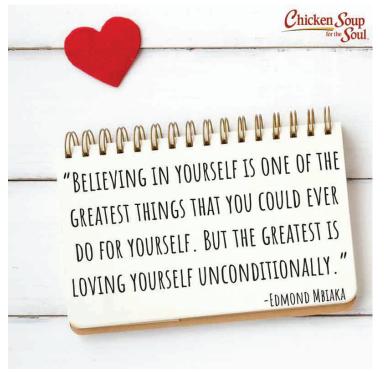
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Closed: Recycling Trailer in Groton The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C. 1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Groton Chiropractic Clinic Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
- 2- Weekly Vikings Roundup
- 3- Bates Township Weed Notice
- 3- Bjorkman fundraiser in Groton
- 4- Big Stone South to Ellendale Transmission Line project donates more than \$20,000 to organizations along project route
- 4- Elementary Preschool Screening
- 4- Groton Care & Rehab Ad
- 5- Gov. Daugaard's Weekly Column
- 6- Sen. Thune's Weekly Column
- 7- Rep. Noem's Weekly Column
- 8- This week in state government
- 13- Sen. Rounds' Weekly Column
- 14- Today in Weather History
- 15- Today's Forecast
- 16- Yesterday's Weather
- 16- National Weather map
- 16- Today's Weather Almanac
- 17- Daily Devotional
- 18-2018 Groton Community Events
- 19- News from the Associated Press

Groton Area Schedule of Events

Monday, September 17, 2018

3:00pm: Golf: Boys JH Meet @ Groton Area High School

4:00pm: Cross Country: Varsity Meet vs. Deuel @ Clear Lake Golf Course

Tuesday, September 18, 2018

4:30pm: Football: Boys 7th/8th Game vs. Milbank @ Groton Area High School, Doney Field

4:30pm: Volleyball Warner at Groton Area: 7th grade and C match at 4:30 p.m., 8th grade and JV match at 6 p.m. followed by varsity match.

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Weekly Vikings Roundup By Jordan Wright

The good news? The Minnesota Vikings traveled to Green Bay and didn't lose! The bad news? The Vikings traveled to Green Bay and didn't win. The two teams have played 116 times, with Sunday's final being the third tie between the two teams. Both teams are now 1-0-1 this season and they are tied for the lead in the NFC North. Random fact of the day: this was the first time in NFL history a game has ended with a score of 29-29.

The Vikings outplayed the Packers on Sunday, amassing 480 yards of offense compared to 351. The Vikings were doomed by special teams, however, as the Packers blocked a punt and returned it for a touchdown. The Vikings also missed all three field goal attempts – including two in overtime, the last of which as time expired that would have won the game. It wouldn't surprise me if the Vikings make a kicker change this week.

Quarterback Kirk Cousins had a great game against the Packers, completing 35 of 48 passes for 425 yards, four touchdowns and one interception (that wasn't his fault). He had a beautiful 75-yard bomb to Stefon Diggs for a touchdown, but his most impressive throw was a 22-yard touchdown to Adam Thielen, perfectly placed in between two defenders with 31 seconds left in the fourth quarter and the Vikings down by eight. Thielen finished the game with 12 catches for 131 yards and a touchdown, while Stefon Diggs caught eight passes for 128 yards and two TDs.

Although the Vikings' passing game was going strong, the running game left plenty to be desired. The main culprit was the play calling, as the Vikings only called 16 run plays compared to 52 passing. Dalvin Cook only had 10 carries for 38 yards, but he did catch three passes for an additional 52 yards.

The Vikings' defense didn't look like the elite unit we are accustomed to seeing. There were way too many missed tackles by a unit that prides itself on the fundamentals. The defensive line was able to get some pressure on Aaron Rodgers (four sacks, 9 quarterback hits), but that was mainly because Rodgers wasn't as mobile as he usually is due to a banged-up knee. All-in-all, the defense was underwhelming on Sunday.

The player of the game on offense was Kirk Cousins. Behind a shaky offensive line, the Vikings' quarterback remained poised and made big throw after big throw. His completion percentage (73%) would have looked even better if it weren't for some painful drops by Laquon Treadwell and Stacey Coley. Entering the fourth quarter the Vikings were down 20-7, but Cousins put the team on his back. He accounted for 223 yards in the fourth quarter and overtime and had three touchdown passes as well as a two-point conversion.

The player of the game on defense was David Perry. The backup defensive tackle is usually used as a run-stuffer, but he filled up the stat sheet on Sunday. He has two tackles, a sack, a tackle for a loss and a quarterback hit. He is a player who was in danger of not making the final roster, but after Sunday he likely earned more playing time going forward.

Looking ahead, the Vikings return home and host the Buffalo Bills on Sunday, September 23. The game will be on CBS and will start at noon central time. The Bills are making a case to be the worst team in the NFL this year, so the Vikings should be able to easily win this one. ESPN gives the Vikings a 90.6% chance to win the game. Skol!

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

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Please Come to a Meet & Greet & Campaign Fundraiser

with



Monday, Sept. 17, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Groton American Legion Hall

Hors d'oeuvres and walking tacos will be served

Co-Hosted by:
Mike & JoAnn Nehls ~ Doug & Mel Sombke
Dennis & Shirley Larson ~ Dale & Susan Kurth

BATES TOWNSHIP WEED NOTICE

OWNERS & TENANTS of Bates Township are hereby notified and required, according to law, to cut all weeds and grass in road ditches adjacent to their property or tenanted by them within Bates township on or before October 1, 2018 or same will be hired done by the township board and assessed property taxes at the rate of \$300 per half mile.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors reminds all landowners and tenants that the road right-of-way extends 33 feet from the center of the township road. This ditch is to be maintained and mowed. Any crops planted in the road right-of-way will be mowed and charged to the landowner. Landowner is responsible for spraying all noxious weeds.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors Betty Geist Township Clerk

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Big Stone South to Ellendale Transmission Line project donates more than \$20,000 to organizations along project route

The Big Stone South to Ellendale Transmission Line project recently awarded grants totaling more than \$20,000 to local organizations. Representatives from Otter Tail Power Company and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., co-owners of the project, awarded the grants to 15 recipients from across the project area.

"Improving the quality of life in the communities we impact is important to us," said Project Manager Al Koeckeritz. "We want to continue empowering local stewardship efforts, promoting health and safety, and supporting local organizations. These grants help us do that."

A local recipient includes the Groton Baseball/Softball Foundation to make handicap accessible upgrades to the entryway to provide a safe way for all guests to enter the ball field.

A team of Brink Constructors, Inc., set the last of 753 structures in late August. The project team expects to complete construction in late 2018 or early 2019 and to energize the line shortly after. Once complete, the 163-mile 345-kV transmission line will connect a new Big Stone South Substation near Big Stone City, South Dakota, to a new Ellendale Substation in Ellendale, North Dakota. You can view construction progress using an interactive map at www.bssetransmissionline.com/maps/.





2018 Groton Area Elementary Preschool Developmental Screening for 3 year olds September 19

Parents of children age 3 in the Groton Area School District are asked to contact Heidi Krueger at the Groton Area Elementary School during school hours at 397-2317 to either confirm their screening time or set up a time. Letters will be send out the week of September 10. If your child is already receiving services or enrolled at Groton Elementary School they will not need to be screened. If your child has already been screened but you have concerns please contact the elementary school. If you are new to the district and have a child under the age of 5, we also ask you to contact the elementary school.

The Developmental Screening will take place at Groton Area Elementary School.



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This past week, legislators returned to Pierre for a special legislative session. I don't call a special session lightly. During my two terms as governor I have called only one other during the summer of 2017, to deal with the non-meandered waters issue. The benefits have to greatly outweigh the costs and the time spent, and the issue must be pressing enough to warrant immediate action.

This special session was the result of a decades-long effort by states to achieve tax fairness, and I'm proud South Dakota led the charge. Earlier this year, in South Dakota v. Wayfair, Inc., the U.S. Supreme Court overturned a ruling that had allowed a state to require collection of sales tax by a retailer only if it had a physical presence in that state. That created an uneven playing field, requiring South Dakota's brick-and-mortar Main Street businesses to collect sales tax, while many online retailers did not.

After the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in our favor, however, we found ourselves in an ironic situation where every state but South Dakota could benefit from the decision. Because we had led the way on the litigation, an injunction imposed by our legislation prevented South Dakota from beginning to implement this change.

Believing we should benefit from the national victory that we led, I called legislators to Pierre to consider a bill removing the injunction. On Wednesday, the Legislature overwhelmingly passed the measure. They also approved a proposal that will streamline collection of sales tax by requiring online "middle-men" like eBay, Etsy, and Amazon Marketplace to collect and remit sales tax on sales made using their platforms.

As a state without an income tax that relies heavily on its sales and use tax, this is a substantial win. Our sales tax base will no longer be eroded by a shift to online sales, and we should even reclaim some of that eroded sales tax base. That will allow future state leaders to consider tax relief, or increases in for education, workforce, public safety, taking care of people, or other priorities.

Perhaps more importantly, though, this is a victory for tax uniformity. Our local businesses have been faced with an unfair disadvantage, and now, finally, all who do business in our state will operate on a level playing field. Our Main Street businesses have always collected sales tax. They also employ our friends and neighbors, support our charities, and invest in our communities. We all appreciate the convenience and variety offered by e-commerce, but out-of-state sellers should not have a tax advantage over in-state sellers.

This victory is the culmination of South Dakota's efforts over decades. I voted on this issue when I was a state senator. Gov. Janklow, Gov. Rounds and many legislators prioritized this issue. Our congressional delegation also supported these efforts. I thank all who have played a part in this success. At last, we have finally leveled the playing field for all who do business in our state, and we've paved the way for any other state that wishes to do the same.

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John Thune U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA

An Economy That's Only Getting Stronger

After nearly a decade of economic stagnation, the economy has been regaining its footing and is getting stronger by the day – welcome news for South Dakotans and Americans around the country.



While there's no doubt the economy is heading in the right direction, I always believe it can be even stronger, particularly in certain areas that are critically important to South Dakota. That's why I'm going to keep pursuing the kind of pro-growth, pro-jobs agenda that's already helped move the country toward greater prosperity and freedom.

Our agenda is pretty straightforward: reduce burdensome government red tape that's unnecessarily getting in the way of South Dakotans' lives and businesses; pass legislation that spends tax dollars more efficiently, which, in turn, allows hardworking taxpayers to keep more of what they earn; and partner with, and keep pressure on, the administration so they make positive decisions that will benefit our state.

The Republican-led Congress has already slashed numerous Obama-era regulations that were hamstringing growth. We passed first-in-a-generation reforms to the U.S. tax code that lowered rates across the board, nearly doubled the standard deduction, and doubled the child tax credit. And I'm personally keeping the administration's feet to the fire while it negotiates new trade deals, because our agriculture industry – the lifeblood of our state – depends on it. I'm also continuing to pressure the administration to approve the year-round sale of E15 fuel, which would both lower costs at the pump and increase U.S. energy dominance – a win-win for South Dakota.

In many cases, the results of this agenda have been historic. Last year, middle-class income in the United States grew to an all-time high. For the last five months, job openings have exceeded the number of people who are looking for jobs, the first time that's happened in the history of these numbers being tracked. In July, the number of job openings hit an all-time high, and Americans filing for unemployment bottomed out to its lowest level since 1969. This underscores the importance of supporting our rebounding economy by pursuing federal and state efforts to grow and train a modernized workforce.

On the business side, small business optimism has reached historic levels – the highest ever, according to the National Federation of Independent Business. Business investments, which allow companies to expand and help them hire more workers, have increased by more than eight percentage points since before the 2016 election.

The economy has responded by growing at a strong rate. In the second quarter of 2018, it grew by 4.2 percent, which exceeded many expectations. Since the landmark Tax Cuts and Jobs Act became law at the end of last year, nearly 1.7 million jobs have been created nationwide, and 4 million have been created since the Republican-led Congress and the president joined forces in 2017.

We've worked hard in Congress to put points on the board for South Dakota and the rest of America. We're in good shape, but I'm going to continue playing like we're two points down with 60 seconds to the buzzer. We owe it to the American people to leave it all on the court, and that's what I plan to do.

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Tax Reform 2.0: Better Stability. Better Future.

Last year, we overhauled the tax code for the first time since Ronald Reagan was president. With the passage of these historic tax cuts, the average South Dakota family of four will see their after-tax income rise by \$2,400. We doubled the Child Tax Credit to \$2,000 per child. We eliminated the marriage penalty. Pro-growth reforms are producing higher wages and lowering utility bills. As a result, the job market is booming, middle-class income is at an all-time high, unemployment is the lowest it's been in 49 years, and wages are steadily growing.

These tax cuts changed the trajectory of our economy, but we're not stopping there. In early September, my committee approved new tax relief legislation we're calling Tax Reform 2.0 – a three-pronged package of bills that will lock in the tax cuts for families and small businesses, make it easier for families to save more for retirement, and promote innovation for startup businesses. How?

First, Tax Reform 2.0 makes permanent tax cuts for middle-class families, small businesses, and family farmers and ranchers. In the first round of tax reform, we made sure the first \$24,000 a couple makes is tax free. We also doubled Death Tax exemption levels and offered a 20 percent small business tax exemption (which applies to many family businesses in South Dakota). This new wave of tax reform makes certain these provisions are permanent, providing much-needed stability and certainty for families and small businesses, giving them more freedom to spend their money as they choose.

