John Deere suitcase weights

Complete terms, lot listings and photos at
SteffesGroup.com
Randy Kath MN47-007

STEFFES

COLE & HOLY HOKANA | 701.210.0548
or Dave Krostue at Steffes, 218.779.6865 or Randy Kath at Steffes, 701.429.8894
Steffes Group, Inc. | 24400 MN Hwy 22 South, Litchfield, MN 55355 | 320.693.9371

Chanda Nilsson is SDVMA Vice President

The South Dakota Veterinary Medical Association held its 127th Annual Meeting at the Ramkota Convention Center in Sioux Falls August 12th – 15th. The meeting included continuing education opportunities for over 200 veterinarians and veterinary technicians, recognized outstanding accomplishments by professionals in the veterinary fields, and included the annual membership meeting. SDVMA also presented various awards at the meeting to recognize the commitment to, and excellence in veterinary medicine in South Dakota.

The SDVMA Alliance raised over \$6,000 in a benefit auction as part of the event. The money is used for scholarships for veterinary and veterinary technician students.

The following board members were elected for the coming year: Dr. Mark Braunschmidt, Brandon, president; Dr. Ethan Andress, Hettinger, ND, president-elect; Dr. Chanda Nilsson, Groton, vice president; Dr. Carolyn Geis, Emery, secretary-treasurer; and Dr. Sandra Wahlert, Hot Springs, District 3 representative. Other board members are Dr. Angela Anderson, Sioux Falls, District 1 representative; Dr. Heidi Sorensen, Watertown, District 2 representative; Dr. Chris Chase, Brookings, AVMA delegate; Dr. Cindy Franklin, Yankton, AVMA alternate delegate; and Dr. Michelle Jensen, Harrisburg, past president.

The 2019 SDVMA annual meeting will be held August 11 – 14 in Sioux Falls.



Chanda Nilsson

School Calendar

Thursday

1st Day of School, Groton Area School District

10:00am: Golf: Boys Varsity Northeast Conference vs. Tiospa Zina @ Hankinson, ND (Casino)

5:00pm: Soccer: Boys Varsity Match vs. St. Thomas More @ Groton Area High School

6:00pm: Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match vs. Redfield-Doland @ Groton Area High School (C at 5:00 PM, JV at 6:00 PM followed by varsity match)

It's Volleyball Action on GDILIVE.COM



Redfield/Doland

Pheasants

VS

Groton Area Tigers



Thursday, Aug. 23, 2018
in Groton, 7:00 pm

Rivers at Risk: Read about your city's water pollution concerns

By: Bart Pfankuch for South Dakota Newswatch

Cities struggle to manage wastewater treatment

Every day, South Dakota's 20 most populous cities dump 49.2 million gallons of treated human and industrial wastewater into state rivers and creeks. Here is a look at those 20 cities and how they process wastewater, what it costs, recent inspection results, and how much is dumped where.

Sioux Falls Water Reclamation Facility

Location, population served: 4500 N. Sycamore Ave., 178,500 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Big Sioux River, 18.2 million gallons per day

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved July 1, 2000; expired June 30, 2005

System age, status: Built 1985, ongoing consistent upgrades. Fiscal 2016 expenses \$22.5 million, revenues \$28.5 million; mechanical treatment system.

Industrial wastes accepted: 14 significant industrial users, 320 other industrial users. Major users include Avera McKennan, Sanford and Veteran's Affairs hospitals, Dean Foods, North End Truck Wash, S.D. Penitentiary, Gage Brothers Concrete. Produce 3.5 percent of overall system inflow.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection September, 2017. Violations: exceeded fecal coliform, exceeded daily pH level, oil and grease levels not properly reported. Sewage leaks (17) include July, 2016 release of 20,000 gallons of grease by hospital that reached state waters, March 2017 release of 302,000 gallons of wastewater from manhole, undetected for a week, reached state waters.

Other permits in city: Seven other discharge permits, including Smithfield Foods (formerly John Morrell) plant, USGS Eros Data Center, L.G. Everist, Northern States Power Anson Plant, and 18/29 Commerce Park.

Notes: City has pre-treatment system for industrial wastes. System accepts untreated wastewater from city of Brandon (650,000 gallons per day), Harrisburg (183,000 gallons per day) and occasionally from Smithfield Foods pork plant (up to 1 million gallons per day during heavy rain events.) Mayor's long-range capital plan proposes \$260 million in wastewater system upgrades, including \$160 million alone for the treatment plant which would expand peak capacity from 21 million gallons per day to 30 million gallons per day.

Rapid City Water Reclamation Facility

Location, population served: On Southside Drive, south of state Highway 44 west of Radar Hill Road; 79,900 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Rapid Creek, 12.2 million gallons per day

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved Jan. 1, 2017, expires June 30, 2022

System age, status: Built in 1967, upgrades in 1984, 1991, 2004, 2012 and 2015. Fiscal 2015 expenses \$12.6 million, revenues \$11.4 million; mechanical treatment system.

Industrial wastes accepted: 14 minor industrial users, 16 other users. Produce 2 percent overall system inflow.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection April, 2016. Violations: two fecal coliform violations, one E.coli violation, two dissolved oxygen violations, failure to sample for whole effluent toxicity once and oil and grease once. Leaks (16) included 1,000 gallons wastewater leaking from basement in April, 2017; manhole overflow led to discharge of 10,000 gallons wastewater in June, 2017.

Other permits in city: Eight other discharge permits, including Black Hills Corp., Pete Lien & Sons, Rapid City Landfill and Weston Heights Sanitation District.

Notes: City has pre-treatment system for industrial wastes. System also accepts untreated wastewater from municipalities of Black Hawk, Northdale, Rapid Canyon, Rapid Valley and Terra Cotta. City's 20-year facilities plan proposes \$62 million in system upgrades.

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Aberdeen Water Reclamation Facility

Location, population served: 700 135th St. E.; 28,415 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Moccasin Creek, 2.9 million gallons per day

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved April 1, 2013; expired March 31, 2008.

System age, status: Built in 1987, upgrades in 2006 and 2009. Fiscal 2016 expenses: \$4.1 million, revenues \$6 million; mechanical treatment system.

Industrial wastes accepted: Six significant industrial users, including Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Advanced Bioenergy, Twin City Fan, Ray-Mac, New Angus LLC and Northwestern Energy. Produce 10 percent overall system inflow.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection April, 2016. Recent violations: entire wastewater collection system under review by state; oil and grease samples not recorded. Leak in August, 2014 left 60 homes with sewer backups, not reported to state as required.

Other permits in city: Five other discharge permits, among them American Biosolids, Country Village and Prairiewood and Richmond Lake sanitary districts.

Notes: City has pre-treatment program for industrial wastes. Proposed or completed upgrades include redoing collection system pipes and lift stations as well as improvements inside treatment plant such as coatings, pumps and gates. New Angus LLC, a beef processing plant formerly known as Northern Beef Packers, sought to increase inflow to Aberdeen treatment facility from 500,000 gallons per day to 1 million gallons per day, but request was rejected due to consistent effluent violations by New Angus. City took enforcement action against New Angus for significant effluent violations in first three months of 2016.

Brookings Municipal Utilities

Location, population served: Two miles south of city on 470th Avenue, 36,484 people (includes SDSU)

Discharge waterway, amount: Big Sioux River, 3.58 million gallons per day

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved on Oct. 1, 2008, expired Sept. 30, 2013

System age, status: Built in 1980, upgrades in 2010, 2012 with major upgrade in 2017. Fiscal 2015 expenses: \$3.5 million, revenues \$4.8 million; mechanical treatment system.

Industrial wastes accepted: Seven significant industrial users, among them Bel Brands, 3M, Counterpart, Sterling Technologies, Star Circuits and Twin City Fan. Produce 14 percent overall system inflow.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection June, 2018. Recent violations include ammonia limits exceeded August, 2015, failure to report sewage leaks by letter.

Other permits in city: Three other discharge permits, including Dacotah Bank and SDSU.

Notes: City has pre-treatment program for industrial wastes. Excessive hydrogen sulfide gas release by Bel Brands cheese plant in September and October of 2014 created potential for manhole explosion and put Brookings employees at risk. Bel Brands had 78 violations issued by city in 2014 and paid \$41,000 in fines. Recent system upgrades include UV disinfection process, new clarifiers and new filters. Two miles of sewer lines redone every year.

Watertown Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 1300 11th St., SE; 22,172 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Big Sioux River, 2.83 million gallons per day

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved July 1, 2014; expired June 30, 2009

System age, status: Built in 1997, upgraded headworks in 2011. Fiscal 2014 expenses \$2.89 million, revenues \$3.55 million; mechanical treatment system.

Industrial wastes accepted: 14 significant industrial users, including Dakota Tube, Glacial Lakes Energy, Miller Electrical Manufacturing, Metrix, Persona and Worthington Industries. Produce 3 percent total system inflow.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection May, 2015; no recent violations reported. Minor sewage backups reported in 2014 and 2015.

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Other permits in city: Two other discharge permits for Glacial Lakes Energy and Sioux River Dairy.

Notes: City has pre-treatment facility for industrial waste. City recently converted to UV disinfection process. State inspectors praise city employees, calling system an "excellent operation." Sioux River Dairy is a concentrated animal feeding operation with 1,025 head of cattle.

Mitchell Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 2141 E. Havens St., 15,254 people

Discharge waterway, amount: James River, intermittent discharge, 819.6 million gallons discharged in 2015, average of 2.2 million gallons per day. System designed to process 2.3 million gallons per day.

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved Oct. 1, 2012; expired Sept. 30, 2017

System age, status: Built 1976, upgraded in 1997, 2006-07. Fiscal 2017 expenses \$2.07 million, revenues \$2.08 million; hybrid system with mechanical treatment and stabilization ponds.

Industrial wastes accepted: Four significant industrial users, including Performance Pets, Quality Woods, Trail King Industries and Twin City Fan. Produce 8 percent total system inflow.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection September, 2017. Recent violations: pH exceeded in June 2016, leak discovered in land application line, industrial users not properly tested for all parameters, recent oil and grease violations by Performance Pets.

Other permits in city: Three other discharge permits for Poet Biorefining, Rosedale Hutterian Brethern and Scott Supply Co.

Notes: City has pre-treatment program for industrial wastes. One-fourth city sewer lines jet-cleaned each year, new storm sewer was in budget for 2017.

Yankton Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 700 Levee St., 14,566 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Missouri River, 1.7 million gallons per day

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved Oct. 1, 2015; expires Sept. 30, 2020

System age, status: Built 1964, upgraded in 1976, 1980, 2003 and 2011. Fiscal 2013 expenses \$2.93 million, revenues \$2.94 million; mechanical treatment system.

Industrial wastes accepted: One significant industrial user (CIMPL beef processor), six other industrial users: Applied Engineering, Alcoa Aluminum, Freeman Company, Gehl Power Products, Lewis and Clark Hydraulic, M-Tron Industries and American Foods Group. Produce 20 percent overall system inflow (CIMPL accounts for 13 percent.)

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection June, 2015. Recent violations include recording and reporting errors in 2015, a fecal coliform violation in 2013.

Other permits in city: Twelve other discharge permits for, among others, CIMPL, Hydro Extrusions, Manitou Americas and Lewis & Clark Hydraulics.

Notes: Lift stations redone recently, one-third sewer lines cleaned annually. CIMPL wastes subject to industrial pre-treatment program.

Pierre Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 1103 S. Buchanan St., 14,008 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Lake Sharpe (Missouri River), 1.7 million gallons per day

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved Oct. 1, 2015, expires Sept. 30, 2020.

System age, status: Built 1962, upgraded in 1999, 2000, 2003 and 2016. Fiscal 2015 expenses \$3.94 million, revenues \$4.40 million; mechanical treatment system.

Industrial wastes accepted: No significant industrial users.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection May, 2016. Recent violations: Total of 17 effluent violations from September 2015 to March 2016 for fecal coliform, total coliform, pH and residual chlorine (13). Four

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invalid biological demand tests 2015-16; "Excessive" violations noted in 2015 inspection with 44 effluent violations noted for exceedance of fecal coliform (23), total residual chlorine (13), multiple invalid tests. Lack of emergency procedures on file. Overflows and bypasses not sampled or reported properly to state. Leakage during September 2016 sewer line bypass discharged 50 gallons raw sewage on Capital Street. Airport lift station leaked 50 gallons of sewage in January 2015.

Other permits in city: 3 other discharge permits for Pierre Regional Landfill, Spring Creek Sanitary District and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Oahe Dam.

Notes: City planned major system overhaul and upgrade for 2016; status not reported in files.

Huron Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 1280 Ninth St. S.E., 13,117 people.

Discharge waterway, amount: James River and mitigated wetlands, intermittent discharge, 10.48 million gallons discharged to wetland in 2015, average of 29,000 gallons per day. System designed to process 2.3 million gallons per day.

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved April 1, 2013, expired March 31, 2018.

System age, status: Built 1968, upgraded in 1991, 1996, 2008 and 2010. Fiscal 2014 expenses \$1.81 million, revenues \$2.21 million; hybrid system with mechanical treatment and stabilization ponds.

Industrial wastes accepted: Six significant industrial users, including DaPro Rendering, Dakota Provisions, Advanced Bioenergy, HMI, Truss Built and Protective Coating Specialists. Produce 31 percent overall system inflow.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection November, 2015. City has had consistent issues with violations by industrial users of the system, including Dakota Provisions turkey processing plant and DaPro, its dog food offshoot. In 1997, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency declared Huron in Significant Noncompliance for chronic effluent violations. The city has not updated its local pollution limits since 1993. In 2015 inspection of the city industrial pre-treatment system, Dakota Provisions had 27 oil and grease exceedances over the past 15 months and DaPro had five. City also did not meet sampling frequency requirement for oil and grease from industrial users. Dakota Provision permit does not contain sampling requirements for several pollutants.

Other permits in city: One other discharge permit for Huron Water Treatment Plant.

Notes: City has industrial waste pre-treatment program. City drinking water treatment plant discharged 3.27 million gallons of wastewater to an unnamed tributary of Stoney Run Creek in 2015. City undergoing sewer line upgrades and manhole rehabs through 2020. Future upgrades planned and updates to local pollution limits being considered.

Spearfish Water Treatment Facility

Location, population served: U.S. 85, two miles north of city; 11,531 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Spring Creek to Redwater River, 1.1 million gallons per day

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved April 1, 2005, expired March 31, 2010.

System age, status: Built 1982, upgraded in 1993, 2009 and 2015. Fiscal 2016 expenses \$2.37 million, revenues \$2.87 million; mechanical treatment system.

Industrial wastes accepted: No significant industrial users (Crow Peak Brewery contributes small inflow to system.)

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection May, 2017. Recent violations: Total suspended solids violation in October, 2014. Minor system leaks in October 2015 due to rags from Holiday Inn and in May 2016 due to blockage by grease buildup from Walmart.

Other permits in city: Three other discharge permits for McNenny Fish Hatchery, Spearfish Forest Products and state Interstate 90 rest area.

Notes: City also processes wastewater for Black Hills State University and Spearfish Valley Sanitation District. New concrete biosolids drying pad constructed in 2015; upgrades to valves and main lift station planned.

Vermillion Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 1530 South Dakota St., 10,844 people.
Discharge waterway, amount: Vermillion River to Missouri River, 1.1 million gallons per day
Permit approval/expiration date: Approved Oct. 1, 2012, expired Sept. 30, 2017.
System age, status: Built in 1966, upgraded in 1986, 1997, 2005, 2009, 2010-11. Fiscal 2016 expenses \$1.58 million, revenues \$1.92 million; mechanical treatment system.
Industrial wastes accepted: No significant industrial users.
Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection April, 2017. Inconsistent data reporting noted. System leaks include manhole overflow into meadow in June, 2015 and from frozen sewer line in November, 2015.
Other permits in city: One other discharge permit for highway rest area.
Notes: City also processes wastewater for 7,000 people at University of South Dakota. Recent planned upgrades include rebuilding lift station and replacement of some sewer lines. System received Operation and Maintenance Award from state in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2015.

Brandon Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: Northwest of city on Redwood and Sioux boulevards, 9,923 people
Discharge waterway, amount: Wastewater discharged to city of Sioux Falls, then to Big Sioux River, 650,000 to 700,000 gallons per day
Permit approval/expiration date: Approved April 1, 2000, expired March 31, 2005
System age, status: Built 1982, upgraded 1991 and 2002. Fiscal 2014 expenses \$942,000, revenues \$1.12 million; no wastewater treatment on site,
Industrial wastes accepted: No significant industrial users.
Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection August, 2014. Recent violations include two biological oxygen demand exceedances in July, 2014 and two ammonia violations in June, 2014. Previous violations include ammonia and fecal coliform exceedances in May, 2014, fecal coliform violation in May, 2014, and biological oxygen demand violations in July and October, 2013. Sinkhole formed due to water main break in May, 2015.
Other permits in city: Two other discharge permits for Marmen Energy and Midwest Rail Car Repair.
Notes: City recently built new \$2.6 million lift station for discharge of untreated sewage in a 2.5-mile pipe to Sioux Falls treatment plant. No discharge to Big Sioux River since June, 2017; discharges to Sioux Falls except in emergencies when wastes can be stored in holding cell for up to 30 days. About 27 miles of sewer lines cleaned in past three years.

