

Groton Daily Independent

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“Holding on is believing
that there's only a past;
letting go is knowing
that there's
a future.”

-Daphne
Rose Kingma

Chicken Soup
for the Soul

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

The logo for HARR Motors features a red square with the letters 'hm' in white, followed by the word 'HARR' in a bold, red, serif font, and 'Motors' in a black, cursive script font below it.

www.harrmotors.com

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Today's Events

- 10:00am: Golf: Boys Varsity Meet vs. Madison
@ Madison Golf Course
- 3:00pm: Golf: Boys JH Meet vs. Redfield-Doland
@ Redfield Golf Course
- 4:00pm: Cross Country: Varsity Meet vs. Britton-
Hecla School @ Britton Golf Course
- 4:30pm: Volleyball: Girls 7th/8th Match vs. Web-
ster Area High School @ Groton Area High School
(7th Grade and 8th Grade start at 4:30 p.m.)
- 5:00pm: Football: Boys JV Game vs. Sisseton @
Groton Area High School
- 6:00pm: Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match vs. Web-
ster Area High School @ Groton Area High School
(C & JV matches start at 6pm)

The Differences Between Women and Men

Recently, I received a (meant to be humorous) email that explained why life is simpler for men than for women. "Our last name always stays the same; the garage is mostly all ours; mechanics tell us the truth; we get extra credit for the slightest act of thoughtfulness; our underwear is only \$8.85 for a three-pack; we can play with toys all our lives," and, finally: "We do the same work but get more pay." The last zinger struck a dissonant chord.



By Richard P. Holm M.D.

I know that, even though things have been getting better over time for women, equal rights and equal pay is a glass ceiling that has not yet been broken. After all, it has been less than 100 years since women have had the right to vote; the gender wage gap continues; violence against women persists; and poverty and homelessness is worse for women, especially single mothers. Plain and simple: unfair discrimination toward women persists.

Because of these injustices, there has been some societal rejection of discussion about the differences between the sexes as politically incorrect. I get that, because, despite some improvements in societal equality, there remains perpetrated bigotry against those who some consider "different" (be it because of their sexual orientation, sexual identity, or race). However, from a medical standpoint, there are important and real dissimilarities between women and men which are solely based on physiology, like hormonal differences that influences behavior and size.

For example: in a study applying topical testosterone to half of a large group of normal men, the men with increased testosterone were less willing to check themselves for mistakes and appeared over-confident. This could explain why men, who naturally produce more testosterone than women, are sometimes more reluctant to admit when a problem becomes obvious and less willing to seek help or ask for directions. Another example: the average U.S. adult man weighs 196 pounds and is 5 feet 9 inches tall while the average adult woman weighs 168 and is just under 5 feet 4. (Incidentally, average U.S. people weigh about 30 pounds more than they did 50 years ago.)

Recognizing the physical differences between the sexes should not mean either sex is inferior. We should combat unjust inequalities while embracing what makes us unique. Understanding the biological differences between the sexes should simply allow us to find treatment for medical and behavioral problems and to best love and support each other.

Watch On Call with the Prairie Doc® most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central on SDPTV and follow the Prairie Doc® on Facebook and YouTube for free and easy access to the entire Prairie Doc® library.

Robert B. Johnson Estate Auction

Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018 10AM

Location: 204 Hickory St., Langford, SD

Selling an amazing assortment of Guns, 1972 Harley Davidson, Cushman, Vehicles, Fish House & Sporting, Collectibles, Collectible Coins, Metal Signs. Something here to fit all your needs!

Pictures & Full Sale Bill at voldrealty.com

Owner: Robert B. Johnson Estate

www.voldrealty.com

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A Deadlier Enemy than Poison Gas



The photograph is of the open air funeral held for Helmer Casper at Trinity Lutheran Church in Oldham. Helmer entered the Army in September 1918 and was stationed at the government training camp at the School of Mines in Rapid City. He died at the camp on Oct. 9, 1918.

(South Dakota State Historical Society – State Archives photo)

“Coughs and sneezes spread diseases as dangerous as poison gas shells.”

This saying printed in newspapers of the time may have been as catchy as the disease it was warning against: the Spanish influenza.

The disease claimed more lives than bullets and shells during World War I, which was drawing to a close in the fall of 1918. An estimated 18 million people died in the Great War, according to the National Archives. The influenza epidemic killed an estimated 50 million to 100 million people worldwide during a two-year period. One-fifth of the world’s population contracted the deadly virus.

According to the website Stanford.edu, the first wave of influenza appeared in the spring of 1918 at Fort Riley, Kan., where new recruits were trained before being sent to Europe to fight in the Great War.

As soldiers fanned out to fight the Great War, the virus made its way around the globe. The disease became known as the Spanish influenza because the Spanish news media was the first to widely report the epidemic. The disease was also called grippe, the three-day fever and other names.

The war brought the virus back into the United States in the fall of 1918 for the second wave of the epidemic. It first arrived in Boston in September 1918 through the port, according to Stanford.edu. According to the National Archives, this time the disease was far more severe than it had been in the spring.

By September 1918, newspapers reported that the epidemic of Spanish influenza was sweeping Army and Navy camps in the United States.

South Dakota residents were certainly not immune from the effects of the deadly disease as Spanish flu spread across the nation.

Delo Townsend was a young high school math teacher and principal at Langford in 1918. In an interview that appeared in the Sept. 9, 1976, Fort Pierre Times, she said, “Sometime in October, many people started getting sick with this pneumonia type illness – cough, aching bones and high temperatures. Schools had

SOUTH DAKOTA

HISTORY & HERITAGE

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to close. When it got really bad, my school board decided to turn our high school into a hospital.”

There were funerals every day, she said. Some took place outside to keep down the spread of the disease.

“Often hardly anybody dared attend the funerals,” Townsend said.

According to an article in the Spring 1987 issue of “South Dakota History,” records of McKennan Hospital (now Avera McKennan Hospital) in Sioux Falls reported 173 cases of Spanish influenza in 1918-1919.

“The high death rate severely taxed mortuary facilities in Sioux Falls ... Many local doctors were still in military service due to World War I and were unable to return home to minister to the sick. Entire families often fell ill, and the greatest number of stricken people stayed home, with the strongest helping the weakest through the crisis. Still, the hospital became so crowded that beds were set up in corridors and all other areas where space was available,” stated the article by Susan C. Peterson.

Newspaper articles listed symptoms of the disease. They included high fever, headache, general soreness, sore throat, cough and inflamed mucous membranes. While the young and elderly are usually hit hardest by such diseases, those ages 20-40 were the hardest hit by the Spanish influenza.

Across South Dakota and the nation, public gatherings were forbidden. Schools, colleges, theaters, churches, pool halls and other public gathering places closed.

Advice in the Oct. 23, 1918, Daily Huronite about how to avoid the Spanish influenza included keeping in good condition; getting as much fresh air as possible; avoiding people with colds; not staying in stores longer than necessary; breathing through a clean handkerchief when around people with colds or when in a crowd; and keeping off the main streets in order to avoid contact with people.

An anti-spitting ordinance was enforced in Rapid City to help stop the spread of the disease. People were arrested or fined for spitting on city sidewalks.

By the end of 1918, 1,847 people in South Dakota had died of Spanish influenza, according to the South Dakota Department of Vital Statistics. The four counties with the most influenza deaths were Lawrence with 145, Brown with 118, Beadle with 98 and Minnehaha with 95. Some people with Spanish flu died from pneumonia. The total number of deaths from influenza and pneumonia in 1918 was 2,391.

In 1919, there were 700 deaths from influenza in South Dakota.

The flu epidemic came to an end by the summer of 1919. An estimated 675,000 Americans had died during the epidemic.

This moment in South Dakota history is provided by the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation, the nonprofit fundraising partner of the South Dakota State Historical Society at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. Find us on the web at www.sdhsf.org. Contact us at info@sdhsf.org to submit a story idea.

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GROTON
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

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

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Today in Weather History

September 4, 2001: Near record or record heat hit central and north central South Dakota on this day in 2001. High temperatures during the afternoon were in the upper 90s to around 105 degrees. Pierre and Kennebec set record highs of 105 and 106, respectively. Mobridge rose to a high of 96, and Timber Lake topped out at 98 degrees on this day in 2001.

1766: A hurricane made landfall at modern-day Galveston, Texas. The following is from David Roth of the Weather Prediction Center. "A mission, named San Augustine de Ahumado was located in what is now-days known as Chambers County. This mission was destroyed and subsequently abandoned. A seven-foot storm surge put the area under water. A richly-laden treasure fleet of 5 galleons en route from Vera Cruz to Havana was driven ashore and had to wait many weeks for assistance to come. La Caraqueña wrecked on Galveston Island while El Nuevo de Constante sank along the western Louisiana coast. Fortunately, much of the treasure and people aboard were saved."

1939 - A thunderstorm deluged Washington D.C. with 4.4 inches of rain in two hours. September of that year was very dry across much of the nation, and Washington D.C. received more rain in that two hour period than most other places in the country that entire month. (David Ludlum)

1941: A violent tornado ripped through Northeast and North Minneapolis shortly after noon on this day. The hardest hit location was the Soo Line Railroad's Shoreham Yards where four people died, and at least 50 were injured. The death toll at Soo Line could have been higher, but the tornado struck five minutes after the lunch bell went off, meaning 100 men left the shops.

1970 - The greatest natural disaster of record for Arizona occurred. Unprecedented rains caused rivers in central Arizona to rise five to ten feet per hour, sweeping cars and buildings as far as 30 to 40 miles downstream. Flooding claimed the lives of 23 persons, mainly campers, and caused millions of dollars damage. Water crested 36 feet above normal near Sunflower AZ. Workman's Creek was deluged with 11.40 inches of rain in 24 hours to establish a state record. Moisture from Pacific Tropical Storm Norma led to the severe flooding. (4th-6th) (The Weather Channel)

1986 - An unusually strong dust devil moved across the Flagstaff Pulliam Airport. The dust devil blew open the doors of the National Weather Service office scattering papers and bringing down a ceiling-mounted light fixture. (Storm Data)

1987 - Thunderstorms developing along a stationary front produced heavy rain across the Southern Atlantic Coast States. Up to eight inches was reported north of Charleston SC. Serious flooding was reported in Monks Corner SC. Seven cities in the northeastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. Houlton ME dipped to 32 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - The western U.S. experienced another day of record heat. The afternoon high of 91 degrees at Stampede Pass WA established an all-time record for that location, and Los Angeles CA equalled their all-time record high with a reading of 110 degrees. A record high of 107 degrees at San Diego CA was their hottest reading in 25 years. Red Bluff CA was the hot spot in the nation with an afternoon reading of 118 degrees. (National Weather Summary)

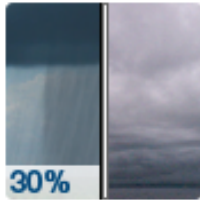
1989 - Overnight thunderstorm rains of four and a half to seven inches drenched eastern Nebraska during the morning hours, pushing creeks out of their banks, and flooding fields, country roads and city streets. Totals ranged up to 6.97 inches south of Creston. It was also a soggy Labor Day for northern Florida. Jacksonville reported 6.82 inches of rain, and evening thunderstorms produced 2.75 inches of rain in one hour at Sandlewood. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

2007: Hurricane Felix came ashore in the pre-dawn hours as a Category 5 storm on the Miskito Coast of Nicaragua. At the time of its landfall, the maximum sustained surface winds were approximately 160 mph. Felix killed at least 130 people along the Miskito Coast, with damage in Nicaragua totaling \$46.7 million dollars.

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Today



Chance Showers then Cloudy

High: 76 °F

Tonight



Mostly Cloudy

Low: 52 °F

Wednesday



Sunny

High: 70 °F

Wednesday Night



Mostly Clear

Low: 44 °F

Thursday



Sunny

High: 75 °F





National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD
9/4/2018 4:54 AM

Today



73-79°

**Cooler,
Cloudy Day -- Heavy
Rain Showers and
Tstorms Possible**

3 Day Forecast

| Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |
| 70-75° | 70-80° | 70-80° |

Published on: 09/04/2018 at 4:59AM

A couple of weather systems will affect the region today bringing some showers and thunderstorms. Best chances for heavier showers will be east of the James River valley today, especially along and east of I-29. Temperatures will be a bit cooler today due to the extra cloud cover. More pleasant conditions are expected Wednesday through the remainder of the work week.

