

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 1 of 48



- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Harry Implement Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- Smith finishes first at Britton-Hecla meet
- 2- Groton Coffee Cup league
- 2- Robert B. Johnson Estate Auction
- 3- State Parks Camping Available Year-Round
- 3- St. John's Luncheon ad
- 4- Groton Care & Rehab Ad
- 4- Today in Weather History
- 5- Today's Forecast
- 6- Yesterday's Weather
- 6- National Weather map
- 6- Today's Weather Almanac
- 7- Daily Devotional
- 8- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 9- News from the Associated Press

## Thursday's Events

- 10:00am: Golf: Boys Varsity Meet vs. Aberdeen Central, Aberdeen Roncalli, Dell Rapids, Madison, McCook Central-Montrose, Milbank, Redfield-Doland, Sioux Valley, Sisseton, Tiospa Zina, Tri-Valley @ Olive Grove Golf Course
- 4:00pm: Soccer: Boys Varsity Match vs. James Valley Christian @ James Valley Christian High School
- 4:30pm: Football: Boys 7th/8th Combined Game (Time Changed) vs. Sisseton @ Groton Area High School
- 6:00pm: Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match vs. Hamlin @ Hamlin High School (JV match starts at 6pm C match starts at 4:30pm)

## Friday, September 7, 2018

- 6:00pm: Soccer: Girls Varsity Match vs. West Central @ West Central High School
- 7:00pm: Football: Boys Varsity Game vs. Beresford @ Groton Area High School Doney Field

## Saturday, September 8, 2018

- 1:00pm: Soccer: Girls Varsity Match vs. S. F. Christian @ Groton Area High School
- 3:00pm: Soccer: Boys Varsity Match vs. S. F. Christian @ Groton Area High School

## Sunday, September 9, 2018

- Couples Sunflower Golf Tournament at Olive Grove Golf Course. Noon shotgun start. 18 holes - Scramble

## The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **GONE**

**Open:** Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East

## Harry Implement

"Family Owned & Operated Since 1935!"



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Ferney

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 2 of 48

## Smith finishes first at Britton-Hecla meet

Isaac Smith brought home first place honors at the Britton-Hecla cross country meet held Sept. 4. He ran the 5,000m course in a time of 19:13. All of the varsity runners were medalists at the Britton-Hecla meet as they all placed in the top 20.

The results are as follows:

**Varsity Boys – 5000 Meters:** 1, Isaac Smith, 19:13; 6, Micah Poor, 21:04; 9, Mitchell Koens, 21:51; 12, Noah Poor, 23:27; 15, Spencer Jacobs, 30:47.

**Varsity Girls – 5000 Meters:** 7, AnneMarie Smith, 26:03.

**JV Boys – 3000 Meters**

9, Dylan Abeln, 12:47; 11, Jackson Garstecki, 13:07; 15, Steven Paulson, 14:00; 17, Kannon Coats, 14:46; 18, Bradin Althoff, 14:56.

**JV Girls – 3000 Meters:** 13, Rylie Rosenau, 16:15; 14, Sierra Erhesmann, 16:15; 15, Lillian Brooks, 17:39.

## Groton Coffee Cup league

**Team Standings:** Biker Chix 3, James Valley 3, Ten Pins 1, Kens 1

**High Scores:** Joyce Walter 187, Vickie Kramp 178, Sandi Bistedeau 153

### 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](http://voldrealty.com)***

**Owner: Robert B. Johnson Estate**

[www.voldrealty.com](http://www.voldrealty.com)

**VOLD AUCTIONEERS & REALTY**

**BRITTON, SD • 605-448-0048**

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 3 of 48

## State Parks Camping Available Year-Round

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) is reminding campers that the end of the summer doesn't mean the end of camping at South Dakota state parks.

"The changing seasons provide another memorable opportunity to visit and use our state parks," said state park director Katie Ceroll. "While beach traffic may be slowed down, fall colors and crisp weather make hiking opportunities exceptional. Cabins and lodges make great fall accommodations."

Campsite reservations for the South Dakota state parks are taken throughout the year and can be made as late as the day of arrival. Cabin and lodge reservations must be made at least two days before arrival. Any sites not reserved are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Additionally, campsites and cabins at Custer State Park can be reserved up to one year in advance. At all other parks, reservations for campsites and cabins can be made as much as 90 days prior to arrival.

Group campsites located at Custer State Park and Lewis and Clark Recreation Area can also be booked one year in advance. Group lodges that can be reserved one year ahead of time include:

Lake Thompson Recreation Area near Lake Preston

Mina Lake Recreation Area near Aberdeen

Newton Hills State Park near Canton

Oahe Downstream Recreation Area near Fort Pierre

Palisades State Park near Garretson

Shadehill Recreation Area near Lemmon

Sheps Canyon Recreation Area on Angostura Reservoir near Hot Springs

Camping reservations can be made online at [campsd.com](http://campsd.com) or by calling 1.800.710.2267.

## St. John's Soup, Sandwich, and Pie Luncheon

September 13, 2018, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

\$2.00 per item

For take-out orders, call 397-2386 at  
10:30 a.m. or after.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 4 of 48

## Today in Weather History

September 6, 2000: Eight miles southwest of Miller, ninety mph winds destroyed three barns and a small garage along with severely damaging a creeper feeder and an enclosed trailer. Another building was moved from its foundation and damaged. An empty school bus was rolled several times before it came to rest atop a fence. Also, a window was broken out of the house.

1667: The "dreadful hurricane of 1667" is considered one of the most severe hurricanes ever to strike Virginia. On the first, this same storm was reported in the Lesser Antilles. The hurricane devastated St. Christopher as no other storm had done before. The "great storm" went on to strike the northern Outer Banks of North Carolina and southeastern Virginia. Approximately 10,000 houses were blown over. Area crops (including corn and tobacco) were beaten into the ground.

1776: Called the Pointe-à-Pitre hurricane, this storm is one of the deadliest Atlantic hurricanes on record. While the intensity and complete track are unknown, this storm struck Guadeloupe on this day, killing 6,000.

1881: Forest fires in "The Thumb" of Michigan and Ontario resulted in "Yellow Day" over the New England states. Twenty villages and over a million acres burned in Michigan. The smoke from these fires caused the sky to appear yellow over several New England cities. Twilight appeared at noon on this day.

1881 - Forest fires in Michigan and Ontario resulted in 'Yellow Day' in the northeastern U.S. Twenty villages in Michigan burned, and a total of 500 persons were killed. Fires caused 2.3 million dollars in losses near Lake Huron. Candles were needed at the noon hour. (David Ludlum)

1929 - Iowa's earliest snow of record occurred as a few flakes were noted at 9 AM at Alton. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms produced more than seven inches of rain in Georgia. Four persons drowned, and two others suffered injury, as three couples attempted to cross Mills Stone Creek at Echols Mill in their automobile. Smoke from forest fires in California and Oregon spread across Utah into western Colorado. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Unseasonably cool weather prevailed across the north central and northeastern U.S. Thirty cities reported record low temperatures for the date, including Saint Joseph MO with a reading of 38 degrees. A low of 44 degrees at Indianapolis IN was their coolest reading of record for so early in the season. The mercury dipped to 31 degrees at Hibbing MN and Philips WI. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - An early afternoon thunderstorm produced wind gusts to 104 mph at Winterhaven, FL, flipping over four airplanes, and damaging five others. The high winds also damaged a hangar and three other buildings. A cold front produced strong winds and blowing dust in the Northern High Plains, with gusts to 54 mph reported at Buffalo SD. Powerful Hurricane Gabrielle and strong easterly winds combined to create waves up to ten feet high along the southern half of the Atlantic coast. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

## We Are Hiring!

### Housekeeping

### Laundry

### Stop in or call

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



**GROTON**  
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

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

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 5 of 48

Today



Patchy Fog  
then Sunny

High: 76 °F

Tonight



Mostly Clear

Low: 52 °F

Friday



Sunny

High: 79 °F

Friday  
Night



Mostly Clear

Low: 53 °F

Saturday



Sunny then  
Sunny and  
Breezy

High: 77 °F

## Another Sunny, Pleasant Day

Highs...Low 70s east, Low 80s west

Breezy West of the James Valley

National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 9/6/2018 4:35 AM Central

Published on: 09/06/2018 at 4:39AM

High pressure will keep the region dry today. However, as the center of the high slides east, southerly winds will increase across central South Dakota. Temperatures will rise into the 80s in these breezier areas.

# Groton Daily Independent

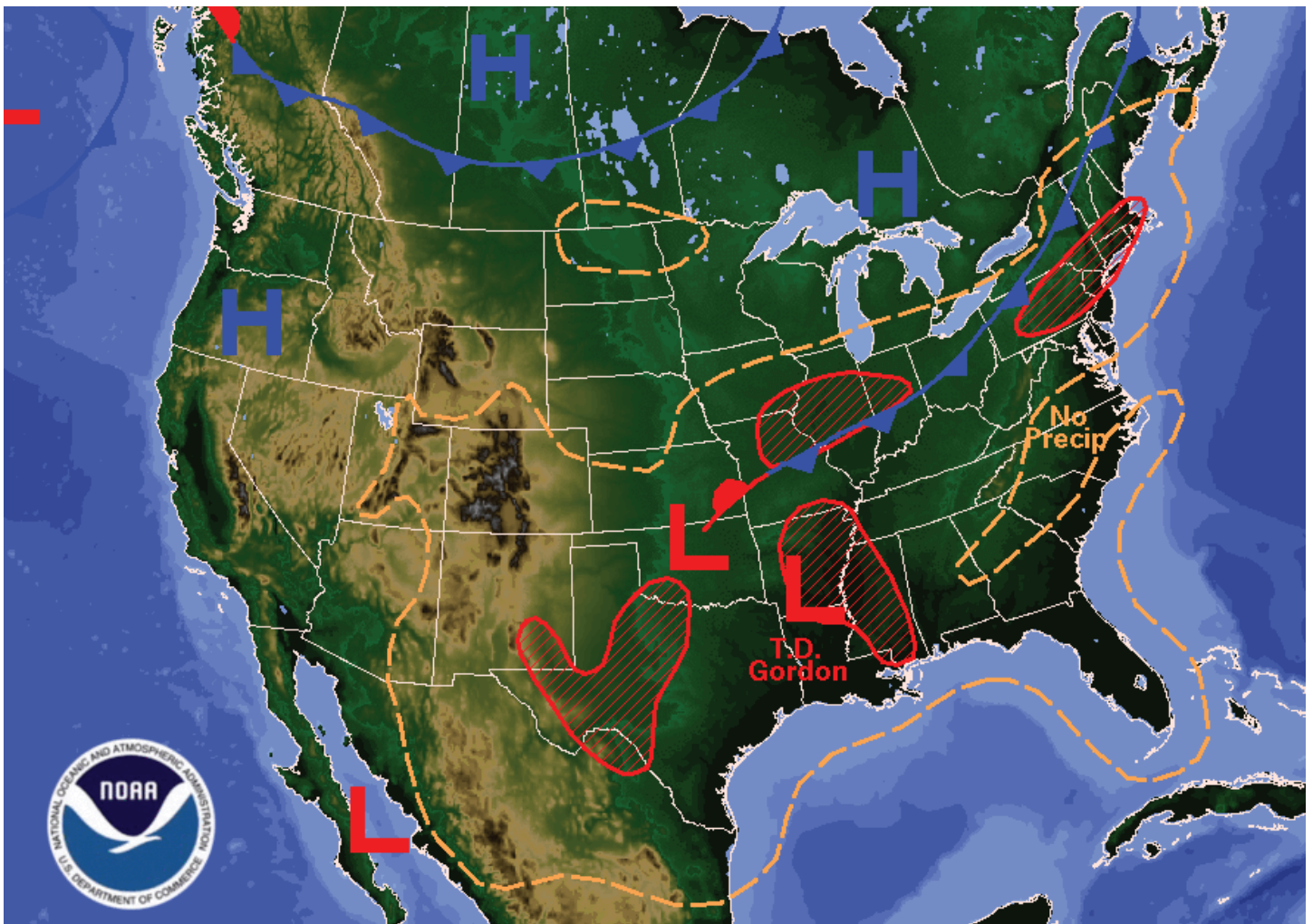
Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 6 of 48

## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 71.9 F at 5:20 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 55.2 F at 7:24 AM**  
**High Gust: 18.0 Mph at 12:16 PM**  
**Precip: 0.00**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 103° in 1970**  
**Record Low: 32° in 1956**  
**Average High: 76°F**  
**Average Low: 50°F**  
**Average Precip in Sept.: 0.37**  
**Precip to date in Sept.: 0.10**  
**Average Precip to date: 16.66**  
**Precip Year to Date: 11.36**  
**Sunset Tonight: 8:02 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:02 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Sep 06, 2018, issued 4:57 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

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

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 7 of 48



## CRITICISM - GOOD OR BAD?

Criticism can be very beneficial. It can help us correct a problem or avoid making the same mistake again and again. Or, it may damage or destroy the hope that is within someone who is trying to do something good and makes a few mistakes along the way.

When the great Polish pianist, Paderewski, first chose to study the piano, his teacher embarrassed him and said, Your hands are too small. You will never be able to master the piano.

When the great American evangelist, Moody, closed a service, a critic said, I counted eighteen mistakes in your grammar tonight. Thinking for a moment, Moody graciously replied, I am using all the grammar I know for the glory of God. Are you doing the same?

The criticism directed at Paderewski and Moody did not cripple them, it challenged them. History records their stories, and though they had their problems, they went on to great things.

Criticism properly given and directed at something a person can change or improve on can be a gift from God. David wrote, Let a righteous man strike me - it is a kindness; let him rebuke me - it is oil on my head. My head will not refuse it.

People who love us will want the best for us. They will offer us suggestions on what we can do to improve our witness, service or testimony to the Lord. It is important to listen patiently, willingly and openly. Notice one word: righteous. People who are right with God want our best.

Prayer: Lord, we ask You to bring people into our lives who will help us to become our best and become like You. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 141:5 Let a righteous man strike me - it is a kindness; let him rebuke me - it is oil on my head. My head will not refuse it.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 8 of 48

## 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



## News from the Associated Press

### Trump taking Supreme Court fight to Montana, North Dakota

By ZEKE MILLER and KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is taking the Washington debate over his Supreme Court nominee to the homes of two red-state Senate Democrats this week, elevating Judge Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation as a political litmus test for voters.

Trump's strategy aims to turn the screws on the lawmakers, Jon Tester of Montana and Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota, who find themselves caught between Senate leaders and progressive donors who are fighting Kavanaugh's confirmation, and their states' more conservative electorate, which is more broadly supportive of Trump's pick.

Neither senator has laid down a clear marker on how he or she will vote on Kavanaugh's confirmation, which Senate Republican leaders hope to bring to a vote before the full chamber later this month — just weeks before the general election.

Trump is holding a rally in Billings, Montana, on Thursday night, and then attending fundraisers in Fargo, North Dakota, and Sioux Falls, South Dakota, on Friday.

White House officials contend the Supreme Court was a powerful motivator for Republican base voters in 2016, when Trump won the White House, and they're seeking to capitalize on Kavanaugh's confirmation to help overcome an enthusiasm gap with Democrats. Likewise, a vote for Kavanaugh by either Tester or Heitkamp could frustrate their Democratic base eager for a more confrontational approach to the Trump administration.

"It's a real pickle," said GOP strategist Josh Holmes.

"There is no question that all of these red-state Democrats would prefer to have an extremely quiet experience when it comes to the consideration of Kavanaugh," he said. "They don't want to upset leadership and the liberal base that's funding their campaigns, but the voters who control their fate are overwhelmingly in favor of Kavanaugh."

Democrats question whether the Kavanaugh vote will resonate in the race to unseat Tester, the Big Sandy farmer who has emphasized his independence and willingness to cross the partisan aisle to work with the president, who carried Montana by 20 percentage points two years ago.

"It's not like you're standing in the grocery store line and people are talking about the Kavanaugh confirmation. It's pretty inside baseball for folks," said Barrett Kaiser, a Montana-based Democratic strategist who advised former Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont. Kaiser said Tester had demonstrated a "proven bipartisan record of working with this administration when it helps Montana and oppose them when it doesn't."

Republicans last year assailed Tester for his vote against the confirmation of Neil Gorsuch, Trump's nominee to replace the late Justice Antonin Scalia. Tester said Gorsuch would "stand between women and her health care" and not protect personal privacy.

He's yet to make a commitment on Kavanaugh or even to meet with the nominee. Tester initially said he wanted to meet with Kavanaugh and blamed the lack of a meeting on a White House cancellation. He retracted that claim Saturday when his spokeswoman told the Billings Gazette newspaper that the Democrat "misspoke" and that the White House had pushed back, not canceled, the meeting.

Tester said again on Tuesday that he wanted to meet with Kavanaugh. Among the topics he wants to cover are privacy rights, women's access to health care, campaign finance reform and gun rights, said Tester spokeswoman Marnee Banks.

Matt Rosendale, Montana's state auditor and the senator's opponent, alleged that Tester had been caught in a "blatant lie."

"What I'm really disturbed by is the fact that two months ago, when the president came out and announced his nominee, Jon Tester said, 'I'm going to keep an open mind and meet with Brett Kavanaugh,'" Rosendale said.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 10 of 48

Tester unveiled a television ad Wednesday promoting his collaboration with Trump as he seeks to inoculate himself against conservative critics.