City of Box Elder, operated by Ellsworth Development Authority

Location, population served: 1581 Highway 14/16, serves 17,800 people (7,800 in Box Elder, 9,000 at Ellsworth Air Force Base)
Discharge waterway, amount: Unnamed tributary of Box Elder Creek, 1.1 million gallons per day
Permit approval/expiration date: Approved April 1, 2014, expires March 31, 2019
System age, status: Built in 2014. Treatment facility privately run by Project Solutions, Inc. of Rapid City. No budget information provided; mechanical treatment system.
Industrial wastes accepted: No significant industrial users
Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection August, 2017. Failure of whole effluent testing four months in 2016 and three months in 2017 due to levels of toxicity testing microbe ceriodaphnia dubia; state instituted toxicity identification and reduction evaluation to find source of problems. Ammonia effluent violation in November, 2014 and biological dissolved oxygen violation in September, 2014. Some sampling and reporting errors in 2014-15.
Other permits in city: No other local discharge permits.
Notes: Ellsworth Air Force Base has oil/water separation pre-treatment process for base wastes.

Madison Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: Intersection of state Highway 34 and County Road 38, serves 7,425 people
Discharge waterway, amount: Permit does not allow direct waterway discharge; treated wastes flow to Park/Silver Creek to Bourne Slough to Lake Madison, system processes 709,500 gallons per day

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved July 1, 2017, expires June 30, 2022

System age, status: Built 1984, upgraded in 2009. Fiscal 2017 expenses \$1.42 million, revenues \$1.68 million; mechanical treatment system.

Industrial wastes accepted: Two significant industrial users, Gehl/Manitou Americas and Persona, Inc. Produce 15 percent overall system inflow. Minor industrial contributors include Global Polymer and Integra.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection June, 2018. Recent violations: Improper collection and sampling after sewage backup in January, 2018. No backup power source for lift station.

Other permits in city: Four other discharge permits for Lake Madison Sanitary District, Manitou Americas, Persona, Inc. and state game and fish department.

Notes: State inspector in 2015 commended facility and employees for "excellent records, operation, maintenance, and preventive maintenance programs."

Sturgis Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 4800 Harley-Davidson Way, 9,333 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Permit does not allow direct waterway discharge; treated wastes flow to Bear Butte Creek, system processes 1 million gallons per day.

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved April 1, 2007, expired March 31, 2012

System age, status: Built 1963, upgraded 1992; building new mechanical system 2018-20. Fiscal 2018 expenses \$945,000, revenues \$2.01 million; hybrid system with mechanical treatment and stabilization ponds.

Industrial wastes accepted: Two significant industrial users, Dakota Arms and Fort Meade Veterans Affairs Hospital. Produce 10 to 30 percent of total system inflow.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection June, 2018. System reported to be near or at functioning capacity, with emergency discharges now possible during heavy storms or Sturgis motorcycle rally. System had four emergency discharges in 2010.

Other permits in city: Two other water discharge permits in city for Dakota Arms and town of Buffalo Chip.

Notes: System designed for population of 7,000. Half of sewer lines cleaned each year. Permit allows land application of wastewater to area farms and groves. Town of Buffalo Chip hosts 10,000 people for 10-day annual rally and processes 670,000 gallons of wastewater during that time.

Harrisburg Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 203 S. Prairie St, 5,734 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Permit does not allow direct waterway discharge; since 2010, excess wastewater sent to Sioux Falls system (33 million gallons during first six months of 2015, average of 183,300 gallons per day.)

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved Oct. 1, 2016, expires Sept. 30, 2021

System age, status: Built 1999, upgraded in 2008 and 2010. Fiscal 2014 expenses \$666,400, revenues \$760,400; stabilization pond system with three holding cells.

Industrial wastes accepted: No significant industrial users

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection June, 2015; no recent violations. In May, 2013 heavy rains caused system overflow into storm sewers.

Other permits in city: No other local discharge permits.

Notes: City installing new pipes between settling ponds, relining some manholes.

Belle Fourche Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 1.5 miles north of city, 5,655 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Permit does not allow direct waterway discharge; treated wastes flow to unnamed tributary of Crow Creek to Belle Fourche Reservoir; system processes 450,000 gallons per day

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved Nov. 1, 2017, expires Oct. 30, 2022

System age, status: Built 1959, upgraded in 1982 and 1990. Fiscal 2014 expenses \$463,250, revenues \$423,850; stabilization pond system with four holding cells and 13 wetlands.

Industrial wastes accepted: 13 non-significant industrial users, including Integrity Meats, Pipeline Plastics, Permian Tanks, Dakota Mill & Grain and Superior Truss Systems

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection August, 2015. No recent violations. Clogged sewer line under Seventh Avenue led to wastewater spill in March, 2016. Emergency discharge February through March, 2015 led to release of 118 million gallons.

Other permits in city: No other local discharge permits.

Notes: Entire system jet-cleaned each year. Plans in place to replace lift stations and add another discharge wetland.

Tea Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 600 E. First St., 5,032 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Nine Mile Creek, intermittent discharging, 10 discharges in 2014-15. Two discharges in 2017 totaled 44.8 million gallons, average of 125,000 gallons per day. System processes average of 295,000 gallons of wastewater per day.

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved Jan. 1, 2016, expires Dec. 31, 2020

System age, status: Built in 1968, upgraded 1988, 1999 and 2003. Fiscal 2016 expenses \$344,200, revenues \$454,100; stabilization pond treatment system with four holding cells.

Industrial wastes accepted: No significant industrial users.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection June, 2017. Recent violations include failure to sample for ammonia in April, 2016; since 2010, five total suspended solids violations and one pH violation.

Other permits in city: No other local discharge permits.

Notes: Plans in place to begin sending sewage to Sioux Falls system for treatment in next few years.

Dell Rapids Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: Quarry Road and 474th Avenue, 3,705 people

Discharge waterway, amount: Big Sioux River, intermittent discharge, average of twice per year. December, 2015 discharge totaled 6.34 million gallons, average of 34,500 gallons per day. System processes average of 220,000 gallons per day.

Permit approval/expiration date: Approved Nov. 1, 2014, expires Sept. 30, 2019

System age, status: Built 1975, upgraded in 2001. Fiscal 2016 expenses \$1.3 million, revenues \$1.3 million; hybrid system with mechanical treatment, stabilization ponds and land application.

Industrial wastes accepted: Four non-significant industrial users; Dell Rapids Custom Trailers, Dells Materials, L.G. Everist, Troy's Wood Specialties.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection June, 2016. Recent violations include seven late reports 2014-15, ammonia violation May, 2015, unknown and unmonitored discharge in June, 2016. Some back-ups into homes reported in recent years. City is under state construction compliance schedule to upgrade facility in order to accommodate growing population.

Other permits in city: No other local discharge permits.

Notes: Recent upgrade to sequencing batch reactor, some sewer lines replaced. One-third of sewer system cleaned annually. City allowed to apply treated wastewater to local municipal golf course.

Mobridge Wastewater Treatment Facility

Location, population served: 1401 Lake Front Drive, 3,570 people
Discharge waterway, amount: Lake Oahe (Missouri River), 350,000 gallons per day.
Permit approval/expiration date: Approved July 1, 2011, expired June 30, 2016
System age, status: Built 1958, upgraded 1976, 1990, 1998, 2005 and 2016. Fiscal 2014 expenses \$462,000, revenues \$486,000; mechanical treatment system.

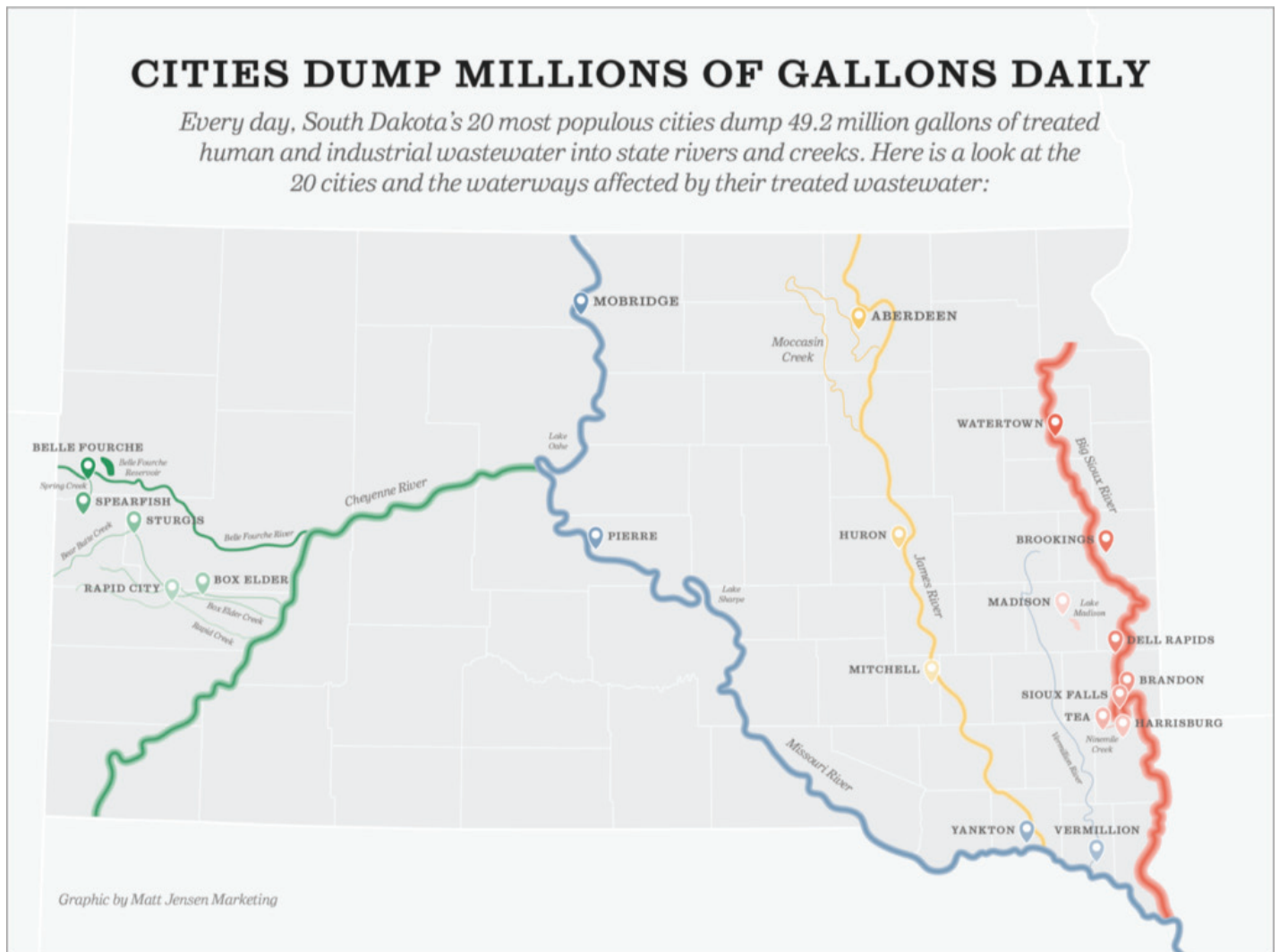
Industrial wastes accepted: 11 non-significant industrial users, including West Side Meats, Mobridge Regional Hospital, Golden Living Center, Bridge City Publishing and Fabra-Tech Laundry.

Inspection date, data: Last on-site inspection September, 2017. Recent violations include E. coli exceedance August, 2017, two total coliform violations in September, 2015 and March, 2017. May, 2017 discharge report not filed. Lift station overflowing during inspection, alarm not functioning.

Other permits in city: No other local discharge permits.

Notes: Second clarifier added in 2017; recent upgrade to UV disinfection.

Notes: Discharge amounts are continuous on a daily basis unless otherwise noted; most population figures are from 2016 census; and information comes mainly from state surface water discharge permit documents. Most treatment plants must test for and remain within allowable limits of ammonia, biological oxygen demand, dissolved oxygen, nitrates, oil and grease, pH, total suspended solids and wastewater discharge temperature



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Today in Weather History

August 23, 1960: Lightning and damaging winds caused damage to occur from Hand and Sanborn Counties to Marshall and Roberts Counties. A small airplane was destroyed, and the high winds broke windows in Miller. Also, roofs, TV antenna, utility lines, and trees were damaged in Kingsbury and Marshall Counties.

August 23, 1998: Winds gusting to 65 mph in and around Milbank, in Grant County, took the roof off a mobile home and wrapped it around a utility pole. The people inside the mobile home were uninjured. The Summit Dairy Barn had sustained significant damage. The high winds also blew a shed and a large tennis court fence down. Several trees along with many large tree branches were down all over town. Strong winds were also reported in Day and Roberts Counties. Winds of 60 mph also downed many tree branches north of Watertown.

1724: An event is known as the "Great Gust of 1724" occurred on this day. Almost all tobacco and much of the corn crops were destroyed by this violent tropical storm, which struck the Chesapeake Bay. Intense floods of rain and a huge gust of wind were seen on the James River. Some homes were wrecked, and several vessels were driven ashore. The storm was likely followed by a second hurricane just five days later causing rain for many straight days that caused the Virginia floods of 1724.

1906 - Thunderstorms deluged Kansas City, MO, with six inches of rain during the early morning, including nearly three inches in thirty minutes. (The Kansas City Weather Almanac)

1921 - Denver, CO, was drenched with 2.20 inches of rain in one hour, a record for that location. (The Weather Channel)

1933: A hurricane made landfall near Nags Head, North Carolina and tracked up the Chesapeake Bay. The Chesapeake-Potomac hurricane moved over Norfolk, Virginia, and Washington, DC. A seven-foot tide flooded businesses in Norfolk, Virginia. Described in the American Meteorological Society's August 1933 weather review as "one of the most severe storms that have ever visited the Middle Atlantic Coast."

1970 - Dry thunderstorms ignited more than one hundred fires in the Wenatchee and Okanogan National Forests of Washington State. Hot, dry, and windy weather spread the fires, a few of which burned out of control through the end of the month. More than 100,000 acres burned. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A cold front brought autumn-like weather to the Northern and Central Plains Region. Afternoon highs were in the 50s and 60s across parts of Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska that just two days earlier were in the 90s or above 100 degrees. Thunderstorms produced locally heavy rain in New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Thunderstorms produced hail an inch in diameter, wind gusts to 64 mph, and 2.62 inches of rain at Tucson AZ resulting in three million dollars damage. Cool weather prevailed in the northeastern U.S. Hartford CT reported a record low of 42 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced heavy rain with flash flooding in West Virginia. Pickens, WV, reported 4.80 inches of rain in 24 hours. Evening thunderstorms in Mississippi deluged Alta Woods with 4.25 inches of rain in less than an hour. Thunderstorms also produced heavy rain in southeastern Kentucky, and flooding was reported along Big Creek and along Stinking Creek. The Stinking Creek volunteer fire department reported water levels 12 to 14 feet above bankfull. Fort Worth TX hit the 100 degree mark for the first time all year. Strong winds ushering cool air into northwest Utah gusted to 70 mph, raising clouds of dust in the salt flats. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1992: While South Florida residents were preparing for Hurricane Andrew, folks in western Montana were dealing with early season snowfall. Some snowfall amounts include 8.3" in Great Falls, 6.2" in Helena, and 5.1" in Cut Bank. This snowfall is the first significant snowfall on record in western Montana in August.

2005: Hurricane Katrina formed from Tropical Depression Twelve over the southeastern Bahamas. Katrina would become the costliest (\$81.2 billion) and one of the most deadly hurricanes (1,836 lives) in U.S. history.