That's important because this is a significant savings for families. Consider a couple with two children. Both parents teach and make the average salary for a South Dakota educator. Their savings? \$2,600 – or nearly 1,000 gallons of milk. The savings is due in large part to the doubling of both the Standard Deduction and Child Tax Credit.

Next, the new tax relief legislation helps families save for retirement by helping local businesses provide retirement plans to their workers. At the same time, we're taking steps to expand education savings accounts by giving families flexibility to use the funds to pay for apprenticeships or cover the cost of homeschooling. I'm hopeful this will allow families to plan for the future while providing financial stability for today.

Maybe think about it in this context: Jon and Jennifer have been putting money into a 529 Education Savings Account for years. Now, their daughter, Julia, is in middle school, and they've decided to homeschool her. Because of Tax Reform 2.0, they'd be able to use those 529 savings to cover the cost of curriculum – penalty free.

Finally, this legislation will promote entrepreneurship by allowing start-up businesses to write off more of their initial start-up costs. I'm hoping this will help more South Dakotans ride the tidal wave of growth we've seen in recent months.

While no tax plan will be perfect in everyone's eyes, I'm optimistic about the impact this package could have on South Dakotans. Our tax code should support people, not punish them. By creating sustainability, incentivizing innovation, and expanding savings opportunities, we can take another step toward forming a growth-oriented tax code for the next generation.

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This Week in State Government

Gov. Dennis Daugaard's Public Commitments; Public Meetings:

Monday, Sept. 17, 10 a.m. MDT, Belle Fourche – Gov. Dennis Daugaard will speak at the dedication of the Belle Fourche School District Career and Technical Education Center in Belle Fourche.

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 4 p.m. CDT, Sioux Falls – Gov. Dennis Daugaard will speak at the ribbon cutting for the completion of the Copper Pass Apartments, located at 3630 S. Sparta Ave.

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 5:30 p.m. CDT, Mitchell – Lt. Governor Matt Michels will give remarks at Mitchell Technical Institute's 50 year celebration on the campus of Mitchell Technical Institute.

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m. MDT, Spearfish – First Lady Daugaard will be speaking at the Black Hills State University Presidential Lecture Series. In addition to meeting with students and faculty members, BHSU will host Mrs. Daugaard for a public presentation Wednesday, Sept. 19. The reception begins at 7 p.m. followed by the presentation at 7:30 p.m. in Meier Recital Hall on the BHSU campus in Spearfish. A limited number of free tickets are available by emailing Tickets@BHSU.edu.

Monday, Sept. 17, 7 a.m. CDT, Pierre - The State Conservation Commission will be holding a meeting at the Ramkota River Centre. A full agenda can be found https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/bcuploads/Conservation%20Commission%20Meeting%20Agenda%20September%2017,%202018.pdf. For more information, please contact the council at 605-773-3623.

Monday, Sept. 17, 9 a.m. CDT, Aberdeen – The South Dakota Board of Education Standards will meet at the Holgate Middle School Theater, located at 2200 N. Dakota St. A proposed agenda that includes a call-in number and access code is posted at http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=32. The meeting will also be livestreamed at http://www.sd.net/remote2/.

Monday, Sept. 17, 9 a.m. MDT, Rapid City – The South Dakota Board of Massage Therapy will be holding a board meeting in the Dakota Lecture Hall at Western Dakota Tech, located at 800 Mickelson Drive. For more information or to view the agenda, visit https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=64.

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 8:30 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The South Dakota Special Education Advisory Panel will meet in Conference Room 5 on second floor of the MacKay Building, located at 800 Governors Drive. An agenda is posted at http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=16.

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30p.m. CDT, Watertown – The Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its quarterly meeting at the Best Western Ramkota Inn in Watertown. For more information, contact Eric Weiss at 605-773-3195.

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 11 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The Railroad Board of the South Dakota Department of Transportation will hold a meeting in the Commission Room of the Becker-Hansen building, located at 700 E. Broadway Ave. The public is invited to attend. To view the meeting agenda, posted 72 hours in advance, visit http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Template.aspx?id=88. For more information, call 605-773-3265.

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. MDT, Spearfish – The Department of Social Services' Board of Social Work Examiners will hold a teleconference board meeting at 625 Main St. and at Family Service Inc., 2210 W. Brown Place in Sioux Falls. For more information and to view the agenda, visit http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=91.

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Wednesday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – The South Dakota Cosmetology Commission will hold meetings at the following locations:

9 a.m. MDT – Visit Black Hills Beauty College, 623 Saint Joseph St. 10:30 a.m. MDT – Visit Headlines Academy, 333 Omaha St., Suites 6 & 7 2 p.m. MDT – Department of Labor & Regulation Office, 2330 N. Maple Ave., Suite 1

Meeting materials can be found at https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=84. For questions, please contact Kate Boyd at 605-773-6193.

Thursday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m. CDT, Pierre – DENR's Board of Minerals and Environment will meet via telephone conference call in the Floyd L. Matthew Environmental Education and Training Center in the Joe Foss Building, located at 523 E. Capitol Ave. Agenda items are available through the Boards & Commission Portal at http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?Boardid=67. For more information, contact Brenda Binegar, DENR, at 605-773-4216.

Thursday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m. CDT – The 9-1-1 Coordination Board will meet via teleconference. A draft agenda is listed at https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/bcuploads/9-20-18%20Board%20Mtg%20 DRAFT%20Agenda.pdf. For more information, contact Shawnie Rechtenbaugh at 605-773-8145.

Thursday, Sept. 20, 3 p.m. CDT – The South Dakota Board of Funeral Service will meet via teleconference. For more information, including public access information, visit https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=43.

Friday, Sept. 21, 9-11 a.m. CDT, Pierre – The Department of Social Services' Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists Board of Examiners will hold a conference call. For call-in information and to view the agenda please visit http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=22.

You Might Also Be Interested To Know:

Monday, Sept. 17, to Thursday, Sept. 20 – Bring Your 'A' Game to Work encompasses seven different skills including Appreciation, Attitude, Attendance, Appearance, Ambition, Accountability and Acceptance. These soft skills and a willingness to take direction are generally more desired by employers than the specific skills a particular job requires. Bring Your 'A' Game is being offered at no cost to businesses and individuals. For more information or to register online, visit http://dlr.sd.gov/workforce_services/individuals/training_opportunities/soft_skills_training.aspx.

The workshop will be offered at the following location(s):

- Monday, Sept. 17, 9 a.m. 2:30 p.m. CDT, Sioux Falls at 811 E. 10th St. Registration required. Any class without four people registered by the previous Friday will be canceled. For more information or to register, call 605-367-5300. You may also register online at the link above.
- Thursday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m. 4 p.m. CDT, Mitchell at Cornerstones Career Learning Center, 1315 N. Main St. Please register in advance for the class. For more information or to register, please call 605-995-8927. You may also register online at the link above.
- Thursday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m. 3 p.m. CDT, Vermillion at the Vermillion Job Service, 904 E. Cherry St. For more information or to register, please call 605-677-6912 or register online at the link above.

Monday, Sept. 17, through Thursday, Sept. 20, 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 3 p.m. CDT, Sioux Falls - Smithfield will conduct walk-in interviews at the Sioux Falls Job Service, 811 E. 10th St. Positions include productions workers. For more information, call 605-367-5300 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

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Tuesday, September 18 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

Canton, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT Kyle, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT Timber Lake, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT Webster, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT Desmet, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT Miller, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT Wagner, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT

Monday, Sept. 17 to Thursday, Sept. 20: The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Field Service Officers will be at the following County and Tribal Veterans Service Offices to assist with veteran related claims, issues, and questions.

Monday, Sept. 17:

- 10 a.m. 3 p.m. CDT, Burke 221 E. 8th St. 605-280-4306
- 12 p.m. 3 p.m. CDT, Faulkton 110 9th Ave. N. 605-280-4308

Tuesday, Sept. 18:

- 10 a.m. 2 p.m. CDT, Kennebec 300 Main St. 605-280-4308
- 11 a.m. 2:30 p.m. CDT, Lake Andes 400 Main St. 605-280-4306
- 3 p.m. 4 p.m. CDT, Yankton Sioux Tribe 20 Main St. SW 605-280-4306

Wednesday, Sept. 19:

- 9 a.m. 10 a.m. CDT, Armour 706 Braddock St. 605-280-4306
- 10:30 2 p.m. CDT, Lake Andes 400 Main St. 605-280-4306
- 10 a.m. 2:30 p.m. CDT, Winner 200 E. Third St. 605-280-4308

Thursday, Sept. 20:

- 10 a.m. 3 p.m. CDT, Chamberlain 300 Courtland St. #102, 605-280-4306
- 10 a.m. 2 p.m. CDT, Mission 315 N. Lincoln St. 605-280-4308

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 10 – 11 a.m. CDT – The South Dakota Retailers Association and the Department of Labor and Regulation are co-sponsoring the "How to Find and Use Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Webinar." A BLS economist will provide insight on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and how the numbers are generated, consumer expenditures, wages by occupation, employment projections, and the Producer Price Index. Register for the webinar at https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3084140401411320578.

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 11 a.m. -1 p.m. CDT, Sioux Falls - Sanford Health will be conducting an employer information session at Sioux Falls Job Service, 811 E. 10th St. Positions are available for environmental service technicians, food service assistants and nursing assistants. For more information, call 605-367-5300 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 3 – 5 p.m. CDT, Yankton – Walmart will hold a Job Fair at 3001 Broadway. Multiple positions available. DLR Yankton Job Service can help you prepare. For more information, call 605-668-2900 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

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Tuesday, Sept. 18, to Thursday, Sept. 20 – The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation will host Job Search Assistance Programs (JSAP). JSAP is a workshop for people recovering from job loss or enhancing their job search skills. Trained instructors speak on modern-day techniques used to successfully find employment. Topics covered include resume and cover letter writing, interviewing etiquette, networking effectively, using social media and much more. JSAP will be offered at the following locations:

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT, Rapid City – at 2330 N. Maple Ave. For more information, call 605-394-2296 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Lake Andes – at 51 S. 3rd Ave. For more information, call 605-487-7607, ext. 207 or 212 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

- Wednesday, Sept. 19, 9:30 a.m. 3 p.m. CDT, Sisseton at 10 E. Hickory St., Suite 3. For more information, call 605-698-3964 or visit www.sdjobs.org.
- Wednesday, Sept. 19, 9 a.m. 3 p.m. MDT, Spearfish at 1300 North Ave. For more information, call 605-642-6900 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Thursday, Sept. 20, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. CDT, Brookings - at 1310 Main Ave. S., Suite 103. To register, call 605-688-4350. For more information, please call or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Thursday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT, Vermillion – 904 E. Cherry St. A presentation on financial health will be offered by the Wells Fargo at Work Program as part of JSAP. To register, please call 605-677-6900. For more information, please call or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Tuesday, Sept. 18, to Thursday, Sept. 20 – The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation will hold itinerant office hours. Both job seekers and employers interested in receiving employment and career services at no cost may visit or call during these office hours. More information on programs and services is available at www.sdjobs.org. Itinerant office hours will be held at the following locations:

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. MDT, Rapid City – at Western Dakota Technical Institute, Lewis & Clark Hall, Room L212. For more information on programs and services, call Kevin Dary, Lynette Engle or Melanie Garstenschlager at 605-718-2956 during these office hours. Additional information available at www.sdjobs.org.

Tuesday, Sept. 18, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. CDT, Wagner – at the Bureau of Indian Affairs, 29775 Main Ave. For more information, call 605-487-7607, ext. 207 or 212, or visit www.sdjobs.org.

- Wednesday, Sept. 19, 12 3 p.m. CDT, Mobridge at the Mobridge Economic Development Office, 205 2nd St. E., Suite 1, or call 605-380-8930 during these hours and 605-626-2340 at any other time. Additional information at www.sdjobs.org.
- Thursday, Sept. 20, 1-4 p.m. MDT, Rapid City at Western Dakota Technical Institute, Lewis & Clark Hall, Room L212. For more information on programs and services, call Kevin Dary, Lynette Engle or Melanie Garstenschlager at 605-718-2956 during these office hours. Additional information available at www.sdjobs.org.

Wednesday, Sept. 19 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

Wanblee, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT Salem, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT Dupree, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MDT

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT, Yankton – General Education Development (GED) testing will take place at Yankton Job Service, 3113 Spruce St., Suite 124. For more information, call 605-668-2900 or visit www.GED.com.

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Wednesday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT, Yankton – General Education Development (GED) testing will take place at Yankton Job Service, 3113 Spruce St., Suite 124. For more information, call 605-668-2900 or visit www.GED.com.

Thursday, Sept. 20 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

Canton, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT Kyle, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT Lemmon, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. MDT Plankinton, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT

Thursday, Sept. 20, 1-5 p.m. CDT, Yankton – South Dakota Human Services Center will hold walk-in interviews at the Yankton Job Service, 3113 Spruce St., Suite 124. Positions available include CNAs, and custodial crew leaders. For more information, call 605-668-2900.

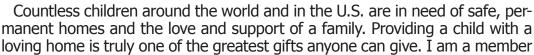
Friday, Sept. 21, 8:30 a.m. MDT, Rapid City –The Board of Technical Professions will hold a regular meeting at the Board office, 2525 W. Main St., Suite 211. Meeting agenda and materials may be viewed at http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=37. If you have questions, contact Kathryn Patterson at 605-394-2510.

