

Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Aug. 25, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 047 ~ 1 of 53

“Challenges make you discover things about yourself that you never really knew.”

-Cicely Tyson



Chicken Soup
for the Soul

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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.

Calendar

Saturday, August 25, 2018

- 9:00am: Volleyball: Girls Varsity Tournament vs. Milbank @ Milbank High School
1:00pm: Soccer: Girls Varsity Match vs. Vermillion @ Groton Area High School
3:00pm: Soccer: Boys Varsity Match vs. Vermillion @ Groton Area High School
Pool Hours: 1 p.m. to 8:20 p.m.

Monday, August 27, 2018

- 10:00am: Golf: Boys Varsity Meet vs. Aberdeen Central @ Lee Park Golf Course
Pool Hours: 1 p.m. to 8:20 p.m.

Sperry Stump Removal Tyler: 605/216-8431
Over 30 Years of Combined Experience!
TJ: 605/380-7915 **TreeLine Tree Service**

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Groton/Conde Senior Menu for September

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 HOLIDAY LABOR DAY	4 DRI-33 Chili Cornbread Coleslaw Lime Pear Jello	5 DRI-48 Roast Beef Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Carrots Peach Cobbler Whole Wheat Bread	6 DRI-19 Baked Chicken Rice Pilaf Cauliflower/Pea Salad Whole Wheat Bread Tapioca Pudding	7 DRI-8 Ham/Raisin Sauce Sweet Potatoes California Blend Veggies Crazy Cake Dinner Roll
10 DRI-50 Hamburger Cabbage Roll Hotdish Mixed Vegetables Pears Cornmeal Muffin	11 DRI-57 Baked Chicken Breast Noodles Romanoff Lemon Buttered Broccoli Pineapple Strawberry Ambrosia Whole Wheat Bread	12 DRI-13A Hot Turkey Combination Mashed Potatoes/Gravy 7 Layer Salad Blueberry Crisp	13 DRI-55 Baked Pork Chop AuGratin Potatoes Peas and Carrots Iced Honey Cookie Whole Wheat Bread	14 DRI-32 Goulash Green Beans Apple Crisp Whole Wheat Bread
17 DRI-14 Tater Tot Hotdish Beets Grape Juice Sour Cream Apple Pie Square Whole Wheat Bread	18 Potato Soup Ham Salad Sandwich Tomato Spoon Salad Pineapple Tidbits	19 DRI-29 Oven Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes Winter-Mix Vegetables Buttermilk Biscuits Banana Pudding w/Bananas	20 Taco Salad Mexican Rice Seasonal Fresh Fruit Bread Stick	21 DRI-9 Baked Fish AuGratin Potatoes 3-Bean Salad Peach Cobbler Whole Wheat Bread
24 DRI-58 Chicken Tetrazzine Green Peas Honey Fruit Salad Vanilla Pudding Whole Wheat Bread	25 Beef Tips w/Gravy Noodles Lettuce Salad w/Dressing Jello Cake Whole Wheat Bread	26 DRI-45 Baked Chicken Breast Rosemary Red Potatoes Calif. Blend Vegetables Lemon Tart Bar Whole Wheat Bread	27 DRI-52 Roast Pork Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Parsley Buttered Carrots Applesauce Molasses Cookie Whole Wheat Bread	28 DRI-67 French Dip Sandwich Macaroni Salad Seasoned Cabbage Waldorf Salad

TIMED ONLINE 9445 State Line Road, Frederick, SD 57441

AUCTION

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

<p>TRACTORS 2003 Case STX440 4WD 2005 John Deere 8420 MFWD Allis Chalmers 7040 2WD</p> <p>COMBINE & HEADS 2009 John Deere 9770 STS 2006 John Deere 635 flex head 2009 John Deere 612C chopping corn head</p> <p>DRILL Great Plains grain drill, 20', 6" spacing, 3 pt., mounted gauge, rubber press wheels</p> <p>FERTILIZER CADDY Pattison CB1600 fertilizer caddy w/pump</p> <p>DISCS John Deere 235 disc Sunflower disc John Deere 712 disc chisel</p> <p>OTHER TILLAGE EQUIPMENT Landoll 7430 VT-Plus vertical tillage John Deere 726 mulch finisher Rite Way landroller, 42'</p>	<p>GRAIN CART & GRAVITY BOX Brent Avalanche 1084 grain cart Minnesota 260 gravity box</p> <p>TRUCK 2004 Freightliner Classic XL tri-axle flat top sleeper 60"</p> <p>TRAILERS 2013 Featherlite 8270 aluminum livestock trailer 2010 Timpte hopper bottom trailer 1996 Timpte hopper bottom trailer 1999 Doonan 502DB14 step deck trailer EZ-Trail 680 header trailer</p> <p>LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT 1993 IHC 4900 truck (3) Vern's creep feeders 150 bu. Wheel loader livestock water tank</p> <p>ATTACHMENTS MDS pallet forks for John Deere 840 loader Snow/silage bucket John Deere material bucket</p>	 <p>TIRES & PARTS (4) Skid steer loader tires Landoll disc blades & bearings John Deere grill guard (10) John Deere suitcase weights</p> <p>PREVIEW: August 13-28 from 8AM-5PM LOADOUT: Thursday, August 30 from 8AM-5PM</p>
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Complete terms, lot listings and photos at

SteffesGroup.com

Randy Kath MN47-007

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

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Jonathan Doeden escapes the clutches of EEK's Jorgen Paulson to score the first touchdown of the game. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



Thomas Cranford caught a pass from Jonathan Doeden and then ran the ball into the endzone for Groton's second touchdown. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



Jonathan Doeden takes with him EEK's Ethan Carruth (71) and Dakota Schoenfelder (30) into the endzone for a touchdown. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

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Tiger defense kept EEK scoreless

Groton Area scored on its first possession of the football on Friday and that set the stage for the rest of the game as the Tigers defeated Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm, 20-0.

The Tigers scored twice in the first quarter and once in the third. Penalties prevented the Tigers from scoring a fourth touchdown. EEK had an opportunity to score as well, but a penalty set back the Thunder.

Jonathan Doeden scored two touchdowns on runs of 39 yards and seven yards, and he passed to Thomas Cranford for the third touchdown on a pass play of 24 yards. Hunter Schaller successfully kicked two of the three PATs.

The Tigers had 15 first downs compared to six for EEK. Groton Area had 247 yards rushing and 24 yards passing while the Thunder had 39 yards rushing and 38 yards passing.

Darien Shabazz had five tackles and a fumble recovery, Jonathan Doeden had six tackles, Darien Shabazz had five tackles and a sack, Wyatt Locke had three sacks, Alex Morris and Grady O'Neill each had two sacks and Peyton Johnson had one sack.

Groton Area, now 1-1 on the season, will travel to Sisseton on Friday.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Groton Area	14	0	6	0	20
Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm	0	0	0	0	0

	Groton	Ellendale/Edgeley/Kulm
First Downs	15.....	6
Rushing	44-247	29-39
	Jonathan Doeden 22-176	Dilan Madcke 10-61
	Darien Shabazz 9-33	Colton Rall 3-3
	Lucas Hinman 12-54	Phillip Hagen 1-9
	Kaden Kurtz 1-(-16)	Jorgen Paulson 1-4
		Cale Mathern 8-(-38)
Passing	Jonathan Doeden: 1-5-24-1TD, 1Int.....	Cale Mathern 4-14-38
Receivers	Thomas Cranford 1-10 (TD).....	Dilan Madcke 2-16
		Phillip Hagen 2-22
Fumbles	Had 2, lost 0.....	Had 1, lost 1
Penalties	8-75	3-20
Defense	Darien Shabazz 5 tackles, fumble recovery	
	Jonathan Doeden 6 tackles	
	Darien Shabazz 5 tackles, 1 sack	
	Wyatt Locke 3 sacks	
	Alex Morris 2 sacks	
	Peyton Johnson 1 sack	
	Grady O'Neill 2 sacks	
Next Game	at Sisseton	Host Kindred, N.D.
Record	1-1	0-1
Scoring		
First Quarter.....	9:15: Jonathan Doeden, 39 yard run	
	PAT: Hunter Schaller kick	
First Quarter.....	3:32: Jonathan Doeden to Thomas Cranford pass, 24 yards	
	PAT: Hunter Schaller kick	
Third Quarter	Jonathan Doeden 7 yard run	
	PAT: Kick no good	

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Peyton Johnson punts the ball. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

Lucas Hinman gets a nice run, but as you can see in the background, an official throws the dreaded yellow penalty flag against the Tigers.

(Photo by Julianna Kosel)



GHS Cheerleaders cheering on the Tiger football team. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)

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No. 9 Wolves Knock Down Cougars and Dragons in Straight Sets

Portland, Ore. – The No. 9 Northern State University volleyball team completed the opening week sweep following two wins against Colorado Christian and Tiffin University. The Wolves improve to 4-0 overall, after winning all four games in straight sets.

The Wolves handed Colorado Christian their first loss of the 2018 season, sweeping the Cougars 25-21, 25-22, and 25-9. Northern only improved upon the opening day outing with 50 team kills and a .343 attack percentage. The Wolves added 42 digs, six aces, and six blocks, while holding CCU to just 30 kills, three aces, and one block.

Three Wolves notched double figure kills, led by senior Hailey Busch with 15. The outside hit .387 in the match, adding six digs, two aces, and a team leading three blocks. Jenna Reiff and Laura Snyder followed with 13 and ten kills respectively, hitting .579 and .381 in the match. Reiff matched Busch with three blocks, while Snyder tallied one.

Morgan Baufield and Sally Gaul rounded out the hitters with six and five kills respectively. Baufield hit .444 in the match, and tallied one ace and three digs. Ashley Rozell boosted her numbers from day one with 44 assists in the win, averaging 14.67 per set. The junior also recorded a team high three service aces, as well as six digs and two blocks. Jaiden Langlie led the Northern defense with 12 digs, as eight Wolves notched multiple in the match.

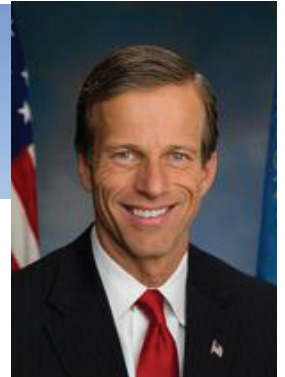
Northern shined in the second match of the day, hitting a season high .494 with 49 kills and just four hitting errors. NSU downed TU with set scored of 25-14, 25-14, and 25-19, and tallied 36 assists, 31 digs, five aces, and two blocks. A total of seven Wolves hit above .300 in the match, with four hitting above .500.

Busch led the offensive attached with 16 kills in 21 swings. The senior hit .762, which ranks fourth on the single game hitting percentage list, and did not suffer an attack error. Gaul added another ten kills in the win, hitting .381 with four assists and three digs. Baufield followed with four, while Reiff, Snyder, and Lexi Lockhart each tallied two.

Rozell dished out 25 assists and knocked down two kills of her own, while grabbing a team leading eight digs. She was followed by Bry Goar with five digs, and Lexi Boesl, Morgan Baufield, and Hailey Busch with four apiece. Goar, Boesl, and Gaul each recoded three assists, while Baufield, Reiff, Busch, and Lockhart recorded one block. Goar and Langlie both led the team with two service aces, while Boesl rounded out the team total with one.

Although the Wolves remain on the road next weekend, they do return to South Dakota for the Augustana Tournament next Friday and Saturday. NSU will face off against U-Mary, Fort Hays State, Lindenwood, and No. 23 Augustana from the Elmen Center.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



The Republican Economic Agenda Is Working

In 2016, when I asked South Dakotans for the opportunity to serve another term as their U.S. senator, I told them I wanted to pursue a pro-growth, pro-jobs agenda that put them and the rest of the American people first. At the time, the economy had been stuck in neutral for nearly a decade, and the previous administration seemed unwilling to get it back in gear. Fortunately, though, things have changed.

For the last 19 months, the Republican-led Congress has been working with the president and his administration to help turn the economy around. We've passed and the president has signed bill after bill, which has given businesses and taxpayers additional tools and opportunities to succeed and helped relieve the burden of unnecessary government red tape. As a result, the economy is now on a much stronger, more successful path.

Don't take my word for it, though. The numbers speak for themselves.

From April through June of this year, the economy grew by more than 4 percent, which exceeded many expectations. What does 4 percent growth actually mean, though? Well, it means the Republican economic agenda is working. For perspective, some economists had written-off numbers like that, predicting a new normal of 1-2 percent annual growth – the kind of growth we saw during the entirety of the Obama administration. Republicans in Congress were unwilling to accept the status quo because we knew America could do better.

So far in 2018, growth is already above 3 percent, and the unemployment rate is at the lowest level in nearly two decades. According to the July jobs report, the number of Americans filing for unemployment stood at its lowest level since the year Neil Armstrong landed on the moon (that's 1969 for those too young to remember). Wages, benefits, and disposable income are all on the rise. Small business optimism is at a record high, and consumer confidence is at a nearly 18-year high.

Since the landmark Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was signed into law late last year, more than 1.5 million American jobs have been created, South Dakota families have been able to keep more of their hard-earned paychecks, and businesses – large and small – now have a simpler tax code that does a better job of working for them rather than against them.

Before tax reform, the cards were stacked against larger American businesses because they were competing in a global market from a country with the highest corporate tax rate in the industrialized world. How could anyone have effectively competed when your own country's tax code put you at a significant disadvantage? Fortunately, that's no longer the case.

Interestingly, faced with all of this positive economic news, the loud criticism from my Democrat colleagues has largely gone silent. It's worth remembering that not only did they vote in lockstep against providing this tax relief to taxpayers, but Nancy Pelosi also once said tax reform would be like "Armageddon." If low unemployment, strong economic growth, and more opportunities for American workers is Armageddon, how would she describe the previous administration's economic policies?

I'm proud of what we've been able to accomplish and look forward to building off of this success to ensure we're doing everything we can to help American businesses and taxpayers succeed. They've waited long enough.

KRISTI NOEM
REPRESENTATIVE FROM SOUTH DAKOTA



Unpacking Education Reform

Boy, did the summer fly by! We fell a little behind on school shopping this year, but after searching the entire eastern side of South Dakota for college-ruled notebooks (it seemed like that anyway...), we got everything wrapped up just in time. Maybe part of the delay was that it seems like just yesterday we were helping pick out the kids' first backpacks. Now, Cassidy is graduated, Kennedy is starting her final semester at SDSU, and Booker is a junior in high school. I'm not sure where the years went.

Even during the time my kids have been in school, a lot has changed in education. Through it all, I've believed that those closest to our kids make the best decisions for our kids. So, when I got to the House, I pushed to secure greater local control on everything from school lunch to funding decisions. States, school districts, and parents should always have a bigger say over what happens in schools than the federal government.

For instance, last Congress, I helped get the Every Student Succeeds Act signed into law. At its core, the legislation stopped federal micromanagement. It gave states greater flexibility to spend money in a way that benefited their students most, empowered parents to hold schools accountable, and modernized the Impact Aid program, which many South Dakota schools rely on. Maybe most notably, the new law ensured the federal government can't pressure states into adopting rigid academic standards, like Common Core.

I believe in the same philosophy of local control when it comes to tech schools, colleges, and universities too. Last year, I helped the House pass the Strengthening Career and Technical Education Act, which among other things would give states and local community leaders more flexibility in using federal education dollars. This way, states can innovate new learning experiences, better encourage apprenticeships and internships, and develop programs around the local economy's needs. I was thrilled to see President Trump sign this into law at the end of July.

Of course, for some, a technical school or college education is out of reach. SDSU, however, is working to do something about that. This August, I met with the school's president, Barry Dunn, about the Wokini Initiative. The effort offers programming and support to Native American students and opens more opportunities for tribal students to get a college degree. Because I'm hopeful this program will offer hope, enrichment, and upward mobility for many students, I introduced an amendment to the House Farm Bill that helps direct resources to this program.

Whether it's the reforms we've made to K-12 education or the support we're working to secure for the Wokini Initiative, each effort is designed to help get kids excited about their futures. With that being said, let me leave you with this back-to-school encouragement for our students (and teachers too!): Find things you can be passionate about and act on them. Be bold. See the good in people. Focus each day on leaving this world a little better than you found it.

Have a wonderful school year!

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Today in Weather History

August 25, 1990: Severe thunderstorms moved across central and northeastern South Dakota produce golf ball size hail and wind gusts exceeding 60 mph. One storm produced a weak F0 tornado between Bowdle and Roscoe in Edmunds County.

1814: In the early afternoon, a strong tornado struck northwest Washington D.C. and downtown. The severe tornadic storm arrived the day after the British Troops had set fire to the Capitol, the White House, and other public buildings. The storm's rains would douse those flames. The tornado did major structural damage to the residential section of the city. The tornado's flying debris killed more British soldiers than by the guns of the American resistance. The storm blew off roofs and carried them high up into the air, knocked down chimneys and fences and damaged numerous homes. Some homes were destroyed. It lifted two pieces of cannon and deposited them several yards away. At least 30 Americans were killed or injured in the heavily damaged buildings, and an unknown number of British killed and wounded.

1885 - A severe hurricane struck South Carolina causing 1.3 million dollars damage at Charleston. (David Ludlum)

1940 - New Jersey experienced its coldest August morning of record, with lows of 32 degrees at Layton and Charlotteburg. (The Weather Channel)

1948: One of the worst tornadoes to strike New Zealand occurred at Hamilton on this day. This estimated F2tornado killed three people, injuring dozens, and destroying or severely damaging almost 150 houses and 50 business premises in Hamilton and Franklin.