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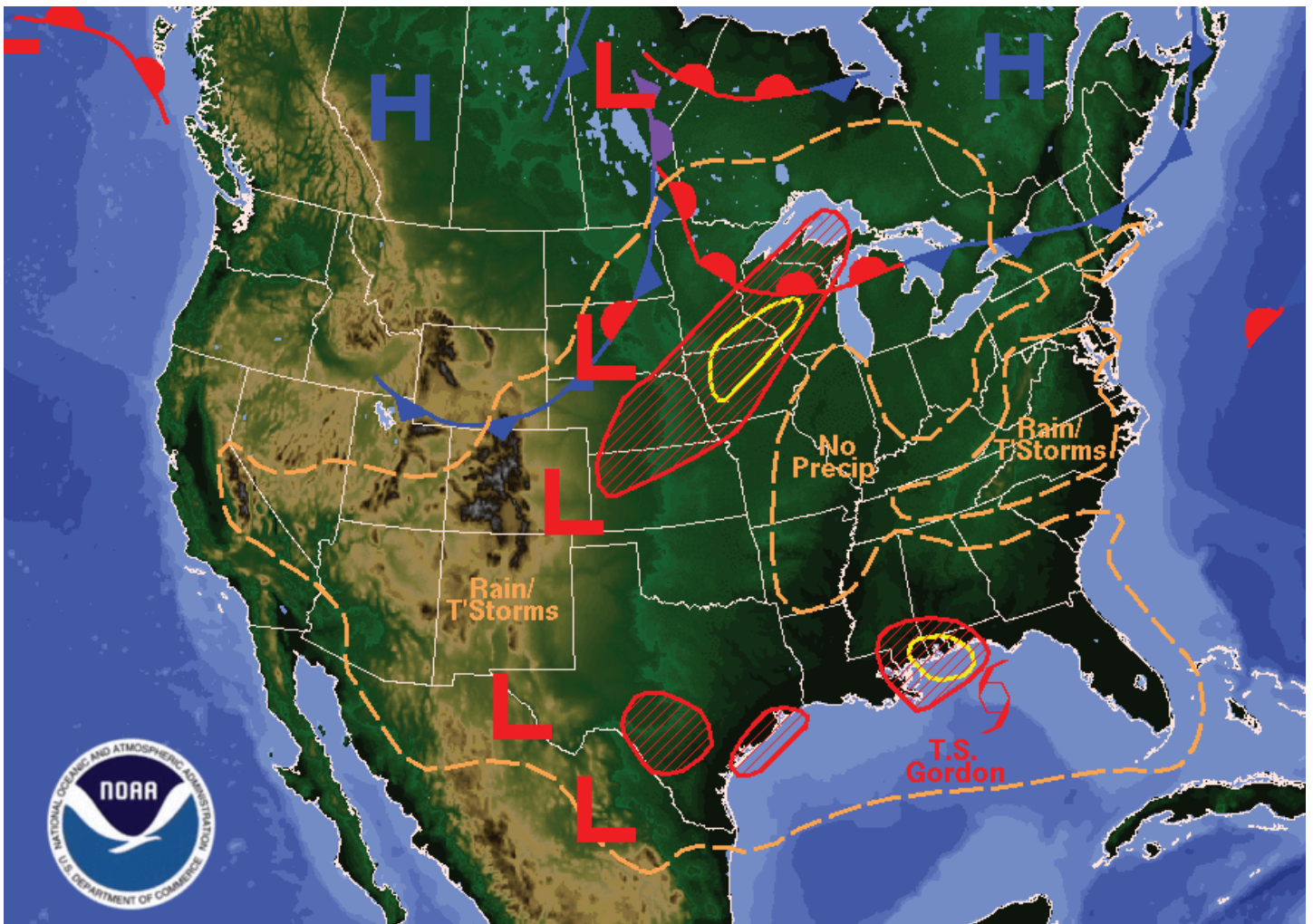
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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 82.1 F at 3:29 PM
Low Outside Temp: 55.8 F at 3:23 AM
High Gust: 19.0 Mph at 4:54 PM
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 102° in 1897
Record Low: 31° in 1974
Average High: 77°F
Average Low: 51°F
Average Precip in Sept.: 0.16
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.10
Average Precip to date: 16.45
Precip Year to Date: 11.36
Sunset Tonight: 8:08 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:59 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Tue, Sep 04, 2018, issued 4:52 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

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

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WATCHING OUR WORDS

Years ago, while serving as a Navy chaplain, I was ordered to park my car in a specially designated area and stand beside it. I was rather amazed that a chaplain and an officer would be subjected to such scrutiny. I had my uniform on with the proper symbols to announce my status. Why, of all people, was I being searched, I asked. Looking at me as he would have looked at any other person, a shore patrolman said in a quiet, yet stern voice, Just a routine matter, Sir. Only later was I told that a critical item was missing from the armory. He was ordered to carefully guard against anything leaving the installation without the commanding officers approval.

David went to God with an unusual request: Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep a watch over the door of my lips. David knew that he might say something that could be dangerous and destructive to others. But, he had a solution: He asked God for a guard to control his speech. He did not want any evil words to exit his mouth that could harm others. No doubt he had been harmed by the words of others and knew how painful and harmful words could be.

Jesus said, Nothing that enters a man from the outside can make him unclean...it is from within, out of a mans heart, come evil thoughts (that) make a man unclean. Jesus knew how to stop harmful words and deeds. Keep them away from me and me away from them!

David knew about harmful words. So, he also asked God for something else that was very important: Let not my heart be drawn to what is evil. Why? Evil in - evil out.

Prayer: Lord, Your advice is so practical and purposeful. May it take over our hearts and keep us from evil. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 141:3 Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep a watch over the door of my lips.

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

South Dakota Prep Polls By The Associated Press

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Prep Media football polls for the week of Sept. 3 are listed below, ranking the top-five teams in each class. First-place votes received are indicated in parentheses.

Class 11AAA

| Rank-School | FPV | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|---------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Sioux Falls Roosevelt | (19) | 2-0 | 119 | 3 |
| 2. Sioux Falls O'Gorman | (6) | 2-0 | 104 | 2 |
| 3. Sioux Falls Washington | - | 1-1 | 71 | 1 |
| 4. Brandon Valley | - | 1-1 | 48 | 5 |
| 5. Watertown | - | 2-0 | 16 | RV |

Others receiving votes: Sioux Falls Lincoln 15, Rapid City Stevens 2.

Class 11AA

| Rank-School | FPV | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|-----------------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Harrisburg | (16) | 1-1 | 110 | 1 |
| 3. Mitchell (6) | 1-1 | 100 | 2 | |
| 1. Pierre | - | 1-1 | 73 | 3 |
| 4. Huron (3) | 2-0 | 57 | 5 | |
| 5. Brookings | - | 1-1 | 29 | 4 |

Others receiving votes: Sturgis 3.

Class 11A

| Rank-School | FPV | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|--------------------|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1. Dakota Valley | (22) | 2-0 | 121 | 1 |
| 2. Madison (3) | 2-0 | 96 | 2 | |
| 3. Tea Area | - | 2-0 | 83 | 3 |
| 4. Dell Rapids | - | 1-1 | 39 | 5 |
| 5. St. Thomas More | - | - | 1-1 | 20 4 |

Others receiving votes: Milbank 13, Belle Fourche 1, Hot Springs 1, Lennox 1.

Class 11B

| Rank-School | FPV | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|----------------------------|------|-----|-----|-------|
| 1. SF Christian | (24) | 2-0 | 124 | 1 |
| 2. Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan | | (1) | 2-0 | 101 2 |
| 3. Mount Vernon-Plankinton | | - | 3-0 | 65 3 |
| 4. Canton | - | 3-0 | 54 | 4 |
| 5. Winner | - | 2-1 | 24 | 5 |

Others receiving votes: Beresford 4, Custer 3.

Class 9AA

| Rank-School | FPV | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Gregory (18) | 3-0 | 117 | 1 | |
| 2. Wolsey-Wessington | (7) | 3-0 | 107 | 2 |
| 3. Irene-Wakonda | - | 3-0 | 75 | 3 |

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4. Bon Homme - 2-1 33 5
5. Baltic - 3-0 16 RV
Others receiving votes: Arlington/Lake Preston 11, Garretson 6, Webster Area 5, Hamlin 3, North Border 1, Kimball-White Lake 1.

Class 9A

| Rank-School | FPV | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|----------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Britton-Hecla | (24) | 3-0 | 123 | 1 |
| 2. Warner (1) | 3-0 | 91 | 3 | |
| 3. Clark-Willow Lake | - | 3-0 | 73 | 4 |
| 4. Canistota4Freeman | - | 2-0 | 35 | 5 |
| 5. Alcester-Hudson | - | 3-0 | 21 | NR |

Others receiving votes: Corsica-Stickney 18, Timber Lake 14.

Class 9B

| Rank-School | FPV | Rcd | TP | Pvs |
|-------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Sully Buttes | (23) | 2-0 | 121 | 1 |
| 2. Castlewood | (1) | 3-0 | 87 | 2 |
| 3. Colome - | 3-0 | 79 | 3 | |
| 4. Colman-Egan | - | 2-0 | 55 | 4 |
| 5. Harding County | - | 3-0 | 26 | 5 |

Others receiving votes: Faulkton Area 5, Wall 2.

Report: Midwest economic conditions take leap forward

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A monthly survey report suggests economic conditions in nine Midwest and Plains states took a leap forward last month.

The report released Tuesday says the Mid-America Business Conditions Index jumped to 61.1 in August, compared with 57.0 in July. It's the 21st straight month that the index remained above growth neutral 50.0.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss oversees the survey, and he says the region's manufacturing growth of 3.1 percent over the past 12 months exceeds the U.S. growth rate of 2.6 percent.

The survey results are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests growth. A score below that suggests decline.

The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Semi rollover in Gregory County kills passenger

BONESTEEL, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a 36-year-old man died in a single-vehicle crash east of Bonesteel, in Gregory County.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says Jagdish Singh, of Edmonton, Alberta, was a passenger in 2014 semi-trailer that lost control Friday on a curve on U.S. Highway 281. The semi and trailer rolled into the ditch.

Singh was thrown from the truck. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver of the semi, 32-year-old Gurpreet Brar, of Edmonton, suffered serious non-life threatening injuries.

The highway patrol is considering charges in the case.

Company looking for gold tries to claim 1898 water right

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — State regulators say there's no evidence that a Canadian company exploring for gold in the Black Hills has ownership of a water right dating back to 1898.

The Rapid City Journal reports that Mineral Mountain Resources tried to use the claim to use water from Rapid Creek to lubricate the drill it is using in mountainous terrain near Rochford. The company says it is currently buying water from the city of Lead and hauling it 20 miles to drilling sites.

Company lawyers say the right to the Rapid Creek water is associated with a historical structure known as the Standby Mill. State Department of Environment and Natural Resources officials say they believe the claim was "abandoned or forfeited" by not being in use for several decades.

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

Rug-weaving is substitute for sleep for Roslyn couple

By EMMA GALLAGHER, Aberdeen American News

ROSLYN, S.D. (AP) — If it's 3 in the morning and they can't sleep, it must be time for some rug-weaving. At least that's the mindset of one Roslyn couple.

Married for 39 years, Ardella and Jay Galvin, both 75, spend as much time as they can creating woven rugs in their shop, which is spread across three buildings and multiple trailers, the American News reported. They use 17 looms.

Over time they've put a lot of effort into their work and are proud of what they've created.

"We fully stand behind our rugs," Ardella Galvin said. "(Jay) and I have been doing this together for almost 40 years, and we've never had a rug come back."

While their marriage was the beginning of the work for Jay Galvin, his wife has been at it for nearly 65 years.

When she was 10, Ardella Galvin's family purchased a loom as a way to bring in some extra money. She and her three siblings each had jobs to do. Being the oldest, Galvin had a little more experience and responsibility. That exposure and learning the ins and outs of the looms is why she has maintained interest through six decades.

This rug was completed after nearly half a day on the loom. Most rugs take about 10 hours of weaving on the loom.

But there have definitely been some changes since her family acquired the first loom — one still used today.

For starters, the price of a rug back then was \$2 or \$3. Today, it's closer to \$40.