Friday, Sept. 21, 10 a.m. MDT, Rapid City —The Board of Technical Professions will hold a public hearing to consider the adoption and amendment of rules at the Board office, 2525 W. Main St., Suite 211. Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained by contacting Kathryn Patterson at 605-394-2510.

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South Dakota Family Honored for Work Assisting Families Interested in Adoption





of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI), which is a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness about the millions of children waiting to be adopted around the world. Each year, CCAI invites Members of Congress to nominate an outstanding family or organization from their state to receive an Angels in Adoption award. This year, I nominated Wes and Kimberly Roth of Summerset, SD.

After getting married in 2009, they felt called to begin their family through adoption. In 2011, they made two trips to Ethiopia to bring home their son Kaleb. According to Kimberly, at that time, Ethiopian adoptions were running quite smoothly and the process was fairly reliable. When they decided to adopt a second child a few years later, the wait time for adoptions in Ethiopia was much longer than they expected. So in 2015, they decided to adopt their daughter Elsie from China, where the need for adoption is great, especially for special-needs children.

Wes has worked in the office of Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.) since 2005 as a constituent services representative, where he has assisted many adoptive families with immigration applications and paperwork. Outside of work, he volunteers his time at adoption events at church and serves on the Board of Directors for Bethany Christian Services Rapid City branch. Kimberly volunteers at adoption events throughout the Black Hills and has helped raise money for families going through the adoption process. Kimberly also runs a Facebook group for adoptive families to give advice and answer questions about the complex process.

We asked the Roth's what advice they would share with other families thinking about adoption. Kimberly said, "You don't have to know it all and have it all in order to be 'ready to adopt'. If you feel that nagging nudge that just won't go away, give the idea an honest discussion. The whole process won't be sunshine and rainbows. There will be worries, exhaustion, fears and uncertainties. But, that is what parenting is about." She also suggests joining a support group, either in person or online, to seek out community so it doesn't feel like you're going through the process alone.

Wes and Kimberly are very deserving of the Angels in Adoption award. I can't thank them enough for the work they do in our state to help couples realize their dreams of starting a family. Their commitment to building strong, healthy families through adoption is an inspiration to us all.

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Today in Weather History

September 17, 1911: Pipestone, Minnesota is hit with baseball-sized hail that smashes numerous windows at the Calumet Hotel and high school. The local observer measured hail three inches deep.

September 17, 1969: In the late afternoon 16 miles east of Pierre in Hughes County, 60 mph wind driven penny size hail damaged crops and buildings in the area. Unofficial amounts of 5 to 6 inches of rain also occurred with the storms.

September 17, 1975: Heavy rain and hail fell in the Pierre area during the night flooding streets and some basements. The high winds downed power lines. The damage estimate was more than 100,000 dollars.

September 17, 1975: Lightning started a grass fire in western Stanley County in the early morning hours of the 17th. With the extremely dry and windy conditions, the fire quickly spread and consumed 25,000 acres of grassland before it was under control. Smoke from the fire was seen from 40 miles away. The fire also destroyed six outbuildings and an old unoccupied farmhouse. Some roads had to be closed due to the fire and smoke. Several electrical poles were also burned. Many residents were notified of possible evacuations. The fire was finally put out in the early morning hours of the 18th.

1829: A typhoon, Japan's most catastrophic storm, inflicts widespread damage over much of the country. On the southern island of Kyushu, the storm surge off the Ariake Sea kills over 10,000. The German physician Philipp Franz von Siebold was present during this storm and succeeded in taking barometric pressure readings around Nagasaki at the risk of drowning.

1923: A devastating fire threatens the University of California at Berkeley on this day. This fire killed two and caused \$10 million in damages. While the exact cause is unknown, the fire began in the dry forest northeast of Berkeley. Strong northeasterly winds blew cinders into the air which lead to the rapid fire growth.

1989: Hurricane Hugo hit the Virgin Islands, producing wind gusts to 97 mph at Saint Croix. Hurricane Hugo passed directly over the island of Saint Croix causing complete devastation and essentially cutting off the island from communications. A storm surge of five to seven feet occurred at Saint Croix. The only rain gauge left operating, at Caneel Bay, indicated 9.40 inches in 24 hours. Hurricane Hugo claimed the lives of three persons at Saint Croix and caused more than 500 million dollars damage.

1932 - Concord NH was drenched with 5.97 inches of rain in 24 hours to establish a record for that location (16th- 17th). (The Weather Channel)

1963 - Nearly two and a half inches of rain fell at Yuma AZ in 24 hours. It was the most intense rain for Yuma during the period between 19509 and 1977. (The Weather Channel)

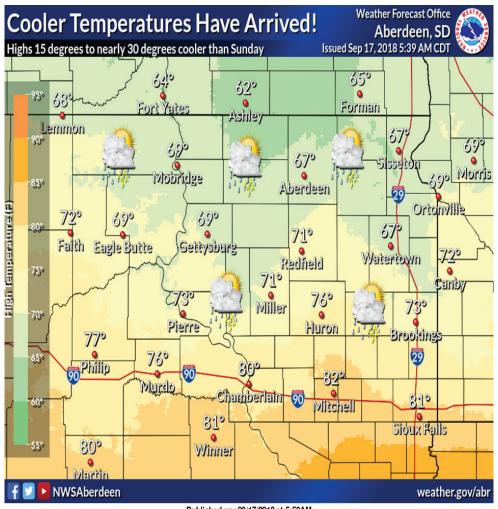
1965 - A storm produced a band of heavy snow across parts of Wyoming. Totals of 23 inches at Rawlins and 20.7 inches at Lander easily surpassed previous snowfall record totals for so early in the season. (15th-17th) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms produced large hail, damaging winds, and heavy rain in the northeastern U.S. Heavy rain in southwestern Pennsylvania forced evacuation of twenty homes along Four Mile Run Creek, near Darlington. Harrisburg PA established a record for the date with 2.11 inches of rain. A cold front in the central U.S. brought freezing temperatures to parts of Montana and Wyoming. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Early in the morning a tornado hit Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX, injuring three persons and causing twenty-eight million dollars damage. A second tornado on the northwest side of San Antonio caused six million dollars damage, and a third tornado in Bexar County killed one person and injured another. Thunderstorms associated with Hurricane Gilbert spawned a total of forty-seven tornadoes in a two day period, with forty of those tornadoes in central and south central Texas. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

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Today Tonight Tuesday Tuesday Wednesday Night 40% 20% 40% 50% Scattered Partly Cloudy Slight Chance Chance Chance T-storms Showers Showers Showers High: 67 °F High: 68 °F Low: 46 °F Low: 53 °F High: 66 °F



Published on: 09/17/2018 at 5:52AM

Much cooler air will be over the region today behind yesterday's departing cold front. Highs will only be in the 60s and 70s with northeast breezes. Also, scattered showers and thunderstorms can be expected across the region today. Some of these storms could produce hail across central South Dakota this morning, then again over east central South Dakota later this afternoon.

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Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 93.0 F at 3:57 PM

Low Outside Temp: 64.3 F at 11:29 PM High Gust: 23.0 Mph at 3:36 PM

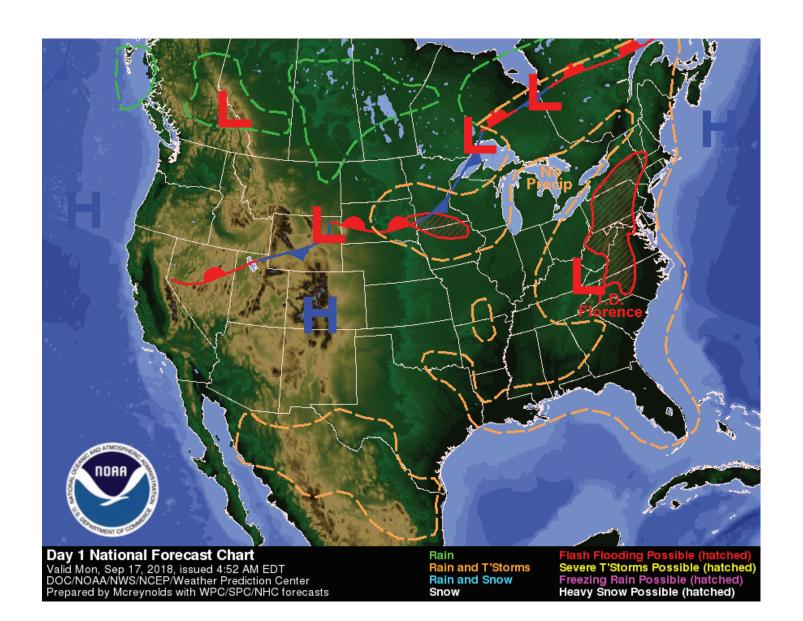
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 97° in 1955, 1920

Record Low: 28° in 1903

Average High: 72°F Average Low: 45°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 1.20 **Precip to date in Sept.:** 0.10 **Average Precip to date:** 17.49 **Precip Year to Date: 11.36 Sunset Tonight:** 7:41 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:16 a.m.



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AN UNUSUAL PRESCRIPTION

There was a physician in Wales who had an unusual remedy for some of his patients. If someone came to him with no specific symptoms other than being unhappy or unsatisfied, discouraged or disgruntled, he would give them his Thank You Cure.

He would write on a prescription pad, For the next six weeks I want you to get up in the morning say, Thank You God for this new day ten times before doing anything else. And then before you get into bed at night, you are to say, Thank You God for being with me today. And in between getting up in the morning and going to bed at night, whenever anyone does something for you, you are to pause and say, Thank you for...

When most of the patients returned after completing the Thank You Cure, they were happier and healthier.

The thank you cure is a great prescription for each of us: not for six weeks or six months, but every day of our lives. Imagine a successful, powerful, wealthy king who said, Every day I will praise You, and extol Your name forever and ever.

Every day? Yes, every day! Days could be filled with glory or gloom, sunshine or shadows, pleasure or pain, happiness or horror - it did not matter. The king would fill each day, every day, all day with words of praise to God for His blessings and goodness.

When we pause and thank someone for an act of kindness or a deed showing us thoughtfulness, we are, in fact, praising God for His blessing us through their deeds.

Prayer: Lord, You have given us far more than we ever deserved. However, we ask for one more thing: a thankful heart! In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 145:2 Every day I will praise You, and extol Your name forever and ever.

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2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- 11/18/2017-3/31/2018 Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meat- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
 - 1/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
 - 4/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
 - 5/4/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/27/2019 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
 - 6/14/2018 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
 - 6/15/2018 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
 - 6/16/2018 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
 - 7/4/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
 - 7/14/2019 Summer Fest
 - 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
 - 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
 - 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
 - 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
 - 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
 - 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party
 - Best Ball Golf Tourney
 - SDSU Golf Tourney
 - Sunflower Golf Tourney
 - Santa Claus Day
 - Fireman's Stag
 - Tour of Homes
 - Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
 - School Events

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News from the App Associated Press

South Dakota man's body found in northeast Nebraska field

WAYNE, Neb. (AP) — Authorities say the body of a South Dakota man was found in a northeast Nebraska cornfield after his vehicle crashed.

The Wayne County Sheriff's Office says a motorist discovered the accident Thursday evening along Nebraska Highway 35, about 3½ miles (6 kilometers) east of Wayne. The sheriff's office says 22-year-old Parker Mitchell apparently was headed west when his vehicle left the roadway, entered a ditch and overturned in the field.

Mitchell was reported missing in North Sioux City, South Dakota. He was last seen Sept. 10.

Cousins' comeback falls short, Vikings and Packers tie By GENARO C. ARMAS, AP Sports Writer

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — A tie felt odd to Kirk Cousins.

On one hand, the Minnesota Vikings quarterback threw three touchdown passes in the fourth quarter to help rally his team from a 20-7 deficit against the Green Bay Packers.

But three missed field goals, including two in overtime, by rookie Daniel Carlson hurt. So did a pass from Cousins that bounced off Laquon Treadwell's hands late in the fourth quarter that was intercepted by Ha Ha Clinton-Dix.

It added up to a 29-29 tie on Sunday.

"I don't know what to feel after a tie. I don't know how to answer that," said Cousins, who finished 35 of 48 for 425 yards. "It's a unique place to be and proud of the way that the whole team ... the way everybody stayed in it and fought."

If only the Vikings could convert one of those field goals into points.

Carlson's 35-yarder as time expired in overtime went right of the uprights, just like his kick from 49 earlier in overtime. Carlson also missed from 48 in the second quarter.

"It's disappointing when you've got an opportunity to win the football game there at the end and you come up with a tie. It's better than a loss," Vikings coach Mike Zimmer said.

The result at Lambeau Field overshadowed memorable performances by both quarterbacks.

Green Bay star Aaron Rodgers played with a brace on his injured left knee and threw for 281 yards and a 9-yard touchdown pass to Davante Adams .

But a mishandled handoff with 5:17 left in overtime cost the Packers a chance at another long field-goal attempt. Rodgers recovered the fumble on second-and-1 at the 37, and he was sacked on third down to push Green Bay back to the 47.

He wasn't happy about the tie either.

"Close to an L. Doesn't feel great," Rodgers said.

Packers kicker Mason Crosby matched a career high with five field goals, but his potential game-winner from 52 went wide left as time expired in regulation.

It was the second straight week with a tie in the NFL after the Steelers and Browns played to a draw in their opener.