1987 - Morning thunderstorms produced heavy rain in eastern Nebraska and southwestern Iowa. Stanton IA reported 10.50 inches of rain. Water was reported up to the handle of automobiles west of Greenwood NE. Rainfall totals for a two day period ranged from 7 to 14 inches across southwestern Iowa. Crop damage was in the millions for both states. Subsequent flooding of streams in Iowa the last week of August caused millions of dollars damage to crops, as some streams crested ten feet above flood stage. (Storm Data)

1988 - Seven cities in California reported record high temperatures for the date, including Sacramento with an afternoon reading of 104 degrees. Thunderstorms produced locally heavy rains in Arizona. Chino Valley was drenched with 2.50 inches of rain in just thirty minutes washing out a couple of streets in town. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Morning thunderstorms drenched Spencer, IN, with 4.10 inches of rain in three hours causing extensive street flooding. Evening thunderstorms in eastern Kansas produced up to six inches of rain around Emporia, and four inches of rain in just forty-five minutes near Parsons, and also produced wind gusts to 70 mph at Lake Melvern. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2005 - Katrina becomes a hurricane just before landfall in south Florida between Hallandale Beach and North Miami Beach. Maximum sustained winds at the time of landfall were near 80 mph. There were eleven fatalities in South Florida, including four by falling trees. More than 1.3 million customers lost electrical services, and preliminary insured loss estimates ranged from

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Today



Areas Smoke

High: 86 °F

Tonight



Areas Smoke

Low: 62 °F

Sunday



Slight Chance
T-storms

High: 88 °F

Sunday
Night



Chance
T-storms

Low: 62 °F

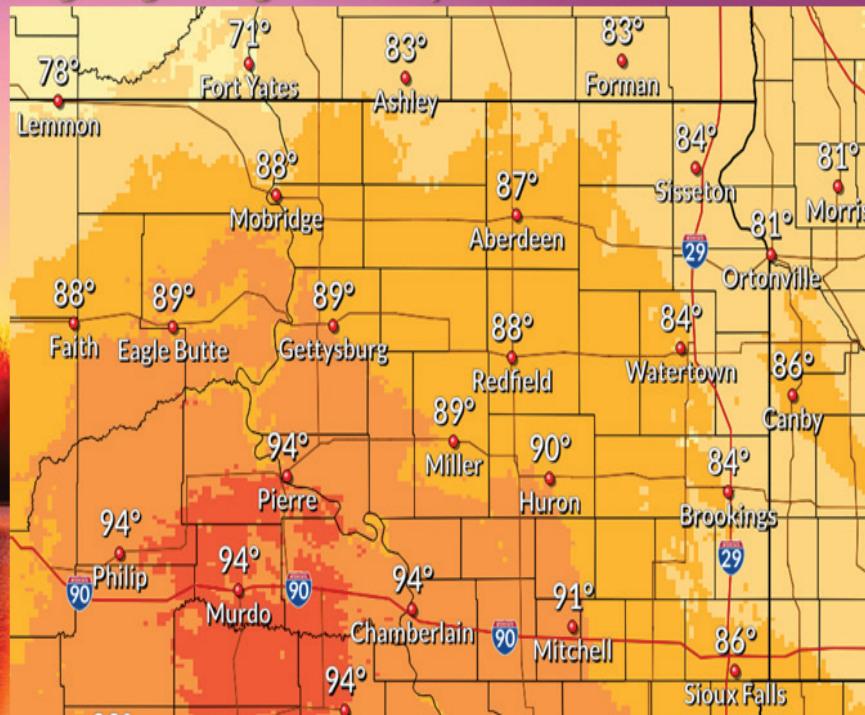
Monday



Mostly Sunny
then Slight
Chance
T-storms

High: 79 °F

Morning Fog – Highs Today A Little Above Average



More Active Weather Pattern Sunday - Monday



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 8/25/2018 3:49 AM Central

Published on: 08/25/2018 at 3:54AM

Morning fog in the east and an isolated sprinkle in the northwest will become sunny skies and temperatures a few degrees above average with dry conditions today. An active pattern is in the works for Sunday and Monday however.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 78.2 F at 5:05 PM

Heat Index:

Low Outside Temp: 60.7 F at 8:09 AM

High Gust: 16.0 Mph at 2:42 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 101° in 1926

Record Low: 38° in 1896

Average High: 80°F

Average Low: 54°F

Average Precip in Aug: 1.88

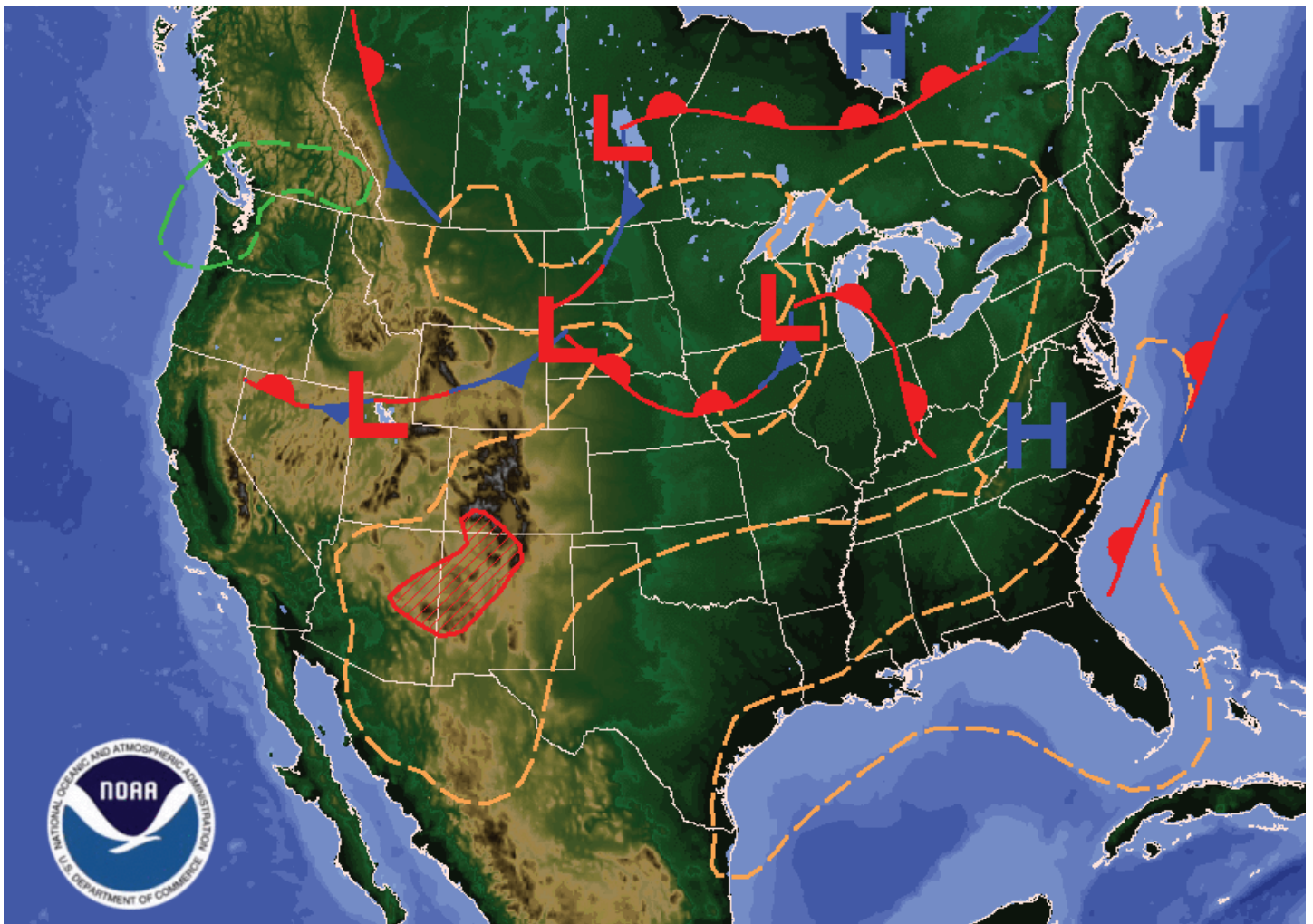
Precip to date in Aug: 1.33

Average Precip to date: 15.74

Precip Year to Date: 11.22

Sunset Tonight: 8:24 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:48 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sat, Aug 25, 2018, issued 4:55 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Santorelli with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain

Rain and T'Storms

Rain and Snow

Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)

Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)

Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)

Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

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ARE WE THERE YET?

One of the most frustrating questions I ever tried to answer was the one my children would ask whenever we started on a journey: Are we there yet? And, the longer the journey, the more frequently the question was asked.

The Christian life is a journey. As soon as we surrender our lives to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, the journey begins. The goal of our journey is to become Christ-like in all that we think or do or say. So, it begins in a moment in history and continues until we are with Him in glory. Often, when we are born again, we expect our life to be filled with sunshine and roses, skies with no clouds and waters with no waves. But that never happens.

Our days continue to be filled with difficulties and our nights are no easier: the unending and unanswered questions remain. What is going on? Whats happening? Why me?

The Psalmist gives us insight into those questions: The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me; Your love, O Lord, endures forever - do not abandon the works of Your hands!

The journey is the plan, and the plan that He designed for each of us includes His purpose for our lives. And, the Psalmist reminds us that, He will fulfill His purpose. There can be no doubt that God has a unique purpose for each of us. Thats why we are all different: our tastes are different, our interests are different, our talents are different, and our gifts are different. God created each of us to be different because the plan He has for each of us is different.

When the Psalmist spoke of Gods enduring love or the fear of being abandoned, he must have been going through a difficult time. So he reminded himself that he is a work of Gods hand as is each of us. This thought reminds us, too, that we not there, yet.

Prayer: Give us patience and perseverance, Lord, to trust You always, knowing that You are fulfilling the plan You have for us. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 138:8 The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me; Your love, O Lord, endures forever - do not abandon the works of Your hands!

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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

Friday's Scores By The Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL(equals)

Aberdeen Roncalli 32, Redfield/Doland 8
Alcester-Hudson 53, Avon 0
Arlington/Lake Preston 48, DeSmet 0
Baltic 26, Chester 0
Bennett County 18, Little Wound 12
Beresford 38, Sioux Valley 14
Bridgewater-Emery/Ethan 41, Woonsocket/Wessington Springs/Sanborn Central 0
Britton-Hecla 62, Dakota Hills 8
Brookings 24, Yankton 23
Burke/South Central 52, Gayville-Volin 6
Canistota 36, Howard 12
Canton 23, Chamberlain 6
Castlewood 56, Deubrook 20
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 24, St. Francis Indian 0
Clark/Willow Lake 61, Tri-State 6
Colome 54, Tripp-Delmont/Armour/Andes Central/Dakota Christian 6
Crawford, Neb. 58, Edgemont 28
Custer 35, Newcastle, Wyo. 6
Dakota Valley 49, Dell Rapids 32
Dell Rapids St. Mary 22, Estelline 8
Elk Point-Jefferson 27, McCook Central/Montrose 20, OT
Elkton-Lake Benton 43, Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 0
Garretson 21, Parker 16
Gregory 40, Parkston 0
Groton Area 20, Ellendale/Edgeley-Kulm, N.D. 0
Hamlin 46, Florence/Henry 6
Harding County 46, Lemmon/McIntosh 34
Harrisburg 24, Pierre 14
Hitchcock-Tulare 56, Sunshine Bible Academy 7
Hot Springs 24, Tri-Valley 14
Huron 49, Douglas 6
Ipswich/Edmunds Central 22, Northwestern 12
Irene-Wakonda 57, Hanson 12
Jones County/White River 22, Philip 13
Kadoka Area 36, Faith 20
Kimball/White Lake 24, Miller/Highmore-Harrold 6
Langford 55, Iroquois 0
Lennox 28, Vermillion 14
Lower Brule 56, Standing Rock, N.D. 6
Madison 20, Milbank Area 14, 2OT
Milnor-North Sargent, N.D. 44, Sisseton 16
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 58, Wagner 7
Potter County 44, Platte-Geddes 7

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Red Cloud 46, Pine Ridge 26
Scotland 60, Centerville 16
Sioux Falls Christian 39, Mobridge-Pollock 0
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 58, Aberdeen Central 14
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 48, Rapid City Stevens 19
Sioux Falls Washington 28, Brandon Valley 14
Tea Area 30, West Central 24
Timber Lake 58, Dupree 8
Tiospa Zina Tribal 58, Crazy Horse 0
Todd County 51, Crow Creek 0
Upton-Sundance, Wyo. 42, Lead-Deadwood 0
Viborg-Hurley 34, Menno/Marion 26
Wall 42, Lyman 20
Warner 18, Faulkton 16
Waverly-South Shore 36, Great Plains Lutheran 6
Webster 41, Deuel 12
Winner 50, Stanley County 7
Wolsey-Wessington 38, Bon Homme 36

Some high school football scores provided by Scorestream.com, <https://scorestream.com/>

Rapid City store to quit selling guns after burglaries

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The owner of a Rapid City sporting goods store says he will no longer sell guns after his business was burglarized for the second time in less than three years.

The Rapid City Journal reports burglars broke into The Rooster on Wednesday and stole 20 to 30 handguns.

Store owner Mike Cummings says he will sell his current stock of firearms but will not sell guns after that. Cummings says the incidents have been "frustrating" and selling the guns is "no longer worth the hassle."

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

Sioux Falls rail yard project hits snag with parking problem

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The developers of a \$70 million project to repurpose the downtown rail yard in Sioux Falls say they must rethink initial plans for underground parking because of extensive bedrock in the area.

The Black Iron Railyard project will replace the rail yard with a campus of mixed-use buildings, The Argus Leader reported.

Developers have hit a snag with the discovery of the bedrock and are re-evaluating plans, said Jim Wiederrich, an attorney who represents the developers.

"We'd rather you approve it when we know for sure what works," Wiederrich said.

City officials recently deferred a decision on the project's future.

City councilors must still approve a series of measures to allow the project to move forward. Measures include a \$2.6 million purchase agreement for the land and declaring the area surplus property.

David and Erika Billion proposed the project in July. The plan cleared preliminary readings in August but must still receive final approval. Their plan calls for a six-story building with space for offices and residential units. The first phase of the project is estimated to cost \$32 million, with construction of later phases lasting until 2030.

The Billion family also owns and operates a retail area and other properties in downtown.

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

Interim Yankton police chief takes over position full-time

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — Yankton's interim police chief has been given the job on a full-time basis. City Manager Amy Nelson recently announced that John Harris had accepted the position full-time, the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan reported. Harris replaces Brian Paulsen, who retired in June, Nelson said. "John indicated to me that he really loves Yankton and is enjoying getting to know the department and feels like he can create some really good change there," Nelson said.

Harris had retired from the profession after a lengthy career that spanned four states and more than 40 years. He said he originally had no intention to return to the field on a full-time basis, but he thinks he can make a positive difference in Yankton. Harris said he still loves the profession.

"I've been a police chief for over 21 years and I've been in four different states," Harris said. "This is one of the departments I hold right up at the top of any of the places I've been, seen or even looked at for other police agencies. I think what we have is an opportunity to create a major, positive difference for this whole community and internally inside the police department."

Dr. Wayne Kindle is the superintendent of the Yankton School District and was a member of the citizen's committee that helped with the search for the new chief. He said Harris has already handled multiple situations well during his time in the interim position.

"I can tell you with 100 percent confidence there was no doubt that he is a great person that knows what he needs to do as police chief," Kindle said.

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

Manure becoming a fast-growing industry

By PATRICK ANDERSON, Argus Leader

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — A giant brown cloud billowed from the back of a truck as a crowd of onlookers watched, some taking video as it settled into the earth.

Those recently gathered behind caution tape were either curious or prospecting, checking out an equipment demonstration for one of agriculture's fast-rising commodity.

A group of young friends from Iowa were so excited about the business potential of manure they were talking over each other, as if trying to share a secret the world was ignoring. The general public, for some reason, treats manure like waste.

Animal poop, yes. But not waste.

"It's gold," said Andy Mazurik, echoing one of his buddies.

The 20-year-old was not the first person to use the word "gold" to describe manure at the 2018 North American Manure Expo, a two-day event at the Swiftel Convention Center.

Language is a matter of context. And money talks.

The Argus Leader reports that as urbanites create the need for mass food production and ignore the industry's by-products, residents of rural America are embracing the untapped potential of the hundreds of millions of tons of animal waste produced each year by swine, cattle and poultry farms.

Like any volatile product, manure also demands caution. Created in vast quantities by large-scale livestock operations, problems with storage and transportation can be devastating and even fatal. Not to mention ripple effects with damaging consequences on an already dim public perception of manure and its source.

The goal of the expo — now in its 17th year — is to teach farmers about how to best harness the agricultural value of manure, but also to help them avoid the hazards of working with "black gold," said Anthony Bly, a soils field specialist for South Dakota State University Extension.

"Agriculture in my mind is really on the defensive a lot," Bly said. "We do want to be responsible for what we do."

South Dakota is home to 440 concentrated animal feeding operations, CAFOs for short. All are required to file permits with state officials and meet standards for handling the substantial amounts of manure produced by livestock.

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Between the cow and hog CAFOs in the state, there are 1.39 million animals, all producing manure in high quantities.

Spills from inadequate storage and transportation can mean days of clean-up and ruin neighboring properties.

Manure pits also cause significant risks to workers if safety precautions aren't followed. Brookings area farmer Jerry Nelson spent weeks in the hospital after climbing into his family farm's manure pit to try to unplug a pipe.

He nearly choked to death on the pool of hydrogen sulfide gas hovering just above the pit. Doctors told family he would likely die. He suffered a collapsed lung and damage to his peripheral vision because his brain had started to die, Nelson said.

"It strikes me how many farmers are vaguely aware that there are gasses in the manure pit," Nelson said. "But they're not aware of how dangerous or how quickly it can kill or injure."

Mazurik attended the expo to get ideas and analyze equipment options for a business venture.

The 20-year-old and his friends are planning to start a manure hauling and application business near their home in Eldora, Iowa, after witnessing the economic benefits for nearby farmers.

With the ambition of Silicon Valley-type entrepreneurs, they described manure as an untapped market.

"It's organic," Mazurik said. "You can't beat organic."

Demand for manure has increased with skyrocketing costs of chemical fertilizer. Widely used chemical fertilizers such as nitrogen-rich anhydrous ammonia have doubled, tripled and even quadrupled in price in the last couple of decades, depending on the fertilizer

If applied correctly, manure can supply the nitrogen and phosphate cash crops need to flourish, along with offering other benefits for the soil.

A fast-rising market is creating new resources and leading to the development of new technology as farmers abandon old perceptions and embrace manure as a valuable commodity.

Peter Bakken runs a beef operation west of Luverne, Minnesota, on the same property his dad owned and operated when he was a child.

Other farmers covet his manure — they started coming by and making offers. He's already been selling and applying it, he just wants to learn more about how to streamline an already lucrative piece of his business.

"I've got something of significant value," Bakken said.

Manure production and sales is a boon for the regional economy, Bly said. Instead of sending ag dollars out of the area to the giant manufacturers of chemical fertilizer, manure is made and produced locally.