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Today



Mostly Sunny
then Slight
Chance
T-storms

High: 81 °F

Tonight



Severe
Thunderstorms
then Chance
T-storms

Low: 60 °F

Friday



Slight Chance
T-storms

High: 80 °F

Friday
Night



Mostly Clear

Low: 59 °F

Saturday



Sunny

High: 88 °F

Severe Thunderstorm Potential

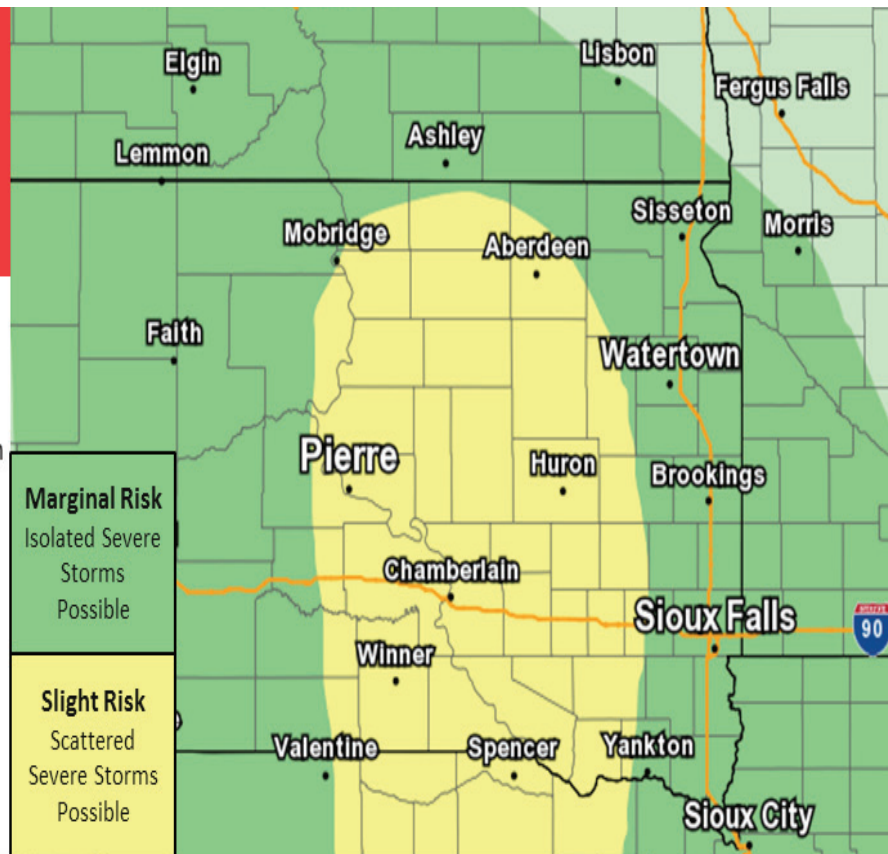
This Afternoon & Evening

Details

Severe thunderstorms may develop this afternoon across central South Dakota, and then push east through the evening hours

Be Prepared For

- Large hail
- Damaging winds
- Lightning
- Locally heavy rain



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 8/23/2018 4:52 AM Central

Published on: 08/23/2018 at 4:56AM

Severe storms may develop this afternoon across central South Dakota, and then push east through the evening hours. The strongest storms are expected between the Missouri River and James River. Be weather-aware! Check out your latest forecast at, www.weather.gov/abr

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 80.1 F at 3:17 PM

Heat Index:

Low Outside Temp: 46.8 F at 7:16 AM

High Gust: 19.0 Mph at 3:56 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 106° in 2003

Record Low: 39° in 1987, 1942

Average High: 81°F

Average Low: 55°F

Average Precip in Aug: 1.72

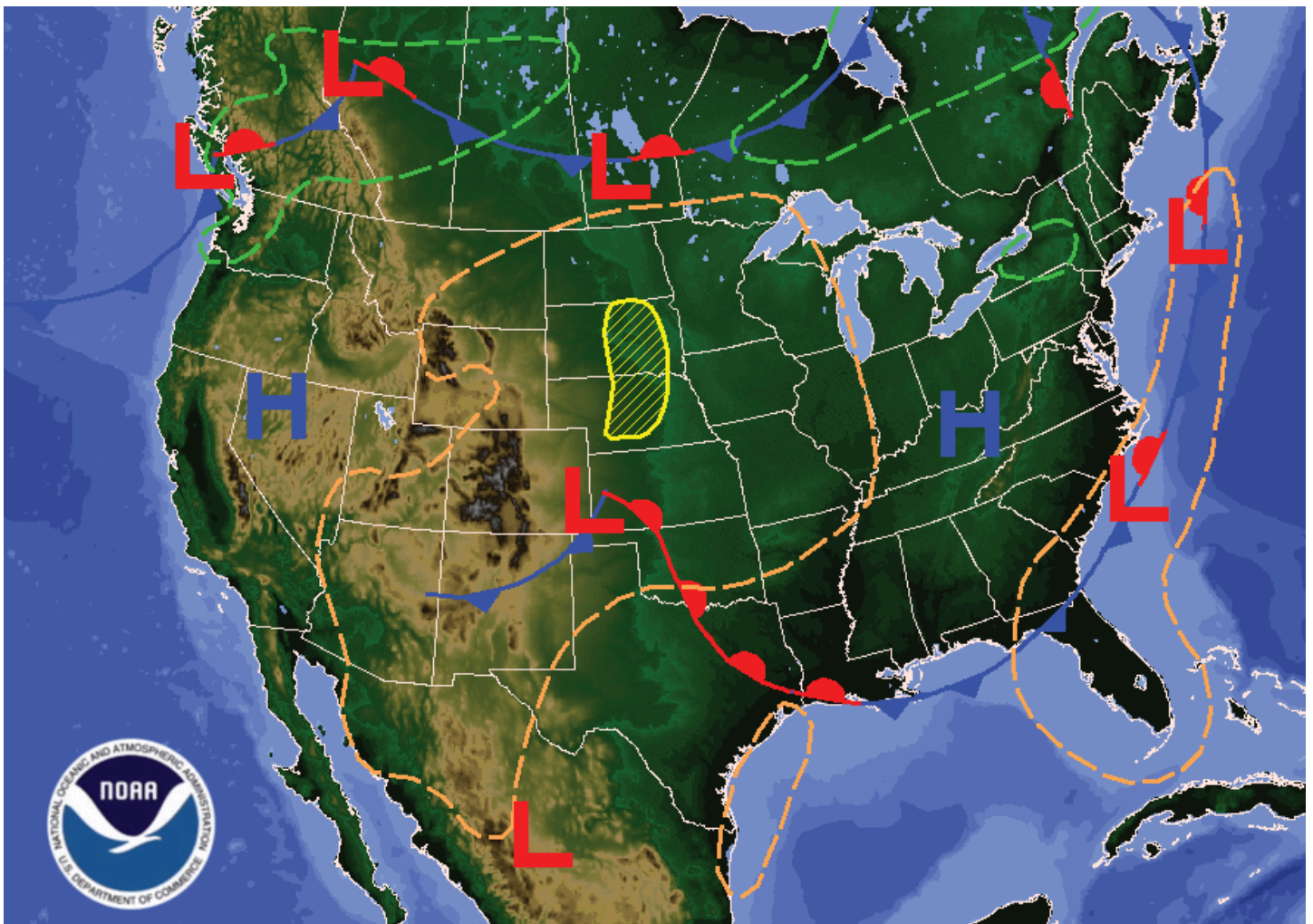
Precip to date in Aug: 0.57

Average Precip to date: 15.58

Precip Year to Date: 10.46

Sunset Tonight: 8:27 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:45 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Aug 23, 2018, issued 4:40 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

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



WILL POWER OR HIS POWER?

Its no use, said Tom to his youth minister. Im unable to resist the temptation to sin. Ive tried again and again to resist the devil and run from him when Im tempted, but it never works. Something must be wrong with my willpower, so why should I try any longer?

Perhaps thats the problem - trying to resist temptation with willpower. No doubt its time to turn to Gods power, said Jeremy.

Then he opened his Bible to Psalm 138:3 and read, As soon as I pray, you answer me; You encourage me by giving me strength.

The Psalmist had it right: Rather than using his power, he depended on God for His power. And as we read that verse, we can learn from his struggle how to be faithful to God. There must have been a period in the life of the Psalmist when he tried to make it on his own and was unsuccessful. From his failure came his success because he was willing to turn from will-power to God-power. Notice that he wrote, As soon as I pray...

He learned an important life-lesson. He could not resist the temptation to sin if he depended on himself. But as soon as he turned from himself to his Savior, he got exactly what he needed: encouragement and strength that comes only from God. So, he literally gave up on himself and his willpower. His power did not work.

There is nothing that pleases God more than for one of His children to depend on Him for survival. And, we must never forget that as soon as we call, He answers!

Prayer: Help us, Lord, to be strong enough to be weak and to call on You for encouragement and strength. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 138:3 As soon as I pray, you answer me; You encourage me by giving me strength.

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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

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash
15-19-24-27-33
(fifteen, nineteen, twenty-four, twenty-seven, thirty-three)
Estimated jackpot: \$214,000

Lotto America
20-22-25-26-51, Star Ball: 7, ASB: 2
(twenty, twenty-two, twenty-five, twenty-six, fifty-one; Star Ball: seven; ASB: two)
Estimated jackpot: \$6.65 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$118 million

Powerball
01-07-45-47-69, Powerball: 13, Power Play: 2
(one, seven, forty-five, forty-seven, sixty-nine; Powerball: thirteen; Power Play: two)
Estimated jackpot: \$60 million

Louisiana, Mississippi top nation in worst West Nile illness

By JANET McCONNAUGHEY, Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Louisiana and Mississippi are leading the nation in the number of people who have become the most seriously ill from West Nile virus this year. State health departments are warning residents to take precautions against mosquitoes, which spread the virus.

“Not in my house, not on my skin, not in my yard,” said Dr. Raoult Ratard, Louisiana’s state epidemiologist, as he repeated the state slogan for fighting the disease Wednesday. Precautions include making sure door and window screens don’t have holes; wearing long clothes and using mosquito repellent; and making sure the yard doesn’t hold any standing water where mosquitoes might breed — even a bottle cap.

As of Aug. 21, Louisiana had 18 cases of West Nile encephalitis or meningitis out of a national total of 133, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Wednesday on its website. Mississippi had 15 such “neuroinvasive” cases, Texas 14 and California 12.

South Dakota had nine, Iowa seven, Nebraska six and Alabama and Pennsylvania five each.

Dr. Paul Byers, Mississippi’s state epidemiologist, said Mississippi is “always” among the states with the highest rates for West Nile virus.

“Regardless of whether we report the disease in your county ... we want everybody to take those appropriate precautions,” Byers said.

Reports of infections of the brain and nervous system are more reliable indicators of West Nile’s seriousness than statistics for flu-like West Nile fever or symptomless infections found most often when people donate blood, he and Ratard both said.

That’s because most patients will be hospitalized, Ratard said. “And it’s the major problem with West Nile,” he added. “One out of 10 (with neuroinvasive West Nile virus) will die; one out of 10 will have permanent disabilities.”

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The CDC reported eight deaths so far this year: two in South Dakota and one each in Louisiana, Iowa, Ohio, Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina.

Overall, the CDC said, 45 states and the District of Columbia have reported the virus in people, birds or mosquitoes this year.

About one in five infected people becomes ill, and the virus spreads to the nervous system in about one in 150, according to the CDC.

West Nile fever diagnoses depend on whether a patient even goes to the doctor, and then on whether the doctor tests for it. And most people bitten by an infected mosquito never show any symptoms. They're diagnosed only if their blood is tested.

The CDC reported 98 cases of fever and 89 positive blood tests.

Six states — Florida, Indiana, Missouri, New York, Oregon and Utah — have diagnosed only one or two fever cases and none in the nervous system. The only reports in New Mexico and Montana were from a single blood test in each.

Ratard said 1,054 people in Louisiana have come down with the most serious form of the disease over the past 16 years. "So we probably have 100,000 to 200,000 people that were infected in Louisiana, and that are immune," Ratard said.

CDC figures often lag behind state reports. Louisiana reports there have been 31 residents with dangerous nervous system infections, including two deaths, and 13 cases of West Nile fever. Mississippi has reported 10 fever cases in addition to the 15 nervous system infections, Byers said.

Variations from state to state and year to year depend on various local factors, Ratard said.

He noted that although Louisiana is seeing more cases this year than last, numbers are still down considerably from the worst years, such as 2002 and 2012. Louisiana had 142 nervous system infections by this week in 2002, out of a total of 204 for the year. There were 95 such cases by now in 2012, out of 160 for the year.

There were nearly 3,000 cases of encephalitis and meningitis caused by the virus in both 2002 and 2012.

Pennington County to pursue grant for mental health study

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Local leaders are seeking grant funding to research how to improve mental health services in western South Dakota.

The Pennington County Commission on Tuesday reversed a previous decision in order to allow the county's Health and Human Services Department to submit a proposal to the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, The Rapid City Journal reported .

The department is seeking a grant to fund a study of the region's mental health services, including an assessment of strengths, needs and accessibility. The study is expected to cost about \$118,000 and take between nine and 12 months.

Commissioner Ron Buskerud asked the commission to revisit the issue this week. He'd previously voted against the initial motion to allow county health officials to apply for grant funding for the study, citing concerns that the county would have to fund new facilities and program. But Buskerud said he's since been assured that the study won't lead to the county having to fund such projects on its own.

Buskerud switched his vote at the Tuesday meeting, allowing the proposal to move forward.

Commissioners George Ferebee and Mark DiSanto voted against the move again, citing similar concerns that the county would be burdened with providing mental health services when it should be the state's responsibility.

"It's a state problem. Not a county problem," Ferebee said. "We're part of the state. Let the state take on the role that they're supposed to take on."

The grant proposal deadline is Sept. 4.

Washington state to fight Trump's coal plant plan

By PHUONG LE, Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — The state of Washington plans to sue the Trump administration over its proposal to dismantle pollution rules that would have increased federal regulation of emissions from coal-fired power plants, Gov. Jay Inslee said Wednesday.

The Environmental Protection Agency plan threatens lives, props up an old technology and is illegal, the Democrat told reporters. "It's an affront to people who want to breathe clean air."

The state will file a lawsuit — likely joining with other states — but it must first wait for the EPA rule to be formally proposed and finalized, which could take months, said Bill Sherman, the attorney general's counsel for environmental protection.

The EPA announced Tuesday that it plans to replace President Barack Obama's 2015 Clean Power Plan, his signature climate policy. It says its Affordable Clean Energy rule "empowers states, promotes energy independence and facilitates economic growth and job creation."

It also acknowledged that the increased emissions from aging coal-fired plants could kill hundreds more people annually and cost the country billions of dollars.

"President Donald Trump gave us a deadly coal plan, a deadly coal plan that will expose our children and our families to deadly air because of coal pollution," Inslee said.

Sherman said it's too early to discuss details about the state's legal challenge but they'll likely argue, among other things, that the EPA is acting beyond its authority under the Clean Air Act and contrary to science and facts.

The EPA proposal broadly increases the authority given to states to regulate existing coal power plants.

While Washington can act through legislation to control its own pollution, Inslee said, the state has an interest in reducing coal smoke from all over the U.S.

Inslee, who has made climate a key priority, has pushed to phase the state off electricity from coal.

Washington's only coal-fired power plant in Centralia is already scheduled to stop burning coal entirely by 2025. Two older units at the Colstrip coal plant in Montana supply coal-fired electricity to Washington and are scheduled to close by mid-2022. No date has been set to close two newer units at that plant.

Several proposals to bring coal through Washington for export also have been defeated.

Washington is facing a legal battle over its decision to reject permits for a massive proposed coal-export terminal on the Columbia River in Longview. On Tuesday, a federal judge allowed California, Maryland, New York, New Jersey, Oregon and Massachusetts to file a joint amicus brief supporting the state in the case.

The state Department of Ecology denied the project a water-quality permit last fall, saying there were too many major harmful impacts.

Utah-based Lighthouse Resources, which operates coal mines in Montana and Wyoming, sued Washington in federal court in January, alleging officials violated federal laws in denying approvals for its \$680 million Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview project.

The company accuses the governor and state regulators of being anti-coal and discriminating against it by blocking the movement of coal mined in other states from being exported.

Wyoming, Montana, Kansas, Utah, South Dakota and Nebraska and several national industry groups have filed legal briefs backing project developers, saying the case has broad implications for the export of commodities that are important to many states.

Proposed wind farm moves forward

TYNDALL, S.D. (AP) — The Bon Homme County Commission has provided a major boost to a proposed \$297 million wind farm.

The commissioners decided Prairie Wind Park is in compliance with the county zoning ordinance, taking the project on Tuesday to the next level.

The Yankton Press and Dakotan reports the wind farm between Tripp and Avon would cover about 50,000 acres in Bon Homme, Charles Mix and Hutchinson counties. It would be located near the current

Beethoven wind farm.

The sPower renewable energy company would operate the farm which would include 61 turbines, each nearly 600 feet tall, producing a maximum 220 megawatts of power.

The company would sell the electricity to North Dakota-based Basin Electric Power Cooperative.

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

Couple injured in crash takes on cheese company in court

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota couple is taking on a cheese company in court, claiming one of its employees was negligent in a 2014 crash that still affects them today.

Kevin and Betty Peterson are suing Midwest Cheese Co. in Davison County court where a trial is underway. The Corsica-based cheese company has admitted employee Duane Morgan was negligent when he rear-ended the Petersons' vehicle near Mitchell on June 3, 2014.

The Daily Republic says jurors will determine whether that negligence caused injuries and other damage to the extent the couple claims. The defense contends some of the injuries may have been linked to pre-existing medical conditions.

The Petersons are seeking to recover damages for past and future medical expenses, pain and suffering, mental distress and economic harm.

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

4 historic Sioux Falls homes spared from demolition

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Sioux Falls City Council has spared four historic homes from demolition.

The 6-0 vote on Tuesday to save the homes flew in the face of plans to redevelop an entire city block, and came after lengthy public input from the site developer's attorney, historic preservation advocates and neighbors, according to the Argus Leader.

Sioux Falls developer Justin Johnson bought the homes in 2016 and was unaware they were part of an historic district. All have serious structural problems and are beyond repair, said Sam Assam, Johnson's attorney.

"This project started with the owner doing nothing wrong," Assam said. "He did his due diligence prior to purchasing the property."

Opponents dispute that.

"Basic due diligence would have identified this as being a historic district and these being historic homes," said Alex Halbach, who owns homes nearby.

Opponents said other similar houses in the area have been fixed up. They also were alarmed by renderings the developer sent to City Hall showing a big-box type store and large parking lot.

"Our neighborhood is just concerned with what's going to happen with the historic residential space," Katrina Lehr-McKinney, president of the All Saints Neighborhood Association, said before the council's decision Tuesday.

Assam said there were no specific plans for development of the site, and that the renderings submitted to the city were "just a concept drawing."

"We don't have anybody signed on the dotted line," he said. "We haven't even entered into what I would call serious final discussions."

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

Last of 4 suspects in Sturgis home invasion sentenced

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — The last of four suspects in a home invasion in Sturgis last November has been sentenced.

The Black Hills Pioneer reports that 18-year-old Azariah Conley of Sturgis was sentenced to serve five years in prison on burglary and identity theft charges.

Three other suspects in the incident were sentenced earlier for various crimes including kidnapping, burglary, aggravated assault and theft. All are from Fort Collins, Colorado.

Eighteen-year-old Armando Valdivia was sentenced to serve 12 years, 19-year-old Moses Avila to serve seven years, and 18-year-old Elizabeth Mauk to serve 1 ½ years.

Authorities say three of the suspects broke into a home, and assaulted and taped up the resident because they wanted money owed them by her son. They then shot her repeatedly with a pellet gun.

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

Rapid City shooting now a homicide probe; 2 in custody

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A man shot over the weekend in Rapid City has died, turning the investigation into a homicide probe.