"It's gross. I don't like it. Obviously, you hate losing. A tie is just weird," Crosby said.

Some other notes from the game:

RODGERS' KNEE

Rodgers played well given his injury. He was sacked four times, though the protection held up relatively well, especially early in the game. While he didn't have his typical mobility that allows him to buy time for receivers, he was able to move around enough to scramble out of trouble on occasion. Operating out of shotgun or pistol formations also bought Rodgers more time.

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The quarterback isn't sure whether he might follow a similar practice plan ahead of next week's game against the Washington Redskins, though he said he expect to play each week. He's not sure if the injury could linger all season.

JUST FOR KICKERS

Carlson said he thought it might have been the first time he had missed three field goals in a game. The last attempt from 35 was set up with the ball placed between the hash marks, but Carlson still missed. Asked if he had to make a decision on a new kicker, Vikings coach Mike Zimmer said "I don't know. It's too early. (General manager Rick Spielman) and I have barely talked yet."

JUST FOR KICKERS II

Crosby almost had six field goals, but his first, successful attempt from 52 at the end of the regulation was erased because the Vikings called timeout right before the snap.

ROUGHING IT

Everything seemed to go the Vikings' way in the fourth, when they rallied from a 20-7 deficit. Until that point, the Packers had put together the kind of complete performance needed to support Rodgers, who got hurt in Green Bay's opening victory against Chicago. After getting a step on his defender, Adam Thielen hauled in a 22-yard touchdown pass from Cousins with 31 seconds left just before a safety came over to help. A 2-point conversion tied the game at 29.

The drive included a roughing-the-passer penalty on Clay Matthews that negated an interception by Jaire Alexander with 1:45 left that would have allowed the Packers to run out the clock.

"I don't know where to start, to be honest with you. I have so many emotions running through as far as what a terrible call it was," Matthews said. "At the same time, I don't know what else to do."

Referee Tony Corrente said the call was not related to the new helmet-to-helmet rule.

"He picked up the quarterback and drove him into the ground," Corrente told a pool reporter. ALL TIED UP

According to the NFL, this is the first time since 1973 that there were two ties in the first two weeks of the season. The Lions-Packers game, along with the Eagles-Giants game, each ended a tie in the second week that year. It's also the first time in league history that a game ended in a 29-29 tie.

More AP NFL: https://apnews.com/tag/NFL and https://twitter.com/AP_NFL

South Dakota fish hatchery's new app encourages learning By KAIJA SWISHER, Black Hills Pioneer

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — Visitors to the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives in Spearfish can now become "agents of discovery."

"We're really excited about that," said Archivist April Gregory, who assisted in creating the hatchery's version of the Agents of Discovery, an interactive, educational technology platform.

The free app is up and running and can be downloaded onto a smartphone or tablet. Users assume the roles of secret "agents" on a "mission" as they complete challenges specific to the location. For example, at the Spearfish hatchery, users are challenged to correctly identify various kinds of trout; "throw" honeycomb to catch a pollinator; answer questions about the history of the hatchery, natural and cultural history of the area, fish culture, and specific displays and building at the hatchery, such as the Booth House, rail car or museum.

The app uses geolocation, so as people walk the grounds, the app scans their location and brings ups nearby "challenges" to complete, which appear as icons to click on. Directions are provided at each step, and Gregory told the Black Hills Pioneer that the app is currently designed for young people, elementary-aged and older. However, everyone can use the app and will likely learn something as they complete challenges.

Gregory said the hatchery has long desired such an interactive tool, especially during the months when the buildings on the hatchery grounds are not open, as the interactive technology provides an additional venue for people to learn about the hatchery beyond the interpretive signs posted outside. It also aids in

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getting people to explore the entire grounds beyond the fishponds to see all of the hatchery's offerings.

Carlos Martinez, hatchery director, said staff continue to see many people geocache and play Pokemon Go, an augmented reality mobile game that allows users to explore real locations in their search for Pokemon, on the hatchery grounds. The Agents of Discovery website said ?research? into the trend of Pokemon Go shows a strong capacity of game-based learning, so the platform leverages similar technological concepts to help young people engage with the natural world.

"Further research at Cornell University has ?found? that children exposed to nature before the age of 11 are more likely to care about the environment as adults," it describes.

"It's a privilege to empower kids to learn about the world around them," said Mary Clark, CEO of Discovery Agents, in a prepared statement. "Getting young people excited about our environment is the best part of my job."

Martinez said the app "meshes" the interactive online experience with getting people outside, and the hatchery staff hopes people will take the opportunity to check out the app while visiting the hatchery. Completing missions can earn participants a free bag of fish food at the Pond Shop during open hours, as well.

Gregory added that once people download the free app, they can use it anytime they are visiting public lands, national parks or museums that have a presence on Agents of Discovery. D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives is the first Fish and Wildlife Service facility to get on the platform, joining various Forest Service and National Park Service sites and more.

Martinez explained that funding to implement the program came from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Division of Visitor Services and Communications.

"D.C. Booth does not have to provide matching funds or additional funding, just a three-year commitment to providing Agents of Discovery to the public and a willingness to involve community partners — something we are good at doing already," he said.

Gregory added that while people do not have to log in to use the app, it does allow the facility to have a better idea of the demographics of people using it so they can better customize it.

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

L.A. native starts taco restaurant in South Dakota By SAM FOSNESS, The Daily Republic

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — It hasn't been a full year since Gilbert Luis moved from his Los Angeles home to be with his girlfriend in Mitchell, but his West Coast style tacos have already made their presence known. Just within a few weekends of being open, Luis' window restaurant known as West Coast Tacos sold out with an hour left before closing time at 3 a.m.

"I wanted to open on Friday and Saturday nights to feel out what the people of Mitchell thought of my tacos," Luis told The Daily Republic . "I think it's safe to say people are enjoying them."

Having no prior restaurant experience and no intention to open a restaurant when he arrived in Mitchell 10 months ago, Luis wanted to test the waters, which gave him the idea of opening on weekend nights only from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m.

"I also chose to open at night because there isn't much food options for people to choose from at nights here in Mitchell," he said.

In his first time cooking for a backyard barbecue since transplanting from Los Angeles a few months ago, Luis' newly made friends marveled at the taste of his California-rooted cuisine, especially his tacos. A week later, West Coast Tacos was born after his friends pleaded for him to share the unique taste with the city of Mitchell. Luis officially opened for business on July 13.

"My friend told me about a nice location next to Dr. Lucky's Bar, and I really liked the idea of being next to a nice bar that attracts a lot of people, which has helped me grow my clientele," he added.

Luis said the secret to his West Coast style tacos is in the beef: carne asada.

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"Nobody is really that familiar with carne asada here, but it's the meat that comes from the best part of the cow," Gilbert emphatically said.

While carne asada is the staple choice of beef tacos in California, Luis said it's not easy to find in South Dakota.

"I went to some local meat lockers looking for carne asada when I decided to open the restaurant, and they looked at me like I was from another planet," Gilbert said with a chuckle.

Carne asada is unique compared to ground beef because it has to be carefully cut, along with trimming the fat. Carne asada is essentially skirt steak located on the diaphragm of the cow.

With his California roots, Luis is no stranger to the art of cutting carne asada.

"Being raised in Los Angeles, I learned how to cook the West Coast style tacos, which required me to learn how to cut carne asada," said Luis, who owns a slicer he uses to cut the meat.

Based on the popularity of the tacos alone, Luis carefully calculated plans to unveil new food items on the menu. One of those items is a version of corn on the cob: elotes.

An elote is corn on the cob smothered in a mayonnaise-parmesan mixed sauce with his secret seasoning sprinkled across the corn cob and wrapped in tin foil.

Luis is taking advantage of the Corn Palace being located four blocks north of his restaurant with the addition of his elote recipe.

Luis prides himself on the fresh ingredients he prepares on Thursday before opening the restaurant on Friday.

"Everything is made fresh on Thursday, even the guacamole," said Luis, as he opens a container to offer a smell of his homemade guacamole.

Given the early success of Luis and his girlfriend Jannice Ray's restaurant, the two are exploring plans to transition into opening five days out of the week.

"It's just me and my girlfriend running the show right now, but we are looking for help since we have been so busy," Luis added.

The small window tucked next to Dr. Lucky's Bar and Grill on Main Street offers more than a taste of West Coast style cuisine; it offers a taste of California culture with its brightly colored signage lit up with classic Mexican style fiesta lights.

"Business aside, I'm just proud to bring more life to downtown Mitchell," Luis said. "We hope to continue sharing our West Coast style tacos with the community of Mitchell."

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

Fire forces Minnehaha County Correction Center evacuation

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A fire has forced inmates and staff to evacuate the Minnehaha County Correction Center in Sioux Falls.

The fire broke out Sunday afternoon at the work release center. The Argus Leader reports witnesses said large flames could be seen coming from the side of the building.

The center houses 80 inmates. Inmates are being moved to the jail in downtown Sioux Falls.

All inmates and staff are accounted for, and no one was hurt.

Sioux Falls emergency manager Regan Smith says authorities don't know the cause of the fire.

South Dakota city updating sign regulations

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota city could soon see new regulations for its signs.

Mitchell city leaders are drafting updates to the city's signage policies, The Daily Republic reported .

The regulations need to be upgraded because of new technology and a series of legal rulings, including a 2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision that limited governmental abilities to regulate the content of signs, said City Planner Neil Putnam.

Government entities can regulate the timing, place or location of signs, and also prohibit obscene material.

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"The bottom line is that you have to have compelling governmental interest," Putnam said.

The goal of the changes is to make the code more understandable and consistent with the South Dakota Department of Transportation's guidelines, he said.

The proposed changes would create two signage categories.

Permit signs would require city approval and would cover monument signs, freestanding signs, projection signs, off-premise billboards, electronic message centers and historic district signage.

Exempt signs wouldn't be regulated by city code. Exempt signs include small business direction signs, drive-thru menu boards and temporary signs.

The new regulations will also seek to address abandoned and nuisance sign, though such signs may also be regulated on a case-by-case basis, Putnam said.

The City Planning Commission will likely discuss the matter at future meetings. Putnam said he also plans to take comments from residents, businesses and sign companies.

Changes to the regulations would then need to be approved by the City Council.

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

Yankton company building \$3.5M oats processing facility

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — A Yankton company is building a \$3.5 million oats processing facility on the city's north side.

Yaggies Grain and Feed's current facilities are running out of space. Transportation and utility considerations also led to the decision to seek a new site, the Yankton Daily Press and Dakotan reported .

"We're landlocked where our current locations are," Manager Dan Delforge said. "The growth we've seen and are trying to achieve wasn't real feasible to develop our current sites anymore."

The facility will process oats for animal feed and also will have rail access. It won't necessarily bring new jobs to the area but will allow the company to keep the ones it already has, Delforge said.

"We've seen the business grow the last 3-4 years. All of that growth has happened under one roof, and we're tripping over each other," he said. "The next phase needed to happen. Equipment needed to get updated and we needed more room . the jobs are here; now it's just about giving the equipment and space to work efficiently."

Construction began last spring. Plans are to take the first grain shipment around Thanksgiving, with equipment running by the end of the year.

"It's been a pretty tremendous transformation going from corn stubble to where we are today," Delforge said.

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

Swollen rivers near record levels as Florence looms By CHUCK BURTON, Associated Press

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP) — With Wilmington cut off from the rest of North Carolina by still-rising floodwaters from Florence, officials plan to airlift food and water to the city of nearly 120,000 people as rescuers elsewhere pull inland residents from homes threatened by swollen rivers.

The spreading disaster claimed additional lives Sunday, with at least 17 people confirmed dead, and the nation's top emergency official said other states were in the path this week.

"Not only are you going to see more impact across North Carolina ... but we're also anticipating you are about to see a lot of damage going through West Virginia, all the way up to Ohio as the system exits out," Brock Long of the Federal Emergency Management Agency said Sunday on Fox News.

In Wilmington, the state's eighth-largest city, residents waited for hours outside stores and restaurants for basic necessities like water. Police guarded the door of one store, and only 10 people were allowed

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inside at a time.

County commission chairman Woody White said officials were planning for food and water to be flown into the coastal city.

"Our roads are flooded," he said. "There is no access to Wilmington."

About 70 miles (115 kilometers) away from the coast, residents near the Lumber River stepped from their homes directly into boats floating in their front yards; river forecasts showed the scene could be repeated in towns as far as 250 miles inland as waters rise for days.

In Anson County, east of Charlotte, a train derailed on Sunday evening, but it wasn't clear whether it was storm-related or if anyone was injured. Several cars of a CSX train derailed in Anson County, east of the state's largest city of Charlotte, WBTV reported.

The derailment led to at least one road closure. Officials have reported flooding caused by Tropical Storm Florence in Union County, located between Charlotte and Anson County.

Florence was still massive, despite being downgraded to a tropical depression. Radar showed parts of the sprawling storm over six states, with North and South Carolina in the bull's-eye.

Meanwhile, halfway around the world, Typhoon Mangkhut barreled into southern China on Sunday after lashing the Philippines with strong winds and heavy rain that left dozens dead. More than 2.4 million people were evacuated from China's southern Guangdong province ahead of the massive typhoon, the strongest to hit the region in nearly two decades.

In North Carolina, fears of what could be the worst flooding in the state's history led officials to order tens of thousands to evacuate, though it wasn't clear how many had fled or even could.