The couple also uses its own material for rugs rather than it being provided by customers. That's why the stockpile of material seems to take over the entire Galvin shop. There are nearly 1,000 chenille bedspreads and a couple thousand flannel sheets, as well as stacks of corduroy and denim lining the walls, the Galvins estimate.

From these walls of material the process could take a few days before material actually put on the loom and made into a rug. These preparation days consist of tearing the material into strips, fraying it out, sewing strips together and rolling the material into a ball to reduce the amount of space it takes up.

"When we really want to stay to it we'll make three a day, but getting the material ready could take four days," Ardella Galvin said.

But the extra time is necessary.

"We're fussy," she said. "We just don't rush through it."

Upon seeing a finished product, they know their time was worthwhile.

"I like seeing the aftermath," Jay Galvin said. "Getting to see what it looks like."

Ardella Galvin said the same, and thinks she and her husband surprise themselves with what they make.

"You really never know how pretty it's going to be until it's done and you look at it," she said. "We look at it and say, 'Geez, you know people aren't gonna believe we made this.'"

Every year the Galvins travel to about 12 shows where they both sell their products and show off their loom. Although they used to travel all over, now they're sticking to nearby shows in South Dakota, North Dakota and Iowa.

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As they start to slow down a bit, it's their hope that down the road relatives will inherit the looms and carry on what they've been doing for so long.

That shouldn't be a problem as the couple has grandchildren who are already involved and taking an interest in the process, Galvin said.

But even with family willing to take over, the couple is holding onto the craft, working as much as possible. "We pretty well are always together (working)," she said.

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

Feds, state lawmakers propose new ways to help Native women

By SHARON COHEN, AP National Writer

Federal and state lawmakers have proposed or adopted a series of measures designed to address the problem of missing and murdered Native American women and related issues, such as human trafficking, domestic violence and rape. Among them:

FROM CAPITOL HILL

— Savanna's Act : The legislation, introduced last fall by North Dakota Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, seeks to expand tribal access to some federal crime databases and establish protocols for handling cases of missing and murdered Native Americans. It also would require annual reports to Congress on the number of missing and murdered Native American women. The Democratic senator says if authorities have accurate statistics, they might be able to detect patterns that help solve more cases. Last year, Heitkamp also launched the #NotInvisible social media campaign to draw attention to this problem.

— End Trafficking of Native Americans Act: The bill , introduced in July by three senators — Heitkamp, Lisa Murkowski, an Alaska Republican, and Catherine Cortez Masto, a Nevada Democrat — would expand efforts to combat human trafficking among Native Americans and Alaska Natives. It would establish an advisory committee to make recommendations to the Justice and Interior departments and a coordinator within the Bureau of Indian Affairs to organize prevention efforts across federal agencies.

— SURVIVE Act (Securing Urgent Resources Vital to Indian Victim Empowerment): This measure would create a tribal grant program within the Justice Department. It would allot 5 percent from a federal crime victims' fund for grants that could be used to help tribes assist survivors of violent crimes and set up programs and services, including rape crisis centers and domestic violence shelters. The bill was reintroduced last year by Sen. John Hoeven, a North Dakota Republican, and has several bipartisan co-sponsors.

—The National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls. The Senate unanimously passed a resolution designating the day in memory of Hanna Harris, who was murdered in July 2013 on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in Montana. The first day of awareness was May 5, 2017, which would have been Harris' 25th birthday. A woman and her common-law husband pleaded guilty in Harris' death, and both were sentenced to prison.

STATE INITIATIVES

— WASHINGTON: In June, a law was enacted that requires the Washington State Patrol to conduct a study to examine how to improve the collection and sharing of information about missing Native American women. The study also will develop an estimate of how many Native women are missing in the state. "We don't even know the exact scope of our problem," says State Patrol spokeswoman Monica Alexander. "We have been told there are hundreds ... and nobody is doing anything about it." Patrol officials will travel the state to assess the problem and meet with Native Americans. Washington is home to 29 tribes. The patrol will present a report to the Legislature next June.

— MONTANA: The Legislature's State-Tribal Relations Committee heard testimony this spring that could lead to five bills addressing missing persons. These measures were inspired, in part, by discussions about missing and murdered Native American women. One proposal is called Hanna's Act, in remembrance of Hanna Harris. It would authorize the state's Justice Department to assist with the investigation of all missing person cases and employ a specialist who would act as a liaison between families and law enforce-

ment agencies. A second proposal would require law enforcement to accept, without delay, reports of missing persons. Harris' family complained authorities were slow to search for Hanna after they reported her missing. The committee meets Sept. 7 to decide whether to move the proposed legislation forward.

— MINNESOTA: A bill to establish a governor's task force to address missing and murdered Native women in the state failed to pass the Legislature this year. But the chief sponsor, state Rep. Mary Kunesh-Podein, says she is working with activists to gather data and plans to tweak the measure with additional information and reintroduce it in January.

Gordon strengthens, expected to hit Gulf Coast as hurricane

By JENNIFER KAY, Associated Press

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Tropical Storm Gordon is strengthening and should hit the central U.S. Gulf Coast as a hurricane late Tuesday before moving over the lower Mississippi Valley on Wednesday.

Gordon formed into a tropical storm near the Florida Keys early Monday, lashing the southern part of the state with heavy rains and high winds.

By early Tuesday morning, the storm was centered 230 miles (365 kilometers) east-southeast of the mouth of the Mississippi River, with top sustained winds of 65 mph (100 kph), forecasters said. It was moving relatively quickly, at about 17 mph (28 kph)

A hurricane warning was put into effect for the mouth of the Pearl River in Mississippi to the Alabama-Florida border. As much as 8 inches (20 centimeters) of rain could fall in some parts of the Gulf states through late Thursday.

The Miami-based National Hurricane Center is predicting a "life-threatening" storm surge along parts of the central Gulf Coast. A storm surge warning has been issued for the area stretching from Shell Beach, Louisiana, to Dauphin Island, Alabama. The warning means there is danger of life-threatening inundation. The region could see rising waters of 3 to 5 feet (0.9 to 1.5 meters).

"The deepest water will occur along the immediate coast near and to the east of the landfall location, where the surge will be accompanied by large waves," the center said.

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards declared a state of emergency Monday and said 200 National Guard troops will be deployed to southeastern Louisiana.

The storm's predicted track had shifted slightly east as of Monday evening, meaning Louisiana is currently just outside the area under the hurricane warning. Still, the southeastern part of the state remains under a tropical storm warning and residents need to be prepared for the storm to shift west, Edwards said.

"This storm has every possibility to track further in our direction," Edwards said during a news conference Monday evening.

New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell said the city has "the pumps and the power" needed to protect residents. But authorities issued a voluntary evacuation order for areas outside the city's levee protection system, including the Venetian Isles, Lake Saint Catherine and Irish Bayou areas.

Cantrell urged residents within the levee protection area to stock up on supplies and shelter in place.

Miami Beach Police said via Twitter that the Labor Day holiday was "NOT a beach day," with rough surf and potential rip currents. Red flags flew over Pensacola-area beaches in Florida's Panhandle, where swimming and wading in the Gulf of Mexico was prohibited. More than 4,000 Florida Power & Light customers lost power Monday due to weather conditions.

The National Weather Service said conditions were "possible" for tornadoes in the affected parts of South Florida on Monday night.

The storm left many businesses on Florida's Gulf Coast feeling shortchanged by the holiday weekend. The area has already been heavily impacted by this summer's so-called "red tide"— massive algae blooms that have caused waves of dead marine life to wash up along the coast.

Jenna Wright, owner of a coffee shop in Naples, Florida, told the Naples Daily News that she had expected higher numbers for the Labor Day weekend.

"This is normally a decent weekend, but the storm and red tide aren't helping," Wright said. "We're a

beach coffee shop, and if people can't go to the beach, then we won't get any customers."

Separately, Tropical Storm Florence continues to hold steady over the eastern Atlantic. Forecasters say little change in strength is expected in coming days and no coastal watches or warnings are in effect.

Associated Press writer Ben Nadler in Atlanta contributed to this report.

Kaepernick has new deal with Nike though he's not in NFL

By ROB MAADDI, AP Pro Football Writer

Colin Kaepernick has a new deal with Nike, even without having a job in the NFL.

Kaepernick's attorney, Mark Geragos, made the announcement on Twitter, calling the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback an "All American Icon" and crediting attorney Ben Meiselas for getting the deal done. Kaepernick also posted a Nike ad featuring his face and wrote: "Believe in something, even if it means sacrificing everything. (Hashtag) JustDoIt"

Kaepernick already had a deal with Nike that was set to expire, but it was renegotiated into a multi-year deal to make him one of the faces of Nike's 30th anniversary "Just Do It" campaign, according to a person familiar with the contract. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because Nike hasn't officially announced the contract.

The source says Nike will feature Kaepernick on several platforms, including billboards, television commercials and online ads. Nike also will create an apparel line for Kaepernick and contribute to his Know Your Rights charity. The deal puts Kaepernick in the top bracket of NFL players with Nike.

The NFL and Nike extended their partnership in March to run through 2028. Nike provides all NFL teams with game-day uniforms and sideline apparel that bears the swoosh logo.

Last week, Kaepernick scored a legal victory in his grievance against the NFL and its 32 teams when an arbitrator denied the league's request to throw out the quarterback's claims that owners conspired to keep him out of the league because of his protests of social injustice.

Kaepernick contends the owners violated their collective bargaining agreement with players by conspiring to keep him off teams. His case hinges on whether owners worked together rather than decided individually to not sign Kaepernick.

A similar grievance is still pending by former 49ers teammate Eric Reid, a Pro Bowl safety who joined in the protests.

On Friday night, Kaepernick and Reid, also now out of the league, were each given huge ovations when they were introduced and shown on the big screen during a match between Serena and Venus Williams at the U.S. Open.

Kaepernick began a wave of protests by NFL players two seasons ago, kneeling during the national anthem to protest police brutality and racial inequality. The protests have grown into one of the most polarizing issues in sports, with President Donald Trump loudly urging the league to suspend or fire players who demonstrate during the anthem.

Meanwhile, the league and players union still haven't resolved whether players will be punished this season if they choose to kneel or demonstrate during the national anthem. Owners approved a policy requiring players to stand if they are on the sideline during "The Star-Spangled Banner," allowing them to stay off the field if they wish.

But the league and union put that on hold after the Miami Dolphins faced backlash for classifying the protests as conduct potentially detrimental to the team — putting players at risk of fines or suspensions.

More AP NFL: <http://apnews.com/tag/NFL> and http://twitter.com/AP_NFL

What to watch for as senators consider Kavanaugh nomination

By LISA MASCARO, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh is set for a week of marathon hearings before the Judiciary Committee, where senators will drill down into the judge's background, writings and legal philosophy.

Republicans who mostly back President Donald Trump's pick are focusing on Kavanaugh's 12-year career as an appellate court judge, which has produced more than 300 opinions. Democrats are expected to take a more pointed tack, grilling the 53-year-old conservative on hot-button issues that could swing the court's majority rightward.

Four days of hearings begin Tuesday. Democratic leader Chuck Schumer fumed Monday night over the committee receiving more than 42,000 pages of documents about Kavanaugh's years with the Bush administration the night before the hearings get underway. He called for a delay until Kavanaugh's records could be reviewed.

"This underscores just how absurd this process is," Schumer said in a tweet. "Not a single senator will be able to review these records before tomorrow." Democrats have argued for weeks that Kavanaugh's Bush administration records weren't being provided for review to the fullest extent possible.

Issues to watch as the battle over Kavanaugh's confirmation unfolds:

ROE V. WADE

Among the most consequential questions of the hearings is whether Kavanaugh's confirmation could alter the landmark 1973 case that solidified abortion rights.

Kavanaugh has said publicly, and in private talks with senators, that he believes the case is settled law. But he has not said if it was correctly decided. Democrats want to unpack his legal thinking for a fuller understanding of his views. Kavanaugh's answers will be critical in winning the backing from two key swing votes, Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, who are alone among Senate Republican in publicly supporting access to abortion.

EXECUTIVE POWER

Despite working on Kenneth Starr's team investigating President Bill Clinton, Kavanaugh has long held that sitting presidents should be shielded from intrusive probes. It's an expansive view of executive power. And it's particularly important now, amid special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of the 2016 election. Trump complains that the investigation is a "witch hunt" and he wants it to come to an end.

Kavanaugh is expected to be grilled over key legal questions like: Can the president be subpoenaed to appear before Mueller? Is the president immune from prosecution?