"The animal operators that produce a lot of manure, we get to keep that," Bly said.

Bakken and his brother run the farm now, but they both grew up working for their dad. Manure was considered mostly as a by-product of the herd.

"When I was growing up we didn't realize the value as much as we have today," Bakken said.

Farmers pivoted to relying heavily on chemicals on their crops in the 1950s and 1960s. Chemical fertilizer became significantly cheaper around that time, said Linda Schott, a graduate student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"They started treating manure like a waste product," Schott said.

Manure sat on hills and in pits for decades, spread on fields maybe, but largely as a second-class citizen to the cheaper and more targeted chemical fertilizers that allow farmers to blend the mixture of plant nutrients to their desired ratios.

But the rising costs of chemical fertilizers, along with developments in science have allowed farmers to regain respect for manure and more effectively put it to work.

"Technology has brought us a long way," Mazurik said.

Community effort, work put Wagner Speedway back in business

By SAM FOSNESS, The Daily Republic

WAGNER, S.D. (AP) — The Wagner Speedway has survived some tough years, but Rod Pattison has Friday nights in the small town roaring once again.

The 3/8-mile dirt track that was once frowned upon in Wagner has regained the town's trust, thanks in large part to Pattison engaging with the community and looking for ways to give back since he rejoined the speedway two years ago.

"I'll make no bones about it, this track was not very well received by the community a number of years ago because of some outside people that promised the community things and never fulfilled their end of the bargain," said Pattison, while he counted a strip of 50-50 tickets for a fan who brought a sack full of canned foods for Horsepower for Hunger Night.

The Daily Republic reports that the track met its worst day in 1997 when vandals burned the press box of the Wagner Speedway to ashes. As time went on and new owners came into the mix, the track was losing fan support due to the lack of community involvement from outside shareholders.

"Some of the previous outside people involved only cared about themselves and making money to line their pockets," said Pattison, who has worked to find ways of giving back to Wagner.

Organizing the Horsepower for Hunger Night is one of many ways Pattison and the Wagner Speedway have been impacting the community and giving back. Fans who bring nonperishable food items to a race that night will receive 50-50 tickets and opportunities to win chamber bucks.

As Wagner resident Mark Ober walks up to the ticket booth with a sack full of canned goods before entering the speedway for a Friday night race, Pattison exchanges a laugh and a handshake with the local race fan.

"The track is run by a bunch of good people that know what they're doing, but it never used to be this way," said Ober, glancing at the hobby stock cars zipping by during warm-ups. "Thanks to Rod, I don't have to drive to Sioux Falls to watch sprint car racers anymore."

Ober, an avid local race fan, has seen the track at its lowest of lows. But weathering the storm was well worth it to Ober, as he said Pattison and Wagner Speedway owner Lynn Fischer have the track looking better than ever before. Fischer has a deeply rooted background in racing and took over the majority of the speedway operations in 2007. The track struggled during Fischer's early years, but his passion for racing kept him determined to revive the speedway.

"Since the Fischer family came on board, the track got better and better each year. But when they brought Rod back two years ago, things really started to take off," Ober said.

While Pattison joined the Wagner Speedway 10 years ago as the announcer, health concerns prompted him to take two years off in 2014 with no intention of coming back.

In 2016, the track closed for the season after a decade of struggling to turn a profit. The owners were faced with the difficult decision of whether or not to invest more in the speedway.

Invest it was. The owners upgraded the speedway that summer, building a new set of bleachers and installing new lights and light poles.

"Getting Rod back was incredibly huge for the track," said Fischer, who raced throughout his whole life. "He is exceptional at communicating with the other tracks, and he is also exceptional at bringing enthusiasm to our track."

Perhaps the most important upgrade the speedway made that year was approaching Pattison, convincing him to come back to the track. Only this time with much more responsibility.

"I kind of do a little bit of everything around here, and I love it. Racing is a brotherhood," said Pattison, who is the speedway's marketing coordinator, public relations specialist, ticket handler and announcer.

From a fan's perspective, Ober said the renovations have been great.

"I love racing, and we are lucky to have this nice of a track in the community. And people are starting to see the potential of the speedway," Ober added.

With his experience as a former raceway announcer at the sprint car capital of the world, the Knoxville

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Raceway, Pattison used his ties to make one of the biggest improvements in the raceway's history: lighting the Wagner Speedway track with the same lights that lit the track legendary racers Tony Stewart and Kasey Kahne raced on in Knoxville, Iowa. The iconic raceway replaced its lights with a new set two years ago, and a friend of Pattison who helps run the Knoxville Raceway gifted the old lights to the Wagner Speedway, which now shine bright on the race cars whipping around the dirt track.

"On a national scale, dirt track racing is on a decline, but Wagner Speedway is unique in the fact that we are growing," Pattison said. "This is a very expensive sport to be a part of, but it is one big family."

The Wagner Speedway added two new classes in 2017, the Nebraska 360 sprint car series and 305 sprint car series.

Before Pattison, there were no food drives, donations and benefits. The impact he has on the Wagner community, especially in the past two years, has clearly been felt.

Mike Frei, president of Commercial State Bank in Wagner, said the wet summer that area farmers have been battling has hurt the overall economy of the town, but the weekly activity at the speedway has revved up the community this year.

The speedway is helping attract fans and drivers to the small town, which helps diners and local gas stations see a nice boost in revenue, according to Frei.

"The recreation that Wagner offers to the community has been helping balance our economy this year, and the Wagner Speedway is a big part of that," Frei said.

According to Pattison, the Wagner Speedway brought 19,000 total people at the end of last year's season, which saw a total of 14 races.

"Small-town South Dakota is looking for people to come to their town, and we are bringing 19,000 to a community of 1,500 people," Pattison said. "Whether it's gas station stops, or dining and hotel reservations, the community is economically benefiting from the speedway."

While two raceways in southeastern South Dakota shutdown their tracks within the past two years, Wagner Speedway is bucking the trend. The former Huset's Speedway — most recently known as Badlands Speedway — was shut down in 2017. In Huron, the Dakota State Fair Speedway didn't race in 2018, after the previous promoter retired and a replacement couldn't come aboard.

"We wanted to try and capitalize on those tracks closing, and it's working," Fischer said.

Although the speedway brings in racers from neighboring states, the majority of the racers are in-state or locals, according to Pattison.

Clifford Houser, a Kimball street stock racer who grew up watching his father race, said he came back this year because of how well the track felt during his first time racing on it in the 2017 season.

"I love the track, and it's a fast track that allows me to keep following my hobby," said Houser, after climbing out of his streetcar style racer speckled in mud. "The strong fan support makes it that much better."

Driving down from his hometown of Madison, Matt Goth and his father scrape the globs of mud off his hobby stock race car after his warm up round.

"It's a hobby that connects my dad and I, and we love coming down here to race" said Goth, who helps his father scrape mud off his race car. "The track is very well kept, and I plan to keep on racing down here."

Aside from the new sprint car classes, this year's regular season races included dirt late models, pro stocks, B-Mods, hobby stocks and B-Buzzer and Wisconsin super stocks.

The 2018 season brought about the most racing classes in the speedway's history, with a total of seven racing classes this season.

The energy level is high heading into the latter half of the season, which wraps up Sept. 8. The season kicked off May 5, but experienced nine race cancellations due to the heavy moisture the Wagner area has been dealing with all summer.

Despite the elements, the Wagner Speedway rumbles on.

"We are committed to this race track, and we are going to keep the racing tradition alive in South Dakota," Pattison said.

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SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

01-06-13-18-49, Mega Ball: 8, Megaplier: 2

(one, six, thirteen, eighteen, forty-nine; Mega Ball: eight; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$118 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$70 million

Iowa State suspends 4 freshmen indefinitely

AMES, Iowa (AP) — Iowa State coach Matt Campbell suspended four freshmen indefinitely Friday for what he described as “multiple incidents of poor choices and behavior.”

Newcomers Tayvonn Kyle, Jaeveyon Morton, Joseph Scates and Dallas Taylor-Cortez won't be involved in team activities or have access to Iowa State's athletic facilities during their suspensions, which Campbell said were based a pattern of conduct rather than a single incident. All four will have access to the program's academic facilities.

Campbell said that the Cyclones “have worked diligently to develop a culture of accountability in our program” and the freshmen failed to live up to those expectations. None is expected to play a key role on the team this season.

Iowa State opens the season at home against South Dakota State on Sept. 1.

Feds confirm 507 people sick after eating McDonald's salad

CHICAGO (AP) — Federal health officials say they've confirmed more than 500 cases of people who became sick with an intestinal illness after eating McDonald's salads.

The illnesses reported earlier this year are linked to the cyclospora parasite, which can cause diarrhea, intestinal pain, nausea or fatigue. The Food and Drug Administration said Friday that 507 cases have been confirmed in 15 states and New York City.

McDonald's stopped the sale of salads at 3,000 restaurants last month until it could find a different supplier. The FDA says it's still investigating the supplier of romaine lettuce and carrots.

States with cases include: Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Officials also said people sickened in Connecticut, Florida, New York City, Tennessee, and Virginia had traveled in Illinois and Kentucky.

36 dead animals found during search of yet-to-open pet store

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Animal control officers acting on an anonymous complaint found 36 dead animals and squalid conditions at a Rapid City pet store that hadn't yet opened for business, authorities said.

Rapid City police investigated Pitter Patter Pet Store on Aug. 16 and seized 90 living animals, including dogs, cats, fish, birds, hamsters, guinea pigs, spiders and a chinchilla, The Rapid City Journal reported .

The owner, who was present during the investigation, could face charges that carry potential fines and jail time. Charges could include multiple counts of inhumane treatment, violating city ordinance on care and treatment of animals and violating city ordinance on maintaining places where animals are kept, said Darrell Shoemaker, a city spokesman.

Kelsey Harty, an officer with Animal Services and Enforcement, said investigators had to wear masks because of the smell.

“There was material laying around that was not safe for the animals,” she said. “The cages were ex-

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tremely dirty. Lots of feces and urine and many of the animals did not have food or water. The smell was the pretty big thing.”

The pet store had not yet taken the steps needed to open as a business, Shoemaker said.

“The city had not been approached for any licensing or other opportunity of a kennel or pet store or anything,” he said.

The animals that were seized are being cared for at either Reptile Gardens or the Humane Society of the Black Hills.

“None of the animals have died in our care,” Harty said.

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

Judge rules Dakota Access developer can't sue Earth First

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A federal judge has dismissed a second defendant from a \$1 billion racketeering lawsuit that the developer of the Dakota Access oil pipeline filed against environmental groups, leaving Greenpeace as the only remaining group facing the claim.

Texas-based Energy Transfer Partners failed to make a case that Earth First is an entity that can be sued, U.S. District Judge Billy Roy Wilson said in a ruling dated Wednesday.

The Center for Constitutional Rights had argued that Earth First is a philosophy or movement similar to Black Lives Matter, and thus can't be sued. ETP unsuccessfully tried to serve the lawsuit to Florida-based Earth First Journal, which argued that it wasn't the same as the movement.

Wilson said that rather than clarifying the matter, an amended complaint filed by ETP earlier this month was “wholly insufficient” in advancing its case under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act that Earth First “allegedly provided hundreds of thousands of dollars to fund an international terrorist, drug-smuggling RICO enterprise.”

Center for Constitutional Rights attorney Pamela Spees applauded the ruling, calling the lawsuit “far-fetched.” ETP officials have said the company doesn't comment on active litigation.

ETP sued Earth First, BankTrack and Greenpeace last August, alleging that they worked to undermine the \$3.8 billion pipeline that's now shipping North Dakota oil to a distribution point in Illinois. Opposition to the pipeline by groups and American Indian tribes who feared environmental harm inspired large protests in southern North Dakota and resulted in 761 arrests over a six-month span in late 2016 and early 2017.

Last month, Wilson ruled that the company had no claim against BankTrack. The Dutch environmental group had urged banks not to finance the pipeline, which Wilson concluded did not amount to radical ecoterrorism.

Wilson gave Greenpeace until Sept. 4 to file its response to ETP's amended complaint, which added five individual defendants: a man who is allegedly affiliated with Greenpeace, two Iowa women who have publicly claimed to have vandalized the pipeline, and two people associated with the Red Warrior Camp, a protest group alleged to have advocated aggressive tactics such as arson. There are also 20 unnamed defendants listed as John or Jane Does. Wilson on Wednesday gave company attorneys 30 days to identify them or have them dismissed as defendants.

Follow Blake Nicholson on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/NicholsonBlake>

Celtics' Kyrie Irving honored by mother's Sioux tribe

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

FORT YATES, N.D. (AP) — Standing on a bison pelt, Boston Celtics star Kyrie Irving was smudged with sacred grasses, presented with traditional quilts and eagle feathers and given a Lakota name that means “Little Mountain” as he was welcomed Thursday into his mother's Standing Rock Sioux tribe.

The All-Star guard and his sister, model Asia Irving, visited the tribe's reservation that straddles the

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North Dakota-South Dakota border for a daylong celebration recognizing their tribal heritage and support for the tribe's long battle against the Dakota Access oil pipeline.

In front of a packed auditorium, they were honored with Lakota names during a ritual that tribal spokeswoman Danielle Finn said "is a very special rite of passage for a Lakota person."

Kyrie Irving's Lakota name, Hela, is roughly pronounced (HAY'-law) and means "Little Mountain." Asia Irving's name, Tatanka Winyan, (tuh-TONG'-kuh WEE'-yun) means "Buffalo Woman." Both are associated with their White Mountain family.

The Irvings' late mother, Elizabeth Ann Larson, was a member of the tribe and lived on the reservation until her adoption at a young age. Their late grandmother and great-grandparents also have ties to the reservation.

The siblings were greeted by hordes of fans, many wearing green T-shirts with the Standing Rock Sioux seal, Kyrie Irving's uniform number, 11, and the words "Welcome Home Kyrie Irving."

"It truly is a good day for Standing Rock," tribal Chairman Mike Faith said, turning to the Irvings. "For you two, welcome home."

Many in the crowd, including Char White Mountain, consider the siblings to be part of their family.

"We want him to know who his relatives are," she said. "We definitely don't want him to think we're people using him for his money. He's family."

Jewel Felix, who considers Kyrie Irving her nephew, said she became emotional when she heard he was coming.

"I started crying," she said. "I can't believe it's happening."

The feeling was apparently mutual.

"This is finally meeting my mom's family in their home. ... This is family for me now," Kyrie Irving said, calling it "a very special day."

Todd Giroux, a 14-year-old high school junior and point guard for the Standing Rock basketball team, said Irving became his hero when the star gave him an autograph at a Celtics game against the Timberwolves in Minneapolis. Giroux came to Thursday's event wearing an Irving jersey.

"It's amazing," he said, adding "it makes it even cooler" that Irving in late 2016 expressed support on Twitter for tribal efforts to lead the battle against the pipeline, which opponents believe threatens the tribe's Missouri River water supply. Thousands of people traveled to the reservation area in 2016 and 2017 to protest, with hundreds being arrested. The pipeline began operating in June 2017, but the Standing Rock tribe is leading a court battle to try to shut it down.

Kyrie Irving discussed his Sioux heritage during a January 2017 interview with ESPN, saying "there's a home connection" with the tribe's pipeline struggles and that he wanted to have a legacy outside of basketball. Irving this year asked Nike to put Standing Rock's seal on a new sneaker. He also has a tattoo of the Standing Rock logo on his neck. Thursday's visit left him with an even greater appreciation of his roots.

"I had no idea how inclusive this group is and what it means to be part of Standing Rock, be part of the united Sioux nation," he said.

Irving, who won an NBA championship with the Cleveland Cavaliers in 2016, was born in Australia and grew up in West Orange, New Jersey. He played one season at Duke University before joining the Cavaliers as the first overall pick in the 2011 NBA Draft.

Follow Blake Nicholson on Twitter at: <https://twitter.com/NicholsonBlake>

4 plead not guilty in alleged Watertown drug conspiracy

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Three men and one woman from Watertown are charged in an alleged conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine.

The U.S. attorney's office says 35-year-old Amos Hall, 28-year-old Dayvon Byrd, 39-year-old Danny Calahan and 30-year-old Alexis Dumarce all have pleaded not guilty.

They each face at least 10 years in federal prison and a maximum of life behind bars if convicted. Trial is scheduled for late August.

The conspiracy is alleged to have happened between last November and this past February.

2 suspects in fatal Rapid City shooting now charged

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Two suspects linked to an Aug. 17 shooting in Rapid City that left a man dead have been charged, one as a juvenile and the other as an adult.

The Rapid City Journal reports that the 16-year-old male suspect has been charged as an adult due to the severity of the charges against him — aiding and abetting second-degree murder and aggravated assault. However, his attorney could request that his client be moved back to juvenile court, where proceedings are not public.

The other suspect is a 14-year-old boy. For now, he's being tried in juvenile court, but prosecutors could seek to have him moved to adult court.

Police say 43-year-old Nathan Graham was shot after a fight. He was declared dead the next day at a hospital.

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

Police: Grandparents scam nets another victim

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Police say a Sioux Falls woman has lost \$18,000 in a scam targeting grandparents.

Spokesman Sam Clemens says the 79-year-old woman got a phone call from someone saying her grandson had been in an accident in another state and needed money. The woman sent \$18,000 to the scammers before realizing she had been swindled.

The Argus Leader reports the "grandparent scam" has been an ongoing problem in Sioux Falls. One grandmother forked over \$4,000 in Best Buy gift cards in an effort to get her granddaughter out of jail before realizing it was a scam. Another woman lost \$10,000 to scammers pretending to be law enforcement holding her grandson in custody.

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

Democrats seek deal on insiders' role in picking nominee

By **BILL BARROW** and **SARA BURNETT**, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Democrats are on the cusp of overhauling how they pick a White House nominee, but not without one final public fight over whether to curtail the high-profile role played by party insiders, a major source of ill will in the 2016 race.

The decision expected later Saturday was seen as the latest test of party unity as Democrats try to close the internal divisions exposed by the battle between eventual nominee Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, and turn their attention to the November elections, with control of Congress at stake, and the presidential contest in 2020, when President Donald Trump would be up for a second term.

Backers of the Vermont senator accused national party leaders of tipping the scales for Clinton in the last election.

At issue is the influence of superdelegates, the hundreds of Democratic National Committee members, elected officials and party elders.