President Donald Trump said federal emergency workers, first responders and law enforcement officials were "working really hard." As the storm "begins to finally recede, they will kick into an even higher gear." "Very Professional!" he declared in a tweet.

The storm's death toll climbed to 17 as authorities said a 3-month-old child was killed when a tree fell on a mobile home in North Carolina. Three people died in weather-related traffic accidents, officials said.

Victor Merlos was overjoyed to find a store open for business in Wilmington since he had about 20 relatives staying at his apartment, which still had power. He spent more than \$500 on cereal, eggs, soft drinks and other necessities, plus beer.

"I have everything I need for my whole family," said Merlos. Nearby, a Waffle House restaurant limited breakfast customers to one biscuit and one drink, all take-out, with the price of \$2 per item.

Kenneth Campbell had donned waterproof waders intending to check out his home in Lumberton , but he didn't bother when he saw the Coast Guard and murky waters in his neighborhood.

"I'm not going to waste my time. I already know," he said.

As rivers swelled, state regulators and environmental groups were monitoring the threat from gigantic hog and poultry farms located in low-lying, flood-prone areas.

The industrial-scale farms contain vast pits of animal feces and urine that can pose a significant pollution threat if they are breached or inundated by floodwaters. In past hurricanes, flooding at dozens of farms also left hundreds of thousands of dead hogs, chickens and other decomposing livestock bobbing in floodwaters.

Some stream gauges used to monitor river levels failed when they became submerged, but others showed water levels rising steadily, with forecasts calling for rivers to at or near record levels. The Defense Department said about 13,500 military personnel were assigned to help relief efforts.

Authorities ordered the immediate evacuation of up to 7,500 people living within a mile (1.6 kilometers) of a stretch of the Cape Fear River and the Little River, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) from the North Carolina coast. The evacuation zone included part of the city of Fayetteville, population 200,000.

Near the flooded-out town of New Bern , where about 455 people had to be rescued from the swirling flood waters, water completely surrounded churches, businesses and homes. In the neighboring town of Trenton, downtown streets were turned to creeks full of brown water.

The rain was unrelenting in Cheraw, a town of about 6,000 people in northeastern South Carolina. Streets were flooded and Police Chief Keith Thomas warned people not to drive, but the local food and gas store

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had customers.

"As you can tell, they're not listening to me," he said.

Associated Press writers Alex Derosier in Fayetteville, North Carolina; Jonathan Drew in Wilmington, North Carolina; Allen G. Breed and Emery P. Dalesio in New Bern, North Carolina; Denise Lavoie and Sarah Rankin in Richmond, Virginia; Gary Robertson and Martha Waggoner in Raleigh, North Carolina; Meg Kinnard and Jeffrey Collins in Columbia, South Carolina; Russ Bynum in Cheraw, South Carolina; Seth Borenstein and Michael Biesecker in Washington; Lolita C. Baldor at the Pentagon; Jennifer Kay in Miami; and Jay Reeves in Atlanta contributed to this report.

For the latest on Hurricane Florence, visit https://www.apnews.com/tag/Hurricanes

Accuser's story of attack roils plan for Kavanaugh vote By DARLENE SUPERVILLE and LISA MASCARO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Judge Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation for the Supreme Court is taking an uncertain turn as Republican senators express concern over a woman's private-turned-public allegation that a drunken Kavanaugh groped her and tried to take off her clothes at a party when they were teenagers.

The White House and other Kavanaugh supporters had dismissed the allegation of sexual misconduct when it was initially conveyed in a private letter. With a name and disturbing details, the accusation raised the prospect of congressional Republicans defending President Donald Trump's nominee ahead of midterm elections featuring an unprecedented number of female candidates and informed in part by the #MeToo movement.

The GOP-controlled Senate Judiciary Committee appeared nonetheless committed to a vote later this week despite Christine Blasey Ford's account in The Washington Post. Kavanaugh, she said, pinned her to a bed at a Maryland party in the early 1980s, clumsily tried to remove her clothing and put his hand over her mouth when she tried to scream. Kavanaugh repeated his previous denial that such an incident ever took place.

A split seemed to be emerging among the GOP.

As Democrats, led by Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York, called for a delay in the vote, two committee Republicans — all 11 on the GOP side are men — Sens. Jeff Flake of Arizona and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, said they wanted to hear more from Ford. Flake went as far as to say he was "not comfortable" voting for Kavanaugh for the time being. A potential "no" vote from Flake would complicate the judge's prospects. A Republican not on the committee, Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee, said the vote should be postponed until the committee heard from Ford. Contacted Sunday by CNN, Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, wouldn't say if the vote should be postponed.

Some Senate Republicans, along with the White House, see no need to postpone voting over what they consider uncorroborated and unverifiable accusations, according to a person familiar with the situation but not authorized to speak publicly.

A committee spokesman said late Sunday that its chairman, Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa, was trying to arrange separate, follow-up calls with Kavanaugh and Ford, but just for aides to Grassley and Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., before Thursday's scheduled vote. Critics have already accused the GOP of fast-tracking the process to get Kavanaugh on the court by Oct. 1, the first day of the fall term.

The allegation against Kavanaugh first came to light late last week in the form of a letter that had been for some time in the possession of Feinstein, the top Democrat on the Judiciary Committee and one of its four female members. On Sunday, The Washington Post published an interview with Ford, who after months of soul-searching decided to go public.

"I thought he might inadvertently kill me," said Ford, 51, a clinical psychology professor at Palo Alto University in California. "He was trying to attack me and remove my clothing." She told the Post that she was able to escape after a friend of Kavanaugh's who was in the room jumped on top of them and

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everyone tumbled.

Through the White House, Kavanaugh, 53, a federal appeals judge in Washington, said Sunday: "I categorically and unequivocally deny this allegation. I did not do this back in high school or at any time."

Senate Republicans, along with the White House, see no need to postpone voting over what they consider uncorroborated and unverifiable accusations, according to a person familiar with the situation but not authorized to speak publicly.

In considering their options Sunday, Republicans largely settled on the view that Ford's story alone was not enough to delay Kavanaugh's confirmation.

Grassley could invite Ford to testify, likely in closed session before Thursday. Kavanaugh would also probably be asked to appear before senators. The panel would also likely seek testimony from Mark Judge, Kavanaugh's friend and classmate who Ford says jumped on top of her and Kavanaugh. Judge has denied that the incident happened.

Republicans have not settled on the strategy, the person familiar with the situation said, but were weighing options, including doing nothing.

Republicans say the allegations have already cast a shadow over Kavanaugh but that it does not appear to be enough to change the votes in the narrowly divided 51-49 Senate. Key will be the views of Collins and Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska.

The White House has accused Feinstein of mounting an "11th hour attempt to delay his confirmation." The White House has also sought to cast doubt about Ford's allegation by noting that the FBI has repeatedly investigated Kavanaugh since the 1990s for highly sensitive positions he has held, including in the office of independent counsel Ken Starr, at the White House and his current post on the federal appeals court in Washington.

Kavanaugh's nomination had already sharply divided the Senate along party lines. But the allegations of sexual misconduct, particularly coming amid the #MeToo movement against sexual harassment, coupled with Ford's emergence could complicate matters, especially as key Republican senators, including Collins and Murkowski, are under enormous pressure from outside groups who want them to oppose Kavanaugh on grounds that as a justice he could vote to undercut the Roe v. Wade ruling legalizing abortion in the U.S.

Ford told the Post that Kavanaugh and a friend — both "stumbling drunk," she says — corralled her in a bedroom when she was around 15 and Kavanaugh was around 17. She says Kavanaugh groped her over her clothes, grinded his body against hers and tried to take off her one-piece swimsuit and the outfit she wore over it. Kavanaugh covered her mouth with his hand when she tried to scream, she says, and escaped when Judge jumped on them.

Kavanaugh attended a private school for boys in Maryland while Ford attended a nearby school.

In the interview, Ford says she never revealed what had happened to her until 2012, when she and her husband sought couples therapy. Ford's husband, Russell Ford, said he recalled his wife using Kavanaugh's last name and expressing concern that Kavanaugh — then a federal judge — might someday be nominated to the Supreme Court.

Sixty-five women who knew Kavanagh in high school defended him in a separate letter, circulated by Senate Judiciary Committee Republicans, as someone who "always treated women with decency and respect."

Associated Press writer Zeke Miller contributed to this report.

Follow Darlene Superville and Lisa Mascaro on Twitter: http://www.twitter.com/dsupervilleap and http://www.twitter.com/LisaMascaro

This story has been corrected to show the name is Dianne, not Diane.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING: Rain, floods still in Florence's forecast By JENNIFER KAY, Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — The forecast for Florence has not changed, unfortunately: It's still raining, and rivers are still rising. All roads in and out of a North Carolina city of 120,000 people are underwater. Residents of inland communities who thought they were safe from the storm have to find high ground because of expected flooding. When the sun finally comes out later this week, it's going to take all the damage a long time to dry out.

BY THE NUMBERS

- —Storm deaths: Florence is being blamed for at least 17 deaths in the Carolinas, while Typhoon Mang-khut has killed at least 64 people in the Philippines and China.
- —Heavy rains: Nearly 34 inches (86 centimeters) of rain fell from Thursday through Sunday in Swansboro, on the North Carolina coast, according to the National Weather Service
 - —In the dark: About 575,000 outages, mostly in North Carolina
 - -Protected: About 15,000 people in shelters in North Carolina
 - —Grounded: More than 2,400 flights canceled
- —Storm losses: Mayor of New Bern, North Carolina, says his city has 30 roads still unpassable, 4,200 homes and more than 300 commercial buildings damaged, 6,000 customers without power and 1,200 residents in shelters
- —Evacuations: Tens of thousands ordered out of communities along North Carolina's steadily rising rivers, while over 2.4 million people in southern China's Guangdong province were warned to escape Mangkhut
- —To the rescue: Over 1,000 search-and-rescue personnel with 36 helicopters and over 200 boats were working in North Carolina
- —Washed out: 2 U.S. government river monitoring gauges stopped transmitting after waters reached 21.5 feet (6.5 meters) and 24.2 feet (7 meters), and more gauges were expected to fail as rivers continued rising IMAGES FROM THE GROUND

Images captured by Associated Press journalists show flooding caused by Florence in the Carolinas and Typhoon Mangkhut in the Philippines .

TOXIC SITES

The Carolinas' swollen rivers were beginning to swamp coal ash dumps and low-lying hog farms, raising concerns about water pollution. Two power plants in North Carolina reported problems with coal ash dumps, but state environmental regulators said Sunday they had not yet heard about any potential contamination streaming from flooded hog farms.

STORM STORIES

Among the survivors encountered by Associated Press journalists this weekend was Lionel Atkinson, who drove to check on his mother in Goldsboro, North Carolina, and ended up stranded at her house because nearby roadways flooded and made it too risky for him to try and get home. Atkinson's mother watched water rising in her street and declared, "Me personally, I don't have any fear."

STILL TALKING ABOUT MARIA

While dealing with Florence in the Carolinas, the Trump administration's disaster relief chief found himself talking on Sunday news shows about the death toll in Puerto Rico from last year's Hurricane Maria, which President Donald Trump loudly disputed on Twitter. Brock Long of the Federal Emergency Management Agency said "the numbers are all over the place" and "there's just too much blame going around."

DEATH TOLL DEBATES

It could be months before the number of fatalities caused by Florence and Typhoon Mangkhut to be fully known, and it's common for these kinds of tallies to sharply escalate as officials take account of the deaths indirectly caused by a storm. Disaster experts say it's often difficult to quickly confirm hurricane-related fatalities because of the vast regions storms can affect.

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Barack Obama's return: good or bad for Democrats? By JUANA SUMMERS and MARC LEVY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly two years out of the White House, former President Barack Obama is facing another political test.

To the delight of many Democrats, he's stepped back into the fray that former presidents often try to avoid, campaigning for Democratic candidates ahead of the midterms and blasting the political culture of the Trump era. He attracted a large, adoring crowd this past week in Ohio and will be in Pennsylvania on Friday campaigning for Democratic Sen. Bob Casey.

But Obama's return poses challenges for both the former president and his party. For one, Obama has struggled to turn admiration for him into votes when he's not on the ballot. Democrats lost significant ground in the 2010 and 2014 midterms and his enthusiastic campaigning for Hillary Clinton didn't carry her across the finish line in 2016. Perhaps more importantly, Obama's public re-entry into politics could serve as a motivating factor for Republicans, potentially handing the GOP a gift at a time when they face an uphill battle to maintain their grip on Congress.

"This is perfect for us," said Rep. Lou Barletta, the Republican challenging Casey for the Senate seat. "It will energize Republicans as a reminder."

The former president will also "energize those blue-collar Democrats who worried about their jobs under Obama and went out to vote for Donald Trump," Barletta added.

For their part, Democrats say an Obama visit is a huge boon. Massive crowds give candidates and the party a chance to organize, update contact lists, motivate new donors and boost volunteerism.

Michael Halle, the campaign manager for Richard Cordray, the Democratic candidate for governor in Ohio, said Obama's visit sent a message about the stakes of the race, which could have implications for redistricting and voting rights in the future.

"First and foremost, it's important for the people who live in Ohio," he said. "But secondly, there are also significant national implications, and I think the (former) president weighed those in making the decision."