"It is an unavoidable question," said Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., previewing the kinds of questions he will be asking. "Did this president choose you because of your view of presidential power?"

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

While senators are quizzing Kavanaugh in Washington, a court case against the Affordable Care Act brought by 20 Republican state attorneys general is expected to be unfolding in Texas. The case centers on the "Obamacare" requirement that all Americans carry insurance and that insurers, in turn, not discriminate for pre-existing health conditions. Kavanaugh issued a 2011 opinion that some conservatives viewed as favorable to the mandate, but Democrats worry he will provide a key vote on the court against it.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Conservatives are increasingly trying to limit the federal government's ability, under a 1984 case involving the Chevron oil company, to regulate industry. Kavanaugh appears to have shared some of these views. Republicans largely welcome that approach, but Democrats will be listening to see if he would tip the majority away from the Chevron case and limit the government's ability to fill in the details of law with

administrative actions.

TORTURE AND SURVEILLANCE

Testifying before the Senate 12 years ago, Kavanaugh said he wasn't directly involved in drafting Bush-era policies for detaining and interrogating terror suspects. But a short time later, news accounts suggested he had discussed in the White House how the Supreme Court would view such policies.

Two Democrats, Sens. Dick Durbin of Illinois and Patrick Leahy of Vermont, questioned his honesty at the time. Those questions are likely to resurface this week. After meeting privately with Kavanaugh ahead of the confirmation hearing, Durbin said Kavanaugh confirmed his involvement in the Bush-era discussions of detention policy, making his earlier testimony "misleading at best."

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

The role of money in politics is increasingly being decided by the Supreme Court. Landmark cases opened the door to new political action committees with unlimited and undisclosed spending arrangements. Kavanaugh wrote a key 2009 opinion, *Emily's List v. Federal Election Commission*, siding with the advocacy group that the First Amendment protects the rights of individuals to express their views. Senators will want to hear more.

GUN CONTROL

Among those witnesses testifying on the final day of Kavanaugh's hearing will be a survivor of the Parkland, Florida, high school shooting. California Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the top Democrat on the committee, has previously raised concerns about Kavanaugh's legal approach to the Second Amendment. He dissented in a key District of Columbia case prohibiting assault weapons.

Read more on AP's coverage of Kavanaugh at <https://apnews.com/tag/Kavanaughnomination>

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Taliban say founder of Haqqani network dies in Afghanistan

By KATHY GANNON, Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The founder of Afghanistan's much-feared Haqqani network, a former U.S. ally turned fierce enemy, has died after years of ill health, a Taliban spokesman said Tuesday. Jalaluddin Haqqani was 71.

Haqqani died Monday inside Afghanistan, Zabihullah Mujahed told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. The elderly founder of the outlawed Afghanistan-based organization, once hailed as a freedom fighter by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, had been paralyzed for the past 10 years.

In announcing his death Tuesday, Mujahed called Haqqani a religious scholar and exemplary warrior.

Because of his infirmity, Haqqani's network has been led by his son Sirajuddin Haqqani, who is also deputy head of the Taliban. Considered the most formidable of the Taliban's fighting forces, the Haqqani network has been linked to some of the more audacious attacks in Afghanistan. The elder Haqqani joined the Taliban when they overran Kabul in September 1996, expelling feuding mujahedeen groups, whose battles left the capital in ruins.

Since then, the network has been among the fiercest foes fighting U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan. The elder Haqqani's death is not expected to impact the network's military might or strategy.

Haqqani was among the Afghan mujahedeen, or holy warriors, the United States backed in the 1980s to fight the former Soviet Union's invading army, sent to Afghanistan in 1979 to prop up the pro-Moscow government. Haqqani was praised by the late U.S. Congressman Charlie Wilson as "goodness personified." After 10 years, Moscow negotiated an exit from Afghanistan in an agreement that eventually led to the collapse of Kabul's communist government and a takeover by the mujahedeen.

In 2012 the United States declared the Haqqani network a terrorist organization. Haqqani had not been

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heard from in several years and reports of his death were widespread in 2015.

Declassified U.S. cables called Haqqani a "moderate socialist" who did not embrace the Taliban's strict rules that denied girls education. "Haqqani functions more in the military area, and is not a force in setting Taliban political or social issues," the cables read.

Born in 1947 into the powerful Zardran tribe that dominates southeastern Afghanistan's Paktia, Paktika and Khost provinces, Haqqani was a close friend of Osama bin Laden, who often took refuge in his camps outside Khost.

The father of 12 sons, the ailing Haqqani — who had been suffering from Parkinson disease for several years prior to his death — had turned the day-to-day military campaign over to his son Sirajuddin.

The elder Haqqani's association with Pakistan dates back to his early years, when he studied a deeply conservative form of Islam at the Darulaman Haqqania madrassa, or religious school, in northwest Pakistan. In an earlier interview with The Associated Press, the school's top cleric Maulana Sami-ul-Haq, recalled a studious Haqqani.

It was Haqqani's rigid interpretation of Islam that launched him on the road to insurgency in the early 1970s when he returned to Afghanistan to open a madrassa, or religious school, and organized a movement against Afghanistan's monarch, King Zahir Shah, according to unclassified U.S. documents that tracked Haqqani's militant career from the early 1970s to his partnership with the Taliban in 1996.

Forced to leave Afghanistan because of his agitation against the monarchy, which was eventually overthrown, Haqqani set up a madrassa in Miran Shah, in Pakistan's North Waziristan.

During the 1980s, when Washington backed an uprising against the communist government in Kabul and its Russian allies, it was Haqqani's military prowess that brought him attention from both the United States and Pakistan. He received both money and weapons from the U.S.

While the Soviet Union poured men and money into Afghanistan to support the Communist government in Kabul, Pakistan, the United States and several Arab states including Saudi Arabia and Egypt, stockpiled weapons for the mujahedeen in neighboring Pakistan. Suitcases full of cash were delivered to the mujahedeen through Pakistan, according to a former CIA chief, who spoke on condition of anonymity. He told The AP he personally delivered suitcases full of money to Haqqani, whom he described as "one of the good ones."

It was during the 1980s that fighters from the Muslim world were recruited to fight the invading communists in Afghanistan. Bin Laden was among the first to sign up. Many of the Arab fighters gravitated toward Haqqani because he was an Arabic speaker and a ferocious warrior.

Many of the Arab fighters, who remain in Afghanistan, including the new head of al-Qaida Ayman al-Zawahri, are believed to be protected by the Haqqani network, which it is believed they also help fund.

Haqqani developed close ties with Pakistan's intelligence service known by the acronym ISI as well as Pakistani militant groups, many of whom were being groomed by the ISI to fight neighbor India in the disputed Kashmir region.

Fazlur Rehman Khalil, founder of the outlawed Harakat-ul Mujahedeen

After the Russians left and Afghanistan's communist government fell to the U.S.-backed mujahedeen, Haqqani served briefly as justice minister. He soon abandoned the mujahedeen government frustrated by their relentless feuding and returned to Khost where he maintained close contact with militants, including bin Laden, from Arabic speaking countries.

After taking power in September 1996, the Taliban embraced Haqqani for his military skills, according to a declassified 1998 cable from the U.S. Embassy. That cable also said Haqqani "is close buddies with many Arab and Pakistani Islamists."

In August 1998, U.S. cruise missiles targeted Haqqani's base in a failed attempt to kill bin Laden. Several Pakistani militants affiliated with Harakat-ul-Mujahedeen group were killed in that attack.

"It makes me sad that he is no longer among us," Fazlur Rehman Khalil, co-founder of the outlawed Harakat-ul Mujahedeen said Tuesday after hearing the news of Haqqani's death. Khalil lives freely on the outskirts of the Pakistani capital of Islamabad, currently promoting a fatwa or religious edict banning

militant violence in Pakistan.

In November 2001, when the Taliban were routed from Kabul, Haqqani was ordered by Mullah Omar to move the Arab fighters to safety.

Haqqani had proven to be among the most resilient of Afghanistan's insurgents.

Associated Press writers Amir Shah in Kabul, Afghanistan, Munir Ahmed in Islamabad and Riaz Khan in Peshawar, Pakistan contributed to this report.

Trump says Sessions' DOJ has placed GOP in midterm jeopardy

By CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Showing his disregard for the Justice Department's independence, President Donald Trump tweeted that federal indictments against two Republican congressmen placed the GOP in midterm election jeopardy.

Trump again attacked Attorney General Jeff Sessions in the tweet suggesting that the Justice Department consider politics when making decisions: "Obama era investigations, of two very popular Republican Congressmen were brought to a well publicized charge, just ahead of the Mid-Terms, by the Jeff Sessions Justice Department. Two easy wins now in doubt because there is not enough time. Good job Jeff....."

Trump has frequently suggested he views the Justice Department less as a law enforcement agency and more as a department that is supposed to do his personal and political bidding. Still, investigators are never supposed to take into account the political affiliations of the people they investigate.

Trump did not name the Republican congressmen, but he was apparently referring to the first two Republicans to endorse him in the GOP presidential primaries. Both were indicted on separate charges last month: Rep. Duncan Hunter of California on charges that included spending campaign funds for personal expenses and Rep. Chris Collins of New York on insider trading. Both have proclaimed their innocence.

The Hunter investigation began in June 2016, according to the indictment. The indictment into Collins lays out behavior from 2017. He was also under investigation by congressional ethics officials.

Hunter has not exited his race, while Collins ended his re-election bid days after his indictment. Both seats appear likely to remain in GOP hands, but the charges have raised Democratic hopes.

A spokeswoman for Sessions declined to comment, and the White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Trump did not have any public events Monday. He briefly exited the White House to a waiting motorcade, but then went back inside without going anywhere.

Trump's tweet drew a scolding from Sen. Ben Sasse, a Nebraska Republican who sits on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"The United States is not some banana republic with a two-tiered system of justice — one for the majority party and one for the minority party," Sasse said in a statement. "These two men have been charged with crimes because of evidence, not because of who the President was when the investigations began. Instead of commenting on ongoing investigations and prosecutions, the job of the President of the United States is to defend the Constitution and protect the impartial administration of justice."

Trump has previously pressed Sessions to investigate his perceived enemies and has accused Sessions of failing to take control of the Justice Department. Trump has also repeatedly complained publicly and privately over Sessions' decision to recuse himself from the federal investigation into possible collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia because he'd worked on Trump's campaign.

Some of the issues Trump has raised have either already been examined or are being investigated.

The tension between Trump and Sessions boiled over recently with Sessions punching back, saying that he and his department "will not be improperly influenced by political considerations." Still, Sessions has made clear to associates that he has no intention of leaving his job voluntarily despite Trump's constant criticism.

Allies, including Republican members of Congress, have long advised Trump that firing Sessions — especially before the November midterm elections — would be deeply damaging to the party. But some have

indicated that Trump may make a change after the elections.

"I think there will come a time, sooner rather than later, where it will be time to have a new face and a fresh voice at the Department of Justice," Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina told reporters recently.

Associated Press writers Eric Tucker in Washington and Mike Balsamo in New York City contributed to this report.

Election security bill backers say delay helps Russia

By MARY CLARE JALONICK, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Just two months before the midterm elections, bipartisan legislation to try to prevent foreign hacking into U.S. election systems is stalled in Congress as the White House and some Republicans worry it could exert too much federal control over the states.

Supporters of the bill say the delay could embolden Russia, which targeted election infrastructure in at least 21 states in 2016.

A committee vote on the bipartisan bill was abruptly canceled two weeks ago after objections from some Republican senators and the states they represent. And Republicans and Democrats who are supporting the bill say they don't know when — or if — it will be taken up again in the few remaining weeks Congress is in session before the midterms.

The delay has some concerned that Congress could punt on the only piece of legislation that is designed to fix what went wrong in 2016 — and to prevent Russia or other countries from trying again. There is no evidence that the Russian targeting of state election systems was successful or changed any votes, but lawmakers, intelligence officials and elections experts say that they believe Russia will return in 2018 and beyond with more sophisticated tools.

It also demonstrates Congress' struggle to develop a cohesive response to the Russian interference — especially as President Donald Trump has at times questioned whether it even happened.

The White House issued a lukewarm statement on the election security bill, neither endorsing nor opposing it but saying that "if Congress should choose to continue to pursue" the legislation they want to ensure that it does not duplicate ongoing federal efforts to help states or violate the principles of federalism.