Heitkamp is locked in a tough re-election fight in heavily Republican North Dakota, where she narrowly won six years ago and now faces a more formidable opponent in Rep. Kevin Cramer. Cramer has been a fervent supporter of Trump, who remains popular in North Dakota.

As Kavanaugh's hearings began, Cramer launched an ad attacking Heitkamp for a January procedural vote that effectively blocked legislation to make nearly all abortions after 20 weeks illegal.

The Kavanaugh nomination puts the same pressure on Heitkamp as last year, when she ultimately was one of only three Democrats to vote for Gorsuch's confirmation. She remains undecided.

"One of the most important jobs of any U.S. senator is to fully vet and consider nominees to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court - the highest court in our land," Heitkamp said in a statement. "And right now Judge Kavanaugh is going through his very important job interview which I'm watching closely as I continue to review his record."

Associated Press writers James MacPherson in Bismarck, North Dakota; Matthew Brown in Billings, Montana; and Catherine Lucey in Washington contributed to this report.

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash  
02-12-27-28-34  
(two, twelve, twenty-seven, twenty-eight, thirty-four)  
Estimated jackpot: \$258,000

Lotto America  
13-20-26-30-41, Star Ball: 9, ASB: 2  
(thirteen, twenty, twenty-six, thirty, forty-one; Star Ball: nine; ASB: two)  
Estimated jackpot: \$7.23 million

Mega Millions  
Estimated jackpot: \$187 million

Powerball  
06-15-50-59-60, Powerball: 13, Power Play: 2  
(six, fifteen, fifty, fifty-nine, sixty; Powerball: thirteen; Power Play: two)  
Estimated jackpot: \$100 million

## Ceremonial blast planned Thursday at Crazy Horse Memorial

CRAZY HORSE MEMORIAL, S.D. (AP) — A ceremonial blast is planned at the Crazy Horse Memorial mountain carving in South Dakota's Black Hills.

The Thursday blast will memorialize the death of Lakota warrior Crazy Horse in 1877 and the 1908 birth of the late Crazy Horse sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski (KOR'-zhack jew-uhl-KUFF'-skee).

The blast is an annual tradition and is open to the public. Admission to the site is waived after 5 p.m. for people who bring three cans of food for a food drive.

The memorial is a mountain carving in progress that will depict Crazy Horse on horseback gesturing to his ancestral homelands.

## California man, 3 firms plead guilty to defrauding agencies

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A California man and three Bay Area companies have pleaded guilty in federal court in South Dakota and paid nearly \$1.1 million of restitution for defrauding NASA and other agencies.

South Dakota U.S. Attorney Ron Parsons' office said Wednesday that 55-year-old Wallace Tang of Alamo, California, pleaded guilty to wire fraud. Laserlith Corporation, Black Hills Nanosystems Corporation and Blue Sky Engineering pleaded guilty through corporate representatives to conspiracy to commit wire fraud.

Authorities say the restitution equals the money received from defrauding NASA, the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy. Officials say the companies in South Dakota and other places developed a scheme to fraudulently get federally funded projects, enriching Tang and the companies.

Authorities say the companies got federal support for "essentially equivalent work" and hid relationships between companies from awarding agencies.

## South Dakota elevator back up after grain bin problem

PHILIP, S.D. (AP) — A grain elevator in western South Dakota has reopened after the threat of a grain bin collapse at the facility.

The Rapid City Journal reports the grain elevator in Philip began accepting grain last week.

The grain elevator shut down on Aug. 24 after employees noticed the sides of the 100,000-bushel bin were buckling during the loading of wheat.

Fire and emergency management officials evacuated the nearby downtown business district as a precaution. The evacuation notice was lifted later that day and the bin was unloaded.

The off-loaded wheat filled 13 rail cars.

CHS Midwest Cooperative officials are working with engineers to decide the best method for repairing the grain bin.

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

## Greenpeace wants Dakota Access racketeering suit dismissed

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The lone remaining environmental group facing racketeering accusations by the developer of the Dakota Access oil pipeline has asked a federal judge to be dismissed from the case.

Greenpeace attorneys on Tuesday filed documents arguing that revised allegations by Texas-based Energy Transfer Partners under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act are "generalized and implausible."

ETP initially sued Greenpeace, Earth First and BankTrack last year for up to \$1 billion, alleging they worked to undermine the \$3.8 billion pipeline that's now shipping North Dakota oil to a distribution point in Illinois. The lawsuit alleged the groups interfered with company business, facilitated crimes and acts of terrorism, incited violence, targeted financial institutions that backed the project, and violated defamation and racketeering laws. The groups maintained the lawsuit was an attack on free speech.

U.S. District Judge Billy Roy Wilson this summer dismissed both BankTrack and Earth First as defendants. In July, he denied a motion by Greenpeace to be dismissed, as well, but he also ordered ETP to revise the lawsuit that he said contained vague claims. Company lawyers did so last month.

Greenpeace attorneys maintain that "ETP has utterly failed to follow the court's direction," and that the amended lawsuit "contains much the same inflammatory, insubstantial language" as before.

ETP spokeswoman Vicki Granado declined comment, citing company policy against commenting on active litigation.

Company lawyers on Tuesday asked Wilson to reconsider his late August order that the company identify 20 unnamed individual defendants in its lawsuit within a month or have them dismissed as defendants. ETP wants the opportunity to gather more evidence to properly identify the people that it alleges played

a role in inciting a massive protest against the pipeline while it was being built.

Protests by groups and American Indian tribes who feared environmental harm resulted in 761 arrests in southern North Dakota over a six-month span beginning in late 2016.

ETP also is suing five named individual defendants: two Iowa women who have publicly claimed to have vandalized the pipeline; two people associated with the Red Warrior Camp, a protest group alleged to have advocated aggressive tactics such as arson; and Virginia resident Charles Brown, who the company alleges is "a pipeline campaigner for Greenpeace" and specializes in interfering with ETP projects including the Bayou Bridge Pipeline in Louisiana.

Brown filed an affidavit Tuesday stating he began working for Greenpeace after the Dakota Access protests and that "I have never lived in or traveled to North Dakota."

Greenpeace attorneys called the inclusion of Brown as a defendant "baffling" and "possibly sanctionable."

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

## School officials deny harassing former student over comment

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota school district and high school principal have filed a response to a lawsuit, denying allegations they harassed a former student over a comment she made in the student newspaper.

The Argus Leader reports that Addison Ludwig's federal lawsuit accuses Elk Point-Jefferson High School Principal Travis Aslesen of disciplining her last year after she listed "Netflix n' chill with my boyfriend" in a newspaper profile that included her hobbies. The comment has been interpreted by some as slang for casual sex.

Ludwig, who graduated in May, says she was unaware of the sexual undertones and thought the term meant to hang out and watch television shows.

The Elk Point-Jefferson School District's response denies the content of Ludwig's complaint, including whether Aslesen interrogated her about whether she knew the sexual nature of the term.

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

## SUV rollover in Stanley County kills 20-year-old woman

HAYES, S.D. (AP) — A one-vehicle rollover in Stanley County has killed a 20-year-old woman.

The Highway Patrol says the woman was a passenger in a sport utility vehicle that swerved to avoid a deer on a rural road Tuesday night, and ended up rolling in the ditch.

The passenger was dead at the scene 12 miles north of Hayes. The 45-year-old female driver suffered minor injuries. She will not be charged.

Neither woman was immediately identified.

## South Dakota pet store owner facing animal neglect charges

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The owner of a South Dakota pet store that was raided by authorities last month is facing more than 200 charges of animal cruelty and neglect.

Animal control officers acting on an anonymous complaint say they found 36 dead animals and squalid conditions at the Pitter Patter Pet Store in Rapid City, which still needed permits to open for business. They seized 90 living animals, including dogs, cats, hamsters and guinea pigs in the Aug. 16 raid. Authorities haven't said what animals were found dead.

The Rapid City Journal says 38-year-old Marinda Parks now faces 203 municipal charges. Her attorney, Timothy Rensch, says the only dead creatures were cockroaches, goldfish and snails. Rensch says Parks is being portrayed as a villain, but is actually a kind person who loves animals.

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

## **Black Hills Energy customers to get refund after tax cuts**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota regulators have approved an agreement with Black Hills Energy to refund about \$7.7 million to customers in 2018 as a result of last year's federal tax cuts.

The state Public Utilities Commission voted Tuesday to accept the settlement agreement, which also includes a roughly \$9 million base rate reduction starting in January 2019. This year's refund is expected to be a roughly \$50 credit in October for an average residential consumer.

Commission Chairwoman Kristie Fiegen says the move gives stability to ratepayers and will have a "real impact on families." It comes after the commission in July approved an agreement to refund roughly \$10.9 million to Xcel Energy customers in South Dakota because of the tax cuts.

The commission says rate discussions are ongoing with several other companies.

## **Troubled reservation hospital gets more time to fix problems**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The troubled Indian Health Service hospital on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation has been given another week to improve care conditions or risk losing key federal funding.

The hospital was to learn last week whether the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services would pull its ability to bill to the federal health insurance programs. But the Argus Leader reports that the hospital has been given until the end of this week to fix problems uncovered in a July inspection.

Among incidents cited were a drunken 12-year-old girl who tried to hang herself while left alone, and a 35-year-old man who died of a heart attack in the emergency room after being pepper-sprayed and restrained.

Hospital and IHS officials have said they set in place a plan to resolve problems

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

## **Aberdeen man killed in weekend ATV crash near Britton**

BRITTON, S.D. (AP) — An all-terrain vehicle crash on private property northeast of Britton over the weekend killed an Aberdeen man.

Marshall County Sheriff Dale Elsen tells the American News that 29-year-old Ryer Hagen died Sunday afternoon.

Elsen says Hagen suffered head and back injuries in the crash in a field and was pronounced dead at a Britton hospital.

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

## **Spearfish man sentenced for embezzling from youth sports**

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — A Spearfish man has been sentenced for embezzling from youth sports programs.

Forth-three-year-old Nicholas Hoffman pleaded guilty in July to grand theft by embezzlement in a deal with prosecutors in which the Queen City Futbol Club, the Spearfish Youth Wrestling Club and the Spearfish Rams Football group will get about \$14,500 in restitution.

The Black Hills Pioneer reports Hoffman was sentenced Friday to 30 days in jail, three years of probation and 100 hours of community service. He also was fined \$1,500.

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

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 14 of 48

## Balloon event canceled due to Trump visit to Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — President Donald Trump's scheduled visit to Sioux Falls on Friday has prompted the cancellation of a hot air balloon event at the city airport that day.

The Sioux Falls Ballooning Association says participants in the Balloons over Downtown Sioux Falls event wouldn't be allowed within 30 miles of the airport, so the event is being called off.

Association President T.J. Olson says it likely will be rescheduled. He says this Friday's weather might have been challenging for balloonists anyway.

Trump is visiting for a fundraiser and possible rally in support of the gubernatorial run of Republican U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem.

## Eagle Butte woman pleads not guilty to embezzling from tribe

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — An Eagle Butte woman has pleaded not guilty to embezzling from the Cheyenne River Sioux tribe.

Authorities allege 27-year-old Memoree Ducheneaux (DOO'-shuhn-oh) embezzled from the tribally owned Lakota Thrifty Mart in Eagle Butte between November 2016 and August 2017. A trial date wasn't immediately scheduled.

The U.S. attorney's office says the case was brought under The Guardians Project, a federal law enforcement effort aimed at cracking down on corruption, fraud and embezzlement.

## Trump poised to tax an additional \$200B in Chinese imports

By PAUL WISEMAN and ANNE D'INNOCENZIO, AP Business Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration may be about to slap tariffs of up to 25 percent on an additional \$200 billion in Chinese goods, escalating a confrontation between the world's two biggest economies and likely squeezing U.S. companies that import everything from handbags to bicycle tires.

The administration could decide to begin taxing the imports — equal to nearly 40 percent of all the goods China sold the United States last year — after a public comment period ends Thursday.

China said it is ready to impose retaliatory tariffs on \$60 billion worth of U.S. goods if that happens.

"China will have to take necessary countermeasures if the U.S. side ignores the opposition of the overwhelming majority of its enterprises and adopts new tariff measures," Commerce Ministry spokesman Gao Feng said Thursday.

The U.S. has already imposed tariffs on \$50 billion in Chinese products, and Beijing has punched back with tariffs on \$50 billion in American goods. These U.S. goods include soybeans and beef — a direct shot at supporters of President Donald Trump in the U.S. farm belt.

Trump initiated the trade war to punish Beijing for what it says are China's predatory tactics to try to supplant U.S. technological supremacy. Those tactics, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative has alleged, include stealing trade secrets through computer hacking and forcing U.S. companies to hand over technology in exchange for access to the Chinese market.

In the early rounds of the hostilities, the administration targeted Chinese industrial imports to try to spare American consumers from higher import costs. But if Trump adds the \$200 billion in Chinese products to the target list, American consumers would likely feel the pinch directly. And China has vowed to hit \$60 billion in U.S. products in retaliation.

Many American companies that rely on targeted Chinese imports are bracing for the next round of tariffs to hit, with some wondering whether they can absorb the higher costs or instead will need to pass them along to their customers — or find alternative suppliers outside China.

"An escalation of the tariff war could start to sever or disrupt supply chains, bringing about diminished production efficiency, higher costs and lost competitiveness — ultimately leading to a lower potential growth rate for both countries," analysts at S&P Global Ratings wrote Wednesday.

They say a full-blown trade war by 2021 could shrink America's annual economic output by an average of one-third of a percentage point and China's by two-tenths of a percentage point from 2019 through

2021. The trade war could inflict further damage if it rattles financial markets, thereby hurting business confidence and potentially discouraging investment.

Sherill Mosee, founder of MinkeeBlue, a Philadelphia company that makes travel and work bags, said that her 4-year-old business will probably have to suspend operations if the tariffs hit and the administration starts taxing imported Chinese luggage and handbags.

MinkeeBlue relies on inexpensive imports to be able to sell for less than \$200 an all-purpose bag for working women that holds shoes and a lunch bag. Mosee said she won't be able to either absorb higher import costs or pass them on to her customers. Finding a supplier outside China likely would take months, she said.

"I'm scared; I am overwhelmed," Mosee said. "I'm just beginning to grow my business. I finally feel good about the direction of the business, and now this is happening."

D'Innocenzio reported from New York. AP Economics Writer Christopher Rugaber in Washington contributed to this report.

Follow Paul Wiseman on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/PaulWisemanAP>

## Kavanaugh faces final round of questioning without missteps

By LISA MASCARO and MARK SHERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senators will launch a final round of questioning of Brett Kavanaugh on Thursday, but after a marathon 12-hour session, President Donald Trump's nominee to the Supreme Court appears to have avoided any major missteps that could trip his confirmation.

So far, Kavanaugh does not seem to have changed minds on the Judiciary Committee, which is split along partisan lines. The judge left unanswered questions over how he would handle investigations of the executive branch and whether he would recuse himself if cases involving Trump under special counsel Robert Mueller's probe end up at the court.

His credibility may face new tests by senators who are seeking to make public some emails and documents from his Bush White House years that are being withheld by the committee as confidential.

Trump says he's pleased with his nominee's televised performance, and Republicans are united behind him, eager to add a conservative judge to the court.

The questioning of Kavanaugh has carried strong political overtones ahead of the November congressional elections. Democrats lack the votes to block confirmation, but have been pressing Kavanaugh for his views on abortion rights, gun control and other issues. Protesters have added to the challenges for Kavanaugh, repeatedly interrupting proceedings.

"You're more than halfway done," Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C., told Kavanaugh as he gaveled the hearing closed late Wednesday.

Pressured by Democrats with Trump on their minds during Wednesday's grueling session, the judge insisted that he fully embraced the importance of judicial independence. But he refused to provide direct answers to Democrats who wanted him to say whether there are limits on a president's power to issue pardons, including to himself or in exchange for a bribe. He also would not say whether he believes the president can be subpoenaed to testify. Still, he began his long day in the witness chair by declaring that "no one is above the law."

When Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., asked what constraints exist on executive power, the judge cited existing laws but also norms. "Norms are important. Historical practice is relevant to judicial decision-making," he said.

Democrats are concerned that Kavanaugh will push the court to the right and that he will side with Trump in cases stemming from Mueller's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election and possible ties to the Trump campaign. The 53-year-old appellate judge answered cautiously when asked about most of those matters, refusing an invitation from Democratic Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut to pledge

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 16 of 48

to step aside from any Supreme Court cases dealing with Trump and Mueller's investigation.

Under questioning by Republicans, Kavanaugh stressed the importance of judicial independence, "not being swayed by political or public pressure."

On abortion, Kavanaugh said the landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that ensures access to abortion has been affirmed "many times." He defended his dissenting opinion last year in the case of a pregnant immigrant teen in federal custody. Kavanaugh would have denied her immediate access to an abortion, even after she received permission from a Texas judge.

Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, praised Kavanaugh for hiring female lawyers as clerks as a judge on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, and then posed questions about whether Kavanaugh was aware of sexual harassment allegations against retired circuit court Judge Alex Kozinski in California. Kavanaugh, who considered the judge a friend and mentor, said he had known nothing about the allegations until they were disclosed last year.

"It was a gut punch for me," he said, and he was "shocked, disappointed, angry."