An aide to the former president said Obama is aware that he does not have a strong record of aiding Democrats in midterm elections and that his presence can have the effect of galvanizing Republican voters. The aide said Obama would take a strategic approach to the midterm races and pointed to the light footprint that the former president kept earlier in his post-presidency. That's when he recorded a get-out-the-vote robocall for Democrat Doug Jones, rather than travel to Alabama to appear with Jones ahead of his upset Senate victory. The aide cast the decision as an example of how Obama could still lend his voice in a part of the country where he is less popular.

The aide lacked authorization to discuss publicly Obama's thinking and spoke on condition of anonymity. Scott Mulhauser, who served as Vice President Joe Biden's deputy chief of staff during the 2012 election, said Obama left office as the "most admired man in the country, and his popularity has only increased since."

"Part of his success is being strategic in his approach to campaigning — coordinating with campaigns to maximize his impact and minimize any blowback, stumping where it makes sense and avoiding where it doesn't," Mulhauser said, noting Obama's role in the Jones campaign. "He's rightfully out on the trail for certain campaigns, taking a pass on others and recording calls and sending emails on behalf of those that want to use him and his popularity in a targeted manner."

In Pennsylvania, Obama returns to a state he carried twice but that swung to Trump in 2016. The state features critical contests for Congress and governor. Rep. Dwight Evans of Philadelphia, where Obama will campaign, said that the former president's presence will be important for his ability to motivate African-American voters, college-aged voters and the poor.

"I think that he can help Democrats, and I think it needs to be really targeted," Evans said.

Both African-Americans and college-age voters were crucial to Obama's victories in 2008 and 2012, and because Obama was the first black president, Evans said, "he can say some things to the African-American community that cannot be said by anybody else."

While in Philadelphia, Obama will fundraise for Senate Democrats in general and in particular, Casey, who was among Obama's earliest Senate backers when he sought the Democratic presidential nomina-

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tion in 2008.

While Obama's full schedule is taking shape, aides say he is weighing how to best engage on behalf of Democratic candidates across the nation. Earlier this year, he endorsed more than 80 Democrats across more than a dozen states, and aides say a second wave of endorsements is expected this fall.

Brenda Boots, 42, who attended the Ohio rally, said Obama is a welcome presence and hoped he would inject the governor's race with new life.

"How could he hurt?" she asked. "I don't think he could hurt."

Levy reported from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Associated Press writer Julie Carr Smyth in Cleveland contributed to this report.

Hope fades in Philippines for dozens trapped in landslides By JOEAL CALUPITAN and AARON FAVILA, Associated Press

ITOGON, Philippines (AP) — A Philippine mayor said Monday that it's unlikely any of the dozens of people thought buried in a huge landslide set off by Typhoon Mangkhut will be found alive, though rescuers were still digging through the massive mound of mud and debris covering a chapel where they had sheltered.

Mayor Victorio Palangdan of Itogon town in Benguet province, among the worst-hit by the typhoon that struck Saturday, said at a news conference that of the 40 to 50 people thought buried, there's a "99 percent (chance) that they really are all dead."

Mangkhut has killed 65 people since it tore through the Philippines. The storm killed another four people in China, where Mangkhut weakened to a tropical storm as it churned inland Monday.

Palangdan said rescuers have dug out 11 bodies from a the slide, which is covering a former miners' bunkhouse that had been turned into a chapel. Dozens of residents sought shelter there during the storm despite warnings it was dangerous.

"They laughed at our policemen. They insisted," he said. "They were resisting when our police tried to pull them away. What can we do?"

Hundreds of rescuers, including police and soldiers, scrambled to search for the missing as grief-stricken relatives waited nearby, many of them quietly praying.

"We will not stop until we recover all the bodies," Palangdan said.

Most of those buried in the slide are thought to be poor miners and their families. In order to prevent such tragedies going forward, Environmental Secretary Roy Cimatu said the government would deploy soldiers and police to stop illegal mining in six mountainous northern provinces, including Benguet.

Philippine officials have said in the past that gold mines tunneled by big mining companies legally or by unauthorized individuals and small outfits have made the hillsides unstable and more prone to landslides. Tens of thousands of small-time miners in recent years have come to the mountain provinces from the lowlands and established communities in high-risk areas like the mountain foothills of Itogon.

Mangkhut on Monday was still affecting southern China's coast and the provinces of Guangdong, Guangxi and Hainan and rain and strong winds were expected to continue through Tuesday.

On Monday afternoon, Mangkhut was about 200 kilometers (124 miles) west of the city of Nanning in Guangxi region, traveling in a northwesterly direction and weakening as it progressed. There were no additional reports of deaths or damage.

Life was gradually returning to normal along the hard-hit southern China coast, where high-rises swayed, coastal hotels flooded and windows were blown out. Rail, airline and ferry services had been restored and casinos in the gambling enclave of Macau had reopened for business.

In Hong Kong, crews were clearing fallen trees and other wreckage left when the financial hub felt the full brunt of the storm on Sunday.

"This typhoon really was super strong ... but overall, I feel we can say we got through it safely," Carrie Lam, the territory's chief executive, told reporters.

The Hong Kong Observatory said Mangkhut was the most powerful cyclone to hit the city since 1979,

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packing winds of 195 kilometers per hour (121 mph).

The typhoon struck Asian population centers as tropical weather also was devastating the southern U.S. Florence has dumped historical levels of rain on North Carolina.

Associated Press journalists Jim Gomez and Cecilia Forbes in Manila contributed to this report.

The Emmy winner is ... maybe viewers, diversity, 'SNL' brand By LYNN ELBER, AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — As Emmy Award nominees nervously wait to hear their name called, or not, there's more on the line at Monday night's ceremony than personal glory.

"Saturday Night Live" creator Lorne Michaels, producing his second Emmy telecast in 30 years, is tasked with turning viewership around after the 2017 show's audience of 11.4 million narrowly avoided the embarrassment of setting a new low.

The 8 p.m. EDT ceremony on NBC clearly bears his stamp, with "SNL" faux news anchors Michael Che and Colin Jost as hosts and familiar "SNL" faces, including Kate McKinnon and Alec Baldwin, as presenters and nominees. The long-running NBC sketch show, already the top Emmy winner ever with 71, could snare up to three more.

The pressure's on Michaels because NBC and other broadcasters are increasingly reliant on awards and other live events to draw viewers distracted by streaming and more 21st- century options. The networks, which air the Emmy telecast on a rotating basis, are so eager for the ad dollars it generates and its promotional value for fall shows that they endure online competitors sharing the stage.

It's Hulu's "The Handmaid's Tale" that's the defending best drama series champ, with HBO's two-time previous winner "Game of Thrones" the top rival. NBC's "This Is Us" is the only network nominee in the category. On the comedy side, the front-runners are FX's "Atlanta" and Amazon Prime Video's "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," with ABC's "black-ish" the only network show in contention.

The telecast could see a number of record nominations for people of color converted into awards, some historic.

Sandra Oh has the chance to become the first performer of Asian descent to win a lead drama actress trophy for the BBC America's spy thriller "Killing Eve." Oh, who's Korean-Canadian, previously received five supporting actress nods for "Grey's Anatomy."

Issa Rae of HBO's "Insecure" or ABC's "black-ish" star Tracee Ellis Ross could become the second African-American to win as best comedy actress, following Isabel Sanford (1981, "The Jeffersons") by 37 years. The field, including Rachel Brosnahan of "Mrs. Maisel," is wide open, with six-time Julia Louis-Dreyfus and her HBO series, "Veep," sitting these Emmys out for scheduling reasons.

If the show hits a lull there's a good chance politics will shake it up. "Weekend Update" anchors Che and Jost regularly traffic in political satire on "SNL," and awards ceremonies have become a routine forum for celebrities to share their views on current events. It's a trend embraced by Hollywood, at least publicly.

"I think if you're given a forum and people are listening and you got something to say, particularly this day and age, say it," said Ed Harris, up for best drama actor for the sci-fi drama "Westworld."

Yeardley Smith, an Emmy winner for voicing Lisa on "The Simpsons," said she doesn't object when winners use the spotlight to say more than "thank you."

"I don't think it's inappropriate," Smith said. "I think that you do need to strike a balance. I think if you're truly passionate about something, anything, that if you have a platform, you almost have a moral obligation to speak up."

AP Entertainment Writer Mike Cidoni Lennox contributed to this report.

Online: http://emmys.com

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____ Lynn Elber can be reached at lelber@ap.org and on Twitter at http://twitter.com/lynnelber .

Death tolls often rise weeks after storm hits By JULIE WATSON, Associated Press

More than six months after Hurricane Irma's catastrophic rampage across the Caribbean and the southeastern United States, the number of deaths attributed to the storm increased to 129 — more than twice the amount reported at the end of the storm.

It took years for Hurricane Katrina's death toll to become fully known. That number is still debated today with figures used by disaster agencies varying by as much as 600 deaths.

And while the change in the number of dead from Hurricane Maria is perhaps the most dramatic — rising from 64 to a 2,975 after the Puerto Rican governor commissioned university researchers to review the count — it's common for death tolls in natural disasters to escalate weeks and months later because of deaths indirectly caused by a storm.

Those can include things like infections from contaminated water, electrocutions from downed power lines and failure to receive dialysis because of power outages. Deaths directly linked to a disaster include drownings from a storm surge or being crushed in a wind-toppled building.

"Sometimes we may never know how many deaths really occurred," said Susan L. Cutter, director of Hazards & Vulnerability Research Institute at University of South Carolina.

On Friday, President Donald Trump falsely accused Democrats of inflating the death toll from Hurricane Maria to make him "look as bad as possible." He said 18 people had been reported dead when he visited the island on Oct. 3, two weeks after the storm hit, though the U.S. territory's official death toll was raised to 34 later that day. After that, it climbed to 64.

"FIFTY TIMES LAST ORIGINAL NUMBER - NO WAY!" he tweeted late Friday.

Unlike tornados that destroy a relatively small area, hurricanes pose challenges in getting a count quickly because of the vast regions that the storms affect, according to disaster experts.

Flooding can mean places are under water for weeks, hiding the dead. Some people may be swept miles away from their homes. People may not be reported missing because friends and neighbors believe they evacuated and decided not to return.

The poor, disabled and elderly are at most risk after a storm hits because they often don't have the means to get out and are unable to get to food, water and medicines. Those are the deaths that commonly are added later.

The poorer the community, the tougher it is to get an accurate account because people are overwhelmed with dealing with the immediate crisis and don't have the resources to document the dead. Death tolls in some developing countries vary by the tens of thousands because typically it's not known how many people were actually ever living in affected areas.

Trump suggested that in Puerto Rico, many deaths had been added later "if a person died for any reason, like old age."

There are discrepancies in how the deaths are recorded but disaster experts say that often causes an undercount. If a drowning on a death certificate does not link it to a storm, it may not be counted.

Puerto Rico's initial count of 64 included only people whose death certificates cited the storm. Outrage from thousands of families who said they had lost loved ones due to post-storm conditions pushed the territory to hire George Washington University to study how many more deaths than usual has occurred after the storm.

The university said it was an estimated 2,975 deaths, a figure that has been roughly corroborated by other, similar studies.

No single government entity is tasked with counting the dead in a natural disaster. Officials rely on everything from media accounts to first responders' reports.

Long before Trump raised the question, there was debate over which deaths to attribute to a disaster.

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The direct death toll from Irma stands at 47 across the Caribbean and Southern U.S., according to the National Hurricane Center. An additional 82 deaths — 77 of them in Florida — were indirectly caused by the storm.

The deaths included 14 people who died at a Florida nursing home that lost power and air conditioning. Other deaths were caused by falls during storm preparations, vehicle accidents, carbon monoxide poisoning from generators, chain saw accidents and electrocutions.

It also took years to assess the death toll from Hurricane Katrina in 2005 despite the relative accessibility of the Gulf Coast. About 1,800 died from Katrina, though some agencies still list it at 1,200.

The lesson is that realistic death tolls from storms take a while, said Princeton University hurricane scientist Gabriel Vecchi, who said when he heard about a death toll of only six from Hurricane Maria a year ago, he and his colleagues "knew that it couldn't be right."

"You need to be careful on placing too much stake on preliminary numbers," Vecchi said Saturday. "This is a disaster area. We don't have a full sense of what goes on until a considerable period later for many obvious reasons."

AP science writer Seth Borenstein in Washington contributed to this report.

APNewsBreak: Few safeguards for foster kids on psych drugs By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of children in foster care may be getting powerful psychiatric drugs prescribed to them without basic safeguards, according to a federal watchdog's investigation that finds a failure to care for youngsters whose lives have already been disrupted.

The report due Monday from the Health and Human Services inspector general's office found that about 1 in 3 foster kids from a sample of states were prescribed psychiatric drugs without treatment plans or follow-up, which are considered standard for sound medical care.

Kids getting mood-altering drugs they don't need is only part of the problem. Investigators also said children who need medication to help them function at school or get along in social settings may be going untreated.

The drugs involved include medications for attention deficit disorder, anxiety, PTSD, depression, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia. Foster kids are much more likely to get psychiatric drugs than children overall. A copy of the report was provided to The Associated Press.

"We are worried about the gap in compliance because it has an immediate, real-world impact on children's lives," said Ann Maxwell, an assistant inspector general.

Among the situations investigators encountered was the case of a 6-year-old boy diagnosed with ADHD, learning and speech disorders, outbursts of temper and defiance, and hair-pulling disorder. He had been put on four psychiatric drugs.