"We cannot support legislation with inappropriate mandates or that moves power or funding from the states to Washington for the planning and operation of elections," said White House spokeswoman Lindsay Walters.

The bill was negotiated over the last year by Republican Sen. James Lankford of Oklahoma and Democratic Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota. Lankford says the White House did not block the bill, but that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell "had concerns" after hearing from states and other interests that suddenly realized the bill was moving forward. Klobuchar similarly said concerns came from "leadership on the Republican side."

McConnell's office would not comment on his involvement with the bill, or whether he heard from states or other groups about concerns.

Klobuchar, the top Democrat on the House Rules and Administration Committee, the panel that canceled the vote, says Congress is sending the wrong message to Russia by delaying the bill.

By passing the legislation, "you send a message that we are beefing up going forward, as opposed to standing down, which is what this looks like," Klobuchar said of the delay.

Maine Sen. Angus King said he thought there had been a bipartisan desire to fix what went wrong in 2016.

"It is frustrating because, to me, this is low-hanging fruit," said King, an Independent who sits on both the Senate intelligence committee and the Rules Committee. The intelligence panel has been investigating Russia's intervention for almost two years, and improving election security has been one of its top priorities.

Some states have objected to the legislation because it would require all states to use paper ballots as a backup to electronic systems if they want to receive federal election money for voting equipment. While many states are already using paper ballots, a small number say it's too expensive or burdensome.

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The legislation would also require that all 50 states conduct audits after elections and direct the Homeland Security Department to immediately notify any states if the federal government detects that they have been hacked. The last requirement came after Homeland Security took almost a year to notify some states that Russians had targeted them in 2016.

The bill has several prominent Republican supporters, including Lankford, Senate Rules Committee Chairman Roy Blunt of Missouri and Senate intelligence committee chairman Richard Burr of North Carolina. But other Republicans, including some in states that don't have paper ballots, have objected to the cost and what they say would be added paperwork.

Kansas Sen. Pat Roberts said he heard from Kansas Gov. Jeff Colyer and Secretary of State Kris Kobach with concerns about the bill and he is not supporting it. He said county officials are already doing a good job and "don't want to be loaded down with paperwork."

Mississippi Sen. Richard Shelby said he too has problems with the bill.

"This is a big step, the federal government moving in there," Shelby said.

Both Mississippi and Kansas only partially use paper ballots currently. And Roberts and Shelby both sit on the Senate Rules Committee, the panel that canceled the vote.

Several of the states that don't use paper ballots are now in the process of replacing their machines, including Louisiana, South Carolina and Delaware, among others. But others have said it is too expensive or have objected to the legislation setting a new federal mandate.

"Although there has been considerable debate regarding the pros and cons of various voting systems, we believe this is a decision that should be left to state legislatures," Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett said in a statement. Tennessee only partially uses paper ballots now.

Texas has also objected to the bill, saying they would need more federal money if the federal government required new machines.

Lankford says that most states are already using paper ballots, so those who don't do it now should be able to figure it out as well.

"We're not trying to federalize elections," Lankford said. "That's the last thing we want to do."

Separately, the bill has also lost some support from some election integrity groups who said the final, compromised language did not include strong enough requirements for the state audits.

Blunt has not yet said if there will be another vote in the Rules Committee. In a statement, he pinned the bill's hopes on a classified election security briefing that happened Aug. 22, the same day the vote was canceled.

"If that changes enough minds to have significant bipartisan support for the bill, we will report it from the committee," Blunt said.

Associated Press writers Frank Bajak in Boston, Christina A. Cassidy in Atlanta, Hannah Grabenstein in Little Rock, Ark., Melinda Deslatte in Baton Rouge, La., Meg Kinnard in Columbia, S.C., Jonathan Mattise in Nashville, Tenn., Will Weissert in Austin, Texas, and John Hannah in Topeka, Kan. contributed to this report.

Trump's rollback of pollution rules to hit coal country hard

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER and JOHN RABY, Associated Press

GRANT TOWN, W.Va. (AP) — It's coal people like miner Steve Knotts, 62, who make West Virginia Trump Country.

So it was no surprise that President Donald Trump picked the state to announce his plan rolling back Obama-era pollution controls on coal-fired power plants.

Trump left one thing out of his remarks, though: northern West Virginia coal country will be ground zero for increased deaths and illnesses from the rollback on regulation of harmful emission from the nation's coal power plants.

An analysis done by his own Environmental Protection Agency concludes that the plan would lead to a greater number of people here dying prematurely, and suffering health problems that they otherwise

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would not have, than elsewhere in the country, when compared to health impacts of the Obama plan.

Knotts, a coal miner for 35 years, isn't fazed when he hears that warning, a couple of days after Trump's West Virginia rally. He says the last thing people in coal country want is the government slapping down more controls on coal — and the air here in the remote West Virginia mountains seems fine to him.

"People here have had it with other people telling us what we need. We know what we need. We need a job," Knotts said at lunch hour at a Circle K in a tiny town between two coal mines, and 9 miles down the road from a coal power plant, the Grant Town plant.

The sky around Grant Town is bright blue. The mountains are a dazzling green. Paw Paw Creek gurgles past the town.

Clean-air controls since the 1980s largely turned off the columns of black soot that used to rise from coal smokestacks. The regulations slashed the national death rates from coal-fired power plants substantially.

These days pollutants rise from smoke stacks as gases, before solidifying into fine particles — still invisible — small enough to pass through lungs and into bloodstreams.

An EPA analysis says those pollutants would increase under Trump's plan, when compared to what would happen under the Obama plan. And that, it says, would lead to thousands more heart attacks, asthma problems and other illnesses that would not have occurred.

Nationally, the EPA says, 350 to 1,500 more people would die each year under Trump's plan. But it's the northern two-thirds of West Virginia and the neighboring part of Pennsylvania that would be hit hardest, by far, according to Trump's EPA.

Trump's rollback would kill an extra 1.4 to 2.4 people a year for every 100,000 people in those hardest-hit areas, compared to under the Obama plan, according to the EPA analysis. For West Virginia's 1.8 million people, that would be equal to at least a couple dozen additional deaths a year.

Trump's acting EPA administrator, Andrew Wheeler, a former coal lobbyist whose grandfather worked in the coal camps of West Virginia, headed to coal states this week and last to promote Trump's rollback. The federal government's retreat on regulating pollution from coal power plants was "good news," Wheeler told crowds there.

In Washington, EPA spokesman Michael Abboud said Trump's plan still would result in "dramatic reductions" in emissions, deaths and illness compared to the status quo, instead of to the Obama plan. Obama's Clean Power Plan targeted climate-changing carbon dioxide, but since coal is the largest source of carbon dioxide from fossil fuels, the Obama plan would have curbed other harmful emissions from the coal-fired power plants as well.

About 160 miles to the south of Grant Town, near the state capital of Charleston, shop owner Doris Keller figures that if Trump thinks something's for the best, that's good enough for her.

"I just know this. I like Donald Trump and I think that he's doing the right thing," said Keller, who turned out to support Trump Aug. 21 when he promoted his rollback proposal. She lives five miles from the 2,900-megawatt John Amos coal-fired power plant.

"I think he has the best interests of the regular common people at the forefront," Keller says.

Trump's Affordable Clean Energy program would dismantle President Barack Obama's 2015 Clean Power Plan, which has been caught up in court battles without yet being implemented.

The Obama plan targeted climate-changing emissions from power plants, especially coal. It would have increased federal regulation of emissions from the nation's electrical grid and broadly promoted natural gas, solar power and other cleaner energy.

Trump's plan would cede much of the federal oversight of existing coal-fired power plants and drop official promotion of cleaner energy. Individual states largely would decide how much to regulate coal power plants in their borders. The plan is open for public review, ahead of any final White House decision.

"I'm getting rid of some of these ridiculous rules and regulations, which are killing our companies ... and our jobs," Trump said at the rally.

There was no mention of the "small increases" in harmful emissions that would result, compared to the Obama plan, or the health risks.

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EPA charts put numbers on just how many more people would die each year because of those increased coal emissions.

Abboud and spokeswoman Ashley Bourke of the National Mining Association, which supports Trump's proposed regulatory rollback on coal emissions, said other federal programs already regulate harmful emissions from coal power plants. Bourke also argued that the health studies the EPA used in its death projections date as far back as the 1970s, when coal plants burned dirtier.

In response, Conrad Schneider of the environmental nonprofit Clean Air Task Force said the EPA's mortality estimates had taken into account existing regulation of plant emissions.

Additionally, health studies used by the EPA looked at specific levels of exposure to pollutants and their impact on human health, so remain constant over time, said Schneider, whose group analyzes the EPA projections.

With competition from natural gas and other cleaner energy helping to kill off more than a third of coal jobs over the last decade, political leaders in coal states are in no position to be the ones charged with enforcing public-health protections on surviving coal-fired power plants, said Vivian Stockman of the Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition.

"Our state is beholden to coal. Our politicians are beholden to coal," Stockman said outside Trump's West Virginia rally, where she was protesting. "Meanwhile, our people are being poisoned."

And when it comes to coal power plants and harm, Schneider said, "when you're at Grant Town, you're at Ground Zero."

Retired coal miner Jim Haley, living 4 miles from the town's coal-fired power plant, has trouble telling from the smokestack when the plant is even operating.

"They've got steam coming out of the chimneys. That's all they have coming out of it," Haley said.

Parked near the Grant Town post office, where another resident was rolling down the quiet main street on a tractor, James Perkins listened to word of the EPA's health warnings. He cast a look into the rear-view mirror into the backseat of his pickup truck, at his 3-year-old grandson, sitting in the back.

"They need to make that safe," said Perkins, a health-care worker who had opted not to follow his father into the coal mines. "People got little kids."

Raby reported from Charleston, West Virginia. AP Science Writer Seth Borenstein contributed from Washington.

New Yorker drops plans to interview Bannon at festival

By HILLEL ITALIE, AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Facing widespread outrage, The New Yorker has dropped plans to interview Steve Bannon during its festival next month.

New Yorker editor David Remnick told The Associated Press in a statement shared Monday with the magazine's staff that he had changed his mind. The former Donald Trump aide and ex-chairman of Breitbart News was supposed to be a featured guest during a prestigious gathering that over the years has drawn some of the world's most prominent artists and public figures. This year's guests include Emily Blunt, Zadie Smith and Sally Yates, who Trump fired as deputy attorney general after she refused to back his initial ban on travelers from Muslim countries. The ban was advocated by Bannon, a senior White House adviser at the time.

"I've thought this through and talked to colleagues — and I've re-considered," Remnick, who has repeatedly denounced Trump and his administration, wrote of his decision on Bannon. "There is a better way to do this. Our writers have interviewed Steve Bannon for The New Yorker before, and if the opportunity presents itself I'll interview him in a more traditionally journalistic setting as we first discussed, and not on stage."

Remnick also acknowledged that festival guests, unlike those interviewed on radio or for a print story, are paid an honorarium, along with money for travel and lodging.

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In an email statement Monday, Bannon wrote: "After being contacted several months ago and with seven weeks of continual requests for this event, I accepted The New Yorker's invitation with no thought of an honorarium."

"The reason for my acceptance was simple: I would be facing one of the most fearless journalists of his generation. In what I would call a defining moment, David Remnick showed he was gutless when confronted by the howling online mob," he added.

A letter from Remnick, dated June 28, details the invitation to Bannon.

"I would like to invite you to sit down with me for an informal, free-ranging discussion of the political movements redefining international and local politics. This would include, of course, your work abroad as well the upcoming midterms. There would be no need for prepared remarks, as we intend these events to be unscripted, lively, and spontaneous," Remnick writes, adding: "Naturally, the magazine would handle all your travel arrangements and accommodations; you would receive an honorarium; and you would also be invited to attend most other Festival events."

"We would be honored to have you," he writes at the end.

The New Yorker's announcement on Bannon came earlier Monday and was denounced by Roxane Gay, Jessica Valenti and many others. Gay tweeted that "the intellectual class doesn't truly understand racism or xenophobia. They treat it like an intellectual project, where perhaps if we ask 'hard question' and bandy about 'controversial' ideas, good work is being done." Filmmaker Judd Apatow had tweeted he would not attend if Bannon was interviewed. Kathryn Schulz was among the New Yorker staff writers who tweeted that they had informed Remnick directly about their objections.