Police say 43-year-old Nathan Graham was shot late Friday at a residence. He was taken to a hospital, and authorities on Tuesday said he had died.

Police on Saturday took a juvenile male suspect into custody. They have since arrested a second juvenile male.

Authorities say no one else is believed to be involved in the incident.

Fugitive's arrest ends with fire in Hartford

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The arrest of a fugitive on a felony warrant ended when a garage went up in flames in Hartford.

The Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office says the wanted man slammed a deputy's squad car multiple times with his vehicle that was parked in a garage. The suspect drove through the back of the garage to escape Tuesday night but didn't get far before he was arrested.

The man's car then ignited and set the garage on fire. Hartford firefighters kept the fire from spreading to nearby apartments. Two others suspected of harboring the fugitive were also arrested.

Man convicted of using TV, knife in reservation assault

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Kyle man convicted of using a TV and a knife to assault another person on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation has been sentenced to a year and a day in federal prison.

The U.S. attorney's office says 21-year-old Charles Gay hit the victim in the head with the TV on Oct. 10, 2015, then later went back to the scene and stabbed the person.

Gay will be on supervised release for three years following his prison time.

Trump denies wrongdoing, says Cohen is making up stories

By **ZEKE MILLER, CATHERINE LUCEY and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump dug in to his denials of wrongdoing as his White House struggled to manage the fallout from allegations that he orchestrated a campaign cover-up to buy the silence of two women who say they had affairs with him.

Before dawn Thursday, Trump tweeted: "NO COLLUSION - RIGGED WITCH HUNT!" — a reference to special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election. And he accused his former lawyer Michael Cohen of "making up stories" to get a "great deal" from prosecutors.

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The president, in a Fox & Friends interview that aired Thursday and was taped the day before, downplayed his involvement with Cohen, who worked for him for a decade, saying he was just a "part-time attorney" who had many other clients. He also suggested that Cohen's legal trouble stemmed from his other businesses, including involvement with the New York City taxi cab industry, and that he decided to offer "lies" about Trump to reduce his own legal exposure.

He then delivered a stunning broadside against suspects turning state's evidence and acting as a witness for the prosecution, a staple of the criminal justice system.

"It's called flipping and it almost should be illegal," Trump said. "In all fairness to him, most people are going to do that."

Cohen pleaded guilty Tuesday to eight charges, including campaign finance violations that he said he carried out in coordination with Trump. Behind closed doors, Trump expressed worry and frustration that a man intimately familiar with his political, personal and business dealings for more than a decade had turned on him.

Yet his White House signaled no clear strategy for managing the fallout. At a White House briefing, press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders insisted at least seven times that Trump had done nothing wrong and was not the subject of criminal charges. She referred substantive questions to the president's personal counsel Rudy Giuliani, who was at a golf course in Scotland. Outside allies of the White House said they had received little guidance on how to respond to the events in their appearances on cable news. And it was not clear the West Wing was assembling any kind of coordinated response.

In the interview, Trump argued, incorrectly, that the hush-money payouts weren't "even a campaign violation" because he subsequently reimbursed Cohen for the payments personally instead of with campaign funds. Federal law restricts how much individuals can donate to a campaign, bars corporations from making direct contributions and requires the disclosure of transactions.

Cohen had said Tuesday he secretly used shell companies to make payments used to silence former Playboy model Karen McDougal and adult-film actress Stormy Daniels for the purpose of influencing the 2016 election.

Trump has insisted that he only found out about the payments after they were made, despite the release of a September 2016 taped conversation in which Trump and Cohen can be heard discussing a deal to pay McDougal for her story of a 2006 affair she says she had with Trump.

The White House denied the president had lied, with Sanders calling the assertion "ridiculous." Yet she offered no explanation for Trump's shifting accounts.

As Trump vented his frustration, White House aides sought to project a sense of calm. Used to the ever-present shadow of federal investigations, numbed West Wing staffers absorbed near-simultaneous announcements Tuesday of the Cohen plea deal and the conviction of former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort on financial charges.

Manafort faces trial on separate charges in September in the District of Columbia that include acting as a foreign agent.

That Cohen was in trouble was no surprise — federal prosecutors raided his offices months ago — but Trump and his allies were caught off-guard when he also pleaded guilty to campaign finance crimes, which, for the first time, took the swirling criminal probes directly to the president.

Both cases resulted, at least in part, from the work of special counsel Robert Mueller, who is investigating Russia's attempts to sway voters in the 2016 election.

Cohen's lawyer, Lanny Davis, said Wednesday that Cohen has information "that would be of interest" to the special counsel.

"There are subjects that Michael Cohen could address that would be of interest to the special counsel," Davis said in a series of television interviews.

Trump, in turn, praised Manafort as "a brave man!" raising speculation the former campaign operative could become the recipient of a pardon. Trump told Fox that he had "great respect" for Manafort. He contended the prosecution was an overreach by the Justice Department and he revived his criticism of the leadership of Attorney General Jeff Sessions.

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Manafort, Trump says had tremendous pressure on him and, unlike Cohen, he refused to 'break.'" Sanders said the matter of a pardon for Manafort had not been discussed.

Among Trump allies, the back-to-back blows were a harbinger of dark days to come for the president. Democrats are eagerly anticipating gaining subpoena power over the White House — and many are openly discussing the possibility of impeaching Trump — should they retake control of the House in November's midterm elections.

"I don't know how you can impeach somebody who's done a great job," Trump said to Fox. He continued: "If I ever got impeached, I think the market would crash. I think everybody would be very poor.

"Because without this thinking," said Trump as he pointed to his head, "you would see, you would see numbers that you wouldn't believe in reverse."

And even Trump loyalists acknowledged the judicial proceedings were a blow to the GOP's chances of retaining the majority this year.

"They have survived the Russia thing, but no one knows what's next," said former campaign aide Barry Bennett.

Debate swirled inside and outside the White House about next steps and how damaging the legal fallout was for the president.

Allies of the president stressed an untested legal theory that a sitting president cannot be indicted — only impeached.

Former White House communications director Anthony Scaramucci argued that "at the end of the day it will be up to the House and the Senate to decide on the president's presidency."

Former George W. Bush press secretary Ari Fleischer stressed that the revelations may be sordid but do not meet the constitutional bar of "high crimes and misdemeanors."

"Having an affair and lying about it with a porn star and a Playboy bunny is not impeachable," Fleischer said, "it's Donald Trump."

Associated Press writers Jill Colvin, Chad Day, Ken Thomas and Darlene Superville contributed to this report.

Big Island feels the effects of approaching hurricane

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER, Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — As emergency shelters opened, rain began to pour and cellphone alerts went out, the approaching hurricane started to feel real for Hawaii residents.

Hurricane Lane was forecast to continue its northwest turn into the islands Thursday, which would make it the most powerful storm to hit Hawaii since Hurricane Iniki in 1992.

"Everyone is starting to buckle down at this point," said Christyl Nagao of Kauai. "Our families are here. We have businesses and this and that. You just have to man your fort and hold on tight."

Officials opened shelters on the Big Island and on the islands of Maui, Molokai and Lanai on Wednesday. They urged those needing to use the Molokai shelter to get there soon because of concerns the main highway on the south coast of the island could become impassable.

On the island of Oahu, which was put on a hurricane warning late Wednesday, shelters were scheduled to open Thursday. Officials were also working to help Hawaii's sizeable homeless population, many of whom live near beaches and streams that could flood.

Hawaii Emergency Management Agency Administrator Tom Travis said there's not enough shelter space statewide and advised those who are not in flood zones to stay home.

Officials warned the limited shelter space should be a "last resort" and aren't designed to withstand winds greater than about 40 mph (64.3 kph).

"Whenever possible, the public should plan to shelter in place or stay with family or friends in homes outside of these hazard areas that were designed, built, or renovated to withstand anticipated conditions," the city and county of Honolulu said in a news release.

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Hurricanes are ranked 1 to 5 according to what is known as the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Hurricane Lane is at Category 4, which means winds from 130 to 156 mph (251 kph).

The Big Island was already starting to see Lane's first effects, Gov. David Ige said at a news conference Wednesday.

The hurricane's outer rain bands were bringing showers to some parts of the island, said Matt Foster, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service.

The eastern side of the island picked up nearly 3 inches (7.62 centimeters) of rain in three hours, Foster said.

Melanie Davis, who lives in a suburb outside Honolulu, said she was gathering canned food and baby formula.

"We're getting some bags of rice and of course, some Spam," she said of the canned lunch meat that's popular in Hawaii.

She was organizing important documents into a folder — birth and marriage certificates, Social Security cards, insurance paperwork — and making sure her three children, all under 4, have flotation devices such as swimming vests — "just in case."

Public schools were closed for the rest of the week and local government workers were told to stay home unless they're essential employees.

Meteorologist Chevy Chevalier said Lane may drop to a Category 3 by Thursday afternoon but that would still be a major hurricane.

"We expect it to gradually weaken as it gets closer to the islands," Chevalier said. "That being said, on our current forecast, as of the afternoon on Thursday, we still have it as a major hurricane."

The central Pacific gets fewer hurricanes than other regions, with about only four or five named storms a year. Hawaii rarely gets hit. The last major storm to hit was Iniki in 1992. Others have come close in recent years.

"We're planning on boarding up all our windows and sliding doors," Napua Puaoi of Wailuku, Maui, said after buying plywood from Home Depot. "As soon as my husband comes home — he has all the power tools."

Puaoi was 12 when Iniki hit Hawaii.

"When it did happen, I just remember, pandemonium, it was all out craziness," she said.

Unlike Florida or Texas, where residents can get in their cars and drive hundreds of miles to safety, people in Hawaii are confined to the islands.

Instead, they must stay put and make sure they have enough supplies to outlast prolonged power outages and other potential emergencies.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has several barges with food, water and supplies that it moved into the region ahead of Hurricane Hector, which skirted past the islands more than a week ago, according to FEMA Administrator Brock Long.

The U.S. Navy was moving its ships and submarines out of Hawaii. All vessels not currently undergoing maintenance were being positioned to help respond after the storm, if needed.

Associated Press journalists Mark Thiessen and Dan Joling in Anchorage, Alaska, and Seth Borenstein in Washington contributed to this report.

US, China raise tariffs in new round of trade dispute

By JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — The United States and China went ahead with tariff hikes on billions of dollars of each other's automobiles, factory machinery and other goods Thursday in an escalation of a battle over Beijing's technology policy that companies worry will chill global economic growth.

The increases came as envoys met in Washington for their first high-level talks in two months. They gave no sign of progress toward a settlement over U.S. complaints that Beijing steals technology and its

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industry development plans violate Chinese free-trade commitments.

The 25 percent duties, previously announced, apply to \$16 billion of goods from each side including automobiles and metal scrap from the United States and Chinese-made factory machinery and electronic components.

In the first round of tariff hikes, U.S. President Donald Trump imposed 25 percent duties on \$34 billion of Chinese imports on July 6. Beijing responded with similar penalties on the same amount of American goods.

The Chinese government criticized Thursday's U.S. increase as a violation of World Trade Organization rules and said it would file a legal challenge.

A foreign ministry spokesman, Lu Kang, declined to give details of the Washington talks.

"We hope the U.S. side will get along with us to strive for a good result from the talks with a reasonable and practical attitude," said Lu.

Beijing has rejected U.S. demands to scale back plans for state-led technology development that its trading partners say violate its market-opening commitments. American officials worry they might erode the United States' industrial leadership.

With no settlement in sight, economists warn the conflict could spread and knock up to 0.5 percentage points off global economic growth through 2020.

Ahead of the Washington talks, Chinese state TV mocked President Donald Trump with a sarcastic video posted on the YouTube and other social media pages of its international arm, China Global Television Network.

"You are great," said a presenter on the nearly three-minute-long English-language clip, reading a letter that pays a satirical tribute to Trump.

"On behalf of doctors, thank you for pointing out the need to wean off American goods like bourbon and bacon," the presenter says, referring to products on which China imposed retaliatory tariffs.

The video appeared to have been removed Thursday from CGTN's social media accounts.

Trump has proposed another possible round of tariff hikes imposing 25 percent increases on an additional \$200 billion of Chinese goods. Beijing issued a \$60 billion list of American imports for retaliation if Washington goes ahead with that.

That smaller target list reflects the fact that Beijing is running out of American goods for retaliation due to their lopsided trade balance.

China's imports from the United States last year totaled about \$130 billion. That leaves about \$20 billion for penalties after tariffs already imposed or planned on a total of \$110 billion.

Chinese authorities have said they will take "comprehensive measures," which companies worry could mean targeting operations of American businesses in China for disruption.

Democrats seek to keep focus on corruption, not impeachment

By **BILL BARROW**, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Democrats aren't ready to embrace the I-word.

A day after separate legal hammers dropped nearly simultaneously on two former members of Donald Trump's inner circle, Democrats in Washington and across the country faced a delicate balance as they sought to take political advantage of the president's growing troubles without alienating moderates and independents turned off by talk of impeachment.

Instead of calling for the president's removal, corruption is the new buzzword in Democratic circles. They're not just pointing to former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort's conviction on tax evasion and other charges and longtime fixer Michael Cohen's plea deal implicating the president in an illegal campaign finance scheme. They've also got the indictment Tuesday of a second Republican member of Congress.

As the party faithful gathered in Chicago on Wednesday for the Democratic National Committee's summer meeting, Chairman Tom Perez ticked off the growing list of legal troubles for Trump and other

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Republicans. An "out-of-control" situation, he said, demands that voters "put up guardrails" by returning Democrats to power.

With less than three months before the midterms, that could be a potent political argument. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, who could return to the speaker's chair if Democrats pick up at least 23 new seats in November, was in her home state of California, where she recalled that Democrats won the House in 2006 by hammering Republican corruption in the wake of the Jack Abramoff lobbying scandal.

"This time, the culture of corruption, cronyism and incompetence is so pervasive that it's in the White House," Pelosi told the San Francisco audience Wednesday at the nonpartisan Public Policy Institute of California.

Afterward, she said Democrats "can't be political" in talking about impeachment. Separately, she sent her House colleagues a letter encouraging them to keep emphasizing economic issues, even as she pledged to "hold the president and his administration accountable" by insisting that Congress "seek the truth."

Democratic Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts sought her own nuanced position. The potential 2020 presidential candidate, who built her brand as an economic populist, unveiled sweeping anti-corruption proposals hours before the legal developments were announced Tuesday. As they consumed the news cycle Wednesday, she released years of her own personal tax returns — something Trump has refused to do.

The varied approaches reflect Democrats' political and electoral conundrum. Opposition to Trump has flourished across the political left, already giving Democrats key electoral victories since his inauguration. The party is competing on multiple fronts: gaining control of the House, at least maintaining a closely divided Senate and making inroads in governorships and state legislatures. All of those goals could be elusive without at least some support from independents and moderate Republicans, especially those who live in suburban areas and who dislike Trump but aren't eager to watch Congress go through the divisive and messy process of impeachment.

"We win on bread-and-butter issues. That's what people will vote on," said Minnesota Democratic Chairman Ken Martin, who counts four competitive House races in his state. Martin noted Hillary Clinton's decision in 2016 to focus most of her paid advertising on Trump's negatives. "We see how that worked out?" he said.

In Ohio, a presidential battleground that Trump won by nearly 10 percentage points, state Democratic Chairman David Pepper argued Democrats have momentum by running on local issues, even if they can be traced back to Washington.

"Good candidates don't get sucked into the daily vortex of Washington," Pepper said. "We've spent months telling Ohio voters that these Republicans have voted to take away their health care, protections for pre-existing conditions and now they want to take away Medicaid expansion. ... Why deviate from that to talk about something no one in Ohio controls?"

Of course, in some elections, localizing the argument could mean embracing a discussion about Trump and corruption.

"I've got a governor who's joined at the hip with Donald Trump, so hell yeah, I want us talking about it," said South Carolina Democratic Party Chairman Trav Robertson. He was referring to Henry McMaster, who endorsed Trump in the GOP presidential primary and then accepted the president's help in a tough gubernatorial runoff this year.

Zac Petkanas, a Democratic operative and frequent Trump critic on cable television, offered another reason for Democrats to be cautious: Voters aren't ready for impeachment.

"Voters are tuning in for the big things" in the investigation, he said. "And there will be more of those. ... Democrats should advocate protecting the investigation and finding the truth. But you can't be seen as prejudging."

It's worth noting that, for now, progressive activists aren't looking to punish Democrats who don't push impeachment. Emily Phelps, a spokeswoman for Indivisible, noted that the grassroots group first endorsed the notion of impeachment proceedings when Trump fired James Comey as FBI director. But, Phelps said, "Our ultimate goal is not to take down Trump ... but to win elections and derail Trump's agenda in Congress to diminish his power."

Associated Press writers Juliet Williams in San Francisco and Lisa Mascaro in Washington contributed to this report.

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

Report: Trump administration needs to step up on 'Obamacare'

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A congressional watchdog said the Trump administration needs to step up its management of sign-up seasons for former President Barack Obama's health care law after mixed results last year in the throes of a failed GOP effort to repeal it.

The report due out Thursday from the Government Accountability Office is likely to add to Democrats' election-year narrative that the administration actively undermined "Obamacare" without regard for the consequences to consumers.

The nonpartisan Government Accountability Office was more nuanced. On one hand, it found problems with consumer counseling and advertising and recommended such basic fixes as setting enrollment targets. But it also credited administration actions that did help people enroll, such as a more reliable HealthCare.gov website and reduced call center wait times.

Sign-ups for 2019 begin this November.