Kavanaugh also told Sen. Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii, he was unaware of the domestic violence allegations against Rob Porter, who was Trump's staff secretary. Journalist Bob Woodward's new book about Trump says Kavanaugh recommended Porter for the job.

Kavanaugh had served as staff secretary to George W. Bush and his work in the White House has figured in the hearing. Democratic senators have fought for access to documents from his three years as staff secretary, saying those could shed light on his views about policies from that era, including the detention and interrogation of terror suspects. Republicans have declined to seek the papers, and instead have gathered documents from his work as White House counsel to Bush.

When questioned about the honesty of his 2006 testimony during his nomination for the appellate court when he said he was not involved in some Bush-era policies, Kavanaugh said he was "100 percent accurate."

Late Wednesday, Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., drew a rare partnership with Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, to release some of the Bush-era documents. Lee complained that Booker was relying on an unreleased email to question Kavanaugh's openness to racial profiling by police, but then agreed to work for its release.

Republicans hope to confirm Kavanaugh in time for the first day of the new Supreme Court term, Oct. 1.

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Associated Press writer Jessica Gresko contributed to this report.

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

## Abandoned trucks litter California highway as wildfire rages

REDDING, Calif. (AP) — An explosive wildfire closed down dozens of miles of a major California freeway only weeks after a nearby blaze that left neighborhoods in ruins and killed eight people.

The Delta Fire erupted Wednesday afternoon and within hours had devoured nearly 8 square miles (21 square kilometers) of timber and brush on both sides of Interstate 5 near the Oregon state line.

The blaze was human-caused, fire officials said, but they didn't indicate whether it was arson or accident.

Truckers abandoned their vehicles as flames roared up hillsides. In a video, a passenger in a vehicle screams: "Oh my God, I want to go!" as trees burst into flames and sheets of fire roiled on the side of the roadway.

About 17 big-rigs were abandoned and at least four caught fire, Lt. Cmdr. Kyle Foster of the California Highway Patrol's Mount Shasta office told the Los Angeles Times.

U.S. Forest Service workers helped the driver of one flaming truck to safety and other truckers, firefighters and others aided other drivers, he said.

"There's vehicles scattered all over," Brandon Vaccaro with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection told the Redding Record Searchlight. "Whatever occurred here was probably pretty ugly for a while."

About 45 miles (72 kilometers) of the I-5 were closed in both directions, said Chris Losi, a spokesman



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 17 of 48

for the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. The road remained closed through Wednesday night and there was no immediate word on when the lanes would reopen.

The blaze also delayed Amtrak's Coast Starlight service between Sacramento and Oregon.

Scattered rural homes and cabins in and around the forest were under evacuation orders, from the community Lakehead north to the Siskiyou County line, Losi said.

"It isn't a lot of people," he said.

The fire was showing "critical" behavior — burning fiercely and moving rapidly — but was still far away from any large towns, he added.

The city of Dunsmuir, with about 1,500 people, was about 15 miles (24 kilometers) from the fire. Residents were issued an evacuation warning, urging them to be prepared to leave if the fire threatened.

A nearby fire in the Redding area burned some 1,100 homes and killed eight people last month. It was only fully contained last week.

## Searing Trump op-ed sets off wild guessing game on author

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

WASHINGTON (AP) — An opinion piece in The New York Times by an anonymous senior administration official claiming to be part of a "resistance" working "from within" to thwart President Donald Trump's "worst inclinations" set off a wild guessing game inside and outside the White House on the author's identity.

In an extraordinary move, a furious Trump tweeted a demand Wednesday night that if "the GUTLESS anonymous person does indeed exist, the Times must, for National Security purposes, turn him/her over to government at once!" White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders called on the "coward" who wrote the piece to "do the right thing and resign."

White House officials did not immediately respond to a request to elaborate on Trump's call for the writer to be turned over to the government or the unsupported national security ground of his demand.

To some, the ultimatum appeared to play into the very concerns about the president's impulses raised by the essay's author. Trump has demanded that aides identify the leaker, according to two people familiar with the matter, though it was not yet clear how they might go about doing so. The two were not authorized to speak publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

A "House of Cards"-style plot twist in an already over-the-top administration, Trump allies and political insiders scrambled to unmask the writer.

The author, claiming to be part of the "resistance" to Trump "working diligently from within" his administration, said, "Many Trump appointees have vowed to do what we can to preserve our democratic institutions while thwarting Mr. Trump's more misguided impulses until he is out of office."

"It may be cold comfort in this chaotic era, but Americans should know that there are adults in the room," the author continued. "We fully recognize what is happening. And we are trying to do what's right even when Donald Trump won't."

The text of the op-ed was pulled apart for clues: The writer is identified as an "administration official"; does that mean a person who works outside the White House? The references to Russia and the late Sen. John McCain — do they suggest someone working in national security? Does the writing style sound like someone who worked at a think tank? In a tweet, the Times used the pronoun "he" to refer to the writer; does that rule out all women?

The newspaper later said the tweet referring to "he" had been "drafted by someone who is not aware of the author's identity, including the gender, so the use of 'he' was an error."

Hotly debated on Twitter was the author's use of the word "lodestar," which pops up frequently in speeches by Vice President Mike Pence. Could the anonymous figure be someone in Pence's orbit? Others argued that the word "lodestar" could have been included to throw people off.

Trump, appearing at an unrelated event Wednesday at the White House, lashed out at the Times for publishing the op-ed.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 18 of 48

"They don't like Donald Trump and I don't like them," he said of the newspaper. The op-ed pages of the newspaper are managed separately from its news department.

In a blistering statement, the press secretary accused the author of choosing to "deceive" the president by remaining in the administration and putting himself or herself "ahead of the will of the American people. The coward should do the right thing and resign."

Sanders also called on the Times to "issue an apology" for publishing the piece, calling it a "pathetic, reckless, and selfish op-ed."

Showing her trademark ability to attract attention, former administration official Omarosa Manigault Newman tweeted that clues about the writer's identity were in her recently released tell-all book, offering a page number: 330. The reality star writes on that page: "many in this silent army are in his party, his administration, and even in his own family."

The anonymous author wrote in the Times that where Trump has had successes, they have come "despite — not because of — the president's leadership style, which is impetuous, adversarial, petty and ineffective."

The assertions in the column were largely in line with complaints about Trump's behavior that have repeatedly been raised by various administration officials, often speaking on condition of anonymity. And they were published a day after the release of details from an explosive new book by longtime journalist Bob Woodward that laid bare concerns among the highest echelon of Trump aides about the president's judgment.

The writer of the Times op-ed said Trump aides are aware of the president's faults and "many of the senior officials in his own administration are working diligently from within to frustrate parts of his agenda and his worst inclinations. I would know. I am one of them."

The writer also alleged "there were early whispers within the cabinet of invoking the 25th Amendment" because of the "instability" witnessed in the president. The 25th Amendment allows the vice president to take over if the commander in chief is "unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office." It requires that the vice president and a majority of the Cabinet back relieving the president.

The writer added: "This isn't the work of the so-called deep state. It's the work of the steady state."

## Rescuers rush to north Japan amid damage after quake kills 7

By EUGENE HOSHIKO, HARUKA NUGA and MARI YAMAGUCHI, Associated Press

ASAHIKAWA, Japan (AP) — Rescuers were rushing to unearth survivors and restore power Thursday after a powerful earthquake jolted Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido, buckling roads, knocking homes off their foundations and causing entire hillsides to collapse.

Residents in Sapporo were shaken from their beds when the magnitude 6.7 earthquake struck southern Hokkaido at 3:08 a.m. At least seven people were confirmed dead, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a news conference. About 30 people were unaccounted for, disaster officials said.

Video cameras showed cities going dark as the quake disabled power systems, leaving nearly 3 million households on the island without electricity.

The island's only nuclear power plant, which was offline, switched to a backup generator to keep its spent fuel cool and nuclear regulators said there was no sign of abnormal radiation — a concern after a massive quake and tsunami in March 2011 that hit northeast Japan destroyed both external and backup power to the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant, causing meltdowns.

Japan's Meteorological Agency said the quake's epicenter was 40 kilometers (24 miles) deep. But it still wreaked havoc across much of the relatively sparsely inhabited island.

Rescuers were using small backhoes and shovels to sift through the tons of soil, rocks and timber in hopes of finding survivors in the town of Atsuma, where steep mountainsides collapsed, crushing homes and farm buildings and leaving scores of brown gashes in the deep green hills.

Airports and many roads on the island were closed and trains were idled by the power outages. NHK showed workers rushing to clean up shattered glass and reinstall ceiling panels that had tumbled down in the region's biggest airport at Chitose.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 19 of 48

Japan is used to dealing with disasters, but the last few months have brought a string of calamities. The quake came on the heels of a typhoon that lifted heavy trucks off their wheels and triggered heavy flooding in western Japan, leaving the main airport near Osaka and Kobe closed after a tanker rammed a bridge connecting the facility to the mainland. The summer also brought devastating floods from torrential rains in Hiroshima and deadly hot temperatures across the country.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said that up to 25,000 troops and other personnel would be dispatched to Hokkaido to help with rescue operations.

As Japan's northern frontier and a major farming region with rugged mountain ranges and vast forests, Hokkaido is an area accustomed to coping with long winters, isolation and other hardships. But the black-outs brought on by the quake underscored the country's heavy reliance on vulnerable power systems: without electricity, water was cut to many homes, train lines were idled and phone systems out of order.

In the prefectural capital of Sapporo, a city of 1.9 million, the quake ruptured roads and knocked houses askew. A mudslide left several cars half buried. By late Thursday, stores were closed and the city's streets were deserted.

Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshige Seko told reporters that the extensive power outage was caused by an emergency shutdown of the main thermal power plant at Tomato Atsuma that supplies half of Hokkaido's electricity.

The hope had been to get power back up within hours and some electricity was gradually being restored. However, damage to generators at the Tomato Atsuma plant meant that a full restoration of power could take more than a week, Seko said.

He said utilities were starting up several other thermal and hydroelectric plants but even with those stopgap supplies thousands would still be without power for some time.

In the meantime, authorities sent power-generator vehicles to hospitals and other locations.

Reacting quickly to the disaster, troops deployed water tanker trucks in Sapporo, where residents were collecting bottles to tide them over until electricity and tap water supplies come back online. The city hall announced it had set up charging stations to help residents charge their mobile phones.

The quake's impact was widespread. To the north, in the scenic town of Biei, residents lined up outside of supermarkets and convenience stores, quickly clearing shelves of water, toilet paper and food.

"Only a few cartons of instant ramen were left," said Mika Takeda, who lives in the town of 10,000. The one local gas station was limiting customers to only 20 liters (5 gallons) of gas, she said.

Yamaguchi reported from Tokyo. Associated Press writer Elaine Kurtenbach in Tokyo contributed to this report.

## **Kim Jong Un demands "goodwill measures" as Koreas set summit**

**By HYUNG-JIN KIM, KIM TONG-HYUNG and FOSTER KLUG, Associated Press**

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un expressed faith in an increasingly embattled President Donald Trump's efforts to settle a nuclear impasse even as he signaled frustration at outside skepticism about his disarmament intentions and demanded that his "goodwill measures" be met in kind, South Korean officials said Thursday after traveling to Pyongyang to meet Kim.

The trove of comments from Kim, including his commitment to a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula and to the suspension of all future long-range missile tests, was filtered through the liberal South Korean government, which is keen on keeping engagement alive, and also through Kim's propaganda specialists in Pyongyang. But, even in their indirect form, each statement will be parsed for clues about the future of nuclear diplomacy amid a growing standoff with the United States on how to proceed with negotiations meant to settle a dispute that had many fearing war last year.

Only hours before they briefed the media in Seoul, a South Korean delegation returned from talks with Kim where they set up a summit for Sept. 18-20 in Pyongyang between the North Korean leader and South Korean President Moon Jae-in, their third meeting since April. South Korean officials said they forwarded

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 20 of 48

a message from Trump to Kim during their meeting and would send a separate message from Kim to Trump later Thursday. The officials wouldn't discuss the content of the messages.

Some of Kim's reported comments — his commitment to a nuclear-free Korea, for instance — were reiterations of past stances, but there will be sharp interest in whether they push negotiators back to diplomacy after the recriminations that followed Kim's meeting in June with Trump in Singapore.

The impasse between North Korea and the United States, with neither side seemingly willing to make any substantive move, has generated widespread skepticism over Trump's claims that Kim will really dismantle his nuclear weapons program. Despite Kim's repeated denuclearization commitments, recent satellite photos have indicated his weapons factories were still operating to produce fissile materials to make nuclear weapons.

Kim, in his meeting with the South Koreans, seemed to go out of his way to praise Trump, while also noting exasperation.

"Chairman Kim Jong Un has made it clear several times that he is firmly committed to denuclearization, and he expressed frustration over skepticism in the international community over his commitment," Chung Eui-yong, Moon's national security adviser and the head of the South Korean delegation to Pyongyang, told reporters in Seoul on Thursday. "He said he's pre-emptively taken steps necessary for denuclearization and wants to see these goodwill measures being met with goodwill measures."

Chung reported Kim as saying that work to dismantle the only missile engine test site in the country "means a complete suspension of future long-range ballistic missile tests." Kim said he'd take "more active" measures toward denuclearization if his moves are met with corresponding goodwill measures, and that he wanted to settle the matter within Trump's first term, Chung said.

Kim told Chung he still had faith in Trump despite diplomatic setbacks, and emphasized that he has not once talked negatively about Trump to anyone, including his closest advisers.

Kim also said an end-of-war declaration that Seoul and Pyongyang have been pushing Washington to sign off on wouldn't weaken the U.S.-South Korean alliance or lead to the withdrawal of the 28,500 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea to prevent North Korean attack, according to Chung.

The summit later this month between Kim and Moon, the driving force behind the current diplomacy, will be a crucial indicator of whether larger nuclear negotiations with the United States will proceed.

Moon is seen as eager to keep the diplomacy alive in part so that he can advance his ambitious engagement plans with the North, which would need U.S. backing to succeed. The inter-Korean summit comes on the eve of a gathering of world leaders at the United Nations in New York at the end of September, but Seoul said Thursday that it was unlikely Kim would attend. Seoul has indicated an interest in Kim and Trump meeting in New York, and Trump, who is facing growing domestic turmoil, has hinted that another summit could happen.

While pushing ahead with summits and inter-Korean engagement, Seoul is trying to persuade Washington and Pyongyang to proceed with peace and denuclearization processes at the same time so they can overcome a growing dispute over the sequencing of the diplomacy.

Seoul and Pyongyang both want a declaration to formally end the 1950-53 Korean War. U.S. officials have insisted that a peace declaration, which many see as a precursor to the North eventually calling for the removal of all U.S. troops from the Korean Peninsula, cannot come before North Korea takes more concrete action toward abandoning its nuclear weapons. Such steps may include providing an account of the components of its nuclear program, allowing outside inspections and giving up a certain number of its nuclear weapons during the early stages of the negotiations.

The Korean War ended with an armistice, leaving the peninsula technically still at war. Moon has made an end-of-war declaration an important premise of his peace agenda with North Korea.

While an end-of-war declaration wouldn't imply a legally binding peace treaty, experts say it could create political momentum that would make it easier for North Korea to steer the discussions toward a peace regime, diplomatic recognition, economic benefits and security concessions.

The North's Rodong Sinmun newspaper on Thursday said Washington must discard its "stubborn" stance that the North must denuclearize first before the United States agrees to a peace treaty. The article says

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 21 of 48

the North has shown "goodwill and generosity" through actions such as returning U.S. war remains and dismantling a nuclear testing ground, but that the United States has failed to respond similarly.

After their June summit in Singapore, Trump and Kim issued a vague statement about a nuclear-free peninsula without describing when and how it would occur. Post-summit nuclear negotiations between Washington and Pyongyang were rocky and quickly settled into a stalemate.

Trump called off a planned visit to North Korea by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo last month, citing insufficient progress in denuclearization.

The two past inter-Korean summits in April and May removed war fears and initiated a global diplomatic push that culminated with the meeting between Kim and Trump in June. But Moon faces tougher challenges heading into his third meeting with Kim, with the stalemate in nuclear negotiations between Pyongyang and Washington raising fundamental questions about Kim's supposed willingness to abandon his nuclear weapons.

## Times grants anonymity to administration official for essay

By DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — It was an extraordinary decision at a tense time for editors at The New York Times: a senior official at the Trump administration wanted to tell the world that some who work for the president try to blunt his worst instincts, but wanted the cover of anonymity to avoid being fired.

The Times agreed and posted the column titled "I Am Part of the Resistance Inside the Trump Administration" on Wednesday, provoking fury from the man who frequently revs up supporters by railing against "fake news" and the "failing New York Times." Trump called the move gutless and demanded the Times reveal the author's identity "for national security purposes."

The internet was abuzz with speculation on who wrote the column, which veered in tone between a hostage note and a reassurance to Americans that, as the writer put it, "there are adults in the room."

The decision was in the purview of James Bennet, editorial page editor, and James Dao, op-ed editor, with publisher A.G. Sulzberger weighing in, a Times spokeswoman said. The newspaper's executive editor, Dean Baquet, was not involved because the news pages are his responsibility, and the column appeared in the Times' opinion section.

That led to a Times reporter, Jodi Kantor, tweeting that "Times reporters must now try to unearth the identity of an author that our colleagues in Opinion have sworn to protect with anonymity?"