Tweeted Patton Oswalt: "I'm out. Sorry, @NewYorker. See if Milo Yiannopoulos is free?" a reference to the far-right writer and speaker whose memoir was dropped last year by Simon & Schuster after numerous complaints.

In explaining his initial decision, Remnick wrote Monday that Bannon was well aware of their political differences. "The point of an interview, a rigorous interview, particularly in a case like this, is to put pressure on the views of the person being questioned."

"There's no illusion here," he wrote. "It's obvious that no matter how tough the questioning, Bannon is not going to burst into tears and change his view of the world. He believes he is right and that his ideological opponents are mere 'snowflakes.' The question is whether an interview has value in terms of fact, argument, or even exposure, whether it has value to a reader or an audience."

Meanwhile, Bannon is scheduled to appear Sept. 15 at The Economist's "Open Future" festival in New York City. According to The Economist, festival attendees will "discuss the most urgent issues of our time and remake the case for liberal values." At least one guest already plans to drop out. British writer Laurie Penny tweeted Monday that she "cannot in good conscience appear at an event which chooses to dignify a neo-nationalist like Steve Bannon."

Associated Press writer Catherine Lucey in Washington contributed to this report.

On Labor Day, Trump slams union leader who criticized him

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump started his Labor Day with an attack on a top union leader, lashing out after criticism from AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka.

Trump tweeted Monday that Trumka "represented his union poorly on television this weekend." He added: "It is easy to see why unions are doing so poorly. A Dem!"

The president's attack came after Trumka appeared on "Fox News Sunday" over the weekend where he said efforts to overhaul the North American Free Trade Agreement should include Canada. Trumka, whose organization is an umbrella group for most unions, said the economies of the United States, Canada and Mexico are "integrated" and "it's pretty hard to see how that would work without having Canada in the deal."

Trump said Saturday on Twitter that there was "no political necessity" to keep Canada in NAFTA. But it's questionable whether Trump can unilaterally exclude Canada from a deal to replace the three-nation

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NAFTA agreement, without the approval of Congress. Any such move would likely face lengthy legal and congressional challenges.

Trump administration negotiations to keep Canada in the reimagined trade bloc are to resume this week as Washington and Ottawa try to break a deadlock over issues such as Canada's dairy market and U.S. efforts to shield drug companies from generic competition.

Trump wants to get a trade deal finalized by Dec. 1.

Trumka also said of Trump: "The things that he's done to hurt workers outpace what he's done to help workers," arguing that Trump has not come through with an infrastructure program and has overturned regulations that "will hurt us on the job."

Asked about the low unemployment rate and economic growth, Trumka said "those are good, but wages have been down since the first of the year. Gas prices have been up since the first of the year. So, overall, workers aren't doing as well."

On Monday, Trump touted the economy, saying "Our country is doing better than ever before with unemployment setting record lows." He added, "The Worker in America is doing better than ever before. Celebrate Labor Day!"

The unemployment rate of 3.9 percent is not at the best point ever — it is near the lowest in 18 years.

Brazilians see metaphor for their struggles in museum fire

By **PETER PRENGAMAN** and **SARAH DiLORENZO**, Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Firefighters dug through the burned-out hulk of Brazil's National Museum on Monday, a day after flames gutted the building, as the country mourned the irreplaceable treasures lost and pointed fingers over who was to blame.

The museum held Latin America's largest collection of historical artifacts, and the damage was feared to be catastrophic. One official told a Brazilian news outlet that as much as 90 percent may have been destroyed. Some parts of the collection were stored at other sites.

For many in Brazil, the state of the 200-year-old natural history museum quickly became a metaphor for what they see as the gutting of Brazilian culture and life during years of corruption, economic collapse and poor governance.

"It's a crime that the museum was allowed to get to this shape," said Laura Albuquerque, a 29-year-old dance teacher who was in a crowd protesting outside the gates. "What happened isn't just regrettable, it's devastating, and politicians are responsible for it."

The cause of the fire that broke out Sunday night was not known. Federal police will investigate since the museum was part of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. But protesters, commentators and museum directors themselves said years of government neglect had left the museum so underfunded that its staff had turned to crowdfunding sites to open exhibitions.

Luiz Fernando Dias Duarte, the museum's deputy director, criticized authorities for starving the museum of vital funding while spending lavishly on stadiums to host the World Cup in 2014.

"The money spent on each one of those stadiums — a quarter of that would have been enough to make this museum safe and resplendent," he said in an interview in front of the still-smoldering ruins aired on Brazilian television.

Roberto Leher, rector of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, said it was well known that the building was vulnerable to fire and in need of extensive repairs. Duarte said he was in the habit of unplugging everything in his office at night because of the risk.

Civil defense authorities were concerned that internal walls and the roof could collapse further, so officials had to wait to conduct a full accounting of losses.

Duarte said that anything held in the main building was likely destroyed. Cristiana Serejo, a vice-director of the museum, told the G1 news portal that as little as 10 percent of the collection may have survived. The building was once home to the royal family, and the museum's collection included pieces that belonged to them.

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The collection also contained a painting by the Brazilian artist Candido Portinari and extensive paleontological, anthropological and biological specimens. It held a skull called Luzia that was among the oldest fossils ever found in the Americas as well as an Egyptian mummy and the largest meteorite ever discovered in Brazil — one of the few objects that officials could confirm had survived.

Brazil has struggled to emerge from a two-year recession and seen its political and corporate elite jailed in Latin America's largest corruption investigation. The country has been riven with deep political divisions following the impeachment and removal of former President Dilma Rousseff.

The protesters gathered outside the museum gates tried several times to push into the site, demanding to see the damage and calling on the government to rebuild. Police held the crowd back with pepper spray, tear gas and batons.

"This fire is what Brazilian politicians are doing to the people," said Rosana Hollanda, a 35-year-old high school history teacher, who was crying. "They're burning our history, and they're burning our dreams."

Signs of disrepair were evident: The fencing was dilapidated, stonework was cracked and lawns appeared untended.

The museum's budget had fallen from around \$130,000 in 2013 to around \$84,000 last year, according to Marcio Martins, a spokesman for the museum. This year was on track to include an increase from last year.

In a sign of how strapped the museum was, when a termite infestation last year forced the closure of room that house a 13-yard-long dinosaur skeleton, officials turned to crowdfunding to raise the money to reopen the room.

The institution had recently secured approval for nearly \$5 million for a planned renovation, including an upgrade of the fire-prevention system, officials said.

"Look at the irony. The money is now there, but we ran out of time," museum Director Alexander Kellner told reporters at the scene.

President Michel Temer announced Monday that private and public banks, as well as mining giant Vale and state-run oil company Petrobras, have agreed to help rebuild the museum and reconstitute its collections. French President Emmanuel Macron offered in a tweet to send experts to help rebuild the museum.

Brazil is in the midst of a national election campaign and some candidates on the left seized on the fire as an example of the disastrous effects of budget cuts implemented by Temer's government. The budget data showed that cuts to the museum's budget began under the previous left-wing government.

Fire department spokesman Roberto Robadey said firefighters got off to a slow start because the two fire hydrants closest to the museum did not work. Instead, trucks had to gather water from a nearby lake.

There were fire extinguishers in the museum, but it was not clear if there were sprinklers, which are problematic for museums because water can damage objects, Kellner said. Serejo said that smoke detectors were not working.

Marcus Guidoti, a doctoral candidate in zoology who had visited the museum to study insect specimens, said the neglect dates back years.

"Let this free us from the ignorance that fails to appreciate culture, science and our national identity," he wrote on Twitter.

DiLorenzo reported from Sao Paulo. Associated Press Writer Elaine Ganley contributed to this report from Paris.

National Museum website: <http://www.museunacional.ufrj.br/>

Myanmar court sentences Reuters reporters to 7 years in jail

By VICTORIA MILKO and AUNG NAING SOE, Associated Press

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — A Myanmar court sentenced two Reuters journalists to seven years in prison Monday on charges of illegal possession of official documents, a ruling met with international condemnation that will add to outrage over the military's human rights abuses against Rohingya Muslims.

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Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo had been reporting on the brutal crackdown on the Rohingya when they were arrested and charged with violating the colonial-era Official Secrets Act, punishable by up to 14 years in prison. They had pleaded not guilty, contending that they were framed by police.

"Today is a sad day for Myanmar, Reuters journalists Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo, and the press everywhere," Stephen J. Adler, Reuters editor-in-chief, said in a statement. He said the charges were "designed to silence their reporting and intimidate the press."

The case has drawn worldwide attention as an example of how democratic reforms in long-isolated Myanmar have stalled under the civilian government of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, which took power in 2016. Though the military, which ruled the country for a half-century, maintains control of several key ministries, Suu Kyi's rise to government had raised hopes for an accelerated transition to full democracy and her stance on the Rohingya crisis has disappointed many former admirers.

As the verdict was announced in the hot Yangon courtroom, Kyaw Soe Oo's wife started crying, leaning into the lap of the person next to her. Outside the court, police and journalists shouted as the two Reuters reporters were led to a truck to be taken away.

"This is unfair," Wa Lone told the crowd. "I want to say they are obviously threatening our democracy and destroying freedom of the press in our country."

Kevin Krolicki, Reuters regional editor for Asia, said outside the court that it was "heartbreaking for friends and colleagues and family of Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo, who in addition to the outrage many will feel, are deprived of their friends and colleagues, husband and father."

Wa Lone, 32, and Kyaw Soe Oo, 28, both testified they suffered from harsh treatment during their initial interrogations after their arrests last December. Their several appeals for release on bail were rejected. Wa Lone's wife, Pan Ei Mon, gave birth to the couple's first child in Yangon on Aug. 10, but Wa Lone has not yet seen his daughter.

The two journalists had been reporting last year on the brutal crackdown by security forces on the Rohingya in Myanmar's Rakhine state. Some 700,000 Rohingya fled to neighboring Bangladesh to escape the violence targeting them after attacks by Rohingya militants killed a dozen members of the security forces.

Investigators working for the U.N.'s top human rights body said last week that genocide charges should be brought against senior Myanmar military officers over the crackdown.

The accusation of genocide was rejected by Myanmar's government, but is the most serious official recommendation for prosecution so far. Also last week, Facebook banned Myanmar's powerful military chief and 19 other individuals and organizations from its site to prevent the spread of hate and misinformation in connection with the Rohingya crisis.

"Today's verdict cannot conceal the truth of what happened in Rakhine state," Tirana Hassan, Amnesty International's director of crisis response, said in a statement Monday. "It's thanks to the bravery of journalists like Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo, that the military's atrocities have been exposed. Instead of targeting these two journalists, the Myanmar authorities should have been going after those responsible for killings, rape, torture and the torching of hundreds of Rohingya villages."

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley said in a statement the convictions were "another terrible stain" on the government of Myanmar.

"It is clear to all that the Burmese military has committed vast atrocities," she said. "In a free country, it is the duty of a responsible press to keep people informed and hold leaders accountable."

The new U.N. human rights chief, former Chilean President Michelle Bachelet, called the trial a "travesty of justice" and said she would urge the Myanmar government to release the journalists immediately.

Dozens of journalists and pro-democracy activists marched Saturday in Yangon, Myanmar's biggest city, in support of the reporters. But in the country at large, with an overwhelming Buddhist majority, there is widespread prejudice against the Rohingya, and in the government and military, there is near-xenophobic sensitivity to foreign criticism.

Myanmar's courts are one of the country's most conservative and nationalistic institutions, and the darkened political atmosphere had seemed unlikely to help the reporters' cause.

The court earlier this year declined to stop the trial after an initial phase of presentation of evidence,

even though a policeman called as a prosecution witness testified that his commander had ordered that documents be planted on the journalists. After his testimony, the officer was jailed for a year for violating police regulations and his family was kicked out of police housing.

Other testimony by prosecution witnesses was contradictory, and the documents presented as evidence against the reporters appeared to be neither secret nor sensitive. The journalists testified they did not solicit or knowingly possess any secret documents.

German authorities take aim at far-right party's youth wing

By **CHRISTOPH NOELTING** and **FRANK JORDANS**, Associated Press

CHEMNITZ, Germany (AP) — German authorities said Monday they're stepping up surveillance of the far-right Alternative for Germany amid growing concern the third-largest party in parliament is closing ranks with extremist groups.