But a medication review questioned the need for some of those drugs. Of the four, two were discontinued and one was reduced in dosage, investigators said. Two different medications were prescribed.

Investigators found no evidence that a treatment plan for the boy had been developed in the first place, before starting him on medication.

In another case, an 11-year-old boy had been put on two medications after being diagnosed with ADHD, anxiety and behavior problems. But over a three-month period his foster mother had problems getting prescription refills. By the fourth month, the boy's life had gone out of control. His decline included stealing, lying, bullying and an in-school suspension. The lack of effective follow-up contributed to the downward spiral.

Investigators found there was no requirement in that state for case workers to follow up with foster parents about medications.

"These children are at greater risk of not getting the medications they need, but equally important, they are at risk of getting powerful medications that they do not need," Maxwell said.

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The inspector general is recommending that the HHS Administration for Children and Families develop a strategy to help states meet their existing requirements for prescribing psychiatric drugs to foster children, and to generally raise standards for case-by-case oversight.

In a formal response to the inspector general, the children's agency said it may need additional legal authority. In a statement to The Associated Press on Sunday, the agency said it is committed to making sure foster children get psychiatric medications only when medically appropriate. The agency added that it is reviewing the report and noted that the inspector general's findings covered just five states.

Foster children come into the mental health system with added complications. Their most basic connections in life have been stressed or severed. They may have suffered neglect or abandonment. They may have witnessed or been a victim of abusive behavior or violence.

A 2010 study from the Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute found that estimated rates of psychiatric drug use among youth in foster care are much higher (13 percent to 52 percent) than among youth overall (4 percent).

Compounding the challenge for foster children is the fact that responsibility for their well-being is often divided among foster parents, birth parents, relatives and case workers. That can increase chances for miscommunication and conflict, not to mention everyday problems going unaddressed until they escalate.

Caring for foster kids is a shared responsibility of state, local and federal agencies. The federal government provides grants to state programs and also covers health care for foster children through Medicaid, which spends hundreds of millions of dollars annually on psychiatric drugs. Nationally, it's been estimated that about 120,000 children in foster care take at least one such medication.

The inspector general scrutinized a sample of 125 cases from each of five states with the highest overall percentages of foster children treated with psychiatric drugs. Those states were Iowa, Maine, New Hampshire, North Dakota and Virginia. The cases covered the period from October 2014, through March 2015. Investigators looked at each state's compliance with its own particular requirements for treatment planning and follow-up.

Maxwell said the finding that 34 percent of children did not have either treatment plans or follow-up monitoring translates to about 4,500 children in the five states examined. She said the national number would certainly be higher but the design of the inspector general's review did not allow for a simple extrapolation. Even among the five states cited there were wide differences.

The focus on foster children is part of a growing awareness in society about proper care in using psychiatric medicines with vulnerable people, which also includes elderly nursing home residents.

Online:

Inspector general's report: https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-07-15-00380.pdf

Mangkhut weakens to tropical storm after plowing into China By VINCENT YU and JIM GOMEZ, Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — Mangkhut weakened from a typhoon to a tropical storm as it moved deeper into southern China on Monday, leaving death and destruction from Hong Kong to the Philippines.

The storm was still affecting southern China's coast and the provinces of Guangdong, Guangxi and Hainan and rain and strong winds were expected to continue through Tuesday.

Hong Kong residents were told to stay away from the coastline and be on alert for occasional gales. Bus, ferry and rail services were suspended and almost 900 flights were canceled at the city's airport, one of the world's busiest. The South China Morning Post said Hong Kong's hospitals had to use backup power due to outages caused by the storm.

Mangkhut earlier lashed the Philippines, sparking landslides and building collapses that killed at least 65 people, with another 43 missing. Authorities reported four deaths from falling trees and building materials in Guangdong, China's manufacturing hub.

As of Monday morning Mangkhut was on track to pass over the Guangxi regional capital of Nanning and

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move toward the border with tourism powerhouse Yunnan province.

The Hong Kong Observatory reported Mangkhut was the most powerful cyclone to hit the city since 1979, packing maximum sustained gusts of 195 kilometers per hour (121 mph).

Typhoon Mangkhut barreled into southern China after lashing the Philippines with strong winds and heavy rain that caused landslides feared to have buried dozens.

More than 2.4 million people had been evacuated in southern China's Guangdong province by Sunday evening to flee the typhoon, state media said. "Prepare for the worst," Hong Kong Security Minister John Lee Ka-chiu urged residents.

That warning followed Mangkhut's devastating march through the northern Philippines on Saturday with sustained winds of 205 kilometers (127 miles) per hour. Landslides caused by the pounding storm hit two villages in Itogon town in the mountain province of Benguet.

Itogon Mayor Victorio Palangdan told The Associated Press by phone that at the height of the typhoon's onslaught Saturday afternoon, dozens of people, mostly miners and their families, rushed into an old three-story building in the village of Ucab.

The building — a former mining bunkhouse that had been transformed into a chapel — was obliterated when part of a mountain slope collapsed. Three villagers who managed to escape told authorities what happened.

"They thought they were really safe there," the mayor said Sunday. He expressed sadness that the villagers, many of them poor, had few options to survive in a region where big corporations have profited immensely from gold mines.

The rescue work halted for the night before resuming Monday morning. Men used pikes and shovels to dig into the mud since the soaked ground was unstable and limited the use of heavy equipment on site.

The typhoon was occurring as tropical weather also was devastating the southern U.S. Florence has dumped historical levels of rain on North Carolina.

Mangkhut made landfall in the Guangdong city of Taishan at 5 p.m. Sunday, packing wind speeds of 162 kilometers (100 miles) per hour. State television broadcaster CGTN reported that surging waves flooded a seaside hotel in the city of Shenzhen.

The storm shattered glass windows on commercial skyscrapers in Hong Kong, sending sheets of paper pouring out of the buildings, fluttering and spiraling as they headed for the debris-strewn ground, according to videos on social media.

Mangkhut also felled trees, tore scaffolding off buildings under construction and flooded some areas of Hong Kong with waist-high waters, according to the South China Morning Post.

Casinos on Macau were ordered closed for the first time due to the typhoon.

Gomez reported from Manila, Philippines. Associated Press journalists Aaron Favila and Joeal Calupitan in Tuguegarao, Philippines, and Gillian Wong in Beijing contributed to this report.

Grim warnings for White House, Republicans ahead of election By JULIE PACE, CATHERINE LUCEY and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The prognosis for President Donald Trump and his party was grim.

In a post-Labor Day briefing at the White House, a top Republican pollster told senior staff that the determining factor in the election wouldn't be the improving economy or the steady increase in job creation. It would be how voters feel about Trump. And the majority of the electorate, including a sizable percentage of Republican-leaning voters, doesn't feel good about the president, according to a presentation from pollster Neil Newhouse that spanned dozens of pages.

Newhouse's briefing came amid a darkening mood among Republican officials as the November election nears. Party leaders were already worried that a surge in enthusiasm among Democrats and disdain for Trump by moderate Republicans would put the House out of reach. But some Republicans now fear their Senate majority is also in peril — a scenario that was unthinkable a few months ago given the favorable

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Senate map for the GOP.

"For Republican candidates to win in swing states, they need all of the voters who support President Trump, plus a chunk of those who do not," said Whit Ayres, a GOP pollster. "That is threading a very narrow strategic needle."

Operatives in both parties say Republicans still have the edge in the fight for control of the Senate. But GOP officials are increasingly worried that nominees in conservative-leaning states like Missouri and Indiana are underperforming, while races in Tennessee and Texas that should be slam-dunks for Republicans are close.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell raised an alarm last week, warning that each of the competitive Senate races would be "like a knife fight in an alley."

Some of the public fretting among Republicans appears to be strategic, as party officials try to motivate both voters and donors. Many moderate Republican voters "don't believe there is anything at stake in this election," according to the documents Newhouse presented to White House officials. He attributed that belief in part to a disregard for public polling, given that most surveys showed Democrat Hillary Clinton defeating Trump in the 2016 presidential election.

Newhouse and the White House would not comment on the early September meeting. The Associated Press obtained a copy of Newhouse's presentation, and two Republicans with knowledge of the briefing discussed the details on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak about the matter publicly.

At the White House, anxiety over the midterms has been on the rise for months as polls increasingly show a challenging environment for the GOP and heightened Democratic enthusiasm. The sheer number of competitive races in both the House and Senate is stretching cash reserves and forcing tough calculations about where to deploy resources and surrogates. And there are growing fears that the coalition of voters that delivered Trump to the White House will not come out for midterms.

Even if those voters do show up in large numbers, Republicans could still come up short. The polling presented to White House officials, which was commissioned by the Republican National Committee, showed that Trump's loyal supporters make up about one-quarter of the electorate. Another quarter is comprised of Republicans who like Trump's policies but not the president himself and do not appear motivated to back GOP candidates. And roughly half of expected midterm voters are Democrats who are energized by their opposition to the president.

White House aides say Trump is getting regular briefings on the political landscape and is aware of the increasingly grim polling, even though he's predicted a "red wave" for Republicans on Twitter and at campaign rallies. Aides say Trump's sober briefings from GOP officials are sometimes offset by the frequent conversations he has with a cadre of outside advisers who paint a sunnier picture of the electoral landscape and remind the president of his upset victory in 2016.

The paradox for Republicans is that most Americans are largely satisfied with the economy, according to numerous surveys. But the party has struggled to keep the economy centered at the center of the election debate. Trump keeps thrusting other issues to the forefront, including his frustration with special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation and his intense anger with unflattering portrayals of his presidency in a book by journalist Bob Woodward and an anonymous editorial from a senior administration official that was published in the New York Times. He stunned some backers Thursday when he disputed the death toll in Puerto Rico from last year's Hurricane Maria, just as another storm was barreling toward the East Coast.

Newhouse told White House officials that Trump could appeal to moderates and independents by emphasizing that a Democratic majority would be outside the mainstream on issues like abolishing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and government-funded health care. Other Republican strategists have offered candidates similar advice.

Karl Rove, who served as chief political strategist to President George W. Bush, said that if Republicans cast their Democratic rivals as soft on immigration or in favor of high-dollar government spending on health care, "that's a toxic mix to the soft Republicans and Republican-leaning independents."

In his most recent campaign appearances, Trump soft-peddled his predictions for a Republican wave and

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warned supporters that a Democratic congressional majority would have consequences. But he focused less on the policy implications of Democrats regaining control of Congress and more on the impact on his presidency, including the prospect of impeachment.

"If it does happen, it's your fault, because you didn't go out to vote," Trump said of the prospect of getting impeached, "You didn't go out to vote — that's the only way it could happen."

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Follow Julie Pace at http://twitter.com/jpaceDC , Catherine Lucey at http://twitter.com/catherine_lucey and Zeke Miller at http://twitter.com/zekejmiller

\$2.5M bond for Border Patrol agent in killings of 4 in Texas By JUAN A. LOZANO, Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — A U.S. Border Patrol supervisor was jailed Sunday on \$2.5 million bond in Texas, accused of killing at least four women and injuring a fifth who managed to escape.

Juan David Ortiz, 35, was in custody in Laredo on four counts of murder along with charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and unlawful restraint, Webb County jail records showed.

Ortiz was arrested a day earlier, after being found hiding in a truck in a hotel parking lot in Laredo, at about 2 a.m. Saturday, capping what investigators portrayed as a 10-day string of violence. Webb County District Attorney Isidro Alaniz said Saturday that investigators "consider this to be a serial killer" whose victims were believed to be prostitutes.

Alaniz described how the Customs and Border Patrol supervisor continued going to work as usual throughout that time.

"As law enforcement was looking for the killer ... he would be reporting to work every day like normal," he said.

It all began with the discovery Sept. 4 of the body of 29-year-old Melissa Ramirez. According to a police affidavit, Ortiz said he killed Ramirez a day earlier. Like the other victims, Ramirez was shot in the head and left in a road in rural northwest Webb County.

She was a mother of two.

A second victim, 42-year-old Claudine Anne Luera, was found shot and left in the road Thursday morning, badly injured but still alive, according to the affidavit.

The mother of five died at a hospital later that day.

On Friday, according to the affidavit, Ortiz picked up a woman named Erika Pena. She told police she struggled with Ortiz inside his truck, where he pointed a pistol at her, but that she was able to flee. She made it to a gas station where she found a state trooper whom she asked for help.

According to the affidavit, Ortiz told investigators that after Pena ran off, he picked up his last two victims, whose identities have not yet been released by authorities.

Jail records don't list an attorney to speak for Ortiz, who had worked for Border Patrol for 10 years.

Alaniz said the dead are believed to have been prostitutes and that one of them was a transgender woman. At least two were U.S. citizens; the nationalities of the others were not known, he said. He said investigators are still working to determine a motive.

Ortiz was believed to have acted alone.

The federal agency issued a statement offering its "sincerest condolences" to the victims' families and saying criminal activity by its employees is not tolerated.

The Texas Department of Public Safety, whose Texas Rangers are investigating, referred questions on the case to the Webb County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Martin Cuellar did not return several messages seeking comment.

Associated Press reporters Diana Heidgerd in Dallas and Matt Sedensky in Philadelphia contributed to this report.

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Co-founder of Salesforce buys Time magazine for \$190 million By MARTIN CRUTSINGER, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Time Magazine is being sold by Meredith Corp. to Marc Benioff, a co-founder of Salesforce, and his wife, it was announced Sunday.