Dao told a Times reporter that the piece was submitted last week through an intermediary, and anonymity wasn't granted until editors were confident in the writer's identity. While that's rare for the opinion pages, it's not unprecedented, and Dao said the material in the essay was important enough to publish.

"We believe publishing this essay anonymously is the only way to deliver an important perspective to our readers," the newspaper said.

In June, the Times published a piece from an asylum seeker who was in a Trump administration family detention center, not identifying her because of gang-related threats she received. In 2014, a woman from Pakistan was not identified for writing an editorial page blog item to protect her from the Taliban.

But in Wednesday's case, the person was from the highest reaches of the U.S. government.

"It's extraordinary," said Frank Sesno, director of the School of Media and Public Affairs at The George Washington University. "I have never seen anything like this. I can only imagine the conversations at the New York Times about publishing such a thing. If there's any question about the role that journalism plays in a democracy, this puts it to bed."

Sesno said the Times' credibility is on the line "if this person turns out to be a window-washer somewhere.

"But there's no way a responsible news organization would do that," said Sesno, a former CNN Washington bureau chief. "I have to believe that the top people at the Times were part of this decision, because it was so unusual and so explosive."

The author wrote that "there were early whispers within the Cabinet of invoking the 25th Amendment, which would start a complex process for removing the president. But no one wanted to precipitate a

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 22 of 48

constitutional crisis." That speaks to the writer either being in the White House or having access to people who are there regularly.

Kyle Pope, editor of the Columbia Journalism Review, said the decision was akin to the newspaper's news pages protecting a source with anonymity.

"What's different here is the scale of it," he said. "I do think it's a powerful statement. I wonder how the editorial side is keeping (the source's identity) from the news side."

He said it's a situation in which the rules have to be made on the fly.

"If I was in this decision-making process, I would take the risk," Pope said. "It's a risk worth taking because the message is so powerful."

White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders said the administration was "disappointed, but not surprised, that the paper chose to publish this pathetic, reckless and selfish op-ed." She called it another example of the liberal media's effort to discredit Trump.

The newspaper's spokeswoman, Eileen Murphy, said the Times was incredibly proud to have published the piece, "which adds significant value to the public's understanding of what is going on in the Trump administration from someone who is in a position to know." The newspaper had no response to Trump's tweet that the identity be revealed for national security reasons.

The article was a coup for the Times in its endless fight for supremacy with The Washington Post, coming a day after the Post published excerpts from an upcoming book on the Trump administration by Post legend Bob Woodward.

Some of what was written in the Times column, in fact, echoes material from Woodward's book. The book said Defense Secretary James Mattis has purposely not acted on a presidential directive to assassinate Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad, and that former Trump economic adviser Gary Cohn once removed a document from the president's desk that would have ended a trade deal with South Korea.

The Times column said that those working for Trump made sure sanctions were placed on Russia for poisoning a Russian spy in Britain, despite the president's reluctance to do so.

"We fully recognize what is happening," the anonymous author said. "And we are trying to do what's right even when Donald Trump won't."

## Djokovic tops Federer's conqueror for 11th US Open SF in row

By HOWARD FENDRICH, AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Novak Djokovic put aside all of it, from his opponent's unheard-of, middle-of-a-set chance to change out of sweat-soaked clothes and shoes, to consecutive time violations because he let the serve clock expire, to the 16 break points he wasted.

All that mattered, really, was that Djokovic managed to do what Roger Federer could not two nights earlier: beat 55th-ranked John Millman at the U.S. Open.

Djokovic moved a step closer to a third championship at Flushing Meadows and 14th Grand Slam title overall by eliminating Millman 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 to get to the tournament's semifinals for an 11th appearance in a row. He sat out last year because of an injured right elbow.

The No. 6-seeded Djokovic, who won Wimbledon in July, had been drawn to face Federer in the quarterfinals. But Millman scuttled that showdown by stunning the 20-time Grand Slam champ in four sets in the fourth round on a hot and humid evening that Federer said sapped his energy and made it hard to breathe.

"I was, alongside many other people, anticipating the match against Federer," Djokovic said.

This night was cooler, as the temperature dipped into the 70s, but the humidity was above 80 percent, so with Millman drenched, he sought permission for a wardrobe change at 2-all in the second set. It was odd enough to see a player be allowed to do that during, instead of after, a set, but even odder for it to happen after an even number of games, rather than at an odd-game changeover.

"I was struggling. He was struggling. We were all sweating. Changing a lot of T-shirts, shorts," said Djokovic, who will face 2014 U.S. Open runner-up Kei Nishikori on Friday. "Just trying to find a way to

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 23 of 48

hang in there.”

When Millman apologized for leaving the court at that juncture, Djokovic replied, “I’m fine to have a little rest,” then sat down on his sideline bench without a shirt on and cooled off.

“I didn’t even know the rule,” said Millman, whose request to leave briefly was permitted based on something called the “Equipment Out of Adjustment” provision in the International Tennis Federation guidelines, because his sweat was making the court slippery.

Widely considered the best returner in the game, Djokovic kept accumulating chances — and then failing to cash them in. He was able to come through on only four of his 20 break points.

There were other issues for him, too, including in the third set when, ahead by a break, he was called by the chair umpire for allowing the 25-second serve clock, making its Grand Slam debut at this tournament, to run out on back-to-back points. After the first, he double-faulted, and he wound up getting broken there.

But he broke back in the match’s next-to-last game, then served out the victory at love.

“I think the guy’s beat a brick wall once,” Millman said, “because he makes you work hard for every point and it’s relentless.”

Earlier Wednesday, Nishikori defeated the man he lost to in the final four years ago, Marin Cilic, 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (5), 4-6, 6-4. Add that to No. 20 Naomi Osaka’s 6-1, 6-1 win over unseeded Lesia Tsurenko of Ukraine, and Osaka and Nishikori give Japan semifinalists in both men’s and women’s singles at the same Grand Slam tournament for the first time in tennis history.

“It’s great to see,” said Nishikori, who is into his third major semifinal — all in New York — but is still in search of his initial Slam trophy.

For Osaka, who is 20, this is her first trip past the fourth round at a major. She purported to be “freaking out inside,” even if it certainly never showed.

She’ll face No. 14 Madison Keys of the U.S. on Thursday night. Serena Williams plays No. 19 Anastasija Sevastova of Latvia in the other semifinal.

Keys was one of four American women in the final four a year ago, when she was the runner-up to Sloane Stephens.

She’s the only member of that quartet who made it back.

Still in search of her first Grand Slam title, the Keys reached her third semifinal in the past five majors by using her big-strike game built on serves and forehands to overpower No. 30 Carla Suarez Navarro of Spain 6-4, 6-3.

Keys won all 10 of her service games, saving the only two break points she faced. One came in the last game as she served for the victory, but she erased it with a forehand winner, part of a 22-10 edge in that category.

Keys, who is 23, thinks she is more equipped than ever to deal with important moments on important stages.

“I’ve gotten a lot better managing my emotions once it gets to this part and knowing that everything is going to be probably more amped up,” she said. “And not shying away from those, but just really being honest about it and talking about it.”

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## Democratic Party transforming as it searches for leaders

By **BILL BARROW** and **BOB SALSBERG**, Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — When Ayanna Pressley topped a 10-term congressman in a Massachusetts district once represented by John Fitzgerald Kennedy, she became the latest face of a burgeoning movement of the grassroots left. “This is a fight for the soul of our party and the future of our democracy,” Pressley said. That movement is reshaping a Democratic Party still searching for leaders and identity in the era of

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 24 of 48

Donald Trump.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

Grassroots activists on the left have a mixed record in Democratic primaries this election year, but the self-described progressive movement has scored enough victories to suggest its popularity is based on more than just protesting the Trump White House. The movement is also remolding the Democratic Party into a younger, more diverse and decidedly liberal party.

Ayanna Pressley and New York's Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, two women of color, both defeated Democratic incumbent congressmen in their primaries. The progressive movement has helped nominate three black Democrats for governor's seats, including a clear upset in Florida, where Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum knocked off establishment favorite Gwen Graham. Graham's establishment credentials could not have been stronger. Her father, Bob, is a Florida icon who served as governor and U.S. senator.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Associated Press reporters are on the ground around the country, covering political issues, people and races from places they live. The Ground Game series highlights that reporting, looking at politics from the ground up. Each week, in stories and a new podcast, AP reporters examine the political trends that will drive the national conversation tomorrow.

Georgia's Stacey Abrams, meanwhile, trounced a primary opponent recruited and backed by much of her state's Democratic old guard. Abrams would become the first black woman elected governor in any U.S. state.

Scores of other down-ballot candidates are running for local, state and federal offices with backing from grassroots groups like Indivisible, MoveOn.org, the Working Families Party and the offshoot of Bernie Sanders' 2016 presidential campaign, Our Revolution.

## WHY IT MATTERS

The diversifying, more liberal slate will be measured by the outcome in the November vote.

Republicans — and some Democrats — argue that the party is going too far to the left for American voters, particularly outside of the cities and close-in suburbs where Democrats' base of white liberals and non-white voters is concentrated.

Progressive nominees like Pressley and Ocasio-Cortez are running in Democratic strongholds, so their wins in November are all but guaranteed. But Republicans will use the rise of the left — and its support for policies like single-payer health care and scrapping U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement — to tar all Democratic candidates.

The counter argument from Democrats and activists on the left is two-fold: 1) Many issues that more liberal candidates support — some gun regulation, expanding Medicaid, raising the minimum wage — actually have widespread public support, even among independents and some Republicans; and 2) the more openly liberal candidates from outside the old-guard establishment can bring in new voters who don't regularly cast midterm ballots.

Beyond November, the new generation of Democrats will have a say in how the party governs. Pressley and Ocasio-Cortez won't determine whether Democrats pick up the 23 new House seats they need for a majority, but they'll help shape the arguments within the Democratic caucus.

They and their fellow freshmen will have a say in whether a new Democratic majority returns Nancy Pelosi to the speaker's chair. They'll have leverage — much like the arch-conservative Freedom Caucus does with the House GOP leadership — over every debate, from health care to the potential impeachment of Trump.

So, for example, while there might not be enough support for a real push toward single-payer health care, the movement could draw the party toward supporting a public health insurance option to compete alongside for-profit companies selling policies in Affordable Care Act exchanges. And, even if an immediate \$15 minimum wage is too heavy a lift, perhaps the left-flank forces a compromise of graduated raises over time.



## WHAT TO WATCH

Before primary season concludes, there are a few more key matchups to measure the left's influence. In Delaware, military veteran and activist Kerri Evelyn Harris is aiming Thursday to knock off moderate Democratic Sen. Tom Carper. She's a big underdog, but even a competitive finish will serve notice anew that incumbents must at least contend with the left base. Similar dynamics exist in New York, where actress Cynthia Nixon is trying to topple Gov. Andrew Cuomo in a Sept. 13 primary.

## DON'T MISS

Some of the most intent observers of party's evolution are the gaggle of aspiring presidential candidates. Certainly, some of those figures have helped drive the shift — Sanders and his 2016 campaign, Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren and her outspoken economic populism.

But Sanders, Warren and rest also are careful to watch the base and not get caught flat-footed as it evolves. That's one reason potential candidates like Sens. Cory Booker and Kamala Harris and former Vice President Joe Biden have made sure that their endorsement and campaign finance activity this midterm cycle has spanned the spectrum of the party's down-ballot candidates: If the so-called progressive movement becomes the center of the party, no one who wants to be the Democratic presidential nominee wants to be boxed out.

Barrow reported from Atlanta.

Follow Barrow and Salsberg on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/BillBarrowAP> and [https://twitter.com/bsalsberg\\_AP](https://twitter.com/bsalsberg_AP)

## Hospital groups launch own company to make generic drugs

By **LINDA A. JOHNSON, AP Medical Writer**

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Several major hospital groups Thursday launched their own generic drug company to tackle chronic shortages and high prices.

The new company, Civica Rx, plans to start with 14 widely used hospital drugs long in short supply. The company isn't disclosing the drugs' names for competitive reasons, but they include a mix of generic pills, patches and injectable drugs for treating infections, pain and heart conditions, board chairman Dan Liljenquist said.

"The mission of Civica is to make sure these drugs remain in the public domain, that they're available and affordable to everyone," he said.

Drug shortages have been widespread for more than a decade, particularly for inexpensive generic drugs, due to manufacturers consolidating, stopping production of low-profit medicines and having to fix manufacturing problems.

Hospitals are particularly hard hit and frequently must scramble to find scarce medicines, often at huge price markups, or come up with workarounds that may not be as effective or safe for patients.

Besides creating a reliable supply for its 500 hospitals, Civica aims to reduce drug prices by about 20 percent. The drugs will be sold to nonmember hospitals as well, at slightly higher prices, Liljenquist said.

The company, based in the Salt Lake City area, plans to make some of the generics itself and hire companies to produce others, he said. It is aiming to get its first medicines on the market by mid- to late 2019.

Civica was founded and funded by three health foundations and seven hospital groups, among them Intermountain Healthcare, a 23-hospital system based in Salt Lake City where Liljenquist is chief strategy officer. Veterans Affairs and the American Hospital Association also are participating.

Chief executive of the not-for-profit company will be Martin VanTrieste, the retired head of manufacturing quality at biotech drugmaker Amgen.

Follow Linda A. Johnson at [https://twitter.com/LindaJ\\_onPharma](https://twitter.com/LindaJ_onPharma)

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## Kavanaugh's lips sealed on White House subpoenas, pardons

By MARK SHERMAN and LISA MASCARO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pressured by Democrats with Donald Trump on their minds, Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh rejected repeated requests at Wednesday's Senate confirmation hearing to reveal his views about a president pardoning himself or being forced to testify in a criminal case.

For a second day, the judge nominated by Trump insisted he fully embraced the importance of judicial independence. But he refused to provide direct answers to Democrats who wanted him to say whether there are limits on a president's power to issue pardons, including to himself or in exchange for a bribe. He also would not say whether he believes the president can be subpoenaed to testify.

"I'm not going to answer hypothetical questions of that sort," Kavanaugh said in response to a question from Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont about pardons. Still, he began his long day in the witness chair by declaring that "no one is above the law."

The Senate Judiciary Committee hearing has strong political overtones ahead of the November congressional elections, but as a practical matter Democrats lack the votes to block Kavanaugh's confirmation.

They are concerned that Kavanaugh will push the court to the right on abortion, guns and other issues, and that he will side with President Trump in cases stemming from special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election and possible ties to the Trump campaign. The 53-year-old appellate judge answered cautiously when asked about most of those matters, refusing an invitation from Democratic Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut to pledge to step aside from any Supreme Court cases dealing with Trump and Mueller's investigation.

Kavanaugh's most uncomfortable moment may have come near the end of nearly 12 hours in the witness chair, when Democratic Sen. Kamala Harris asked whether he had discussed the investigation with anyone at a law firm founded by Marc Kasowitz, a onetime lawyer for Trump. Kavanaugh said he couldn't recall any conversations, but asked for a list of lawyers at the firm. Harris said she thought Kavanaugh had a name in mind but did not want to reveal it. She promised to follow up, amid Republican complaints that she was being unfair.

Protesters continued their efforts to interrupt the hearings, but senators basically ignored their shouts as they were removed by police. U.S. Capitol Police said 66 people were removed from the committee room Wednesday and charged with disorderly conduct. Six more at a different Senate office building were charged with crowding, obstructing or incommoding.

Democrats also persisted with their complaints that they were being denied access to records from Kavanaugh's time in the George W. Bush White House.

One TV viewer gave Kavanaugh a rave review.

Trump said he had been watching the hearings and thought the Democrats were "grasping at straws" in questioning the man he chose to replace retired Justice Anthony Kennedy. He said he "saw some incredible answers to very complex questions."

The committee's top Democrat, Dianne Feinstein of California, disagreed. "He's not being very specific," she said during a break in the proceedings.

The Democrats weren't the only ones who recognized the importance of questions about Trump and the Russia investigation. Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, an Iowa Republican, asked Kavanaugh right away whether he would be independent from the president who chose him for highly prestigious lifetime position.

Kavanaugh said, "The first thing that makes a good judge is independence, not being swayed by political or public pressure."

He cited historic cases, including the Brown v. Board of Education ruling that desegregated schools and

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 27 of 48

the U.S. v. Nixon decision that compelled the president to turn over the Watergate tapes — a ruling Kavanaugh had previously questioned.

“That takes some backbone,” he said of the justices who decided those cases.

But when asked more specific questions, including whether a president can be required to respond to a subpoena, Kavanaugh said, “I can’t give you an answer on that hypothetical question.”

The Supreme Court has never answered that question, and it is among the potentially most important since Trump could face a subpoena from special counsel Mueller.

Sen. Amy Klobuchar, a Minnesota Democrat, asked whether a president could be criminally investigated or indicted. Kavanaugh again said he had never taken a position on those issues, though he did write in a 1998 article that impeachment may be the only way to hold a president accountable while in office.

“The Constitution itself seems to dictate, in addition, that congressional investigation must take place in lieu of criminal investigation when the President is the subject of investigation, and that criminal prosecution can occur only after the President has left office,” he wrote in the Georgetown Law Review.

On abortion, Kavanaugh wouldn’t say whether the landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that ensures access to abortion was correct, but noted it has been affirmed “many times.”