A copy of the report from the investigative agency for Congress was provided to The Associated Press. It found that:

— The Health and Human Services Department under Trump broke with its own previous practice by failing to set enrollment targets for HealthCare.gov last year. The watchdog recommended that HHS resume setting goals, a standard management tool for government agencies. Without setting numeric goals, HHS won't be able to measure whether it is meeting "its current objective of improving Americans' access to health care," the report said. The administration responded that it does not believe such targets are relevant.

— HHS used "problematic" and "unreliable" data to justify a 40 percent cut in funding for enrollment counseling programs known as Navigators. HHS responded that it's making changes to how those counseling programs are evaluated. But it has cut funding again, by about 70 percent.

— When HHS slashed money for open-enrollment advertising by 90 percent overall, officials said they were doing away with wasteful spending. But an internal study by the department had actually found paid television ads were one of the most effective ways to enroll consumers. The budget for TV ads went from \$26.6 million in the Obama administration's final year to zero under President Donald Trump.

"This independent and nonpartisan GAO report confirms that the Trump administration's sabotage of our health care system is driving up costs for consumers and leaving more Americans without health insurance," said a statement from a group of Democratic lawmakers led by Rep. Frank Pallone of New Jersey.

HHS said in a statement that the 2018 enrollment season was the "most cost-effective and successful experience" for consumers, citing a 90 percent customer satisfaction rate with the HealthCare.gov call center.

Republicans' drive to "repeal and replace" the health care law stalled in the Senate last year, and the Trump administration instead found itself having to run a program the president repeatedly branded a "disaster."

The watchdog found that sign-ups in the 39 states served by HHS through the federal HealthCare.gov website dipped by 5 percent last year, while states running their own enrollment effort maintained their sign-up levels. A total of 11.7 million people enrolled for 2018 coverage, with about 85 percent receiving subsidies to help pay their premiums.

The report validated a longtime Republican criticism that high premiums discourage consumers from signing up for coverage. But it also found that Trump contributed to premium increases for 2018 by canceling payments that reimburse insurers for lower deductibles and copays provided to low-income people. That forced the carriers to jack up rates.

"Substantial increases" in premiums triggered by Trump cut both ways, the watchdog found. People

with modest incomes entitled to subsidies got more financial aid from the government, and their coverage became more affordable. But solid middle-class customers paying full premiums were priced out of the market.

Ohio State suspends Meyer 3 games, says he protected protege

By MITCH STACY, AP Sports Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Ohio State suspended coach Urban Meyer for three games on Wednesday night for mishandling repeated professional and behavioral problems of an assistant coach, with investigators finding Meyer protected his protege for years through domestic violence allegations, a drug problem and poor job performance.

The superstar coach's treatment of his now-fired assistant was also clouded by his abiding devotion to the legacy of former Ohio State coach Earle Bruce, the grandfather of former wide receivers coach Zach Smith and an early coaching mentor for Meyer.

"I gave Zach Smith the benefit of the doubt," Meyer said.

The investigation turned up "a pattern of troubling behavior by Zach Smith: promiscuous and embarrassing sexual behavior, drug abuse, truancy, dishonesty, financial irresponsibility, a possible NCAA violation, and a lengthy police investigation into allegations of criminal domestic violence and cybercrimes," according to summary investigative findings released by the university on Wednesday night.

Meyer knew about at least some of the issues.

The report and punishment culminated a two-week investigation of how Meyer reacted to allegations that Smith abused his ex-wife, Courtney Smith. Zach Smith was fired last month after she asked a judge for a protective order.

Courtney Smith alleged her husband shoved her against a wall and put his hands around her neck in 2015. Zach Smith has never been criminally charged with domestic violence. The university put Meyer on paid leave and began investigating after Courtney Smith spoke out publicly, sharing text messages and photos she traded in 2015 with Meyer's wife, Shelley Meyer. Shelley Meyer is a registered nurse and instructor at Ohio State.

"I followed my heart and not my head," Meyer said, quickly reading a written statement during a news conference after his punishment was announced. "I should have demanded more from him and recognized red flags."

Investigators said Meyer and athletic director Gene Smith mismanaged Zach Smith's misconduct and kept him even though he was not an appropriate role model for OSU student-athletes. The review found neither Meyer nor Gene Smith condoned or covered up alleged abuse, but raised red flags of their own:

— Meyer, the athletic director and others throughout Ohio State thought it wasn't their place to do anything about allegations against Zach Smith unless law enforcement took more action like making an arrest or filing charges. Investigators called that a widespread misunderstanding of their reporting obligations.

— Meyer responded to Courtney Smith coming forward to a reporter by asking one of his staffers about changing the settings on his phone to delete text messages more than a year old. Investigators didn't find older messages on Meyer's phone but couldn't determine whether he deleted them before or after the media report.

— Meyer and his wife, Shelley, doubted the veracity of Courtney Smith's allegations of violence and abuse. Urban Meyer called the Smith situation a "he said she said" last month in a text with a former player. He also insisted to investigators he met with Courtney Smith after Zach Smith's 2009 arrest and that she recanted her original story to authorities. Courtney Smith told investigators she never met with Meyer or recanted any allegations.

— In June 2016 at Meyer's urging, Zach Smith was admitted to a drug treatment facility for addiction to an unspecified stimulant prescription drug, the report said, adding that Gene Smith was never told about it.

— Zach Smith ran up a big strip club bill in 2014 with a high school coach in Florida and spent \$600 in personal funds. Meyer reprimanded Zach Smith but didn't report the issue to compliance officers or the

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athletic director. Investigators said they told the NCAA about the incident.

Trustees discussed how to punish Meyer in a marathon meeting of more than 12 hours Wednesday while Meyer waited in the building. Athletic director Gene Smith — who is not related to Zach or Courtney Smith — was suspended without pay from Aug. 31 through Sept. 16.

Both the athletic director and Meyer apologized and said they accepted the punishments, though Meyer said repeatedly that he did not fully know what was happening with the Smiths.

"I should have been aware of it," Meyer said.

Meyer said he was not aware of the text messages Courtney Smith sent to his wife. When asked if he had a message for Courtney Smith, Meyer said: "I have a message for everyone involved in this: I'm sorry we're in this situation."

Meyer, 54, will miss Ohio State's first three games against Oregon State, Rutgers and No. 16 TCU, though he will be allowed to coach practices leading into the Rutgers and TCU games. Co-offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach Ryan Day is serving as acting coach while Meyer is absent.

Meyer insisted as the investigation began he followed proper protocols after learning of the 2015 accusations. But he also acknowledged lying to reporters a week earlier when he said he hadn't heard of the incident until shortly before he fired Zach Smith.

Investigators found that Meyer was determined to not disclose Zach Smith's issues to the media and went too far in his denials.

Zach Smith's attorney Brad Koffel said in a statement to USA Today that Meyer, Ohio State and Gene Smith were "collateral damage" for Courtney Smith's desire to seek revenge her ex-husband.

"Zach Smith married a woman he should not have married," Koffel said.

Mary Jo White, a former federal prosecutor, led the investigation that cost the university \$500,000. She said more than 40 witnesses were interviewed, some several times, and more than 60,000 electronic documents were reviewed. Investigators reviewed 10,000 text messages of Meyer's and text messages and photos provided by Courtney Smith.

Meyer is heading into his seventh season at Ohio State, where he is 73-8 with a national title in 2014 and two Big Ten Conference championships.

His contract was extended in April by two years through 2022, increasing Meyer's salary to \$7.6 million in 2018 with annual 6 percent raises. Meyer has about \$38 million left on his contract.

In 2009, Zach Smith was accused of aggravated battery on his pregnant wife while he was working a graduate assistant for Meyer at Florida. The charge was dropped because of insufficient evidence.

The Smiths separated in June 2015 and divorced in 2016.

Meyer is one of the most accomplished coaches in college football history, with three national championships and a 177-31 record in 16 seasons at Bowling Green, Utah, Florida and Ohio State, the team he grew up rooting for in Northeast Ohio.

Ohio State began investigating Meyer while also facing three federal lawsuits about its response to allegations of groping, leering and other misconduct by a deceased athletic department doctor who treated wrestlers and other students for two decades. The lawsuits alleging sexual abuse by Dr. Richard Strauss say Ohio State facilitated the abuse by ignoring complaints.

Since Ohio State announced an independent investigation in April, more than 100 former students have come forward with accounts of sexual misconduct by Strauss. The allegations range from 1979 to 1997 and involve male athletes from 14 sports, as well as his work at the student health center and his off-campus medical office.

More AP college football: <http://apnews.com/tag/Collegefootball> and http://twitter.com/AP_Top25

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More dirt on President Trump? Cohen's lawyer suggests so

By MICHAEL R. SISAk and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — What other dirt might Michael Cohen have on Donald Trump?

Cohen's lawyer says the president's former "fixer" has information "on certain subjects that should be of interest" to the special prosecutor beyond his allegations made while pleading guilty Tuesday that Trump directed him to make hush-money payments to fend off damage to his White House bid.

His lawyer, Lanny Davis, on Wednesday suggested that Cohen could tell special counsel Robert Mueller that Trump knew about and encouraged Russian hacking during the 2016 campaign before it became publicly known.

"What I'm suggesting is that Mr. Cohen was an observer and was a witness to Mr. Trump's awareness of those emails before they were dropped, and it would pertain to the hacking of the email accounts," Davis told CNN after having hedged that point in earlier television interviews.

Cohen also has been said to be willing to tell Mueller that Trump knew in advance of a 2016 meeting at Trump Tower in which the Republican candidate's eldest son sought damaging information from a Russian lawyer about Hillary Clinton.

Cohen, who showed fierce loyalty as Trump's personal lawyer, said in court that Trump directed him to arrange payments of \$130,000 to porn star Stormy Daniels and \$150,000 to former Playboy model Karen McDougal to buy their silence about alleged affairs before the election. Trump denies the affairs.

Trump tweeted on Wednesday that the campaign finance violations Cohen pleaded guilty to "are not a crime." He told "Fox & Friends" that, because the payments came from him and not the campaign, it's "not even a campaign violation." Both claims are wrong.

Nothing made public so far from Cohen's criminal case indicates he has agreed to cooperate with prosecutors, but Davis said that was simply a "distinction without a difference." Cohen is intent on telling the truth to whoever asks him and is "more than happy" to tell Mueller all that he knows, Davis said, calling that pledge, "the functional equivalent of cooperation."

Cohen forged his new path amid months of scrutiny from federal investigations and a public falling-out with the president, for whom Cohen once said he would "take a bullet." But what compelled him to take a plea deal and potentially flip on Trump?

Cohen told confidants he was disappointed and angry that Trump and his team — namely his lawyer Rudy Giuliani — had repeatedly bashed his reputation and character.

Cohen suggested that the attacks helped pave the way for his guilty plea and possible cooperation, according to a person who has spoken to the lawyer in the last 24 hours but was not authorized to discuss private conversations and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Davis made the claim during his media tour Wednesday that Trump's deference to Russian President Vladimir Putin in Helsinki on July 16 was a "significant turning point" and that it galvanized Cohen's thinking that Trump was unsuitable to hold office.

But, that summit was about two weeks after Cohen made clear to ABC's George Stephanopoulos in an off-camera interview that he was putting his "family and country first" and wouldn't be a "punching bag as part of anyone's defense strategy."

Working out of a Trump Tower office next to his boss, Cohen likely has vast knowledge of the innerworkings of Trump's empire, his business dealings and his campaign. Federal agents in April seized more than 4 million items from his home, hotel room and office, including recordings of Trump and others.

Investigators from New York state's tax department entered the mix on Wednesday, subpoenaing Cohen to share what he knows about the Trump Foundation, the president's embattled charitable foundation.

Cohen, who turns 52 on Saturday, wiped away tears as he gazed out a courthouse window after pleading guilty on Tuesday. He is free now and allowed some limited travel. He could get about four to five years in prison at sentencing Dec. 12.

Believing that his arrest was imminent, Cohen turned himself in to the FBI because he wanted to spare his children the image of him being perp-walked in handcuffs, according to the person who spoke with Cohen.

Even as his legal fate approached, Cohen tried to project normalcy in recent days: he went on a family

trip to Florida and he oversaw moving back into his upper East Side apartment after spending months in a nearby hotel after a water main break.

When the judge asked him if he had taken any drugs or alcohol in the past 24 hours, Cohen confessed: "Last night at dinner, I had a glass of Glenlivet 12 on the rocks."

It was the only moment of levity at an otherwise glum proceeding.

"Is it your custom to do that, sir?" the judge responded.

"No, your honor," Cohen said.

Tuesday night, hours after entering his guilty pleas, Cohen took his wife out to dinner.

Associated Press reporter David Klepper contributed from Albany, New York.

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APNewsBreak: Complaint claims ICE coerced immigrant parents

By ASTRID GALVAN, Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — Immigration authorities coerced dozens of parents separated from their children at the border to sign documents they didn't understand, according to a complaint expected to be filed Thursday.

In some of those cases, parents gave away rights to be reunited with their children when the non-English speaking mothers and fathers signed documents in English they couldn't read, according to the complaint provided to The Associated Press. In other cases cited in the complaint, parents who had been reunited were threatened with another separation if they didn't agree to be deported with their children.

The complaint will be filed with the Department of Homeland Security by the American Immigration Lawyers Association and the American Immigration Council, who say attorneys spoke with 76 parents who said they were asked to sign forms affecting their rights to reunify with their children.

All of them said they weren't allowed to ask what would happen if they signed the form.

The U.S. government separated over 2,500 children from their parents this year as the Trump administration adopted a "zero-tolerance" policy requiring anyone who crossed the border illegally to be prosecuted. That resulted in parents who had to go to federal court to face criminal misdemeanor charges of illegal entry to be separated from their children, often for months.

The policy ignited a worldwide furor and Trump eventually reversed course.

A federal judge overseeing a lawsuit against the government gave authorities until July 26 to reunite all families, although as many as 366 parents who were deported to their home countries have yet to be reunited with their children.

The complaint to the Department of Homeland Security's Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties and Inspector General claims several mothers said that Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers told them that if they didn't sign the form, they would never see their children again.

Officials with the Department of Homeland Security have previously denied similar allegations. A spokesman for the department did not immediately respond to an after-hours request for comment.

Attorneys say separated parents were subjected to verbal and physical abuse, including being deprived of food and water and being put into solitary confinement.

In one example, a Guatemalan mother who was separated from her 5-year-old son said an officer at the Port Isabel, Texas, detention center told her to sign a document to be returned to her home country so that she could get her son back.

The officer didn't explain what she was signing and the woman did so out of desperation, according to the complaint. The woman, like many others, also reported being threatened with solitary confinement because she was crying so much over being separated from her son.

The woman, referred to only as "A.E." in the complaint, was eventually reunited with her son and is currently being detained with him in Dilley, Texas.

"Coercive tactics employed against a vulnerable population raises significant legal concerns and threatens

the fundamental due process, statutory, and regulatory rights of parents who were separated from their children," the attorneys wrote.

Stories of parents who said they were coerced into signing off on their deportations and further separations have circulated for months.

Rolando Antonio Bueso Castillo, the father of a 1-year-old boy, said he was told he'd be reunited with his son if he signed off on his deportation. But it would be five months before the boy, Johan, would be reunited with his parents in Honduras. And that happened only after an immigration judge granted the boy a voluntary departure order, which allowed the government to fly him home.

Suspect in Iowa woman's slaying was a hardworking farmhand

By RYAN J. FOLEY, Associated Press

BROOKLYN, Iowa (AP) — For years, the young man from Mexico presented himself as a legal U.S. resident and reliable worker at a family dairy farm in small town Iowa, his employer said.

But this week, the image of Cristhian Bahena Rivera transformed in a matter of hours. Now he's a man accused of illegally living and working in the U.S. on fraudulent documents, of being a predator who kidnapped and killed a beloved young woman, and to some, the monstrous face of a lax immigration system.

Rivera made his initial court appearance Wednesday in a rural Iowa courthouse on a first-degree murder charge in the death of 20-year-old college student Mollie Tibbetts. He sat stone-faced and handcuffed in a striped jail jumpsuit as he said through an interpreter that he understood he faced life in prison if convicted. He was ordered jailed on a \$5 million cash-only bond after a prosecutor said he was a danger to the community who was accused of a "heinous crime."

The turn of events stunned the prominent farm family that employed him for the last four years. They said the 24-year-old worked under a different name and was a good employee who helped take care of their cows and got along with co-workers.

Even after Tibbetts disappeared on July 18 while out for an evening run in the small central Iowa town of Brooklyn, Rivera kept coming to work and "nobody saw a difference" in his demeanor, said Dane Lang, the manager of Yarrabee Farms. His colleagues were stunned Tuesday to learn that he was not only the suspect in Tibbetts' death, but that he had a different real name than what he went by on the farm, Lang said.

"Our employee is not who he said he was," Lang said at a news conference at the farm. "This was shocking to us."

When Rivera was hired in 2014, he presented an out-of-state government-issued photo identification and a matching Social Security card, Lang said. That information was run through the Social Security Administration's employment-verification system and checked out, he said.

Rivera's defense attorney, Allan Richards, acknowledged Wednesday that his client received his paycheck under a different name and that he was uncertain of his immigration status. He said he was prepared to argue that his client was in the country legally, noting that he came to the U.S. as a minor and had worked and paid taxes for years.

"He showed up every day and he did his job. He was patted on his back. They turned a blind eye to the reality of documentation," Richards said.

Investigators say they believe Rivera abducted Tibbetts as she went on an evening jog, killed her and dumped her body in a cornfield. A judge on Wednesday agreed to increase Rivera's bond to \$5 million from \$1 million after prosecutor Scott Brown noted he was a potential flight risk who was charged with a "heinous crime."