Meredith announced that it was selling Time magazine for \$190 million in cash to Benioff, one of four co-founders of Salesforce, a cloud computing pioneer.

Meredith had completed the purchase of Time along with other publications of Time Inc. earlier this year. The Benioffs are purchasing Time personally, and the transaction is unrelated to Salesforce.com, where Benioff is chairman and co-CEO and co-founder. The announcement by Meredith said that the Benioffs would not be involved in the day-to-day operations or journalistic decisions at Time. Those decisions will continue to be made by Time's current executive leadership team, the announcement said.

"We're pleased to have found such passionate buyers in Marc and Lynne Benioff for the Time brand," Meredith president and CEO Tom Harty said in a statement. "For over 90 years, Time has been at the forefront of the most significant events and impactful stories that shape our global conversation."

Meredith, the publisher of such magazines as People and Better Homes & Gardens, had put four Time Inc. publications up for sale in March. Negotiations for the sale of the three other publications — Fortune, Money and Sports Illustrated — are continuing.

The prospective sale is expected to close within 30 days. In an interview with The Wall Street Journal, Benioff said he and his wife were investing "in a company with tremendous impact on the world, one that is also an incredibly strong business. That's what we're looking for when we invest as a family."

The purchase of Time by Benioff continues a trend of acquisitions of old-line media institutions by wealthy tech giants. The Washington Post was purchased by Amazon founder Jeff Bezos in 2013 for \$250 million. Time, like other magazines, has struggled with continued declines in print advertising and newsstand sales. Started by Yale University graduates Henry Luce and Briton Hadden, Time first went on sale in March 1923.

Flooding fears surge as rivers rise; Wilmington cut off By CHUCK BURTON, Associated Press

WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP) — Catastrophic flooding from Florence spread across the Carolinas on Sunday, with roads to Wilmington cut off by the epic deluge and muddy river water swamping entire neighborhoods miles inland. "The risk to life is rising with the angry waters," Gov. Roy Cooper declared as the storm's death toll climbed to 17.

The storm continued to crawl westward, dumping more than 30 inches (75 centimeters) of rain in spots since Friday, and fears of historic flooding grew. Tens of thousands were ordered evacuated from communities along the state's steadily rising rivers — with the Cape Fear, Little River, Lumber, Waccamaw and Pee Dee rivers all projected to burst their banks.

In Wilmington , with roads leading in and out of the city underwater and streams still swelling upward, residents waited for hours outside stores and restaurants for basic necessities like water. Police guarded the door of one store, and only 10 people were allowed inside at a time.

Woody White, chairman of the board of commissioners of New Hanover County, said officials were planning for food and water to be flown into the coastal city of nearly 120,000 people.

"Our roads are flooded," he said. "There is no access to Wilmington."

About 70 miles (115 kilometers) away from the coast, residents near the Lumber River stepped from their homes directly into boats floating in their front yards; river forecasts showed the scene could be repeated in towns as far as 250 miles (400 kilometers) inland as waters rise for days.

Downgraded overnight to a tropical depression, Florence was still massive. But with radar showing parts of the storm over six Southeastern states and flood worries spreading into southern Virginia and West

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Virginia, North and South Carolina were still in the bull's-eye.

Half way around the world, meanwhile, Typhoon Mangkhut barreled into southern China on Sunday after lashing the Philippines with strong winds and heavy rain that left dozens dead. More than 2.4 million people were evacuated from China's southern Guangdong province ahead of the massive typhoon, the strongest to hit the region in nearly two decades.

In North Carolina, fears of what could be the worst flooding in the state's history led officials to order tens of thousands to evacuate, though it wasn't clear how many had fled or even could. The head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Brock Long, said officials were focused on finding people and rescuing them.

"We'll get through this. It'll be ugly, but we'll get through it," Long told NBC's "Meet The Press."

President Donald Trump said federal emergency workers, first responders and law enforcement officials were "working really hard." As the storm "begins to finally recede, they will kick into an even higher gear. Very Professional!" he declared in a tweet.

The storm's death toll climbed to at least 17 when a 3-month-old child was killed when a tree fell across a mobile home in North Carolina. Earlier, officials said three people died in separate, weather-related traffic accidents in South Carolina.

Victor Merlos was overjoyed to find a store open for business in Wilmington since he had about 20 relatives staying at his apartment, which still had power. He spent more than \$500 on cereal, eggs, soft drinks and other necessities, plus beer.

"I have everything I need for my whole family," said Merlos. Nearby, a Waffle House restaurant limited breakfast customers to one biscuit and one drink, all take-out, with the price of \$2 per item.

Kenneth Campbell had donned waterproof waders intending to check out his home in Lumberton , but he didn't bother when he saw the Coast Guard and murky waters in his neighborhood.

"I'm not going to waste my time. I already know," he said.

As rivers swelled, state regulators and environmental groups were monitoring the threat from gigantic hog and poultry farms located in low-lying, flood-prone areas.

The industrial-scale farms contain vast pits of animal feces and urine that can pose a significant pollution threat if they are breached or inundated by floodwaters. In past hurricanes, flooding at dozens of farms also left hundreds of thousands of dead hogs, chickens and other decomposing livestock bobbing in floodwaters.

Stream gauges across the region showed water levels rising steadily, with forecasts calling for rivers to crest Sunday and Monday at or near record levels. The Defense Department said about 13,500 military personnel had been assigned to help relief efforts.

Authorities ordered the immediate evacuation of up to 7,500 people living within a mile (1.6 kilometers) of a stretch of the Cape Fear River and the Little River, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) from the North Carolina coast. The evacuation zone included part of the city of Fayetteville, population 200,000.

John Rose owns a furniture business with stores less than a mile (1.6 kilometers) from the river. Rainsoaked furniture workers helped him quickly empty more than 1,000 mattresses from a warehouse in a low-lying strip mall.

"It's the first time we've ever had to move anything like this," Rose said. "If the river rises to the level they say it's going to, then this warehouse is going to be under water."

Fayetteville city officials, meanwhile, got help from the Nebraska Task Force One search and rescue team to evacuate 140 residents of an assisted-living facility to a safer location at a church.

Rainfall totals were stunning.

In Swansboro, North Carolina, nearly 34 inches (85 centimeters) of rain had fallen by Sunday afternoon and 20 other places in North Carolina had at least 20 inches, according to the National Weather Service. Another 30 sites in North and Carolina had at least 10 inches (25 centimeters).

Water on the Cape Fear River near Chinquapin got so high that electronic instruments used to monitor flooding quit working after it became submerged, the U.S. Geological Survey said. The same thing hap-

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pened on the Trent River.

Still, there was some good news: Power outages in the Carolinas and Virginia were down to about 580,000 homes and businesses after reaching a high of about 910,000 as the hurricane plowed into the coast. Utilities said some outages could last for weeks.

In Goldsboro, North Carolina, home of Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, roads that frequently flood were already closed Saturday by rushing water. Dozens of electric repair trucks massed to respond to damage expected to hit central North Carolina as rainwater collected into rivers headed to the coast.

Duke Energy said heavy rains caused a slope to collapse at a coal ash landfill at a closed power station outside Wilmington late Saturday, but there was no indication contamination had drained into the nearby Cape Fear River. The company initially estimated that about 2,000 cubic yards (1,530 cubic meters) of ash were displaced at the landfill, enough to fill about 180 dump trucks. Sheehan said that estimate could be revised.

Near the flooded-out town of New Bern , where about 455 people had to be rescued from the swirling flood waters, water completely surrounded churches, businesses and homes. In the neighboring town of Trenton, downtown streets were turned to creeks full of brown water.

The rain was unrelenting in Cheraw, a town of about 6,000 people in northeastern South Carolina. Streets flooded and Police Chief Keith Thomas warned people not to drive, but the local food and gas store had customers.

"As you can tell, they're not listening to me," he said.

Associated Press writers Alex Derosier in Fayetteville, North Carolina; Jonathan Drew in Wilmington, North Carolina; Allen G. Breed and Emery P. Dalesio in New Bern, North Carolina; Denise Lavoie and Sarah Rankin in Richmond, Virginia; Gary Robertson and Martha Waggoner in Raleigh, North Carolina; Meg Kinnard and Jeffrey Collins in Columbia, South Carolina; Russ Bynum in Cheraw, South Carolina; Seth Borenstein and Michael Biesecker in Washington; Lolita C. Baldor at the Pentagon; Jennifer Kay in Miami; and Jay Reeves in Atlanta contributed to this report.

For the latest on Hurricane Florence, visit https://www.apnews.com/tag/Hurricanes

Today in HistoryBy The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, Sept. 17, the 260th day of 2018. There are 105 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 17, 1787, the Constitution of the United States was completed and signed by a majority of delegates attending the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

On this date:

In 1862, more than 3,600 men were killed in the Civil War Battle of Antietam (an-TEE'-tum) in Maryland. In 1920, the American Professional Football Association -- a precursor of the National Football League -- was formed in Canton, Ohio.

In 1939, the Soviet Union invaded Poland during World War II, more than two weeks after Nazi Germany had launched its assault.

In 1964, the James Bond movie "Goldfinger," starring Sean Connery, premiered in London. The fantasy sitcom "Bewitched," starring Elizabeth Montgomery, debuted on ABC-TV.

In 1971, citing health reasons, Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black, 85, retired. (Black, who was succeeded by Lewis F. Powell Jr., died eight days after making his announcement.)

In 1978, after meeting at Camp David, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin (men-AH'-kem BAY'-gihn) and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat signed a framework for a peace treaty.

In 1980, former Nicaraguan president Anastasio Somoza (suh-MOH'-sah) was assassinated in Paraguay.

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In 1987, the city of Philadelphia, birthplace of the U.S. Constitution, threw a big party to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the historic document; in a speech at Independence Hall, President Ronald Reagan acclaimed the framing of the Constitution as a milestone "that would profoundly and forever alter not just these United States but the world."

In 1996, former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew died in Berlin, Maryland, at age 77.

In 1999, President Bill Clinton lifted restrictions on trade, travel and banking imposed on North Korea a half-century earlier, rewarding it for agreeing to curb missile tests.

In 2001, Six days after 9/11, stock prices nosedived but stopped short of collapse in an emotional, flagwaving reopening of Wall Street; the Dow Jones industrial average ended the day down 684.81 at 8,920.70.

In 2011, a demonstration calling itself Occupy Wall Street began in New York, prompting similar protests around the U.S. and the world.

Ten years ago: Defense Secretary Robert Gates met with Afghan President Hamid Karzai and offered the people of Afghanistan his "personal regrets" for U.S. airstrikes that had killed civilians and said he would try to improve the accuracy of air warfare. A suicide attack on the U.S. Embassy in Sanaa (sah-NAH'), Yemen, killed 19 people, including an American woman and six militants.

Five years ago: Engineers declared success as the Costa Concordia cruise ship was pulled completely upright during an unprecedented, 19-hour operation to wrench it from its side where it had capsized off Tuscany in 2012. Eiji Toyoda (cq), 100, a member of Toyota's founding family who helped create the superefficient "Toyota Way" production method, died in Toyota city, Japan.

One year ago: British authorities said a second suspect was in custody in connection with the bomb that partially exploded two days earlier on a packed London subway. The top series prizes at the Emmy Awards went to "The Handmaid's Tale," "Veep" and the ever-topical "Saturday Night Live"; the ceremony took almost nonstop aim at President Donald Trump in awards and speeches.

Today's Birthdays: Sen. Charles E. Grassley, R-Iowa, is 85. Retired Supreme Court Justice David H. Souter is 79. Singer LaMonte McLemore (The Fifth Dimension) is 83. Retired U.S. Marine Gen. Anthony Zinni is 75. Basketball Hall of Fame coach Phil Jackson is 73. Singer Fee Waybill is 70. Actress Cassandra Peterson ("Elvira, Mistress of the Dark") is 67. Comedian Rita Rudner is 65. Muppeteer Kevin Clash (former voice of Elmo on "Sesame Street") is 58. Director-actor Paul Feig is 56. Movie director Baz Luhrmann is 56. Singer BeBe Winans is 56. TV personality/businessman Robert Herjavec (TV: "Shark Tank") is 55. Actor Kyle Chandler is 53. Director-producer Bryan Singer is 53. Rapper Doug E. Fresh is 52. Actor Malik Yoba is 51. Rock singer Anastacia is 50. Rock musician Keith Flint (Prodigy) is 49. Actor Matthew Settle is 49. Rapper Vinnie (Naughty By Nature) is 48. Actor-comedian Bobby Lee is 47. Actor Felix Solis is 47. Rhythmand-blues singer Marcus Sanders (Hi-Five) is 45. Actress-singer Nona Gaye is 44. Singer-actor Constantine Maroulis is 43. NASCAR driver Jimmie Johnson is 43. Pop singer Maile (MY'-lee) Misajon (Eden's Crush) is 42. Country singer-songwriter Stephen Cochran is 39. Rock musician Chuck Comeau (Simple Plan) is 39. Actor Billy Miller is 39. Country singer Desi Wasdin (3 of Hearts) is 35. Rock musician Jon Walker is 33. Actress Danielle Brooks is 29. Actress-singer Denyse Tontz is 24.

Thought for Today: "The great tragedy of life is not that men perish, but that they cease to love." — W. Somerset Maugham, English author and dramatist (1874-1965).