“Respect for precedent is important. ... Precedent is rooted right in the Constitution itself,” he said.

Kavanaugh likened Roe v. Wade to another controversial, landmark Supreme Court decision, the Miranda ruling about the rights of criminal suspects. Kavanaugh said the court specifically reaffirmed both decisions in later cases that made them “precedent on precedent.”

Kavanaugh defended his dissenting opinion last year in the case of a pregnant immigrant teen in federal custody. Kavanaugh would have denied her immediate access to an abortion, even after she received permission from a Texas judge.

Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, praised Kavanaugh for hiring female lawyers as clerks as a judge on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, and then posed questions about whether Kavanaugh was aware of sexual harassment allegations against retired circuit court Judge Alex Kozinski in California. Kavanaugh considered the judge a friend and mentor and Kozinski testified at Kavanaugh’s 2006 confirmation hearing to be an appellate judge.

Kavanaugh said he had known nothing about the allegations until they were disclosed last year. “It was a gut punch for me,” he said, and he was “shocked, disappointed, angry.”

Asked about an email list Kozinski allegedly used to send offensive material, Kavanaugh said, “I don’t remember anything like that.”

The judge’s work in the Bush White House also has figured in the hearing, particularly as Democratic senators have fought for access to documents from his three years as staff secretary. They say those could shed light on his views about policies from that era, including the detention and interrogation of terror suspects. Majority Republicans have declined to seek the papers, and instead have gathered documents from his work as White House counsel to Bush. Many are being held as confidential within the committee.

Democratic Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois asked Kavanaugh if he would seek a delay in his hearing so the paper trail could be vetted.

But Kavanaugh declined to engage, saying, “I do not believe that’s consistent” with the way prior nominations have been handled.

Kavanaugh stood by his 2006 testimony, when he was nominated for the appellate court, when he said he was not involved in some Bush-era policies, particularly a bill-signing statement on the treatment of terror suspects that would have passed his desk as staff secretary.

Kavanaugh said his earlier testimony was “100 percent accurate.”

Republicans hope to confirm Kavanaugh in time for the first day of the new Supreme Court term, Oct. 1. They now have a 51-49 majority in the Senate, after Jon Kyl was sworn in Wednesday to fill the seat held by the late Sen. John McCain of Arizona.

One of several Democrats who could potentially vote for Kavanaugh, Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, joined the hearing in the audience for a while. He is up for re-election this fall in a state Trump won handily in 2016. Independent Sen. Angus King of Maine also stopped in for part of the session.

Associated Press writer Jessica Gresko contributed to this report.

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

## **N.Korea media: Kim vows nuclear-free Korea amid standoff**

**By HYUNG-JIN KIM and KIM TONG-HYUNG, Associated Press**

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un reaffirmed his commitment to a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula amid a growing standoff with the United States, his state-controlled media reported Thursday after a South Korean delegation met him to set up an inter-Korean summit.

The statement from the Korean Central News Agency wasn't new information — Kim has repeatedly declared similar intentions before — but allows hopes to rise that diplomacy can get back on track after the recriminations that followed Kim's meeting in June with U.S. President Donald Trump in Singapore. The impasse between North Korea and the United States, with neither side seemingly willing to make any substantive move, has generated widespread skepticism over Trump's claims that Kim is intent on dismantling his nuclear weapons program.

The South Korean envoys who met Kim on Wednesday finalized the dates for a summit later this month between Kim and South Korean President Moon Jae-in, the driving force behind the current diplomacy. Moon is seen as eager to keep the nuclear talks alive in part so that he can advance his ambitious engagement with the North, which would need U.S. backing to succeed. The date of the talks, which will come on the eve of a gathering of world leaders at the U.N. at the end of September, was to be released later Thursday.

Kim was paraphrased in the statement by his propaganda specialists as saying that it was "his will to completely remove the danger of armed conflict and horror of war from the Korean peninsula and turn it into the cradle of peace without nuclear weapons and free from nuclear threat."

KCNA said Kim and the South Korean envoys reached a "satisfactory agreement" over his planned summit with Moon.

Moon, who discussed his plans with President Donald Trump by telephone on Tuesday, said his envoys had a crucial task that could determine the prospects for lasting peace.

While pushing ahead with summits and inter-Korean engagement, Seoul is trying to persuade Washington and Pyongyang to proceed with peace and denuclearization processes at the same time so they can overcome a growing dispute over the sequencing of the diplomacy.

Seoul also wants a trilateral summit among the countries, or a four-nation meeting that also includes Beijing, to declare a formal end to the 1950-53 Korean War. The U.N. General Assembly in late September would be an ideal date for Seoul, but many analysts see that possibility as low, considering the complications of the process and how far apart the parties currently are.

U.S. officials have insisted that a peace declaration, which many see as a precursor to the North eventually calling for the removal of all U.S. troops from the Korean Peninsula, cannot come before North Korea takes more concrete action toward abandoning its nuclear weapons. Such steps may include providing an account of the components of its nuclear program, allowing outside inspections and giving up a certain number of its nuclear weapons during the early stages of the negotiations.

While an end-of-war declaration wouldn't imply a legally binding peace treaty, experts say it could create political momentum that would make it easier for North Korea to steer the discussions toward a peace regime, diplomatic recognition, economic benefits and security concessions.

North Korea has accused the United States of making "unilateral and gangster-like" demands for denuclearization and holding back on the end-of-war declaration. North Korea's Foreign Ministry on Tuesday published a lengthy statement on its website saying that an end-of-war declaration would be a necessary trust-building step between the wartime foes that would "manifest the political will to establish the lasting

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 29 of 48

and stable peace regime on the Korean Peninsula.”

South Korean officials said an end-of-war declaration would be among the issues discussed in the meetings between the South Korean envoys and North Korean officials.

“Our government believes that an end-of-war declaration is very much needed while we enter a process toward stabilizing peace in the Korean Peninsula through complete denuclearization,” said Chung Eui-yong, Moon’s national security adviser and the head of the South Korean delegation to Pyongyang, in a news conference on Tuesday.

“We will continue to put in efforts so that an end-of-war declaration can be reached by the end of the year. We are always maintaining close communication with the United States.”

After their June summit in Singapore, Trump and Kim issued a vague statement about a nuclear-free peninsula without describing when and how it would occur. Post-summit nuclear negotiations between Washington and Pyongyang were rocky and quickly settled into a stalemate.

While the United States maintains that efforts to improve relations between the Koreas should move in tandem with efforts to denuclearize North Korea, Moon has recently said inter-Korean engagement could take the lead.

“If needed, we should pull forward the negotiations for the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula with the development in relations between the South and North,” Chung said.

Any progress could depend on whether Moon’s envoys were able to coax a stronger verbal commitment from North Korea on denuclearization to help put the nuclear talks between the United States and Pyongyang back on track.

Trump called off a planned visit to North Korea by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo last month, citing insufficient progress in denuclearization. The resumption of U.S.-North Korea talks sometime before the next inter-Korean summit, which will likely take place in mid-September, could give Moon more to work with when he arrives in Pyongyang.

The two past inter-Korean summits in April and May removed war fears and initiated a global diplomatic push that culminated with the meeting between Kim and Trump in June. But Moon faces tougher challenges heading into his third meeting with Kim with the stalemate in nuclear negotiations between Pyongyang and Washington raising fundamental questions about Kim’s supposed willingness to abandon his nuclear weapons.

The Korean War ended with an armistice, leaving the peninsula technically still at war. Moon has made an end-of-war declaration an important premise of his peace agenda with North Korea.

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AP writer Foster Klug contributed to this report.

## **Blamed in baby’s death, weakening Gordon spreads rain inland**

**By JAY REEVES and REBECCA SANTANA, Associated Press**

DAUPHIN ISLAND, Ala. (AP) — Blamed for the death of a Florida baby and intense wind and rain that pummeled parts of the northern Gulf of Mexico coast, Tropical Depression Gordon weakened Wednesday but still spread bands of heavy rains across a swath of the South as it swirled over central Mississippi.

It promised more of the same on a forecast track expected to take it northeast into Arkansas, which was forecast to get heavy rain from the system by Wednesday night. By Saturday, what’s left of the storm was forecast to hook to the north, then northeast on a path toward the Great Lakes. National Weather Service offices in Missouri and Oklahoma said Gordon’s remnants could add to the rain caused by a frontal boundary already causing heavy rains in parts of the Midwest. Flash flood watches stretched from the Florida panhandle, through parts of southwest Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Iowa and Illinois.

Gordon never reached hurricane strength by the time it came ashore Tuesday night just west of the Mississippi-Alabama line. Its maximum sustained winds reached 70 mph (112 kph). It knocked out power to at least 27,000 utility customers in Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. By Wednesday afternoon the num-

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 30 of 48

bers were down to about 5,800 in Alabama, 3,000 in Mississippi and a little more than 2,000 in Florida.

Pictures on social media showed damaged roofs and debris-strewn beaches and roads. However, no major damage or serious injuries were reported, other than the one fatality — a baby in a mobile home, struck by a large tree limb in Pensacola late Tuesday.

Neighbors told the newspaper the victim was about 10 months old, but the Escambia County Sheriff's Office confirmed the child was 2 years old.

Michael Barradas told The Pensacola News Journal he heard the loud crack and ran out of his mobile home and yelled, "Is everyone OK?" He says the mother said, "No my baby's in there."

Barradas said he ran back in his home to get a flashlight, but by the time he got to the neighbor's home the baby had stopped crying.

The Escambia County Sheriff's office posted on its Facebook page that responding deputies discovered the child had been killed. Officials haven't released the child's identity.

Rain spun around the storm's center in the Jackson, Mississippi, area Wednesday afternoon. And bands swept up from the Gulf, dropping more rain on northwest Florida — where 10.48 inches (26.6 centimeters) had already fallen at Florida's Pensacola International Airport by Wednesday morning — through the center of Alabama and into Tennessee.

New Orleans, which had braced for severe flooding, was unscathed. And residents along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, which expected a serious hit, were largely spared. A dozen casinos that shut down were allowed to reopen at noon Wednesday. Boaters and fishermen returned to marinas after having fled inland a day before.

"We are happy to report that hotels, casinos, attractions and restaurants have resumed business as usual," Milton Segarra, CEO of the tourism organization Visit Mississippi Gulf Coast, said in a Wednesday news release.

"It was fine, just like a thunderstorm," said Pascagoula resident Trey Casey, who had been given the day off from work in anticipation of more serious damage.

"This is the price you pay to look at this beautiful water and enjoy the coast," Pascagoula resident Richard Whitlock said as he raked leaves and branches from his yard overlooking the Gulf.

Driftwood and other debris made for hazardous driving early Wednesday on the causeway to Dauphin Island, Alabama, which was partly flooded by seawater overnight. Siding was peeled off some houses, but Mayor Jeff Collier said "for the most part, we did OK."

Dominic Carlucci drove back to his home on the barrier island in his Hummer, and found no damage, just a sagging wooden fence. It wasn't nearly as bad as when Nate, the last hurricane to strike the U.S., came ashore last October in nearby Biloxi, Mississippi. "We're good," he said.

A storm surge covered barrier islands as the storm blew through, and some inland roadways were flooded by the rain.

"I just hope I don't have to throw out everything in my refrigerator when I get home," said Jerome Richardson, spending the morning at a Mobile Waffle House after losing power the night before at his home.

With Gordon diminishing, there were new tropical weather concerns: Hurricane Florence has formed in the Atlantic Ocean, on a path toward Bermuda, and lining up behind it, another potential storm was likely to form not far off the coast of Africa.

"It's the peak of hurricane season," Hurricane Center Director Ken Graham said. "Now is the time to get your plans all set."

Santana reported from Pascagoula, Mississippi. Other Associated Press contributors include Stacey Plaisance in Gulfport, Mississippi; Gerald Herbert in Biloxi, Mississippi; Kevin McGill in New Orleans; Jeff Martin and Ben Nadler in Atlanta; Emily Wagster Pettus and Jeff Amy in Jackson, Mississippi; Kim Chandler in Montgomery, Alabama; Melinda Deslatte in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and Jeffrey Collins in Columbia, South Carolina.

## Passengers on quarantined jet appear to have the flu

By TOM HAYS, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A large commercial jet from Dubai caused a scare on Wednesday after a pilot radioed that it would be landing at New York's Kennedy Airport carrying several passengers and crew members who fell ill with flu-like symptoms.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention immediately quarantined the double-decker Emirates aircraft holding 520 passengers so it could evaluate about 100 of them. Some had complained about coughs, headaches, sore throats and fevers.

Officials said 10 people - three passengers and seven crew members - ended up hospitalized in what Emirates called a "precaution." The rest were cleared to continue their travels while the CDC sought to determine what caused the sickness.

"Given the symptoms that we are seeing in the patients and given the history that they present, it looks like this is probably influenza," Acting New York City Health Commissioner Dr. Oxiris Barbot said. "But again, until we have our final results late tonight we won't be able to give a final determination on what the underlying cause is of this illness."

On social media, passengers including 1990s rapper Vanilla Ice, posted photos and videos of a large-scale emergency response when the aircraft touched down around 9 a.m. at JFK. Video from news helicopters showed the jet stranded on the tarmac for several minutes before passengers began to emerge so they could board buses to get to the terminal.

Vanilla Ice, whose real name is Robert Van Winkle, posted a video on Facebook of an emergency response to an initial report that dozens of people could be sick. On Twitter, he described looking out the window to see several ambulances, firetrucks and police vehicles converge on the plane.

He also wrote that the sick people were seated on the "bottom floor" of the jumbo jet, "so I'm happy I'm up top."

"Basically, it was chaos right when we landed," Ice told reporters later Wednesday. He said the pilot announced that there was a health issue and people were sick.

Another traveler in the business class section of the aircraft, Raghida Dergham, also said in an interview that sick passengers were in a "lower level" economy section of the plane.

"I feel great. I feel fine," Dergham said. "Nobody was alarmed. ... It was handled very well."

But other passengers said they suspected that some passengers were sick before they got on the plane and blamed the airline for not doing more to protect the health of others.

"Why did they allow them on the flight? ... I sat with them for 13 hours. If it's a virus, we're all getting sick," said Srinivasa Rao.

Passenger Erin Sykes posted a video of officers in masks and gloves taking the temperature of passengers on the tarmac.

In an interview, Sykes said she saw a few passengers being taken off the plane first for medical attention, but she added that "many, many" others were showing signs of illness.

"Very intense coughing. Violently sick. Going into the bathroom a lot," she said when asked to describe the scene.

She added: "These people should know not to travel in a confined space with other healthy people."

Said another flier, Zeph Shamba, said he saw at least one man on the 14-hour flight coughing and vomiting.

"People were worried because we don't know what it is. And we get down there and guys with masks on their noses and stuff like that," Shamba said. "It's like the plane from hell."

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Associated Press Writer Jon Gambrell in Dubai contributed to this story.

## Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey keeps his cool before Congress

By BARBRA ORTUTAY, AP Technology Writer

A chill, bearded and nose-ringed Jack Dorsey appeared unflappable as he faced hours of questioning from members of Congress Wednesday on issues as wide-ranging as political bias, hate speech, school safety and election manipulation.

At 9:30 a.m., he began at the Senate intelligence committee, alongside Facebook's practiced and polished chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg and an empty chair in place of the absent Google co-founder Larry Page. In the afternoon, a 1:30 hearing featured a solo Dorsey before the 54-member House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Dorsey, who meditates regularly, live-tweeted his opening statement and answered questions in a low, measured tone. He repeatedly declined to rise to the bait offered by sometimes scathing legislators, instead holding forth as the nerdy and earnest CEO who just wants to improve his company and its role in the world.

When Arkansas Republican Sen. Tom Cotton pressed Dorsey on Twitter's allegiance to the U.S., Dorsey steered a serene middle course. Asked if he saw a difference between cooperating with the U.S. government and the Russian or Chinese governments, Dorsey demurred. "Not sure what you mean," he said.

"Are you an American company?" Cotton asked.

"We are an American company," answered Dorsey, who at 41 is the same age as Cotton.

"Do you prefer to see America remain the world's dominant global superpower?"

"I prefer that we continue to help everywhere to serve," Dorsey replied, going on to affirm the importance of adhering to Twitter's terms of service, protecting its users from 24/7 surveillance and, eventually, helping intelligence agencies when given a "proper legal order."

And so it unrolled, hour after hour, from one side of Capitol Hill to the other.

While Dorsey deferred some questions for follow-up, it wasn't the constant refrain for him that it was for Mark Zuckerberg during his own marathon congressional testimony back in April. That performance, in which the Facebook CEO skidded through the sometimes uninformed questions from members of Congress, helped Zuckerberg close the door on his company's privacy scandal — but also prompted an avalanche of online memes depicting him as an alien robot.

Dorsey, meanwhile, got high marks from Rep. Billy Long, a Missouri Republican and former auctioneer, who earlier in the hearing had drowned out a loud, conspiracy-minded protester with his old auction chant until security arrived.

"A lot of people come into these hearings and they practice and they coach them and they tell them how to act," Long said. "It's obvious that no one did that for you. You are who you are."

Though who knows. There are also people who spend hours picking out clothes and trying out hairstyles to appear effortlessly unkempt. Twitter did not respond to questions Wednesday about Dorsey's preparation for the hearings.