His attorney, Richards, lashed out at President Donald Trump for publicly declaring his client guilty at a rally Tuesday night. He said his client was a hard worker with the equivalent of an eighth-grade education, had no prior criminal record and deserved the presumption of innocence and a fair trial.

"Sad and Sorry Trump has weighed in on this matter in national media which will poison the entire possible pool of jury members," Richards wrote in a court filing.

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Trump noted the arrest at the rally in West Virginia: "You heard about today with the illegal alien coming in, very sadly, from Mexico and you saw what happened to that incredible, beautiful young woman. Should've never happened. Illegally in our country."

Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials have lodged an immigration detainer for Rivera, a move that means the agency has probable cause to believe he is subject to deportation. No hearing has been held yet on his status.

Yarrabee Farms is a small family farming operation that dates back to 1860 and has been owned for six generations by the Lang family, which is prominent in the community, farming circles and Republican politics. Dane Lang said the farm had received dozens of disturbing phone calls and messages since the employee's arrest, including threats to kill his dog and burn down his buildings.

"This is a scary situation," he said.

His father and farm co-owner Craig Lang, a former president of the Iowa Farm Bureau who ran earlier this year for state agriculture secretary, said the farm was cooperating with investigators and had already turned over Rivera's hiring records. He said now was not the time to debate immigration but to grieve the loss of Tibbetts, who was studying psychology at the University of Iowa.

Rivera led investigators Tuesday to a body believed to be Tibbetts in a cornfield about 12 miles (19 kilometers) southeast of Brooklyn, where she was last seen, police said.

Rivera allegedly confessed to following her and then panicking when she threatened to call police. He told authorities that he blacked out and then dumped her bloody body in the secluded location.

Investigators have not released the cause and manner of Tibbetts' death, and didn't release any information following an autopsy conducted Wednesday.

Rivera's Facebook page described him as being from Guayabillo, a community of less than 500 people in the Mexican state of Guerrero. It's about a three-hour drive from the resort city of Acapulco.

Investigators said they zeroed in on Rivera after obtaining footage from surveillance cameras in Brooklyn. The footage showed a Chevy Malibu connected to Rivera that was driving back and forth as Tibbetts was running in the area. The farm where he worked was just a couple miles away from that location.

A conviction on first-degree murder carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole in Iowa, which does not have the death penalty.

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Asian stock markets mixed ahead of US-China tariff hikes

By JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Asian stock markets were mixed Thursday after U.S. and Chinese officials held talks on their deepening trade dispute ahead of a new round of tariff hikes.

KEEPING SCORE: Tokyo's Nikkei 225 rose 0.2 percent to 22,403.90 while Hong Kong's Hang Seng lost 0.8 percent to 27,704.60. The Shanghai Composite Index gave up 1.7 points to 2,713.02. Seoul's Kospi shed 0.1 percent to 2,271.56 and Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 retreated 0.2 percent to 6,253.00. Benchmarks in Taiwan and Southeast Asia rose while New Zealand declined.

WALL STREET: The U.S. bull market became the longest on record after tech stocks and retailers gained while industrial companies declined. The run of 3,453 days without a drop of at least 20 percent, the traditional definition of a bear market, beat the 1990s stretch that ended in the dot-com collapse in 2000. The Standard & Poor's 500 index ended down 1.1 points at 2,861.82. The Dow Jones Industrial Average slid 0.3 percent, to 25,733.60. The Nasdaq composite gained 0.4 percent to 7,889.10. Nvidia gained 3.8 percent, while Lowe's jumped 5.8 percent.

US-CHINA TRADE: U.S. and Chinese negotiators opened talks in Washington on their spiraling dispute over Beijing's technology policy as both sides prepared for more tariff hikes. Neither side released any details of the first day's talks on Wednesday or their agenda. The Trump administration is poised to impose

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25 percent tariffs on \$16 billion of Chinese imports on Thursday in the latest round of penalties over complaints Beijing steals or pressures foreign companies to hand over technology. China says it will respond with similar penalties against American goods.

CENTRAL BANK WATCH: Central bankers including Jerome Powell of the U.S. Federal Reserve hold an annual gathering starting Friday in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Investors are looking ahead to Powell's key-note speech for signs of Fed views on Turkey's currency crisis and U.S.-Chinese trade tensions. If Powell sounds confident, investors would likely conclude the Fed will keep gradually raising rates.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude added 7 cents to \$67.93 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract jumped \$1.02 on Wednesday to \$67.86. Brent crude, used to price international oils, lost 12 cents to \$74.66 per barrel in London. It rose \$1.15 in the previous session to \$74.78.

CURRENCY: The dollar gained to 110.80 yen from Wednesday's 110.56 yen. The euro declined to \$1.1554 from \$1.1595.

Republicans tend to shrug off accusations against Trump

By **LISA MASCARO** and **STEVE PEOPLES**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — After President Donald Trump was implicated in a federal crime, members of both parties dismissed talk of impeachment, with Republicans shrugging off the accusations or withholding judgment.

The legal entanglements surrounding Trump — the guilty plea by former lawyer Michael Cohen and the fraud conviction of one-time campaign chairman Paul Manafort — delivered a one-two punch Tuesday that left lawmakers struggling for an appropriate response ahead of the midterm campaigns.

Trump's strongest supporters echoed his "no collusion" retorts, suggesting that, absent any evidence that he worked with Russia to influence the 2016 election, there is just no high-crimes-and-misdemeanors case for impeachment.

Democrats, meanwhile, are trying to tamp down expectations from their liberal base of taking on the president for fear that impeachment talk will cause GOP voters to rally around Trump in November.

The dynamic underscored the political difficulty of impeachment proceedings on Capitol Hill, especially for Republicans who have been reluctant to criticize the president but now face a new chapter in what has been a difficult relationship.

In pleading guilty to campaign-finance violations and other crimes Tuesday, Cohen said Trump directed a hush-money scheme before the 2016 election to buy the silence of porn star Stormy Daniels and Playboy model Karen McDougal, both of whom said they had sexual relationships with Trump. Trump has accused Cohen of making up "stories in order to get a 'deal'" from federal prosecutors.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., brushed past reporters Wednesday without answering questions about Cohen or the possibility that the lawyer's accusations about an illegal campaign cover-up are grounds for impeachment proceedings. House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., who is away from Washington, had no direct response. An aide said he needs more information.

Other Republicans, though, filled the gaps.

"No collusion=no impeachment," tweeted the influential radio host Hugh Hewitt, setting the day's tone.

He explained that impeachment is a political and legal term of art and said there needs to be a tipping point in public opinion that would push Congress to act. It's not there yet, he tweeted.

Doug Deason, a Texas-based donor and major Trump supporter, said voters simply don't care that Trump behaves badly at times and has associated with people who broke the law.

"In no way, shape or form did we think we were hiring St. Trump to repair the morals of the country," he said.

Jerry Falwell Jr., the president of Liberty University and a Trump confidant, said: "Anything short of the campaign actually conspiring with Russia to try to impact the election, anything short of that will just be background noise."

Even those few Republicans who have been willing to speak out about Trump are treading carefully in

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the wake of Cohen's guilty plea.

"I don't think I've witnessed anything like I've witnessed over the last year and a half. Probably, the American people haven't in modern times," said retiring Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn. But he stopped short of passing further judgment on the Cohen case.

"I'm sure there's going to be other revelations that come up," he said, "and I think we ought to just let the process work."

The president defended the hush-money payments Wednesday, saying, incorrectly, that the effort outlined in Cohen's guilty plea wasn't "even a campaign violation." Trump told Fox News in an interview that the payments "didn't come out of the campaign, and that's big."

The accusation from Cohen has inflamed public debate about impeachment.

Democratic donor Tom Steyer's Twitter feed called for others to join his campaign to impeach the president. "How much more corruption do we need to see?" he tweeted.

Ben Wikler, Washington director for the liberal advocacy group MoveOn, wants Democrats in Congress to join organizations like his that have been demanding impeachment for weeks.

"Now that Trump's personal lawyer has implicated him in a crime, not supporting impeachment feels like a dodge," Wikler said. "Impeachment doesn't have to be the core of your message to the electorate, but it's not something you can bury your head in the sand and ignore."

But House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said that unless other information emerges, impeaching Trump is "not a priority" for Democrats if they regain control of the House this fall. Pelosi said she prefers to see Democrats work to ensure special counsel Robert Mueller can finish his investigation.

"If and when the information emerges about that, we'll see," Pelosi said Tuesday as the news about Cohen was unfolding.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., used the developments to press the Democrats' case against Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, saying Republicans should hit "pause" on their push toward confirmation.

He expressed concern about Kavanaugh's unwillingness to indict a sitting president, as is Justice Department policy, or subpoena a president to testify. Kavanaugh's confirmation hearing is set for Sept. 4, despite his efforts to postpone it.

"This Republican Congress has done almost nothing to check this president," Schumer said. "We cannot allow the Supreme Court to be captured as well."

Meanwhile, senators of both parties warned that Trump should not consider granting Manafort a pardon. "It would be an enormous mistake and misuse of his power to pardon," said Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine.

The House is on summer break for campaign season. The Senate is in session, trying to wrap up a rare August work period that GOP leaders had hoped would be invigorating. Instead, senators at the Capitol are finding themselves facing questions they often have no answers for.

"That's always been an issue: What did the Founders really mean by high crimes and misdemeanors?" said Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis. "Right now it's in the hands of the courts, and we'll see how it plays out."

Some Republican strategists are privately worried about the party's prospects in November because of the scandals. Democrats see a similar opening in what Schumer has called "a cesspool around this president."

"I think we're beyond the tip of the iceberg. We're in the middle of the iceberg right now, given how many people so close to the president are on their way to jail," said Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn.

"My hope is that Republicans don't retreat into a corner," he said. "This is a moment where the future of the presidency is at stake. This isn't about politics or point-scoring, so I'll take my time to come to a conclusion. But I hope Republicans will also be willing to look at the facts and come to a non-political conclusion that's best for the country."

Associated Press writers Dustin Weaver, Kevin Freking and Padmananda Rama contributed to this report.

With no place to run, people in Hawaii brace for hurricane

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER, Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Hawaii residents emptied store shelves Wednesday, claimed the last sheets of plywood to board up windows and drained gas pumps as Hurricane Lane churned toward the state.

The category 4 storm could slam into the islands Thursday with winds exceeding 100 mph (161 kph), making it the most powerful storm to hit Hawaii since Hurricane Iniki in 1992.

Unlike Florida or Texas, where residents can get in their cars and drive hundreds of miles to safety, people in Hawaii are confined to the islands and can't outrun the powerful winds and driving rain.

Instead, they must stay put and make sure they have enough supplies to outlast prolonged power outages and other potential emergencies.

"Everyone is starting to buckle down at this point," said Christyl Nagao of Kauai. "Our families are here. We have businesses and this and that. You just have to man your fort and hold on tight."

Living in an isolated island state also means the possibility that essential goods can't be shipped to Hawaii if the storm shuts down ports.

"You're stuck here and resources might not get here in time," Nagao said.

The National Weather Service said Lane is expected to make a gradual turn toward the northwest Wednesday, followed by a more northward motion into the islands on Thursday.

"The center of Lane will move very close to or over the main Hawaiian Islands from Thursday through Saturday," the weather service said.

The Big Island was already starting to see Lane's first effects Wednesday, Gov. David Ige said at a news conference.

The hurricane's outer rain bands were bringing showers to some parts of the island, said Matt Foster, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service.

The eastern side of the island picked up nearly 3 inches (7.62 centimeters) of rain in three hours, while there was light rain in other areas, Foster said.

"Heavy rain in Hilo right now," Hawaii County Managing Director Wil Okabe said of the east side town. But on the west side, "nothing. It's a nice day."

Public schools were closed for the rest of the week and local government workers were told to stay home unless they're essential employees.

Shelters were being readied to open on Oahu, Maui, Molokai and Lanai. Officials said they would open shelters on other islands when needed. Officials were also working to help Hawaii's sizeable homeless population, many of whom live near beaches and streams that could flood.

Maui County officials warned that those needing to use Molokai's shelter should get there soon because of concerns that high surf could make the main highway on the south coast of the island impassable.

Hawaii Emergency Management Agency Administrator Tom Travis said there's not enough shelter space statewide. He advised those who are not in flood zones to stay home.

Many residents were trying to reinforce older homes made with single-wall construction.

"We're planning on boarding up all our windows and sliding doors," Napua Puaoi of Wailuku, Maui, said after buying 16 pieces of plywood from Home Depot. "As soon as my husband comes home — he has all the power tools."

Molokai real estate agent Pearl Hodgins said she expected the island's two stores to soon run out of bottled water and batteries.

Melanie Davis, who lives in a suburb outside Honolulu, said she was gathering canned food and baby formula.

"We're getting some bags of rice and of course, some Spam," she said of the canned lunch meat that's popular in Hawaii.

She was organizing important documents into a folder — birth and marriage certificates, Social Security cards, insurance paperwork — and making sure her three children, all under 4, have flotation devices such as swimming vests — "just in case."

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Meteorologist Chevy Chevalier said Lane may drop to a Category 3 by Thursday afternoon but that would still be a major hurricane.

"We expect it to gradually weaken as it gets closer to the islands," Chevalier said. "That being said, on our current forecast, as of the afternoon on Thursday, we still have it as a major hurricane."

Puaoi said Home Depot opened at 6 a.m., and employees reported there was already a line around the building.

"We are fully stocked," she said. "We have about nine cases of water because we're having family stay with us as well, so one case per person."

The U.S. Navy was moving its ships and submarines out of Hawaii. All vessels not currently undergoing maintenance were being positioned to help respond after the storm, if needed.

Navy aircraft will be kept in hangars or flown to other airfields to avoid the storm.

The central Pacific gets fewer hurricanes than other regions, with about only four or five named storms a year. Hawaii rarely gets hit. The last major storm to hit was Iniki in 1992. Others have come close in recent years.

Puaoi was 12 when Iniki hit Hawaii.

"When it did happen, I just remember, pandemonium, it was all out craziness," she said.

Associated Press writers Mark Thiessen and Dan Joling in Anchorage, Alaska, and Seth Borenstein in Washington contributed to this report.

Republicans _ and some Democrats _ reject impeachment talk

By LISA MASCARO and STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The day after President Donald Trump was implicated in a federal crime, members of both parties dismissed talk of impeachment, with some Democrats expressing fears Wednesday about such a politically risky step, and Republicans shrugging off the accusations or withholding judgment.

The legal entanglements surrounding Trump — the guilty plea by former lawyer Michael Cohen and the fraud conviction of one-time campaign chairman Paul Manafort — delivered a one-two punch that left lawmakers struggling for an appropriate response ahead of the midterm campaigns.

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Even those few Republicans who have been willing to speak out about Trump are treading carefully in the wake of Cohen's guilty plea.

"I don't think I've witnessed anything like I've witnessed over the last year and a half. Probably, the American people haven't in modern times," said retiring Republican Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee. But he stopped short of passing further judgment on the Cohen case.

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But I hope Republicans will also be willing to look at the facts and come to a non-political conclusion that's best for the country."

Associated Press writers Dustin Weaver, Kevin Freking and Padmananda Rama contributed to this report.

With White House stung by Cohen accusation, Trump fires back

By ZEKE MILLER, CATHERINE LUCEY and KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump accused his former lawyer Michael Cohen of lying under pressure of prosecution Wednesday as his White House grappled with allegations that the president had orchestrated a campaign cover-up to buy the silence of two women who claimed he had affairs with them.

Confronting mounting legal and political threats, Trump took to Twitter to accuse Cohen of making up "stories in order to get a 'deal'" from federal prosecutors. Cohen pleaded guilty Tuesday to eight charges, including campaign finance violations that he said he carried out in coordination with Trump. Behind closed doors, Trump expressed worry and frustration that a man intimately familiar with his political, personal and business dealings for more than a decade had turned on him.

Yet his White House signaled no clear strategy for managing the fallout. At a White House briefing, press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders insisted at least seven times that Trump had done nothing wrong and was not the subject of criminal charges. She referred substantive questions to the president's personal counsel Rudy Giuliani, who was at a golf course in Scotland. Outside allies of the White House said they had received little guidance on how to respond to the events in their appearances on cable news. And it was not clear the West Wing was assembling any kind of coordinated response.

Trump himself publicly denied wrongdoing, sitting down with his favored program "Fox & Friends" for an interview set to air Thursday. In the interview, he argued, incorrectly, that the hush-money payouts weren't "even a campaign violation" because he subsequently reimbursed Cohen for the payments personally instead of with campaign funds. Federal law restricts how much individuals can donate to a campaign, bars corporations from making direct contributions and requires the disclosure of transactions.

Cohen had said Tuesday he secretly used shell companies to make payments used to silence former Playboy model Karen McDougal and adult-film actress Stormy Daniels for the purpose of influencing the 2016 election.

Trump has insisted that he only found out about the payments after they were made, despite the release of a September 2016 taped conversation in which Trump and Cohen can be heard discussing a deal to pay McDougal for her story of a 2006 affair she says she had with Trump.

The White House denied the president had lied, with Sanders calling the assertion "ridiculous." Yet she offered no explanation for Trump's shifting accounts.

As Trump vented his frustration, White House aides sought to project a sense of calm. Used to the ever-present shadow of federal investigations, numbed West Wing staffers absorbed near-simultaneous announcements Tuesday of the Cohen plea deal and the conviction of former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort on financial charges.

Manafort faces trial on separate charges in September in the District of Columbia that include acting as a foreign agent.

That Cohen was in trouble was no surprise — federal prosecutors raided his offices months ago — but Trump and his allies were caught off-guard when he also pleaded guilty to campaign finance crimes, which, for the first time, took the swirling criminal probes directly to the president.