The DNC chairman, Tom Perez, is pushing to strip these insiders of their presidential nominating votes at a contested convention in 2020. That would leave first ballot votes to a candidate's pledged delegates, as determined by the outcomes of state primaries and caucuses.

Under the proposal, superdelegates could vote on any subsequent ballots if it took multiple rounds to

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pick a nominee.

"I'm confident tomorrow that we are going to move forward united with a very clear message to voters: 'We're here to grow the party. We're here to earn your trust,'" Perez told activists Friday after DNC had spent hours in private debating the changes.

The plan, resulting from two years of negotiations, has pitted Perez against at least two previous party heads; Don Fowler, who led the DNC under President Bill Clinton, and Donna Brazile, who took the reins in the closing months of the 2016 election.

Fowler said he was trying to gather opposition votes as he aims to use procedural measures to delay a final vote until a future DNC meeting.

The chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, Rep. Cedric Richmond of Louisiana, also has expressed opposition.

In 2016, and for decades prior, superdelegates not pledged to a specific candidate were free to vote however they pleased at the convention. Two years ago, they represented up to 15 percent of all convention delegates, and they overwhelmingly favored Clinton.

She came into the convention with a clear lead in pledged delegates, having won almost 4 million more votes than Sanders in the preceding months. That means superdelegates did not upend the popular vote result. Still, critics of the superdelegate structure noted that several hundred among this group had announced their intentions long before the convention, giving Clinton an edge.

Christine Pelosi, a DNC member from California who backed Clinton but supports scrapping superdelegates, recalled media coverage of Sanders' big victory in the New Hampshire primary being colored by Clinton having unpledged delegate support in the state.

"Sanders went to bed ahead, and he woke up effectively tied" in the delegate count, Pelosi said. "That's not a 'perception.' That's a reality."

Other DNC members expressed resentment over being portrayed as party bosses dictating outcomes to voters.

"I ran for my position, it's not like I was anointed from on high," said Nikema Williams, vice chairwoman of the Georgia Democratic Party. While former presidents and members of Congress are superdelegates, Williams noted that most of the rest "are people who day in and day out work for the party without fanfare."

Perez, she argued, "is trying to correct a perception problem with a huge change that's not needed."

Some Democrats wonder whether this fight could be for naught. Dozens of potential candidates are considering the race in 2020, and it may not come down to a two-person contest. That could mean having three or more candidates splitting pledged delegates going to into a convention and requiring a second ballot.

"Yes, we could end up right back where we started" with superdelegates, said Washington state's chairwoman, Tina Podlodowski.

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

'Don't let your guard down,' federal officials tell Hawaii

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER and AUDREY McAVOY, Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Federal officials said Saturday that torrential rains are now the biggest threat to Hawaii after a once-powerful hurricane that threatened the island state was downgraded to a tropical storm, and they urged people to continue to take the storm seriously.

"Today's message to the citizens of Hawaii is don't let your guard down," Brock Long, administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, said during a telephone briefing in Washington.

"Tropical storms can be very dangerous and Hawaii is not in the clear from Tropical Storm Lane at this point," he said.

Several more days of rain are in the forecast, Long said. He said the biggest effects so far have been on

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transportation, due to mudslides and other damage to the transportation infrastructure, mostly in Hawaii County on the Big Island.

"The rainfall event is not over," Long said. "Torrential rains will be the largest threat that we see for the next 48 hours."

The agency isn't letting its guard down, either, Long said, adding that officials continue to "communicate very closely" with counterparts at the state and local levels.

"We are standing by to continue our support for the response and eventually the recovery efforts that are taking place," he said.

Lane roared toward the island chain early this past week as a Category 5 on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. That meant it was likely to cause catastrophic damage with winds 157 mph (252 kph) or above.

But upper-level winds known as shear swiftly tore the storm apart. By late Friday, the National Weather Service said Lane had maximum sustained winds of 70 mph (110 mph) as it slowly twisted west about 120 miles (240 km) south of Honolulu.

The outer bands of the hurricane dumped as much as 3 feet (1 meter) of rain in 48 hours on the mostly rural Big Island. The main town of Hilo, population 43,000, was flooded Friday with waist-high water as landslides shut down roads.

Officials with the Department of Land and Natural Resources transferred about 2,000 rare Hawaiian snails from a mountain marsh to offices in downtown Honolulu on Oahu, the state's most populated island. Some of the snails are the last of their kind.

As flooding hit the Big Island, brush fires broke out in areas of Maui and Oahu susceptible to flames.

Some residents in a shelter on Maui had to flee when a fire got too close, and another fire forced people from their homes.

A man posted a video on Instagram showing flames several stories high starting to envelop parked cars. Josh Galinato said he was trying to sleep when he smelled smoke in his apartment in the tourist town of Lahaina.

"I opened up my front door, and I just saw the fire spreading and coming downhill," Galinato said. He and neighbors honked horns to alert others.

In Waikiki, the man-made Ala Wai Canal was likely to flood if predicted rains arrive, said Ray Alexander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The canal marks the northern boundary of the Waikiki tourist district.

"The canal has flooded in the past, and I believe it's safe to say based on the forecast of rainfall it's likely to flood again — the impacts of which we aren't prepared to say at this time," Alexander said.

Major flooding could damage 3,000 structures and cost more than \$1 billion in repairs, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser newspaper reported, citing Corps estimates.

Not everyone feared the storm.

Swimmers and surfers ignored warnings from authorities and plunged into powerful waves at Oahu's famed Waikiki Beach, which was closed.

Emergency officials said repeatedly over loudspeakers: "Please get out of the water! It's very dangerous!" Honolulu's mayor, Kirk Caldwell, pleaded with tourists that they were putting themselves in danger as the storm churned closer.

Crystal Bowden, a tourist from California, watched powerful waves crash against cliffs on Oahu's south-east coast.

"I came in to visit, got here just in time for the hurricane," Bowden said. "We're kind of excited."

The American Red Cross said more than 1,100 people were staying in shelters, mostly in Oahu. And while the number was down from earlier reports of approximately 2,000 people in shelters, officials said Saturday that the figure shows that a lot of people are still displaced.

The central Pacific gets fewer hurricanes than other regions, with only about 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.

Associated Press writers Brian Skoloff and Caleb Jones in Honolulu, Mark Thiessen and Dan Joling in

Anchorage, Alaska, Colleen Long and Darlene Superville in Washington and Alina Hartounian and Annika Wolters in Phoenix contributed to this report

Volunteers re-enact World War I encampment in Verdun, France

By SYLVIE CORBET, Associated Press

VERDUN, France (AP) — Hundreds of volunteers from 18 countries gathered in the northeastern French town of Verdun on Saturday to keep alive the memory of those who fought under appalling conditions in World War I.

Re-enactors dressed in soldiers' uniforms brought to life a big military encampment in the town and were holding a military parade, part of a series of events to mark the centenary of the end of the war.

Visitors could visualize soldiers' daily life during the war through the reconstruction of field kitchens, First Aid posts and command posts.

Soldiers in khaki, grey or blue uniforms, depending on the country, and women wearing Red Cross nurses uniforms were presenting authentic objects and equipment from the 1914-1918 war.

Other volunteers were dispatched on key battlefield areas around Verdun. They didn't re-enact any fighting out of respect for the sites, which have since become a symbol of peace.

Instead, German and Polish volunteers were sharing tips about military clothes and historic anecdotes with their French, Australian and English neighbors at the encampment.

The 10-month battle at Verdun — the longest in World War I — killed 163,000 French and 143,000 German soldiers and wounded hundreds of thousands of others. Between February and December 1916, an estimated 60 million shells were fired. Entire villages were destroyed and never rebuilt.

The former battlefield still holds millions of unexploded shells, so that housing and farming are still forbidden in some areas.

Dozens of heads of state and government, including U.S. President Donald Trump, are expected in Paris to commemorate the Armistice that ended the war on Nov. 11.

World War I remembrance sites and museums have seen a strong increase in tourist numbers in recent years, boosted by the commemorations of the centenary. More than 1 million visitors were counted on the five main sites in and around Verdun in 2016, the year of the 100th anniversary of the battle.

Celine Guillin, visiting Verdun with her 8-year-old son, said the recreated encampment allowed visitors to be "very conscious of the hardness of life during the Great War. It was hard on soldiers, but also on their wives, their whole family."

She pointed at a poster urging French women and children to work in the fields during the summer of 1914.

Jacob Withoos, 19, came from Australia as a volunteer within a group of 12 men.

"The main importance there is the remembrance," he said. "War is never a good thing and we must ensure it doesn't happen again. It's great to have things like this so we can remember the men who sacrificed themselves in order to preserve freedom, and definitively ensure it doesn't happen again to any future generation."

French volunteer Michel Pascal said "this is modern history. We must not forget what we've been through." Pascal was in charge of presenting an American corner in the encampment — composed of a small tent for two men, a backpack including mess tin and cutlery and a bayonet.

Caroline Hecquet, a volunteer from northern France, stressed all countries involved in World War I share a "common suffering."

"Historical memory is in books: strategies, battles, great generals ... But the memory of local people, it is fading," she said. "People don't know any more how objects were used, how clothes looked like. That's what we want to pass on."

Pope in Ireland vows to end cover-up of clergy sex abuse

By NICOLE WINFIELD and MARIA GRAZIA MURRU, Associated Press

DUBLIN (AP) — Pope Francis declared Saturday as he arrived in Ireland that he shares the outrage of rank-and-file Catholics over the cover-up of the “repugnant crimes” of priests who raped and molested children, and vowed that he was committed to ending the “scourge.”

Seeking to respond to a global outcry over sex abuse by priests, Francis cited measures taken by his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI, to respond to the crisis. But Benedict never acknowledged the Vatican’s role in fueling a culture of cover-up, and Francis provided no new details of any measures he would take to sanction bishops who fail to protect their flocks from predator priests.

“The failure of ecclesial authorities — bishops, religious superiors, priests and others — to adequately address these repugnant crimes has rightly given rise to outrage, and remains a source of pain and shame for the Catholic community. I myself share these sentiments,” the pope said in a speech to government officials and civil authorities at Dublin Castle.

Francis said he was committed to ridding the church of this “scourge” no matter the moral cost or amount of suffering.

Francis’ trip to Ireland, the first by a pope in 39 years, has been overshadowed by renewed outrage over the Catholic Church’s systemic failures to protect children, following revelations of sexual misconduct and cover-up in the U.S. church hierarchy, a growing crisis in Chile and the prosecutions of top clerics in Australia and France.

Francis was expected to meet with abuse victims during his 36-hour visit to Ireland. But neither his words at the start of his visit nor a new meeting with victims is likely to assuage demands for heads to roll over the sex abuse scandal.

“Disappointing, nothing new,” was the reaction from Irish abuse survivor Marie Collins, a former member of Francis’ sex abuse advisory panel who quit last year in frustration.

Perhaps in an indication of similar sentiments, the reception Francis received in Dublin contrasted sharply with the raucous, rock star welcome that greeted St. John Paul II in 1979. No one from the public was at the airport or the roads nearby, though by late afternoon crowds had started to grow outside Dublin’s cathedral, basking in gloriously sunny weekend weather.

Deeply Catholic Ireland has had one of the world’s worst records of clergy sex abuse, crimes that were revealed to its 4.8 million people over the past decade by a series of government-mandated inquiries. The reviews concluded that thousands of children were raped and molested by priests or physically abused in church-run schools and bishops worked for years to hide those crimes.

After the Irish church atoned for its past and enacted tough new norms to fight abuse, it had been looking to the first visit by a pope in 40 years to show a different, more caring church that understands the problems of ordinary Catholic families.

More than 37,000 people — most of them young Catholics — signed up to attend a Vatican-sponsored World Meeting of Families that ends Sunday in Dublin, more than twice the number as a previous family rally in Philadelphia three years ago.

And many faithful did remain hopeful that Francis’ appearance would bring healing.

“I see a lot of new life amongst young people who have a deep committed faith, Catholic faith,” said Sean Ascogh, a churchgoer in Blessington southwest of Dublin. “Obviously, they are very disappointed by what has been happening in the church in the last few years, particularly the whole abuse scandals, but I think people can see beyond that.”

Francis urged the Irish to do just that, to recognize that for all its failings, the Catholic Church has educated and cared for generations of Irish children in times of famine and great poverty, when no one else would.

“The church in Ireland, past and present, has played a role in the welfare of children that cannot be obscured,” the pope said. “It is my hope that the gravity of the abuse scandals, which have cast light on the failings of so many, will serve to emphasize the importance of the protection of minors and vulnerable adults on the part of society as a whole.”

Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar concurred, saying the church stepped in to care for Irish children when

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the state did not. But in his speech to the pope at Dublin Castle, he said both church and state had a history of "sorrow and shame," and he urged the pope to ensure that victims of sex abuse find "justice and truth and healing."

Varadkar cited the recent Pennsylvania grand jury report, which found 300 priests had abused more than 1,000 children over 70 years in six dioceses, in urging Francis "ensure that from words flow actions."

"In recent weeks, we have all listened to heart-breaking stories from Pennsylvania of brutal crimes perpetrated by people within the Catholic Church, and then obscured to protect the institution at the expense of innocent victims," Varadkar said. "It's a story all too tragically familiar here in Ireland."

Indeed, Ireland's tortured history of abuse has left its mark.

In a country where Catholic bishops held such sway that they advised the drafters of the republic's constitution in the 1930s, voters in recent years have turned their backs on core Catholic teachings. They have overturned a constitutional ban on abortion and legalized divorce, contraception, previously banned homosexual acts and same-sex marriage.

Irish abuse victims and their supporters were to hold a solidarity rally Sunday in Dublin at the same time Francis is celebrating his final Mass to close out the rally.

Separately, survivors of Ireland's wretched "mother and baby homes" — where children were exiled for the shame of having been born to unwed mothers — are holding their own demonstration Sunday. The location is Tuam, site of a mass grave of hundreds of babies who died over the years at a church-run home.

Francis will be nearby, visiting the Marian shrine at Knock, but has no plans to visit the grave site.

In his inaugural speech, Francis referred euphemistically to the plight of Irish women who were forced for generations to work in laundries or other workhouses because they got pregnant outside of marriage. But he said only that they and their children, who were sent to orphanages, "endured particularly difficult situations."

When John Paul visited Ireland in 1979, in the first-ever papal visit, some 1.25 million people turned out for his inaugural Mass in Phoenix Park, a third of the country's population and the largest gathering in Irish history at the time. About half as many are expected Sunday for Francis.

AP video journalist Luigi Navarra contributed.

Money and loyalty: A look inside dramatic Trump-Cohen rift

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — For Michael Cohen and Donald Trump, it's always been about money and loyalty.

Those were guiding principles for Cohen when he served as more than just a lawyer for Trump during the developer's rise from celebrity to president-elect. Cohen brokered deals for the Trump Organization, profited handsomely from a side venture into New York City's real estate and taxi industries and worked to make unflattering stories about Trump disappear.

Money and loyalty also drove Cohen to make guilty pleas this past week in a spinoff from the swirling investigations battering the Trump White House.

Feeling abandoned by Trump and in dire financial straits, the man who once famously declared that he would "take a bullet" for Trump now is pledging loyalty to his own family and actively seeking to cooperate with special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation.

The unraveling of their relationship was laid bare Tuesday when Cohen pleaded guilty to eight criminal charges and said in federal court that he broke campaign finance laws as part of a cover-up operation that Trump had directed.

In the days after Cohen's guilty plea, two close associates — the magazine boss who helped him squash bad stories and the top financial man at the president's business — have been granted immunity for their cooperation. These moves could have a ripple effect on the legal fortunes of Cohen and, perhaps, Trump.

For years, Cohen was a fixture in Trump's orbit.

Working alongside Trump and Trump's three adult children — Don Jr., Ivanka, Eric — in Trump Tower,

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Cohen took on a number of roles for the developer, including emissary for projects in foreign capitals and enforcer of Trump's will. At times a bully for a family-run business, Cohen was known for his hot temper as he strong-armed city workers, reluctant business partners and reporters.

He was there in the lobby of Trump Tower in June 2015 when his boss descended an escalator and changed history by declaring his candidacy for president. But Cohen's place in Trump's political life ended up being peripheral.

Cohen did become a reliable surrogate on cable TV — he created a viral moment by repeating "Says who?" when told Trump was down in the polls — and founded the candidate's faith-based organization. But Cohen was never given a prominent spot in the campaign.

And despite telling confidants that he thought he had a shot at White House chief of staff after the election, Cohen was never given a West Wing job. He remained in New York when Trump moved to Washington.

Cohen found ways to profit from the arrangement, making millions from corporations by selling access to Trump, but felt adrift and isolated from Trump, according to two people familiar with his thinking who spoke on condition of anonymity because but not authorized to discuss private conversations.

But early one April morning, more than three dozen federal agents raided Cohen's home, office and hotel room.

A chief focus for investigators was Cohen's role in making payments during Trump's campaign to women who claimed they had sex with Trump, and whether campaign finance laws were violated. In the fall of 2016, weeks before the election, Cohen had set up a limited liability company in Delaware to hide the deal he made to silence the pornographic film actress Stormy Daniels about an affair she said she had with Trump.

Worry grew within the White House about what had been seized. That April day, Trump berated the raid as "an attack on all we stand for." But then, in a "Fox & Friends" interview, Trump began to dramatically play down his relationship with Cohen.

"I have nothing to do with his business," Trump said, asserting that Cohen was just one of many lawyers and was responsible for "a tiny, tiny fraction" of Trump's legal work.

A dispute soon broke out between Cohen and Trump over who would pay the former fixer's mounting legal bills. Holed up in a Park Avenue hotel after his apartment flooded, Cohen began to worry about his financial future, according to the two people.

By all appearances, Cohen's lifestyle was lavish.

He bought a \$6.7 million Manhattan apartment last fall, though the sale didn't close until April and no one could move in until the summer. With bills piling up for his team of expensive lawyers, the suddenly unemployed Cohen began to tell confidants that he was worried about his job prospects and ability to support his family.

Meanwhile, the broadsides from the White House kept coming.

Trump and Cohen had long stopped speaking, but word would get back to the lawyer that the president was belittling him. The president's attorney and frequent attack dog Rudy Giuliani went from calling Cohen "an honest, honorable lawyer" in May to deriding him as a "pathological liar" in July.