Activists for AfD, the nationalist party's German acronym, marched in the eastern city of Chemnitz alongside leading figures in anti-migrant group PEGIDA and members of the area's militant neo-Nazi scene in the past week, after two refugees were arrested in a German citizen's fatal stabbing.

"Parts of AfD are openly acting against the Constitution," Justice Minister Katarina Barley told the RND media group. "We need to treat them like other enemies of the Constitution and observe them accordingly."

Authorities in northern Germany's Bremen and Lower Saxony said Monday they have begun monitoring the party's youth wings in the two states.

Boris Pistorius, Lower Saxony's interior minister, said the decision to keep an eye on the AfD's local youth wing, was unrelated to the recent events in Chemnitz. It was based on Young Alternative's anti-democratic goals and links to the Identitarian Movement, a white nationalist group that has been under state surveillance for four years, Pistorius said.

His counterpart in Bremen, Ulrich Maeurer, described the views of AfD's youth wing in the city-state as "pure racism."

While Germany's top security official, Interior Minister Horst Seehofer, said over the weekend that the party as a whole didn't merit surveillance, the monitoring of its youth wings at the state level was a significant step. Some members of the Left party, which describes its position as democratic socialist, also are subject to surveillance.

AfD immediately announced that it would dissolve the two youth sections in question to avert harm to the party and insisted its aims were democratic.

Andreas Kalbitz, a member of the party's national leadership, accused other political parties of panicking in the face of AfD's electoral success.

AfD's rise since its founding five years ago has shaken Germany's establishment and called into question the country's post-World War II consensus that far-right parties have no place in the mainstream.

The party, bolstered by widespread unease in Germany about the influx of more than 1 million refugees since 2015, placed third in last year's national election.

Officials are particularly concerned about its strategy in eastern Germany. Kalbitz said the party hopes to become the strongest force there after state elections next year.

Saxony - where Chemnitz is located - has an entrenched neo-Nazi scene and seen strong support for AfD.

The party encouraged last week's protests, which drew thousands following the Aug. 26 slaying of 35-year-old carpenter Daniel Hillig in Chemnitz. Some of the demonstrations erupted into violence between far-right marchers and counter-protesters.

A 22-year-old Iraqi citizen and a 23-year-old Syrian citizen were arrested on suspicion of manslaughter in Hillig's death, police said.

Speaking publicly for the first time since her husband's death, Hillig's widow told Germany's daily Bild newspaper that "Daniel would have never wanted" the protests triggered by his killing.

"Daniel was neither left nor right," the widow, identified by Bild only as Bianca T., told the newspaper.

Expressing shock at how far-right groups exploited her family's loss with protest rallies and a "mourning

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march" over the weekend, she said: "I looked at the events on Saturday night - this was not about Daniel at all."

"All we want to do right now is mourn him in peace," she said.

Government officials urged Germans who are upset over the killing to distance themselves from the neo-Nazis who performed the stiff-armed "Hitler salute," chanted "Foreigners out" and harassed journalists covering the demonstrations.

"If one doesn't think this way, it would be good to draw a clear line and distance oneself from those who are doing that," said Steffen Seibert, Chancellor Angela Merkel's spokesman.

In an organized response to the far-right marches, tens of thousands of people gathered Monday in Chemnitz for a free, open-air concert by some of Germany's best-known bands.

The show was part of efforts to encourage young Germans to stand up against far-right extremism. It was promoted with the hashtag #WeAreMore and broadcast live online.

"The concert is highly symbolic because it sends a signal that we'll mobilize people from across the whole country, if necessary, so Chemnitz isn't abandoned to the right," said Johannes Staemmler, a political scientist who grew up in Saxony and has focused his research on eastern Germany.

Former Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel tweeted on Monday that "the far-right terror in Chemnitz is not a Saxon problem, it's a German one."

Gabriel criticized Germany's political establishment for being too passive when it comes to combating far-right support and urged public officials to visit towns with simmering anti-migrant sentiment.

"I think it would be good if as many representatives as possible - not only in Chemnitz but everywhere - go to places where we think the citizens are not agreeing with our state," he said in an interview with Bild.

Jordans and Kirsten Grieshaber contributed reported from Berlin.

US service member killed, another wounded in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. service member has been killed and another wounded in an apparent insider attack in eastern Afghanistan, according to a statement Monday from the NATO-led Resolute Support mission.

Resolute Support and U.S. Forces-Afghanistan Commanding General Scott Miller says "the sacrifice of our service member, who volunteered for a mission to Afghanistan to protect his country is a tragic loss for all who knew and all who will now never know him."

He added, "Our duty now is to honor him, care for his family and continue our mission."

The statement said the service member was the sixth American killed in Afghanistan this year.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the administration was monitoring the situation and President Donald Trump had been briefed by Chief of Staff John Kelly.

The wounded service member was said to be in stable condition.

The names of the service members were not released.

\$30 million poured into effort to energize young voters

By SCOTT BAUER, Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Democrats know who their voters are. They just have to figure out how to get them to the polls in November — and that's where the puppies come in.

Students returning to the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus this summer were greeted by therapy dogs for petting. Those lured by the chance to ruffle a dog's ears were then asked to register to vote — a "Pups to the Polls" gimmick that was just one of several similar events being staged in 11 battleground states by the liberal group NextGen America.

Young people tend to vote for Democrats, but they also tend stay away during midterm elections. It's a perennial frustration for the party — one they are trying to overcome as they seek to take control of

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Congress.

NextGen America, formed by billionaire activist Tom Steyer, hopes to be a game changer. Steyer is investing more than \$30 million in what's believed to be the largest voter engagement effort of its kind in U.S. history.

The push to register and get pledges from college students to vote is focusing on states such as Wisconsin, Virginia, California and North Carolina with competitive races for Congress, U.S. Senate and other offices.

NextGen sees young voters such as Kellen Sharp as key to flipping targeted seats from red to blue.

"The outcome of this election definitely affects us," said Sharp, an 18-year-old freshman from Milwaukee who stopped to register during the dog event the week before classes started. "I'm just excited to have a voice and say something."

A poll this summer by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and MTV found that most Americans ages 15 to 34 think voting in the midterm elections gives their generation some say about how the government is run. The poll found young people eager to vote for someone who shared their political views on issues such as health care and immigration policy. They expressed far less excitement about voting for a candidate described as a lifelong politician.

"If we all vote, we can make a change," said 20-year-old Grace Austin, who stopped to pet the dogs at the Wisconsin event and wound up registering to vote.

Austin and other college students who registered said they feel like their friends are more interested in politics than ever before — boosting hopes of Democrats trying to reverse the trend of declining youth participation in midterm elections.

"We want them to know they need to show up and when they do, we will win," said NextGen's Wisconsin director George Olufosoye. "We want them to know they have power."

They certainly have the numbers.

Since the last midterm election in 2014, 15 million post-millennials — those between the ages of 18 and 21 — have become eligible to vote. But while Generation X, millennials and post-millennials make up the majority of voting-eligible adults nationwide, they are not expected to cast the most votes in November.

In the 2014 midterm, they cast 21 million fewer votes than voters over age 54, according to an analysis by the Pew Research Center. Turnout among 18- to 24-year-olds hit a 40-year low in 2014, bottoming out at 17.1 percent, according to an analysis by the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, or CIRCLE, at Tufts University.

NextGen points to higher voter turnout on the University of Wisconsin campus for a spring state Supreme Court election won by a liberal, and spikes in turnout in other targeted races, to argue that their push to register 122,000 young people to vote is bearing fruit.

"We're trying really hard to have this be much more of an infrastructure, organizational thing than a two-month campaign," NextGen founder Tom Steyer said in an interview. "We're trying to get the broadest possible democracy, the biggest representation."

More media coverage of competitive races, combined with energy from the March for Our Lives movement that seeks stricter gun laws, has empowered young voters and made them "feel like it's time to have their voice heard about what happens to their generation," said Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg, director of CIRCLE.

That's what NextGen hopes. It has nearly 800 organizers on 421 college campuses in Wisconsin, Arizona, California, Florida, Iowa, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia. In Wisconsin alone, NextGen has 27 full-time workers and 40 student fellows registering voters on 26 campuses.

Republicans recognize the power that motivating young voters could have for Democrats, but they're skeptical that participation will increase much. In Wisconsin, Republicans have been targeting college voters for years.

"Wisconsin Republicans win by connecting with voters directly where they are — and young voters are no different when it comes to that strategy," said Wisconsin Republican Party spokesman Alec Zimmerman.

Wisconsin has two of the nation's competitive and closely watched races. Democratic Sen. Tammy Baldwin is being challenged by GOP state Sen. Leah Vukmir, while Republican Gov. Scott Walker faces a

challenge from Democratic state schools chief Tony Evers. Polls show the races to be a dead heat — just the kind of competitive elections research shows excite younger voters.

“I’ve never seen anything like this,” said NextGen worker and 2016 University of Wisconsin graduate Joe Waldman. “I’ve never seen the energy, passion and activism there is now.”

Follow Scott Bauer on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/sbauerAP>

Sign up for “Politics in Focus,” a weekly newsletter showcasing the AP’s best political reporting from around the country leading up to the midterm elections: <https://bit.ly/2ICEr3D>

Tariff fight adds to China’s economic challenges

By JOE McDONALD, AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — China faces bigger economic challenges than its trade war with the U.S.

Even before the two sides started imposing tit-for-tat tariffs, growth in the world’s No. 2 economy was already forecast to cool from 6.8 percent last year to a still-robust 6.5 percent this year.

Communist leaders who are trying to engineer slower, more self-sustaining growth clamped down last year on a bank lending boom that encouraged businesses and families to borrow and spend beyond their means. That’s a tricky balance to strike, and some worry the economy is weakening too much.

Growth in retail sales, a bigger part of the Chinese economy than exports, was weaker than expected in July and close to a 14-year low. Factory output and other sectors also slowed. Beijing responded by easing controls on lending and boosting government spending.

“We expect the economy to get worse before it gets better,” Nomura economists said in a report.

Trump’s advisers say the slowdown gives Washington leverage in the trade battle.

“Their economy looks terrible,” said Trump’s top economic adviser, Larry Kudlow, at a Cabinet meeting last month.

But analysts closer to China say it is doing better than Americans might think.

“A lot of this economic slowdown is really the result of an intended policy,” said Tai Hui of J.P. Morgan Asset Management in Hong Kong. “The overall growth momentum is still relatively healthy and certainly broadly in line with the authorities’ plans.”

Here is a breakdown of China’s economic strengths and weaknesses:

ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN

July’s downturn was more abrupt than policymakers wanted, as growth in factory output slowed to 6 percent and corporate profits weakened. Investment in factories and other fixed assets rose at the slowest rate in 19 years.

Weaker demand from Chinese steel mills has taken global prices for iron ore down 14 percent this year — and 60 percent from their 2010 peak. That hurts Australia and other producers.

Chinese leaders want to shift the focus from growth numbers to poverty reduction, energy efficiency and the environment. But they need to keep the expansion above 6 percent to hit their target of doubling incomes from 2010 levels by 2020.

China’s yuan has sunk in value against the dollar. That helps exporters by making Chinese toys, appliances and other goods cheaper for American consumers. But regulators worry it will trigger an outflow of money, making it harder for companies to borrow.

CHINA’S RESPONSE

Banks have been told to lend more freely to small exporters that might be hurt by Trump’s tariffs. That temporarily backtracks on government efforts to rein in rising debt.

Beijing sees the “growth slowdown as a bigger near-term risk,” said UBS economists in a report.

The government is pumping money into the economy with plans to spend more on building roads,

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bridges and other public works.

This month, sales of infrastructure bonds raised 280 billion yuan (\$41 billion), more than the total for the first seven months of the year, according to Macquarie Bank's Larry Hu.

Beijing has speeded up the rollout of plans to ease restrictions on foreign ownership in auto manufacturing, banking and insurance.

The moves are not, however, intended to address the American complaints about Chinese plans for state-led creation of global champions in robotics, electric cars and other technologies that Washington says violate Beijing's market-opening commitments and might erode U.S. industrial leadership.

Instead, China is trying to reduce reliance on foreign markets and technology by promoting domestic consumption and industry development.

TUMBLING STOCKS

While Wall Street sets records, China's stock market is 2018's worst global performer.

The market benchmark tumbled 25 percent from its January peak to mid-August. It has gained 3.7 percent since then after government spending plans helped to revive investor confidence.