Both cases resulted, at least in part, from the work of special counsel Robert Mueller, who is investigating Russia's attempts to sway voters in the 2016 election.

"The only thing that I have done wrong," Trump tweeted late Wednesday, "is to win an election that was expected to be won by Crooked Hillary Clinton and the Democrats. The problem is, they forgot to campaign in numerous states!"

Meanwhile, Cohen's lawyer, Lanny Davis, said Wednesday that Cohen has information "that would be of

interest" to the special counsel.

"There are subjects that Michael Cohen could address that would be of interest to the special counsel," Davis said in a series of television interviews. Davis also said Cohen is not looking for a presidential pardon.

Trump, in turn, praised Manafort as "a brave man!" raising speculation the former campaign operative could become the recipient of a pardon.

Manafort, Trump wrote, had "tremendous pressure on him and, unlike Michael Cohen, he refused to 'break.'" Sanders said the matter of a pardon for Manafort had not been discussed.

Among Trump allies, the back-to-back blows were a harbinger of dark days to come for the president. Democrats are eagerly anticipating gaining subpoena power over the White House — and many are openly discussing the possibility of impeaching Trump — should they retake control of the House in November's midterm elections. And even Trump loyalists acknowledged the judicial proceedings were a blow to the GOP's chances of retaining the majority this year.

"They have survived the Russia thing, but no one knows what's next," said former campaign aide Barry Bennett.

Debate swirled inside and outside the White House about next steps and how damaging the legal fallout was for the president.

Allies of the president stressed an untested legal theory that a sitting president cannot be indicted — only impeached.

Former White House communications director Anthony Scaramucci argued that "at the end of the day it will be up to the House and the Senate to decide on the president's presidency."

Former George W. Bush press secretary Ari Fleischer stressed that the revelations may be sordid but do not meet the constitutional bar of "high crimes and misdemeanors."

"Having an affair and lying about it with a porn star and a Playboy bunny is not impeachable," Fleischer said, "it's Donald Trump."

Associated Press writers Jill Colvin, Chad Day, Jonathan Lemire and Darlene Superville contributed to this report.

Experts: Legal status check systems can be easily exploited

By RYAN J. FOLEY and NOMAAN MERCHANT, Associated Press

MONTEZUMA, Iowa (AP) — The systems offered by the U.S. government to check the legal status of workers like the Mexican man now suspected of killing an Iowa college student can be easily exploited through identity fraud and gaps in government systems, experts say.

In the case of Cristhian Bahena Rivera, the 24-year-old now charged with murder in the death of Mollie Tibbetts, Rivera's ex-employer said Wednesday he provided an out-of-state ID card and Social Security number. He worked at Yarrabee Farms for almost four years under a false name, said Dane Lang, part of the family that owns the dairy.

Yarrabee Farms did not use the federal E-Verify program, Lang said Wednesday, correcting information he had given a day earlier. Instead, the company used the Social Security Administration's verification service. The family is now looking into adopting E-Verify, he said.

Both E-Verify and the Social Security Administration's program, immigration experts say, can be beaten with a state ID and a Social Security number belonging to someone else.

There is a thriving black market for forged or stolen identity documents. And while employers are supposed to check those documents, they are barred by federal law from refusing to accept an ID card that meets legal requirements for employment. They are required to reject documents that do not "reasonably appear to be genuine," but those can be hard to catch.

E-Verify provides employers with photos for passports and other federal documents that they can compare with what an employee has given them, but not state-issued driver's licenses or IDs. An employer in Iowa presented with an unfamiliar out-of-state driver's license may not be able to spot a fake.

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"There is rampant fraud," said Bill Riley, a former U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent who is now a senior managing director at the consulting firm Guidepost Solutions. "Even experts like myself, we can say with fairly reasonable certainty — but not 100 percent — whether a document is fake or not."

Authorities say Rivera is in the U.S. illegally. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said that it had no record of Rivera having "any lawful immigration status." Rivera's attorney, Allan M. Richards, said Wednesday that his client "has the legal documents" to work in the United States.

E-Verify has been offered by both Republicans and Democrats as a solution to curbing illegal immigration. More recently, President Donald Trump has proposed making it mandatory for employers nationwide to check hires in the system.

All federal contractors are currently required to use E-Verify, and 21 states have passed laws requiring some or all employers to use it, according to the Migration Policy Institute. Iowa has not.

RJ Hauman, government relations director at the Federation for American Immigration Reform, which supports restrictive immigration measures, said that no program is fool-proof "when there are people willing to break the law," but that E-Verify had helped many employers catch unauthorized workers and could have helped Yarrabee Farms.

"Yarrabee Farms owes the Tibbetts family an explanation of why it did not use E-Verify," he said in an email.

Dane Lang and his father, Craig, a prominent Republican Party donor and former candidate for office, said they were cooperating with authorities and reviewing their own practices.

"There will be plenty of time to discuss immigration," Craig Lang said. "However, now is not the time. Now is a time to grieve and remember Mollie and her family."

Merchant reported from Houston.

Relationship between Trump, Enquirer goes beyond headlines

By **DAVID BAUDER** and **JEFF HORWITZ**, Associated Press Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — The plea deal reached by Donald Trump's former attorney Michael Cohen has laid bare a relationship between the president and the publisher of the National Enquirer that goes well beyond the tabloid's screaming headlines.

Besides detailing the tabloid's involvement in payoffs to porn star Stormy Daniels and Playboy Playmate Karen McDougal to keep quiet about alleged affairs with Trump, court papers showed how David Pecker, a longtime friend of the president and head of Enquirer parent company American Media Inc., offered to help Trump stave off negative stories during the 2016 campaign.

Court papers say that Pecker "offered to help deal with negative stories about (Trump's) relationships with women by, among other things, assisting the campaign in identifying such stories so they could be purchased and their publication avoided."

The accusations threaten Pecker's company, American Media Inc., both legally and in the court of public opinion.

The relationship between Trump and the Enquirer has been cozy for decades. Former National Enquirer employees who spoke to the AP said that negative stories about Trump were dead on arrival dating back to when he starred on NBC's reality show "The Apprentice."

In 2010, at Cohen's urging, the National Enquirer began promoting a potential Trump presidential candidacy, referring readers to a pro-Trump website Cohen helped create. With Cohen's involvement, the publication began questioning President Barack Obama's birthplace and American citizenship in print, an effort that Trump promoted for several years, former staffers said.

The Enquirer endorsed Trump for president in 2016, the first time it had ever officially backed a candidate. In the news pages, Trump's coverage was so favorable that the New Yorker magazine said the Enquirer embraced him "with sycophantic fervor."

Positive headlines for Trump were matched by negative stories about his opponents: an Enquirer front

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page from 2015 said "Hillary: 6 Months to Live" and accompanied the headline with a picture of an unsmiling Clinton with bags under her eyes.

Campaign finance laws generally prohibit corporations from cooperating with a campaign to affect an election, though media organizations are exempted from that restriction so long as they're performing a journalistic function. AMI's problem, said campaign finance expert Richard Hasen, is that Cohen's prosecutors don't appear to think hush money payments qualify as journalism.

"AMI and Pecker have not been charged, but they might be charged," he said. Though a novel legal case might be made that paying sources for silence is in fact standard tabloid reporting practice, he said, Cohen's plea agreement doesn't give that theory much weight.

The Cohen case outlined a tabloid strategy known as "catch and kill," or paying for exclusive rights to someone's story with no intention of publishing it in order to keep it out of the news altogether.

McDougal reached a deal to be paid \$150,000 for her story about an alleged affair in 2006 and 2007, prosecutors said. Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, negotiated a \$130,000 payment through Cohen for her story — and both were successfully buried until after the campaign.

When negotiations lagged on the Clifford deal shortly before the election, her lawyer told the Enquirer that she was close to reaching a deal with another outlet to tell her story. An editor at the tabloid, in turn, texted Cohen to say something needed to be done "or it could look awfully bad for everyone," according to court papers.

The deal was quickly reached, and Cohen agreed to make the payment.

In court on Tuesday, Cohen said that he had agreed to work with Pecker to make the deals "in coordination with, and at the direction of, a candidate for federal office" — clearly Trump.

AMI did not respond to requests for comment.

The accusations raise the question — can the Enquirer, indeed all of American Media, really be considered a media company when people become more familiar with its political activities?

Through an aggressive acquisition strategy, AMI has lately cornered a large part of the celebrity publication market. Besides tabloids like the Enquirer, Star and Globe, it also owns Us Weekly, In Touch and Life & Style.

"I think AMI is probably squirming," said Jerry George, a former editor at the Enquirer, on Wednesday. "They've painted themselves into a corner."

Despite a reputation for fanciful stories, the Enquirer has a history of some aggressive political reporting; the tabloid's stories on John Edwards and Gary Hart helped end the chances of both men becoming president.

The Enquirer's willingness to bend journalistic rules and potentially the law on Trump's behalf tarnishes that reputation, George said.

And while a juicy political scandal involving adult film star, hush money and the President of the United States might seem like ideal tabloid fare, the Enquirer is steering clear. On the tabloid's web site Wednesday, the emphasis was on celebrity news — an old story about feuding on the set of "Golden Girls" and squabbling between Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.

Horwitz reported from Washington.

Attempt to break into Democratic Party voter data thwarted

By **BILL BARROW** and **COLLEEN LONG**, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — An attempt to break into the Democratic National Committee's massive voter database has been thwarted, a party official said Wednesday, two years after Russian operatives sent the party into disarray by hacking into its computers and facilitating the release of tens of thousands of emails amid the presidential election.

A web security firm using artificial intelligence uncovered the attempt. The DNC was notified Tuesday, it said. Hackers had created a fake login page to gather usernames and passwords in an effort to gain

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access to the Democratic Party's voter file, a party official said. The file contains information on tens of millions of voters. The attempt was quickly thwarted by suspending the attacker's account, and no information was compromised, the official said. The FBI was notified.

The official wasn't authorized to speak about sensitive security information and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Government and tech officials say it's too early to know who was behind the attempt. The FBI declined to comment to the AP.

The attempt comes as Democrats gather for their summer meeting. The party's cybersecurity has been an issue since the 2016 presidential election, when Russian hackers compromised DNC servers and publicly revealed internal communications that exploited divisions between Bernie Sanders' and Hillary Clinton's campaigns as the two candidates vied for the Democratic presidential nomination. Hackers also accessed the email accounts of Clinton's campaign chairman, John Podesta, and systematically released the contents throughout the fall campaign.

It also comes a day after Microsoft announced it had uncovered similarly fraudulent websites created by Kremlin agents that spoofed two conservative outfits that are foes of Russia's president, Vladimir Putin, presumably to trick unwitting visitors into surrendering credentials.

Bob Lord, the DNC's chief security officer, said the attempt showed how serious the cyberthreat is and why it's critical that state and federal officials work together on security.

"This attempt is further proof that there are constant threats as we head into midterm elections and we must remain vigilant in order to prevent future attacks," Lord said in a statement.

He said President Donald Trump isn't doing enough to protect American democracy. Previously, Trump mocked the DNC's cybersecurity and cast doubt on U.S. intelligence officials' findings that Russia was involved.

At a previously scheduled election security briefing Wednesday, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen said the quick response to the attempted DNC hack showed that the system was working "and that different entities understand who to reach out to," she said.

"Any attack on a political party or a campaign is important for us all to take seriously," she said, emphasizing the government was doing all it could to help protect election systems ahead of the midterm elections. At stake is control of Congress, which could potentially switch from Republican to Democrat.

Amid the news, a Senate committee abruptly postponed a Wednesday vote on legislation to help states prevent against election hacking, frustrating Democrats and at least one Republican on the panel.

The vote was put off by the Senate Rules and Administration Committee after a bipartisan group of lawmakers spent months negotiating the legislation. The bill would aim to protect state election infrastructure by requiring that all states use backup paper ballots and conduct audits after elections, among other measures. It would also require DHS to immediately notify states if the federal government is aware that a state election system has been breached.

A Senate Republican aide said the vote was postponed because secretaries of state had complained about certain provisions, including the type of audits the bill would require. The aide said additional Republican support would be necessary to move the legislation out of committee. The aide was not authorized to speak about the committee's reasoning and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Republican Sen. James Lankford of Oklahoma, one of the bill's sponsors, said after the vote's postponement: "Congressional inaction is unacceptable."

The bill "will help states take necessary steps to further prepare our election infrastructure for the possibility of interference from not just Russia, but other possible adversaries like Iran or North Korea or a hacktivist group," Lankford said.

The DNC committee attempt wasn't mentioned at a Senate hearing on election security Wednesday, according to senators who were present.

States have been scrambling to secure their election systems since it was revealed that Russian hackers targeted election systems in at least 21 states in 2016, though the number is likely greater. There has been

no indication any vote tallies were changed. Nielsen said at the briefing that states should have auditing systems in part as a safeguard so the public knows the vote tallies can be trusted.

In Tuesday's incident, a scanning tool deployed by the San Francisco security company Lookout detected a masquerading website designed to harvest the passwords of users of the login page of NGP VAN, a technology provider used by the Democrats and other liberal-leaning political organizations, said Mike Murray, the company's vice president of security intelligence. He said he contacted the DNC.

The tool, which leverages artificial intelligence, has been in development for a year and wasn't tasked to scan any sites in particular but instead to identify phishing sites based on typical attributes, Murray said.

"This is the beauty of AI: It finds things that humans don't know to look for," he said.

He said the tool notified Lookout before the impostor page had even been populated with content. "As soon as we realized how fast it was developing, I decided to reach out to contacts that I know at the DNC." Murray also contacted the website hosting company, Digital Ocean.

Ross Rustici, senior director for intelligence services at Cybereason in Boston, said a voter database is a juicy target for anyone trying to exacerbate political divisions in the U.S. or gain insight on political opponents.

"The data housed in these types of databases would be incredibly useful both for domestic opposition research as well as for foreign intelligence and counterintelligence purposes," he said.

Long reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Mary Clare Jalonick in Washington, Frank Bajak in Boston and Mike Balsamo in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

New York state subpoenas Cohen in Trump Foundation probe

By DAVID KLEPPER, Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Investigators in New York state have issued a subpoena to Michael Cohen as part of their probe into the Trump Foundation, an official with Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo's administration confirmed to The Associated Press Wednesday.

The subpoena was issued after Cohen's attorney said his client has information of interest to both state and federal prosecutors. As Trump's longtime lawyer and self-described "fixer," Cohen could potentially be a significant source of information for state investigators looking into whether Trump or his charity broke state law or lied about their tax liability.

"We can confirm that a subpoena has been issued to Michael Cohen for relevant information in light of the public disclosures made yesterday," said James Gazzale, a spokesman for the state's tax department.

If evidence of alleged crimes is found, the matter could be referred to state Attorney General Barbara Underwood, who could pursue criminal charges and seek the release of Trump's tax returns. Anyone charged with a state crime in relation to the investigation could not be cleared by a presidential pardon.

Cohen pleaded guilty in Manhattan federal court Tuesday to campaign-finance violations and other charges, saying he and Trump arranged the payment of hush money to porn star Stormy Daniels and a former Playboy model to influence the election.

"I do believe that he has information about Mr. Trump that would be of interest both in Washington as well as New York state," Cohen's attorney Lanny Davis said Tuesday night on CNN's "Cuomo Prime Time," a show hosted by Chris Cuomo, brother of New York's governor.

The state's investigation follows Underwood's lawsuit alleging Trump illegally tapped his Trump Foundation to settle legal disputes, help his campaign for president and pay for personal and business expenses, which included spending \$10,000 on a 6-foot (1.8-meter) portrait of himself.

The attorney general's office is seeking \$2.8 million in restitution and other unspecified penalties in its civil suit. It said that it had referred to its findings to the IRS and the Federal Election Commission for possible further action.

A spokeswoman for Underwood declined to discuss the state's new subpoena and noted that Cuomo's administration would need to refer the tax department investigation to it before criminal charges could

be pursued.

"We cannot comment on potential or ongoing investigations," said spokeswoman Amy Spitalnick. "As our lawsuit against the Trump Foundation illustrates, we will hold Donald Trump and his associates accountable for violations of state law, and will seek a criminal referral from the appropriate state agency as necessary."

Messages left with attorneys for Cohen and Trump were not immediately returned Wednesday.

Cuomo is seeking a third term this November and faces liberal activist and former "Sex and the City" star Cynthia Nixon in next month's Democratic primary. He and Trump have exchanged insults several times in recent weeks, particularly following Trump's criticism of Cuomo for telling a Manhattan crowd that America "was never that great" last week. Cuomo later said his comment was "inartful."

San Francisco's \$2.2 billion 'Grand Central' terminal open

By LORIN ELENI GILL, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Spanning three city blocks, San Francisco's \$2 billion transit terminal is open after nearly a decade under construction.

Coined the "Grand Central of the West," the new Salesforce Transit Center near the heart of downtown is expected to accommodate 100,000 passengers each weekday, and up to 45 million people a year. It welcomed its first passengers and visitors this month.

Enveloped in wavy white sheets of metal veil, the five-level center includes a bus deck, a towering sky-lit central entrance hall and a rooftop park with an outdoor amphitheater.

The San Francisco Chronicle reported that the complex faced delays in putting out contracts to bid, and the winning bids were ultimately higher than expected. The terminal's cost rose from \$1.6 billion at its 2010 groundbreaking to more than \$2 billion in 2016 because of what one analyst called "optimistic assumptions," according to the Chronicle.

The project, a commanding presence in the city's South of Market neighborhood, is financed by land sales, federal stimulus grants, district fees and taxes, bridge tolls, and federal and state funds.

On a recent weekday, the rooftop park was flooded with locals and tourists who were enjoying the sunny weather for picnics.