Cohen began wondering to friends whether loyalty with Trump had become a one-way street, the people said.

Eager to hit back and attempt to regain some hold on the story, Cohen hired Lanny Davis, a former Bill Clinton attorney, to be his public relations lawyer. Davis began striking back at the White House and lobbed a clear warning shot at the president when he released a secret recording of a conversation in which Trump appears to have knowledge about hush-money payments to former Playboy model Karen McDougal, who also alleged an affair with the developer.

Cohen was embraced by the cable news networks as an irresistible foil to Trump. Some on the left styled him as a star of the resistance. Cohen's camp made some effort to play into the role, reaching out to Watergate whistleblower John Dean and, after Cohen's plea, establish an online fundraising tool that seemed to predominantly receive backing from liberals.

Cohen, who could get about four years to five years in prison, is due to be sentenced Dec. 12.

Davis has strongly telegraphed that Cohen is willing to cooperate with Mueller's investigation. But a deal

has yet to be struck and there are doubts about what Cohen can prove or whether the special counsel would want to rely on an untrustworthy witness.

Cohen has stayed out of sight and has remained emotional since his plea, according to the people close to him.

The attacks from Trump have continued.

"If anyone is looking for a good lawyer, I would strongly suggest that you don't retain the services of Michael Cohen!" Trump tweeted Wednesday.

Follow Lemire on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire>

Hold the Mayo! Florida town is changing its name temporarily

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER** and **JOSH REPLOGLE**, Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Mayo, Florida is holding the mayo, at least for a few days.

The mayor of this tiny town of less than 1,500 residents, located where Florida's Panhandle morphs into a peninsula, is announcing Saturday that the city is switching its name to "Miracle Whip." But it's a joke.

The name change started as a secret, tongue-in-cheek marketing proposal for the Kraft Heinz-owned mayonnaise-alternative. Videographers for Miracle Whip on Saturday wanted to capture the shock of residents when they hear that the name of their town is being changed to a corporate brand. Representatives of the condiment planned to spend the next few days filming their jocular efforts to get residents to remove mayonnaise from their homes.

The town's elected officials say they will let residents in on the joke after a few days, but not before street signs and the name on the water tower have been switched out. The town located halfway between Tallahassee and Gainesville is getting between \$15,000 and \$25,000 for the name change, and the money will be used for city beautification measures.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Mayo's mayor ran with the concept, insisting it would be a good idea to make the name change permanent.

"We aren't going to be boring Mayo anymore. We are going to be Miracle Whip!" Ann Murphy said. "I definitely think this will put us on the map."

Town clerk Linda Cone confirmed the name change is a prank and conceded that in a town so small it probably won't take long for residents to figure it out. "Everybody knows everybody. It's been kind of difficult to keep everything under wraps," Cone said.

The mayor said city council members secretly discussed the deal with Miracle Whip during a closed session because secrecy was needed to achieve the surprise that Miracle Whip wants to capture. However, a closed session would seem to violate Florida's Sunshine Law requiring meetings to be held publicly except under limited conditions, open-government advocate Barbara Petersen said.

"If this is all supposed to be a big joke perpetuated on residents, I expect they probably violated the law to pull it off," said Petersen, president of the First Amendment Foundation. "I hate to be a Debbie Downer, but seriously, I don't think they thought this through."

The town got its original name from a confederate colonel, James Mayo, and it is the county seat of Lafayette County, Florida's second-least populous county. Possibly its biggest claim to fame is being the hometown of Kerwin Bell, a former University of Florida quarterback. The area's biggest employer is a state prison.

Other small cities have changed their names to brands, some temporarily and others permanently.

In 1950, Hot Springs, New Mexico, renamed itself Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, in order to get the game show broadcast from the town. Granville, North Dakota, temporarily became McGillicuddy City, North Dakota, in the 1990s after the distributor of the mint schnapps paid the town \$100,000. In 2010, Topeka, Kansas, temporarily changed its name to Google, Kansas, in an unsuccessful effort to get the company to install a super-fast broadband network.

"I think people thought it was kind of funny and forward thinking," said Carole Jordan, an official with

the League of Women Voters in Topeka.

Branded name changes don't work for every city, said Chantal Panozzo, chief content officer for The Brand Consultancy. She said one successful example was North Tarrytown, New York's switch to Sleepy Hollow in the mid-1990s to honor its roots as the setting for Washington Irving's story, "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow."

"If the town or corporation is just seeking notoriety, publicity or money without considering what the alignment of the naming really means, then it's not true branding," Panozzo said. "It's just a stunt or a desperate cry for funds."

Follow Mike Schneider on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/MikeSchneiderAP>

Follow Josh Replogle: <http://www.twitter.com/joshrepp>

Trump's bad week: A growing list of allies turn against him

By JILL COLVIN and CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — On one of the worst days of his presidency, Donald Trump was chatting aboard Air Force One when the conversation took a detour into gallows humor.

Trump was returning from a rally in West Virginia just hours after two former members of his inner circle were found or pleaded guilty, when one passenger quipped that a news story would surely soon be breaking about the president fuming onboard. Everyone laughed, including the president.

Despite the momentary levity, though, Trump is increasingly frustrated and isolated as the investigations that have long dogged his White House plunge into the personal territory he once declared off-limits.

One by one, the president's men have turned against him.

It was a bruising week for Trump, with a trio of men who are intimately familiar with his secrets and business dealings now cooperating with prosecutors. First, Trump's former personal attorney, Michael Cohen, implicated him in testimony about hush money payments to two women who allege affairs with him. On the same day, his former campaign chairman was found guilty on a slew of financial charges. At least Paul Manafort had nothing to say about Trump or his campaign.

But then came revelations that his longtime friend, David Pecker, the CEO of National Enquirer publisher American Media Inc., had been granted immunity from prosecution to provide information, followed by news that Trump Organization finance chief Allen Weisselberg, who had once worked for Trump's father, was cooperating as well.

There is no indication their cooperation extends beyond the scope of the Cohen probe. But for Trump — who has long demanded loyalty from those around him — the revelations have only added to long-simmering fury about the investigations that began with questions about Russian election meddling but have broadened from there.

Allies wonder what Trump might do if the pressure continues to increase.

"This is a bridge too far. They are trying to undo this president," said former Trump campaign aide Sam Nunberg.

As the president exited Washington for a day trip to Ohio on Friday, a White House official said Trump was unhappy with what he perceived as disloyalty but far from melting down. Another person with knowledge of Trump's thinking said the president continues to direct much of his ire at Attorney General Jeff Sessions, who infuriated Trump by withdrawing from special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia probe. Both people, like others, spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss private discussions.

"Jeff Sessions said he wouldn't allow politics to influence him only because he doesn't understand what is happening underneath his command position. Highly conflicted Bob Mueller and his gang of 17 Angry Dems are having a field day as real corruption goes untouched," Trump said in a tweet Saturday.

Trump biographer Michael D'Antonio says the president may be surprised that he can't exert more control from the West Wing over his former friends and employees.

"He's less powerful in these relationships now than he was before he became president. That must just

amaze him," said D'Antonio, author of "Never Enough, Donald Trump and the Pursuit of Success." "He's sitting behind the Resolute Desk and he can push a button and get a Coke but he can't control Michael Cohen."

Within the West Wing, aides have grown increasingly numb to the drumbeat of bad news, though the revelation of Cohen's plea and the immunity deals took some by surprise.

Cohen pleaded guilty this week in federal court in Manhattan to campaign finance violations alleging he coordinated with Trump on a hush-money scheme to buy the silence of a porn actress and a Playboy model who alleged affairs. It was later reported that, as part of the probe into Cohen, immunity was granted to Weisselberg and Pecker.

The probe into Cohen was triggered in part by a referral from Mueller, who separately is looking into possible Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election. Cohen's lawyer, Lanny Davis, has said Cohen has information "that would be of interest" to the special counsel.

The White House official insisted that West Wing staffers continue to keep their heads down and do their jobs. On Thursday evening, the person said, dozens of staffers gathered on chief of staff John Kelly's porch to celebrate the recent birthdays of a trio of staffers: press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders, senior policy adviser Stephen Miller and chief economic adviser Larry Kudlow.

While they snacked on homemade cakes and chatted, the staffers welcomed a surprise visit from the president, who delivered a speech and made jokes, acting like nothing was wrong and winning cheers from aides as he left.

Still, the week's developments brought the investigations up to the doorstep of Trump Tower — a place that Trump has warned Mueller is a no-go.

Weisselberg, the 71-year-old Trump Organization CFO, is intimately familiar with Trump's business dealings, having overseen his corporate ledgers through his rise in the New York real estate world and his international dealings in the years before he launched his presidential bid.

The chief financial officer has worked for Trump companies since he joined the president's father, Fred Trump, in the 1970s as an accountant, and is a rich repository of knowledge of the family company. The possibility of him answering questions from investigators poses a new danger for the president as federal prosecutors in Washington and Manhattan dig deeper into Trump's business affairs.

A year ago, Trump told The New York Times that Mueller would be crossing a "red line" if he began to look at Trump's and his family's finances unrelated to Russia.

Asked if he would fire Mueller if that were to happen, Trump responded, "I can't, I can't answer that question because I don't think it's going to happen."

As the negative news mounted throughout the past week, allies also expressed frustration with the lack of a coordinated pushback effort. The White House said it's up to Trump's outside lawyers to deal with much of the news. They argued that the president was not directly implicated, even though Cohen said in court that he and Trump had coordinated.

Associated Press writers Ken Thomas and Stephen Braun contributed to this report.

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

After long fight against brain cancer, McCain ends treatment

By MATTHEW DALY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Arizona Sen. John McCain has discontinued medical treatment for an aggressive form of brain cancer, says his family.

It's a likely indication that the war hero, presidential nominee and longtime lawmaker is nearing the end of his life.

The 81-year-old McCain has surpassed expectations for survival, but "the progress of disease and the inexorable advance of age render their verdict," the family said. "With his usual strength of will, he has

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now chosen to discontinue medical treatment.”

The six-term GOP senator, whose birthday is Aug. 29, has been away from the Capitol since last December. If McCain should resign his seat or die soon, Republican Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey would name a replacement to serve until the 2020 election. The winner of that election would serve the remainder of McCain’s term through 2022.

In more than three decades in Congress, McCain became known as a political maverick willing to stick to his convictions rather than go along with party leaders — an independent streak that has drawn a mix of respect and ire.

Most recently, he has been a thorn in the side of President Donald Trump, keeping up his criticism of the White House even while undergoing severe medical treatment in Arizona.

In July, he issued a searing rebuke of Trump’s summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin, calling it a “tragic mistake” and “one of the most disgraceful performances by an American president in memory.”

The strained relationship between Trump and McCain dates back to 2015, when Trump suggested the Vietnam veteran, who spent more than five years in a North Vietnamese prison after his Navy plane was shot down, was not a war hero.

The ill will grew after McCain voted in 2017 against a Republican replacement for the Obama-era health law. He doomed the bill with a dramatic thumbs-down on the Senate floor. Complaints about McCain’s vote have become a staple of Trump’s campaign speeches. He doesn’t mention McCain by name but makes clear his intent by mockingly imitating the thumbs-down gesture.

The feud between the two men has persisted even amid the decline in McCain’s health. While political leaders of both parties paid tribute to McCain and offered prayers Friday, Trump and the White House remained silent. Trump did not mention McCain or the health care vote in a speech Friday night at a fundraising dinner in Ohio.

Earlier this month, Trump signed a military policy bill named for McCain, but he made no mention of McCain at a signing ceremony.

The son and grandson of Navy admirals, McCain is a former Navy pilot. He was elected to Congress in 1982 and to the Senate four years later, replacing the retired Barry Goldwater.

Despite his famous stubborn streak and occasional orneriness, McCain is widely admired on both sides of the aisle, and tributes poured in Friday after the family announced the treatment decision.

“We are so fortunate to call him our friend and colleague,” Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said on Twitter. McCain, his wife Cindy “and the entire McCain family are in our prayers at this incredibly difficult hour,” McConnell said.

Ducey called McCain “an American hero” who always put his country before himself.

A “spirit of service and civility” guided McCain’s life, standing as a model for Americans regardless of political affiliation, Ducey said.

Cindy McCain tweeted that she loves her husband “with all of my heart” and thanked those who have cared for him.

McCain had surgery in July 2017 to remove a blood clot in his brain after being diagnosed with an aggressive tumor called a glioblastoma. It’s the same type of tumor that killed Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., at age 77 in 2009.

McCain rebounded quickly, however, returning to Washington and entering the Senate in late July to a standing ovation from his colleagues. In a dramatic turn, he later cast the deciding vote against the Republican health care bill, earning Trump’s enduring wrath.

McCain’s condition worsened last fall, and he has been in Arizona since December. A source close to McCain who asked not to be identified said Friday the senator was at his Arizona ranch with his family.

He is a long-term survivor of melanoma, a deadly skin cancer. But doctors classified his brain cancer as a “primary tumor,” meaning it’s not related to his former malignancies.

McCain ran unsuccessfully for the Republican presidential nomination in 2000, then won it in 2008 before losing the general election to Obama.

When Republicans took control of the Senate in 2015, McCain embraced his new influence as chairman of the Armed Services Committee, pushing for aggressive U.S. military intervention overseas and eager to contribute to "defeating the forces of radical Islam that want to destroy America."

Asked how he wanted to be remembered, McCain said: "That I made a major contribution to the defense of the nation."

Former Connecticut Sen. Joseph Lieberman, a close friend, said Friday that "becoming John McCain's friend has been one of the great blessings of my life. Today I am praying for him and his family."

Mitt Romney, the GOP's 2012 presidential nominee, said on Twitter, "No man this century better exemplifies honor, patriotism, service, sacrifice and country first than Senator John McCain. His heroism inspires, his life shapes our character. I am blessed and humbled by our friendship."

Associated Press writer Laurie Kellman contributed to this report.

Houston marks Harvey anniversary with flood-control vote

By **JUAN A. LOZANO, Associated Press**

HOUSTON (AP) — Voters in Houston and its surrounding county were marking Saturday's anniversary of Hurricane Harvey coming ashore by deciding whether to approve the issuance of \$2.5 billion in bonds to fund flood-control projects that might mitigate the damage caused by future storms.

Harvey, which made landfall as a powerful Category 4 storm on Aug. 25, 2017, killed 68 people and caused an estimated \$125 billion in damage in Texas. Thirty-six of the deaths were in the low-lying Houston area, where days of torrential rainfall and decades of unchecked development contributed to the flooding of more than 150,000 homes and 300,000 vehicles.

The bond referendum would help pay for projects to be chosen from a list of more than 230 proposals that include home buyouts, the construction of additional stormwater detention basins and the expansion of area bayous, among other options. Officials say the bond money would help supplement federal funds earmarked for flood mitigation after Harvey.

If the referendum passes, taxpayers in Harris County, which includes Houston, would see an average increase of \$5 per year in their property taxes.

Republican Ed Emmett, the county's top elected official, repeated one mantra following Harvey's destruction: flood control and mitigation is now "job one." Emmett has championed the bond measure, pointing to the piles of ruined furniture, appliances, clothing and keepsakes that lined Houston streets for months after Harvey's floodwaters retreated.

"I go back to those piles of debris. You realize those really aren't piles of debris, those are people's lives on the curb. We want to make sure that never, never, never happens again," Emmett said.

Houston, which is barely above sea level, has long been susceptible to flooding. A web of bayous and other watersheds that can overflow during heavy rainfall snake their way through Harris County. Flood maps show that more than 25 percent of Harris County is in the 100-year flood plain and more than 33 percent of the county is in the 500-year flood plain. Structures in a 100-year flood plain have a 1 percent chance of flooding in any given year, while those in a 500-year flood plain have a 0.2 percent chance of flooding during any year. The Houston area has had three 500-year flood events since 2015. Many of the Houston area homes damaged during Harvey were not in designated flood plains.

The flooding from Harvey and damaging storms in the two preceding years has galvanized efforts to make the Houston area more resilient to future floods.

Since Harvey, the city and the county have approved rules requiring new homes and other buildings constructed in flood plains to be built higher off the ground to avoid flooding.

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner said things like the bond referendum and the new building rules show that the area is serious about better protecting itself.

"As we develop going forward, we're going to have to do things differently," Turner said.

The bond referendum has received bipartisan support and has been endorsed by business and labor

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groups as well as religious and community advocacy organizations.

However, there are some community concerns about transparency and how the money would be used. Keith Downey, president of the Kashmere Gardens Super Neighborhood, a local community group, said he would have liked more information about how some of the projects will benefit the city's low-income neighborhoods, many of which flooded during Harvey and have a history of repeated flooding.

"There are more questions than we have answers," Downey said as he stood next to Hunting Bayou, one of the waterways that swamped low-income neighborhoods during Harvey.

Officials have said they have been transparent about the bond proposal, holding 23 community meetings this summer to gather public input and ideas.

Follow Juan A. Lozano on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/juanlozano70>

APNewsBreak: DNC, TV networks discuss presidential debates

By **BILL BARROW**, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — The Democratic Party has begun conversations with television networks about a series of presidential primary debates in 2019, a top party official has told The Associated Press.

The talks are "in the very early stages," according to the official, who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. The early start, well before the 2020 field is known, signals the importance that the Democratic National Committee chairman, Tom Perez, is placing on decisions that will be scrutinized for any signs of favoritism among potentially two dozen or more candidates.

"The DNC's goal is to have a debate process that is transparent, fair, impartial and inclusive," senior party adviser Mary Beth Cahill said in a statement to the AP that didn't get into the details of the discussions with networks. Perez has tapped Cahill, who ran the 2004 campaign of Democratic nominee John Kerry, to lead debate discussions.

The party and the networks together will decide the debate schedule, locations and formats. A crucial issue is how many people will be allowed on debate stages and who will be chosen.

Party officials say they're acutely aware that the answers could amount to the first winnowing of a large field months before the early voting states of Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Nevada lead off the nominating calendar in 2020.

The Democratic official who confirmed the early network discussions said the party is not yet talking to any potential candidates, taking pains not to be seen as manipulating the process. During the 2016 contest, supporters of Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders accused the then-DNC leader, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, of conspiring with eventual nominee Hillary Clinton's campaign to limit debates and schedule them for unfavorable time slots.