The biggest decliners are real estate, construction and other companies hardest-hit by Beijing's lending controls.

Shares in Poly Real Estate Group, one of China's biggest developers, have lost 40 percent of their value this year. Aluminum Corp. of China Ltd., the country's biggest aluminum producer, is down by half.

The biggest gainers are smaller tech companies that look set to benefit from official industry plans. Shares in Zhongshi Technology Ltd., a Beijing-based maker of insulators for telecoms, medical and automotive equipment, are up 400 percent this year.

TRADE IMPACT

July exports to the United States rose 13.3 percent over a year ago despite a tariff hike. Forecasters expect exports to soften but mainly due to flagging global demand rather than American controls.

The tariffs target Chinese goods such as medical equipment and factory machinery that Washington says benefit from improper industrial policies. But U.S. officials have tried to limit the blow to consumers by avoiding penalties on Barbie dolls, Apple iPhones and many other brand-name products made in Chinese factories.

China is the world's No. 1 trader, but exports have shrunk as a share of the economy, to 19 percent of gross domestic product from 38 percent in 2005. Exports supplied 0.6 percentage points of GDP growth of 6.8 percent in 2017, while consumption accounted for more than half.

The United States buys about 20 percent of China's exports. Sellers of low-margin goods such as surgical gloves and handbags say American customers are canceling orders. But producers of higher-technology goods such as factory machinery and medical equipment report little impact.

Chinese leaders are encouraging exporters to sell to other markets, especially in Asia and Africa. That will be a challenge, because their consumers buy lower-value goods than Americans.

So far, U.S. tariff hikes have had little impact on a Chinese economy that is bigger than Japan and Germany combined. The first round hit July 6 and Trump says they could spread to cover up to \$250 billion of Chinese imports.

Credit Suisse says if all threatened U.S. tariffs are imposed, that might trim 0.2 percentage points off Chinese growth this year and 1.9 percentage points in 2019.

"I don't think Beijing is willing to yield significantly," said Hui of J.P. Morgan. "Especially to pressure from another country. You know the historical precedent of that is just not acceptable."

This story has been corrected to say in 7th paragraph that Cabinet meeting was last month, not this month.

From penny press to Snapchat: Parents fret through the ages

By BARBARA ORTUTAY, AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — When Stephen Dennis was raising his two sons in the 1980s, he never heard the phrase “screen time,” nor did he worry much about the hours his kids spent with technology. When he bought an Apple II Plus computer, he considered it an investment in their future and encouraged them to use it as much as possible.

Boy, have things changed with his grandkids and their phones and their Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter. “It almost seems like an addiction,” said Dennis, a retired homebuilder who lives in Bellevue, Washington. “In the old days you had a computer and you had a TV and you had a phone but none of them were linked to the outside world but the phone. You didn’t have this omnipresence of technology.”

Today’s grandparents may have fond memories of the “good old days,” but history tells us that adults have worried about their kids’ fascination with new-fangled entertainment and technology since the days of dime novels, radio, the first comic books and rock n’ roll.

“This whole idea that we even worry about what kids are doing is pretty much a 20th century thing,” said Katie Foss, a media studies professor at Middle Tennessee State University. But when it comes to screen time, she added, “all we are doing is reinventing the same concern we were having back in the ‘50s.”

True, the anxieties these days seem particularly acute — as, of course, they always have. Smartphones have a highly customized, 24/7 presence in our lives that feeds parental fears of antisocial behavior and stranger danger.

What hasn’t changed, though, is a general parental dread of what kids are doing out of sight. In previous generations, this often meant kids wandering around on their own or sneaking out at night to drink. These days, it might mean hiding in their bedroom, chatting with strangers online.

Less than a century ago, the radio sparked similar fears.

“The radio seems to find parents more helpless than did the funnies, the automobile, the movies and other earlier invaders of the home, because it can not be locked out or the children locked in,” Sidonie Matsner Gruenberg, director of the Child Study Association of America, told *The Washington Post* in 1931. She added that the biggest worry radio gave parents was how it interfered with other interests — conversation, music practice, group games and reading.

In the early 1930s a group of mothers from Scarsdale, New York, pushed radio broadcasters to change programs they thought were too “overstimulating, frightening and emotionally overwhelming” for kids, said Margaret Cassidy, a media historian at Adelphi University in New York who authored a chronicle of American kids and media.

Called the Scarsdale Moms, their activism led the National Association of Broadcasters to come up with a code of ethics around children’s programming in which they pledged not to portray criminals as heroes and to refrain from glorifying greed, selfishness and disrespect for authority.

Then television burst into the public consciousness with unrivaled speed. By 1955, more than half of all U.S. homes had a black and white set, according to Mitchell Stephens, a media historian at New York University.

The hand-wringing started almost as quickly. A 1961 Stanford University study on 6,000 children, 2,000 parents and 100 teachers found that more than half of the kids studied watched “adult” programs such as Westerns, crime shows and shows that featured “emotional problems.” Researchers were aghast at the TV violence present even in children’s programming.

By the end of that decade, Congress had authorized \$1 million (about \$7 million today) to study the effects of TV violence, prompting “literally thousands of projects” in subsequent years, Cassidy said.

That eventually led the American Academy of Pediatrics to adopt, in 1984, its first recommendation that parents limit their kids’ exposure to technology. The medical association argued that television sent unrealistic messages around drugs and alcohol, could lead to obesity and might fuel violence. Fifteen years later, in 1999, it issued its now-infamous edict that kids under 2 should not watch any television at all.

The spark for that decision was the British kids’ show “Teletubbies,” which featured cavorting humanoids with TVs embedded in their abdomens. But the odd TV-within-the-TV-beings conceit of the show wasn’t

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the problem — it was the “gibberish” the Teletubbies directed at preverbal kids whom doctors thought should be learning to speak from their parents, said Donald Shifrin, a University of Washington pediatrician and former chair of the AAP committee that pushed for the recommendation.

Video games presented a different challenge. Decades of study have failed to validate the most prevalent fear, that violent games encourage violent behavior. But from the moment the games emerged as a cultural force in the early 1980s, parents fretted about the way kids could lose themselves in games as simple and repetitive as “Pac-Man,” “Asteroids” and “Space Invaders.”

Some cities sought to restrict the spread of arcades; Mesquite, Texas, for instance, insisted that the under-17 set required parental supervision. Many parents imagined the arcades where many teenagers played video games “as dens of vice, of illicit trade in drugs and sex,” Michael Z. Newman, a University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee media historian, wrote recently in *Smithsonian*.

This time, some experts were more sympathetic to kids. Games could relieve anxiety and fed the age-old desire of kids to “be totally absorbed in an activity where they are out on an edge and can’t think of anything else,” Robert Millman, an addiction specialist at the New York Hospital-Cornell University Medical Center, told the *New York Times* in 1981. He cast them as benign alternatives to gambling and “glue sniffing.”

Initially, the internet — touted as an “information superhighway” that could connect kids to the world’s knowledge — got a similar pass for helping with homework and research. Yet as the internet began linking people together, often in ways that connected previously isolated people, familiar concerns soon resurfaced.

Sheila Azzara, a grandmother of 12 in Fallbrook, California, remembers learning about AOL chatrooms in the early 1990s and finding them “kind of a hostile place.” Teens with more permissive parents who came of age in the ‘90s might remember these chatrooms as places a 17-year-old girl could pretend to be a 40-year-old man (and vice versa), and talk about sex, drugs and rock ‘n’ roll (or more mundane topics such as current events).

Azzara still didn’t worry too much about technology’s effects on her children. Cellphones weren’t in common use, and computers — if families had them — were usually set up in the living room. But she, too, worries about her grandkids.

“They don’t interact with you,” she said. “They either have their head in a screen or in a game.”

Associated Press news researcher Rhonda Shafner contributed to this story.

This story has been amended to correct the state Scarsdale is in.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 4, the 247th day of 2018. There are 118 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlight in History:

On Sept. 4, 1951, President Harry S. Truman addressed the nation from the Japanese peace treaty conference in San Francisco in the first live, coast-to-coast television broadcast.

On this date:

In 1781, Los Angeles was founded by Spanish settlers under the leadership of Governor Felipe de Neve.

In 1917, the American Expeditionary Forces in France suffered their first fatalities during World War I when a German plane attacked a British-run base hospital in Camiers.

In 1944, during World War II, British troops liberated Antwerp, Belgium.

In 1957, Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus used Arkansas National Guardsmen to prevent nine black students from entering all-white Central High School in Little Rock. Ford Motor Co. began selling its ill-fated Edsel.

In 1962, The Beatles, with their new drummer, Ringo Starr, recorded “Love Me Do” at EMI Studios in London. (The more familiar version with substitute drummer Andy White and Starr playing the tambourine

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was recorded a week later.)

In 1971, an Alaska Airlines jet crashed near Juneau, killing all 111 people on board.

In 1972, U.S. swimmer Mark Spitz won a seventh gold medal at the Munich Olympics in the 400-meter medley relay.

In 1987, a Soviet court convicted West German pilot Mathias Rust of charges stemming from his daring flight to Moscow's Red Square, and sentenced him to four years in a labor camp. (Rust was released in August 1988.)

In 1998, Internet services company Google filed for incorporation in California.

In 1999, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat signed a breakthrough land-for-security agreement during a ceremony in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

In 2006, "Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin, 44, died after a stingray's barb pierced his chest.

In 2014, comedian Joan Rivers died at a New York hospital at age 81, a week after going into cardiac arrest in a doctor's office during a routine medical procedure.

Ten years ago: With a pledge that "change is coming," Sen. John McCain accepted the Republican presidential nomination at the party's convention in St. Paul, Minnesota, vowing to vanquish what he called the "constant partisan rancor" gripping Washington. The Dow industrial average fell 344.65 points to 11,188.23 on gloomy economic data. Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice in a sex scandal, forcing the Democrat out of office after months of defiantly holding onto his job.

Five years ago: Responding to President Barack Obama's request, a sharply divided Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted 10-7 to authorize the "limited and specified use" of U.S. armed forces against Syria.

One year ago: Texas emergency management officials said at least 60 deaths were attributed to Hurricane Harvey. Colombia's government and the country's last remaining major rebel group signed a cease-fire ahead of a visit by Pope Francis. J.D. Martinez hit four home runs for the Arizona Diamondbacks, tying the major league record; he was the 18th player in major league history to accomplish the feat. (The Diamondbacks beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 13-0 for their 11th straight win.) Newspaper publisher Tronc, publisher of the Los Angeles Times and the Chicago Tribune, announced that it had acquired the New York Daily News. (The company would cut the Daily News' newsroom staff in half the following July.)

Today's Birthdays: Actress Mitzi Gaynor is 87. Actor Kenneth Kimmins is 77. Singer Merald "Bubba" Knight (Gladys Knight & The Pips) is 76. TV personality and veterinarian Dr. Jan (yahn) Pol (TV: "The Incredible Dr. Pol") is 76. World Golf Hall of Famer Raymond Floyd is 76. Actress Jennifer Salt is 74. World Golf Hall of Famer Tom Watson is 69. Rhythm-and-blues musician Ronald LaPread is 68. Actress Judith Ivey is 67. Rock musician Martin Chambers (The Pretenders) is 67. Actor Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs is 65. Actress Khandi Alexander is 61. Actor-comedian Damon Wayans Sr. is 58. Rock musician Kim Thayil is 58. Actor Richard Speight Jr. is 49. Actor Noah Taylor is 49. Actress Ione (eye-OH'-nee) Skye is 48. Actor-singer James Monroe Iglehart is 44. Pop-rock singer-DJ-musician-producer Mark Ronson is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Richard Wingo (Jagged Edge) is 43. Rock musician Ian Grushka (New Found Glory) is 41. Actor Wes Bentley is 40. Actor Max Greenfield is 39. Singer Dan Miller (O Town) is 38. Singer Beyonce (bee-AHN'-say) Knowles is 37. Country singer-musician Tom Gossin (Gloriana) is 37. Actress-comedian Whitney Cummings is 36. Actor-comedian Kyle Mooney (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 34. Folk-rock musician Neyla Pekarek (NEE'-lah peh-KAYR'-ehk) (The Lumineers) is 32. Pop-rock singer-songwriter James Bay is 28. Actor Carter Jenkins is 27. Actor Trevor Gagnon is 23.

Thought for Today: "This moment contains all moments." — C.S. Lewis, British author (1898-1963).