"I think it'll be like the High Line in New York," said Lissa Gould, 65, who likened the new park to New York's 1.5 mile (2.4 kilometer) greenbelt that was built on a defunct elevated railroad line. Gould attended the San Francisco terminal's Aug. 12 grand opening celebration and returned the following week with her two nieces.

"It's great for the workers and people downtown who will be able to come down here, and there's free activities for children too," she said.

Others herald the terminal as the American West's "Grand Central," a reference to New York City's world-famous Grand Central Terminal opened in 1913. That train station accommodates 750,000 visitors daily and has been featured in numerous well-known movies.

Yet to be completed at San Francisco's center are restaurants, retail shops and a gondola. There also are plans for a three-platform train station underground and eventually, connections to a high-speed rail line under construction in California's Central Valley.

San Francisco native Clemente Casas, 82, enjoyed a walk with his wife through the outdoor gardens. He said the center was a welcome replacement for the 1930s-era Transbay Terminal that was demolished in 2010.

"It's fabulous, and it's long overdue," he said. "It's a great tourist attraction."

A new bus bridge provides direct access from the transit center to the Bay Bridge, which Casas said he hopes will reduce traffic congestion.

Fabiana Edmundo was impressed by the elevated park, which features open grass areas with portable chairs, a playground, kiosks with board games and art supplies, and books for children and adults. The 34-year-old mother of four runs a childcare company and said she'd be back soon with more kids.

The online business software company Salesforce, which opened its adjacent 61-story Salesforce Tower

three months ago, bought naming rights to the center in 2017 as part of a 25-year, \$110 million sponsorship agreement.

Mom was Neanderthal: Fossil shows mix of humankind's cousins

By FRANK JORDANS, Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Scientists say they've found the remains of a prehistoric female whose mother was a Neanderthal and whose father belonged to another extinct group of human relatives known as Denisovans.

The 90,000-year-old bone fragment found in southern Siberia marks the first time a direct offspring of these two groups has been discovered, according to a study published Wednesday in the journal *Nature*.

Both groups disappeared by about 40,000 years ago. Neanderthals lived in Europe and Asia, while fossils of Denisovans are known only from the cave where the fragment was found.

Past genetic studies have shown interbreeding between the two groups, as well as with our own species, which left a trace in the DNA of today's people. But the new study is the first to identify a first-generation child with Neanderthal and Denisovan parents.

"It's fascinating to find direct evidence of this mixing going on," said Svante Paabo, one of the study's lead authors.

Paabo said he was surprised by the discovery, given how relatively few remains of our evolutionary relatives have been found around the world.

The cave near Mongolia where the bone was found contains some remains attributed to Neanderthals as well as Denisovans. But finding an actual offspring of the two groups — which are more different from each other than any two present-day human groups — seemed like a rare stroke of luck, Paabo said.

"The fact that we stumbled across this makes you wonder if the mixing wasn't quite frequent," said Paabo, a geneticist at Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany.

The finding doesn't reveal how often such mating occurred and where, said Ron Pinhasi, a physical anthropologist at the University of Vienna who wasn't involved in the study.

"Had it happened frequently, we would not have such divergence between the Denisovans and Neanderthal genomes," he said.

The newly discovered DNA could be interpreted in different ways, said Anders Eriksson, evolutionary population geneticist at King's College London who wasn't involved in the study.

"I think they convincingly showed that genetically this individual falls halfway between the Neanderthal and Denisovan fossils found in the same cave," he said. "But I'm less convinced that it is necessarily a first-generation offspring of a union between Neanderthal and Denisovan."

The fossil could instead have come from a population with roughly an equal mix of Neanderthal and Denisovan ancestry, he said. It will take analysis of more fossils to find out, he said.

The researchers said the small bone fragment likely came from the arm or leg of a female who was at least 13 years old at the time of death. Comparison with other ancient DNA showed that the genes she inherited from her mother were more closely related to Neanderthals who lived later in Europe than to other Neanderthal remains found in the cave, suggesting a wave of westward migration.

Together with previously discovered remains of a *Homo sapiens* that had a Neanderthal ancestor four to six generations earlier, Paabo said the latest find supports the theory that the now-extinct ancient lineages may have been absorbed through interbreeding with modern humans, rather than wiped out through warfare as is widely believed.

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North Korea speeds construction spree ahead of anniversary

By ERIC TALMADGE, Associated Press

SAMJIYON, North Korea (AP) — Thousands of North Korean “soldier-builders” in olive green uniforms and bright red hardhats are doing everything from digging ditches to putting up walls on multistory apartment blocks and government buildings in this northern city near the Chinese border.

Samjiyon is one of the main focuses of a massive nationwide construction campaign ahead of North Korea’s 70th anniversary in what leader Kim Jong Un has described as a symbolic battle against anyone who would oppose his country.

The Sept. 9 anniversary is shaping up to be the biggest event since Kim assumed power in late 2011. Along with huge rallies in Pyongyang on the day itself and the revival of North Korea’s trademark mass games at the stadium, Kim has deployed soldiers and ordinary citizens alike to erect buildings, improve roads and work on other infrastructure on a scale unseen in recent years.

The construction spree is intended to improve living conditions in keeping with one of Kim’s first promises to the nation, that he would bolster the economy so they would no longer need to “tighten their belts.” But it is also a demonstration of the power of his regime in the face of U.S.-backed international sanctions intended to squeeze his economy and force him to abandon his nuclear weapons.

Kim made that political message clear during a visit to Samjiyon with his wife last week, when he was quoted by state media as saying “the hostile forces’ persistent sanctions and obstructive moves” have come as a serious setback, but added the North Korean people have risen to the challenge and are “making a history of legendary miracles despite the most difficult conditions.”

Kim said that by “showily” building up Samjiyon, the nation is in effect fighting a symbolic battle against those who would try to stifle its “socialist civilization.”

Samjiyon lies at the foot of Mount Paektu, which is closely linked to the Kim family and is considered the spiritual center of the North Korean revolution.

Steamrollers and other heavy equipment are rare, so roadwork is particularly labor-intensive. Work crews spreading out nearly 20 kilometers (10 miles) from the city limits fill potholes with shovelfuls of dirt and flatten surfaces with wooden tools.

The work has transformed Samjiyon from a relatively sleepy provincial center surrounded by potato farms into a buzzing hub of activity the likes of which would be hard to find anywhere else. The government says it is to be the model for future development projects nationwide. The Associated Press was allowed to view the city on the same day Kim visited, but was not allowed to shoot photos.

One important aspect of the building boom is that much of the work is being done outside of Pyongyang. Under three generations of Kim leadership, the capital has gotten the bulk of funding and is far more developed than the rest of the country, creating a glaring — and potentially destabilizing — gap between the capital and the provinces.

Along with Samjiyon, major construction projects are underway in several other cities — including 20-story high-rise apartments in the eastern port city of Chongjin and extensive infrastructure and tourism-related facilities in Wonsan, another port on the country’s eastern coast. Under Kim, Wonsan has gotten a new airport that officials hope will attract international visitors in the near future. More than a dozen resort hotels are being built near its coastline.

The construction campaign is all the more ambitious considering it comes at a sensitive time for Kim, who has held a series of summits over the past several months with China, South Korea and the United States in an attempt to undermine support for sanctions and establish his position on the global stage as the head of a nuclear power.

His diplomatic gambit appears to be working in many ways.

Chinese businesspeople and tourists are once again flowing over the borders — several large tourist groups were in Samjiyon last week — and South Korean officials are seriously considering ways to help the North improve its roads and railways. But doubts are growing over whether Kim has any real intention to meet Washington’s main demand and unilaterally abandon the nuclear weapons he worked so hard to

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develop over the past five years.

That rift with Washington could significantly complicate Kim's rapprochement with his neighbors and stifle his efforts to woo the trade and investment he needs to fund his development projects. A crucial indicator of where Kim stands will come soon after the Sept. 9 anniversary when he is scheduled to hold another summit with South Korean President Moon Jae-in, this time in Pyongyang.

Moon, who has been playing a middleman role between Pyongyang and Washington, is under a great deal of pressure to broker progress toward denuclearization. Without tangible progress, he will be hard-pressed to justify going against Washington's "maximum pressure" policy and easing sanctions any further.

In any event, it appears Kim is ready to forge ahead. Though many improvements will be completed by Sept. 9, it is clear from the construction in Samjiyon that his plans go much further into the future than that. Dozens of buildings are still in the skeletal stages and will likely require several more months to finish.

In the meantime, scenes of Kim giving his on-the-spot guidance to senior officials feverishly taking down his every word in their notebooks has dominated the TV news in the North each day since his visit to Samjiyon.

Denuclearization, however, is rarely mentioned in news broadcasts.

Talmadge is the AP's Pyongyang bureau chief. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram: @EricTalmadge

Alaska governor's race may hinge on oil-wealth checks

By BECKY BOHRER, Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — The path to the governor's office in Alaska this year may hinge on the oil check given to state residents.

Each year, the state distributes checks just for living here — residents' share of the state's oil wealth. For some, it's discretionary money used for new toys, like big screen TVs, or socked into savings, while for others, particularly those who are lower-income or who live in high-cost rural Alaska, it's a part of their income.

The checks went out like clockwork until 2016, when in the midst of legislative gridlock over how to address a multibillion-dollar budget deficit Gov. Bill Walker cut the size of everyone's check by about half. He defended the move, along with additional budget vetoes, as necessary to preserve the state's savings. Everyone could still get a check, he said, just not as big.

His action, upheld by the state Supreme Court, set a precedent: Since then, lawmakers have not followed the formula in state law for calculating the Alaska Permanent Fund dividend checks. Some have insisted doing so, while the state is still in a deficit, would be fiscally reckless. But the decision has brought with it political backlash, which Walker, an independent, hopes to withstand as he faces a tough re-election bid against conservative former state Sen. Mike Dunleavy and Democratic former U.S. Sen. Mark Begich.

Dunleavy said people are angry that a decision of that magnitude was made without their involvement. He supports the formula in state law for calculating the check and does not support changing that without public involvement, including an advisory vote. That's because if the Legislature passes taxes or changes to the checks and citizens don't agree, they can pursue a referendum to try to overturn them, he said.

Money for the checks comes from the earnings of the oil-wealth fund, the Alaska Permanent Fund. Legislators have long resisted using fund earnings to pay for state government. But after blowing through billions of dollars in savings amid gridlock over how best to fill the deficit and shunning taxes, they ran short of options and agreed earlier this year to start using fund earnings to fill much of the hole.

The fund's principal is constitutionally protected, but earnings can be spent with a simple majority. Begich favors moving billions of dollars from fund earnings to the fund's principal to ensure it isn't "subject to the whims of elected officials" and limiting the amount withdrawn each year based on a percentage of the fund's market value. Part of the money drawn would go toward a dividend and part would go toward funding public education.

He said the dividend should be constitutionally protected, an issue he said he would make a priority.

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"You have to get that Permanent Fund Dividend issue resolved one way or the other," he told a small group at a Juneau meet-and-greet last week. If not, lawmakers will keep fighting over it and won't have time to think about other long-term issues, he said.

Walker said he's not opposed to enshrining some form of dividend in the constitution. But he doesn't want to see an upper limit and whatever is settled on should be sustainable, he said.

The permanent fund is a nest egg, seeded with oil money and grown through investments. Lawmakers settled on a check of \$1,600 for this year. That's about \$1,050 less than what Walker's budget office earlier this year predicted the amount would be if a full dividend were paid out.

Lt. Gov. Byron Mallott, a Democrat, said Walker's action saved the dividend for the future. He said it allowed for passage of legislation calling for structured withdrawals of permanent fund earnings.

"And many, many, many more Alaskans understand that than those who are trying to create a crisis from it," Mallott said.

The bill retained the existing formula in state law for calculating dividends but since that has been ignored the past three years, there's no guarantee it will be followed in the future.

Monte Wallace, a Dunleavy supporter, said the Wasilla Republican "will give our PFD back to us." PFD is permanent fund dividend. She said Walker has "destroyed Alaska, the way it was," citing concerns she has with crime.

Therese Thibodeau, who attended Begich's coffee shop meet-and-greet in Juneau and said she's registered with the Green party, said she supported Walker in 2014 and appreciated his action on the dividend. "I thought that's a good thing," she said.

She said she was pleasantly surprised, though, by what she heard from Begich, particularly his thoughts on the budget. "Now, I'm more on the fence than I was when I walked in," she said.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Aug. 23, the 235th day of 2018. There are 130 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 23, 1775, Britain's King George III proclaimed the American colonies to be in a state of "open and avowed rebellion."

On this date:

In 1754, France's King Louis XVI was born at Versailles (vehr-SY').

In 1785, U.S. naval hero Oliver Hazard Perry was born in South Kingstown, R.I.

In 1912, actor, dancer, director and choreographer Gene Kelly was born Eugene Curran Kelly in Pittsburgh.

In 1913, Copenhagen's Little Mermaid statue, inspired by the Hans Christian Andersen story, was unveiled in the harbor of the Danish capital.

In 1914, Japan declared war against Germany in World War I.

In 1927, amid worldwide protests, Italian-born anarchists Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were executed in Boston for the murders of two men during a 1920 robbery. (On the 50th anniversary of their executions, then-Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis issued a proclamation that Sacco and Vanzetti had been unfairly tried and convicted.)

In 1939, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union agreed to a non-aggression treaty, the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, in Moscow.

In 1960, Broadway librettist Oscar Hammerstein (HAM'-ur-STYN') II, 65, died in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

In 1973, a bank robbery-turned-hostage-taking began in Stockholm, Sweden; the four hostages ended up empathizing with their captors, a psychological condition now referred to as "Stockholm Syndrome."

In 1982, Lebanon's parliament elected Christian militia leader Bashir Gemayel president. (However, Gemayel was assassinated some three weeks later.)

In 1989, in a case that inflamed racial tensions in New York, Yusuf Hawkins, a 16-year-old black youth,

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was shot dead after he and his friends were confronted by a group of white youths in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn. (Gunman Joey Fama was convicted of second-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison; he will be eligible for parole in 2022.)

In 2000, an estimated 51 million viewers tuned in for the finale of the first season of the CBS reality show "Survivor," in which contestant Richard Hatch won the \$1 million prize.

Ten years ago: Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama introduced his choice of running mate, Sen. Joe Biden of Delaware, before a crowd outside the Old State Capitol in Springfield, Ill. Two foreign journalists, Canadian Amanda Lindhout and Australian Nigel Brennan, were kidnapped near Mogadishu, Somalia; both were freed after 15 months in captivity. At the Beijing Olympics, the United States won gold in the women's and men's 1,600-meter relay track events. The U.S. women's basketball team beat Australia 92-65 to win a fourth straight gold medal. Angel Matos of Cuba and his coach were banned for life after the taekwondo athlete kicked the referee in the face following his bronze-medal match disqualification.

Five years ago: A military jury convicted Maj. Nidal Hasan in the deadly 2009 shooting rampage at Fort Hood, Texas, that claimed 13 lives; the Army psychiatrist was later sentenced to death. Staff Sgt. Robert Bales, the U.S. soldier who'd massacred 16 Afghan civilians, was sentenced at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, to life in prison with no chance of parole. San Diego Mayor Bob Filner, a Democrat, agreed to resign in return for the city's help defending him against claims he'd groped, kissed and made lewd comments to women. (Filner later pleaded guilty to a felony for manhandling a woman at a fundraising event and two misdemeanor battery charges; he served three months of house arrest.)

One year ago: City workers in Charlottesville, Virginia, draped giant black covers over two statues of Confederate generals to symbolize the city's mourning for a woman killed while protesting a white nationalist rally. A federal judge again blocked a set of voter ID requirements in Texas, rejecting a weakened version that had been backed by the Trump administration. (An appeals court later allowed the law to stay in effect; it allows voters without any acceptable photo ID to cast a ballot as long as they sign an affidavit.)

Today's Birthdays: Actress Vera Miles is 88. Actress Barbara Eden is 87. Political satirist Mark Russell is 86. Pro Football Hall of Famer Sonny Jurgensen is 84. Actor Richard Sanders is 78. Ballet dancer Patricia McBride is 76. Former Surgeon General Antonia Novello is 74. Pro Football Hall of Famer Rayfield Wright is 73. Country singer Rex Allen Jr. is 71. Actor David Robb is 71. Singer Linda Thompson is 71. Actress Shelley Long is 69. Actor-singer Rick Springfield is 69. Country singer-musician Woody Paul (Riders in the Sky) is 69. Queen Noor of Jordan is 67. Actor-producer Mark Hudson is 67. Actor Skipp Sudduth is 62. Retired MLB All-Star pitcher Mike Boddicker is 61. Rock musician Dean DeLeo (Army of Anyone; Stone Temple Pilots) is 57. Country musician Ira Dean (Trick Pony) is 49. Actor Jay Mohr is 48. Actor Ray Park is 44. Actor Scott Caan is 42. Country singer Shelly Fairchild is 41. Figure skater Nicole Bobek is 41. Rock singer Julian Casablancas (The Strokes) is 40. Retired NBA player Kobe Bryant is 40. Actress Joanne Froggatt is 38. Actress Jaime Lee Kirchner is 37. Neo-soul musician Andy Wild (Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats) is 37. Actress Annie Ilonzeh is 35. Dance musician Sky Blu is 32. Actress Kimberly Matula is 30. NBA player Jeremy Lin is 30.

Thought for Today: "I know the world is filled with troubles and many injustices. But reality is as beautiful as it is ugly. I think it is just as important to sing about beautiful mornings as it is to talk about slums. I just couldn't write anything without hope in it." — Oscar Hammerstein II (1895-1960).