Conversely, the GOP chairman at that time, Reince Priebus, was blasted within his party for allowing a dozen debates for a field that began with 17 major candidates. Priebus' critics said the debates were damaging spectacles, though ratings suggested they ultimately helped Donald Trump solidify his bond with core Republican voters.

The DNC's vice chairman, Michael Blake, said those dynamics are not forgotten.

"It's hard with that many," Blake said. "Are we starting to talk about it and think about it? Yes. Are we anywhere close to resolved? No."

Blake said "you almost have to establish a polling threshold." But he said the party wants to avoid publicly labeling "lesser candidates" before votes are cast.

Among the potential Democratic candidates, some already have a national profile and almost certainly would qualify for early debate stages regardless of rules. Those include Sanders, former Vice President Joe Biden and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren.

Sens. Kamala Harris of California, Cory Booker of New Jersey and Kirsten Gillibrand of New York have been networking around the country and are also widely considered top-tier candidates.

Other possible candidates would come to the race with lower national profiles — governors and former

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governors such as Jay Inslee of Washington, Steve Bullock of Montana and Deval Patrick of Massachusetts; mayors and former mayors such as Eric Garcetti of Los Angeles and Mitch Landrieu of New Orleans; and even former Attorney General Eric Holder. For those politicians, the debate stage could become an important opportunity to break out.

The first to announce for the 2020 nomination is John Delaney, a three-term House member from Maryland who is one of the wealthiest members of Congress.

Several state party leaders who attended the national party's summer meeting in Chicago this past week said Perez has committed to involve them, particularly those in the early voting states, and DNC members in the discussion.

Perez pledged previously that he would have the debate process in place before all the candidates entered the race. Cahill said the DNC intends "to keep that promise" and that the party "will ramp up these efforts after the midterm elections" this November.

Candidates themselves could thwart Perez's preferred timeline if, as is expected, some begin launching their campaigns soon after that election.

In the last election cycle, Wasserman Schultz did not commit to the initial six debates until May 2015; the first debate wasn't held until that October.

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

Musk says investors convinced him Tesla should stay public

By TOM KRISHER, AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Electric car and solar panel maker Tesla Inc. will remain on the public stock exchanges after CEO Elon Musk said Friday that investors have convinced him the company shouldn't go private.

The eccentric and sometimes erratic CEO wrote in a late-night statement that he made the decision based on feedback from shareholders, including institutional investors, who said they have internal rules limiting how much they can sink into a private company.

Musk met with the electric car and solar panel company's board on Thursday to tell them he thought the company should stay public and the board agreed, according to the statement.

In an Aug. 7 post on Twitter, Musk wrote that he was considering taking Tesla private. He said it would avoid the short-term pressures of reporting quarterly results. The tweet said funding had been secured for the deal, but the company later said the details still had to be worked out with Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund.

The tweet said Tesla would offer \$420 per share, 23 percent above the Aug. 6 closing price. If all the shares were bought, the deal would be worth \$72 billion. But Musk later said he expected only one-third of stakeholders to agree to the buyout. Shares shot up 11 percent the day of the tweet, but they have since pulled back, closing Friday at \$322.82

The bizarre tweet, written while Musk was driving to the airport, brought an inquiry from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, which reportedly is looking into whether he was trying to manipulate the share price. Short-sellers, who bet against a company's success, complained that Musk was trying to hurt them.

In the statement, Musk said he worked with investment firms Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley and Silver Lake to consider all the options, and he talked to investors.

"Given the feedback I've received, it's apparent that most of Tesla's existing shareholders believe we are better off as a public company," Musk wrote in the statement.

He wrote that his belief that there was more than enough funding to take the company private "was reinforced during this process."

In a statement Friday, six members of Tesla's board wrote that the board has dissolved a three-member committee set up to study any possible go-private transaction.

"The board and the entire company remain focused on ensuring Tesla's operational success, and we fully

support Elon as he continues to move the company forward," the statement said.

The SEC opened an inquiry shortly after Musk surprised investors with the tweet about going private. The agency reportedly has subpoenaed data from Tesla, indicating that a formal investigation has been opened.

The go-private deal would have ended Tesla's eight-year history as a publicly held company. Corporate governance experts say that the contradiction between Musk's tweet that funding had been secured and a later statement saying that the Saudis still had to do due diligence could be used to show Musk misled investors.

At least two lawsuits have been filed against Tesla on behalf of shareholders alleging Musk broke the law with his tweet.

Trump complains to Ohio GOP that Dems are 'negative, nasty'

By KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — President Donald Trump sought to unite Ohio's fractious state Republican Party on Friday, bitterly complaining about "negative, nasty" Democrats and warning that the Democratic contender for governor would "destroy your state."

Trump praised the slate of Republican candidates during a fundraising dinner in the nation's premier battleground state but noticeably avoided mentioning Gov. John Kasich, one of his 2016 primary opponents and sharpest critics, who skipped the event.

A subdued Trump, who has been grappling with the defection of some longtime loyalists amid investigations into his 2016 campaign, skewered Democrat Richard Cordray "as a far-left candidate" who was "groomed by Pocahontas." That was a reprise of his insult of Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, a possible 2020 presidential challenger, over her Native American heritage.

"Cordray will destroy your state," Trump said without going into specifics. Cordray, who led the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in Washington during the Obama administration, worked closely with Warren, who helped create the agency before she won a Senate seat.

Ohio is holding a number of high-stakes races for governor, Senate and several U.S. House seats that could factor into GOP control of Congress this fall — and linger into Trump's next presidential campaign.

The president charged Democrats with being unable to govern, returning to his longstanding critique that the party has failed to help secure the nation's Southern border and turned its back on American institutions. He cited calls by some Democrats to abolish the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, which Trump has repeatedly praised.

"You have left-wing haters and radicals trying to tear down our institutions, disrespect our great American flag, demean our law enforcement — think of that, our flag — our law enforcement, ICE," Trump said. "Denigrate your history and disparage our great country, and they're (going) so far left and they're being dragged left."

He also complained that with Democrats, "It's always negative, nasty, the way they come after me." Polls show that majorities of Democrats disapprove of Trump's job performance, but he said they need to get over it and accept that he's president.

"Get used to it. We won the election. We're going to win again in 2020 and hopefully we're going to keep winning. These are nasty people," he added.

Trump sought to help Mike DeWine, a former U.S. senator and current state attorney general who is running for governor, and Rep. Jim Renacci, who is attempting to unseat Democratic Sen. Sherrod Brown.

But his help came amid deep GOP internal divisions in the nation's top swing state, punctuated by Trump's rift with Kasich.

Kasich said in a recent interview that "people are getting sick and tired" of the partisan warfare coming out of the Trump White House and dismissed the president's overwhelming popularity within the GOP as a byproduct of a shrinking party.

A Kasich spokesman said the term-limited governor had a personal scheduling conflict and couldn't at-

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tend Friday's dinner. Kasich has skipped all of Trump's previous appearances in the state, starting with the 2016 Republican National Convention in Cleveland.

"This November, we're going to win really big. It's going to be one big Ohio family," Trump said Friday.

Trump flew to Ohio with his wife, Melania, and the couple toured the neonatal intensive care unit at Nationwide Children's Hospital, where babies born drug-dependent receive specialized treatment, before he addressed the dinner.

Both the president and first lady say they are focused on the epidemic of opioid addiction that is killing tens of thousands of people a year.

Associated Press writers Julie Carr Smyth in Columbus, Ohio, Steve Peoples in New York and Darlene Superville in Washington contributed to this report.

Powerful Hawaii hurricane downgraded to tropical storm

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER and AUDREY McAVOY, Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Hurricane Lane weakened to a tropical storm on Friday as it headed toward the Hawaiian islands. But it still brought torrential rains that immersed a city in waist-deep water and forced people to flee flooding homes, while others jumped off seawalls with boogie boards into the turbulent ocean.

As many dealt with flooding and even brush fires, swimmers and surfers ignored warnings from authorities and plunged into powerful waves at Oahu's famed Waikiki Beach, which was closed.

Emergency officials said repeatedly over loudspeakers: "Please get out of the water! It's very dangerous!" Honolulu's mayor pleaded with tourists that they were putting themselves in danger as the storm churned closer.

The National Weather Service downgraded the storm to a tropical storm with winds of up to 70 mph (110 kmph) as it headed north toward the islands. It was expected to veer west, skirting the islands, but still threatened to bring heavy rains and strong, gusty winds statewide, meteorologist Gavin Shigesato said.

A hurricane watch for Oahu and Maui was downgraded to a tropical storm watch. Still, meteorologists warned that Lane could trigger flash flooding and inflict wind damage.

The outer bands of the hurricane dumped as much as 3 feet (1 meter) of rain in 48 hours on the mostly rural Big Island. The main town of Hilo, population 43,000, was flooded Friday with waist-high water as landslides shut down roads.

Margaret Collins, 69, woke up Thursday night to the sound of moving water in her Hilo backyard.

"So I got up out of bed and looked out my bedroom window and saw water 3 feet high gushing past my window," she said. "And that's when I realized I was standing in water."

She called a neighbor for help, who crawled through bushes to bring her out of the house, half-carrying her as she clutched a plastic bag with medication.

The gushing water knocked down a cement wall and lifted her truck out of the carport, sending it toward her neighbor's house, she said.

"My house is completely inundated with mudwater," said Collins, who was told the damage wouldn't be covered by insurance. She hopes she can get federal assistance.

Elsewhere on the Big Island, the National Guard and firefighters rescued six people and a dog from a flooded home, while five California tourists were rescued from another house.

A different type of evacuation took place on Oahu — the state's most populated island.

Officials with the Department of Land and Natural Resources transferred about 2,000 rare Hawaiian snails from a mountain marsh to offices in downtown Honolulu. A staffer will spend the night and place ice around their cages in case the air conditioning goes out.

Some of the snails are the last of their kind, including one named George that's the sole remaining *Achatina apexfulva* in captivity. Staff members are trying to keep him safe in case he's able to reproduce.

As flooding hit the Big Island, brush fires broke out in areas of Maui and Oahu susceptible to flames.

Some residents in a shelter on Maui had to flee when a fire got too close and another forced people

from their homes. A woman got burns on her hands and legs and was flown to Honolulu, Maui County spokesman Rod Antone said. Her condition wasn't clear.

A man posted a video on Instagram showing flames several stories high starting to envelop parked cars. Josh Galinato said he was trying to sleep when he smelled smoke in his apartment in the tourist town of Lahaina.

"I opened up my front door, and I just saw the fire spreading and coming downhill," Galinato said. He and neighbors honked horns to alert others to the danger.

Joseph Azam, who was vacationing in Maui with family and friends, hoped rain from the hurricane arrived before the flames did.

"Trying to figure which comes first, the fire or the rain," said Azam, who's from Oakland, California, and is staying at a hotel. "We're praying the rain arrives soon."

Others prayed it to stay away.

In Waikiki, the man-made Ala Wai Canal is likely to flood if predicted rains arrive, said Ray Alexander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The canal marks the northern boundary of the Waikiki tourist district. Worries that it could overflow in heavy rains have prompted plans to mitigate the risk.

"The canal has flooded in the past, and I believe it's safe to say based on the forecast of rainfall it's likely to flood again — the impacts of which we aren't prepared to say at this time," Alexander said.

Major flooding could damage 3,000 structures and cost more than \$1 billion in repairs, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser newspaper reported, citing corps estimates.

Officials received \$345 million last summer to build detention basins, a flood wall and pumping station, beginning in 2020 and expected to be completed in 2023, Alexander said.

Employees have filled sandbags to protect oceanfront hotels from surging surf. Stores along Waikiki's glitzy Kalakaua Avenue stacked sandbags along the bottom of their glass windows to prepare for flash flooding, while residents lined up at stores to stockpile supplies.

Away from the high-rise hotels of Waikiki, Crystal Bowden, a tourist from California, watched powerful waves crash against cliffs on Oahu's southeast coast.

"I came in to visit, got here just in time for the hurricane," Bowden said. "We're kind of excited."

Almost 16,000 homes and businesses on the islands lost power, but service was restored to some, Hawaiian Electric spokesman Peter Rosegg said.

Federal Emergency Management Agency officials said about 2,000 people were in shelters, mostly in Oahu.

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.

Associated Press writers Brian Skoloff and Caleb Jones in Honolulu, Mark Thiessen and Dan Joling in Anchorage, Alaska, Colleen Long in Washington and Alina Hartounian and Annika Wolters in Phoenix contributed to this report.

Trump asks Pompeo to delay visit to North Korea

By ZEKE MILLER and MATTHEW LEE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Friday he has directed Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to delay a planned trip to North Korea, citing insufficient progress on denuclearization.

Trump put some blame on Beijing, saying he does not believe China is helping "because of our much tougher Trading stance."

The surprise announcement appeared to mark a concession by the president to domestic and international concerns that his prior claims of world-altering progress on the peninsula had been strikingly premature.

"I have asked Secretary of State Mike Pompeo not to go to North Korea, at this time, because I feel we are not making sufficient progress with respect to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," Trump

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tweeted Friday, barely two months after his June meeting with the North's Kim Jong Un in Singapore.

Trump's comment followed a report issued Monday by the International Atomic Energy Agency outlining "grave concern" about the North's nuclear program. It came a day after Pompeo appointed Stephen Biegun, a senior executive with the Ford Motor Co., to be his special envoy for North Korea and said he and Biegun would visit next week.

The State Department never confirmed details of the trip, but it had been expected that Pompeo would be in Pyongyang for at least several hours Monday, according to several diplomatic sources familiar with the plan.

White House officials declined to specify what prompted Trump to call off Pompeo's trip or what had changed since the president's rose-colored-glasses assessments of the nuclear situation just days ago.

A senior White House official said Trump made the decision to cancel the visit Friday morning during a meeting with Pompeo, Biegun, chief of staff John Kelly and National Security Adviser John Bolton, who joined by phone. Intelligence and defense officials were not in the meeting, the official said, seeming to indicate that the breakdown was diplomatic in nature. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity to describe internal deliberations.

The State Department had no immediate comment on the matter and referred questions to the White House.

Trump laid unspecified blame on China, North Korea's leading trade partner, which is widely believed to hold the greatest sway over Kim's government.

The U.S. and China have been locked in a trade dispute for months, with each side ratcheting up tariffs on imports from the other country in what may be the opening salvos of a trade war.

Trump tweeted that "Pompeo looks forward to going to North Korea in the near future, most likely after our Trading relationship with China is resolved." He added: "In the meantime I would like to send my warmest regards and respect to Chairman Kim. I look forward to seeing him soon!"

After more a year of escalating tensions defined by nuclear and missile tests, new sanctions and "fire and fury" rhetoric, Trump made history meeting Kim earlier this year. In the run-up to the summit both nations engaged in hard-nosed negotiation, with Trump publically calling off the meeting in an effort to push Kim to agree to nuclear concessions. During the summit, the pair signed a vague joint statement in which the North agreed to denuclearize, but which left nearly all details undefined.

"There is no longer a Nuclear Threat from North Korea," Trump declared on Twitter after the meeting.

"Before taking office people were assuming that we were going to War with North Korea. President Obama said that North Korea was our biggest and most dangerous problem," he added. "No longer - sleep well tonight!"

Pompeo would have been hard pressed to return from Pyongyang with anything resembling progress on the denuclearization front.

Although it has halted nuclear and missile testing and taken some unrelated steps — dismantling portions of a missile engine facility and returning the suspected remains of American servicemen killed during the Korean War — its nuclear weapons program and ballistic missile development remain intact, according the U.N.'s atomic watchdog and intelligence agencies.

In addition, recent statements from North Korean officials have ruled out any new concessions until it sees a reciprocal gesture from the U.S. beyond suspending military exercises with South Korea. North Korea has been demanding that the U.S. ease or lift crippling sanctions — something Pompeo and national security adviser John Bolton have flatly ruled out until the its nuclear program is fully and verifiably dismantled.

Other than sanctions relief, the North, backed by South Korea, has been seeking a declaration of the end of the Korean War. The conflict stopped with the signing of an armistice rather than a peace treaty, meaning the war is not technically over. Both the North and South have vowed to end the open state of hostilities, and Seoul had been hoping to persuade the Trump administration to sign off on a non-binding end-of-war declaration as a goodwill gesture that would give Kim Jong Un domestic cover to proceed with denuclearization moves.

Pompeo and other administration officials have suggested some concessions short of easing or lifting sanctions are possible before verified denuclearization, but have refused to be specific about what they could be. And they have been skeptical about an end-of-war declaration in the absence of any progress on the nuclear matter.

At the same time, lawmakers from both parties, including GOP hawks who generally support Trump, have expressed concerns about such a move, as it could be used by the North to demand the removal of U.S. troops from South Korea and potentially Japan without anything in return.

Trump had kept up the positive tone as recently as Tuesday at a campaign rally in West Virginia. There Trump maintained "we're doing well with North Korea."

"There's been no missile launches. There's been no rocket launches," he added.

At the same rally, Trump seemed to take a different tone too on China, saying he had withheld some criticism of China because "I wanted them to help us with North Korea and they have."

Associated Press writer Darlene Superville contributed to this report.

Ex-CDC director Frieden accused of groping woman's buttocks

By KAREN MATTHEWS, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — One of the nation's most respected medical experts, who led the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, entered a courtroom on Friday in handcuffs, arrested on sexual-harassment charges after a woman accused him of grabbing her behind late one night last year.

Dr. Thomas Frieden, who for years informed the public about dangers to their health, sat stone-faced as a judge warned him not to approach the woman, who accused him of groping her on Oct. 20, 2017, in his Brooklyn home.

Frieden, who also is a former New York City health commissioner, was arrested earlier Friday on three charges: forcible touching, sex abuse and harassment. His attorney, Laura Brevetti, entered a not guilty plea on his behalf.

The 55-year-old accuser, who knew Frieden, reported the encounter in July, and he was taken into custody after an investigation.

The judge ordered Frieden to refrain from any contact with the woman and to surrender his U.S. passport. Frieden was freed on his own recognizance, leaving in a car with his attorney. His next court appearance is Oct. 11.

Frieden leads a health initiative called Resolve to Save Lives, which is housed by nonprofit global health organization Vital Strategies.

"The allegation does not reflect Dr. Frieden's public or private behavior or his values over a lifetime of service to improve health around the world," said a statement issued by a spokesman on his behalf.

The president of Vital Strategies, Jose L. Castro, came out in support of Frieden. He said Frieden informed him in April that "a non-work-related friend of his and his family of more than 30 years accused him of inappropriate physical contact."