Compared to Zuckerberg, Dorsey "came across as more mature and more comfortable," said Richard Levick, founder and CEO of public-relations firm Levick. "His answers are thoughtful and you can see that he is really thinking about it."

Facebook's Sandberg also seemed to get a warmer reception than her boss had a few months earlier. A former Washington insider, Sandberg answered many questions directly and deflected others with little noticeable effort. But even she stumbled a bit, at one point telling senators that Facebook aims to present users with "alternative facts" when they come across fake news stories, inadvertently echoing an infamous formulation from Trump adviser Kellyanne Conway.

Sandberg most likely meant that Facebook tries to present people with factual stories that provide more reliable information than disputed articles. And her overall performance earned points.

She no longer appeared dismissive, as Zuckerberg had been early on, about the prospect of foreign elections meddling. And she no longer insisted that Facebook was merely a neutral tech company that hires engineers and not journalists, as she did less than a year ago.

"They are realizing that they are (one of the) most powerful platforms of information," Levick said. "And



they have more responsibility than the Wild West.”

## **Nike unveils Kaepernick ad to air during NFL season opener**

**By ROB MAADDI, AP Pro Football Writer**

Nike has unveiled its first “Just Do It” ad narrated by Colin Kaepernick, a spot scheduled to air during the NFL season opener Thursday night as well as during the U.S. Open tennis tournament and other major sporting events.

The two-minute spot released Wednesday highlights superstar athletes LeBron James, Serena Williams and others, and touches on the controversy of NFL players protesting racial inequality, police brutality and other issues by demonstrating during the national anthem.

Kaepernick narrates the full spot but first physically appears midway through. As a camera pans to reveal Kaepernick’s face, a reflection of a United States flag is visible on the facade of a building behind him.

Kaepernick says: “Believe in something, even if it means sacrificing everything.”

At the start of the ad, Kaepernick says: “If people say your dreams are crazy, if they laugh at what you think you can do, good. Stay that way, because what nonbelievers fail to understand is that calling a dream crazy is not an insult, it’s a compliment.”

The former 49ers quarterback is revealed as the narrator toward the end of the spot.

The commercial’s universal theme is about athletes pushing for bigger dreams. It features young athletes who compete amid various challenges, touching on issues of gender, disabilities and weight loss, among others.

Kaepernick says at the end: “Don’t ask if your dreams are crazy. Ask if they are crazy enough.”

The spot is expected to air this week during college football and MLB games, and stream on various music, gaming and other platforms, Nike spokeswoman Sandra Carreon-John said.

Kaepernick hasn’t spoken to the media publicly since opting out of his contract with San Francisco and becoming a free agent in 2017. He scored a legal victory last week in his grievance against the NFL and its 32 teams when an arbitrator allowed his case to continue to trial. The quarterback claims NFL team owners conspired to keep him out of the league because of his protests. His case hinges on whether owners worked together rather than decided individually to not sign Kaepernick.

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

Kaepernick already had a deal with Nike that was set to expire, but it was renegotiated into a multiyear agreement to make him one of the faces of Nike’s 30th anniversary “Just Do It” campaign, according to a person familiar with the situation who spoke on condition of anonymity because details of the detail had not been revealed publicly.

The campaign includes video ads and billboards, like one displayed atop a Nike store in downtown San Francisco on Wednesday.

Nike also will create an apparel line for Kaepernick, including a signature shoe, and contribute to his Know Your Rights charity, the person said. The deal puts Kaepernick in the top bracket of NFL players with Nike.

The endorsement deal between Nike and Kaepernick prompted a flood of debate Tuesday. It was a trending topic on Twitter and other social networks, with some fans urging a boycott of the company’s clothes and sneakers — even burning and cutting out the signature swoosh logos on their gear.

“I stand for anybody that believes in change. I stand for anybody that believes in a positive attitude,” LeBron James said Tuesday night at a Nike fashion show and awards ceremony in New York. “I stand with Nike, every day, all day.”

Nike also provides all NFL teams with game day uniforms and sideline apparel, a partnership that was extended in March to run through 2028.

President Donald Trump, a frequent critic of protesting NFL players, tweeted Wednesday that Nike is getting “killed” over the endorsement deal.

“Nike is getting absolutely killed with anger and boycotts,” Trump tweeted. “I wonder if they had any

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 34 of 48

idea that it would be this way? As far as the NFL is concerned, I just find it hard to watch, and always will, until they stand for the FLAG!"

The College of the Ozarks, a private Christian school in Point Lookout, Missouri, that competes in sports at the NAIA level, said it will remove all uniforms purchased from Nike that contain the brand's logo.

Last year, the college added a stipulation to competition contracts, saying it would walk away from any game where the opposing team takes a knee, sits or turns its back on the flag or anthem.

"If Nike is ashamed of America, we are ashamed of them," College of the Ozarks President Jerry C. Davis said in a statement. "We also believe that those who know what sacrifice is all about are more likely to be wearing a military uniform than an athletic uniform,"

AP Business Writer Mae Anderson in New York contributed to this report.

More AP NFL: <https://apnews.com/tag/NFL> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_NFL](https://twitter.com/AP_NFL)

## Facebook, Twitter pledge to defend against foreign intrusion

By MARY CLARE JALONICK and BARBARA ORTUTAY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Facebook and Twitter executives assured Congress on Wednesday that they are aggressively working to root out foreign attempts to sow discord in America, and they pledged to better protect their social networks against manipulation during the 2018 midterm elections and beyond.

Facebook's No. 2 executive, Sheryl Sandberg, and Twitter's CEO, Jack Dorsey, testified before the Senate intelligence committee in the morning, but there was an empty chair for Google parent company Alphabet, which refused to send its top executive.

In the afternoon, Dorsey went before a House panel alone to address Republican concerns that Twitter is censoring conservatives. Dorsey denied that is happening.

The hearings come at a critical time, just two months before the midterm elections and as President Donald Trump has charged that Twitter is biased against Republican views.

Senators had sharp words for Alphabet CEO Larry Page. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., suggested the company was a no-show because it was "arrogant."

Sandberg's appearance came several months after Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg testified at highly publicized Capitol Hill hearings.

Like Zuckerberg, she acknowledged Facebook's lag in recognizing Russian efforts to manipulate Facebook during and after the 2016 presidential election. Sandberg detailed Facebook's efforts to fight the problem with new technology and manpower.

"We are even more determined than our adversaries, and we will continue to fight back," she said.

Dorsey was candid with both committees about what his company needs to improve, while defending Twitter against allegations of bias.

Holding his phone throughout the hearings, Dorsey tweeted some of his opening statement to the Senate: "We aren't proud of how that free and open exchange has been weaponized and used to distract and divide people, and our nation. We found ourselves unprepared and ill-equipped for the immensity of the problems we've acknowledged."

He added: "Abuse, harassment, troll armies, propaganda through bots and human coordination, misinformation campaigns, and divisive filter bubbles — that's not a healthy public square. Worse, a relatively small number of bad-faith actors were able to game Twitter to have an outsized impact."

As the executives spoke, the Justice Department announced it would look at whether their companies are hurting competition and "intentionally stifling the free exchange of ideas on their platforms."

Justice Department spokesman Devin O'Malley said Attorney General Jeff Sessions will meet with a number of state attorneys general later this month to discuss the department's concerns.

Sandberg, 49, has extensive Washington experience, typically acts as her company's public face and clearly felt comfortable answering senators' questions. The bearded and tieless Dorsey, 41, is far less of

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 35 of 48

a public figure and was quiet and respectful in his answers, even acknowledging at one point that he is "typically pretty shy."

Both contrasted with Zuckerberg's sometimes awkward defiance during his Washington appearance in April.

Thirteen Russians were indicted by special counsel Robert Mueller this year on charges of taking part in a plot to disrupt the 2016 election by creating fake social media accounts that pushed divisive issues.

Both Facebook and Twitter are using artificial intelligence and other increasingly sophisticated technology to combat manipulation. Facebook is going after "inauthenticity," or fake accounts. Twitter is focusing on analyzing behavior patterns to find suspicious activity because Twitter technically allows "fake" accounts.

The companies have made many policy changes and have caught and banned malicious accounts over the past year. Still, their business models — free services that rely on attracting as many users as possible for as long as possible and finding out as much about them as possible — remain the same, and that has posed challenges in rooting out those bent on mischief.

GOP Sen. Richard Burr of North Carolina, the Intelligence committee chairman, commended the companies for their efforts but said Congress is concerned that not enough has been done.

"Clearly, this problem is not going away," Burr said. "I'm not even sure it's trending in the right direction."

Dorsey said Twitter has continued to identify accounts that may be linked to the same Russian internet agency cited in Mueller's indictment. He said Twitter has suspended 3,843 accounts it believes are connected to that agency. Facebook has also taken down pages this year that it believes were tied to the agency.

At the House hearing, Energy and Commerce chairman Greg Walden, R-Ore., cited recent complaints that Twitter limited the visibility of prominent Republicans on its platform — a charge echoed by Trump himself.

"It takes years to build trust, but it only takes 280 characters to lose it," Walden said.

Dorsey has strongly denied that political ideology has played a part in any Twitter algorithms that determine what users see.

The assertion that conservatives are being censored has also been pushed by House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., and the No. 3 House Republican, Steve Scalise of Louisiana.

Committee Democrats charged that Republicans were manufacturing the issue ahead of the November elections.

"This hearing appears to be one more mechanism to raise money and generate outrage," said Rep. Frank Pallone of New Jersey, the committee's top Democrat. Other Democrats called it a "charade" and "a load of crap."

Twitter came under fire from some on the far right after suspending conspiracy theorist Alex Jones last month, as did Facebook. Jones made an angry appearance Wednesday outside both hearing rooms, telling reporters he was there to "face my accusers."

Jones railed against the government, media and social media companies for more than 40 minutes in the hallway as the Senate hearing began. Later, he heckled a reporter outside the House hearing room.

Jones' appearance punctuated an otherwise orderly day of hearings. The only other disruption was a protester in the House hearing who yelled at Dorsey about bias — and was drowned out by a Republican lawmaker who used his auctioneering skills.

Missouri Rep. Billy Long, who owned an auctioneering company, loudly pretended to auction something off to the laughter of his colleagues as security dragged the woman out of the room.

Twitter's stock fell more than 6 percent to \$32.73 on Wednesday. Some analysts attributed the fall to comments from Dorsey that the company has more work to do in fixing the problems it faces — which, of course, means spending more money. Facebook shares dropped 2.3 percent to \$167.18 on what was an overall down day for the stock market.

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Ortutay reported from New York. Associated Press writer Ryan Nakashima contributed to this report from Fremont, California.

## Inside the makeover of the Democratic Party

By **BILL BARROW** and **JUANA SUMMERS**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic makeover is in full swing.

With just a few primaries remaining before the decisive midterm elections in November, voters have dramatically reshaped the Democratic Party to become younger, more diverse and unquestionably liberal.

The latest turn came Tuesday in Massachusetts, where Boston City Councilor Ayanna Pressley, 44, trounced 10-term congressman Mike Capuano, 66, in a Democratic primary. It reprised a June primary upset in which self-proclaimed democratic socialist Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, 29, toppled New York congressman Joe Crowley, one of the House Democrats' top leaders. They join minority candidates like Democratic gubernatorial nominees Stacey Abrams of Georgia and Andrew Gillum of Florida and a host of younger white candidates — including dozens of women and a gaggle of veterans — who are offering voters an antidote to President Donald Trump.

"We are at a crossroads," Pressley declared during a party unity rally Wednesday. "This can be our darkest hour or it can be our finest."

Outsider candidates are taking on establishment-aligned Democratic incumbents in the final primaries of the season over the coming week in states such as Delaware and Rhode Island.

Victories by candidates such as Pressley and Ocasio-Cortez have generated substantial grassroots energy. But they've also raised questions about whether the party will be able to compete in broad swaths of the country, a potential vulnerability Republicans are eager to exploit. There's also debate over what a younger, more diverse class of lawmakers might mean for the fate of congressional leaders such as House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi and potential 2020 presidential candidates who are older and white, including former Vice President Joe Biden.

"2020 is going to be about who voters want best to stand up to Trump and to take on Trump," said Ben Tulchin, who worked as a pollster for Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders in 2016. "You're going to have to have an authentically progressive message and to be able to communicate that."

For now, Democratic leaders are embracing the enthusiasm of their base — even as it's unclear where it will lead.

"The energy and momentum and the strength is clearly on our side," said Rep. Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico, the chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. "There's nothing more unifying than winning back the House of Representatives and restoring checks and balances."

Democrats' leftward lurch looks different contest to contest. Capuano and Crowley are reliable liberals, but Pressley and Ocasio-Cortez often go further, with full-throated calls for single-payer government health insurance and abolishing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE. Coming from heavily Democratic districts, Pressley and Ocasio-Cortez won't determine whether Democrats pick up the 23 new seats necessary for a House majority. But they will affect the makeup of the Democratic caucus and what its priorities might be on issues from health care and immigration to potential impeachment proceedings against Trump once a special counsel investigation presents its findings.

Elsewhere, Democratic nominees represent a clear shift from the status quo even if they aren't as left-leaning as Ocasio-Cortez. Congressional nominees like Iowa's Abby Finkenauer or Arkansas' Clarke Tucker were the more moderate choices in their respective primaries, but are now trying to topple Republican incumbents with calls for a public option health insurance plan to compete alongside for-profit insurers.

Abrams, the Georgia Democrat who'd be the nation's first black woman elected governor, stops short of single-payer health care and abolishing ICE but promises to expand Medicaid insurance and keep Georgia's state resources from aiding mass deportation efforts.

And dozens of Democratic candidates for federal and state offices — regardless of their positions on ICE, health care or impeachment — have sworn off corporate campaign cash.

The embrace of those positions among primary voters has activists on the left looking forward to upcoming primaries in Delaware, where Kerri Evelyn Harris, a black gay woman, is challenging moderate incumbent Democrat Tom Carper on Thursday. In New York, actress Cynthia Nixon will try on Sept. 13 to oust Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo. It's unclear whether any of these outsider candidates will enjoy

the same success as Pressley or Ocasio-Cortez.

The overall trend has been a wakeup call on Capitol Hill and thrilled leaders of the anti-Trump resistance and the grassroots left.

Stefanie Brown James, co-founder of Collective PAC, which supports African-American candidates, praised Pressley as an example of a new assertiveness that goes beyond policy. "I think that for so long, a lot of us who are Democrats have felt like, 'Dude, where's the fight back? ... Where's the toughness?'" she said. "You're seeing candidates who are brash and aggressive and are like, 'No, we're not going to wait.'"

Crowley, who'd been viewed as a possible future House speaker before his defeat, said Wednesday he was "sad" for Capuano, but celebrated "the engagement and the activity that it's causing and the fervor that is forming (among) young people, women."

Certainly, there is some political risk in Democrats' approach, particularly if November draws a typical midterm electorate that is older, whiter and more conservative than presidential-year electorates.

"We all know the fight for the majority runs through the suburbs. It doesn't run through the inner city," said Republican Rep. Steve Stivers of Ohio, who leads the GOP's House campaign committee. "It's the suburbs that matter, and their extreme agenda doesn't sell."

House Democrats implicitly acknowledge the potential divide, with the DCCC this week launching a series of ads and attacks on health care. Noticeably, they focused mostly on Republican votes that would strip existing protections for policy holders with existing health problems — the ads avoid any mention of single-payer proposals or even a public option.

Likewise, Pelosi has begun unveiling her strategy for a Democratic majority. And while it's focused generally on helping working- and middle-class households, it's decidedly not the wish list of the grassroots left.

Those tensions could come to a head if Pelosi struggles to be elected speaker. Even if she wins, it could be difficult for her to preside over a more liberal caucus.

James, of the Collective PAC, said that's exactly the idea.

"The status quo to me doesn't mean getting rid of people who have been in office a long time," she said. "It means you can't have the same mentality, you can't have the same goals. You can't have the same playbook. You've got to switch it up."

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Barrow reported from Atlanta. Associated Press writers Alan Fram and Kevin Freking in Washington and Steve LeBlanc in Boston contributed to this report

## Immigrant charged in Iowa student's death was known by alias

By RYAN J. FOLEY, Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — The Mexican man charged with abducting and killing an Iowa college student was known for years on the dairy farm where he worked by another name: John Budd.

The alias has emerged as Cristhian Bahena Rivera's employer, a cattle operation owned by a prominent Republican family, faces questions over whether its managers were aware of any warning signs that he was in the country illegally.

The name under which Rivera was hired and paid for the last four years was confirmed by three people with knowledge of his employment history. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release the information during an ongoing criminal investigation. One of the people said Rivera's work identity as John Budd appears in official government records.

The employer, Yarrabee Farms, declined to confirm or deny Rivera's work identity. Lori Chesser, an immigration employment lawyer advising the farm, said that companies cannot discriminate against workers based on how they look or how their names sound.

Farm officials have said Rivera presented an out-of-state photo identification and a Social Security number when he was hired in 2014, and they believed he was the person depicted in those documents until his arrest last month.

The farm followed legal requirements to examine the documents and determined "that they appeared

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 38 of 48

genuine on their face and related to the person presenting them," Chesser said. "Questioning a name or other characteristic would violate the anti-discrimination provisions of the law."

During his four years at the farm near the small town of Brooklyn, Iowa, Rivera "was called and responded to the name he used in the hiring process," Chesser said. He lived in a trailer owned by the farm as a benefit of his employment, as do about half of its 10 workers.