"I have known and worked closely with Dr. Frieden for nearly 30 years and have seen first-hand that he has the highest ethical standards both personally and professionally," Castro said in a statement. "In all of my experiences with him, there have never been any concerns or reports of inappropriate conduct."

Nonetheless, earlier this month Vital Strategies hired an investigator to interview Resolve to Save Lives employees even though the woman didn't work there. Castro said the investigation found no inappropriate workplace behavior.

"Vital Strategies greatly values the work Dr. Frieden does to advance public health and he has my full confidence," Castro said.

Frieden was a disease investigator at the Atlanta-based CDC, the nation's top public health agency, in 1990 when he was assigned to New York City and worked on a large outbreak of drug-resistant tuberculosis. He stayed, taking a job heading the city's tuberculosis control.

In 1996, he began working in India with the World Health Organization on tuberculosis control. Frieden became New York City's health commissioner in 2002 and was known for his aggressive measures to attack chronic diseases. In 2003, New York banned smoking in almost all workplaces, a precedent-setting move that inspired other cities to do the same. In 2006, it became the first U.S. city to ban restaurants from using artificial trans fats and required hundreds of eateries to post calorie counts on their menus.

In 2009, President Barack Obama's administration picked Frieden to head the CDC. Frieden led U.S. public health efforts during a range of high-profile national and international health crises, including pandemic flu, Ebola and Zika.

Frieden was CDC director until January 2017, when he resigned as part of the turnover to President Donald Trump's administration.

In September 2017, Frieden announced he had moved back to New York City to head the \$225 million Resolve to Save Lives initiative.

Associated Press writers Kiley Armstrong and Mike Stobbe in New York and Colleen Long in Washington contributed to this report.

APNewsBreak: University accepted \$458K from eugenics fund

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN, Associated Press

The University of Arizona has accepted years of funding from a foundation infamous for promoting research linking race and intelligence — even after other universities and organizations, including white nationalist groups, stopped receiving support from the group, records show.

A University of Arizona psychology professor used some of the Pioneer Fund's grant money to pay for recent travel to a conference in London that has included eugenics-themed presentations, according to documents The Associated Press obtained through a public records request. The eugenics movement has included theories about the controlled breeding of humans to "improve" the gene pool.

The Pioneer Fund was created by textile heir Wickliffe Draper in 1937 to — in the words of its original charter — advocate for "race betterment." The organization has promoted eugenics and financially supported "race scientists" who maintain that blacks are intellectually and genetically inferior to whites.

The private, tax-exempt foundation in Maryland gave nearly \$7.8 million to 48 organizations or individuals from 1998 to 2016, including nearly \$3 million to at least 22 universities in the U.S. and abroad. But the University of Arizona was the only U.S. university getting any money from the group from 2011 to 2016, tax records show.

The University of Arizona received a total of \$458,000 from the Pioneer Fund from 2003 to 2016. The foundation reported a contribution to the school in every year but 2013 over that span. Specifically, the funds were applied for and received by Professor Aurelio Jose Figueredo, who directs a graduate program for the study of human behavior and evolutionary psychology. More recent tax filings aren't publicly available, but Figueredo's curriculum vitae says he received a \$30,000 grant from the fund for the 2017-2018 academic year as well.

Faculty members are generally responsible for selecting the sources of their funding, and the university can't engage in "viewpoint discrimination" in accepting grant money, university spokesman Chris Sigurdson said Friday.

"Professors seek research funds from a variety of sources," he said. "The university does not typically restrict the source of outside funds, but focuses on protecting open, free, and competent academic inquiry."

Figueredo said the Pioneer Fund's history wasn't a factor in his decision to apply for its funding. He has disavowed eugenics in one of his papers and says he doesn't believe in the concept of racial inferiority.

"The stuff that I've written and the stuff that I've researched does not lend itself to that kind of use," he said. "I have done perfectly legitimate research that, by the way, has nothing whatsoever to do with race differences."

Figueredo said "a whole bunch of people" at the university have approved his receipt of the grant money.

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"People have been signing off on this for years, and nobody has indicated that there is a problem," he said.

Andrew Winston, a psychology professor who teaches a class on scientific racism at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, said he believes it's morally unacceptable for the University of Arizona to accept the foundation's money. While the school must uphold academic freedom, it also has an obligation to promote "human rights, equality and diversity," he said.

"The scientific racism supported by the Pioneer Fund is used by racial extremists around the world," he said in an email.

Figueredo has used Pioneer Fund money for travel to the London Conference on Intelligence, a gathering that has included eugenics-themed presentations. Recent conferences were held at the University College London, which said in January that it didn't endorse the gatherings and would investigate the content of presentations.

Figueredo said the London conference "is not about eugenics," included plenty of peer-reviewed published research and can't be characterized "by a few presentations."

Figueredo also has served on the editorial advisory board of Mankind Quarterly. The journal has often published material arguing that blacks are genetically inferior and expressing support for "racial hierarchy," said Bill Tucker, a retired Rutgers University psychology professor and author of a book titled "The Funding of Scientific Racism: Wickliffe Draper and the Pioneer Fund."

"It promotes a scientific justification for racial separation," he said.

Figueredo said he has reviewed papers for Mankind Quarterly but nothing on racially charged topics.

In 2009, Figueredo co-authored a paper with the Pioneer Fund's president at the time, J. Philippe Rushton. Rushton died in 2012, but in a paper 10 years earlier, he rejected claims that the foundation promoted a racist political agenda.

Other educational institutions that have benefited from the Pioneer Fund included the University of Delaware, the University of Texas in Austin, Florida State University, Drexel University, Baylor University, the University of Minnesota, Johns Hopkins University, the University of Missouri, the University of Illinois and the University of California-Santa Barbara.

Non-academic groups receiving funds include nonprofits operated by white nationalists, such as Jared Taylor's Virginia-based New Century Foundation. Those groups were awarded more than \$300,000 in foundation grants over the past two decades.

But in recent years, Figueredo appeared to be the only scientific researcher still accepting the money: His grants accounted for all \$90,000 in contributions listed on the foundation's IRS filings from 2014 and 2016. Pioneer Fund president Richard Lynn and treasurer Edward Miller didn't respond to emailed interview requests this week.

Georgia State University law professor Paul Lombardo, author of a 2002 paper titled "The American Breed: Nazi Eugenics and the Origins of the Pioneer Fund," said most of the scientists who have received support from the foundation are either retired or dead.

"I would have thought they had been out of business by now," Lombardo said. "I would have expected the money to run out."

Figueredo said he hasn't decided whether he will reapply for more Pioneer Fund money at the end of this year.

"If I thought I was doing harm, I would stop instantly," he said. "But I sincerely do not believe that I have done anyone any harm."

This story has been corrected to show that the University of Arizona professor's first and middle names are Aurelio Jose, not Jose Aurelio.

S&P 500, Nasdaq and Russell 2000 close at record highs

By ALEX VEIGA, AP Business Writer

Wall Street ended a week of milestones with a few more Friday.

The benchmark S&P 500 index closed at an all-time high, just two days after the current bull market in U.S. stocks became the longest in history. The Nasdaq composite and the Russell 2000 indexes also ended the day at all-time highs.

Technology companies, the best-performing sector in the market this year, accounted for much of the gains. The price of oil snapped a seven-week losing streak, finishing this week about 5 percent higher.

The rally capped another solid week for the stock market, which has been riding a wave of strong corporate earnings even amid uncertainty over simmering global trade tensions.

"It appears that the market is really focusing on fundamentals," said Rob Eschweiler, global investment specialist at J.P. Morgan Private Bank. "We're at the very tail end of earnings season and there's no other way to characterize the earnings season other than 'spectacular.'"

The S&P 500 index gained 17.71 points, or 0.6 percent, to 2,874.69. It has now finished with a weekly gain in seven out of the last eight weeks.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 133.37 points, or 0.5 percent, to 25,790.35. The 30-company average is still below the high it set in January.

The Nasdaq added 67.52 points, or 0.9 percent, to 7,945.98. Its previous all-time high was set on July 25. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks picked up 8.62 points, or 0.5 percent, to 1,725.67. It also notched back-to-back all-time highs earlier this week.

Since entering a correction in early February, which is defined as a loss of 10 percent or more from a peak, the S&P 500 has mostly crawled higher, with some bumps along the way, thanks to a still-recovering economy and a boom in corporate profits.

More recently, stocks have been buffeted by concerns about mounting trade tensions this spring and summer, particularly with China. But investors have increasingly focused on strong corporate earnings growth.

Earnings at S&P 500 companies have surged 23 percent in the first half of this year versus the same period a year earlier, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence.

The string of all-time highs for the indexes underscore the resilience of the U.S. stock market's bull run, which began in 2009 and became the longest on record Wednesday.

Stocks were trading higher from the get-go Friday, then climbed further after investors weighed new remarks from Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell.

Speaking at an annual conference of central bankers in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Powell struck a measured tone about the economy and said the Fed plans to stick with a gradual pace of rate hikes.

Powell said the central bank recognizes the need to strike a careful balance between its mandates of maximizing employment and keeping price increases stable. And he noted that a gradual approach to rate hikes is the best way to navigate between the risks of raising rates too fast and "needlessly shortening the expansion" and moving too slowly and risking an overheated economy.

Powell added that while annual inflation has risen to near the Fed's 2 percent target rate, it doesn't seem likely to accelerate above that point. That suggests that Powell doesn't foresee a need for the Fed to step up its rate hikes. Next month, the Fed is widely expected to resume raising rates.

"The equity markets wanted to hear that slow-and-steady is the path, and I didn't hear anything to the contrary," Eschweiler said.

Investors continued to bid up technology sector stocks Friday. Video game publisher Activision Blizzard rose 4.1 percent to \$74.09.

Shares in materials sector companies posted solid gains. Albemarle picked up 2.4 percent to \$96.

Software maker Autodesk surged 15.3 percent to \$157.20 after issuing a better-than-expected quarterly report and strong forecasts.

Some retailers fell after reporting disappointing earnings or outlooks.

Gap slumped 8.6 percent to \$29.65 after the clothing chain said sales at Gap stores fell in the second

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quarter compared to a year earlier. Hibbett Sports sank 30.2 percent to \$20.53 after the retailer cut its fiscal year profit and sales forecasts following a weak second quarter.

Benchmark U.S. crude gained 1.3 percent to settle at \$68.72 per barrel in New York. It snapped a seven-week losing streak, finishing this week about 5 percent higher. Brent crude, used to price international oils, rose 1.5 percent to close at \$75.82 per barrel.

The latest increase in oil prices helped boost energy stocks. Concho Resources gained 2.7 percent to \$137.99.

Bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury fell to 2.81 percent from 2.82 percent late Thursday.

The dollar fell to 111.20 yen from 111.28 yen late Thursday. The euro strengthened to \$1.1625 from \$1.1536.

Gold rose 1.6 percent to \$1,213.30 an ounce. Silver gained 1.7 percent to \$14.79 an ounce. Copper climbed 1.7 percent to \$2.72 a pound.

In other energy futures trading, heating oil rose 1.2 percent to \$2.20 a gallon. Wholesale gasoline gained 0.9 percent to \$2.08 a gallon. Natural fell 1.6 percent to \$2.92 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Major stock indexes in Europe eked out gains Friday. Germany's DAX rose 0.2 percent, while the CAC 40 in France added 0.2 percent. The FTSE 100 index of leading British shares gained 0.2 percent.

In Asia, Japan's Nikkei 225 stock index closed 0.9 percent higher. The Kospi in South Korea rose 0.5 percent. Hong Kong's Hang Seng lost 0.4 percent.

Prosecutors grant immunity to longtime Trump finance chief

By **BERNARD CONDON, AP Business Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — He's one of the longest-serving employees in Donald Trump's family real estate business. Through triumphs, scandals and bankruptcies, he was there.

Allen Weisselberg was handling the books when Fred Trump ran the company in the early 1970s. He was handling them when his son Donald made his mark with Trump Tower in the early '80s, then teetered on personal bankruptcy in the '90s. And he was there when Trump transformed the business around his TV celebrity in the new millennium and went on a global licensing spree.

Now the private and loyal Weisselberg is in the spotlight as the latest Trump confidant, and perhaps the most significant, to strike a deal with federal investigators for protection and to tell what he knows. Federal prosecutors have granted the Trump Organization's chief financial officer immunity in the federal probe of former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen as the president lashes out at people "flipping" to the feds.

"Weisselberg knows everything about Trump entities that have taken in money and spent it," said Trump biographer Michael D'Antonio, who writes frequently about the president's businesses. "All of this would come into play if Trump was being audited or investigated for financial crimes."

Two people with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press about the deal Friday, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly. One of them said the immunity agreement was restricted to Weisselberg's grand jury testimony last month in the Cohen case, specifically the allegations that Cohen paid hush money to two women who claimed affairs with Trump.

Whether the 71-year-old is continuing to help prosecutors was unclear. Asked if Weisselberg was cooperating further, one of the sources declined to comment.

Cohen pleaded guilty to tax and campaign finance violations Tuesday. And while not named in the Cohen case, Weisselberg is believed to be one of two Trump executives mentioned in court documents who reimbursed Cohen and falsely recorded the payments as legal expenses.

Weisselberg's deal comes on the heels of several media reports Thursday that Trump's longtime friend David Pecker, the CEO of National Enquirer publisher American Media Inc., has also been granted immunity in the Cohen probe, as well as the company's chief content officer, Dylan Howard.

The AP reported Thursday that the tabloid kept a safe containing documents about hush-money payments and damaging stories it killed as part of its cozy relationship with Trump leading up to the 2016 presidential election.

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Calls and emails to the Trump Organization to reach Weisselberg and general counsel Alan Garten were not immediately answered. An assistant said both were out of the office Friday.

Weisselberg, an intensely private, loyal numbers-man for Trump, was mentioned on an audiotape that Cohen's lawyer released in July of Cohen talking with Trump about paying for Playboy model Karen McDougal's silence in the months leading up to the election. Cohen says on the tape that he'd already spoken about the payment with Weisselberg on "how to set the whole thing up."

In Cohen's court appearance in Manhattan to enter his guilty plea Tuesday, Cohen admitted to making payments of \$150,000 to McDougal and \$130,000 to porn star Stormy Daniels "at the direction" of Trump for the "principal purpose of influencing the election."

The Trump Organization eventually reimbursed Cohen for the \$130,000 payment to Daniels, accepting sham invoices and recording the money it sent to Cohen as legal expenses. In court filings, prosecutors say two unnamed Trump Organization employees — "executive 1" and "executive 2" — helped set up the reimbursement.

"Please pay from the Trust," executive 1 is quoted directing to another unnamed employee. "Post to legal expenses."

The "Trust" refers to the entity that Trump set up after the election to hold his assets. He put the trust in the hands of his adult two sons and Weisselberg.

The identities of executive 1 and 2 are still unknown. Just because the Weisselberg and the sons were given control, that does not preclude others from handling the business.

Weisselberg is an unlikely player in the unfolding presidential drama, a low-profile employee who appeared in "The Apprentice" as a judge once but otherwise rarely drew the spotlight. He isn't even mentioned in many of the biographies of his boss.

But as a long-serving employee in the Trump family business, he is rich repository of knowledge, and the idea of him answering questions to investigators under oath poses a new danger for the president as federal prosecutors in Washington and Manhattan dig deeper into the president's business affairs.

From his first job helping with the books for Trump's father, Fred, in 1973, the Pace University graduate has gotten his fingers into nearly every aspect of the family business — vetting deals, arranging financing, auditing, managing cash — eventually rising to oversee all finances of its far-flung operations.

And aside from Trump, he is perhaps best qualified to answer two of the big questions about the businessman-turned-president over the years: Is he really worth \$10 billion, as he claims, and what's in his tax returns? Trump testified in a case years ago that Weisselberg was the one who values his properties and other assets, and he has reportedly helped with Trump's taxes.

In addition to his title as chief financial officer, Weisselberg holds executive positions at many Trump entities, including director of the Donald J. Trump Foundation, which is being sued by the New York state attorney general for allegedly tapping donations to settle legal disputes among other illegal uses. The White House has dismissed the suit as politically motivated.

Weisselberg comes off in depositions in that case and others over the years as unobtrusive, loyal and undemanding.

Asked about what he thought of a last-minute order by Trump to catch a flight to Iowa to tend to some business during the campaign, Weisselberg said in one deposition that "it doesn't matter what I thought. He's my boss. I went."

He added that it was a rare trip for him. "I have never gone anywhere with Donald."

Associated Press writers Tom Hays in New York and Eric Tucker in Washington contributed to this story.

Powell signals more hikes ahead if US economy stays strong

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell signaled Friday that he expects the Fed to continue gradually raising interest rates if the U.S. economic expansion remains strong.

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Powell added that while annual inflation has risen to near the Fed's 2 percent target rate, it doesn't seem likely to accelerate above that point. That suggests that he doesn't foresee a need for the Fed to step up its rate hikes. Next month, the Fed is widely expected to resume raising rates.

Speaking to an annual conference of central bankers in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Powell said the Fed recognizes the need to strike a careful balance between its mandates of maximizing employment and keeping price increases stable. He said a gradual approach to rate hikes is the best way to navigate between the risks of raising rates too fast and "needlessly shortening the expansion" and moving too slowly and risking an overheated economy.

"My colleagues and I," the Fed chairman said in his speech, "are carefully monitoring incoming data, and we are setting policy to do what monetary policy can do to support continued growth, a strong labor market, and inflation near 2 percent."

Powell sketched a positive picture of the U.S. economy and said the Fed's incremental approach to raising rates has so far succeeded.

"The economy is strong," he said. "Inflation is near our 2 percent objective and most people who want a job are finding one. We are setting policy to do what monetary policy can do to support continued growth, a strong labor market and inflation near 2 percent."

At the same time, Powell said that in case of another financial crisis or intensified concern about high inflation, "We will do whatever it takes." That echoed a phrase that was used to describe the extraordinary steps the Fed and other central banks took after the 2008 financial crisis plunged the U.S. and global economies into deep recessions.

The chairman's measured tone about the economy and his message that the Fed plans to stick with a gradual pace of rate hikes appeared to meet approval with investors. The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 133 points — about half a percentage point — and bond prices rose as well.