The farm did not use the government's voluntary E-Verify system, which allows companies to confirm the identity and eligibility of employees to work in the U.S. Farm manager Dane Lang has apologized for a mistake in falsely claiming to have used E-Verify in an initial statement on Rivera's Aug. 21 arrest, hours after he allegedly led police to Mollie Tibbetts' body in a nearby cornfield.

It's unclear whether E-Verify would have detected any red flags with Rivera's claimed identity, but the farm has said it used a different government service to confirm that the name and Social Security number matched.

Police say Rivera followed and confronted Tibbetts while she was out for a run on July 18 and later stabbed her to death. He has been jailed on \$5 million bond while awaiting trial on a first-degree murder charge, which carries a sentence of life in prison. The federal government has also filed an immigration detainer, which means he would be subject to deportation proceedings if acquitted.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement declined to comment on whether the agency is investigating Yarrabee Farms, which has said that it received dozens of angry phone calls after Rivera was arrested.

Tibbetts' father, Rob Tibbetts, has urged the public not to bring his daughter's death into the divisive racial debate over immigration.

"The person who is accused of taking Mollie's life is no more a reflection of the Hispanic community as white supremacists are of all white people," he wrote in an opinion piece for the Des Moines Register.

Employers typically do not face legal consequences for hiring a worker under false documents as long as they were not involved in obtaining them and had no other obvious reason to suspect they are fraudulent, said Bob Teig, a retired federal prosecutor in Iowa.

"Absent unusual circumstances, it would be difficult to show they knew any more than what they were told," Teig said, adding that it would be "pretty racist" to assume a John Budd could not be Hispanic.

Whether anyone else knew Rivera as John Budd is unclear. The 24-year-old had a Facebook page under his real name, and his account listed many friends from the central Iowa area. He has a girlfriend and a young daughter, his former attorney has said.

Rivera had neither an Iowa-issued identification under any name nor any known criminal history or interactions with police. It's unclear who owned the car that he allegedly used to circle Tibbetts.

Rivera's former defense lawyer, Allan Richards, has accused the farm and other employers in the area of turning a "blind eye" to the reality that many of their workers are in the U.S. illegally and employed under false documents. He has said that Rivera came to the U.S. when he was around 17 and has the equivalent of a middle-school education.

Erica Johnson, an advocate who directs the American Friends Service Committee's immigration program in Iowa, said the case highlights the "precarious position" that immigrant workers and their employers face.

"We have an immigration system that doesn't account for the labor needs or economic realities of Iowa businesses and farms," she said. "So what do you do? Do you rightly not racially profile people and take the information they give you because you need workers?"

## Democrat logs 35K miles in long-shot bid in Trump territory

By ANDREW SELSKY, Associated Press

REDMOND, Ore. (AP) — One of the largest U.S. congressional districts voted overwhelmingly for Donald Trump in 2016, yet an Oregon Democrat campaigning against a Republican incumbent doesn't see it as hostile territory.

Buoyed by electoral wins by a couple of Democrats elsewhere in Trump territory, candidate Jamie McLeod-Skinner is undaunted, traveling a district that's as big as North Dakota in her Jeep and tiny trailer

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 39 of 48

that she sometimes sleeps in.

McLeod-Skinner is enduring all this because she doesn't think the incumbent is focused on the district's issues. She's driven 35,000 miles (56,300 kilometers) in 14 months of campaigning.

When a parade in the small town of Joseph (population 1,000) was set to start in July, she walked up to an antique convertible carrying Rep. Greg Walden, who's running for his 11th term, and challenged him to a series of debates.

"I look forward to debating you. We'll figure out a schedule that works," Walden replied. Five weeks later, a debate has not been scheduled.

Nationally, Democrats are hoping a "blue wave" in November will give them a majority in Congress. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee is financing selected candidates through its Red to Blue program, hoping to flip seats in Republican-controlled districts.

McLeod-Skinner's campaign isn't one of them. If the Red to Blue's 73 candidates are long shots, ones like McLeod-Skinner — running in very conservative districts — are real Hail Marys.

Walden, who typically wins around 70 percent of the vote, had a war chest currently totaling around \$3.2 million in late June — 31 times bigger than McLeod-Skinner's.

"The biggest issue is the disparity in fundraising," said Jeff Dense, professor of political science at Eastern Oregon University. Without money, she can't afford a media campaign, Dense said, noting that eastern Oregon is peppered with Walden campaign signs.

"I just drove by one in east nowhere," he said in a telephone interview.

In an interview at a coffee shop in Redmond — the town near where McLeod-Skinner and her wife live — the candidate said she felt compelled to run because "our current representative is not focused on the district, not addressing the issues that folks in my district care about: health care, education, economic development."

She downplayed the funding factor.

"It's not about a TV spot or sending out fliers," McLeod-Skinner said, wearing faded jeans, red work shirt and scuffed cowboy boots. "It's about showing up. It's about listening to folks with respect and hearing the issues that people are concerned about."

She accuses Walden of not speaking out for his constituents, including failing to oppose President Trump's trade war that risks increasing tariffs on Oregon wheat. Walden last year also advocated the repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

"His attack on health care would hurt one in five people in our district," McLeod-Skinner said.

McLeod-Skinner, who has degrees in engineering, regional planning and in law, distances herself from city Democrats, often derided here as liberal elites from Portland, uninformed about challenges in this sparsely populated, agricultural-ranching region. She calls herself a rural Democrat, with loyalty to constituents outweighing party loyalty. She's not big on gun control, for example.

"Some Democrats felt I was not far enough to the left in the primary," said the former Santa Clara, California, city councilor. Her stance resonated. She beat six other candidates in the Democratic primary for Oregon's 2nd District, taking 43 percent of the vote.

Only registered Democrats and Republicans can vote in their own party's primaries. In the Republican one, Walden got more votes than all seven Democrats combined.

Walden did not respond to requests for an interview. His spokesman, Justin Discigil, said in an email that Walden has raised concerns directly with the administration about the impact of tariffs on Oregon agriculture. Discigil also defended Walden on health care, saying he extended the Children's Health Insurance Program and responded to the opioid crisis.

McLeod-Skinner's role models are Cheri Bustos, a Democrat who beat a Republican by 20 points in an Illinois district that narrowly chose Trump in 2016; and Connor Lamb, a Pennsylvania Democrat who won a House seat in Trump territory in a special election in March.

"I think we have an opportunity to absolutely shock people," McLeod-Skinner said. "Eastern Oregon's not blue and I'm not looking to turn eastern Oregon blue. I'm looking to represent the folks in my district

who are not represented.”

She’s crisscrossed the high desert, forests and mountains of the 70,000-square-mile (180,000- square-kilometer) district — the second-biggest in America among states with multiple districts. She’s heard voters’ concerns about lack of economic development, health care and educational opportunities. She supports exchanging public service for college or trade school educations.

On the campaign trail, she sometimes takes her teardrop trailer, outfitted with a mattress, onto the wide, empty spaces of Bureau of Land Management land for some solitude and sleep. She often takes her dog. After the hour-long interview, she began a long drive to her next campaign stop.

McLeod-Skinner is the strongest Democratic candidate Walden has faced, said James Foster, professor emeritus of political science at Oregon State University-Cascades. He predicts McLeod-Skinner will take about half the vote in November, and could win.

“She has a real knack of connecting with people,” Foster said.

Even so, it’s hard to achieve name recognition in a district so vast.

Alan Kartchner, who lives in the eastern Oregon town of Burns and usually votes Republican, told a reporter he didn’t know Walden’s challenger’s name or her platform.

“We spend way too much time on national level politics, all of this hyperbole,” Kartchner said. “I think we’d all be better off paying attention to what’s going on in the state and county. I’m interested in hearing what she has to say.”

Follow Andrew Selsky on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/andrewselsky>

## Trump disputes book’s portrayal of White House dysfunction

By CATHERINE LUCEY and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump unloaded Wednesday against an explosive new book from journalist Bob Woodward, labeling the tell-all memoir “a work of fiction” as West Wing staff scrambled to rebut its vivid depictions of White House dysfunction.

“The book means nothing,” Trump told reporters in the Oval Office. He said the early release of information from the book this week was designed to interfere with confirmation hearings for Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, “which I don’t think it’s done.”

Venting for a second day, Trump tweeted that “Fear: Trump in the White House” was the “exact opposite of the fact.” He also revisited a call to change libel laws, though he has no authority to do so.

The book features current and former aides calling the president an “idiot” and a “liar” and depicting him as prone to rash policy decisions that aides worked furiously to derail or stall.

Within the West Wing, aides increasingly numb to drama still were shaken by the in-depth reporting, which included interviews with numerous aides and copies of internal memos. The White House press office appeared caught off guard when The Washington Post published a story about the book on Tuesday, a week before its Sept. 11 release date. The office was unable to quickly procure an advance copy of the book.

Key allies have pushed back against the book, which quotes Trump aides disparaging the president’s judgment and claiming they plucked papers off his desk to prevent him from withdrawing from a pair of trade agreements. Those issuing denials, at least in part, included Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and chief of staff John Kelly.

Underscoring the aggressive response, Trump campaign manager Brad Parscale tweeted Wednesday that Woodward “got played,” adding that “most of these stories are made up from low confidence under performing people that have fallen flat on their faces because they didn’t have the talent or intelligence to be successful.”

In a statement to the Post, Woodward said, “I stand by my reporting.” He did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

Press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders evaded questions Wednesday on Fox News about whether it was a mistake for the communications department not to have Trump sit for an interview with Woodward.



# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 41 of 48

Trump and Woodward spoke after the book was sent to the publisher. In a transcript and audio of the call released by the Post, Woodward tells Trump he made repeated efforts to get an interview, while a clearly irritated Trump says he would have participated if he had known.

Allies said some of the ire in Trump's orbit was focused on former staffers such as ex-staff secretary Rob Porter and onetime economic adviser Gary Cohn, who are sympathetically portrayed.

"I don't think Woodward made anything up. It's who he talked to," said former Trump campaign aide Sam Nunberg, adding that Cohn and Porter "look like unsung heroes."

Trump and aides pushed back on a series of incendiary scenes in the book, including Kelly calling the White House "crazytown," Mattis telling associates Trump had the understanding of "a fifth- or sixth-grader" and Cohn plucking key documents off Trump's desk so he could not sign them.

Trump took to Twitter to deny the book's claim that he had called Attorney General Jeff Sessions "mentally retarded" and "a dumb Southerner."

Trump insisted he "never used those terms on anyone, including Jeff," adding that "being a southerner is a GREAT thing." Sessions has been a target of the president's wrath since recusing himself from the Russia investigation.

While Trump mentioned libel laws, Sanders said on Fox News that she hadn't spoken with Trump about filing a libel lawsuit. Brian Hauss, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, said in a statement that a threat against libel laws was not "credible."

"There is no federal libel law for President Trump to bully Congress to change, and the president does not have the authority to change state libel laws," Hauss said.

The book follows the January release of author Michael Wolff's "Fire and Fury," which led to a rift between Trump and Steve Bannon, his former chief strategist. Bannon spoke with Wolff in terms that were highly critical of the president and his family. Wolff's book attracted attention with its lively anecdotes but suffered from numerous factual inaccuracies.

Woodward's work also comes weeks after former White House aide and "Apprentice" contestant Omarosa Manigault Newman published an expose on her time in the West Wing, including audio recordings of her firing by Kelly and a follow-up conversation with the president in which he claimed to have been unaware of Kelly's decision.

Woodward has been among the best-selling political writers for more than 40 years, going back to his Watergate classic "All the President's Men," co-written by fellow Washington Post reporter Carl Bernstein. "Fear" renews a Woodward tradition of releasing a news-making account of a sitting president in the fall of an election season, with previous works including "The Agenda: Inside the Clinton White House" and "Plan of Attack: The Definitive Account of the Decision to Invade Iraq," about President George W. Bush.

On Amazon, Woodward's new book was ranked as the top-selling book on Wednesday.

Associated Press writers Robert Burns, Ken Thomas and Eric Tucker in Washington and Hillel Italie in New York contributed to this report.

## Major opioid maker to pay for overdose-antidote development

By GEOFF MULVIHILL, Associated Press

A company whose prescription opioid marketing practices are being blamed for sparking the addiction and overdose crisis says it's helping to fund an effort to make a lower-cost overdose antidote.

OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma announced Wednesday that it's making a \$3.4 million grant to Harm Reduction Therapeutics, a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit, to help develop a low-cost naloxone nasal spray.

The announcement comes as lawsuits from local governments blaming Purdue, based in Stamford, Connecticut, and other companies in the drug industry for using deceptive marketing practices to encourage heavy prescribing of the powerful and addictive painkillers. Last week, the number of lawsuits against the industry being overseen by a federal judge topped 1,000.

The Cleveland-based judge, Dan Polster, is pushing the industry to settle with the plaintiffs — mostly

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 42 of 48

local governments and Native American tribes — and with state governments, most of which have sued in state court or are conducting a joint investigation. Hundreds of other local governments are also suing in state courts across the country.

The sides have had regular settlement discussions, but it's not clear when a deal might be struck in the case, which is complicated by the number of parties and questions on how to assign blame.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that drug overdoses killed a record 72,000 Americans last year, about 10 percent more than in 2016. The majority of the deaths involved opioids. But a growing number of them are from illicit synthetic drugs, including fentanyl, rather than prescription opioids such as OxyContin or Vicodin.

Governments are asking for changes in how opioids are marketed, and for help paying for treatment and the costs of ambulance runs, child welfare systems, jails and other expenses associated with the opioid crisis.

Polster is expected to rule in coming weeks on motions from drugmakers, distributors and pharmacies to dismiss the claims. Trials in some of the cases — being used to test issues common to many of them — are now scheduled to begin in September 2019.

Purdue agreed to pay \$634 million in fines back in 2007 to settle charges that the company downplayed the risk of addiction and abuse of its blockbuster painkiller OxyContin starting in the 1990s.

It's facing similar accusations again.

Earlier this year, the privately held company stopped marketing OxyContin to doctors.

The naloxone grant is a way the company can show it's trying to help stem the damage done by opioids. "This grant is one example of the meaningful steps Purdue is taking to help address opioid abuse in our communities," Purdue President and CEO Craig Landau said in a statement.

Paul Hanly, one of the lead lawyers for plaintiffs in the lawsuits, said having more access to an overdose antidote would be good, but he questioned Purdue's motives.

"I think it's just a strategic move on their part to curry favor with the judge, and the public," he said.

Naloxone is seen as one major piece in overdose prevention strategies. Over the past several years, most states have eased access to the antidote for laypeople. First responders, drug users and others have taken to carrying naloxone to reverse overdoses. But the price of the drug has been a problem for state and local governments.

Pittsburgh-based Harm Reduction Therapeutics says it is trying to get its version to the market within two years.

"Combatting the ongoing crisis of opioid addiction will require innovative approaches to both prevention and medication-assisted treatment," Harm Reduction co-founder and CEO Michael Hufford said in a statement, "but it all starts with making sure lives are not lost from overdose."

Follow Mulvihill at <http://www.twitter.com/geoffmulvihill>

## Canada's strong-willed foreign minister leads trade talks

By **ROB GILLIES, Associated Press**

TORONTO (AP) — She is many things that would seem to irritate President Donald Trump: a liberal Canadian former journalist.

That makes Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland an unusual choice to lead Canada's negotiations over a new free trade deal with a surprisingly hostile U.S. administration.

Recruited into politics by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Freeland has already clashed with Russia and Saudi Arabia. Those who know her say she's unlikely to back down in a confrontation with Trump.

"She is everything the Trump administration loathes," said Sarah Goldfeder, a former official with the U.S. Embassy in Canada.

Freeland, a globalist negotiating with a U.S. administration that believes in economic nationalism and populism, hopes to salvage a free trade deal with Canada's largest trading partner as talks resumed

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 43 of 48

Wednesday in Washington. The 50-year-old Harvard graduate and Rhodes scholar speaks five languages and has influential friends around the world.

"I have enormous sympathy for her because she is negotiating with an unpredictable, irrational partner," said CNN host Fareed Zakaria, a friend of Freeland's for 25 years.

Freeland cut short a trip to Europe last week after Trump reached a deal with Mexico that excluded Canada. Talks with Canada resumed but Trump said he wasn't willing to make any concessions.

The Trump administration left Canada out of the talks for five weeks not long after the president vowed to make Canada pay after Trudeau said at the G-7 in Quebec he wouldn't let Canada get pushed around in trade talks. Freeland then poked the U.S. when she received Foreign Policy magazine's diplomat of the year award in Washington.

"You may feel today that your size allows you to go mano-a-mano with your traditional adversaries and be guaranteed to win," Freeland said in the June speech. "But if history tells us one thing, it is that no one nation's pre-eminence is eternal."

Despite being the chief negotiator with the Trump administration, Freeland has criticized it when few other leaders of Western democracies have.

"She's an extremely strong-willed and capable young woman, and I think Trump generally has a problem with that," said Ian Bremmer, a longtime friend and foreign affairs columnist and president of the Eurasia Group. "She's not going to bat her eyelashes at Trump to get something done. That's not Chrystia. She doesn't play games."