Powell made no mention of the recent public criticism from President Donald Trump, who has said he is unhappy with the Fed's rate hikes. The president has complained that the Fed's tightening of credit could threaten the continued strong growth he aims to achieve through the tax cuts enacted late last year, a pullback of regulations and a rewriting of trade deals to better serve the United States.

Many have seen Trump's complaints about the Fed's rate hikes as an intrusion on the central bank's long-standing independence from political influence. On Thursday, two top Fed officials made clear Thursday that Trump's criticism won't affect their decisions on whether to continue raising rates.

In his speech, Powell did not directly address what many analysts see as the most serious threat to the economy: The trade war that Trump has launched with America's main trading partners — a conflict that risks depressing U.S. and global economic growth the longer it goes on.

Economists said Powell's remarks Friday echoed the message he has sent since succeeding Janet Yellen as Fed leader in February. Powell has stressed that while unemployment is historically low and inflation has risen slightly, there's no sign that the economy is overheating. In his view, that's why the Fed can continue with a gradual pace of rate hikes that began under Yellen.

"Powell deliberately avoided commenting on the latest developments on trade policy, politics and risks from abroad," said Michael Pearce, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics. Pearce said he saw Powell's comments as signaling that the central bank will continue raising rates gradually over the next year.

Though Powell chose not to mention Trump's criticism, other Fed officials asserted that the president's complaints about rate hikes would have no effect on their policymaking.

"We have a mandate by law, and we do the best we can to hit the mandate" of maximizing employment and stabilizing prices, James Bullard, president of the Fed's St. Louis regional bank, said Friday in an interview on CNBC.

Powell focused his remarks in part on the difficulty the Fed faces in setting interest-rate policies at a time when the economy seems to be undergoing changes that challenge long-standing beliefs of how low unemployment can fall before it ignites inflation pressures.

He said there is also much uncertainty over the "neutral" rate of inflation — the point at which the Fed's policy rate is neither stimulating economic growth nor holding it back. The Fed's economic projections,

compiled from estimates of all its officials, estimates the current neutral rate at 2.9 percent. But Powell noted that there's a wide difference of opinion about it.

After having kept its key policy rate near zero for seven years to help lift the economy out of the Great Recession, the Fed has raised rates seven times, most recently in March and June this year. Most Fed watchers foresee two more hikes this year — next month and then in December.

After the June rate hike, the Fed's policy rate now stands in a range of 1.75 percent to 2 percent.

Bill Clinton, Smokey Robinson to speak at Franklin funeral

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY, AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Former President Bill Clinton, Smokey Robinson, the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Cicely Tyson will be among the speakers at Aretha Franklin's funeral next week.

Franklin's rep, Gwendolyn Quinn, says other speakers will include former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, music mogul Clive Davis, the Rev. Al Sharpton, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder and Bishop T.D. Jakes. Michael Eric Dyson, former TV judge Greg Mathis, Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, Detroit City Council President Brenda Jones and U.S. Rep Brenda Lawrence are also additional speakers.

Clinton and the Queen of Soul were longtime friends. She sang at both of his inaugurations. Robinson and Franklin grew up together in Detroit.

Franklin died Aug. 16 of pancreatic cancer at the age of 76. Her funeral will be held in Detroit at Greater Grace Temple next Friday.

The Rev. Jasper Williams Jr. will deliver the eulogy. He is pastor of Salem Baptist Church in Atlanta.

The performers for the service include Stevie Wonder, Jennifer Hudson, Fantasia, Faith Hill, Chaka Khan and more.

This story has been correct to show that Mike Duggan, not Brenda Lawrence, is Detroit mayor. Lawrence is a U.S. Representative.

AP-NORC Poll: Low marks for Trump, except on the economy

By HANNAH FINGERHUT, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump continues to receive poor marks from a majority of Americans on his overall job performance, even as he enjoys relatively good assessments of his handling of the economy.

A new poll released Friday by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research finds 60 percent of Americans disapprove of Trump's work as president, compared with 38 percent who approve.

Trump's approval rating has been largely stable over the course of his presidency.

Ratings of Trump among all Americans are equally dim on a host of issues, including immigration and health care, even as the president continues to receive high marks from his base of Republican supporters.

Here's a look at how the president fares in the new survey:

ECONOMY ABOVE ALL

Trump receives his best marks from the public on the economy: 51 percent say they approve of his handling of the economy, more than the share who approve of his performance on any other issue.

Nearly 9 in 10 Republicans approve of the president on economic policy.

And while Democrats are far more likely to express disapproval, 23 percent do approve of the president on the issue. That's a far greater share than the 7 percent of Democrats who approve of the job he's doing overall.

TRUMP AND RUSSIA

About a third of Americans say they approve of the president's handling of special counsel Robert Muel-

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ler's investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

Two-thirds of Republicans approve of Trump on the issue, but that's among the lowest shares of positive views among Republicans of the 10 issues included in the survey.

The poll was conducted before a jury on Tuesday found Paul Manafort, Trump's former campaign chairman, guilty on eight counts of financial crimes and before his former lawyer Michael Cohen pleaded guilty to charges that included campaign finance violations he said he carried out in coordination with Trump.

LOW RATINGS ON HEALTH CARE, IMMIGRATION

Trump continues to receive low approval ratings on both immigration and health care, two issues that Americans tend to name as important to them in the coming midterm elections.

Overall, 38 percent of Americans approve of Trump on immigration, while 36 percent approve of his work on health care.

Democrats are particularly negative toward the president on these issues — just 8 percent say they approve of him on each.

About three-quarters of Republicans approve of Trump on immigration, and a somewhat smaller majority — 7 in 10 — approve of how he's handling health care.

DIVIDED VIEWS OF NORTH KOREA

While Trump's approval rating on foreign policy remains low at 36 percent, Americans are more positive toward the president on his handling of North Korea.

Nearly half of Americans — 47 percent — approve of Trump when it comes to North Korea, while 52 percent disapprove. The share who approve of the president on North Korea spiked to 55 percent following his June summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Republicans continue to express support of the president on his handling of North Korea, with 82 percent saying they approve.

About 2 in 10 Democrats approve of his handling of North Korea as well — among the highest Democratic ratings of the issues asked — as do half of independents.

CONSERVATIVE VIEWS

Conservative Republicans are staunchly supportive of the president overall, with 86 percent saying they approve of the president's job performance. This uniform approval carries over to most issues, including the economy (95 percent), taxes (90 percent), trade (87 percent) and North Korea (89 percent).

But when it comes to the budget deficit, conservative Republicans are somewhat less approving — 75 percent say they approve of Trump's handling of the issue.

Conservative Republicans also are somewhat less likely to approve of the president on the Russia investigation (76 percent) and health care policy (77 percent).

NATIONAL OUTLOOK

Most Americans think the country is headed in the wrong direction: 62 percent say the nation is on the wrong track, compared with 38 percent who say the nation is headed the right way.

The AP-NORC Poll of 1,055 adults was conducted Aug. 16-20 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4.2 percentage points.

Online:

AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research: <http://www.apnorc.org>

Joe Arpaio's long goodbye: Redemption or 'kamikaze' mission?

By NICHOLAS RICCARDI, Associated Press

FOUNTAIN HILLS, Ariz. (AP) — It was five days before ballots will be counted in his bid for the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate, and former Arizona lawman Joe Arpaio had no idea what he was doing.

The final days of a campaign are usually frantic, with candidates' every moment scheduled to ensure they meet as many voters as possible. But Arpaio had nothing planned Thursday until a 4:30 p.m. meeting.

"I ought to go to a Mexican restaurant and see how they treat me," Arpaio, 86, said as he sat in his strip mall office. So he and his aides piled into the newly-rented campaign bus in the latest stage of what is likely to be the controversial lawman's long goodbye.

Arpaio served six terms as sheriff of Maricopa County, which includes Phoenix. He won national acclaim and condemnation for his hardline policies. He jailed inmates in tents in the desert heat. He directed deputies to hunt people in the country illegally, a practice a court found to be racial profiling. He lost his 2016 re-election bid after being convicted of contempt of court for continuing that profiling. He was pardoned by President Trump last year.

Now he's disappointed some supporters with his erratic GOP Senate primary bid in which he lags badly in polls behind U.S. Rep. Martha McSally and former state Sen. Kelli Ward. Arpaio's legacy, they fear, will be splitting the conservative vote Tuesday, letting McSally, the favorite of establishment Republicans with whom Arpaio has long feuded, win the nomination.

"It is a kamikaze mission," said Constantine Querard, a political strategist and former Arpaio supporter who supports Ward. "The only question is, is it malpractice, or is the candidate in on it?"

The Republican nominee will most likely face Democratic U.S. Rep. Kyrsten Synema, a formidable opponent whose party hopes can flip the seat from the GOP. Arpaio, analysts say, has become a mere sideshow.

"No one really understands why he's in the race," said Stan Barnes, a Republican lobbyist. "The whisper around Arizona political circles is this is the kind of thing that an 86-year-old egomaniac would do because no one can control him."

As he climbed onto the bus emblazoned with his face and a classic Arizona desert landscape, Arpaio dismissed the criticism. He fumed that McSally, an Air Force Colonel, the country's first female combat pilot and a onetime Trump critic turned supporter, has gotten all the money and attention.

"They're going for her rather than me - the loyalty I showed these people, endorsing them, getting them jobs," Arpaio said in his gravelly monotone. "Anybody in their right mind, if they were hiring, somebody would hire me, not these two novices," he added of McSally and Ward.

The bus was largely empty. The driver was the campaign manager, Chris Hegstrom, Arpaio's former spokesman at the sheriff's department. In the back were a handful of volunteers, including a former Republican candidate for Missouri's U.S. Senate who finished eighth in that primary race and brought his pistol along during the ride.

Hegstrom angled the bus into a nearby Costco parking lot. He needed to pick up hot dogs for a campaign barbecue, and the former sheriff wanted to look for votes.

Arpaio climbed down, removed his snap-on tie and immediately caused a traffic jam.

Victor Antablian, 77, stopped his black Mercedes and climbed out to shake Arpaio's hand.

"What a guy!" he cried. He coaxed his wife Jan out -- she discovered Arpaio had grown up in a western Massachusetts town near her own. Both pledged to vote for the former sheriff.

As Arpaio's aides snapped pictures other cars slowed down. Arpaio waved at the gawkers.

"Don't wave to me, I don't wave to felons," shouted a man in another Mercedes before driving past. (Arpaio's conviction of contempt of court was a misdemeanor.)

Most onlookers were thrilled to see Arpaio. One took a sheet of campaign stickers to give to her extended family. Another said his parents owned a horse ranch near Arpaio's house. Leonardo Venegas, 38, gave Arpaio a straw hat to sign, saying it was in the style of his hometown of Puebla, Mexico.

Delighted, Arpaio told Venegas in broken Spanish that he lived in Mexico for four years while working for the Drug Enforcement Administration.

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Venegas, an immigrant in the country legally, dismissed complaints that Arpaio has been racist to Latinos. "We have to recognize that a country or state without laws becomes like Mexico," Venegas said in Spanish.

John Dach had just moved to Arizona from California, drawn by the state's reputation. "When I think of Arizona and the politicians and the voters, Joe Arpaio is one of the local celebrities you think of," he said.

Dach, 34, was surprised that the former sheriff was an underdog now. "He might be more popular outside the state than inside," Dach said.

As sheriff, Arpaio became an icon for hardline immigration supporters and raised millions of dollars nationwide. He traveled to Iowa and flirted with a presidential run. But his margins of victory back home shrunk as his legal troubles grew.

Maricopa County paid tens of millions of dollars in settlements against Arpaio's agency, which piled up unsolved sex crime cases as it focused on enforcement against people in the country illegally. Arpaio arrested one Republican county supervisor who criticized him (ultimately, no charges were filed). Much of the county's growing Latino population and others mobilized against him. Arpaio lost his re-election bid in 2016 by 12 percentage points even as Trump won Arizona.

"The longer he stayed, the more people grew tired of his antics," Barnes said.

Republican voters now wonder whether the former sheriff is too old -- he'd be the oldest person ever elected to a first term in the U.S. Senate and would be 92 when his term would end.

Scott Reed, 57, a contractor, shook Arpaio's hand and said: "You should be on a beach somewhere taking it easy."

"I'll race you around the block," Arpaio countered.

Reed revealed he was a Democrat. "I'll get your vote in November," Arpaio said.

Reed looked at the sheriff sympathetically. "Good luck to you, Joe," he said.

Energized by the largely supportive crowd, Arpaio climbed back on the bus. It headed for the Mexican restaurant.

The bus arrived too late for a big reaction - the lunch rush had ended. The owner greeted the sheriff warmly and asked what he wanted.

"Spaghetti and meatballs," Arpaio quipped. He got a bean and cheese tostada.

The scene inside was muted, a far cry from the Costco frenzy. A few people stopped to thank the former sheriff and snap pictures. Others averted their eyes.

After eating, Arpaio and his entourage piled back into the bus. Time to head back for that scheduled meeting.

"I don't feel like I'm in my 80s," a contemplative Arpaio said as the bus cut through the afternoon heat and haze. "I work continuously. I don't have any hobbies."

"I've got one more shot."

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Aug. 25, the 237th day of 2018. There are 128 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 25, 1944, during World War II, Paris was liberated by Allied forces after four years of Nazi occupation.

On this date:

In 1718, hundreds of French colonists arrived in Louisiana, with some settling in present-day New Orleans.

In 1875, Capt. Matthew Webb became the first person to swim across the English Channel, getting from Dover, England, to Calais (ka-LAY'), France, in 22 hours.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed an act establishing the National Park Service within the Department of the Interior.

In 1921, the United States signed a peace treaty with Germany.

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In 1928, an expedition led by Richard E. Byrd set sail from Hoboken, N.J., on its journey to Antarctica.
In 1967, George Lincoln Rockwell, founder of the American Nazi Party, was shot to death in the parking lot of a shopping center in Arlington, Virginia; former party member John Patler was later convicted of the killing.

In 1981, the U.S. spacecraft Voyager 2 came within 63,000 miles of Saturn's cloud cover, sending back pictures of and data about the ringed planet.

In 1985, Samantha Smith, 13, the schoolgirl whose letter to Yuri V. Andropov resulted in her famous peace tour of the Soviet Union, died with her father in an airliner crash in Auburn, Maine.

In 1993, Amy Biehl, a 26-year-old Fulbright scholar from Newport Beach, Calif., was slain by a mob near Cape Town, South Africa. (The four men convicted in Biehl's death claimed the attack was part of the war on apartheid; they were granted amnesty after confessing before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.)

In 2001, rhythm-and-blues singer Aaliyah (ah-LEE'-yah) was killed with eight others in a plane crash in the Bahamas; she was 22.

In 2004, an Army investigation found that 27 people attached to an intelligence unit at Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad either approved or participated in the abuse of Iraqi prisoners.

In 2009, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy died at age 77 in Hyannis Port, Massachusetts, after a battle with a brain tumor.

Ten years ago: Democrats opened their national convention in Denver, where they prepared to nominate Barack Obama for president; in the first major address of the gathering, Michelle Obama declared, "I love this country" as she described herself as a daughter, a sister, a wife and a mother, no different from many women. Israel freed nearly 200 jailed Palestinians in a goodwill gesture hours before U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice began her peace mission to the region.

Five years ago: Syria agreed to a U.N. investigation into an alleged chemical weapons attack outside Damascus — a deal a senior White House official dismissed as "too late to be credible," saying the United States had "very little doubt" President Bashar Assad's forces used such weapons. Tokyo beat Chula Vista, California, 6-4 to win the Little League World Series in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Sixteen-year-old New Zealander Lydia Ko succeeded in defending her title at the Canadian Women's Open with a five-stroke victory over Karine Icher.

One year ago: Hurricane Harvey, the fiercest hurricane to hit the U.S. in more than a decade, made landfall near Corpus Christi, Texas, with 130 mph sustained winds; the storm would deliver five days of rain totaling close to 52 inches, the heaviest tropical downpour ever recorded in the continental U.S. The hurricane left at least 68 people dead and caused an estimated \$125 billion in damage in Texas. President Donald Trump pardoned former Arizona sheriff Joe Arpaio, who had been convicted of a misdemeanor contempt-of-court charge for defying a judge's orders that he stop conducting immigration patrols; the 85-year-old retired lawman had faced the prospect of jail time at his sentencing in October. The Trump administration slapped sweeping financial sanctions on Venezuela, making it harder for embattled President Nicolas Maduro to raise cash needed to prevent a debt default.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Sean Connery is 88. Actor Page Johnson is 88. TV personality Regis Philbin is 87. Actor Tom Skerritt is 85. Jazz musician Wayne Shorter is 85. Movie director Hugh Hudson is 82. Author Frederick Forsyth is 80. Movie director John Badham is 79. Filmmaker Marshall Brickman is 79. Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal is 76. Rhythm-and-blues singer Walter Williams (The O'Jays) is 75. Actor Anthony Heald is 74. Rock singer-actor Gene Simmons is 69. Actor John Savage is 69. Author Martin Amis is 69. Country singer-musician Henry Paul (Outlaws; Blackhawk) is 69. Rock singer Rob Halford is 67. Rock musician Geoff Downes (Asia) is 66. Rock singer Elvis Costello is 64. Movie director Tim Burton is 60. Actor Christian LeBlanc is 60. Actress Ashley Crow is 58. Actress Ally Walker is 57. Country singer Cyrus (AKA Billy Ray Cyrus) is 57. Actress Joanne Whalley is 57. Rock musician Vivian Campbell (Def Leppard) is 56. Actor Blair Underwood is 54. Actor Robert Maschio is 52. Rap DJ Terminator X (Public Enemy) is 52. Alternative country singer Jeff Tweedy (Wilco) is 51. Actor David Alan Basche (BAYSH) is 50. Television chef Rachael Ray is 50. Actor Cameron Mathison is 49. Country singer Jo Dee Messina is 48. Model Claudia Schiffer is 48. Country singer Brice Long is 47. Actor-writer-director Ben Falcone is 45. Actor Eric Millegan is 44. Actor

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Alexander Skarsgard is 42. Actor Jonathan Togo is 41. Actor Kel Mitchell is 40. Actress Rachel Bilson is 37. Actress Blake Lively is 31. Actor Josh Flitter is 24.

Thought for Today: "Tradition is what you resort to when you don't have the time or the money to do it right." — Kurt Herbert Adler, Austrian-born conductor (1905-1988).