After Freeland and her department tweeted criticism of Saudi Arabia last month for the arrest of social activists in the kingdom, Canada suffered consequences. The Saudis suspended diplomatic relations and canceled new trade with Canada and sold off Canadian assets.

Peter MacKay, a former Canadian foreign minister, said public shaming like that doesn't work and said some Americans viewed her June speech in Washington as something less than diplomatic.

"It was around that time, within days, that the U.S. threw Canada out of the room," MacKay said. "There is sometimes concern that she is taking the lead from her prime minister by playing a little bit to a domestic audience."

Trudeau personally recruited Freeland to join his Liberal Party while it was the third party in Parliament in 2013. Freeland had a senior position at the Reuters news agency but was ready to move on after setbacks in her journalism career, said Martin Wolf, an influential Financial Times columnist and longtime friend.

Freeland previously had risen rapidly at the Financial Times where she became Moscow bureau chief in her mid-20s during the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Freeland also served as deputy editor of the Globe and Mail in Toronto and the Financial Times. She had designs on becoming editor of the Financial Times but left after a clash with the top editor. She was familiar to many TV viewers in the U.S. because of her regular appearances on talk shows like Zakaria's.

"She was a godsend for us, frankly, because she is so bright and so talented and articulate," Zakaria said. "She is as about as impressive a person as I have met."

Freeland, who is of Ukrainian heritage, also wrote a well-received book on Russia and left journalism for politics in 2013 when she won a district in Toronto. She has been a frequent critic of Russian President Vladimir Putin, who banned her from traveling to the country in 2014 in retaliation for Western sanctions against Moscow.

She remains chummy with journalists, even bringing them frozen treats in 90-degree heat last week while they waited outside the U.S. Trade Representative office in Washington.

Bremmer, who met Freeland in Kiev in 1992, good-naturedly chided her for a strange foible: a habit of writing notes on her hands even when she has notepads.

"I have seen in her environments with foreign ministers and heads of state with stuff on her hands," he said with a laugh.

Throughout her career, Freeland has cultivated an impressive group of friends. Mark Carney, the Bank of England governor, is a godfather to one of her three children. Friends include Larry Summers, the former

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 44 of 48

U.S. treasury secretary, and billionaires George Soros and Stephen Schwarzman, the Blackstone Group chief executive who once led one of Trump's disbanded business councils.

"I always found her to be extremely smart and easy to talk with," Schwarzman said. "She accessible and direct and quick. You don't get to be a Rhodes scholar by accident."

Summers is a mentor from Harvard.

"Her clarity of thought, straightforwardness and deep sense of principle make her an ideal leader of the international community as it responds to highly problematic American policy," Summers said in an email.

Bremmer said Freeland has serious globalist credentials, "but right now, momentum is not with that group globally."

When Trudeau became prime minister in 2015, he named Freeland to his Cabinet. She served as international trade minister and worked on ensuring that a free trade deal with the European Union didn't unravel. At one point, she left stalled talks near tears after saying it had been impossible to overcome differences. An agreement was reached not long after that, and Freeland received credit.

Now she's facing her toughest challenge with the North American Free Trade Agreement, since the U.S. represents 75 percent of Canada's exports.

"Canada is stuck with the United States. That's Canada's trade," Bremmer said. "Canadians are going to have to swallow a fair amount of pride. They are going have to pretend they like this guy a lot more than they obviously do or they risk getting much more economically punished. That's just the reality."

## **Pakistan PM 'optimistic' after brief talks with Pompeo**

**By KATHY GANNON, Associated Press**

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan's newly-elected Prime Minister Imran Khan met with U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in Islamabad on Wednesday, saying he was "optimistic" he could reset the relationship with Washington after the U.S. suspended aid over the country's alleged failure to combat militants.

"You know I'm a born optimist," said Khan, a former star cricket player who was sworn in last month. "A sportsman always is an optimist. He steps on the field and he thinks he's going to win."

Pompeo spent just four hours in Pakistan, his first visit to the country. At the airport before leaving for neighboring India, he said he was "hopeful" that a foundation had been laid to move forward.

"We've still got a long way to go, lots more discussion to be had," he said. "It's time for us to begin to deliver on our joint commitment... We've had lots of times where we've talked and made agreements, but we haven't been able to actually execute those."

Pompeo held meetings with Khan, Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and the powerful Army Chief Gen. Qamar Javed Bajwa.

"We talked about their new government, the opportunity to reset the relationship between our two countries across a broad spectrum, economic, business, commercial," Pompeo said.

He said they also discussed "the work that we all know that we need to do to try to develop a peaceful resolution in Afghanistan that benefits certainly Afghanistan, but also the United States and Pakistan."

"I'm hopeful that the foundation that we laid today will set the conditions for continued success as we start to move forward," he said on the tarmac before leaving.

The United States last weekend canceled a \$300 million Coalition Support Fund payment to Pakistan after long complaining that it was not doing enough to combat the Taliban and other militants who attack Afghan and U.S. forces across the porous border.

Pakistan has rejected those allegations, saying it has played a key role in the U.S.-led campaign against extremists that began after the 9/11 attacks.

"In all of his meetings, Secretary Pompeo emphasized the important role Pakistan could play in bringing about a negotiated peace in Afghanistan, and conveyed the need for Pakistan to take sustained and decisive measures against terrorists and militants threatening regional peace and stability," the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad said in a statement issued after Pompeo's departure.

On the plane to Pakistan, Pompeo announced his appointment of Zalmay Khalilzad, a veteran diplomat

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 45 of 48

who is unpopular in Pakistan, as the new U.S. special adviser on Afghan reconciliation, which could further complicate relations with Islamabad.

Khalilzad "has been very critical of Pakistan in the past and his appointment will not help move things forward," said Zahid Hussain, a defense analyst and the author of two books on militancy in the region.

Khalilzad was born in Afghanistan and served as U.S. special envoy to the country following the collapse of the Taliban from 2001-2003 and then as U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan from 2003-2005.

He has been critical of Pakistan, often blaming Afghanistan's deteriorating security and country-wide chaos on Pakistan's military and powerful ISI intelligence agency, accusing them of harboring and aiding Taliban insurgents.

Khalilzad has been criticized for his role in cobbling together an Afghan government of warlords following the Taliban's collapse. Afghanistan's corruption-plagued government and, by some accounts, poorly trained security forces, have frustrated Afghans and contributed to the country's deteriorating security situation.

Neither the U.S. nor Pakistan can afford a complete rupture in relations, but Hussain said Islamabad is frustrated that the relationship has been reduced to a single issue: Afghanistan.

"The United States seems only to see Pakistan through the prism of Afghanistan," he said. "The main thing is we would like to be allies with the U.S. but with dignity."

As an opposition leader, Khan often chastised Pakistan's reliance on U.S. financial assistance. He and his supporters once briefly stopped trucks supplying fuel and other goods to U.S. and NATO troops from crossing into Afghanistan to protest U.S. drone strikes in Pakistan's tribal regions along the border.

In a speech following the July 25 elections that propelled him to power, Khan said Pakistan would not participate in the U.S. war on terror, instead advocating a peaceful end to the protracted war in Afghanistan.

Qureshi, Pakistan's foreign minister, told a news conference held after Pompeo's departure that the United States indicated there was an opportunity for direct talks with the Taliban, a demand the insurgent movement has consistently made.

Khan has flatly rejected a U.S. strategy that advocates a heavy military hand to force Afghanistan's Taliban to the negotiating table.

Pompeo arrived shortly before 8 p.m. local time (1430 GMT) in the Indian capital of New Delhi.

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Associated Press writer Munir Ahmed contributed to this report.

## Disney workers vote on new contract raising minimum wage

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER, Associated Press**

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Thousands of Walt Disney World workers are voting Thursday on whether to approve a new contract that increases the starting minimum wage to \$15 an hour over the next three years while enabling Disney to use more part-time workers and require new workers to stay in their positions longer before transferring.

If approved, union officials said the contract would have an impact outside of Walt Disney World as other non-unionized businesses in central Florida's low-wage service economy compete for tourism workers in a tight job market. The contract would cover more than half of the 70,000 workers at Disney World, the largest single-site employer in the United States. Those workers include costumed characters, bus drivers, launderers, retail workers, monorail drivers, custodians, housekeepers, servers, cooks, florists, makeup artists and lifeguards.

"The way I feel is we won this for our members at Disney but we also won this for the ride operator at Universal Studios who doesn't have a union," said Eric Clinton, president of Unite HERE Local 362, one of the six unions that represents 38,000 workers covered by the contract. "This affects Hyatt, Hilton. They are going to have to raise wages to compete with others. This is 38,000 people. This isn't a small amount."

Besides raising the starting minimum wage almost 50 percent to \$15 an hour in three years, the proposed four-year contract would raise wages for existing workers by at least \$4.75 an hour by October 2021. If the contract is ratified, each Florida worker will receive a \$1,000 bonus that Disney had paid to

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 46 of 48

other employees after last year's tax cut by Congress. Those bonuses were withheld during the contract negotiations.

The new contract expands anti-discrimination protections to include gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, military or veteran status and genetic information.

In return for the higher wages, the coalition of unions, known as the Service Trades Council Union, agreed to allow Disney to use more part-time workers. Under the old contract, slightly more than a third of the union workforce can be part-timers, but that was raised to just below two-fifths of the workforce in the new deal.

New hires also would have to wait longer to switch jobs under the new deal. The old contract allowed for a transfer after six months, but that would change to a year under the new contract. The contract also allows Disney the ability to expand the probationary period for some new workers from three months to six months.

The new contract expanded the types of workers who could be subject to random drug tests. It also added extra language giving managers the right to "supervise, and control the manner, means and details by which employees perform their work duties as well as the ends to be accomplished."

"The focus was about how Disney workers need a raise — current workers and those coming into the workforce," said Matt Hollis, the new president of the Service Trades Council Union. "These are historic raises, not just entry level but for every hourly cast member."

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

## Asian stocks mixed as comment period for US tariffs ends

By ANNABELLE LIANG, Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — Asian markets were mixed Thursday on fears that the U.S. would soon impose tariffs on another \$200 billion of Chinese goods, as public consultations drew to a close.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 lost 0.2 percent to 22,528.46, while the Kospi in South Korea gained 0.1 percent to 2,294.84. Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 0.4 percent to 27,147.29. The Shanghai Composite index was 0.2 percent higher at 2,709.15. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 shed 0.9 percent to 6,173.60.

WALL STREET: Technology stocks fell on Wednesday as Facebook and Twitter executives testified before Congress, leading most U.S. indexes lower. Facebook Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg and Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey told a Senate panel they are working to stop manipulation of their services by foreign countries. The S&P 500 index dropped 0.3 percent to 2,888.60. The Nasdaq composite, which has a high concentration of technology companies, gave up 1.2 percent to 7,995.17. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks lost 0.3 percent to 1,727.65. The Dow Jones Industrial Average added 0.1 percent to 25,974.99, as the weaker dollar saw industrial companies including 3M and Caterpillar posting gains.

US-CHINA TRADE: Traders fear that the Trump administration is on the cusp of imposing tariffs of up to 25 percent on an additional \$200 billion in Chinese imports, once a public comment period ends Thursday. These tariffs are the administration's response to its charges that Beijing uses predatory tactics to try to supplant U.S. technological supremacy. Since March, the U.S. has applied new tariffs of up to 25 percent on nearly \$85 billion worth of steel and aluminum and various Chinese products, mostly goods used in manufacturing. Separately, the U.S. and Canada have resumed negotiations to try to keep Canada in an updated North American trade pact that also includes Mexico. Canada's trade envoy sounded positive after three hours of talks, and investors are confident Canada will be included in the final deal.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "An adverse announcement by the U.S. will invoke retaliatory tariffs from China, and this could rattle already nervy markets amid escalating trade tensions," said Vishnu Varathan, head of economics and strategy at Mizuho Bank.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude lost 14 cents to \$68.58 a barrel. It fell 1.6 percent to \$68.72 a barrel in New York late Wednesday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gave up 17 cents to \$77.10 a barrel.

CURRENCIES: The dollar fell to 111.27 yen from 111.51 yen. The euro strengthened to \$1.1649 from \$1.1623.

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 47 of 48

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Sept. 6, the 249th day of 2018. There are 116 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 6, 1997, a public funeral was held for Princess Diana at Westminster Abbey in London, six days after her death in a car crash in Paris.

On this date:

In 1901, President William McKinley was shot and mortally wounded by anarchist Leon Czolgosz (CHAWL-gawsh) at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York. (McKinley died eight days later; Czolgosz was executed on Oct. 29.)

In 1909, American explorer Robert Peary sent a telegram from Indian Harbor, Labrador, announcing that he had reached the North Pole five months earlier.

In 1943, 79 people were killed when a New York-bound Pennsylvania Railroad train derailed and crashed in Philadelphia.

In 1944, during World War II, the British government relaxed blackout restrictions and suspended compulsory training for the Home Guard.

In 1970, Palestinian guerrillas seized control of three U.S.-bound jetliners. (Two were later blown up on the ground in Jordan, along with a London-bound plane hijacked on Sept. 9; the fourth plane was destroyed on the ground in Egypt. No hostages were harmed.)

In 1972, the Summer Olympics resumed in Munich, West Germany, a day after the deadly hostage crisis that claimed the lives of eleven Israelis and five Arab abductors.

In 1975, 18-year-old tennis star Martina Navratilova of Czechoslovakia, in New York for the U.S. Open, requested political asylum in the United States.

In 1985, all 31 people aboard a Midwest Express Airlines DC-9 were killed when the Atlanta-bound jetliner crashed just after takeoff from Milwaukee's Mitchell Field.

In 1995, Baltimore Orioles shortstop Cal Ripken broke Lou Gehrig's record by playing his two-thousand-131st consecutive game.

In 1997, weeping masses gathered in Calcutta, India, to pay homage to Mother Teresa, who had died the day before at age 87.

In 2002, meeting outside Washington, D.C. for only the second time since 1800, Congress convened in New York to pay homage to the victims and heroes of September 11.

In 2006, President George W. Bush acknowledged for the first time that the CIA was running secret prisons overseas and said tough interrogation had forced terrorist leaders to reveal plots to attack the United States and its allies.

Ten years ago: In the wake of Russia's military standoff with Georgia, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said that now was not the right time for the U.S. to move forward on a once-celebrated deal for civilian nuclear cooperation with Russia. (President George W. Bush canceled the deal two days later.) More than 100 people died in a rockslide that crashed into a shantytown just outside Cairo, Egypt. Actress Anita Page died in Los Angeles at age 98.

Five years ago: NASA's newest robotic lunar explorer, LADEE, rocketed into space in an unprecedented moonshot from Virginia that dazzled sky watchers along the East Coast.

One year ago: Hurricane Irma, the most powerful hurricane ever recorded in the Atlantic, pounded Puerto Rico with heavy rain and powerful winds; authorities said more than 900,000 people were without power. A California parole panel recommended parole for Leslie Van Houten, who at 19 was the youngest of Charles Manson's murderous followers in 1969. (California Gov. Jerry Brown later blocked her release.) Pope Francis was welcomed by jubilant crowds along the road from the airport into Bogota, Colombia, where he encouraged Colombians to reconcile after five decades of armed rebellion. Two French companies among the world's biggest makers of luxury goods - including the owners of brands like Dior and

# Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2018 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 059 ~ 48 of 48

Gucci - agreed to stop working with fashion models who are unhealthily thin.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian JoAnne Worley is 83. Country singer David Allan Coe is 79. Rock singer-musician Roger Waters (Pink Floyd) is 75. Actress Swoosie Kurtz is 74. Comedian-actress Jane Curtin is 71. Rock musician Mick Mashbir is 70. Country singer-songwriter Buddy Miller is 66. Actor James Martin Kelly is 64. Country musician Joe Smyth (Sawyer Brown) is 61. Actor-comedian Jeff Foxworthy is 60. Actor-comedian Michael Winslow is 60. Rock musician Perry Bamonte is 58. Actor Steven Eckholdt is 57. Rock musician Scott Travis (Judas Priest) is 57. Pop musician Pal Waaktaar (a-ha) is 57. Former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie is 56. Rock musician Kevin Miller is 56. ABC News correspondent Elizabeth Vargas is 56. Country singer Mark Chesnutt is 55. Actress Betsy Russell is 55. Actress Rosie Perez is 54. Rhythm and blues singer Macy Gray is 51. Country songwriter Lee Thomas Miller (Songs: "The Impossible" "You're Gonna Miss This") is 50. Singer CeCe Peniston is 49. Rhythm-and-blues singer Darryl Anthony (Az Yet) is 49. Actress Daniele Gaither is 48. Actor Dylan Bruno is 46. Actor Idris Elba is 46. Actress Justina Machado is 46. Actress Anika Noni (ah-NEE'-kuh NOH'-nee) Rose is 46. Rock singer Nina Persson (The Cardigans) is 44. Actor Justin Whalin is 44. Actress Naomie Harris is 42. Rapper Noreaga is 41. Actress Natalia Cigliuti is 40. Rapper Foxy Brown is 40. Actor Howard Charles is 35. Actress/singer Deborah Joy Winans is 35. Actress Lauren Lapkus is 33. Rock singer Max George (The Wanted) is 30.

Thought for Today: "The happiness of most people we know is not ruined by great catastrophes or fatal errors, but by the repetition of slowly destructive little things." — Ernest Dimnet (deem-NAY'), French priest, lecturer and author (1866-1954).